# Problem Solving Techniques 문제해결

## Jinkyu Lee

Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU)

## Contents

- Chapter 6 Combinatorics
- 1. Basic Counting
- 2. Recurrence Relation
- 3. Binomial Coefficient
- 4. Recursion and Induction
- 5. Example 1 Fibonacci Sequence
- 6. Example 2 Binary Search

## 1. Basic Counting <1>

#### What is Combinatorics?

Math. Notion on Counting

#### Rule of Product

**#Cases that A & B occur together** 

- If |A|=m, |B|=n → m\*n
- Ex) #jackets: 5, #pants: 4, the no. ways to put on your clothes is 5\*4=20

#### Rule of Sum

- #Cases that event A or B occurs
- If A & B are independent → m+n
- Ex) #jackets: 5, #pants: 4, If one of them is messed at the laundry, it is one of 5+4=9 clothes

## 1. Basic Counting <2>

#### #Elements in Union Sets

- $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| |A \cap B|$
- Double counting problem exists!
- It is a slippery aspect of combinatorics
- → Make it difficult to solve problems via inclusion-exclusion

#### Permutation

- An arrangement of n items, where every item appears exactly once
- $n! = \prod_{i=1}^{n} i = n*(n-1)*(n-2)*...*2*1$
- ex) How many cases when arranging a,b,c items?
  - abc, acb, bac, bca, cab, cba => 6 cases
- cf) What if arranging a, b items of length-3 strings under the repetition?
  - $_{n}\prod_{r}=n^{r}$
  - aaa, aab, aba, abb, baa, bab, bba, bbb => 8 cases

#### 2. Recurrence Relation

- Recurrence relations make it easy to count a variety of recursively defined structures
- The recursively defined structures
  - Tree, List, Divide-conquer algorithm, etc.

#### Recurrence

- An equation defined in terms of itself
- Any function can be represented by a recurrence
  - Polynomial function:  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 1$ ,  $a_1 = 1 \rightarrow a_n = n$
  - Exponential function:  $a_n = 2a_{n-1}$ ,  $a_1 = 2 \rightarrow a_n = 2^n$
  - Certain weird but interesting function (e.g., Factorial):

$$-a_n = na_{n-1}, a_1 = 1 \rightarrow a_n = n!$$

### 3. Binomial Coefficient <1>

The most important class of counting numbers

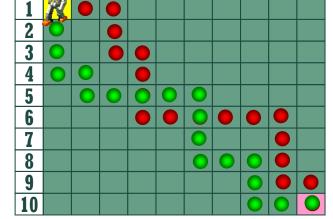
\*  $\binom{n}{k}$ : #ways to choose k ones out of n things  $\binom{n}{n}$ 

## Examples

Committees – # of ways to form a k-member committee from n people?



Path Across a Grid – # of ways to travel from the upper-left corner of an n x m Grid to the lower-right corner walking down and to the right?



## 3. Binomial Coefficient <1>

Path Across a Grid – # of ways to travel from the upper-left corner of an n x m Grid to the lower-right corner walking down and to the right?



## 3. Binomial Coefficient <2>

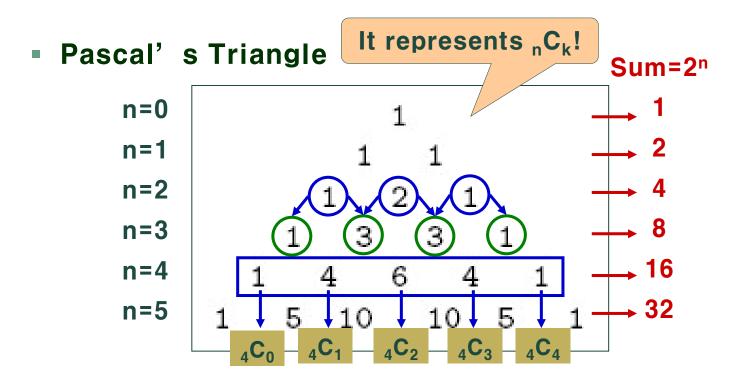
## Examples (Cont')

Coefficients of (a+b)<sup>n</sup> = (a+b)\*(a+b)\*...\*(a+b)

 $_{n}C_{k}$ 

• What's the coefficient of  $a^kb^{n-k}$  term?

• 
$$(a + b)^3 = 1a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + 1b^3$$
  
•  $(a + b)^3 = (a + b)(a + b)(a + b)$ 



#### 3. Binomial Coefficient <3>

Computing the Binomial Coefficients

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} n \\ k \end{array}\right) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$$

→ But!: Intermediate calculations (i.e., factorial) can easily cause arithmetic overflow!

Computing by Recurrence Relation

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} n \\ k \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} n-1 \\ k-1 \end{array}\right] + \left[\begin{array}{c} n-1 \\ k \end{array}\right]$$

Consider whether the nth element belongs the chosen k elements!

→ For the nth element, consider two cases:

Case 1: the element belongs to the chosen k elements

Case 2: the element is not in the chosen k elements

#### 3. Binomial Coefficient <4>

## Computing by Recurrence Relation – Example

A given set {1, 2, 3, 4}; n=4, k = 2, no repetition

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \{12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 34\} = 6$$

- For the specific element '1'
  - ① Case 1: '1' belongs to the chosen two elements
  - → Need to choose one element from {2, 3, 4}!

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ② Case 2: '1' does not belong to the chosen set
- → Need to choose two elements from {2, 3, 4}!

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 2 \end{array}\right]$$

Therefore, #all the possibilities becomes ① + ②

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} n \\ k \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c} n-1 \\ k-1 \end{array}\right] + \left[\begin{array}{c} n-1 \\ k \end{array}\right]$$

#### 3. Binomial Coefficient <5>

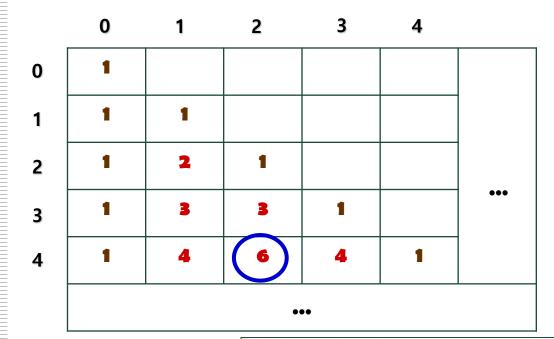
- As to Recurrence relations,
  - The initial condition (term) is essential!
- The best way to evaluate
- The best way to evaluate

  → build a Table of all possible values!  $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k}$

```
long binomial_coefficient(n,m)
    int i, j;
    long bc[MAXN][MAXN];
   for (i=0; i<=n; i++) bc[i][0] = 1;
    for (j=0; j<=n; j++) bc[j][j] = 1;
    for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
        for (j=1; j<i; j++)
            bc[i][j] = bc[i-1][j-1] + bc[i-1][j];
    return( bc[n][m] );
```

#### 3. Binomial Coefficient <6>

## ❖ Binomial coefficient table for n=4, m=2



```
bc[2][1] = bc[1][0]+bc[1][1]
bc[3][1] = bc[2][0]+bc[2][1]
bc[3][2] = bc[2][1]+bc[2][2]
bc[4][1] = bc[3][0]+bc[3][1]
bc[4][2] = bc[3][1]+bc[3][2]
bc[4][3] = bc[3][2]+bc[3][3]
```

## main func.

```
int main(void)
{
   int a, b;

   while (1) {
      scanf("%d %d",&a,&b);
      printf("%d\n",binomial_coefficient(a,b));
   }
   return 0;
}
```

#### 4. Recursion

- Recursion (and Induction)
  - Math. Induction provides a tool to solve Recurrences
  - Math. Induction is implemented by Recursion
  - Thus, Recursion is the way of solving Recurrences

$$T_n = 2T_{n-1} + 1, T_0 = 0$$

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
T <sub>n</sub>	0	1	3	7	15	31	63	127	

As n increase, T<sub>n</sub> increases roughly double.

Assume  $T_n = 2^n - 1!$ 

#### Solution by Math. Induction!

- Check the validity at n=0:  $T_0 = 2^0 1 = 0$
- Assume the validity for T<sub>n</sub>: T<sub>n</sub>= 2<sup>n</sup> 1
- After that, check the validity for T<sub>n+1</sub>:

$$T_{n+1} = 2T_n + 1 = 2(2^n - 1) + 1 = 2^{n+1} - 1$$

## 5. Example – Fibonacci Numbers <1>

## Fibonacci numbers are defined by

```
• F_0 = 0

• F_1 = 1

• F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} for n \ge 2
```

#### Pseudo-code

```
Fibonacci (n)

if (n=0) then return (0)

else

if (n=1)

then return (1)

else

return (Fibonacci(n-1) + Fibonacci(n-2))
```

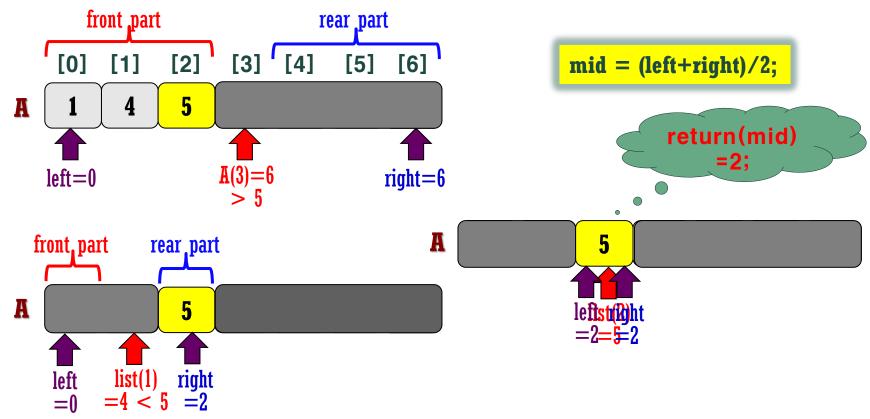
## 5. Example – Fibonacci Numbers <2>

#### **&** C Source Code

```
int main(void)
        int input num=0;
        int i;
        while (1){
            printf("Enter the number: ");
            scanf("%d", &input num);
            if (input num == 0)
                break;
            printf("result by recursion: ");
            for(i = 0; i <= input num; i++)</pre>
                printf( "%d ", fibonacci recursion( i ) );
            printf("\n\n");
        }
        return 0;
}
int fibonacci recursion(int num)
        if(num < 2) //f(0)=0, f(1)=1
                return num;
        return fibonacci recursion(num - 1) + fibonacci recursion(num - 2); //
                                                                                         f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2)
}
```

## 6. Example – Binary Search <1>

- We want to find an integer X out of n integers.
  - n integers are sorted in ascending order
  - We use Binary search in terms of Recursion.
  - Consider initial condition and recursive structure!



## 6. Example – Binary Search <2>

#### Think about Recursive Structure!

```
    B_SEARCH(A, x, 0, n-1); left=0, right=n-1, mid = (n-1)/2
    If A[mid] > x, call B_SEARCH(A, x, 0, mid-1)
    If A[mid] < x, call B_SEARCH(A, x, mid+1, n-1)</li>
    If A[mid] == x, return(mid)
```

```
int B_SEARCH (A[ ], x, left, right) {
    int mid:
    If (left <= right) {</pre>
        mid = (left + right) / 2;
        if (x < A[mid])
              B_SEARCH (A[], x, left, mid-1);
        else if (x > A[mid])
              B_SEARCH (A[], X, mid+1, right);
        else
              return (mid);
```