SICP

God's Programming Book

Lecture-08 Tree Recursion

Tree Recursion

Slides Adapted from cs61a of UC Berkeley

Recursive Factorial

(Demo)

Order of Recursive Calls

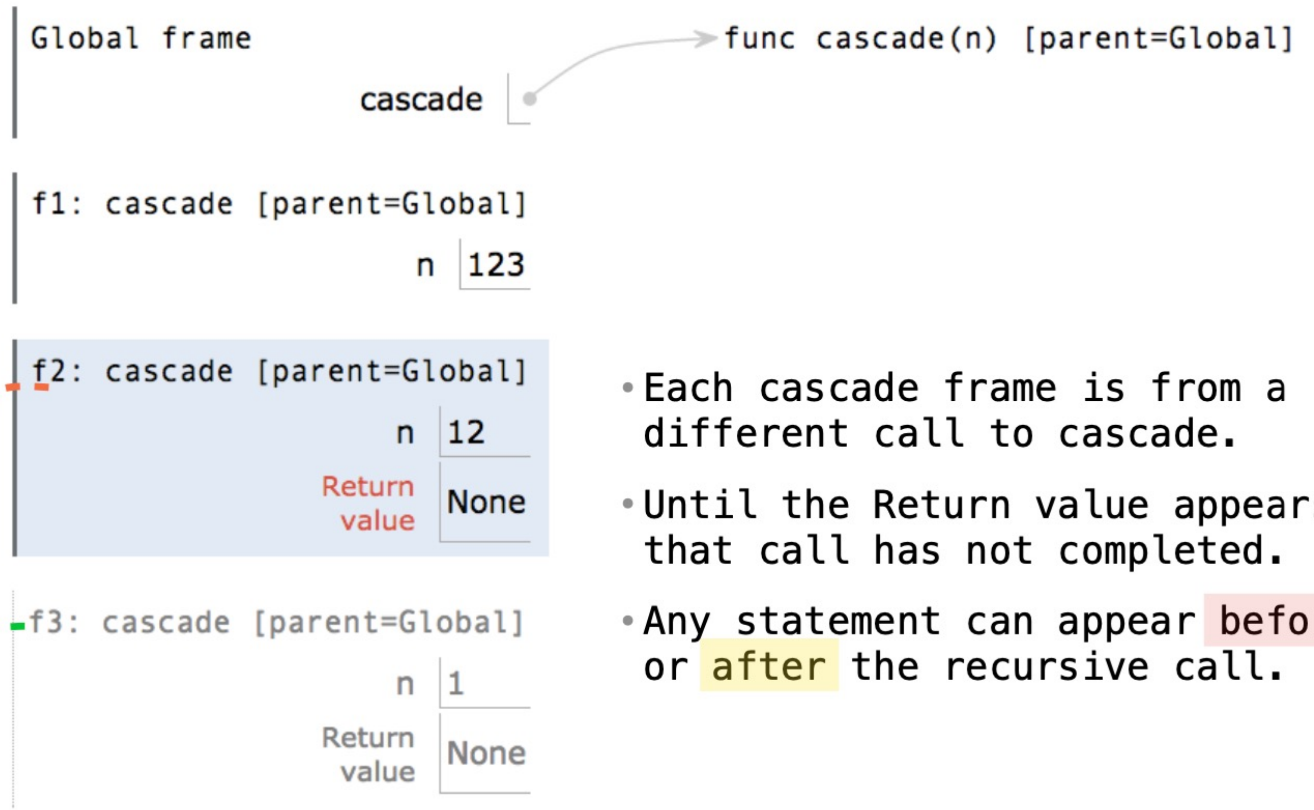
The Cascade Function

```python
def cascade(n):
    if n < 10:
        print(n)
    else:
        print(n)
        cascade(n//10)
        print(n)

cascade(123)
```

Program output:

```
123
12
1
12
```



- Each cascade frame is from a different call to cascade.
- Until the Return value appears, that call has not completed.
- Any statement can appear before or after the recursive call.

Two Definitions of Cascade

```python
def cascade(n):
    if n < 10:
        print(n)
    else:
        print(n)
        cascade(n//10)
        print(n)
```

```python
def cascade(n):
    print(n)
    if n >= 10:
        cascade(n//10)
        print(n)
```

- If two implementations are equally clear, then shorter is usually better
- In this case, the longer implementation is more clear (at least to me)
- When learning to write recursive functions, put the base cases first
- Both are recursive functions, even though only the first has typical structure

Example: Inverse Cascade

Inverse Cascade

```
1
12
123
1234
123
12
1
```

```
def inverse_cascade(n):
    grow(n)
    print(n)
    shrink(n)

def f_then_g(f, g, n):
    if n:
        f(n)
        g(n)

grow =   lambda n: f_then_g(grow,  print,  n//10)
shrink = lambda n: f_then_g(print, shrink, n//10)
```

Tree Recursion

Tree Recursion

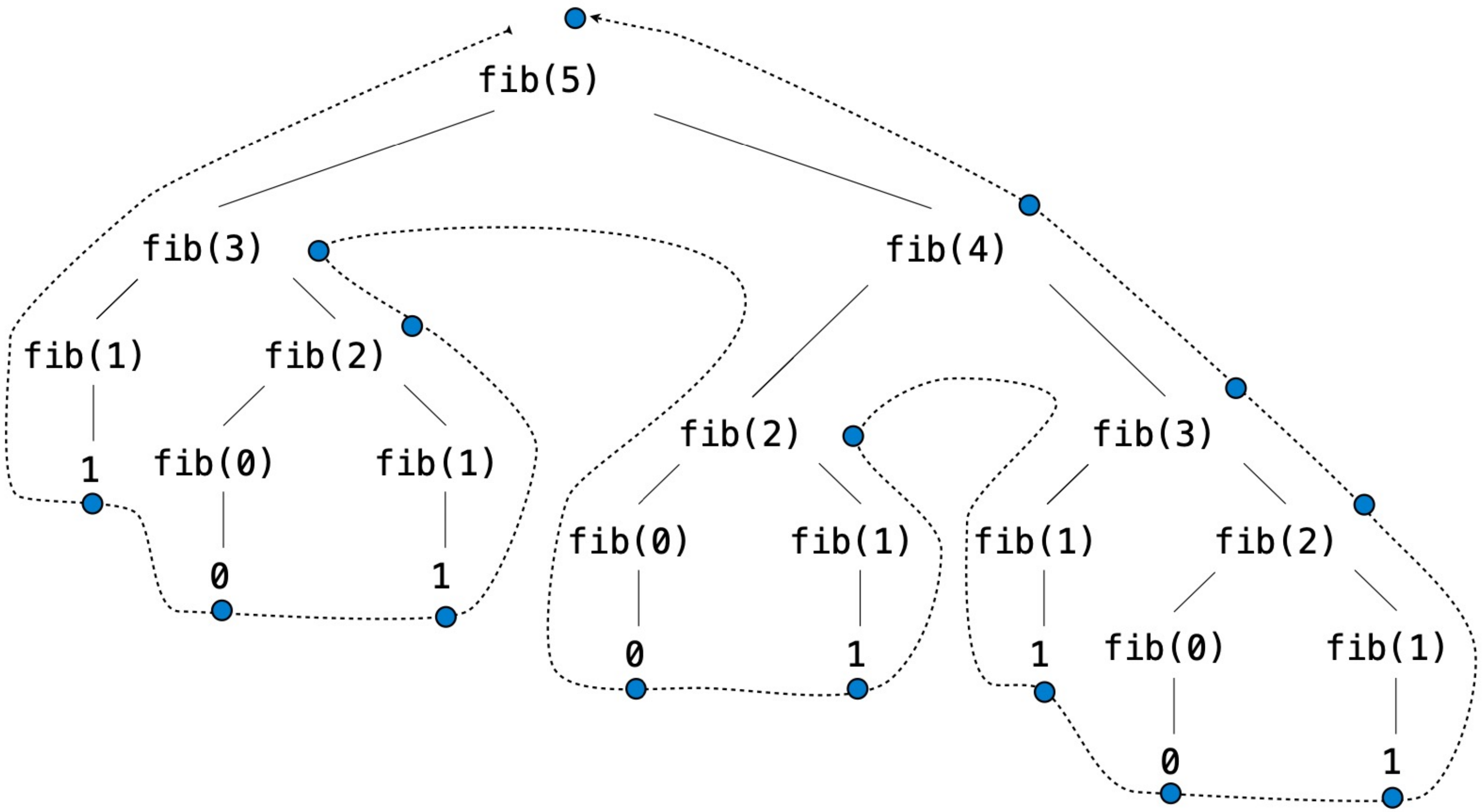
Tree-shaped processes arise whenever executing the body of a recursive function makes more than one recursive call

n:	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	6,	7,	8,	... ,	35
fib(n):	0,	1,	1,	2,	3,	5,	8,	13,	21,	... ,	9,227,465

```
def fib(n):
    if n == 0:
        return 0
    elif n == 1:
        return 1
    else:
        return fib(n-2) + fib(n-1)
```

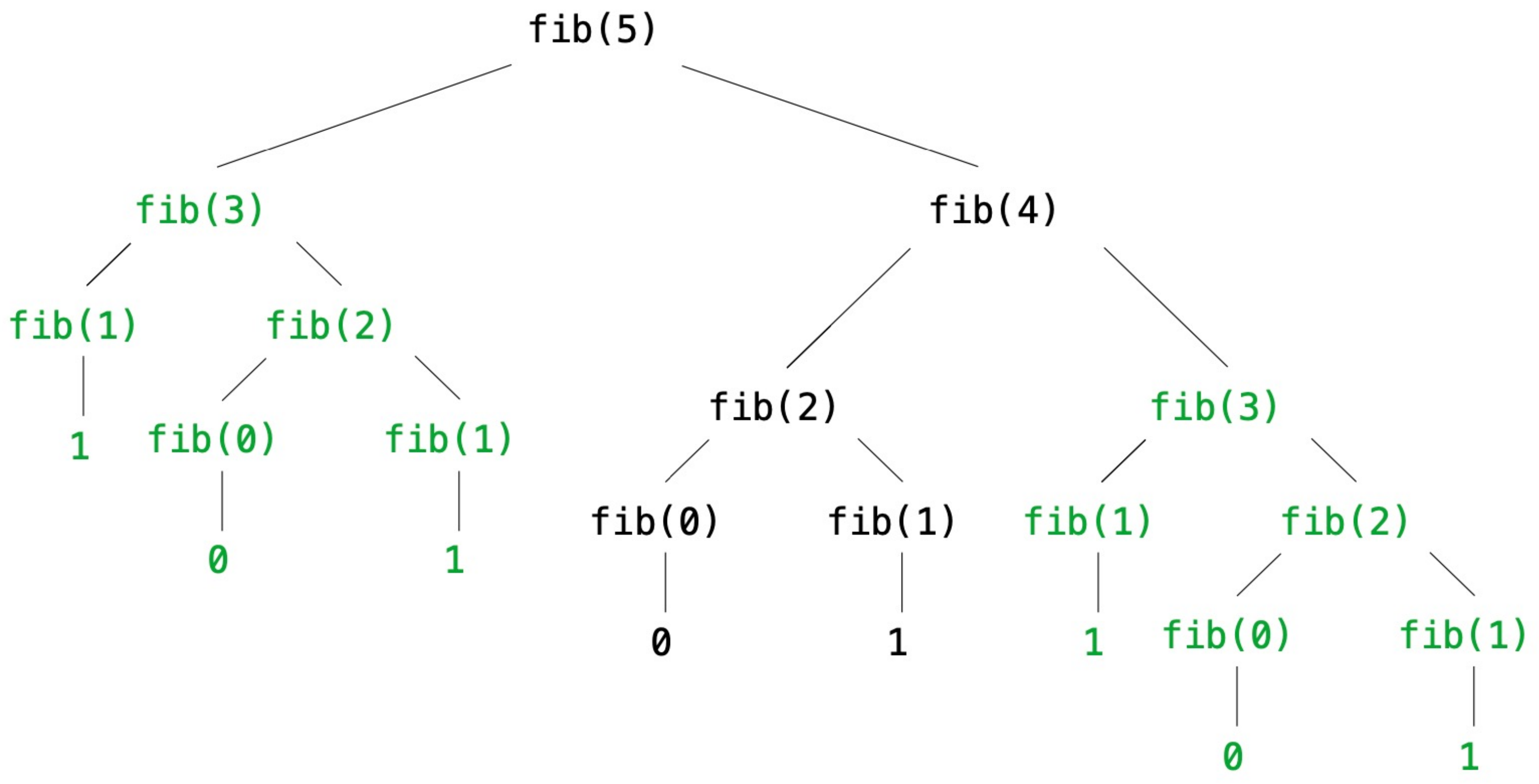
A Tree-Recursive Process

The computational process of fib evolves into a tree structure



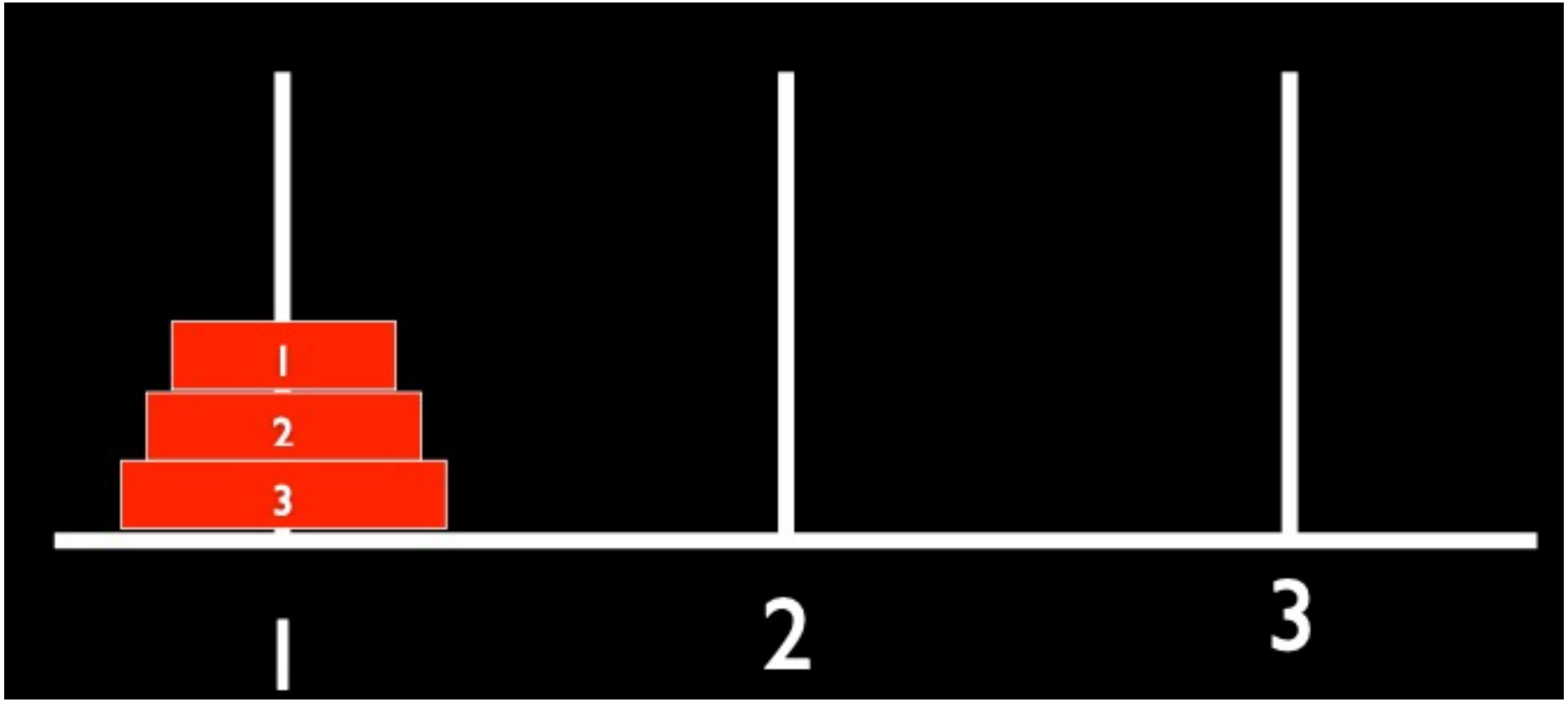
Repetition in Tree-Recursive Computation

This process is highly repetitive; fib is called on the same argument multiple times



Example: Towers of Hanoi

Towers of Hanoi



Example: Counting Partitions

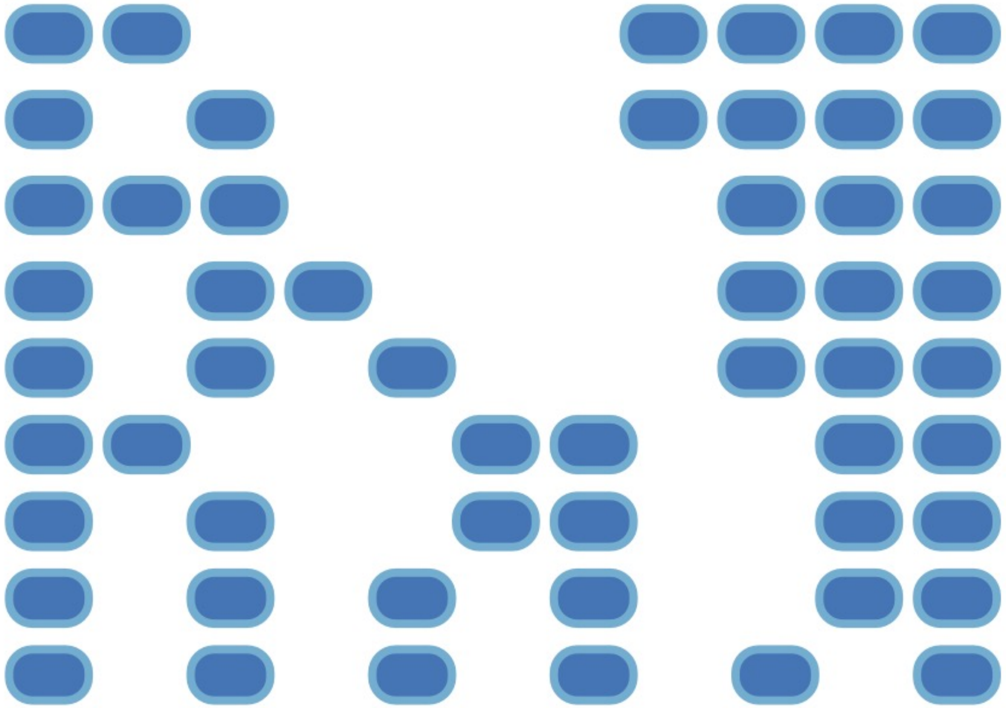
Counting Partitions

The number of partitions of a positive integer n, using parts up to size m, is the number of ways in which n can be expressed as the sum of positive integer parts up to m in increasing order.

Counting Partitions

```
count_partitions(6, 4)
```

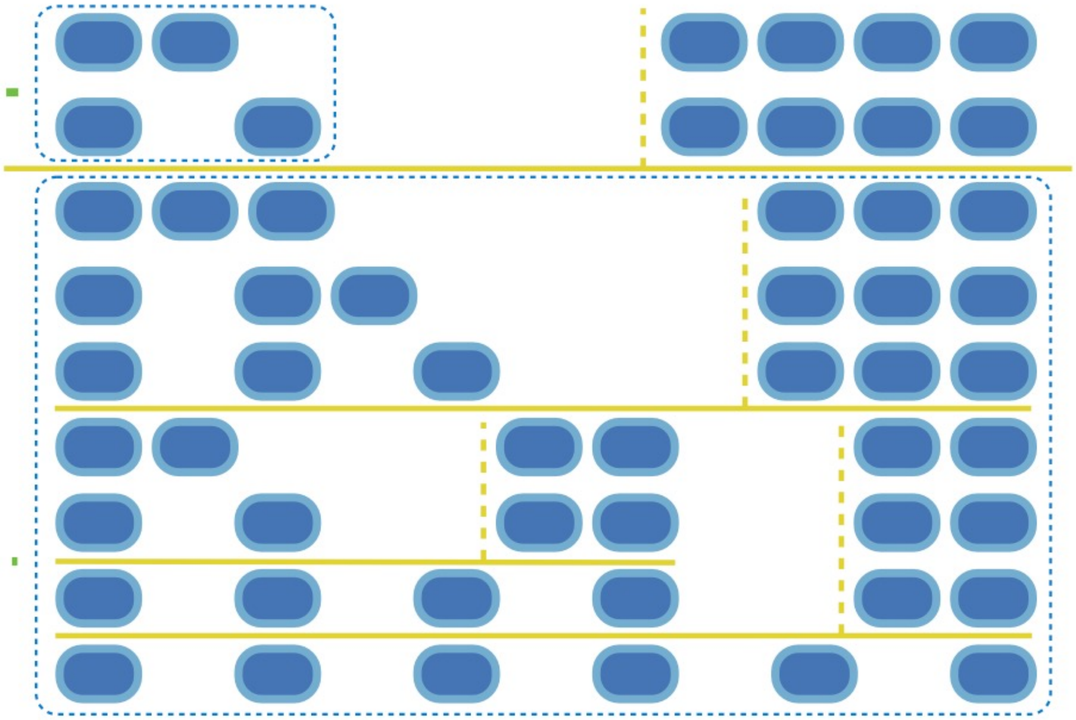
```
2 + 4 = 6
1 + 1 + 4 = 6
3 + 3 = 6
1 + 2 + 3 = 6
1 + 1 + 1 + 3 = 6
2 + 2 + 2 = 6
1 + 1 + 2 + 2 = 6
1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 2 = 6
1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 6
```



Counting Partitions

count_partitions(6, 4)

- Recursive decomposition: finding simpler instances of the problem.
- Explore two possibilities:
  - Use at least one 4
  - Don't use any 4
- Solve two simpler problems:
  - count_partitions(2, 4)
  - count_partitions(6, 3)
- Tree recursion often involves exploring different choices.



Counting Partitions

- Recursive decomposition: finding simpler instances of the problem.
- Explore two possibilities:
  - Use at least one 4
  - Don't use any 4
- Solve two simpler problems:
  - count_partitions(2, 4)
  - count_partitions(6, 3)
- Tree recursion often involves exploring different choices.

```
def count_partitions(n, m):
    if n == 0:
        return 1
    elif n < 0:
        return 0
    elif m == 0:
        return 0
    else:
        with_m = count_partitions(n-m, m)
        without_m = count_partitions(n, m-1)
        return with_m + without_m
```

Thanks for Listening