

# Questions for the day

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- How can *we* develop efficient algorithms like MergeSort and QuickSort?
- What are some challenges and shortcomings of this approach?

# **Introduction to algorithm design**

**William Hendrix**

*Lecture 8*

# Outline

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- Algorithm design strategies
  - Brute force
  - Divide-and-conquer
  - Dynamic programming

# Algorithm design strategies

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- "Templates" for creating algorithms
- Need to be adapted to specific problem
- Give you more tools for approaching difficult problems
- **Strategy 0:** brute force
  - A.k.a., exhaustive search
  - Test all possibilities for the solution
  - Report the correct/best solution

# Brute force example

- Brute force sorting

**Input:** *data*: array to be sorted

**Input:** *n*: length of *data*

**Output:** permutation of *data* such that  
 $data[1] \leq \dots \leq data[n]$

1 **Algorithm:** BruteSort

2 **repeat**

3     Find the next permutation of *data* to test

4     **if** *data* is sorted **then**

5         **return** *data*

6     **end**

7 **until** no more permutations of *data* are left

8 **error** *data* cannot be sorted

# Analysis: brute force

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## Pros

- Applicable to most problems
- *Always* gets the correct/optimum answer
- Easy to design and describe

## Cons

- Almost always slowest solution
- Often infeasible
- Exponential or factorial number of tests are impractical for most realistic problems

# Divide-and-conquer

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- **Goal**
  - Reduce complexity of high-complexity algorithms
- **Outline**
  - Divide large problems into one or more subproblems of roughly the same size
    - E.g., split array into 2 halves, 3 thirds, etc.
  - Solve subproblems via recursion
  - Combine solutions to subproblems into solution for full problem
  - Solve small problems directly (*base case*)
- **Intuition**
  - If combining solutions is easier than solving directly, divide-and-conquer solution may be faster

# Divide-and-conquer examples

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- General strategy
  - Divide problem into equal parts
  - Solve subproblems recursively
  - Combine solutions
  - Solve small instances directly

- MergeSort
  - Split array in half
  - Recursively sort each half
  - Merge sorted arrays
  - Base case: 0 or 1 element

$$2T(n/2)$$

$$\Theta(n)$$

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$$



# Searching

- **Input**
  - *data*: sorted array of length  $n$
  - $t$ : target value
- **Output:** index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or -1 if  $t \notin data$

				$t$			
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- Brute force
  - Check all values for  $t$
  - Return when found
  - Worst-case:  $O(n)$
- *Optimization*: stop searching if  $data[i] > t$ 
  - Doesn't improve worst case

**Input:** *data*: sorted array to search

**Input:**  $n$ : length of *data*

**Input:**  $t$ : target value

**Output:** Index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or  
–1 if  $t \notin data$

1 **Algorithm:** ExhaustiveSearch

2 **for**  $i = 1$  to  $n$  **do**

3     **if**  $data[i] = t$  **then**

4         **return**  $i$

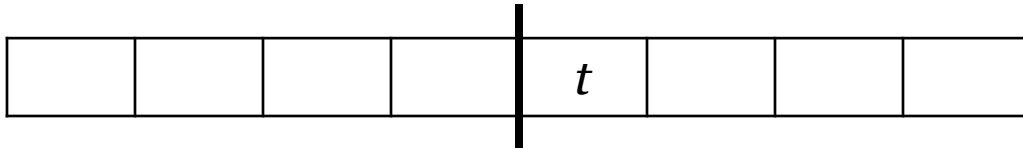
5     **end**

6 **end**

7 **return** -1

# Naïve binary search

- **Input**
  - *data*: sorted array of length  $n$
  - $t$ : target value
- **Output**: index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or  $-1$  if  $t \notin data$



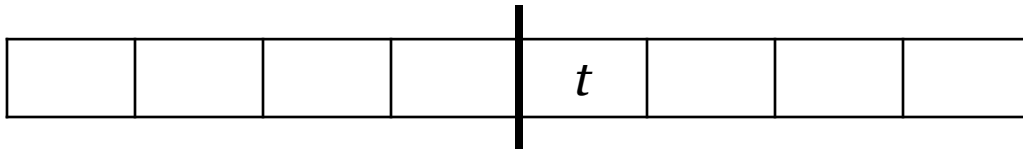
- Split *data* in half
- Search each half
- Return  $t$  if found
- Base case: array size 1
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$ 
  - $T(n) = \Theta(n)$  by Master Theorem
  - No better than linear search!

**Input:** *data*: sorted array to search  
**Input:**  $n$ : length of *data*  
**Input:**  $t$ : target value  
**Output:** Index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or  $-1$  if  $t \notin data$

```
1 Algorithm: NaïveBinSearch
2 if  $n = 1$  then
3   if  $data[1] = t$  then
4     return 1
5   else
6     return -1
7   end
8 end
9  $mid = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ 
10  $lhs = \text{NaïveBinSearch}(data[1..mid])$ 
11  $rhs = \text{NaïveBinSearch}(data[mid + 1..n])$ 
12 if  $lhs \neq -1$  then
13   return  $lhs$ 
14 else if  $rhs \neq -1$  then
15   return  $mid + rhs$ 
16 else
17   return -1
18 end
```

# Better binary search

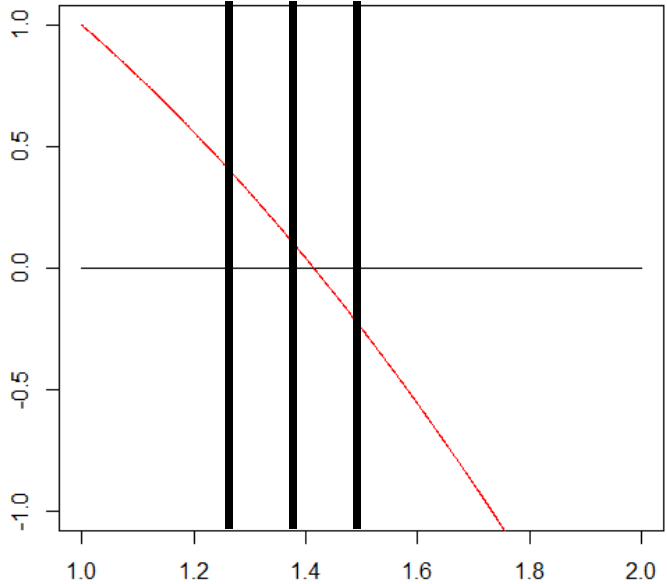
- **Input**
  - *data*: sorted array of length  $n$
  - $t$ : target value
- **Output**: index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or  $-1$  if  $t \notin data$



- *Observation*
  - In sorted array, only one half has  $t$
- Reduces number of recursive calls to 1
  - $T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$
  - $T(n) = \Theta(\lg n)$  by MT

```
Input: data: sorted array to search
Input:  $n$ : length of data
Input:  $t$ : target value
Output: Index  $i$  such that  $data[i] = t$ , or  $-1$ 
        if  $t \notin data$ 
1 Algorithm: BinSearch
2 if  $n = 1$  then
3   | if  $data[1] = t$  then
4   |   | return 1
5   | else
6   |   | return  $-1$ 
7   | end
8 end
9  $mid = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ 
10 if  $data[mid] = t$  then
11 |   | return  $mid$ 
12 else if  $data[mid] > t$  then
13 |   | return BinSearch( $data[1..mid - 1]$ )
14 else
15 |   | return  $mid + \text{BinSearch}(data[mid + 1..n])$ 
16 end
```

# One-sided binary search

- Binary search can be applied to many different types of problems
    - E.g., estimating a root of  $2 - n^2$  between 1 and 2
      - Guess 1.5 (too high)
      - Guess 1.25 (too low)
      - Guess 1.375 (too low)
      - ...
      - Repeat until sufficiently close
  - Needs upper and lower bounds
- 
- Alternative: one-sided search
    - Start with min value
    - Double until too large
    - Binary search between last success and first failure
- $f(1.25) = 0.4375$        $f(1.5) = -0.25$

# One-sided binary search example

- Compute  $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$  for positive  $n$ 
  - Lower bound?
  - Upper bound?
- Exhaustive solution
  - Try every power of 2 until you exceed  $n$
  - $\Theta(\lg n)$  time
- One-sided binary search
  - *Double* power of 2 until too high
  - Binary search between last success and first failure
  - $\Theta(\lg \lg n)$  time

```
Input:  $n$ : positive integer  
Output:  $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$   
1 Algorithm: LinearScanLog  
2  $f = 1$   
3  $x = 0$   
4 while  $f < n$  do  
5    $f = 2f$   
6    $x = x + 1$   
7 end  
8 return  $x$ 
```

```
Input:  $n$ : positive integer  
Output:  $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$   
1 Algorithm: OneSidedLog  
2  $lo = 0$   
3  $hi = 1$   
4 while  $2^{hi} < n$  do  
5    $lo = hi$   
6    $hi = 2hi$   
7 end  
8 while  $hi - lo > 1$  do  
9    $mid = \lfloor (hi + lo) / 2 \rfloor$   
10  if  $2^{mid} < n$  then  
11     $hi = mid$   
12  else  
13     $lo = mid$   
14  end  
15 end  
16 return  $lo$ 
```

# Divide-and-conquer analysis

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- **Pros**
  - Reduces complexity for several problems
  - Easy to prove correctness via strong induction
  - Easy to analyze with Master Theorem
  - Works very well with parallel computing
- **Cons**
  - Problem must exhibit *optimal substructure*
    - Solution must be related to subproblem solutions
  - Sometimes has poor complexity even with optimal substructure
    - *Dynamic programming* solves this problem

# Divide-and-conquer exercise

- Develop an efficient algorithm for *natural number exponentiation*

- Input**

- $a$ : base of exponent (real number)
- $n$ : exponent (nonnegative integer)

- Output:**  $a^n$

- Divide problem into equal parts
- Solve subproblems recursively
- Combine solutions
- Solve small instances directly

- Hint:*  $a^n = \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot a \cdots a}_{n \text{ times}}$

- Focus on even  $n$  first
- Think about how to handle odd  $n$

if  $\text{Pow}(a, n)$ :  
if  $n = 0$ :  
return 1  
if  $n$  even:  
 $t = \text{Pow}(a, \frac{n}{2})$   
return  $t^2$   
else:  
 $t = \text{Pow}(a, (\frac{n}{2}))$   
return  $t * t * a$

$T(n) = T(n/2) + O(1)$   
 $= O(\log n)$

# Divide-and-conquer solution

- Develop an efficient algorithm for *natural number exponentiation*
- **Input**
  - $a$ : base of exponent (real number)
  - $n$ : exponent (nonnegative integer)
- **Output:**  $a^n$

```
Input:  $a$ : base of exponent (real number)  
Input:  $n$ : exponent (nonnegative integer)  
Output:  $a^n$   
1 Algorithm: QuickPow  
2 if  $n = 0$  then  
3   | return 1  
4 end  
5  $t = \text{QuickPow}(a, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$   
6 if  $n$  is even then  
7   | return  $t^2$   
8 else  
9   | return  $at^2$   
10 end
```



# Divide-and-conquer application

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- Consider matrix addition and multiplication:
  - Given  $n$ -by- $n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , compute the sum  $C = A + B$
  - Given an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , compute the product  $C = AB$
- Addition
  - Compute  $c_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$ , for every  $c_{ij}$
  - Complexity:  $\Theta(1)\Theta(n^2) = \Theta(n^2)$
- Multiplication
  - Compute  $c_{ij} = \text{sum-product of row } i \text{ of } A \text{ and column } j \text{ of } B$ 
    - $$c_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj}$$
  - Complexity:  $\Theta(n)\Theta(n^2) = \Theta(n^3)$
  - Fastest known algorithm until 1969

# Strassen's Algorithm

- Described by Volker Strassen (1969)
- Used divide-and-conquer to reduce complexity of matrix multiplication
- Divide matrices into 4 quadrants:

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline A_{11} & A_{12} \\ \hline A_{21} & A_{22} \\ \hline \end{array} \times \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline B_{11} & B_{12} \\ \hline B_{21} & B_{22} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline C_{11} & C_{12} \\ \hline C_{21} & C_{22} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- Compute the following:

$$M_1 = (A_{11} + A_{22})(B_{11} + B_{22})$$

$$M_2 = (A_{21} + A_{22})B_{11}$$

$$M_3 = A_{11}(B_{12} - B_{22})$$

$$M_4 = A_{22}(B_{21} - B_{11})$$

$$M_5 = (A_{11} + A_{12})B_{22}$$

$$M_6 = (A_{21} - A_{11})(B_{11} + B_{12})$$

$$M_7 = (A_{12} - A_{22})(B_{21} + B_{22})$$

- Then:

$$C_{11} = M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7$$

$$C_{12} = M_3 + M_5$$

$$C_{21} = M_2 + M_4$$

$$C_{22} = M_1 - M_2 + M_3 + M_6$$

# Strassen's complexity

- Strassen's equations:

$$M_1 = (A_{11} + A_{22})(B_{11} + B_{22})$$

$$C_{11} = M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7$$

$$M_2 = (A_{21} + A_{22})B_{11}$$

$$C_{12} = M_3 + M_5$$

$$M_3 = A_{11}(B_{12} - B_{22})$$

$$C_{21} = M_2 + M_4$$

$$M_4 = A_{22}(B_{21} - B_{11})$$

$$C_{22} = M_1 - M_2 + M_3 + M_6$$

$$M_5 = (A_{11} + A_{12})B_{22}$$

$$M_6 = (A_{21} - A_{11})(B_{11} + B_{12})$$

$$M_7 = (A_{12} - A_{22})(B_{21} + B_{22})$$

– Total complexity:  $T(n) = 7T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2)$

- 18 additions/subtractions  $\Theta(n^2)$

- 7 multiplications  $7T(n/2)$

- $c = \log_2(7) \approx 2.81$
- $f(n)$  vs.  $n^{2.81} \Rightarrow f(n) = O(n^{\lg 7 - 0.8})$
- $T(n) = \Theta(n^c) \approx \Theta(n^{2.81})$

# Dynamic programming

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- Algorithm design strategy
- Similar to divide-and-conquer
- Useful when divide-and-conquer would be inefficient

# Dynamic programming motivation

$$F(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1, 2 \\ F(n-1) + F(n-2), & \text{if } n > 2 \end{cases}$$

**Input:**  $n$ : index of Fibonacci number to compute

**Output:**  $F_n$

1 **Algorithm:** Fibonacci

2 **if**  $n = 1$  or  $2$  **then**

3     **return** 1

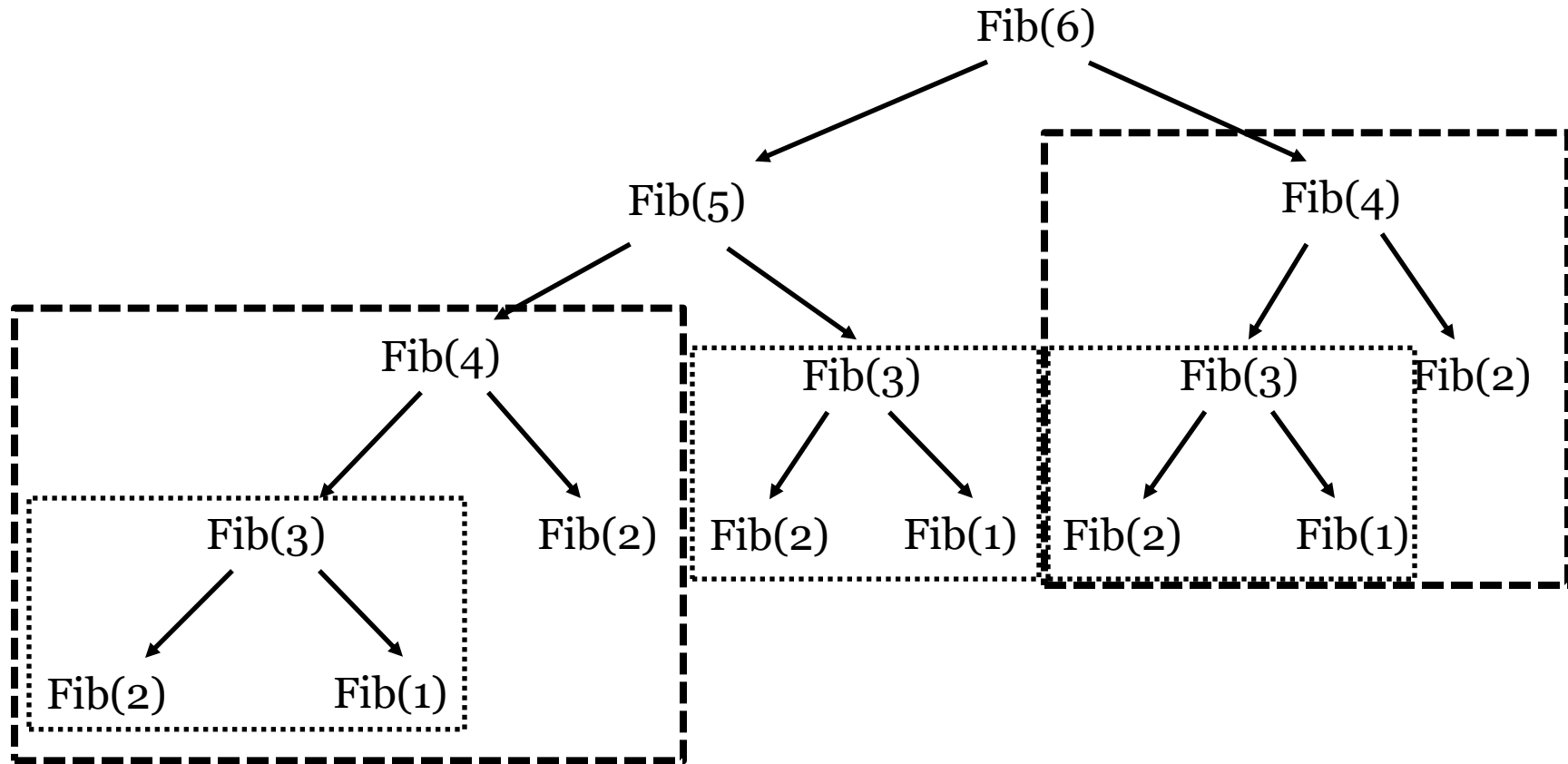
4 **else**

5     **return** Fibonacci( $n - 1$ ) + Fibonacci( $n - 2$ )

6 **end**

- You've probably been told that this function is inefficient
- **Review:** recursive complexity
- $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + \Theta(1)$
- Complexity:  $\Theta(\tau^n)$ , where  $\tau = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.61$ 
  - Calculating  $F_{1000}$  takes forever!

# Why does this take so long?



- We're computing the same sub-results over and over!
- **Intuition:** save sub-results in a map

# A better solution

-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Input:**  $n$ : index of Fibonacci number to compute

**Output:**  $F_n$

1 **Algorithm:** FastFib

2  $fib = \text{Array}(n)$

3 Initialize  $fib$  to  $-1$

4 **return** DynamicFib( $n$ )

1 **Algorithm:** DynamicFib( $n$ )

2 **if**  $fib[n] = -1$  **then**

3     **if**  $n = 1$  or  $2$  **then**

4          $fib[n] = 1$

5     **else**

6          $fib[n] = \text{DynamicFib}(n - 1) +$   
             $\text{DynamicFib}(n - 2)$

7     **end**

8 **end**

9 **return**  $fib[n]$

# A better solution

1	1	2	3	5	8	13
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Input:**  $n$ : index of Fibonacci number to compute

**Output:**  $F_n$

1 **Algorithm:** FastFib

2  $fib = \text{Array}(n)$

3 Initialize  $fib$  to  $-1$

4 **return** DynamicFib( $n$ )

1 **Algorithm:** DynamicFib( $n$ )

2 **if**  $fib[n] = -1$  **then**

3     **if**  $n = 1$  or  $2$  **then**

4          $fib[n] = 1$

5     **else**

6          $fib[n] = \text{DynamicFib}(n - 1) +$   
             $\text{DynamicFib}(n - 2)$

7     **end**

8 **end**

9 **return**  $fib[n]$

- Each Fibonacci number computed *once*
- Total complexity:  $\Theta(n)$



# Dynamic programming

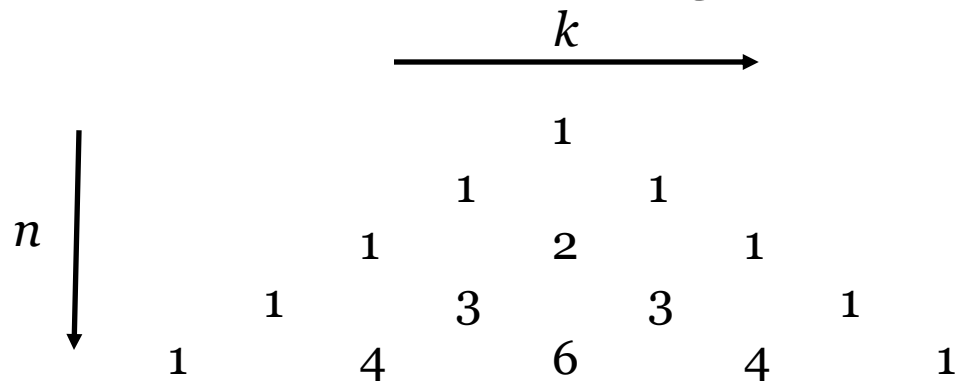
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- General algorithm design strategy
- Recursion augmented with data structure to save sub-results
  - Not always a 1D array...
    - Depends on number of parameters
- **Useful when:**
  - Problem has recursive structure (*like divide-and-conquer*)
  - More than one recursive call
  - Problems overlap
    - Typically, 1-2 levels deep in recursion tree
- **Related concept:** memoization
  - Function that stores sub-results
  - Returns immediately when calling with previously-seen value
  - *Note:* possible to memoize non-recursive functions
    - Dynamic programming can be implemented iteratively

# A more complex example

- Binomial coefficients (“ $n$  choose  $k$ ”)
  - Formula:**  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$
  - Example:**  $\binom{20}{3} = \frac{20!}{3!(17!)} = \frac{2432902008176640000}{6(355687428096000)} = 1140$

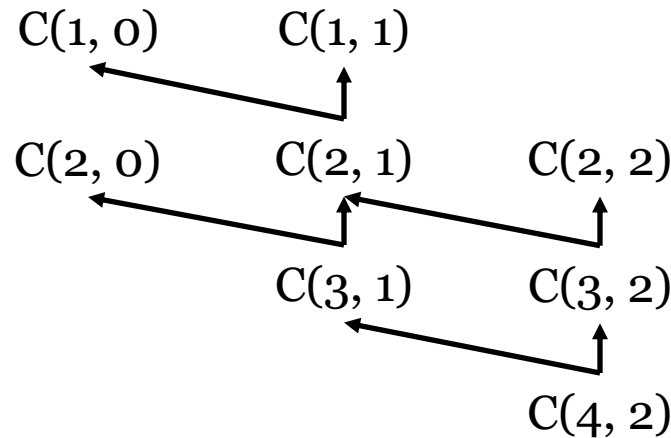
- Formula might cause overflow
- Alternative: Pascal’s triangle



$$\binom{n}{k} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = n \\ \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} & \end{cases}$$

# Binomial coefficients example

- Recursive function
  - Example:**  $C(4, 2)$
- $$\binom{n}{k} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = n \\ \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} & \end{cases}$$



- Overlapping subproblems
  - Dynamic programming!

# Binomial coefficients example

- Recursive function
  - Example:**  $C(4, 2)$
- $$\binom{n}{k} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = n \\ \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} & \end{cases}$$

	0	1	2
0			
1	$C(1, 0)$	$C(1, 1)$	
2	$C(2, 0)$	$C(2, 1)$	$C(2, 2)$
3		$C(3, 1)$	$C(3, 2)$
4			$C(4, 2)$

The diagram illustrates the recursive calculation of binomial coefficients. The table shows the values of  $C(n, k)$  for  $n$  from 0 to 4 and  $k$  from 0 to 2. Arrows indicate the flow of computation, showing how  $C(4, 2)$  is calculated as the sum of  $C(3, 1)$  and  $C(3, 2)$ , which are themselves sums of smaller binomial coefficients.

- Overlapping subproblems
  - Dynamic programming!
- Data structure?
  - 2D array (map)

# Binomial coefficients example

Recurrence: 
$$\binom{n}{k} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = n \\ \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} & \end{cases}$$

```
1 Algorithm: BasicBinom
2 if  $k = 0$  or  $k = n$  then
3   | return 1
4 else
5   | return BasicBinom( $n - 1, k - 1$ ) +
        BasicBinom( $n - 1, k$ )
6 end
```

- Using 2D array:

```
1 Algorithm: AlmostMemo
2 if we've already calculated  $binom[n, k]$  then
3   | return  $binom[n, k]$ 
4 else if  $k = 0$  or  $k = n$  then
5   |  $binom[n, k] = 1$ 
6 else
7   |  $binom[n, k] = \text{AlmostMemo}(n - 1, k - 1) +$ 
         $\text{AlmostMemo}(n - 1, k)$ 
8 end
9 return  $binom[n, k]$ 
```

- Final answer

**Input:**  $n, k$ : binomial coefficient to compute

**Output:**  $\binom{n}{k}$

```
1 Algorithm: DPBinom
2  $binom = \text{Array}(n, k)$ 
3 Initialize  $binom$  to 0
4 return MemoBinom( $n, k$ )
```

```
1 Algorithm: MemoBinom
2 if  $binom[n, k] > 0$  then
3   | return  $binom[n, k]$ 
4 else if  $k = 0$  or  $k = n$  then
5   |  $binom[n, k] = 1$ 
6 else
7   |  $binom[n, k] = \text{MemoBinom}(n - 1, k - 1) +$ 
         $\text{MemoBinom}(n - 1, k)$ 
8 end
9 return  $binom[n, k]$ 
```

# Memoization summary

- Five step procedure
  1. **Start with naïve recursive algorithm**
    - Based on recurrence
  2. **Decide data structure and sentinel value**
  3. **Add “memoization check” to the beginning of the algorithm**
    - If solution is in data structure, return it
  4. **Store solution before returning**
  5. **Write wrapper function to initialize data structure**

$$\binom{n}{k} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = n \\ \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} & \end{cases}$$

**Input:**  $n, k$ : binomial coefficient to compute

**Output:**  $\binom{n}{k}$

```
1 Algorithm: DPBinom
2  $binom = \text{Array}(n, k)$ 
3 Initialize  $binom$  to 0
4 return MemoBinom( $n, k$ )
```

```
1 Algorithm: MemoBinom
2 if  $binom[n, k] > 0$  then
3   | return  $binom[n, k]$ 
4 else if  $k = 0$  or  $k = n$  then
5   |  $binom[n, k] = 1$ 
6 else
7   |  $binom[n, k] = \text{MemoBinom}(n-1, k-1)$ 
   |    $+ \text{MemoBinom}(n-1, k)$ 
8 end
9 return  $binom[n, k]$ 
```

# Coming up

---

- Dynamic programming
- Greedy algorithms
- **Recommended readings:** Sections 11.3, 11.2, 12.1, 12.2, 12.5
  - *Practice problems:* R-11.3, C-11.3 (complexity only), C-11.4, A-11.2, R-12.9, C-12.6, C-12.7, C-12.9, C-12.10, A-12.1, A-12.2, A-12.5