

## Recursion. Example $n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n$ , $n \geq 0$

Mathematical definition:

recursion formula

$$\begin{aligned} 0! &= 1 & (i) \\ n! &= n \cdot (n-1)!, \quad \text{for } n > 0 & (ii) \end{aligned}$$

Computation:

$$\begin{aligned} &3! \\ &= 3 \cdot (3-1)! & (ii) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2 \cdot (2-1)! & (ii) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot (1-1)! & (ii) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 & (i) \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

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## Recursive declaration. Example $n!$

Function declaration:

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let rec fact = function
  | 0 -> 1                (* i *)
  | n -> n * fact(n-1);;  (* ii *)
val fact : int -> int
```

Evaluation:

```
fact(3)
~> 3 * fact(3 - 1)      (ii) [n ↦ 3]
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Recursion. Example  $x^n = x \cdot \dots \cdot x$ ,  $n$  occurrences of  $x$

Mathematical definition:

recursion formula

$$x^0 = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$x^n = x \cdot x^{n-1}, \quad \text{for } n > 0 \quad (2)$$

Function declaration:

```
let rec power = function
| (_, 0) -> 1.0                (* 1 *)
| (x, n) -> x * power(x, n-1)  (* 2 *)
```

Patterns:

$(_, 0)$  matches any pair of the form  $(x, 0)$ .

The wildcard pattern  $_$  matches any value.

$(x, n)$  matches any pair  $(u, i)$  yielding the bindings

$$x \mapsto u, n \mapsto i$$

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## Evaluation. Example: `power(4.0, 2)`

### Function declaration:

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let rec power = function
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### Evaluation:

<code>power(4.0, 2)</code>	
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>4.0 * power(4.0, 2 - 1)</code>	Clause 2, $[x \mapsto 4.0, n \mapsto 2]$
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>4.0 * power(4.0, 1)</code>	
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>4.0 * (4.0 * power(4.0, 1 - 1))</code>	Clause 2, $[x \mapsto 4.0, n \mapsto 1]$
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>4.0 * (4.0 * power(4.0, 0))</code>	
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>4.0 * (4.0 * 1)</code>	Clause 1
$\rightsquigarrow$ <code>16.0</code>	