



# 2.3

## Designing Algorithms and Recursion

ITX2010, CSX3003, IT2230

Data Structures and Algorithms,  
Information Structures

# Learning Objectives

## Recursion

Students will be able to:

- Recognize goal and principal of Object-Oriented Programming
- Explain the history of developing a program
- Comprehend the class's terminologies
- Generate a Python class
- Explain the recursive function concept
- Describe how to solve a problem with the recursion
- Illustrate recursive function workflow
- Synthesize a recursive function

# Chapter Outline

## Object-Oriented Programming

### 1. Object-Oriented Concept

- 1) Goal and Principle
- 2) Program Development
- 3) Class's Terminologies
- 4) Python Class

### 2. Recursion

- 1) Recursive Function
- 2) Recursive Function Workflow
- 3) Recursive Solution
- 4) Runtime Stack
- 5) Multiple Recursion
- 6) Recursion Application

# 2

Recursion

## **Section 1:** Object-Oriented Concept

- 1) Goal and Principle
- 2) Program Development
- 3) Class Definitions
- 4) Python Class

# Goal and Principle

## Object-Oriented Concept: Goal

- Robustness

- Capability of handling unexpected input or tolerating with the input which is not explicitly specified
- Ex: Although an input is type mismatched, it can run and return error message or find the possible closet outcome without any crash.

- Adaptability (Evaluability)

- Portable to variety of hardware's and software's specifications
- Ex: It can be run on its previous or new Operating Systems or platforms.

- Reusability

- Reusable code can be adopted to the new program for optimized development time
- Ex: Importing class to support some basic operations in another class

# Goal and Principle

## Object-Oriented Concept: Principle

- **Modularity:**
  - It consists of several different module that must properly work and correctly with others to serve a functional requirement.
- **Abstraction:**
  - Design and Implementation can be integrated in class concept.
- **Encapsulation:**
  - it gives one programmer freedom to implement the details of a component, without concern that other programmers will be writing code that intricately depends on those internal decisions. **[1]**

# Goal and Principle

Object-Oriented Concept: Principle



Fig 2-1 General Data Structures [1]

# Program Development

## Object-Oriented Concept

- Non-structured Linear Programming (Spaghetti Code)
  - Program line of code run in sequence and were not prepared based on their responsibility.
- Modular Programming
  - Programs were organized in functions / method or module for serving a single purpose.
- Object-Oriented Programming
  - Functions and Data are developed within a template called class to define a behavior of class instance.



# Class Definitions

## Object-Oriented Concept

- Python is an object-oriented programming language.
- Class is a template of generating an object with the following components:
  1. Class name
  2. Class attribute
  3. Constructor
  4. Class method

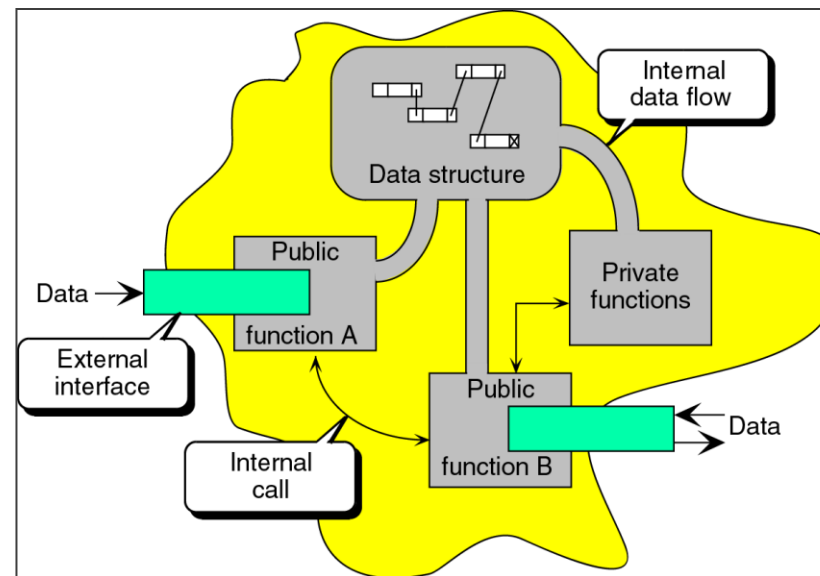


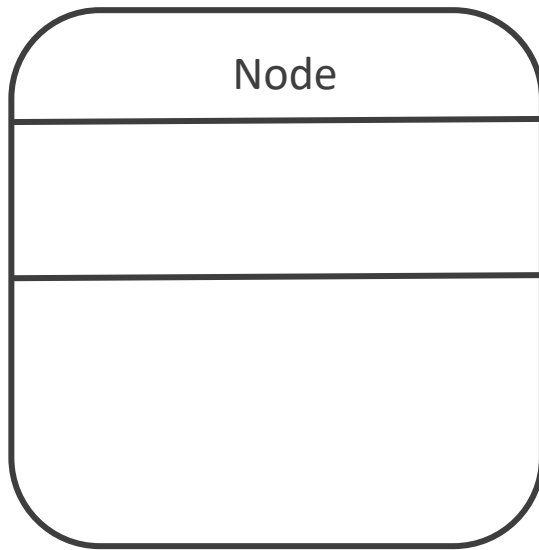
Fig 2-2 General Data Structures [2]

# Class Definitions

## Object-Oriented Concept

### 1. Class name

- Name of class or template name which must be assigned before generating its object or instance.



```
class Node:  
    #Constructor  
  
    #Class members
```

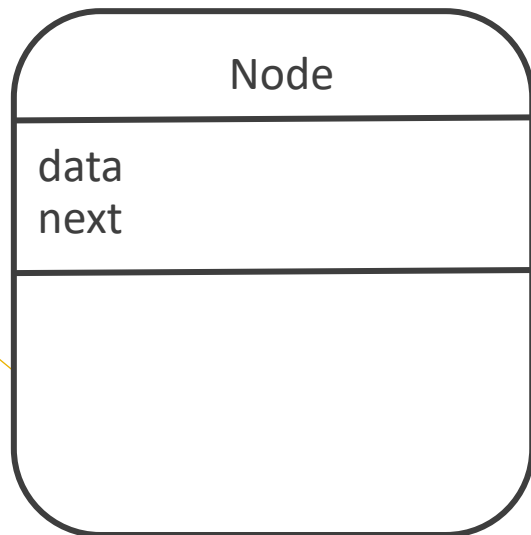
Fig 2-3 Class name

# Class Definitions

## Object-Oriented Concept

### 2. Class attribute

- It describes the characteristics of class and can be implemented in term of variables.



```
class Node:  
    #Constructor  
    def __init__(self,initData):  
        #Class attribute  
        self.data = initData  
        self.next = None
```

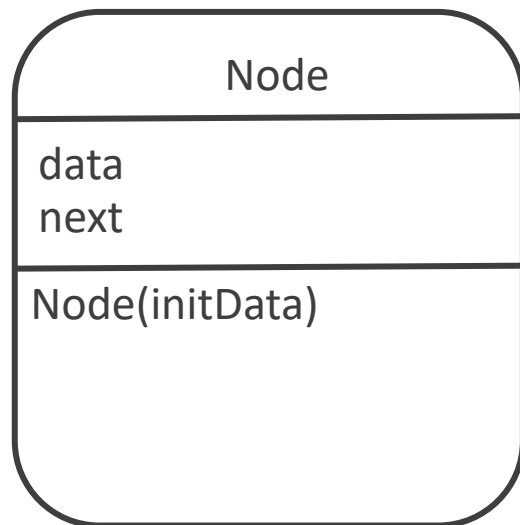
Fig 2-4 Class attribute

# Class Definitions

## Object-Oriented Concept

### 3. Constructor

- Class method responses for initializing values of class attributes.



```
class Node:
    #Constructor
    def __init__(self,initData):
        #Class attribute
        self.data = initData
        self.next = None
```

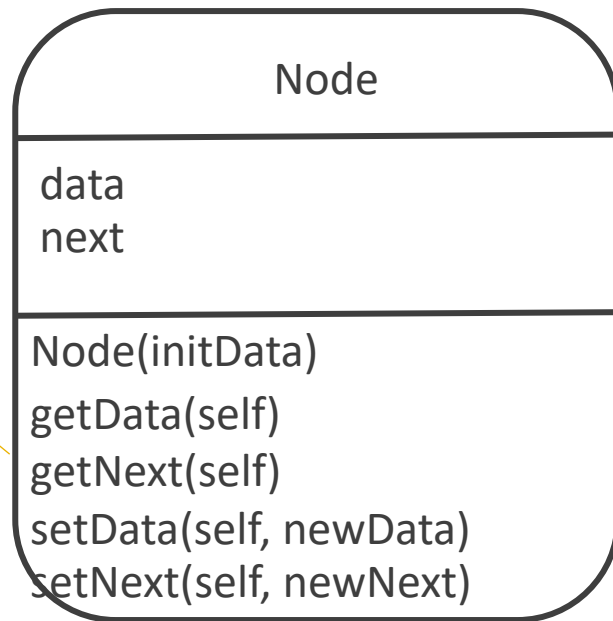
Fig 2-5 Class name

# Class Definitions

## Object-Oriented Concept

### 4. Class method

- Class member or function define behavior or operation of class instance (object).



```
class Node:
    #Constructor
    #Class members
    def getData(self):
        return self.data
    def getNext(self):
        return self.next
    def setData(self, newdata):
        self.data = newdata
    def setNext(self, newnext):
        self.next = newnext
```

Fig 2-6 Class method

```
1 #Create Node Class
2
3 class Node:
4     #Constructor
5     def __init__(self,initData):
6         #Class attribute
7         self.data = initData
8         self.next = None
9     #Class members
10    def getData(self):
11        return self.data
12    def getNext(self):
13        return self.next
14    def setData(self,newdata):
15        self.data = newdata
16    def setNext(self,newnext):
17        self.next = newnext
18 #Create an object of class Node
19 myNode = Node(10)
20 print("\n")
21 #Call the class's method getData
22 print("Print node data : ", myNode.getData())
```

Print node data : 10

# 2

Recursion

## Section 2: Recursion

- 1) Recursive Function
- 2) Recursive Function Workflow
- 3) Recursive Solution
- 4) Runtime Stack
- 5) Multiple Recursion
- 6) Recursion Application

# Recursion Function

## What is Recursion?

- **Divide-and-conquer** method:
  - Break the problem into several subproblems that are similar to the original problem
  - Solve the subproblems recursively
  - Combine these solutions to create a solution to the original problem
- Perform three characteristic steps:
  1. **Divide** the problem into one or more subproblems
  2. **Conquer** the subproblems by solving them recursively
  3. **Combine** the problem solutions to form a final solution



# Recursion Function

## What is Recursion?

- **Recursion** is a process for solving problems by subdividing a larger problem into smaller cases of the problem itself and then solving the smaller, more trivial parts. [3]
- It recurse (call itself) one or more times to handle closely related problems. [7]
- This algorithm follow the “**divide-and-conquer**” method. [7]

# Recursion Function

What is Recursion?

- **Recursive Function** is a function that calls itself, directly or indirectly. [4]
- **Ex:** A mathematic example of Fibonacci
- The recursive function consists of two parts:
  1. Termination condition
  2. Function body

$$F(n) = \begin{cases} 1, n = 1, 2 \\ F(n-1) + F(n-2), \text{others} \end{cases}$$

Fig 2-7 Fibonacci function [3]

# Recursion Function

## Components

### 1. Termination condition (Base case)

- A recursive function always contains one or more terminating condition.
- A condition which recursive function is processing a simple case and do not call itself.

### 2. Function body (Recursive case) – including recursive expansion

- The main logic of the function contains in the body of the function.
- It contains the recursion expansion statement that in turn calls the function itself.

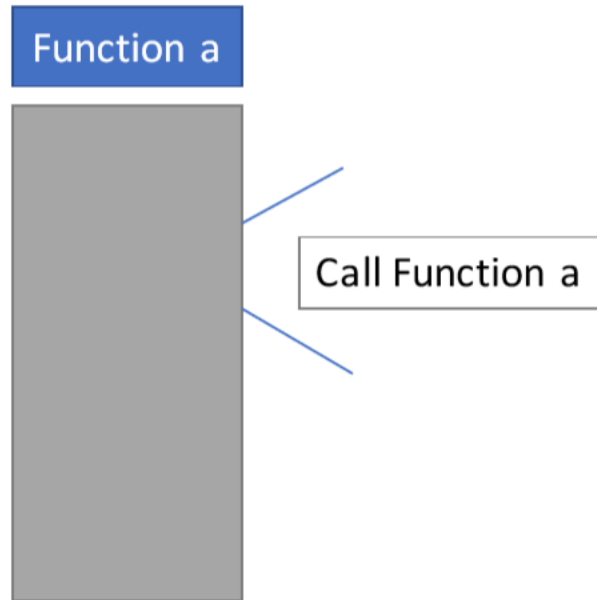
# Recursion Function

## Properties

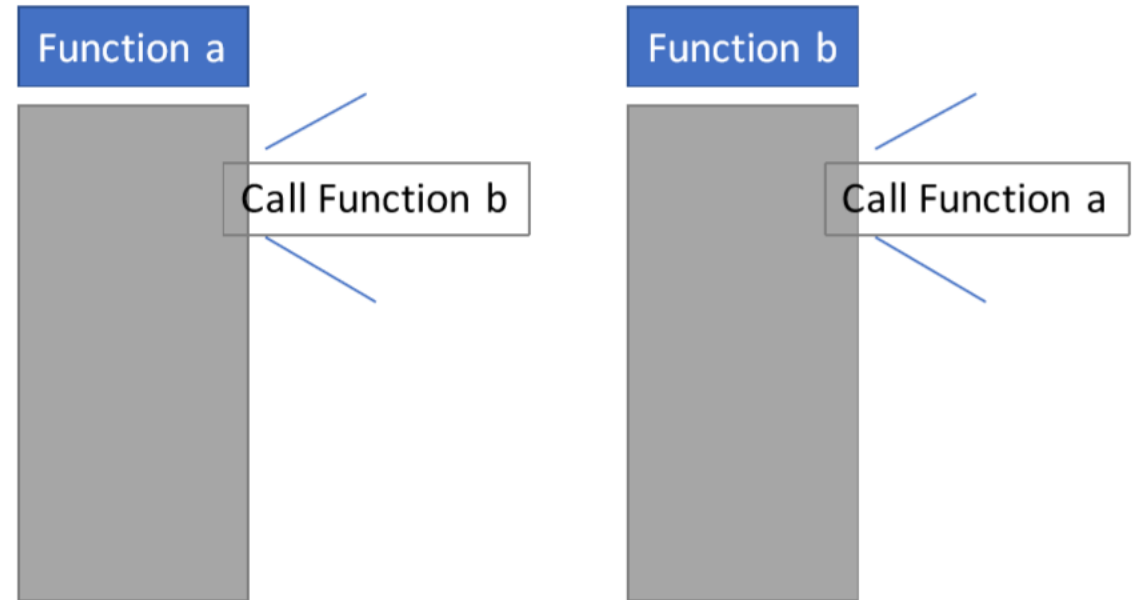
1. It must have a terminate condition ( base case).
    - Without the terminate condition, the recursive function will forever run and consume all stack memory.
  2. It must call itself which contain a recursive case.
  3. It must change its state until toward to the terminate condition (base case).
- **Note that:**
    - Property 1 and 3 guarantee that the recursive function can stop.
    - Property 2 divides the problem into smaller pieces (Divide and Conquer).

# Recursion Function

## Properties



Function "a" is recursive function



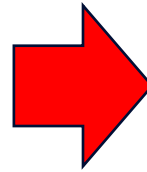
Is function "a" recursive function  
Is function "b" recursive function

Fig 2-8 Recursive functions [3]

# Recursion Function Workflow

- Given a print function:

```
def printRev( n ):  
    if n > 0 :  
        print( n )  
        printRev( n-1 )
```



```
def printInc( n ):  
    if n > 0 :  
        printInc( n-1 )  
        print( n )
```

Fig 2-9 Example of print function [3]

# Recursion Function Work Flow

- What is the output of each function?

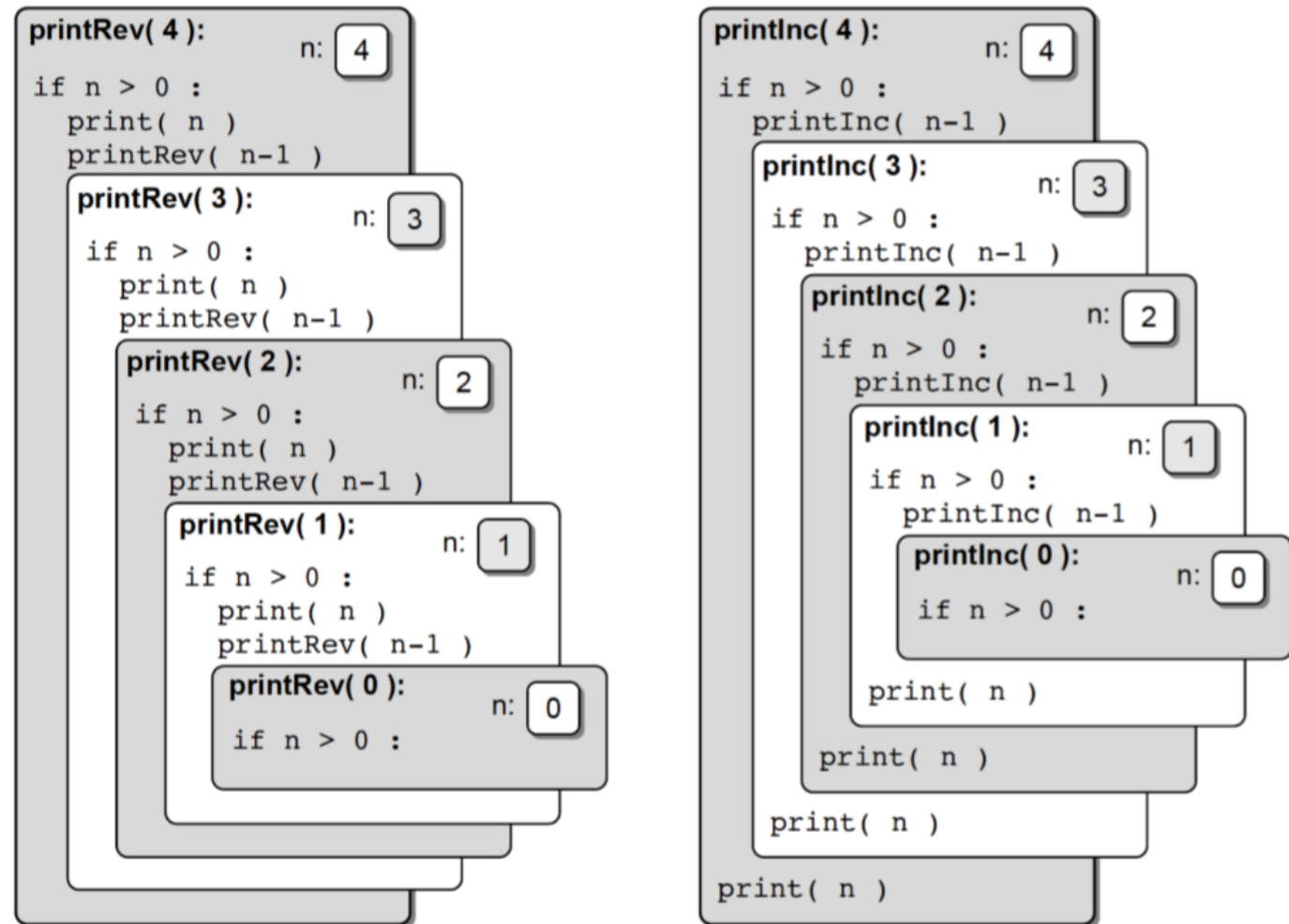


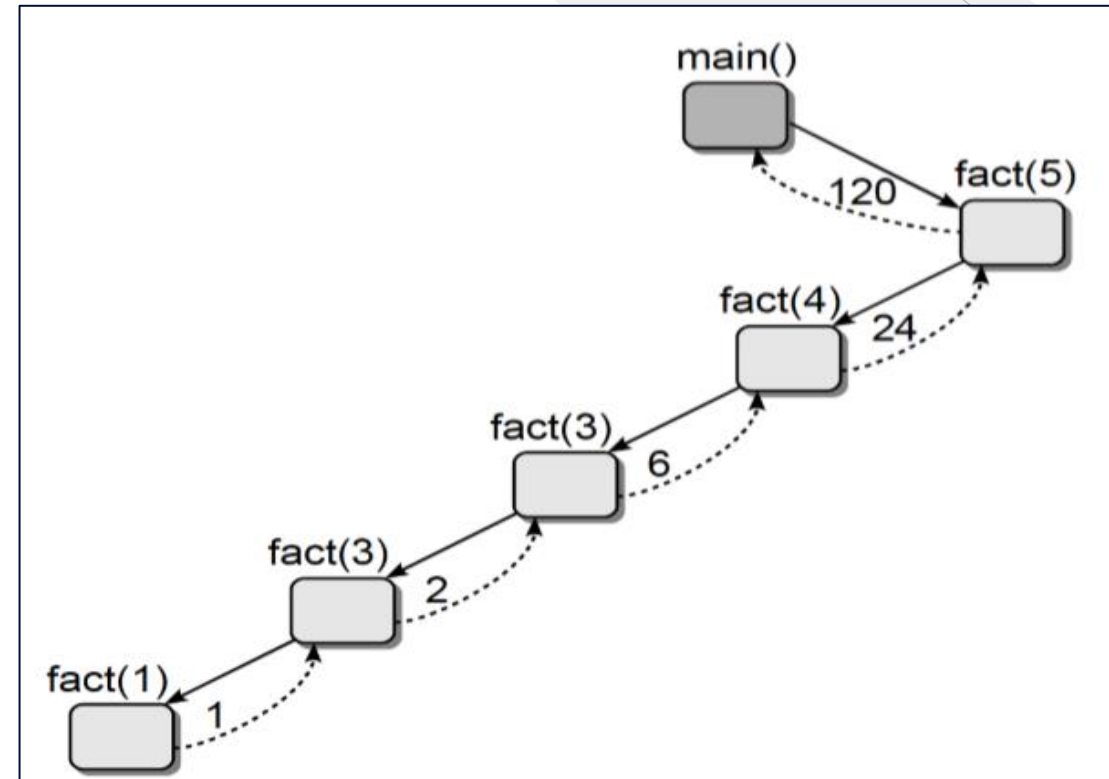
Fig 2-10 Print function work flow [3]

# Recursion Solution

- A recursive solution can:
  1. Subdivides a problem into smaller version of itself.
  2. Find a based case
  3. Find a recursion case



- **Ex:** Factorial of  $n$  ( $n!$ )
- A recursive solution can:
  1. Subdivides a problem into smaller version of itself.  
 $5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$
  2. Find a based case  
 $n = 0, n! = 1$
  3. Find a recursion case  
 $n! = n(n-1)!$



```
1 # Compute n!
2 def fact( n ):
3     assert n >= 0, "Factorial not defined for negative values."
4     if n < 2 :
5         return 1
6     else :
7         return n * fact(n - 1)
```

# Runtime Stack

- The base case will be called last but must be firstly computed.

```
def main():  
    y = fact( 2 )  
main()
```

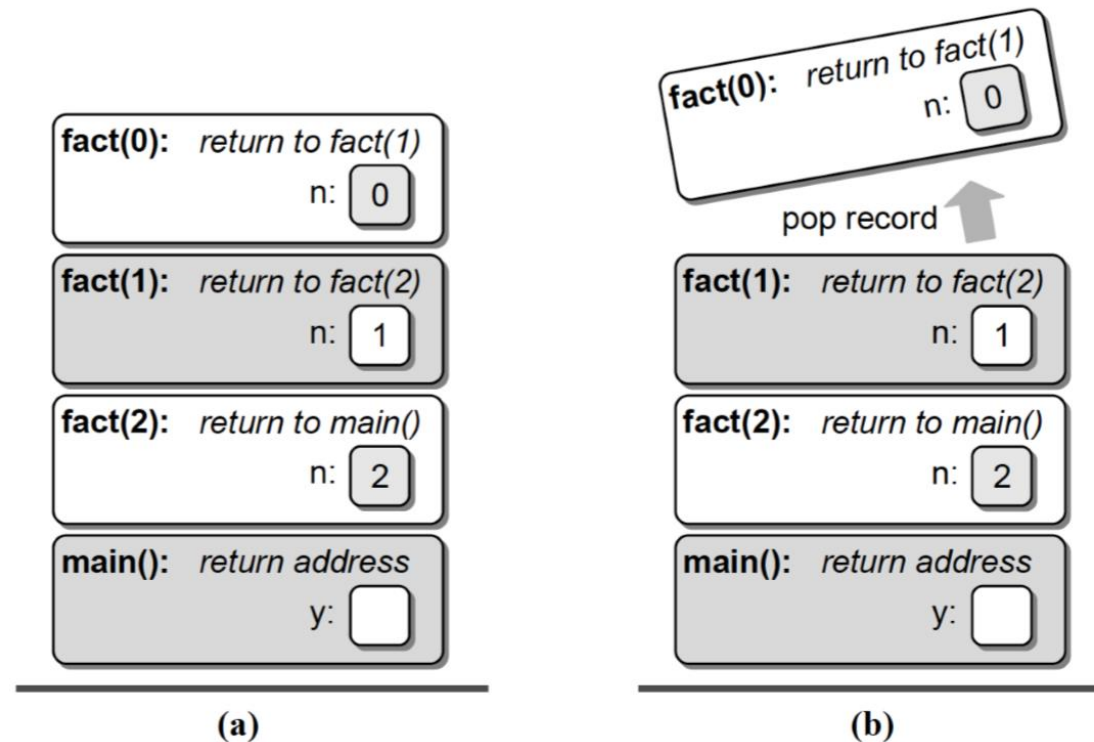


Fig 2-11 Stack runtime [3]

# Multiple Recursion

- Some problem - like Fibonacci, require multiple recursive function.

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, ...

$$\text{fib}(n) = \begin{cases} 1, n = 1, 2 \\ \text{fib}(n-1) + \text{fib}(n-2), \text{others} \end{cases}$$

```
fib(n): //assuming n >= 1  
    if n=1 or n=2:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return fib(n - 1)+fib(n-2)
```

Fig 2-12 Example of Fibonacci recursive function [3]

# Multiple Recursion

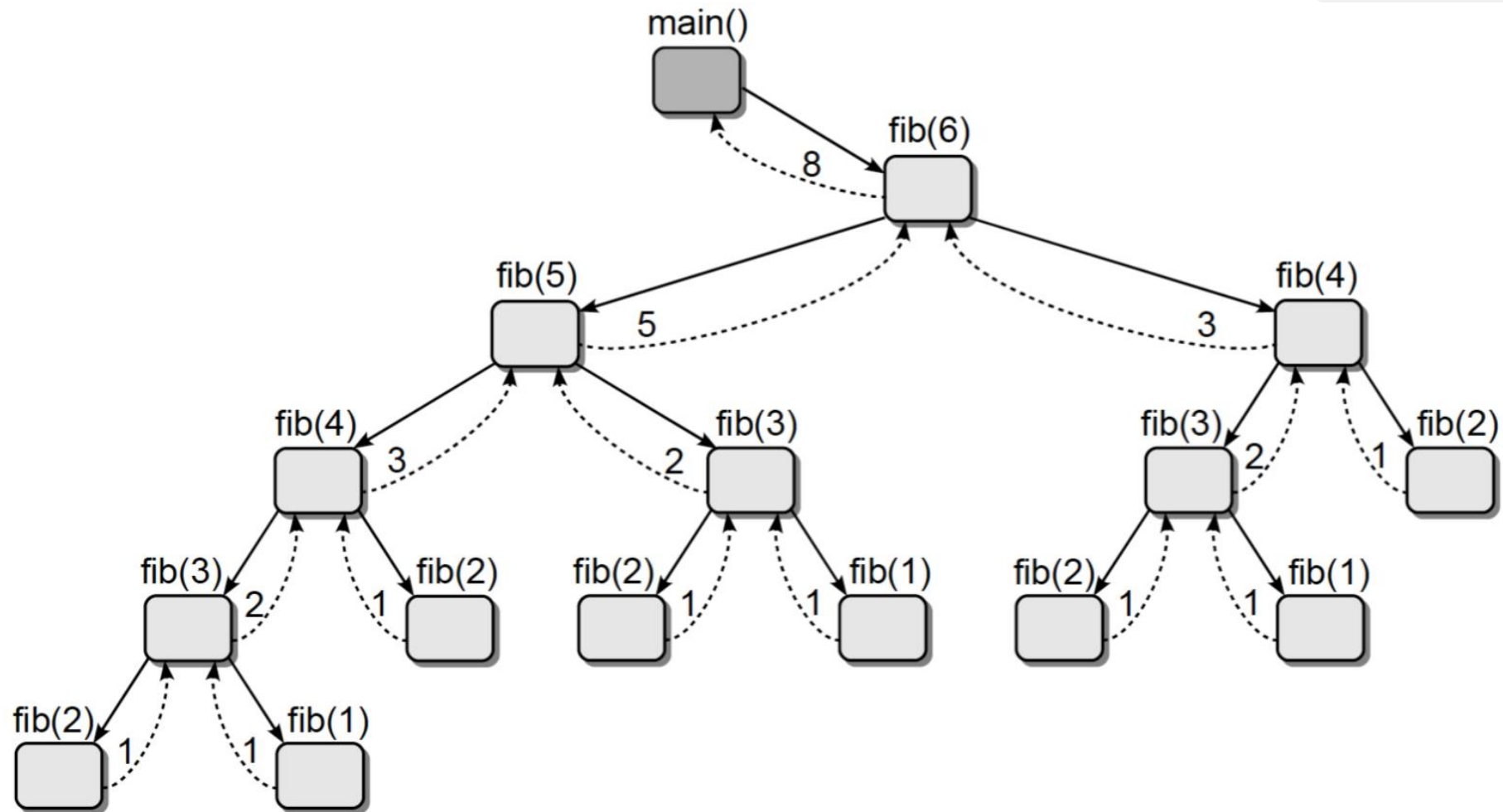


Fig 2-13 Logical view of executing Fibonacci recursive function [3]

# Recursion Applications

- Many application can be solved by using recursion
  1. Merge sort algorithm
  2. Binary search
  3. Towers of Hanoi
  4. Tic-Tac-Toe

# Recursion Applications

## Merge sort algorithm

MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )

1  $n_L = q - p + 1$       *// length of  $A[p : q]$*

2  $n_R = r - q$       *// length of  $A[q + 1 : r]$*

3 let  $L[0 : n_L - 1]$  and  $R[0 : n_R - 1]$  be new arrays

4 **for**  $i = 0$  **to**  $n_L - 1$  *// copy  $A[p : q]$  into  $L[0 : n_L - 1]$*

5      $L[i] = A[p + i]$

6 **for**  $j = 0$  **to**  $n_R - 1$  *// copy  $A[q + 1 : r]$  into  $R[0 : n_R - 1]$*

7      $R[j] = A[q + j + 1]$

8  $i = 0$       *//  $i$  indexes the smallest remaining element in  $L$*

9  $j = 0$       *//  $j$  indexes the smallest remaining element in  $R$*

10  $k = p$       *//  $k$  indexes the location in  $A$  to fill*

# Recursion Applications

## Merge sort algorithm

```
11 // As long as each of the arrays  $L$  and  $R$  contains an unmerged
    // element,
    //      copy the smallest unmerged element back into  $A[p : r]$ .
12 while  $i < n_L$  and  $j < n_R$ 
13     if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
14          $A[k] = L[i]$ 
15          $i = i + 1$ 
16     else  $A[k] = R[j]$ 
17          $j = j + 1$ 
18      $k = k + 1$ 
19 // Having gone through one of  $L$  and  $R$  entirely, copy the
    //      remainder of the other to the end of  $A[p : r]$ .
```

# Recursion Applications

Merge sort algorithm

```
19 // Having gone through one of  $L$  and  $R$  entirely, copy the  
   // remainder of the other to the end of  $A[p : r]$ .
```

```
20 while  $i < n_L$ 
```

```
21    $A[k] = L[i]$ 
```

```
22    $i = i + 1$ 
```

```
23    $k = k + 1$ 
```

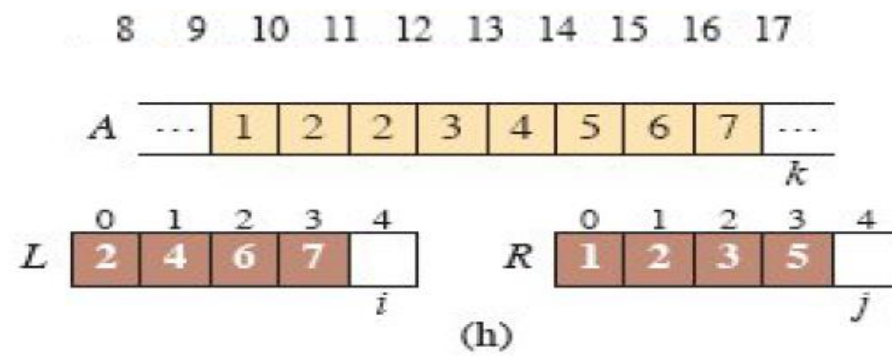
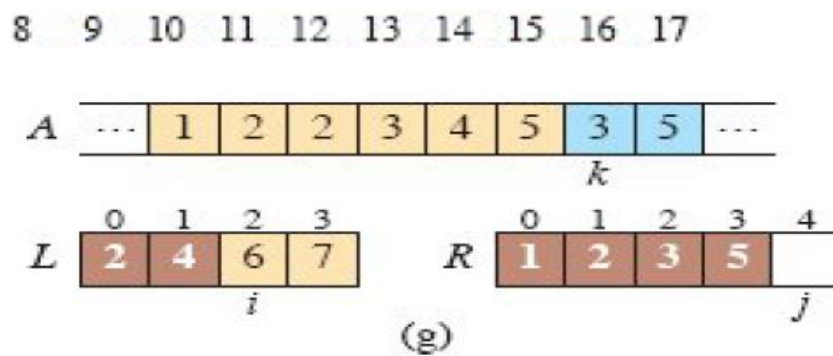
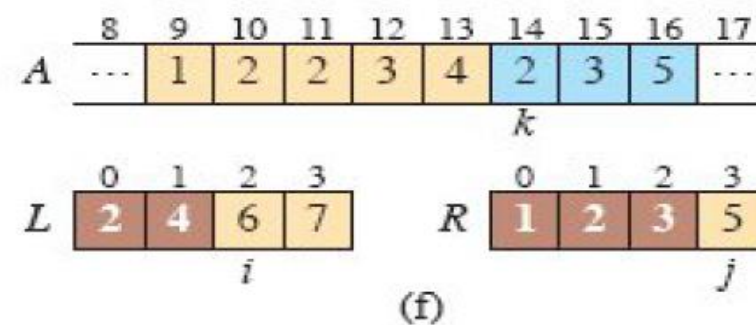
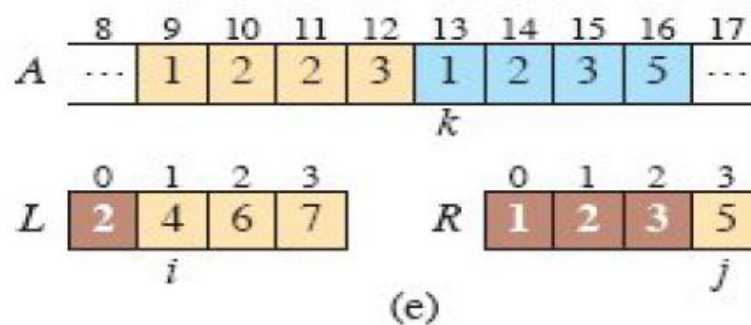
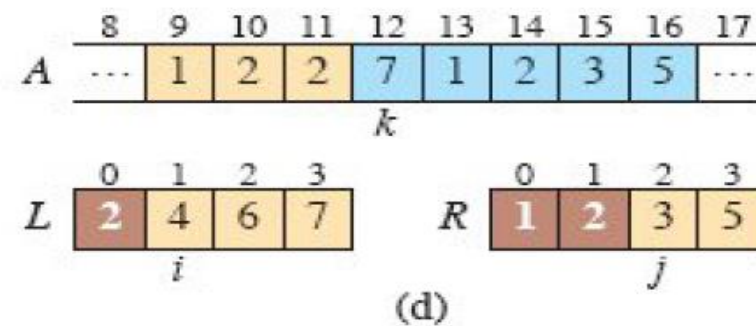
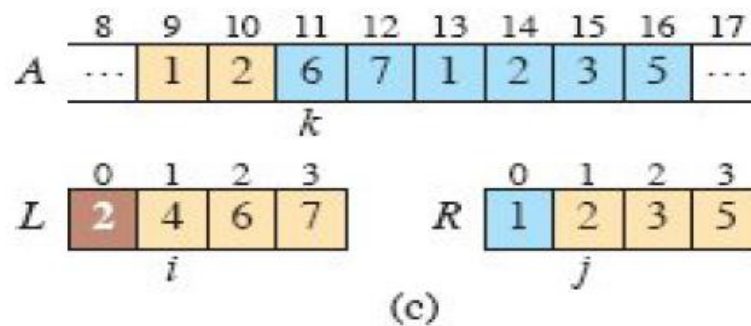
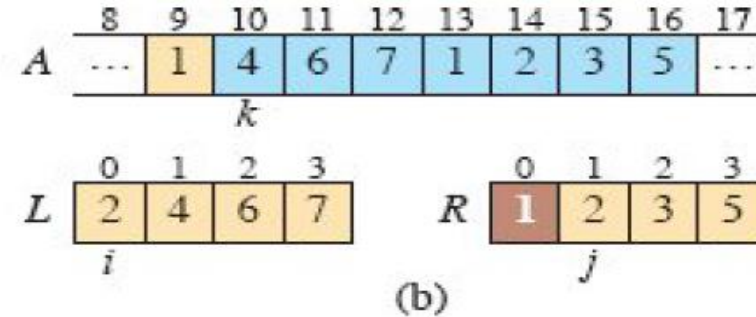
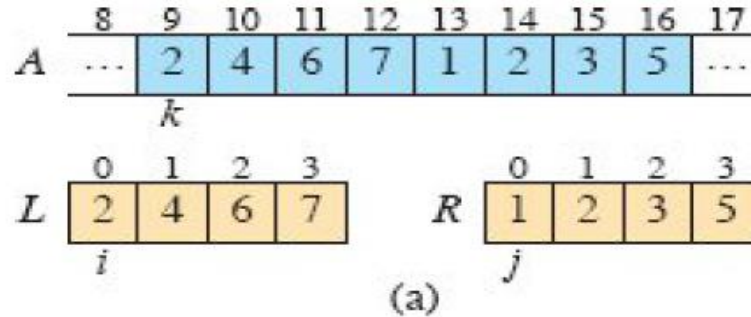
```
24 while  $j < n_R$ 
```

```
25    $A[k] = R[j]$ 
```

```
26    $j = j + 1$ 
```

```
27    $k = k + 1$ 
```





# Recursion Applications

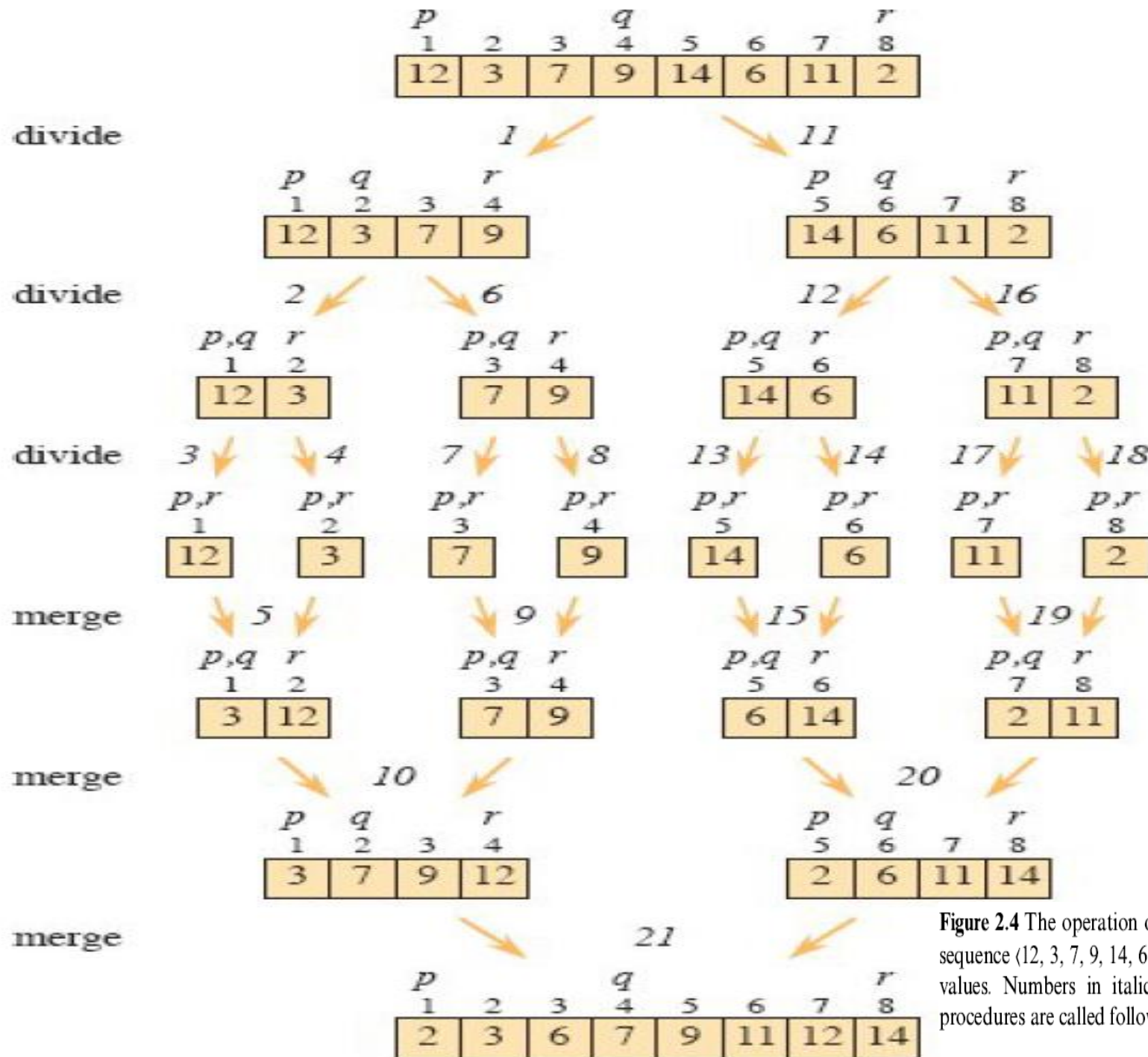
Merge sort algorithm

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n < n_0, \\ D(n) + aT(n/b) + C(n) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

MERGE-SORT( $A, p, r$ )

```

1  if  $p \geq r$                                 // zero or one element?
2      return
3   $q = \lfloor (p + r)/2 \rfloor$                         // midpoint of  $A[p : r]$ 
4  MERGE-SORT( $A, p, q$ )                          // recursively sort  $A[p : q]$ 
5  MERGE-SORT( $A, q + 1, r$ )                      // recursively sort  $A[q + 1 : r]$ 
6  // Merge  $A[p : q]$  and  $A[q + 1 : r]$  into  $A[p : r]$ .
7  MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )
  
```



**Figure 2.4** The operation of merge sort on the array  $A$  with length 8 that initially contains the sequence  $\langle 12, 3, 7, 9, 14, 6, 11, 2 \rangle$ . The indices  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$  into each subarray appear above their values. Numbers in italics indicate the order in which the MERGE-SORT and MERGE procedures are called following the initial call of MERGE-SORT( $A, 1, 8$ ).

## Analysis of merge sort

Here's how to set up the recurrence for  $T(n)$ , the worst-case running time of merge sort on  $n$  numbers.

**Divide:** The divide step just computes the middle of the subarray, which takes constant time. Thus,  $D(n) = \Theta(1)$ .

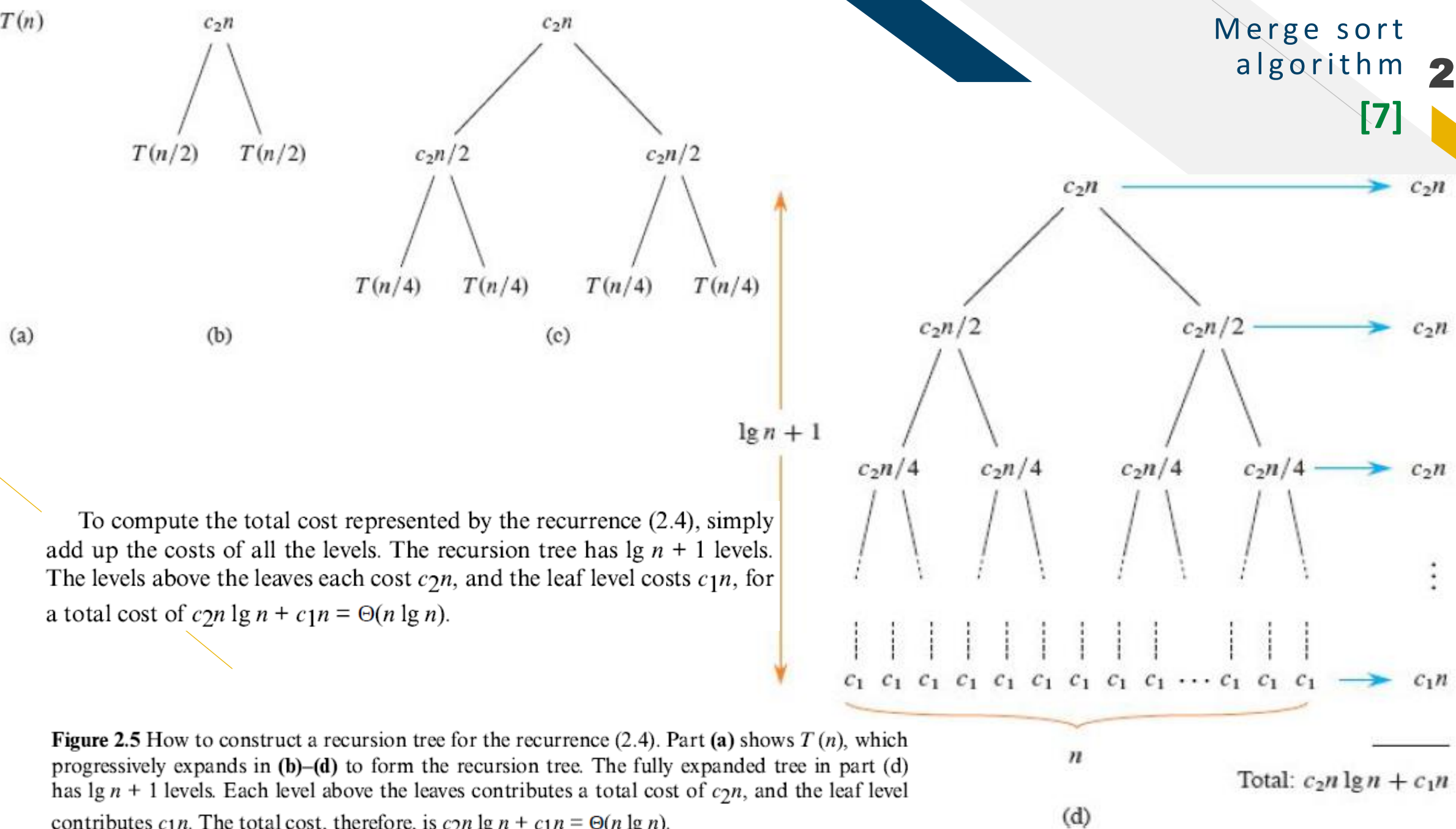
**Conquer:** Recursively solving two subproblems, each of size  $n/2$ , contributes  $2T(n/2)$  to the running time (ignoring the floors and ceilings, as we discussed).

**Combine:** Since the MERGE procedure on an  $n$ -element subarray takes  $\Theta(n)$  time, we have  $C(n) = \Theta(n)$ .

When we add the functions  $D(n)$  and  $C(n)$  for the merge sort analysis, we are adding a function that is  $\Theta(n)$  and a function that is  $\Theta(1)$ . This sum is a linear function of  $n$ . That is, it is roughly proportional to  $n$  when  $n$  is large, and so merge sort's dividing and combining times together are  $\Theta(n)$ . Adding  $\Theta(n)$  to the  $2T(n/2)$  term from the conquer step gives the recurrence for the worst-case running time  $T(n)$  of merge sort:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) . \quad (2.3)$$





To compute the total cost represented by the recurrence (2.4), simply add up the costs of all the levels. The recursion tree has  $\lg n + 1$  levels. The levels above the leaves each cost  $c_2n$ , and the leaf level costs  $c_1n$ , for a total cost of  $c_2n \lg n + c_1n = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .

**Figure 2.5** How to construct a recursion tree for the recurrence (2.4). Part (a) shows  $T(n)$ , which progressively expands in (b)–(d) to form the recursion tree. The fully expanded tree in part (d) has  $\lg n + 1$  levels. Each level above the leaves contributes a total cost of  $c_2n$ , and the leaf level contributes  $c_1n$ . The total cost, therefore, is  $c_2n \lg n + c_1n = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .

# Recursion Applications

## Binary Search

- The problem of searching can be divided into smaller version of itself by:
  - Each splitting, the list will be cut into two parts.
  - This will be repeated until the target key is found or there is no more item to be searched.

# Recursion Applications

## Binary Search

```

recBinarySearch(target, A, first, last):

    //if the sequence cannot be subdivided further, we are done.
    if first > last:
        return False

    else:
        mid <-- (last + first)/2
        if A[mid] = target:
            return True

        else if target < A[mid]:
            return recBinarySearch(target, A, first, mid-1)

        else:
            return recBinarySearch(target, A, mid+1, last)
  
```

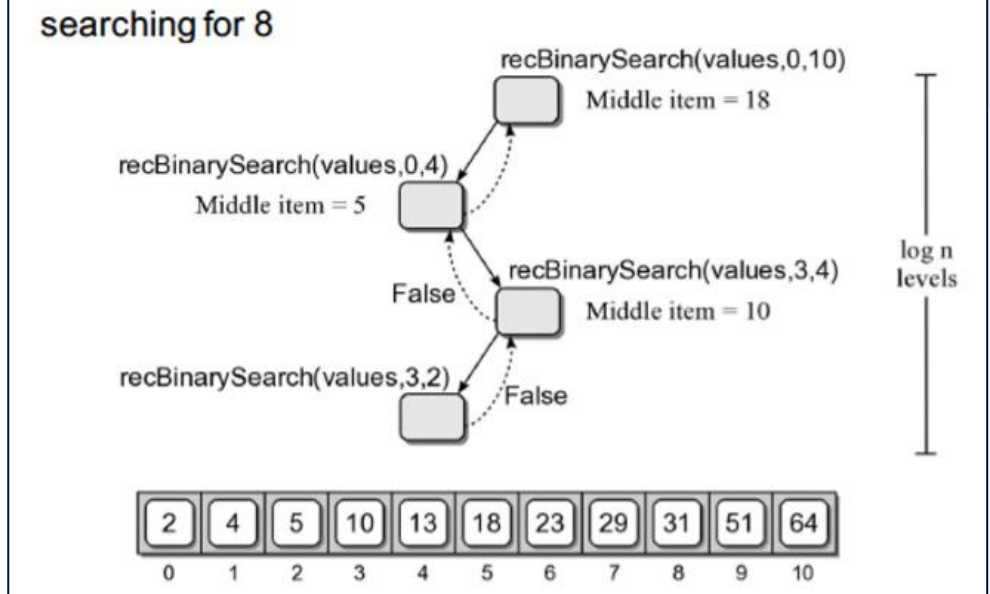


Fig 2-14 Binary search as recursive function [3]

# References

## Texts | Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

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