Recursion

Recursive Formulation/Recursive Decomposition

To conceive/decompose a problem in terms of simpler problem (of the same nature as that of the original problem) and some trivial activities.

In other words, in the solution to the problem, the same problem re-occurs, many times, on a smaller size (simpler problem(s)) until the result is achieved.

Single Basis

Factorial

Fact(n) =
$$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ n * Fact(n-1) \end{cases}$$
 if $n = 1$ Basis step if $n > 1$ Recursive step

Sum of n numbers

$$Sum(n) = \begin{cases} 0; & if n = 0; Basis step \\ Sum(n-1) + last element; & if n > 0; Recursive step \end{cases}$$

Print a list of Elements

Display the list of elements/numbers in reverse order

$$print(n) = \begin{cases} display \ n^{th} \ (first) element; & if \ n = 1; \ Basis \ Step \\ display \ n^{th} \ (last) element \ and \ then \ print(n-1); & if \ n > 1; \ Recursive \ Step \end{cases}$$

Print a list of Elements

Display the list of elements/numbers in reverse order

$$print(n) = \begin{cases} do \ nothing \ (finish); & if \ n = 0 \\ display \ n^{th} \ (last) \ element \ and \ then \ print(n-1); & if \ n > 0 \end{cases};$$

Print(Arr, n)

1. If n == 1

2. display Arr[n]

3. return

4. else if n > 1

5. display Arr[n]

6. Print(Arr,n-1)

Print2(Arr, n)

1. If n == 0

2. return

3. display Arr[n]

4. Print2(Arr,n-1)

Arr: 2 15 7

Multiple Basis Steps

<u>Fibonacci</u>

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} 0; & if \ n = 0 \\ 1; & if \ n = 1 \end{cases} \begin{array}{ll} \textit{Basis Step} \\ \textit{Basis$$

if n == 0

Recursive Fibonacci(n)

return 0

1. If n <= 1

if n == 1

2. return n

return 1

3. return Recursive_Fibonacci(n-1) + Recursive_Fibonacci(n-2)

str: abcdefedcba

$$str[1..11] = str[1..n]$$
 first == last

$$pal(str, first, last) = \begin{cases} true; & \textit{if } n \leq 1 \ (\textit{if } first \geq last) \\ false; & \textit{if } n > 1 \ and \ firstElement \ ! = lastElement \\ pal(str, first + 1, last - 1); & \textit{if } n > 1 \ and \ firstElement \ = lastElement \end{cases}$$

pal(str, first, last)

- 1. if first >= last
- 2. return true
- 3. if str[first] != str[last]
- 4. return false
- 5. return pal(str,first+1,last-1)

Examples:

str: "aaa" pal("aaa",1,3) -> pal("aaa",2,2) <- true <- true

str: "abba" pal("abba",1,4) -> pal("abba",2,3) -> pal("abba",3,2) <- true <- true <- true

str: "aaaaabaa" pal("aaaaabaa",1,8) -> pal("aaaaabaa",2,7) -> pal("aaaaabaa",3,6) <- false <- false