11 Recursion

11-2 More Recursion

The Recursive Method power

```
public class XToThePowerN {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    for (int n = 0; n < 4; n++) {
      System.out.println("3 to the power" + n + " is " + power(3,n));
  public static int power(int x, int n) {
    if (n < 0) {
      System.out.println("Illegal argument to power");
      System.exit(0);
                                                                                   3 to the power 0 is 1
    if (n > 0) // x^n = x^{n-1} * x (recursive call)
                                                                                   3 to the power 1 is 3
      return power(x, n-1) * x;
                                                                                   3 to the power 2 is 9
    else // n == 0, (stopping case)
                                                                                   3 to the power 3 is 27
      return 1;
```

Evaluating the Recursive Method Call power(2,3)

```
1) power(2,3) = power(2,2) * 2
```

2)
$$power(2,2) = power(2,1) * 2$$

3)
$$power(2,1) = power(2,0) * 2$$

4)
$$power(2,0) = 1$$
,

Recursive Design Techniques (Checking Steps)

- 1. Confirm there is no infinite recursion
- 2. Confirm each stopping case performs the correct action for that case
- 3. Confirm if all recursive calls perform their actions correctly, then the entire case performs correctly

Binary Search

- Searching an array to find a given value
- Condition: the array should be a sorted array:
 a[0] ≤ a[1] ≤ a[2] ≤ . . . ≤ a[finalIndex]
- If the value is found, its index is returned
- If the value is not found, -1 is returned
- Implemented using recursion
- Note: Each execution of the recursive method reduces the search space by about a half
 - "Divide and Conquer" technique

Execution of the Method search

```
search(first=0, last=9, key=63)
mid=(0+9)/2=4
a[4]=57 < 63
a[0] = 15
a[1] = 20
a[2] = 35
a[3] = 41
a[4] = 57
a[5] = 63
a[6] = 75
a[7] = 80
a[8] = 85
a[9] = 90
```

```
search(first=mid+1=5, last=9, key=63)
mid=(5+9)/2=7
a[7]=80 > 63
a[0] = 15
a[1] = 20
a[2] = 35
a[3] = 41
a[4] = 57
a[5] = 63
a[6] = 75
a[7] = 80
a[8] = 85
a[9] = 90
```

```
search(first=5, last=mid-1=6, key=63)
mid=(5+6)/2=5
a[5] = = 63
a[0] = 15
a[1] = 20
a[2] = 35
a[3] = 41
a[4] = 57
a[5] = 63
a[6] = 75
a[7] = 80
a[8] = 85
a[9] = 90
```

No Existence Case

search(0, 9, 37)
mid=(0+9)/2=4
a[4]=57 > 37
a[0] = 15
a[1] = 20
a[2] = 35
a[3] = 41
a[4] = 57
a[5] = 63
a[6] = 75
a[7] = 80
a[8] = 85
a[9] = 90

```
search(3, 2, 37)
first(3) > last(2)
not exist, quit
a[0] = 15
a[1] = 20
a[2] = 35
a[3] = 41
a[4] = 57
a[5] = 63
a[6] = 75
a[7] = 80
a[8] = 85
a[9] = 90
```

Recursive Method for Binary Search

```
public static int search(int[] a, int first, int last, int key) {
  int result = 0;
  if (first > last) result = -1; // stopping case
  else { // recursive call
     int mid = (first + last)/2;
     if (key == a[mid]) result = mid; // stopping case
     else if (key < a[mid])
       result = search(a, first, mid-1, key);
     else if (key > a[mid])
       result = search(a, mid+1, last, key);
  return result;
```

Checking the search Method (1/3)

There is no infinite recursion

- On each recursive call
 - The value of first is increased
 - The value of last is decreased
- So, eventually the method will be called with first larger than last

```
public static int search(int[] a, int first, int last, int key) {
  int result = 0;
  if (first > last) result = -1; // stopping case
  else {
    int mid = (first + last)/2;
    if (key == a[mid]) result = mid; // stopping case
    else if (key < a[mid])
        result = search(a, first, mid-1, key); // recursive call
    else if (key > a[mid])
        result = search(a, mid+1, last, key); // recursive call
  }
  return result;
}
```

Checking the search Method (2/3)

- 2. Each stopping case performs the correct action for that case
 - If first > last, there are no array elements between a[first] and a[last], so key is not in this segment of the array, and result is correctly set to -1
 - If key == a[mid], result is correctly set to mid

```
public static int search(int[] a, int first, int last, int key) {
  int result = 0;
  if (first > last) result = -1; // stopping case
  else {
    int mid = (first + last)/2;
    if (key = a[mid]) result = mid; // stopping case
    else if (key < a[mid])
      result = search(a, first, mid-1, key);
    else if (key > a[mid])
      result = search(a, mid+1, last, key);
  }
  return result;
}
```

Checking the search Method (3/3)

- 3. Check all recursive calls perform their actions correctly
 - If key < a[mid], then key must be one of the elements a[first] through a[mid-1], or it is not in the array, so we should search a from first to mid 1.
 - If key > a[mid], then key must be one of the elements a[mid-1] through a[last], or it is not in the array, so we should search a from mid + 1 to last.

```
public static int search(int[] a, int first, int last, int key) {
  int result = 0;
  if (first > last) result = -1; // stopping case
  else {
    int mid = (first + last)/2;
    if (key == a[mid]) result = mid; // stopping case
    else if (key < a[mid])
        result = search(a, first, mid-1, key);
    else if (key > a[mid])
        result = search(a, mid+1, last, key);
  }
  return result;
}
```

Efficiency of Binary Search

- Array size = n
- Serial search algorithm
 - time complexity: O(n) ... we should see all n elements in the worst case
- Binary search algorithm
 - time complexity: $O(\log n)$... we should see $\log(n)$ elements in the worst case

