

## Recursion

1. **GreatestCommonDivisor.java:** One of the most famous algorithms known was stated over two thousand years ago by the Greek mathematician Euclid. *Euclid's algorithm* provides a method of finding the greatest common divisor (gcd) of a pair of natural numbers. The algorithm is based on the following properties of gcd:

**Rule 1:** If  $m = n$ , then  $\text{gcd}(m, n) = m$

**Rule 2:** If  $m > n$ , then  $\text{gcd}(m, n) = \text{gcd}(n, m-n)$

**Rule 3:** If  $m < n$ , then  $\text{gcd}(m, n) = \text{gcd}(n, m)$

Write a recursive method based on the definition above.

2. **Square.java:** Write a method that implements this definition of *square numbers*:

$\text{square}(1) = 1$

$\text{square}(N) = \text{square}(N-1) + 2N - 1$

Aside: where did this crazy definition of *square numbers* come from?

Easy: this is from simple algebra:

$$(N-1)^2 = N^2 - 2N + 1$$

rearrange to get:

$$N^2 = (N-1)^2 + 2N - 1$$

3. **PrimeNumber.java:** A *prime number* is an integer that cannot be divided by any integer other than one and itself. For example, 7 is a prime number because its only divisors are 1 and 7. The integer 8 is not a prime number because its divisors are 1, 2, 4 and 8.

Another way to define prime is

$\text{prime}(N) = \text{prime}(N, N-1)$

$\text{prime}(N, 1) = \text{true}$

$\text{prime}(N, D) = \text{false}$  if  $D$  divides  $N$ ,  $\text{prime}(N, D-1)$

otherwise

For example,

$\text{prime}(4) = \text{prime}(4, 3)$

$\text{prime}(4, 3) = \text{prime}(4, 2)$

$\text{prime}(4, 2) = \text{false}$

Another example,

$\text{prime}(7) = \text{prime}(7, 6)$

$\text{prime}(7, 6) = \text{prime}(7, 5)$

$\text{prime}(7, 5) = \text{prime}(7, 4)$

$\text{prime}(7, 4) = \text{prime}(7, 3)$

$\text{prime}(7, 3) = \text{prime}(7, 2)$

$\text{prime}(7, 1) = \text{true}$

Translate the math-like definition of prime into two Java methods that return `boolean`. Use the `%` operator to test divisibility. Put your method into a class, write a testing class, and test your program.

4. **Power.java:** Write a recursive function for  $X$  to the power of  $N$ . Test it by prompting the user for the value of  $X$  and  $N$ , calling the function and printing out the result.