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Data Structures (C2033)

Lab 5 Assignment

(Recursion - Call Stack)

Content:

- Question 1: What is the call stack?
- Question 2: Call Stack of Fibonacci number of 5.

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1: What is the call stack?

Each time a function is called, the system creates an activation record (also called an activation frame), that stores parameters and variables for the function and places the activation record in an area of memory known as a **call stack**.

When a function calls another function or itself recursively, the caller's activation record is kept intact, and a new activation record is created for the new function called.

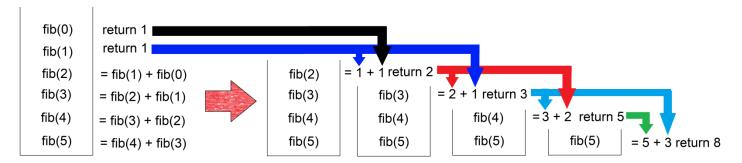
When a function finishes its work and returns to its caller, its activation record is removed from the call stack.

2: The Call Stack of Fibonacci number of n { fib(n) } with n = 5

The code of the function that calculates Fibonacci number

```
 \begin{cases} & \text{if( } n < 0 \text{ )} \{ \\ & \text{ Cout } << \text{"There is no Fibonacci number for negative values"} << \text{endl;} \\ & \text{ return -1;} \\ & \text{ } \} / \text{! end if } \\ & \text{ else} \{ \\ & \text{ if( } n == 0 \text{ ) return 1;} \\ & \text{ else if( } n == 1 \text{ ) return 1;} \\ & \text{ else } \{ \text{ return ( fib( } n-1 \text{ ) + fib( } n-2 \text{ ) ) } \} / \text{! end en else} \\ & \text{ } \} / \text{! end fib}  \end{cases}
```

A Simple call stack of fib(5)

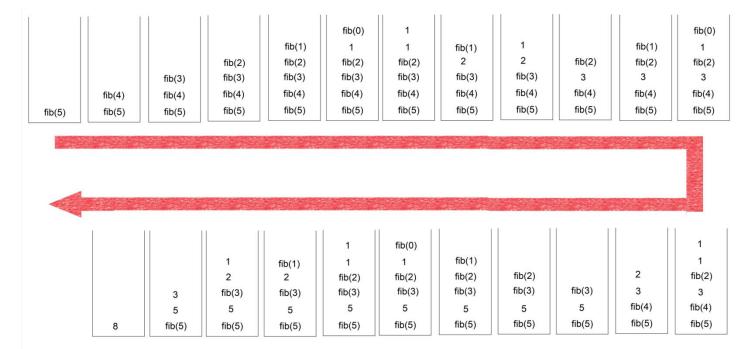


Real compiling steps to calculate Fibonacci of 5

```
fib(5):
       (5 < 0)? No.
       (5 == 0) No. (5 == 1) No.
       fib(5) = fib(4) + fib(3)
       fib(4):
               (4 < 0)? No.
               (4 == 0) No. (4 == 1) No
               fib(4) = fib(3) + fib(2)
               fib(3): // Calculate fib(3) for fib(4)
                       (3 < 0)? No.
                       (3 == 0) No. (3 == 1) No.
                       fib(3) = fib(2) + fib(1)
                       fib(2): //Calculate fib(3)
                              (2 < 0)? No.
                              (2 == 0) No. (2 == 1) No.
                              fib(2) = fib(1) + fib(0)
                              fib(1): // Calculate fib(1) for fib(2)
                                      (1 < 0)? No.
                                      (1 == 0) No. (1 == 1) Yes
                              return 1.
                              fib(0): // Calculate fib(0) for fib(2)
                                      (0 < 0)? No.
                                      (0 == 0) Yes.
                              return 1.
                              fib(2) = 1 + 1 = 2
                       return 2.
                       fib(1): //Calculate fib(1) for fib(3)
                              (1 < 0)? No.
                              (1 == 0) No. (1 == 1) Yes
                       return 1.
                       fib(3) = 2 + 1 = 3
               return 3.
               fib(2): //Calculate fib(2) for fib(4)
                       (2 < 0)? No.
                       (2 == 0) No. (2 == 1) No.
                       fib(2) = fib(1) + fib(0)
                       fib(1): //Calculate fib(1) for fib(2)
                              (1 < 0)? No.
                              (1 == 0) No. (1 == 1) Yes.
                       return 1.
                       fib(0): //Calculate fib(0) for fib(2)
                              (0 < 0)? No.
                              (0 == 0) Yes.
                       return 1.
                       fib(2) = 1 + 1 = 2
               return 2.
               fib(4) = 3 + 2 = 5
       return 5.
```

```
fib(3): //Calculate fib(3) for fib(5)
               (3 < 0)? No.
               (3 == 0) No. (3 == 1) No
               fib(3) = fib(2) + fib(1)
               fib(2): //Calculate fib(2) for fib(3)
                      (2 < 0)? No.
                      (2 == 0) No. (2 == 1) No.
                      fib(2) = fib(1) + fib(0)
                      fib(1): //Calculate fib(1) for fib(2)
                              (1 < 0)? No.
                              (1 == 0) No. (1 == 1) Yes
                              return 1.
                      fib(0): //Calculate fib(0) for fib(2)
                              (0 < 0)? No.
                              (0 == 0) Yes.
                                      return 1.
                              fib(2) = 1 + 1 = 2
                       return 2.
                      fib(1): //Calculate fib(0) for fib(3)
                              (1 < 0)? No.
                              (1 == 0) No. (1 == 1) Yes
                      return 1.
               fib(3) = 2 + 1 = 3
       return 3.
       fib(5) = 5 + 3 = 8
return 8.
```

Real Call Stack of Calculating Fibonacci Number of 5



Check that:

We can check that by adding a counter that calculates how many times the function is used as this code:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int counter = 0;
int fib( int n)
        if( n < 0){
                 cout << "There is no Fibonacci number for negative values" << endl;
        }// end if
        else{
                 counter++;
                 if( n == 0 ) return 1;
                 else if( n == 1 ) return 1;
                 else return (fib(n-1)+fib(n-2));
        }//end ex else
} // end fib
int main(){
        int x = fib(5);
        cout << "Fibonacci number of 5 is: "<< x << ".]\n";
        cout << "'fib()' is used for "<< counter << " times in this program." << endl;
        return 0;
}// end main
```

Outputs:

