

LESSON 43 NOTES

Recursion: *Programming technique in which a method calls itself*

Base Case: *Condition that signifies when recursion ends.*

Recursive Case: *Condition that signifies that the method will be called again.*

Recursive Definition of a List (Example 1)

- *A List consists of: <number> → BASE CASE*
OR
- *<number> “,” List → RECURSIVE CASE*
- *ILLUSTRATION (“()” represent the List portion) :*
 - *2, (3,7,14)*
3, (7,14)
7, (14)

Infinite Recursion

- *Like an infinite loop – recursion continues indefinitely*
- *Is caused by no base case*

Direct Recursion: *When a method invokes itself within itself.*

Indirect Recursion: *When a method calls another method that invokes the original method.*

- *MAY BE SEVERAL LEVELS DEEP*

Diagram of the Recursive `sum()` Method

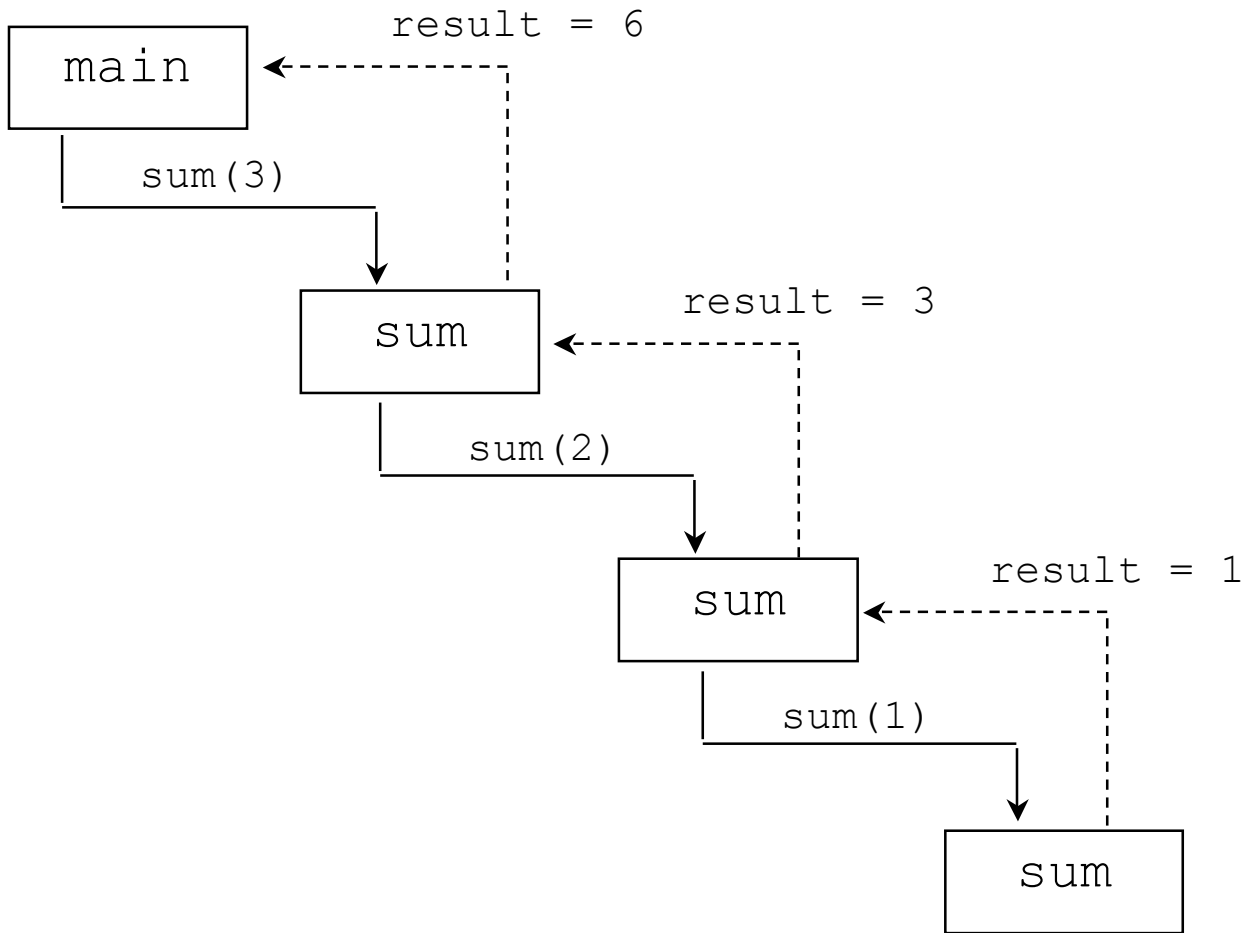


Diagram of Indirect Recursion

