

# Recursion



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# Recursion

## Dictionary

Search for a word



re·cur·sion

/rəˈkərZHən/

*noun*

MATHEMATICS • LINGUISTICS

the repeated application of a recursive procedure or definition.

- a recursive definition.

plural noun: **recursions**



Translations, word origin and more definitions

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# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

1    1

> First two elements are 1

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

1    1    2

- > First two elements are 1
- > The  $n$ -th element is the sum of  $(n-1)$ th element and  $(n-2)$ th element

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

$$1 \quad 1 \quad 2 = 1 + 1$$

- > First two elements are 1
- > The n-th element is the sum of (n-1)th element and (n-2)th element

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

1    1    2    3 = 2 + 1

- > First two elements are 1
- > The n-th element is the sum of (n-1)th element and (n-2)th element



# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

1    1    2    3    5 = 3 + 2

- > First two elements are 1
- > The n-th element is the sum of (n-1)th element and (n-2)th element

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

1    1    2    3    5    ... ..

- > First two elements are 1
- > The  $n$ -th element is the sum of  $(n-1)$ th element and  $(n-2)$ th element

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

- Write a function to compute the  $n$ -th element in the Fibonacci sequence.

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

- Write a function to compute the  $n$ -th element in the Fibonacci sequence.
- **Consider a function that calls itself.**

```
function fib(n) {
```

```
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return ???;  
    }  
  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    }  
  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return ???;  
    }  
}
```



```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + ???;  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

Base Case

```
function fib(n) {
```

```
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    } else {
```

```
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Base Case

Recursive  
Step

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

- What is the time complexity of our `fib` function?

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

- What is the time complexity of our `fib` function?
- $O(2^n)$

# Recursion Example: Fibonacci

- What is the time complexity of our `fib` function?
- $O(2^n)$
- Why?



# Runtime of Fibonacci

- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$

# Runtime of Fibonacci

- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$
- Consider `fib(1)` and `fib(2)`

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {      n = 1  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1; n = 1  
O(1)  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;   
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

$n = 2$

$O(1)$

# Runtime of Fibonacci

- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$
- Consider `fib(1)` and `fib(2)` -  **$O(1)$**

# Runtime of Fibonacci

- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$
- Consider `fib(1)` and `fib(2)` -  $O(1)$
- **For simplicity, let  $T(1) = T(2) = 1$**

# Runtime of Fibonacci

- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$
- Consider `fib(1)` and `fib(2)` -  $O(1)$
- For simplicity, let  $T(1) = T(2) = 1$
- $T(n) = ???$  (for  $n > 2$ )



```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {      n > 2  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {      n > 2  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
        T(n-1)  
    }  
}
```

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {      n > 2  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2) ;  
                T(n-1)      T(n-2)  
    }  
}
```

```

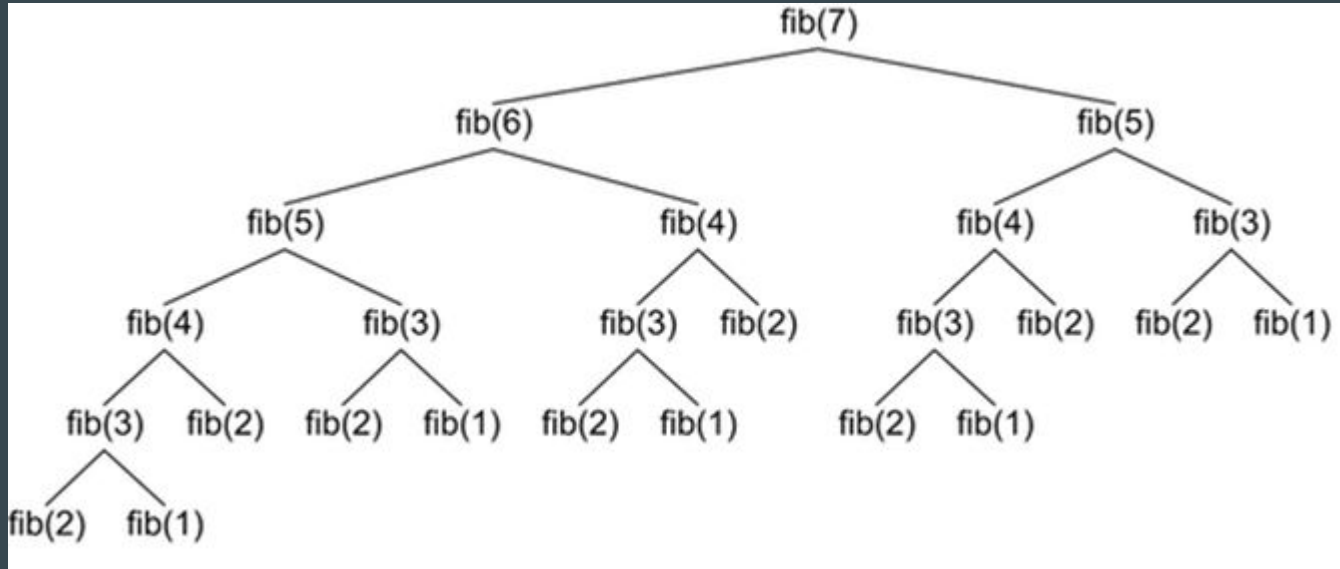
function fib(n) {
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {      n > 2
        return 1;
    } else {       $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + 1$ 
        return  $\frac{\text{fib}(n-1)}{T(n-1)} + \frac{\text{fib}(n-2)}{T(n-2)}$ ;
    }
}

```

# Runtime of Fibonacci

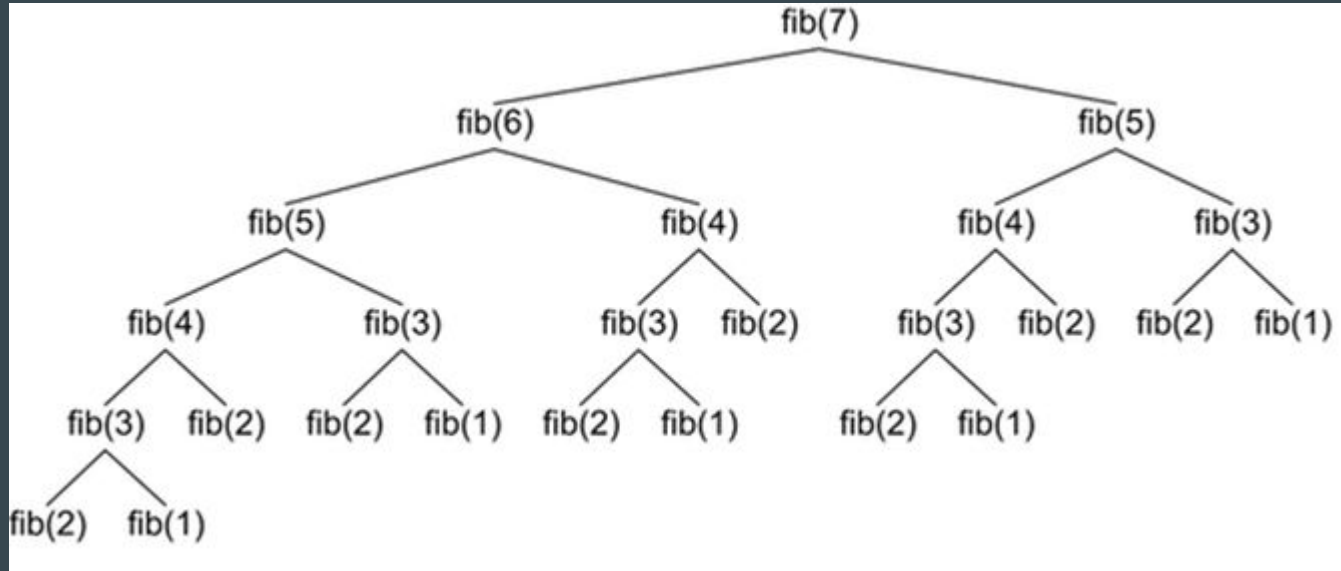
- Let  $T(n)$  be the runtime of `fib` with input  $n$
- Consider `fib(1)` and `fib(2)` -  $O(1)$
- For simplicity, let  $T(1) = T(2) = 1$
- $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + 1$

# Runtime of Fibonacci



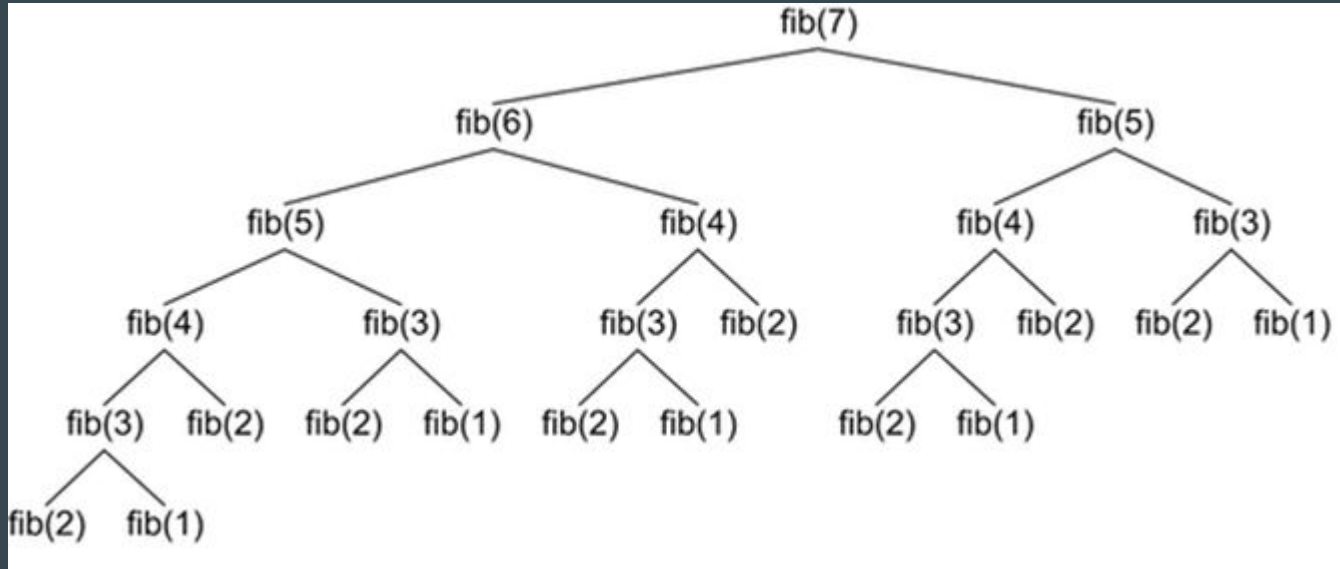
- $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + 1$

# Runtime of Fibonacci



- $T(n)$  is at most # of nodes in recursive tree

# Runtime of Fibonacci



- $T(n)$  is  $O(2^n)$

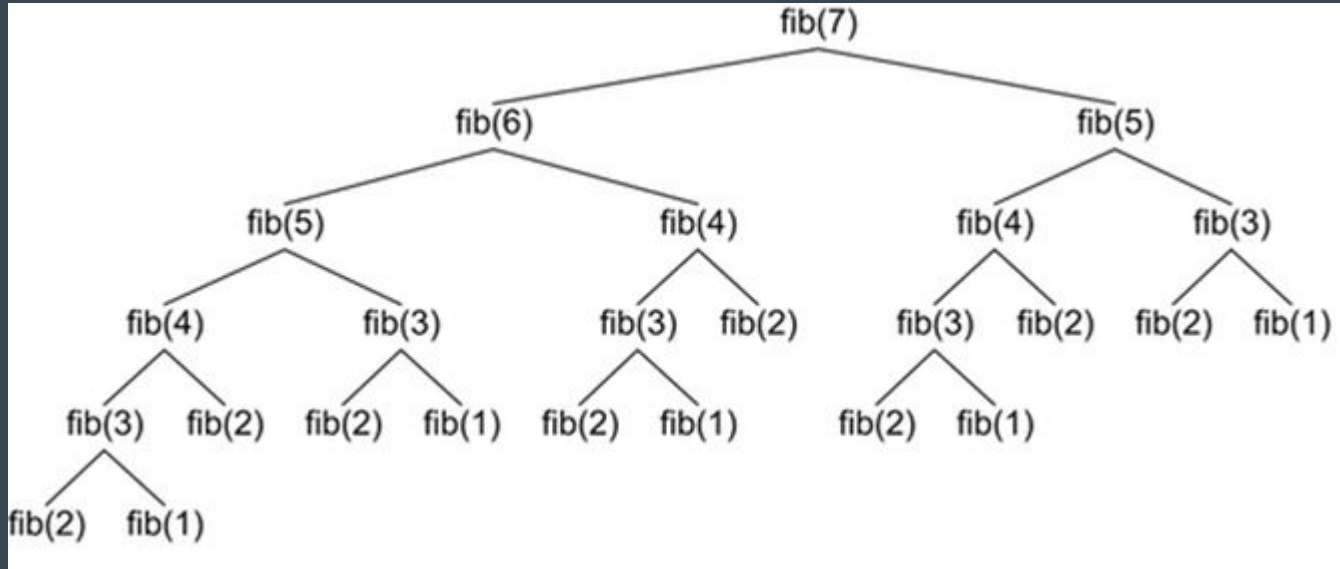


# Memoization



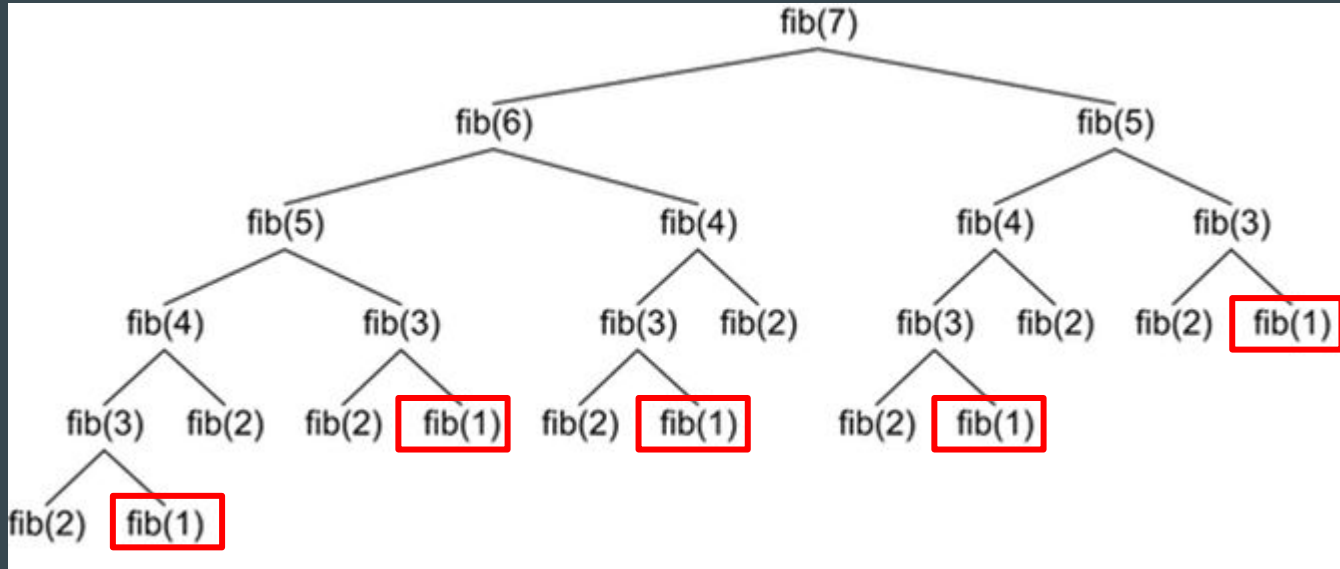
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# Runtime of Fibonacci



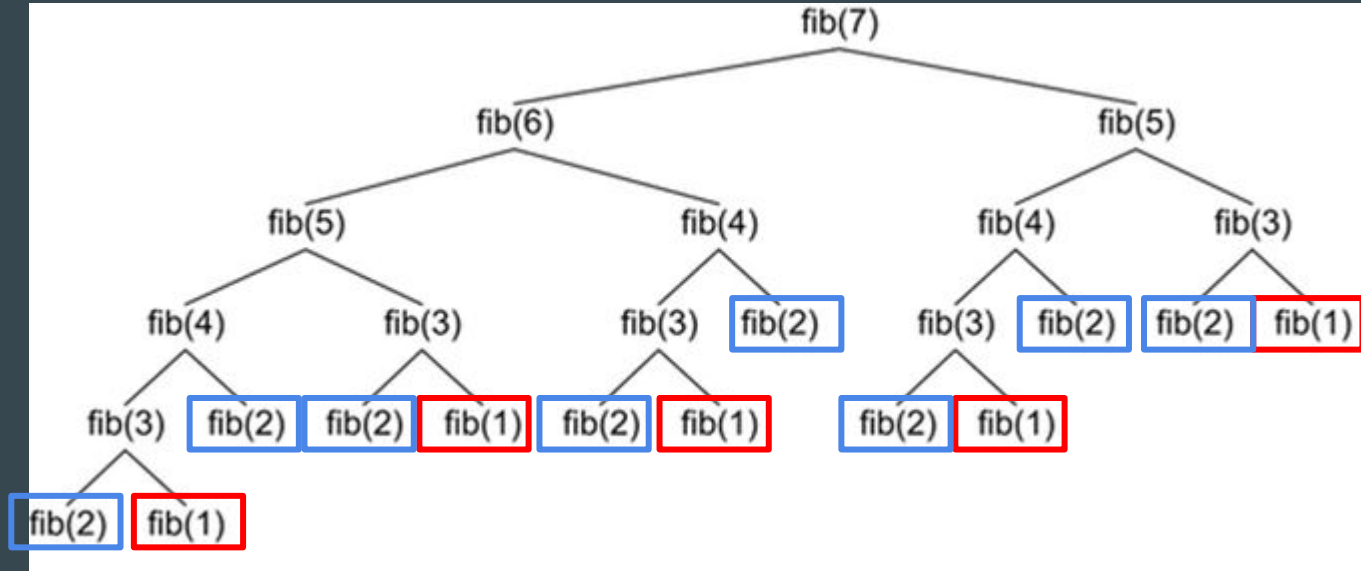
- $T(n)$  is  $O(2^n)$

# Runtime of Fibonacci



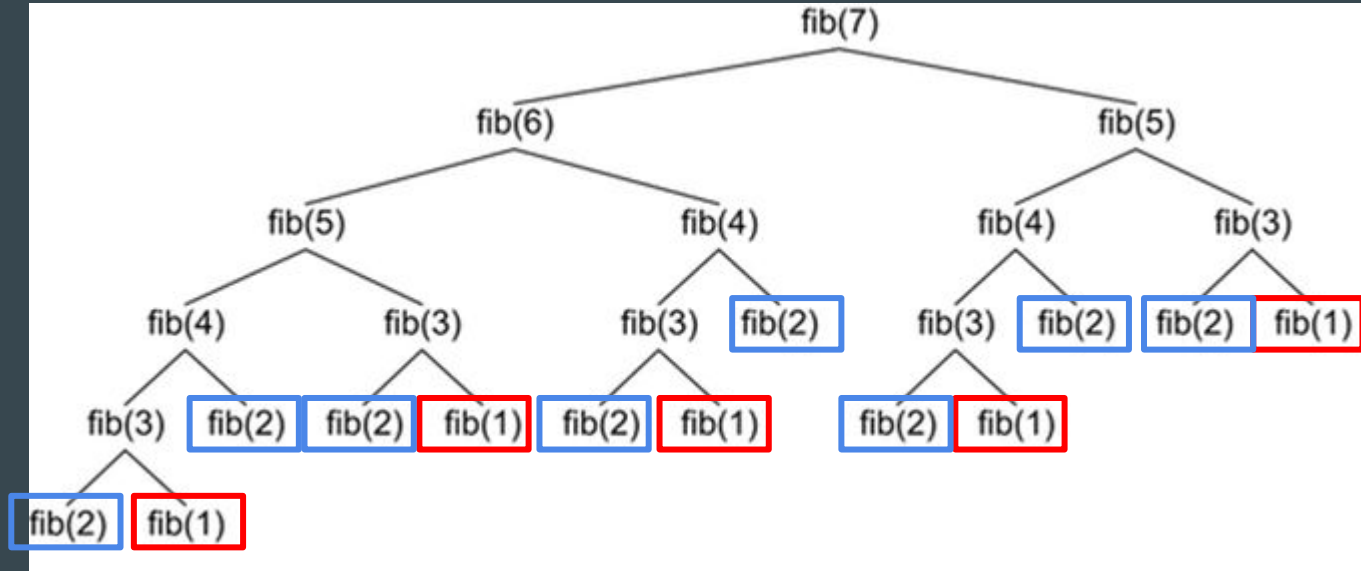
- $T(n)$  is  $O(2^n)$

# Runtime of Fibonacci



- $T(n)$  is  $O(2^n)$

# Runtime of Fibonacci

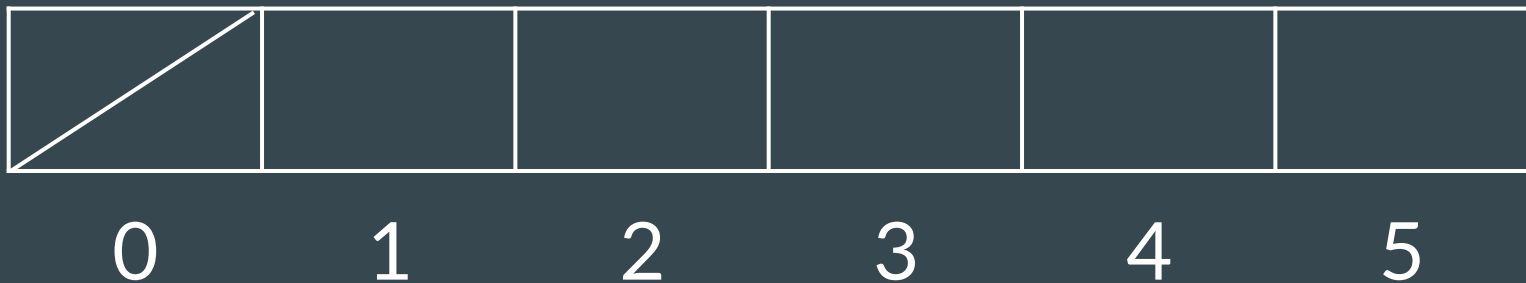


- Lots of repetitions!

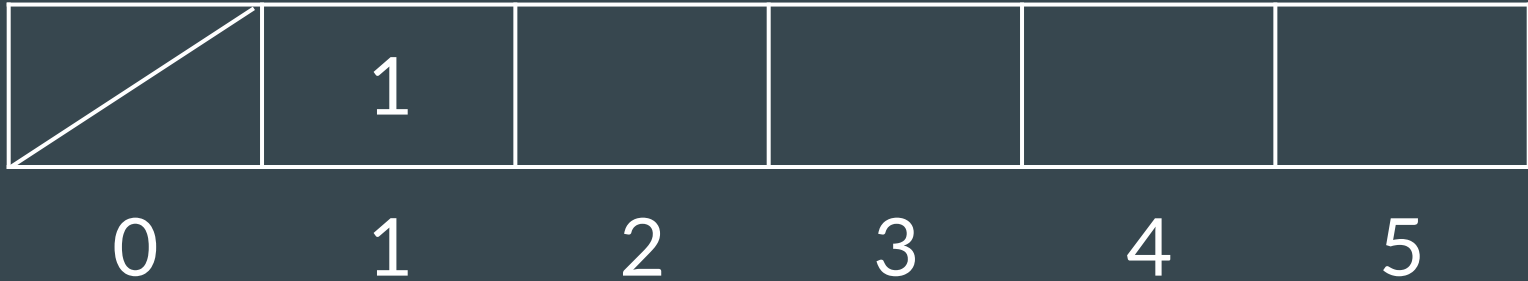
# What We Will Do...

## Trading space for runtime!

# Array



# Array



After calculating fib(1)



# Array

	1	1			
0	1	2	3	4	5

After calculating fib(2)

# Array

	1	1	2		
0	1	2	3	4	5

After calculating fib(3)

# Array

	1	1	2	3	5
0	1	2	3	4	5

After calculating  $\text{fib}(n)$ , store the value at  $\text{arr}[n]$

```
function fib(n) {  
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {  
        return 1;  
    } else {  
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);  
    }  
}
```

```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];
```

```
function fib(n) {
```

```
    if (n == 1 || n == 2) {
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    } else {
```

```
        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];
```



Placeholder

```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];

function fib(n) {

    if (fibArr[n]) {

        return fibArr[n];

    } else {

        return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);

    }

}
```

```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];

function fib(n) {

    if (fibArr[n]) {

        return fibArr[n];

    } else {

        let result = fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);

        fibArr[n] = result;

        return result;

    }

}
```



```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];

function fib(n) {

    if (fibArr[n]) {

        return fibArr[n];

    } else {

        let result = fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);

        fibArr[n] = result;

        return result;

    }

}
```

Runtime  
 $O(n)$

```
let fibArr = [1, 1, 1];
```

```
function fib(n) {
```

```
  if (fibArr[n]) {
```

```
    return fibArr[n];
```

```
  } else {
```

```
    let result = fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);
```

```
    fibArr[n] = result;
```

```
    return result;
```

```
  }
```

```
}
```

Runtime

$O(n)$

HW: Why?