

Full stack web development using python

Recursion



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Agenda

- ① what is recursion?
- ② Recursion Tree
- ③ How to approach recursive solution?

Recursion

Function calling itself is called recursion.

```
def f1():
```

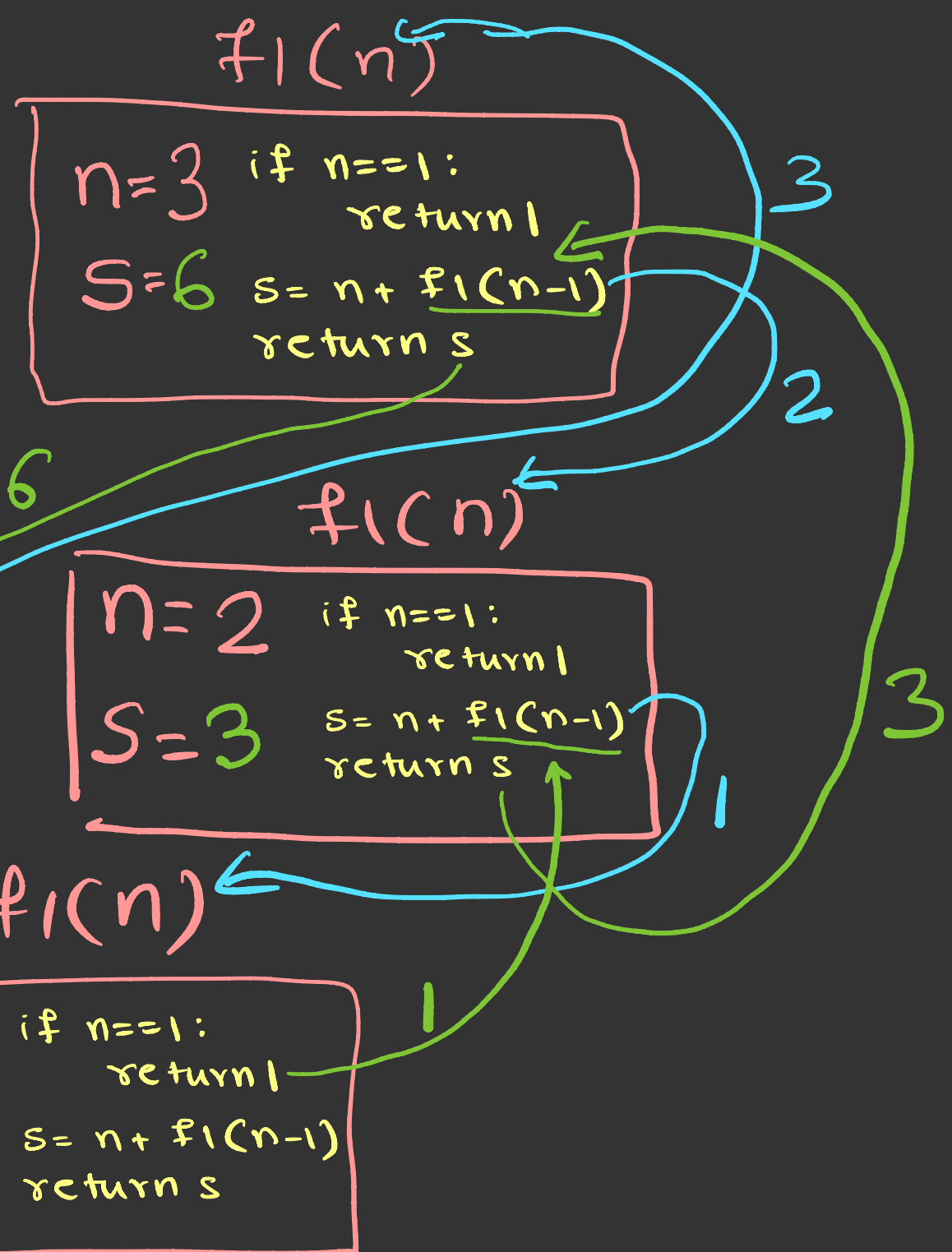
```
    =
```

```
    f1()
```

```
    =
```

```
def f1(n):  
    if n==1:  
        return 1  
    s = n + f1(n-1)  
    return s
```

```
x = 6f1(3)  
print(x) 6
```



$f_1(5)$	15	$S = 5 + f_1(4)$	$5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1$
$f_1(4)$	10	$S = 4 + f_1(3)$	$4 + 3 + 2 + 1$
$f_1(3)$	6	$S = 3 + f_1(2)$	$3 + 2 + 1$
$f_1(2)$	3	$S = 2 + f_1(1)$	$2 + 1$
$f_1(1)$	1	return 1	1

$$S = n + f_1(n-1) \Rightarrow n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + \dots + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1$$

$$n=100$$

$$100 + f_1(99)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$99 + f_1(98)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$98 + f_1(97)$$

- In recursion, problem is solved in terms of problem itself
- Each time recursive function call to itself for little simpler version of the original problem

How to approach recursive function?

Write a recursive function to calculate sum of first n natural numbers.

① $f_1(n) = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$

R^C ② $n + f_1(n-1) = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (n-1)$

B^C ③ $n == 1$ 1

```
def f1(n):
```

```
    if n == 1:
```

```
        return 1
```

```
    return n + f1(n-1)
```

$$f_1(n) = \begin{cases} n + f_1(n-1) & n > 1 \\ 1 & n == 1 \end{cases}$$