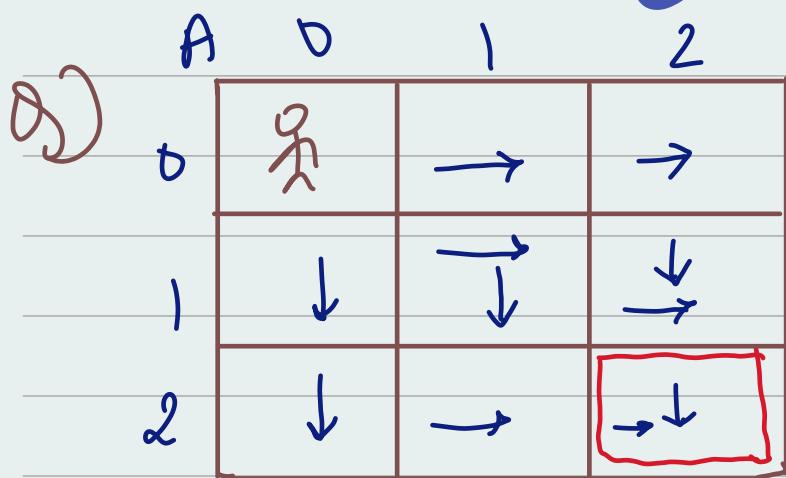


# Backtracking &

## Maze Problems

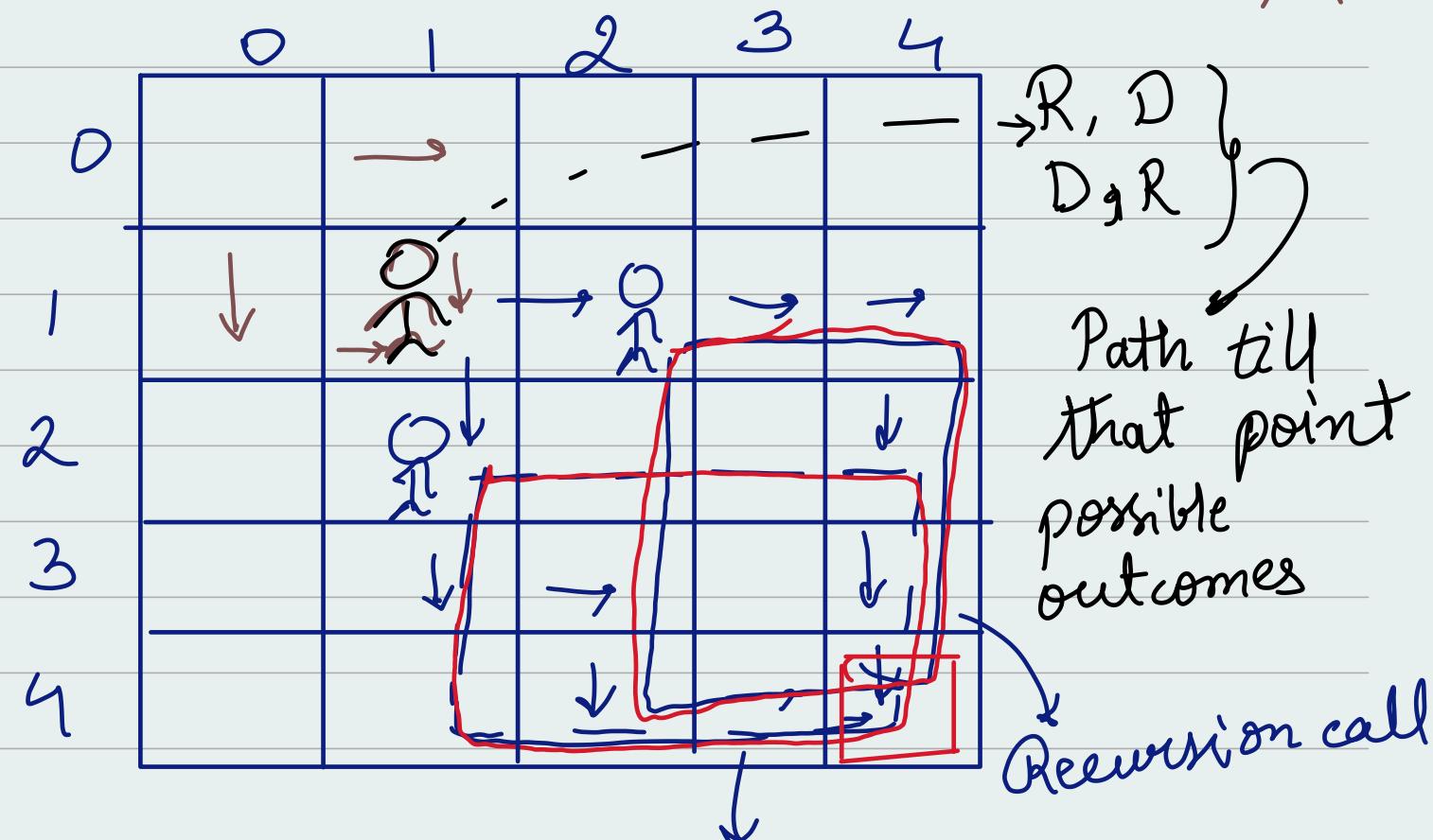


# Counting Paths

Right

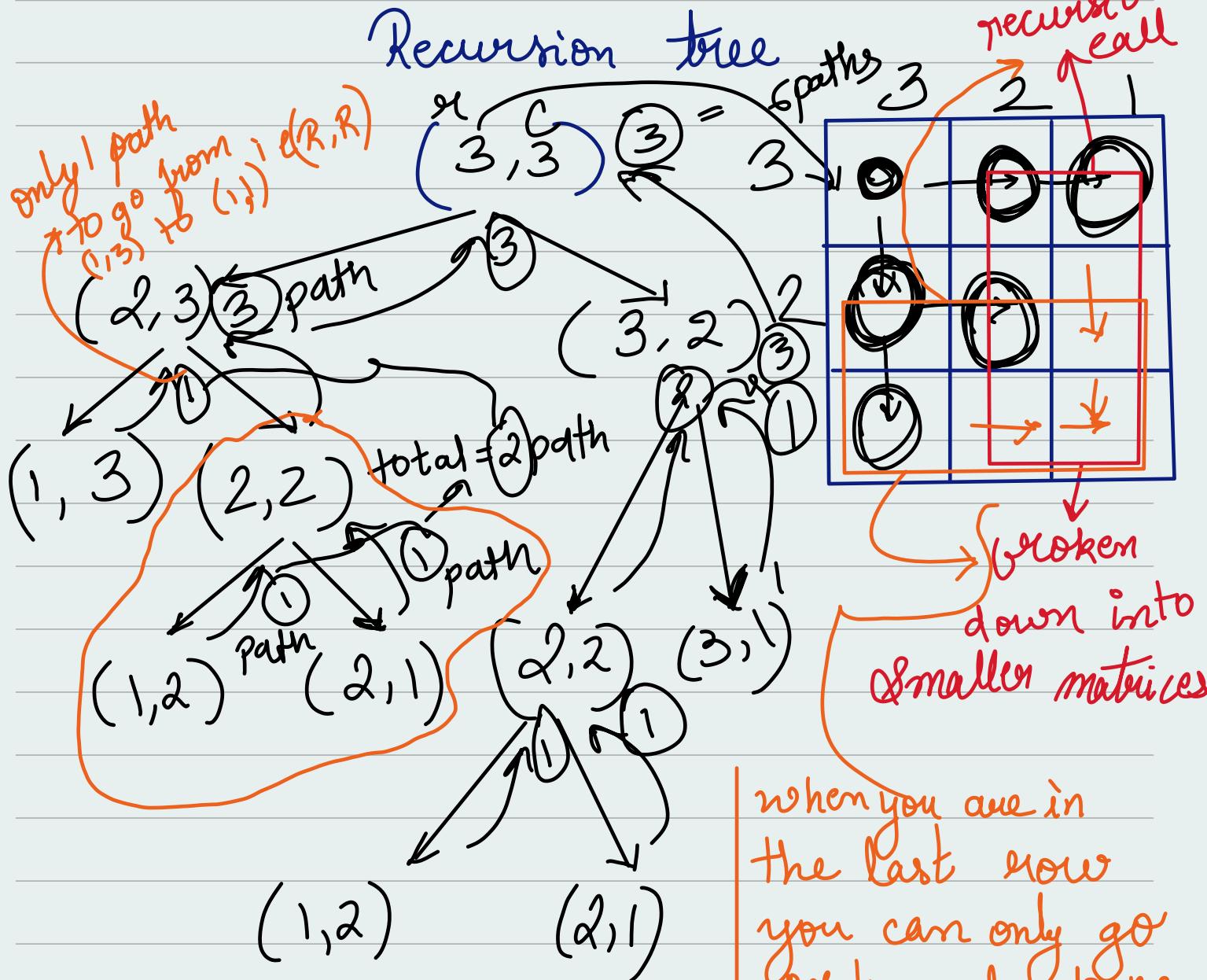
 down

BAns: R, R, D, D  
D, D, R, R  
R, D, R, D  
D, R, D, R



(PGUP)

Recursion call:



// base condition  
whenever the row or column hits 1 return 1

when you are in the last row you can only go rightward directions.  
When you are in the last column you can only go in the downward directions.

Code:  
posvm () {  
 system.out.println (CountPaths(3, 3));

3

static int countPaths (int row,  
int column) {

// Base condition

if (row == 1 || column == 1) {  
    return 1;  
}

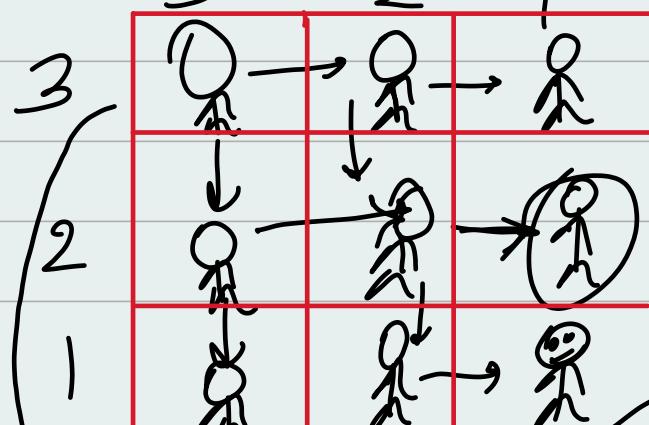
int left = countPath (row - 1,  
                        column),

int right = countPath (row,  
                        column - 1);

return left + right;

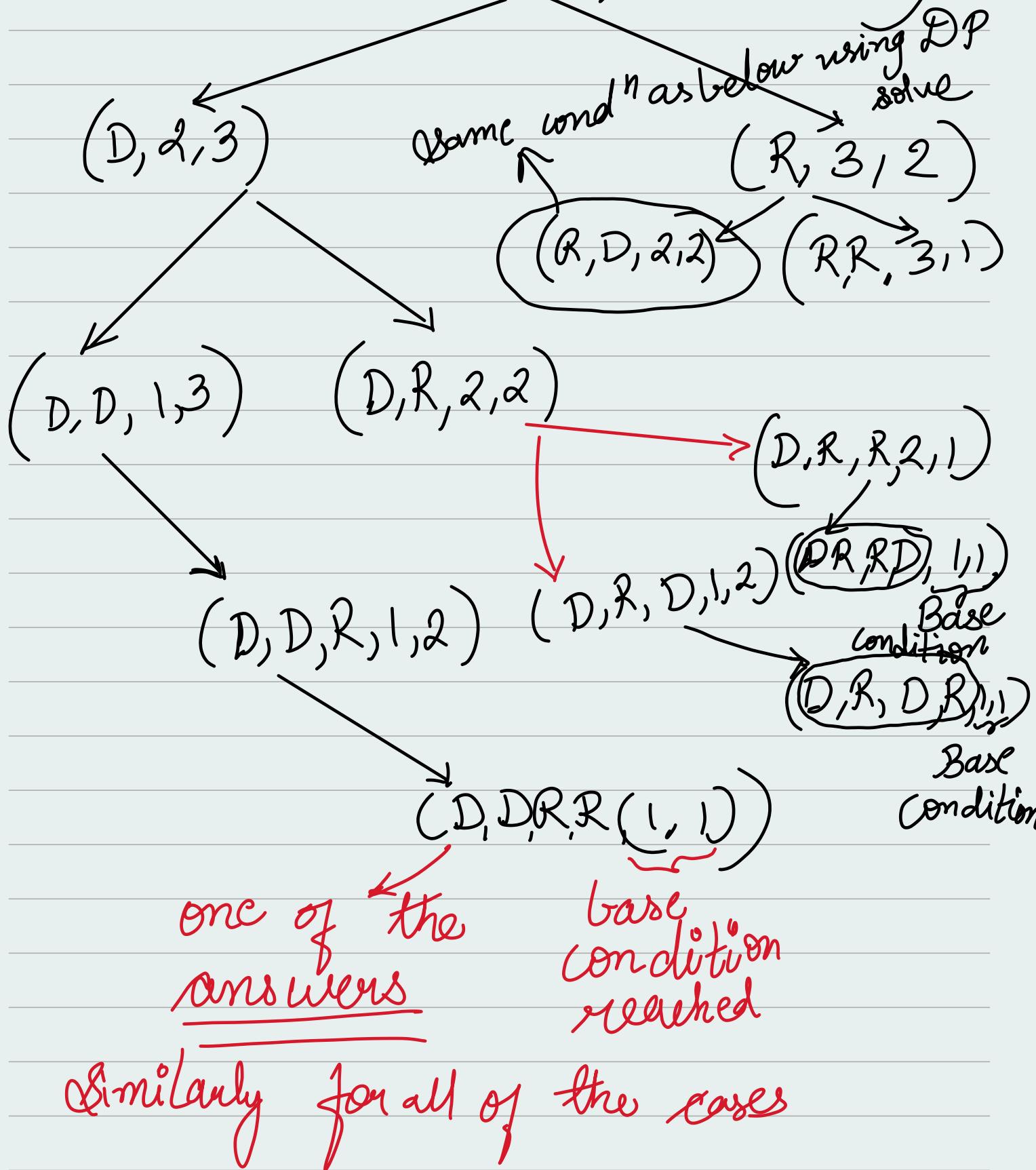
3 3

\* Now printing the actual path for  
above coloring Paths

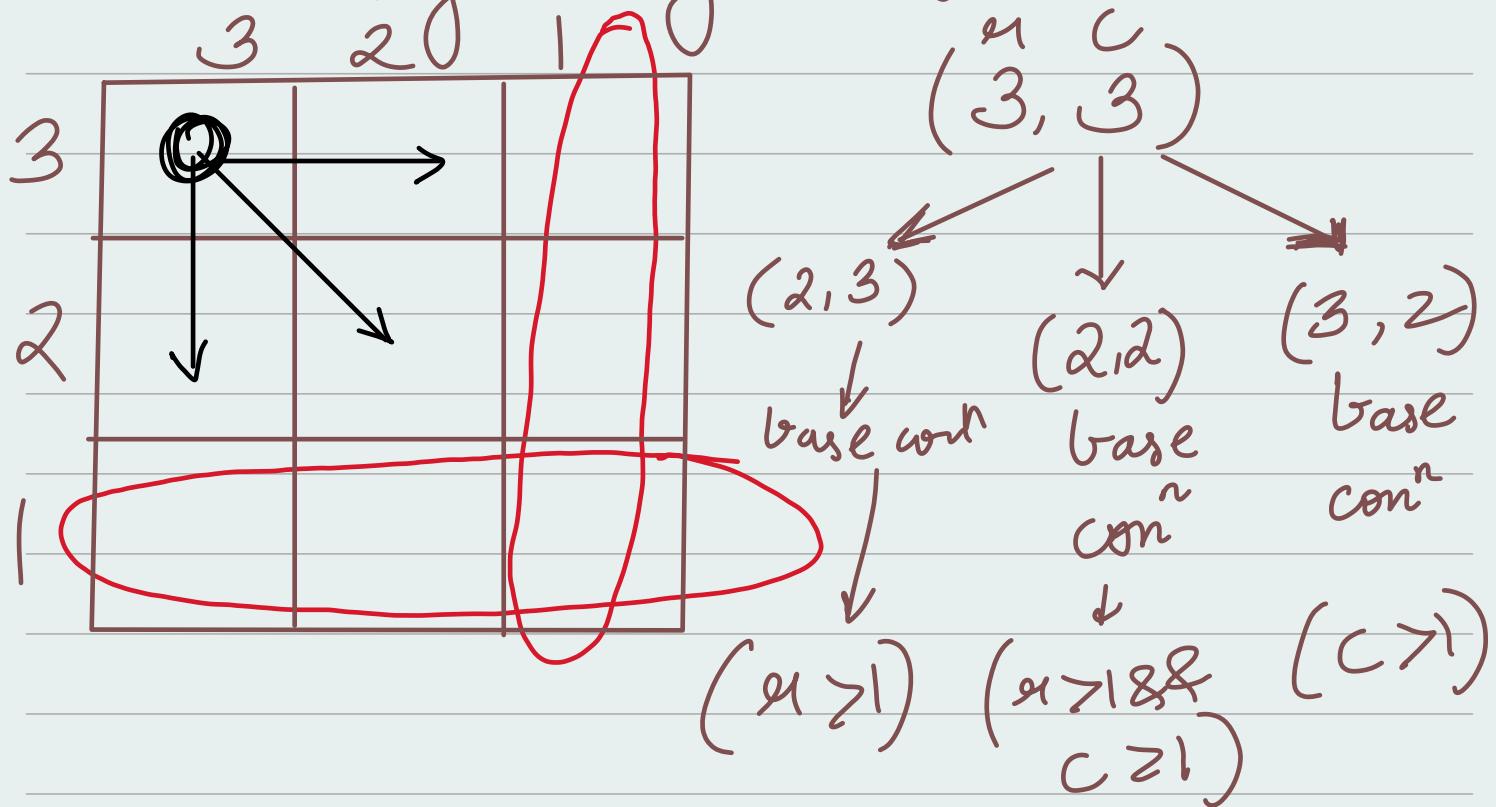


Processed/unprocessed  
" " " "  
path walked      (row, column)  
till that point

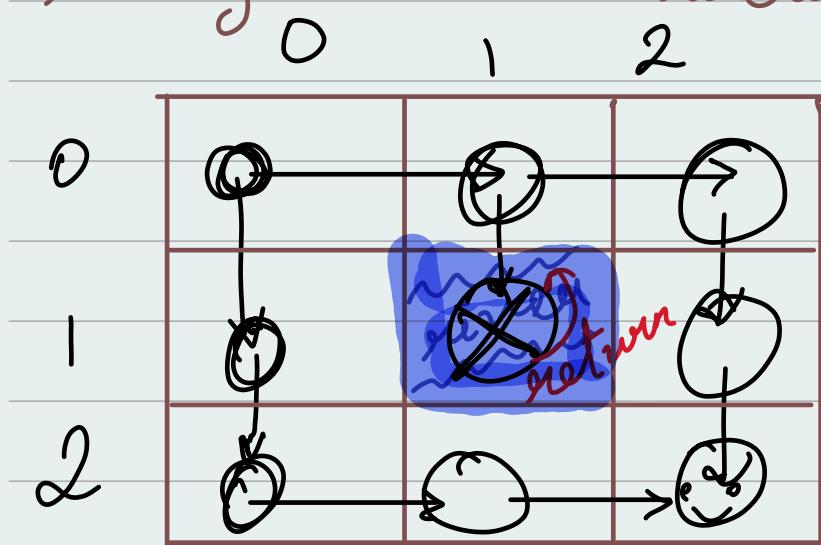
"  
path till the  
point  $a, c$ ", /  $(3, 3)$



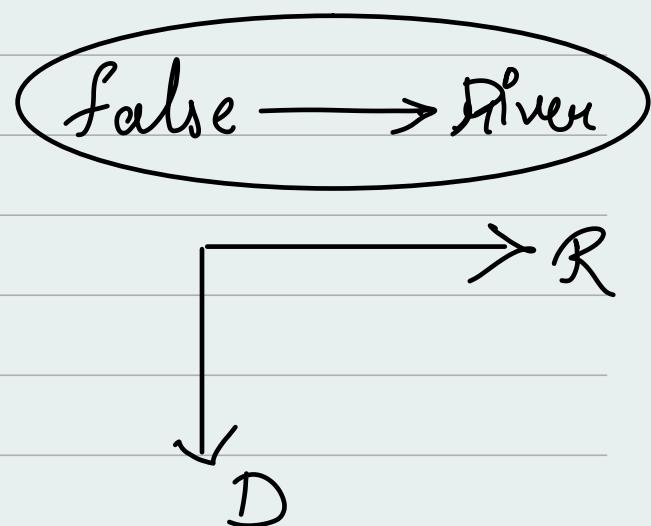
## \* Including Diagonal Paths



d) Maze with obstacles :

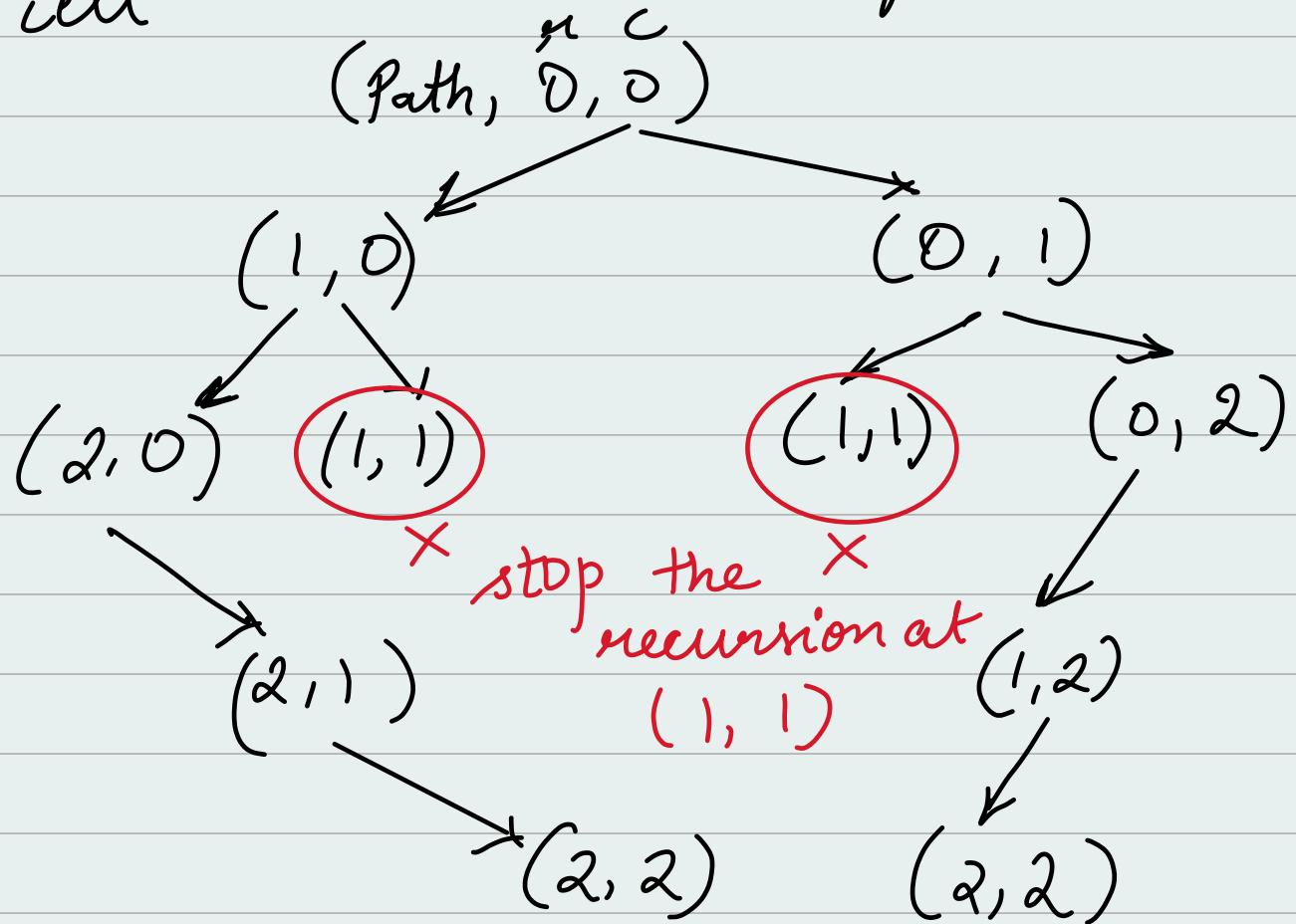


This is boolean matrix



Note! When you land on a new cell, check whether that is river or not.

g) you land on river stop recursion on that call Just return from the river cell



Code:

```
ps vm {String[], args} {
```

```
boolean [][] board = {
```

```
{ true, true, true },
```

```
{ true, false, true },
```

```
{ true, true, true },
```

```
};
```

```
pathRestrictions( " ", board, 0, 0);
```

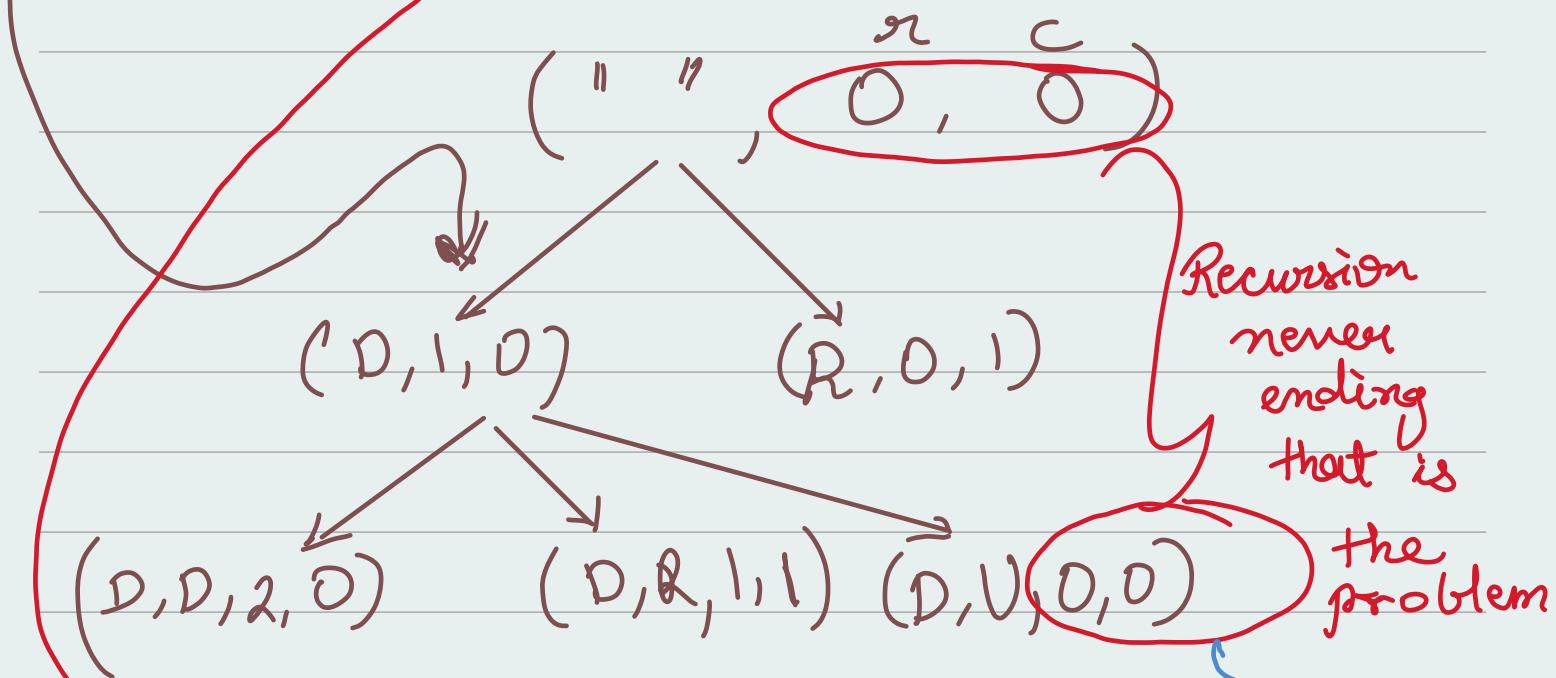
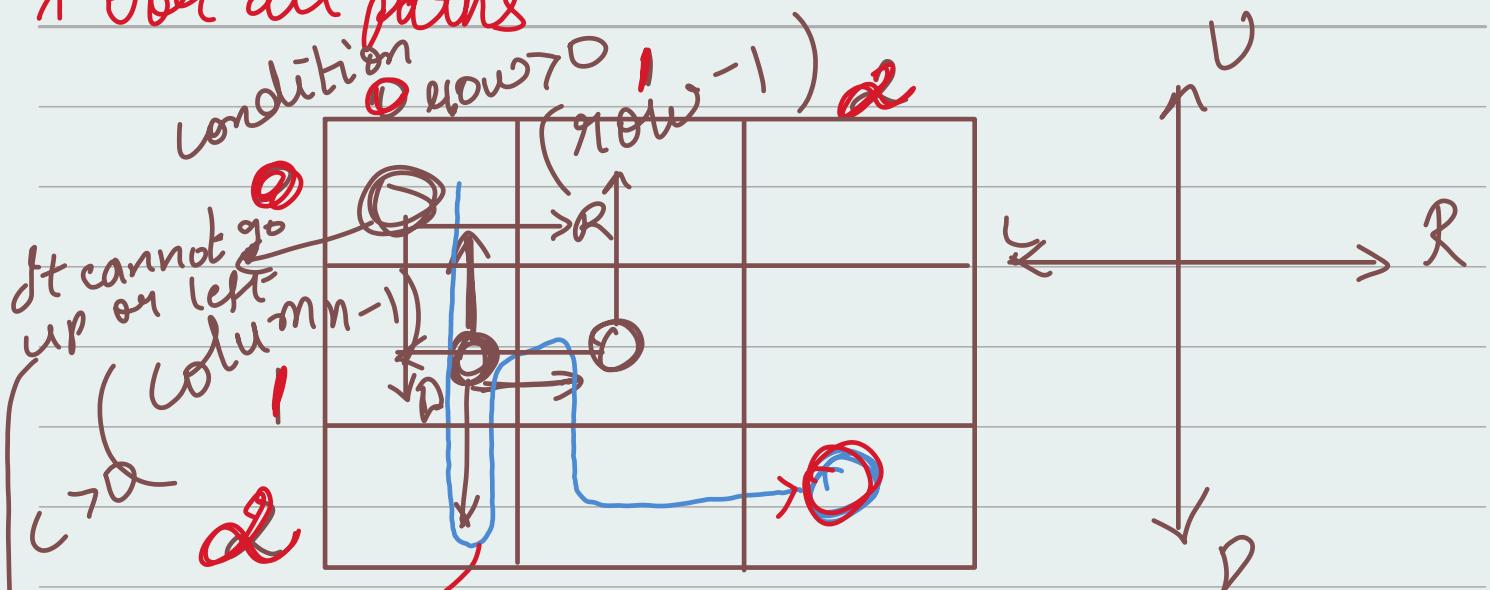
```

static void pathRestrictions (String p,
    boolean [][] maze, int row, int col) {
    // base condition
    if (row == maze.length - 1 & col == maze[0].length - 1) {
        System.out.println(p);
        return;
    }
    if (!maze [row] [col]) { // if false is
        true, then return.
        return;
    }
    if (row < maze.length - 1) {
        pathRestrictions (p + 'D', maze,
            row + 1, column);
    }
    if (column < maze[0].length - 1) {
        pathRestrictions (p + 'R', maze, row
            column + 1);
    }
}

```

Output: D D R R  
R R D D

\* For all paths

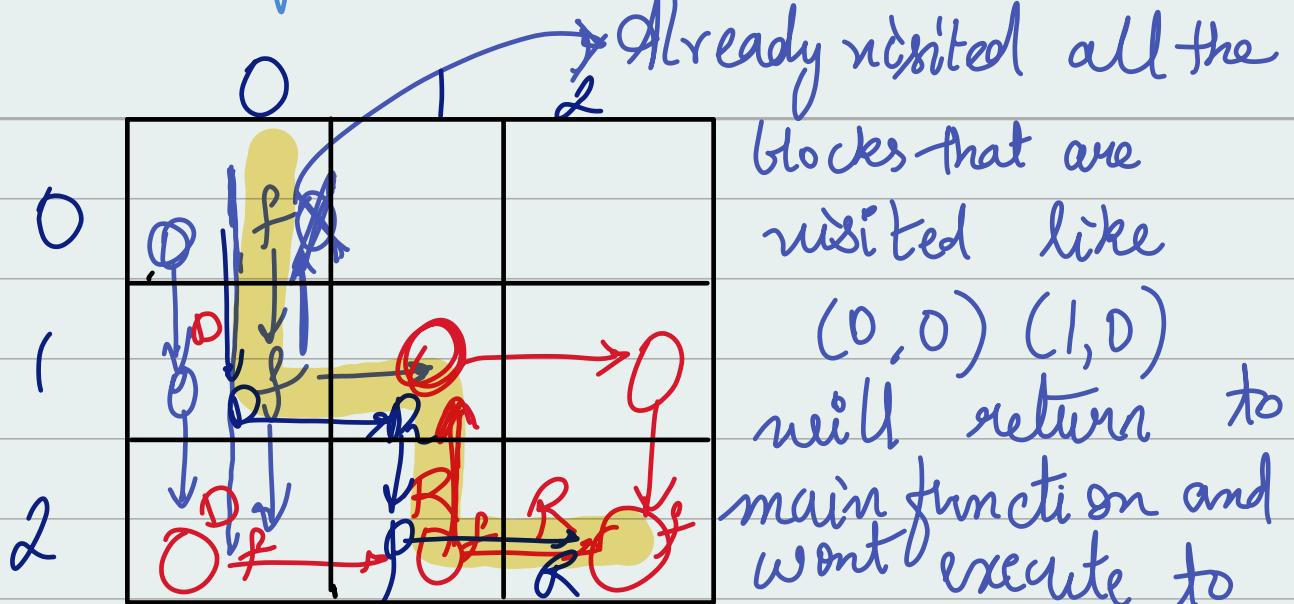


→ Cannot be an answer - Cause the path cannot be moved back from where it is started It will result in endless loop i.e. recursion of Do not move back to the same path. ↴

## \* How to solve?

All cells that are visited mark those as false.  
So that it does not go there same concept

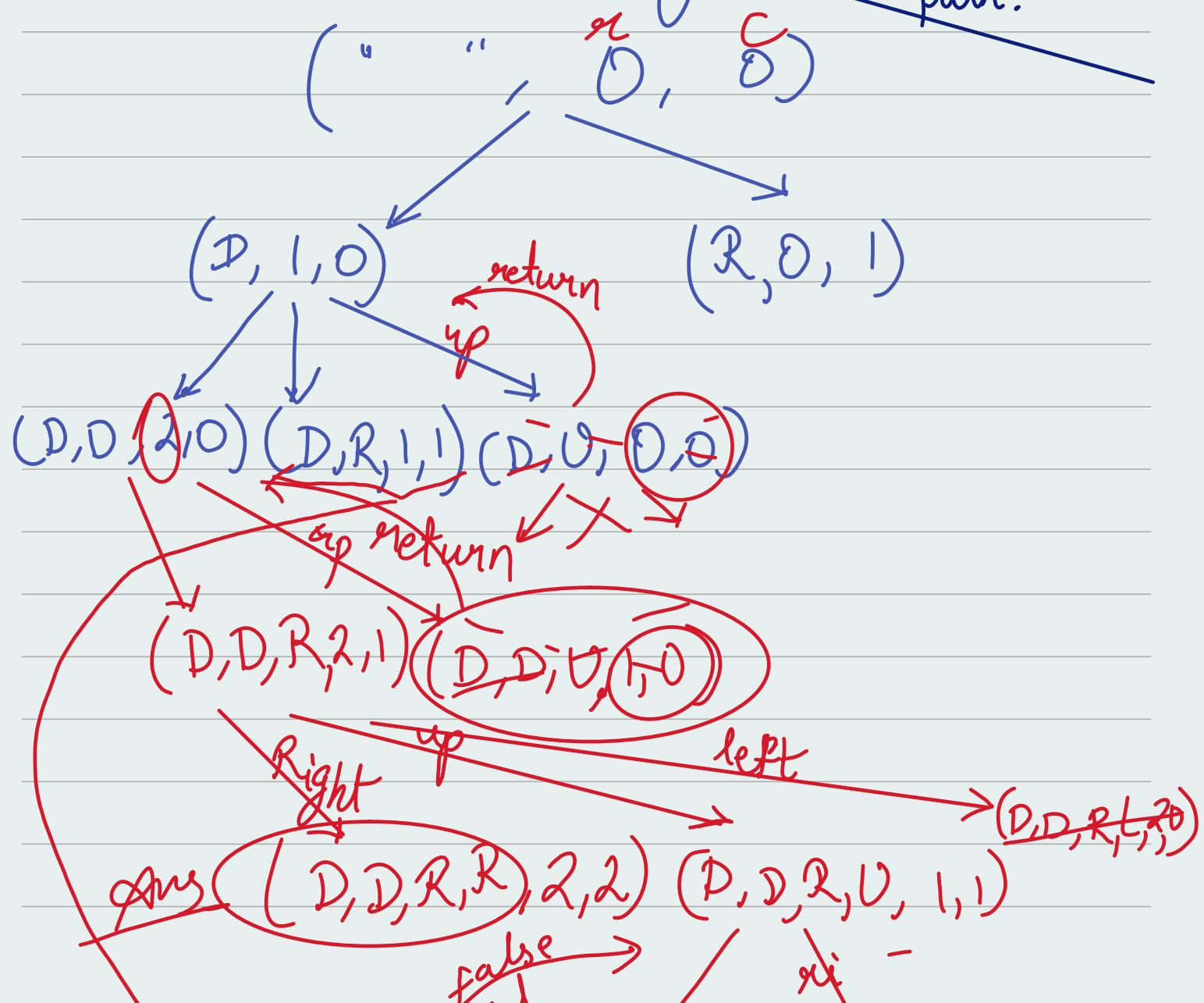
as the river problem



It should allow to go into the yellow marked path but

because it is already marked as false by previous path.

\* What is backtracking?



(D,D,R,U,D,2,1) (D,D,R,U,R,1,2)

Ans

(D,D,R,U,R,D,2,2)

(D,R,1,1)

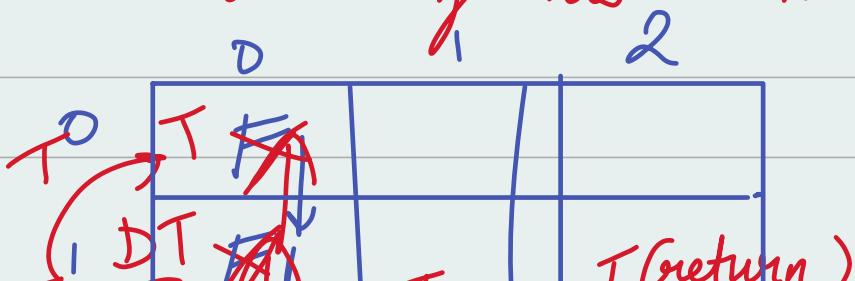
(D,R,D,2,1)

No you cannot

why?

\* Common Sense  $\therefore$  Marking false == I have that cell in my current path. So when that path is over, ex: you are in another recursion call, those cell should not be false

\* While you are moving back, you restore the maze as it was



very basic  
recursion  
question

T			
2	X	X	X
	D-D	D-D-R	D-D-R-R

when do we go back?

ans found It happens when function is returned.

When you have found a potential answer.

When we come out of the recursive function → Now we are in the above recursion call

Hence, Remark the cell as true.

This is known as backtracking.

Change the changes that are made via past recursive calls from false to true.

\* While going in the below recursion calls we are making some changes, so when we go outside those recursive calls, the changes that was made via recursion function should also not be available. This is known as backtracking.

(Q) Print Matrix and Paths :-

1 0		
2 0		
3 0	4 0	5 0

1		
2	5	6
3	4	7

D - D - R - R

D - D - R - U - R - D

While going back through ⑤ to ④ block, erase the <sup>path</sup> ⑤ to ④ Similar concept as above like making true for a false condition

→ As we are going every steps down or every level down for recursion calls the values are getting added like DDRR for 4 level down and DDRURD for 6 level down while going back  
erase the path number to zero similarly as backtracking.

- \* Take a step variable → int step ↴  
both into argument fun ↴
- \* update the array path → int[][] path
- \* print it in base condition.

## \* Backtrack

Code :

```
psvm () {  
    boolean[3][3] board = {  
        {true, true, true},
```

{ true, true, true },  
y. { true, true, true },  
int[][] path = new int[board.length][  
[board[0].length],  
allPathPoint("", board, 0, 0,

static void allPathPoint (String p, boolean  
[][] maze, int row, int column,  
int[][] path, int step){  
// base condition  
if (row == maze.length - 1 && column ==  
maze.length - 1){  
path[row][column] = step;  
for (int[] arr : path)  
System.out.println (Arrays.  
toString (arr));  
}  
}

System.out.println (p);  
System.out.println();  
return;

} (! maze [row] [column]) // not false  
return,  
is true, then return

maze [row] [column] = false;  
path [row] [column] = step;

if ( $\text{row} < \text{maze.length} - 1$ ) {

allPathPoint (  $p + 'D'$ , maze, row + 1,  
column, path, step + 1 );

} if ( $\text{column} < \text{maze}[0].length - 1$ ) {

allPathPoint (  $p + 'R'$ , maze, row, column + 1,  
path, step + 1 );

} if ( $\text{row} > 0$ ) {

allPathPoint (  $p + 'U'$ , maze, row - 1, column,  
path, step + 1 );

} if ( $\text{column} > 0$ ) {

allPathPoint (  $p + 'L'$ , maze, row,  
column - 1, path, step + 1 );

}

// fun<sup>n</sup> over & fun<sup>n</sup> gets removed also the  
changes made by that particular fun<sup>n</sup> gets  
removed.

$\text{maze}[\text{row}][\text{column}] = \text{true}$ ,  
 $\text{path}[\text{row}][\text{column}] = D$ ,

}

