

# Recursion

OutOfMemoryError



# Overview

## What is It?

- When a method calls itself until a given termination condition is reached
- This termination condition is known as the **base case**

## Common Applications

- Sorting algorithms
- Multithreaded applications

# Leading vs. Trailing Statements

The code that comes before a recursive call is known as a **leading statement**, whereas the code that comes after is known as a **trailing statement**.

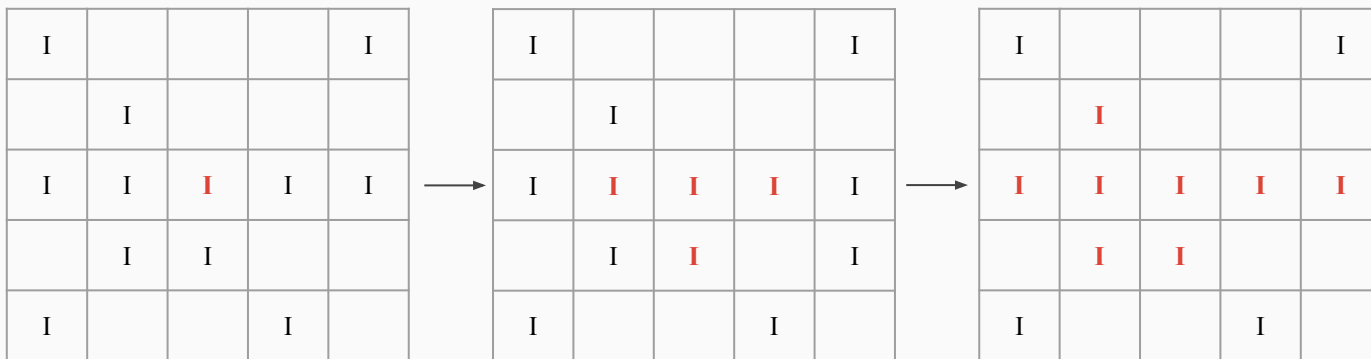
*Example:*

```
public int recursive(){  
    //base case (always before recursive call)  
    //any amount of code, aka leading statements  
    recursive(); //the recursive call  
    //any amount of code, aka trailing statements  
}
```

# Fibonacci Series Demonstration

# Project: Tree Burning Recursion

- Emulate a forest of grid size  $(x * y)$  burning down
- Start at a random point  $(x_a * y_b)$  and “burn” all surrounding trees
- Stop when all trees have been burned, or there are no more trees next to a burning tree



# Tasks

1. Recurse through and “burn” all trees in a (5 x 5) forest
  - a. Make sure that you don’t burn outside the given grid (will result in an error)
  - b. Burn only going up, down, left and right (no diagonals)
2. Add support for randomizing the forest
  - a. Random forest size
  - b. Random tree placement
3. Add support for wind
  - a. If wind is blowing from the south, only spread the fire up; if from the south west, then only up and right, etc