

Estimation Instances

Zizhen Chen

1. The format of the 9,000,000 numbers is formulated below.

$$y = d_0.d_1d_2d_3d_4d_5d_6 \quad (1 \leq d_0 \leq 9).$$

So the range is from 1 to 9.999999.

Because we want to calculate sum of the reciprocals of such 9,000,000 numbers, we can use definite integral method to estimate the value of sum like below.

$$Sum = \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y}$$

Since from the concept of definite integral $\frac{1}{y}$ from 1 to 9.999999, we can get

$$\int_1^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y} dy = \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y = \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y + o(y)$$

Here, $o(y)$ is Higher Order Infinitesimal of y , so $o(y)$ is a really tiny value which we can omit.

$$\text{Then, } \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y + o(y) \approx \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y$$

Therefore, we can get

$$\int_1^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y} dy \approx \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y$$

$$\text{Since } \int_1^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y} dy$$

$$= \ln(9.999999) - \ln 1 = \ln(9.999999) \approx 2.302584993,$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \times \Delta y \approx 2.302584993$$

Here, $\Delta y = 0.0000001$ (Interval between two neighboring y_i)

$$\text{Therefore, } Sum = \sum_{i=1}^{9.999999} \frac{1}{y_i} \approx \frac{2.302584993}{\Delta y} = \frac{2.302584993}{0.0000001} = 2302584.993$$

In conclusion, the sum of reciprocals of such 9 million numbers is estimated as 2302584.993.

2. Let's estimate a sum defined by such formula:

$$Sum = \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1 + y \times 2^{-23}}$$

We can see, it is actually a summation question and the variable (y) in this sum formula is increased with same interval (increment 1 each time.). With such sum question with equal changing intervals, we can always use **definite integral method**

(calculus method) to estimate the sum result. Then we can calculate the definite integral of $\frac{1}{1+i \times 2^{-23}}$ with i range from 0 to $2^{23} - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} dy &= \lim_{\Delta y \rightarrow 0} \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} \times \Delta y \\ &= \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} \times \Delta y + o(y)\end{aligned}$$

Here, $o(y)$ is Higher Order Infinitesimal of y ,
so $o(y)$ is a really tiny value which we can omit.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then, } \int_0^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} dy &= \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} \times \Delta y + o(y) \\ &\approx \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} \times \Delta y\end{aligned}$$

Here, $\Delta y = 1$ (Interval between two neighboring y)

$$\text{Therefore, } \int_0^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} dy \approx \sum_{y=0}^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}}$$

So, we can directly use the definite integral of $\frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}}$ with y range from 0 to $2^{23} - 1$ to estimate the sum we want to calculate.

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^{2^{23}-1} \frac{1}{1+y \times 2^{-23}} dy &= \frac{\ln(1+y \times 2^{-23})}{2^{-23}} \Big|_0^{2^{23}-1} \\ &= \ln(2 - 2^{-23}) \times 2^{23} = 5814539.4840225866\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, our estimated sum is 5814539.4840225866

In conclusion, if the interval of two successive variables is 1, then we can directly use definite integral method to estimate the value of the sum.