

EXPERIMENT NO-10

- Aim - Program to find the length of a list using recursion.
- Theory -

Recursion -

- i) Recursion in python is a powerful technique that allows a function to call itself.
- ii) It's like a loop, but instead of using iterative statement, we use recursive calls.
- iii) Recursion is commonly used for solving problems that can be divided into smaller, similar subproblem.
- iv) However, it's important to ensure that the recursive call eventually reach the base case to avoid infinite recursion.

For example -

```
def factorial(n):  
    if n == 0:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * factorial(n-1)
```

```
result = factorial(5)  
print("Factorial of 5 is", result)
```

Explanation -

- i) In this example, the "factorial ()" demonstrates the concept of recursion by breaking down the problem of calculating the factorial of a number into smaller instances of the same problem until a base case is reached.

• Program -

```
def calculate(my_list):  
    if my_list == []:  
        return 0  
    else:  
        return 1 + calculate(my_list[1:])
```

```
my_list = ["Priya", 2, "Tanu", "Aditya", 45, "Apple"]  
length_of_list = calculate(my_list)  
print("Length is:", length_of_list)
```

// Output -

Length is :- 6

• Explanation -

- i) The 'calculate ()' function takes a list 'my-list' as input.
- ii) The if condition checks if the list is empty or not.

- iii) If it is, it return 0, indicated that the length of the empty list is 0.
- iv) If the list is not empty, the function uses recursion.
- v) It has one to the length of the list obtained by slicing of the first element of 'my_list' ('my_list[1:]')
- vi) This effectively reduces the problem cells by 1 element to continues until the base case is reach.
- vii) Each recursive call reduces the size of the list by 1 element, and the sum of this increments gives the total length of the list.

• Conclusion -

- i) This program demonstrates the use of recursion to find the length of a list in python.
- ii) Recursion is a powerful technique that can simplify the implementation of certain algorithms, but it can also lead to stack overflow errors if not used carefully.
- iii) In this case the program uses recursion to elegantly handle the task of calculating the length of a list, showcasing the simplicity and elegance of recursive solutions when applied appropriately.