

**Subject : ALGORITHM AND PROGRAMMING**  
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**Recursion (T)**

# Introduction

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## Recursive Definition

- **Recursive** is a function call inside a certain function calling itself
- Recursive Function, suitable for recursive problem
- Example :

**Factorial (n)** or  $n!$  defined as follows :

$$n! = 1, \text{ for } n = 0;$$

$$n! = n * (n-1)!, \text{ for } n > 0$$

$$4! = 4 * 3!$$

$$3! = 3 * 2!$$

$$2! = 2 * 1!$$

$$1! = 1 * 0!$$

$$0! = 1$$

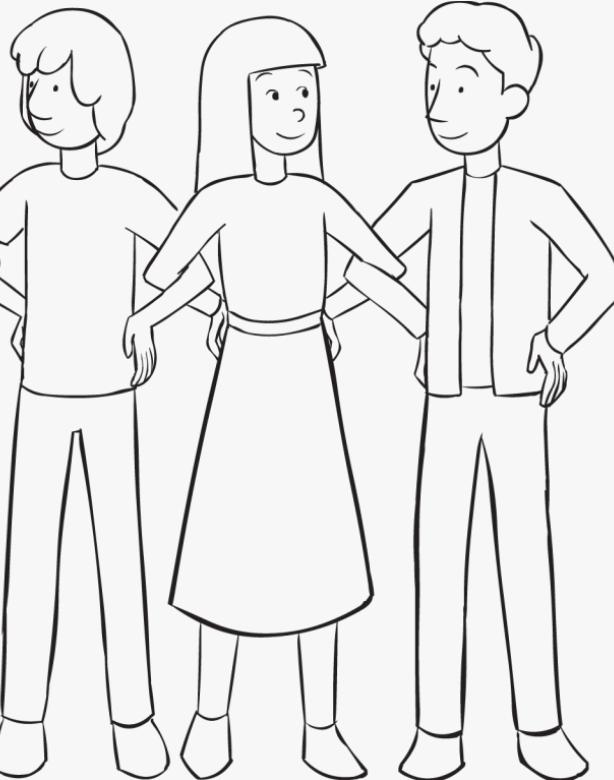
Trace back :  $4! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4 = 24$

# How Recursive Works?

Factorial (1)



Factorial (3)



Factorial (2)

# Recursive Definition

Example: (5 factorial)

5!  
(5 \* 4!)  
(5 \* (4 \* 3!))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* 2!)))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* (2 \* 1!))))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* (2 \* (1 \* 0!)))))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* (2 \* (1 \* 1)))))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* (2 \* 1))))  
(5 \* (4 \* (3 \* 2)))  
(5 \* (4 \* 6 ))  
(5 \* 24)  
120

```
# include<stdio.h>

int factorial(unsigned int number)
{
    if(number <= 1)
        return 1;
    return number * factorial(number - 1);
}

void main()
{
    int x = 5;
    printf("factorial of %d is %d",x,factorial(x));
}
```

# Recursive Function

Recursive Function has two components:

- **Base case:**  
return value(constant) without calling next recursive call.
- **Reduction step:**  
sequence of input value converging to the base case.

Example: (Factorial function)

- **Base case :**  $n = 0$
- **Reduction step:**  $f(n) = n * f(n-1)$

# Iterative vs Recursive

Example: (Iterative vs Recursive)

- **Factorial - Recursive**

```
long factor (int n)
{
    if(n==0) return (1);
    else return(n * factor(n-1));
}
```

- **Factorial - Iterative**

```
long factor(int n) {
    long i, fac = 1;
    for(i=1; i<=n; i++) fac *= i;
    return (fac);
}
```

# Recursive

## Recursive Drawback

Although recursive code more concise it needs:

- More memory consumption – as stack memory is needed
- Takes longer time, should traverse through all recursive call using stack

## Recursive Best Practice

Generally, use recursive solution if:

- Difficult to solve iteratively.
- Efficiency using recursive has been reached
- Efficiency is less important in comparison with readability
- Memory efficiency and execution time are not the main concern

Consider carefully speed and efficiency using iterative approach, rather than nice logical design using recursive

# Program Example Using Recursive

## Fibonacci Number

sequence: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13 ...

Relation between the number define recursively as follows:

$$\text{Fib}(N) = N \quad \text{if } N = 0 \text{ or } 1$$

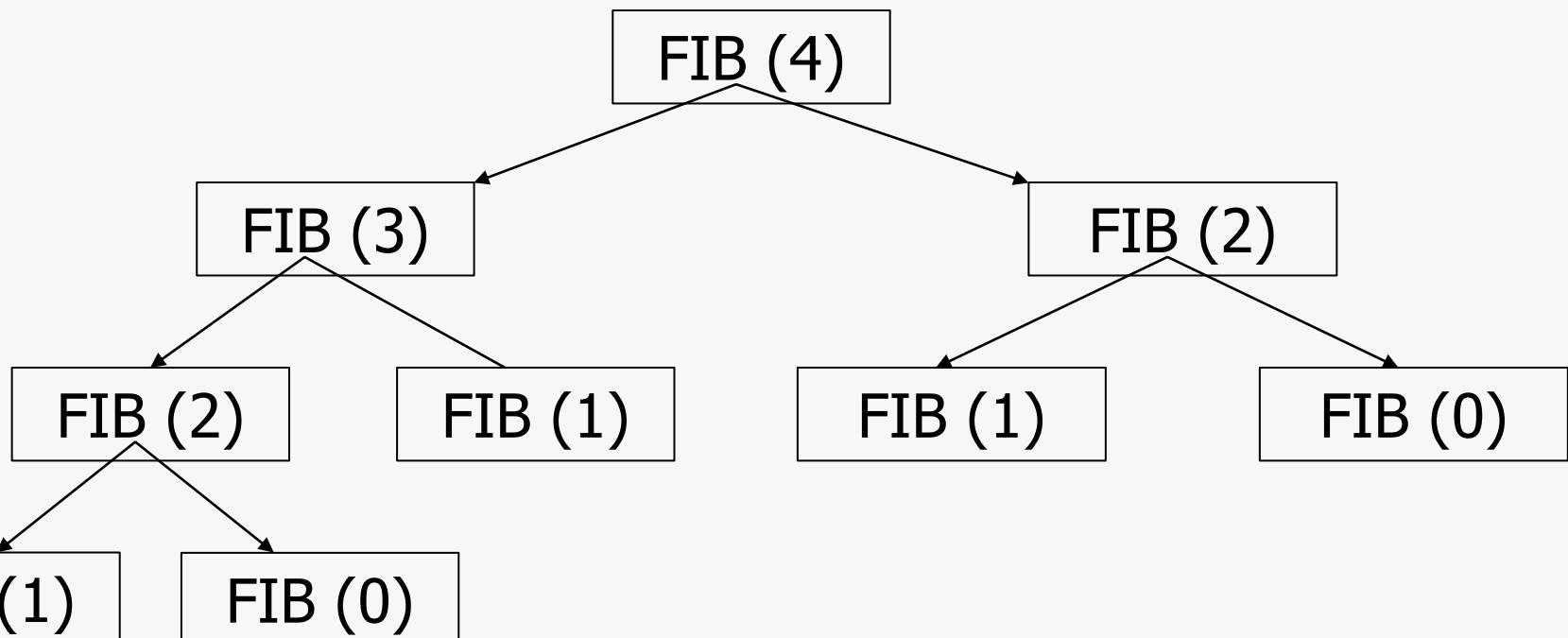
$$\text{Fib}(N) = \text{Fib}(N-2) + \text{Fib}(N-1) \quad \text{if } N >= 2$$

```
int Fib(int n) {
    int f;
    if(n==0) f = 0;
    else if(n==1) f = 1;
    else f = Fib(n-2) + Fib(n-1);
    return f;
}
```

# Program Example Using Recursive

## Fibonacci Number

Fibonacci illustration N=4



## References

- Paul Deitel & Harvey Deitel. (2016). C how to program : with an introduction to C++. 08. Pearson Education. Hoboken. ISBN: 9780133976892. Chapter 5
- Functions in C: <http://aelinik.free.fr/c/ch15.htm>

**END**