Handshake Time complexity using Recursion Tree Method

$$T(n) =$$

$$1 , for (n = 0)$$

$$for (n = 1)$$

$$T(n-1) + T(1) , for (n > 1)$$

$$Or for$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & for (n = 0) \end{cases}$$

$$T(n-1) + 1, & for (n > 1)$$

We know:

When a is 1, problem size becomes 1 i.e. constant.

Therefore, the recurrence tree for this recurrence equation would be shown below:

Level	No. of	Problem	Work	
	problems	Size	done =	
			Problem	
			Size ×	
			No. of	
			Problems	
0	1	1	$1 \times 1 = 1$	
1	1	1	$1 \times 1 = 1$	$\left(\begin{array}{c} 1 \end{array}\right)$
2	1	1	$1 \times 1 = 1$	
				Ī
n-1	1	1	$1 \times 1 = 1$	1

One can observe that the work done at every level is 1 and the size of the problem is reduced by a factor of 1 at every level.

Therefore, at the level n-1, the problem size and work done would be 1. The total number of levels is n (as the level of the root is 0). Therefore, the final cost can be estimated as follows:

$$Total\ Cost = \sum_{i=1}^{n} 1 = 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots n\ times = 1 \times n = n.$$

Therefore, the asymptotic complexity would be O(n).
