

Applications of Stacks



- Reversing a list

- A list of numbers can be reversed by pushing each number from the first position to the last position onto a stack and then popping each number off the stack starting with the first position in the reversed list.

- List: 1, 2, 3, 4
 - Stack: 4-→3-→2-→1
 - RList: 4, 3, 2, 1
- Handwritten diagram illustrating the reversal process:
- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| 4 | ← Top pop | 4 |
| 3 | ← Top | 3 |
| 2 | ← Top | 2 |
| 1 | ← Top | 1 |
- Arrows indicate the flow: 1 → 2 → 3 → 4 (pushing) and 4 → 3 → 2 → 1 (popping). The stack is shown as a vertical container with elements 4, 3, 2, 1 from top to bottom. The reversed list is shown as 4, 3, 2, 1.

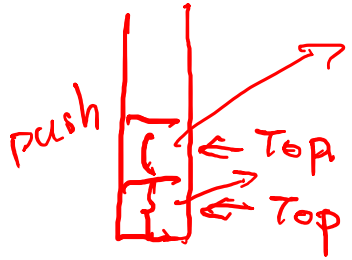
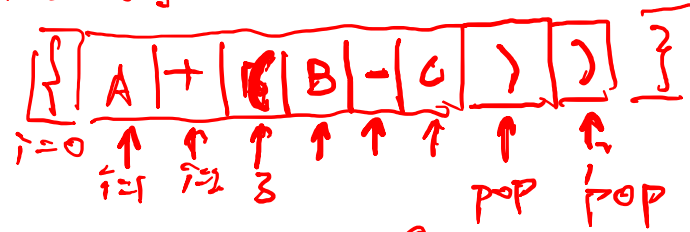
- Parentheses checker

- Stacks can be used to push open parentheses or braces and pop them as closing parentheses/braces are encountered.
- If mismatches occur or any leftover parentheses in the stack or expression, then the parentheses or braces would be incorrect.
- Expression: (A+B}, Stack: (, Error when popping (on }, invalid
- Expression: {A+(B-C)}, Stack: {(, pop (matches), pop { matches }, valid

$\{ A + (B - C) \}$

\uparrow




valid?



() ✓

({) X \rightarrow print invalid
if they matches

Recursion & Stack ADT



- **Recursion** is an implicit application of the **STACK ADT** .
- A **recursive function** calls itself  to solve a smaller version of its task until a base condition is met .

Key Components of Recursion:

1. Base Case: *No function call.*

1. The simplest scenario where the problem can be solved **directly** without further recursive calls.

2. Recursive Case:

1. The problem is **broken down** into smaller subproblems .
2. The function **calls itself**  with these subproblems. *function call*
3. The **final result** is obtained by combining solutions of the subproblems.

 **Recursion is powerful**, but must be carefully designed to avoid **infinite loops**  and **excessive memory usage** .

Handwritten diagram showing function calls:
A []
→
A ()
} ~~etc.~~

problem: Calculate Factorial of a number

✓ $\text{Fact}(4) = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$

Method 1: for loop

Method 2: recursion

$\text{Fact}(1) = 1$

$\text{Fact}(2) = 2 \times 1 = 2 \times \text{Fact}(1)$

$\text{Fact}(3) = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 3 \times \text{Fact}(2)$

$\text{Fact}(4) = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4 \times \text{Fact}(3)$

⋮

$\text{Fact}(n) = n \times \text{Fact}(n-1)$

↓
recursive Function

✓ (1) Divide the problem into small subproblems

✓ (2) Find Base condition

$\text{Fact}(\text{int } n) \{$

if ($n == 1$)

Base
→

↓

return 1;

}

else

{

return $n \times \text{Fact}(n-1)$; ~~recursive~~

}

}

pattern

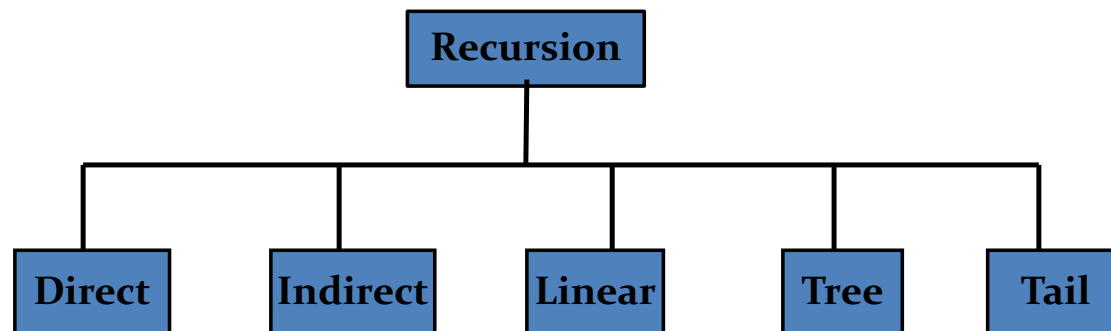
runs iteratively

Divide and Conquer

↓
combine

Types of Recursion

- Any recursive function can be characterized based on:
 - whether the function calls itself directly or indirectly (direct or indirect recursion).
 - the structure of the calling pattern (linear or tree-recursive).
 - whether any operation is pending at each recursive call (tail-recursive or not).



Direct Recursion

- A function is said to be directly recursive if it explicitly calls itself.
- For example, consider the function given below.

```
int Func( int n)  
{  
    if(n==0)  
        return n;  
    return (Func(n-1));  
}
```

Indirect Recursion

- A function is said to be *indirectly* recursive if it contains a call to another function which ultimately calls it.
- Look at the functions given below. These two functions are indirectly recursive as they both call each other.

```
int Func1(int n)
{
    if(n==0)
        return n;
    return Func2(n);
}
```

```
int Func2(int x)
{
    return Func1(x-1);
}
```

cycle

Tail Recursion

- A recursive function is said to be tail recursive if no operations are pending when the recursive function returns to its caller.

```
int Fact( int n)
```

```
{
```

```
    if(n==0)
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    return (n*Fact(n-1));
```

```
}
```

Fact is not tail-recursive since “n*” remains to be done after Fact(n-1) has returned.

Convert Non Tail \rightarrow Tail.

~~Fact(n-1)~~

Fact is now tail-recursive since the result is computed using “n*acc” which matches to formal parameter “acc”.

```
int Fact(n)
```

```
{
```

```
    if (n==0)
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    return Fact1(n, 1);
```

```
}
```

```
int Fact1(int n, int acc)
```

```
{
```

```
    if (n==0)
```

```
        return acc;
```

```
    return Fact1(n-1, n*acc);
```

```
}
```

acc = n * Fact(n-1)

recursive

Tail Recursion

- Tail recursive functions are highly desirable.
- Modern compilers do tail call elimination to optimize the tail recursive code to avoid making recursive calls.

① few unfinished function calls
save memory. stack
non-tail → needs more memory.
② few function calls
③ iterative procedure / code using for while

```
int Fact1(int n, int acc)
{
    start:
        if (n==1)
            return acc;
        else
            acc = n*acc;
            n = n - 1;
            goto start;
}
```

✓

} base case.
loop.

$acc = n \cdot acc.$

no function call.

Linear Recursion

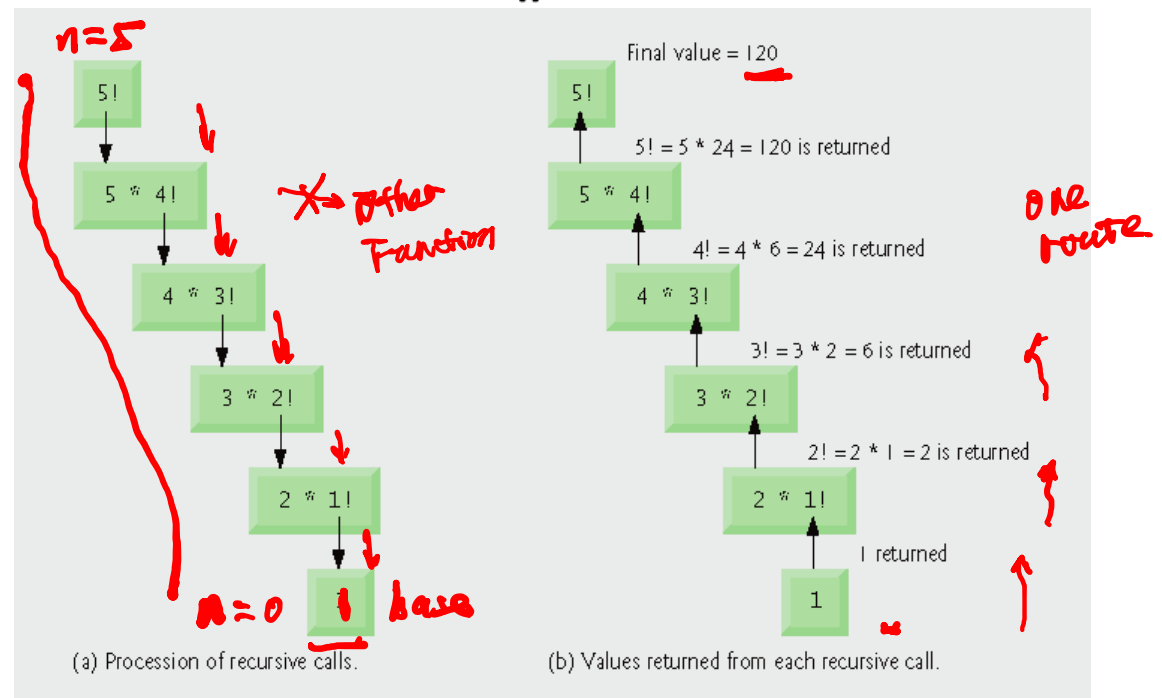
- A recursive function is said to be *linearly* recursive when no pending operation involves another recursive call to the function.
- For example, the factorial function is linearly recursive as the pending operation involves only multiplication to be performed and does not involve another call to the Fact() function.

$$n! = n \cdot (n - 1)!$$

```

int Fact( int n)
{
    if(n==0)
        return 1;
    return (n*Fact(n-1));
}
    
```

Handwritten notes: A red checkmark is next to the code. The line `return (n*Fact(n-1));` is underlined in red. Below it, `Fact(n-1)` is crossed out with a red line.



Tree Recursion

- A recursive function is said to be *tree* recursive (or *non-linearly* recursive) if the pending operation makes another recursive call to the function.
- For example, the Fibonacci function begins with 0 and 1. Each subsequent Fibonacci number is the sum of the previous two Fibonacci numbers. It can be defined recursively as follows:

$\text{Fibonacci}(0) = 0$, $\text{Fibonacci}(1) = 1$
 $\text{Fibonacci}(n) = \text{Fibonacci}(n - 1) + \text{Fibonacci}(n - 2)$ for $n > 1$

```
int Fibonacci(int n)
{
    if(n <= 1)
        return n;
    return ( Fibonacci (n - 1) + Fibonacci(n - 2));
}
```

Handwritten notes:
- Above the if statement: $n=0 \times n=1$
- Next to the if statement: *base*
- Next to the recursive call: *expand*
- Under the recursive call: $\text{Fibonacci}(n-1) + \text{Fibonacci}(n-2)$

Fibonacci Series

- The Fibonacci series can be given as:

0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55

..... $\text{Fibonacci}(n) = \text{Fibonacci}(n - 1) + \text{Fibonacci}(n - 2)$

- Each term in the series is the sum of the two previous terms except for the first and second terms of 0 and 1. \rightarrow *base case*
- The recursive call FIB(7) has the following recursive call tree.

