

# RECURSION

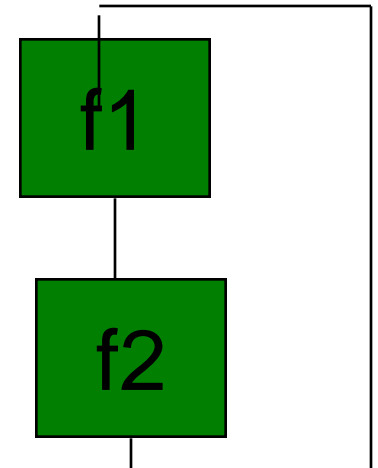
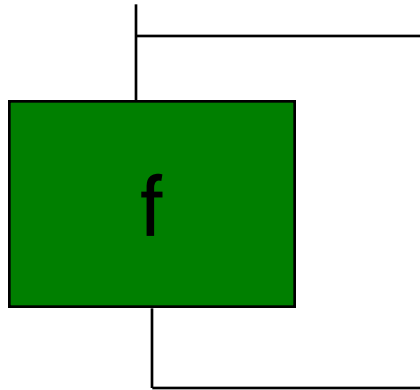




# What is recursion?

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- a function calls itself
  - direct recursion





# Recursion

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- is an alternative to iteration (loop)
  - often more "elegant" and concise than a loop
  - sometimes very inefficient
- recursion should be considered when
  - a problem can be defined in terms of successive smaller problems of the same type, i.e. recursively
  - eventually the problem gets small enough that the answer is known (base case)
  - reducing the problem size leads to the base case
- sometimes the "work" of the algorithm is done after the base case is reached



# Outline of a Recursive Function

```
if (answer is known)
    provide the answer
else
    make a recursive call
to
    solve a smaller version
of the same problem
```

base  
case  
recursive  
case -  
“leap  
of faith”



Two well-defined properties of a recursive procedure are:

1. There must be certain base criteria for which the procedure does not call itself.
2. Each time the procedure does call itself, it must be closer to the base criteria.

• Example:

### **# Factorial Function**

(a) If  $n = 0$ , then  $n! = 1$

(b) If  $n > 0$ , then  $n! = n \cdot (n-1)!$

### **Calculate 4!**

1.  $4! = 4 \cdot 3!$

2.  $3! = 3 \cdot 2!$

3.  $2! = 2 \cdot 1!$

4.  $1! = 1 \cdot 0!$

5.  $0! = 1$

6.  $1! = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$

7.  $2! = 2 \cdot 1 = 2$

8.  $3! = 3 \cdot 2 = 6$

9.  $4! = 4 \cdot 6 = 24$

**Result:**  $4! = 24$



## # Fibonacci Sequence [ 0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89.....]

### Fibonacci(N)

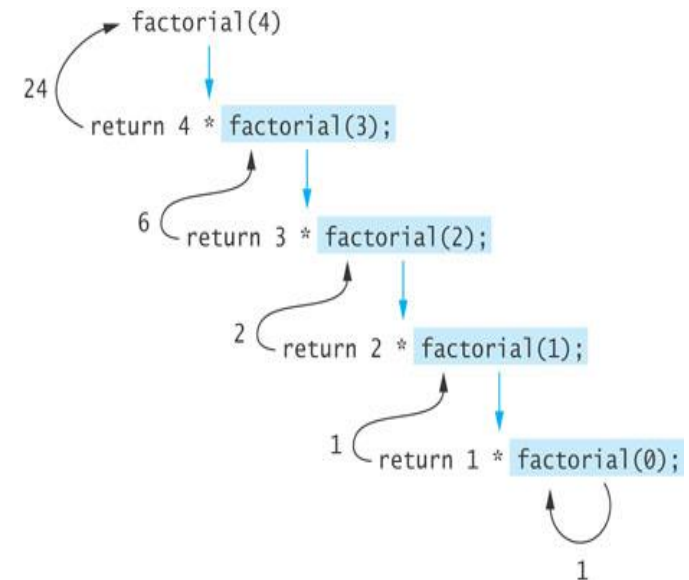
1. If  $N = 0$  or  $N = 1$  then Set  $Fib := N$  and Return.
2. Set  $Fib := Fibonacci(N-2) + Fibonacci(N-1)$
3. Return

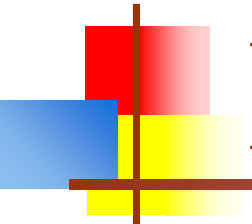
### Example: Fibonacci(6)

1.  $Fib(6) := Fib(4) + Fib(5)$
2.  $Fib(6) := Fib(2) + Fib(3) + Fib(5)$
3.  $Fib(6) := Fib(0) + Fib(1) + Fib(3) + Fib(5)$
4.  $Fib(6) := 0 + 1 + Fib(3) + Fib(5)$
5.  $Fib(6) := 1 + Fib(1) + Fib(2) + Fib(5)$
6.  $Fib(6) := 1 + 1 + 1 + Fib(3) + Fib(4)$
7.  $Fib(6) := 3 + 2 + Fib(4)$
8.  $Fib(6) := 5 + Fib(2) + Fib(3)$
9.  $Fib(6) := 5 + 1 + 2$
10.  $Fib(6) := 8$

# Recursive Call Tree

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





# Factorial (n) - iterative

$$\text{Factorial (n)} = n * (n-1) * (n-2) * \dots * 1$$

for  $n > 0$

$$\text{Factorial (0)} = 1$$

```
int IterFact (int n)
{
    int fact =1;
    for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++)
        fact = fact * i;
    return fact;
}
```



# Factorial (animation 1)

- `x = factorial(3)`

3 is put on stack as n

- `static int factorial(int n) { //n=3`

`int r = 1;` r is put on stack with value 1

`if (n <= 1) return r;`

`else {`

`r = n * factorial(n - 1);`

`return r;`

`}`

`}`

All references to r use this r

All references to n use this n

Now we recur with 2...

r=1

n=3

# Factorial (animation 2)

- $r = n * \text{factorial}(n - 1);$

2 is put on stack as n

- `static int factorial(int n) { // n=2`

`int r = 1;` r is put on stack with value 1

`if (n <= 1) return r;`

`else {`

Now using this r

`r = n * factorial(n - 1);`

And this n

`return r;`

`}`

`}`

Now we recur with 1...

r=1

n=2

r=1

n=3

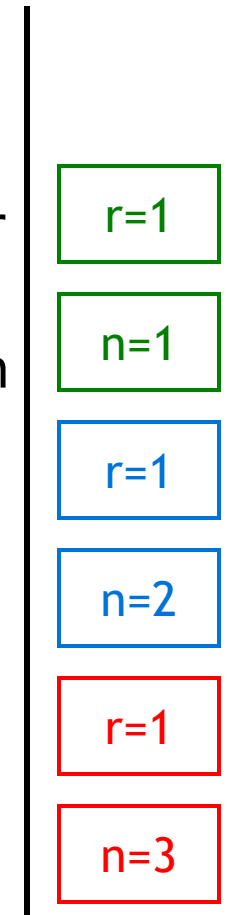
# Factorial (animation 3)

- $r = n * \text{factorial}(n - 1);$

1 is put on stack as n

- ```
static int factorial(int n) {  
    int r = 1;  
    if (n <= 1) return r;  
    else {  
        r = n * factorial(n - 1);  
        return r;  
    }  
}
```

Now we pop r and n off the stack and return 1 as factorial(1)

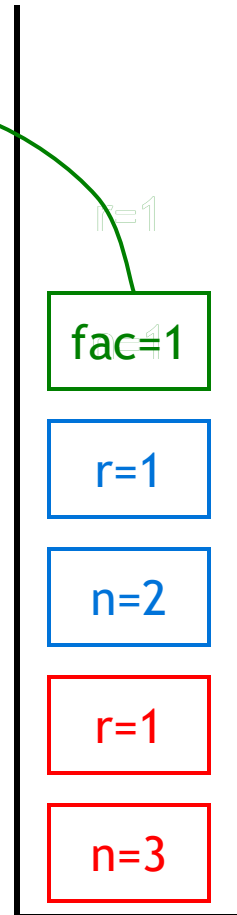


# Factorial (animation 4)

- $r = n * \text{factorial}(n - 1);$

- ```
static int factorial(int n) {  
    int r = 1;  
    if (n <= 1) return r;  
    else {  
        r = n * factorial(n - 1);  
        return r;  
    }  
}
```

Now using this r  
And this n



Now we pop r and n off the  
stack and return 1 as  
factorial(1)

# Factorial (animation 5)

- $r = n * \text{factorial}(n - 1);$

- ```
static int factorial(int n) {
```

```
    int r = 1;
```

```
    if (n <= 1) return r;
```

```
    else {
```

```
        r = n * factorial(n - 1);
```

```
        return r;
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Now using this r

And  
this n

fac=2

r=1

n=3

2 \* 1 is 2;  
Pop r and n;

Return 2

# Factorial (animation 6)

- x = factorial(3)

- static int factorial(int n) {  
    int r = 1;  
    if (n <= 1) return r;  
    else {  
        r = n \* factorial(n - 1);  
    }  
    return r;  
}

3 \* 2 is 6;  
Pop r and n;

Return 6

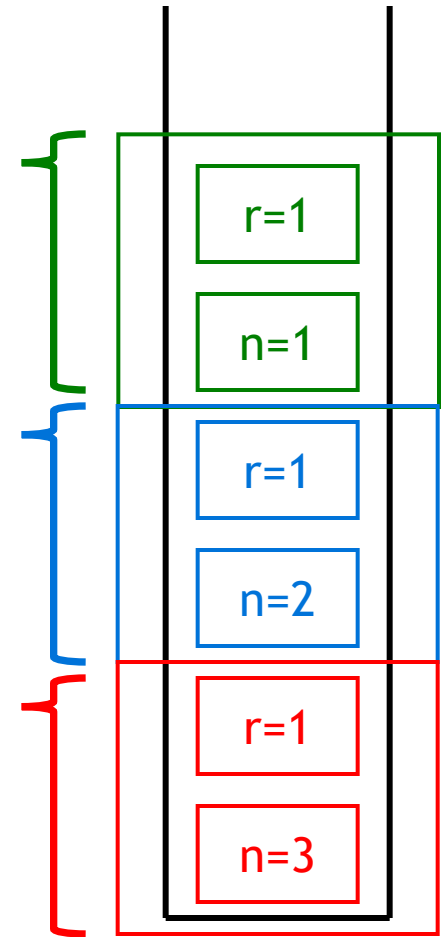
Now using this r

And  
this n

fac=6

# Stack frames

- Rather than pop variables off the stack one at a time, they are usually organized into **stack frames**
- Each frame provides a set of variables and their values
- This allows variables to be popped off all at once
- There are several different ways stack frames can be implemented





# Example

---

```
#include<stdio.h>
int fact(int);
int main(){
    int num,f;
    printf("\nEnter a number: ");
    scanf("%d",&num);
    f=fact(num);
    printf("\nFactorial of %d is: %d",num,f);
    return 0;
}
int fact(int n){
    if(n==1)
        return 1;
    else
        return(n*fact(n-1));
}
```





# Binary search

```
int main(){
    int a[10],i,n,m,c,l,u;

    printf("Enter the size of an array: ");
    scanf("%d",&n);
    printf("Enter the elements of the array: " );
    for(i=0;i<n;i++){
        scanf("%d",&a[i]);
    }
    printf("Enter the number to be search: ");
    scanf("%d",&m);
    l=0,u=n-1;
    c=binary(a,n,m,l,u);
    if(c==0)
        printf("Number is not found.");
    else
        printf("Number is found.");
    return 0;
}
```

```
int binary(int a[],int n,int m,int l,int u){

    int mid,c=0;

    if(l<=u){
        mid=(l+u)/2;
        if(m==a[mid]){
            c=1;
        }
        else if(m<a[mid]){
            return binary(a,n,m,l,mid-1);
        }
        else
            return binary(a,n,m,mid+1,u);
    }
    else
        return c;
}
```



*Any Question?*