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# Convert any recursive dynamic programming code to iterative code?

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- They are actually **same (same but not equal)**
- The only difference is the states and any loop inside the recursive code gets converted into nested loops
- One key thing to take care is the order in which we are running those loops and the base case
- By order I mean if  $dp[i][j]$  **depends upon  $dp[i+x][j+y]$** , then  $dp[i+x][j+y]$  must be calculated before  $dp[i][j]$

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**So follow these steps -:**

- Try to identify the order in which we are going to run the loops
- Identify the base case
- Copy-paste the recursive code, and woo-whoo we're done
- (Swipe to see examples)

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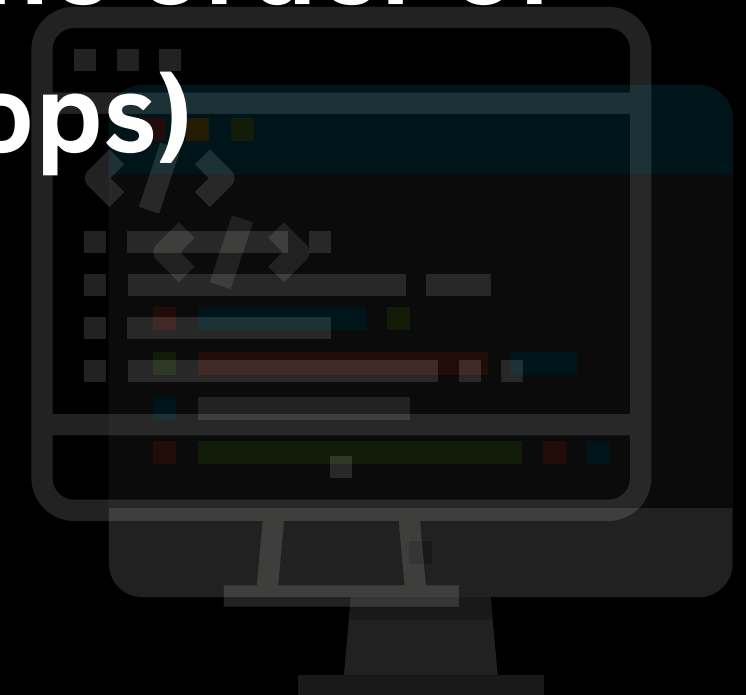
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## Factorial of a number (recursive code)

```
int fact(int i) {  
    if (i == 0) return 1;  
    if (dp[i] != -1) return dp[i];  
    return dp[i] = fact(i-1)*i;  
}  
cout << fact(n) << endl;
```

Notice that here to calculate  $i$ , we need  $i-1$  pre-calculated (to identify the order of loops)

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## Factorial of a number (iterative code)

```
dp[0] = 1;  
for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {  
    dp[i] = dp[i-1]*i;  
}  
cout << dp[n] << endl;
```

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## Longest common subsequence of 2 strings (recursive code)

```
int lcs(int i, int j) {  
    if (i == a.size() || j == b.size()) return 0;  
    if (dp[i][j] != -1) return dp[i][j];  
    int ans = max(lcs(i+1, j), lcs(i, j+1));  
    if (a[i] == b[j]) ans = max(ans, 1+lcs(i+1, j+1));  
    return dp[i][j] = ans;  
}  
cout << lcs(0, 0) << endl;
```

Notice that here, to calculate  $(i, j)$  we need  $(i+1, j)$ ,  $(i, j+1)$ ,  $(i+1, j+1)$  precalculated so how should we run the loops? (What about running both  $i$  and  $j$  from  $a.size()$  to 0 and  $b.size()$  to 0?)

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## Longest common subsequence of 2 strings (iterative code)

```
for (int i = a.size(); i >= 0; i--) {  
    for (int j = b.size(); j >= 0; j--) {  
        if (i == a.size() || j == b.size()) { dp[i][j] = 0; continue; }  
        int ans = max(dp[i+1][j], dp[i][j+1]);  
        if (a[i] == b[j]) ans = max(ans, 1+dp[i+1][j+1]);  
        dp[i][j] = ans;  
    }  
}  
cout << dp[0][0] << endl;
```

Everything other than the  
order of loops is same right?

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## Count of palindromic substrings in a string?

Basic idea -:

- Precompute for every sub-string if it is a palindrome or not (This can be done in  $N^2$ )
- Let `getCount(i, j)` store the number of palindromic substrings in range  $(i, j)$
- Now we can get count of palindromic substrings in range  $(i+1, j)$ ,  $(i, j-1)$  from our recursive function and add them to get our answer (also add 1 if  $(i, j)$  is a palindrome), but note that here  $(i+1, j-1)$  will be double counted so let's subtract it
- Base case -> if  $(i == j)$  this is always a palindrome so return 1
- -> if  $(i > j)$  substring doesn't exist so return 0
- Overall time complexity is  $N^2$

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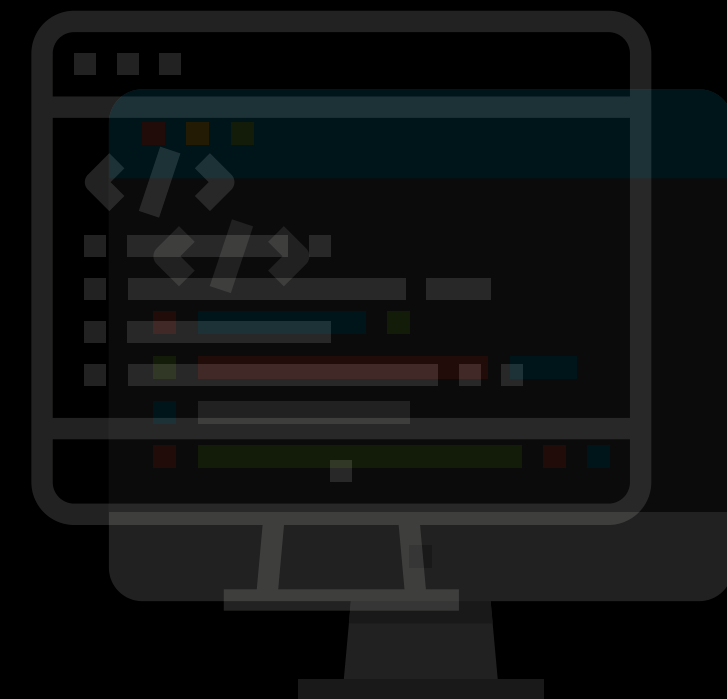
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## Count number of palindromic substrings in a string (recursive code)

```
int getCount(int i, int j) {  
    if (i == j) return 1;  
    if (i > j) return 0;  
    if (dp[i][j] != -1) return dp[i][j];  
    int x = getCount(i+1, j);  
    int y = getCount(i, j-1);  
    int repetition = getCount(i+1, j-1);  
    return dp[i][j] = isPalindrome[i][j] + x + y - repetition;  
}  
  
cout << getCount(0, n-1) << endl;
```

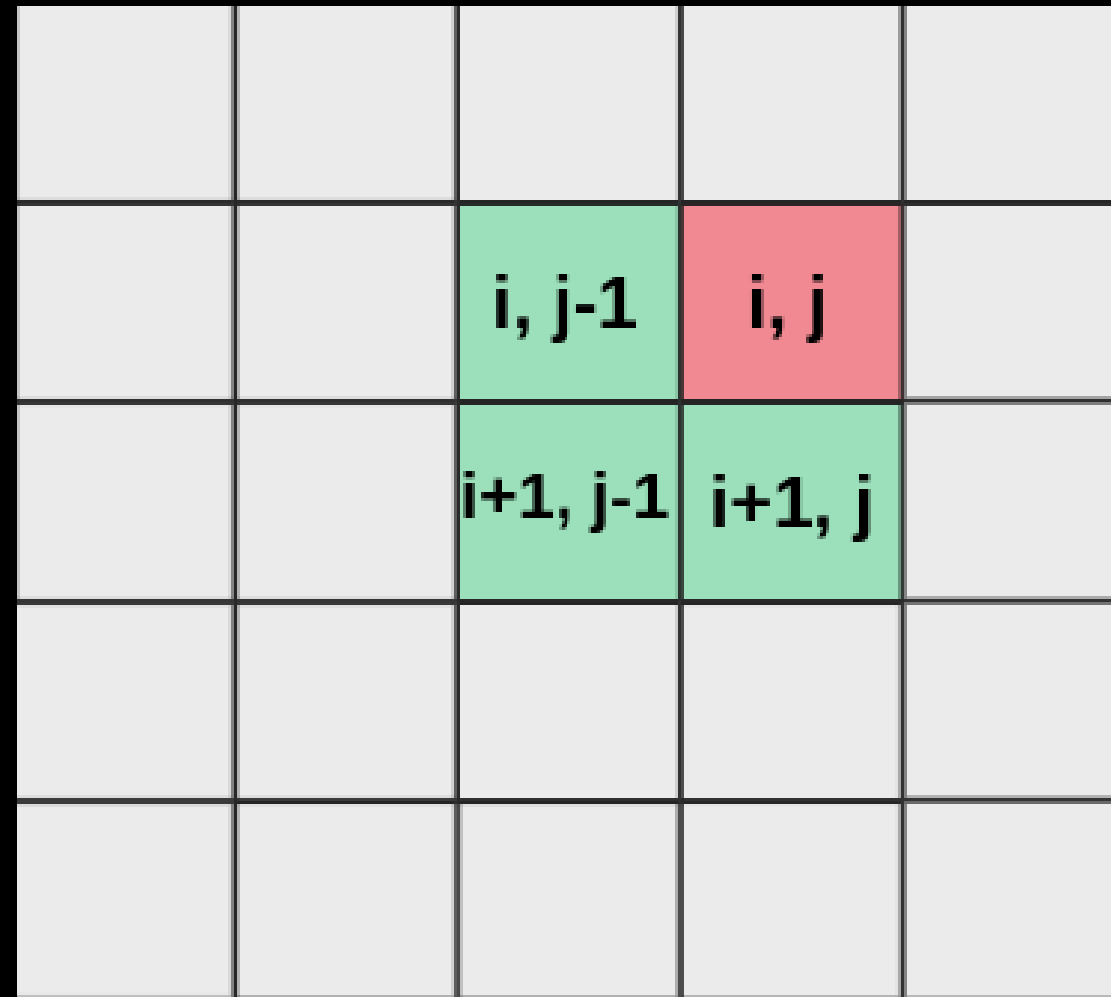
Here isPalindrome is a pre-computed 2D array which stores if substring of s from i to j is a palindrome or not

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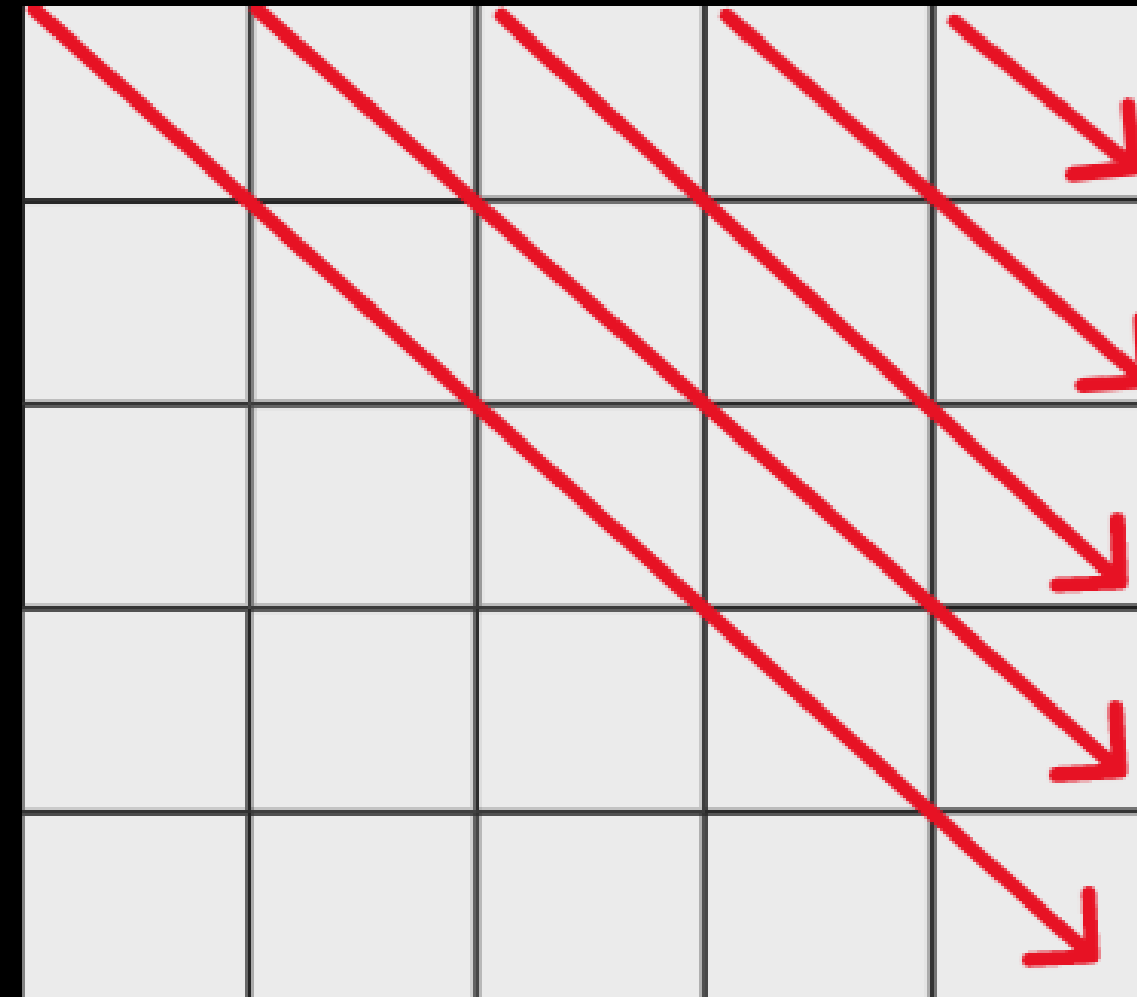


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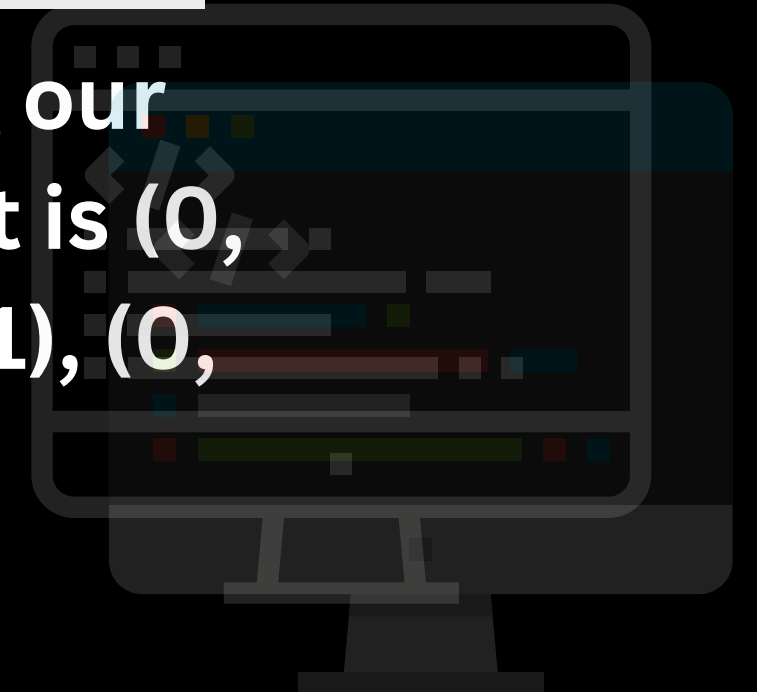


Now, here notice that to calculate  $(i, j)$  we need  $(i, j-1)$ ,  $(i+1, j-1)$ ,  $(i+1, j)$  precalculated beforehand

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So we will be running our loops in this order, that is  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 2)$ ,  $(n-1, n-1)$ ,  $(0, 1)$   $(1, 2)$ , ...





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## Count number of palindromic substrings in a string (iterative code)

```
for (int g = 0; g < n; g++) {  
    for (int i = 0, j = g; j < n; i++, j++) {  
        if (i == j) { dp[i][j] = 1; continue; }  
        int x = dp[i+1][j]; int y = dp[i][j-1];  
        int repetition = dp[i+1][j-1];  
        dp[i][j] = isPalindrome[i][j] + x + y - repetition;  
    }  
}  
cout << dp[0][n-1] << endl;
```

- Try comparing this code with the previous recursive code, they're same (same but not equal) right?

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- Here I didn't add if ( $i > j$ ) condition cuz that was not needed because of the order in which we're running our loops



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# Bonus -:

- These kinds of questions in which we store the answer for a range in our dp are called range-dp questions.
- This technique/method of diagonally filling our dp table is called gap-method or gap-strategy.

