MORE ON RECURSION

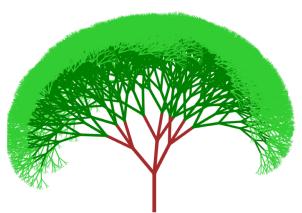


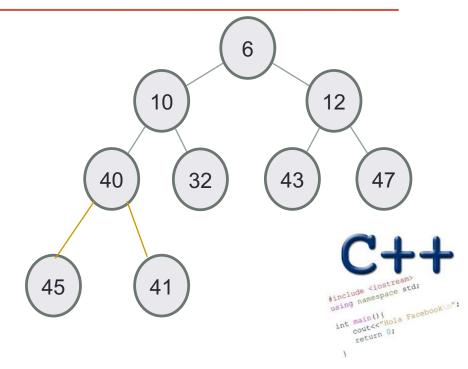




Problem Solving with Computers-I







Last class: this is legal!

```
int fac(int N) {
    return N * fac(N-1);
}
```

legal != recommended

```
int fac(int N) {
    return N * fac(N-1);
}
No base case -- the calls to fac will never stop (nicely)!
```

Make sure you have a base case, then worry about the recursion...



```
int fac(int N) {
    return fac(N);
}
```

Roadsigns and recursion

examples of self-fulfilling danger

Thinking recursively!

Thinking recursively!

```
int fac(int N) {
      if (N <= 1)
    return 1;</pre>
Base case
      else{
             int rest = fac(N-1);
return rest * N;
Recursive
case
Human: Base case and 1 step
                                 Computer: Everything else
```

Thinking recursively!

```
int fac(int N) {
     if (N <= 1)
    return 1;</pre>
     else
          return fac(N-1) * N;
                                            Recursive case
                                          (shorter version)
```

Human: Base case and <u>1 step</u>

Computer: Everything else

```
int fac(int N) {
                          Behind the curtain...
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1
    else
        return N * fac(N-1);
                  cout<<fac(1);</pre>
                    Result: 1
                                     The base case is No Problem!
```

```
int fac(int N) {
     Behind the curtain...

if (N <= 1)
     return 1

else
     return N * fac(N-1);
}</pre>
```

```
int fac(int N) {
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1

else
    return N * fac(N-1);
}</pre>
fac(5)
```

5 * fac(4)

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
   if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
```

4 * fac(3)

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
   if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
                         4 * fac(3)
```

3 * fac(2)

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
    if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
                          4 * fac(3)
                               3 * fac(2)
                                    2 * fac(1)
```

```
int fac(int N) {
                          Behind the curtain...
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1
    else
        return N * fac(N-1);
                      fac(5)
      "The Stack"
                      5 * fac(4)
                            4 * fac(3)
                                 3 * fac(2)
       Remembers
         all of the
                                       2 * fac(1)
        individual
      calls to fac
```

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
    if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
                          4 * fac(3)
                               3 * fac(2)
```

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
   if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
                         4 * fac(3)
```

3 *

2

```
int fac(int N) {
                        Behind the curtain...
   if (N <= 1)
       return 1
   else
       return N * fac(N-1);
                    fac(5)
                    5 * fac(4)
```

```
int fac(int N) {
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1

else
    return N * fac(N-1);
}</pre>
```

24

```
int fac(int N) {
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1

else
    return N * fac(N-1);
}</pre>
fac(5)
```

Result: 120

Let recursion do the work for you.

Exploit self-similarity
Produce short, elegant code

Less work!

Let recursion do the work for you.

```
Exploit self-similarity
Produce short, elegant code

Less work!
```

```
int fac(int N) {
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1;
    else{
        int rest = fac(N-1);
        return rest * N;</pre>
You handle the base case -
        the easiest case!

You specify one step at the end
        return rest * N;

You specify one step at the end
        return rest * N;
```

But you *do* need to do one step yourself...

```
int fac(int N) {
    if (N <= 1)
        return 1;
    else:
        return fac(N);
}</pre>
```

Searching a linked list

Given a linked list, implement a recursive search function

- Return True if a given value is present in the list
- Otherwise return False

Recursive function to free nodes in a linked list

Given a linked list, implement a recursive function to delete all the nodes in the linked list

Binary Search: Efficient search in a sorted array

- Binary search. Given value and sorted array a[], find index i such that a[i] = value, or report that no such index exists.
- Invariant. Algorithm maintains a [lo] ≤ value ≤ a [hi].
- Ex. Binary search for 33.

```
6 13 14 25 33 43 51 53 64 72 84 93 95 96 97
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
1 hi
```

