

Lecture 03 - Introduction to Algorithms Recursion

Design and Analysis of Algorithms – IT1205

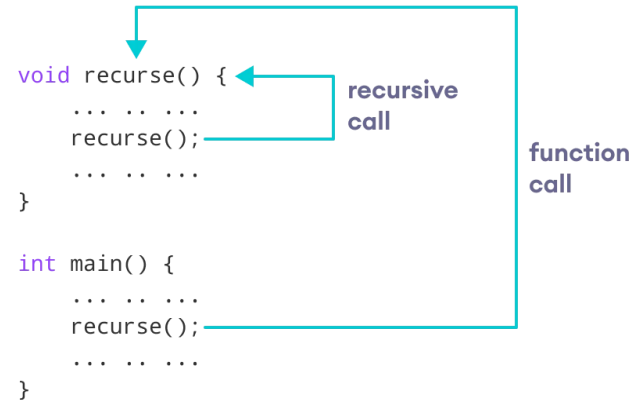
Year 02 Semester 02

Contents for today

- Recursion & Recurrences
 - Recurrence equation
 - Factorial Series
- Finding a solution to a recurrence
 - Repeated Substitution method.
 - Recursion tree.
 - Master Theorem.

What is Recursion?

- Recursion is a function calls itself again and again until it reach to the base condition.



- Properties of Recursion:
 - Performing the same operations multiple times with different inputs.
 - In every step, try with smaller inputs to make the problem smaller.
 - Base condition is needed to stop the recursion otherwise infinite loop will occur.

Recursion –Example

Factorial

- We read $n!$ as “**n factorial**”
- $n! = n * (n-1) * (n-2) * \dots * 2 * 1$, and that $0! = 1$.
- A recursive definition is

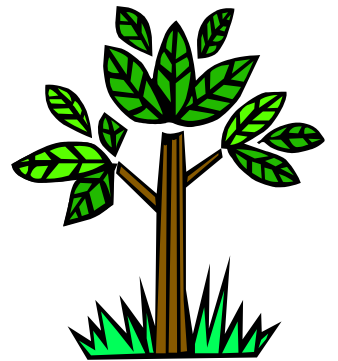
$$(n)! = \begin{cases} n * (n-1)! & \text{if } n > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

Recursive Call

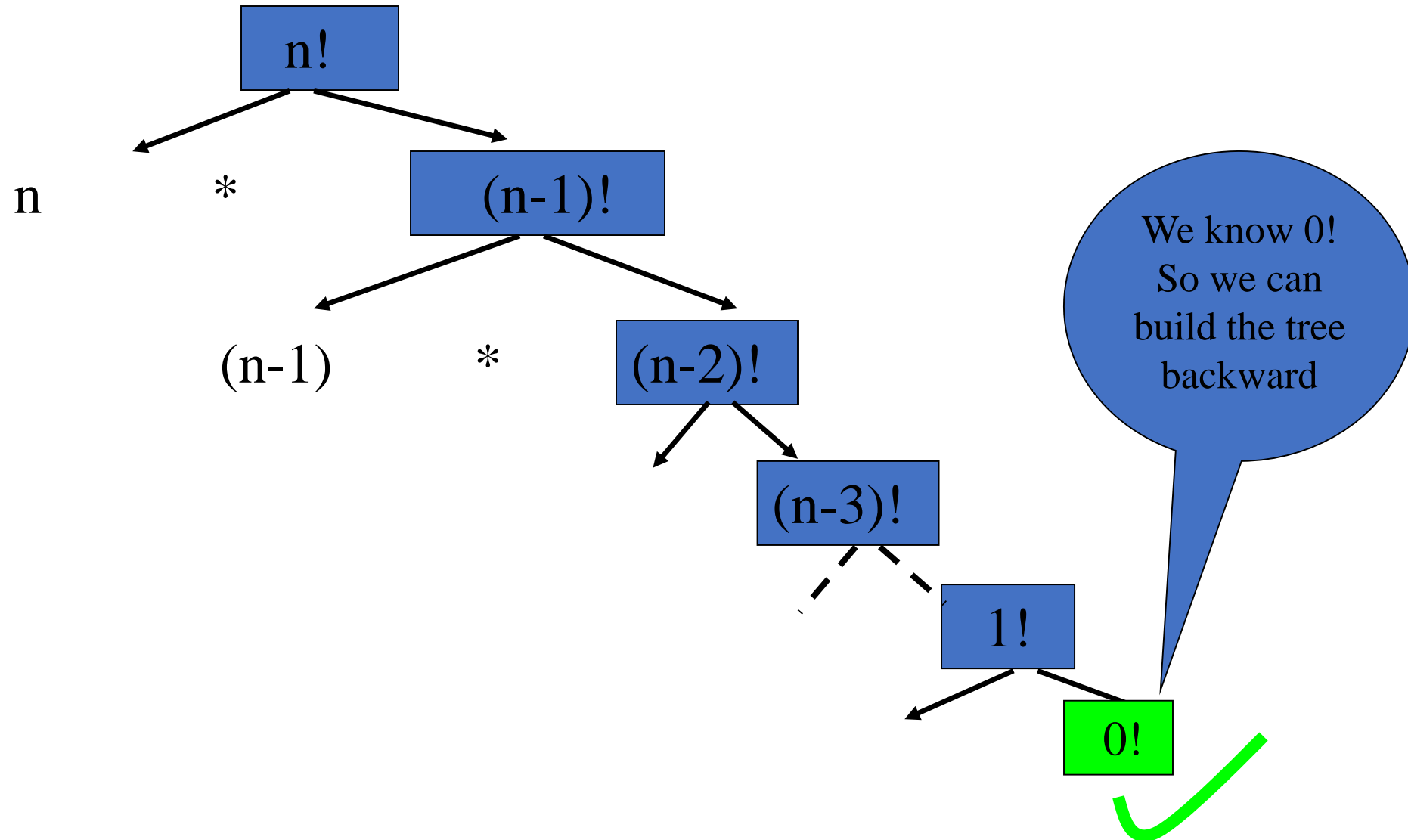
Initial Condition

Recursion tree

- We can draw a recursion tree for any recursive function.
- Drawing a recursion tree will help us to graphically visualize the recursive relation.
- Let's draw the recursion tree for the **factorial** function



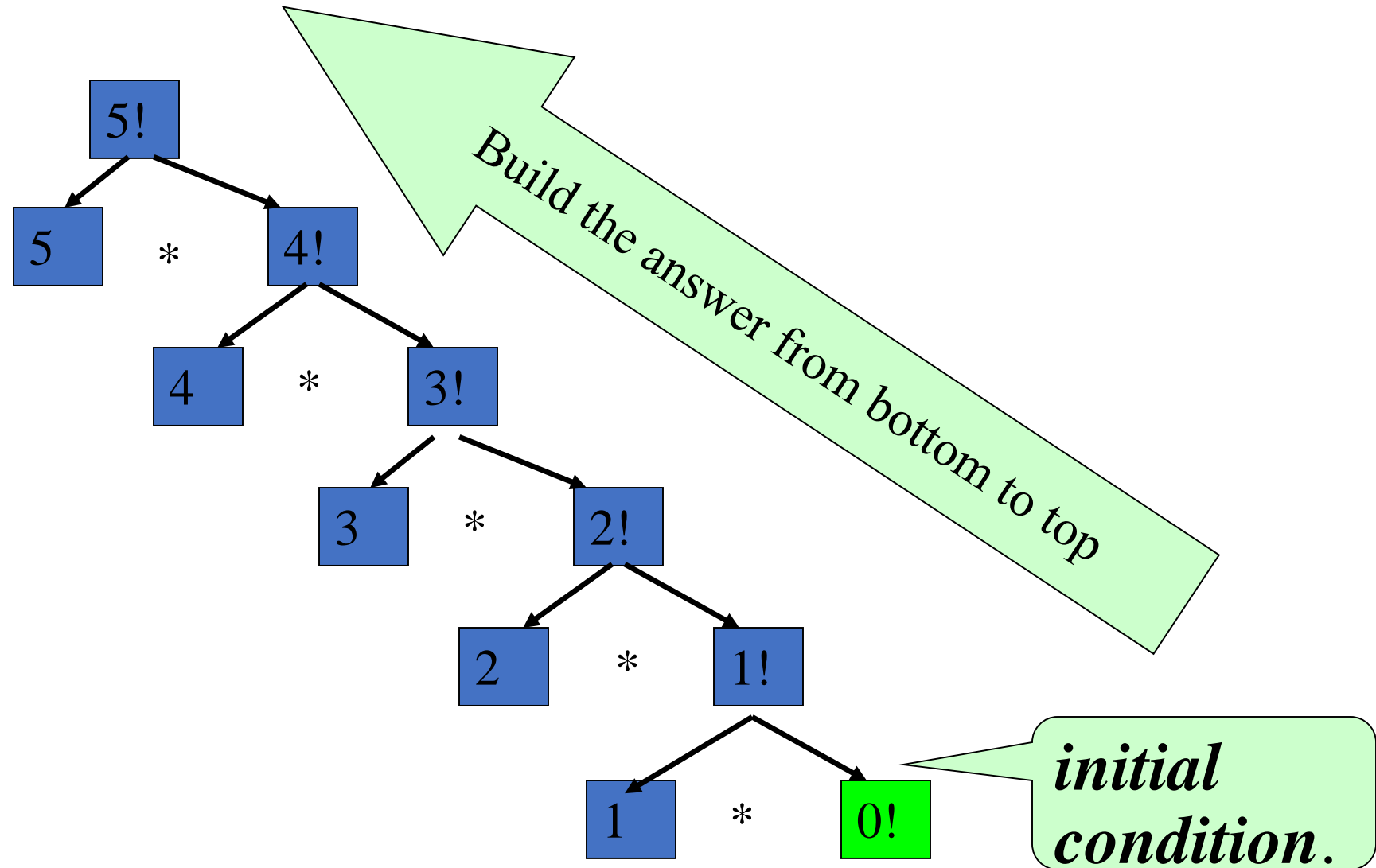
Factorial -A graphical view



Exercise

- Draw the recursive tree for 5!
- How it calculate 5!? Is it:
 Bottom to top calculation or
 Top to bottom calculation

Solution



Factorial(contd.)

- Now, we want to build a procedure

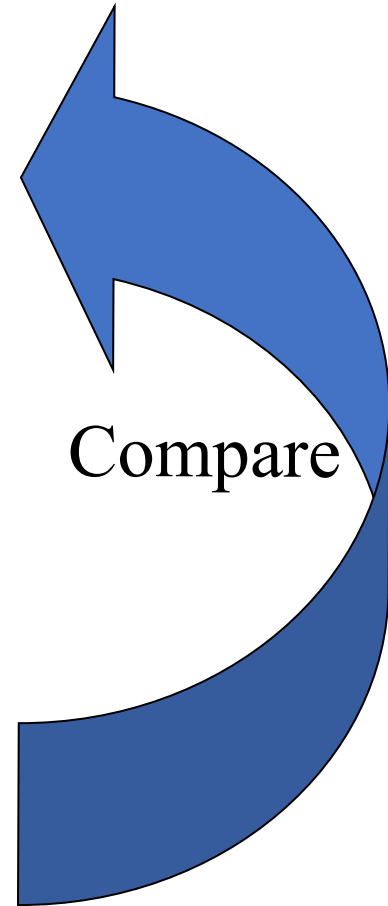


- Let's try to devise an algorithm straight from the mathematical definition.

Factorial(contd.)

$$(n)! = \begin{cases} n * (n-1)! & \text{if } n > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

```
int factorial(int n) {  
    if (n == 0)  
        return 1;  
    else  
        return (n * factorial(n-1));  
}
```



Recursive Function

- What is recursive Function?

A function that calls **itself** directly or indirectly to solve a smaller version of its task until a final call which does not require a self-call is a ***recursive*** function.

Understanding recursive algorithms can be done using ***recursive relations***

Definition of Recursive Relation

- A **recursive relation** for the sequence $\{a_n\}$ is an equation that expresses a_n in terms of one or more of the previous terms of the sequence, for all integers $n \geq n_0$, where n_0 is a non-negative integer.
- The condition $n = n_0$ is called the **initial condition**.
- NOTE: some cases may contain more than one initial condition.
e.g. Fibonacci numbers

Definition of Recursive Relation

- Base case(s).
 - Values of the input variables for which we perform **no recursive calls** are called base cases (there should be at least one base case).
 - Every possible chain of recursive calls must eventually reach a base case.
- Recursive calls.
 - Calls to the current method.
 - Each recursive call should be defined so that it makes progress towards a base case.

Recursion –Example 1

- The number of bacteria in a colony doubles every hour. If the colony begins with 05 bacteria, how many will be present in 2 hours?
- Recursive relation:
Let a_n be the number of bacteria after n hours.
 $a_n = 2 \cdot a_{n-1}$
Initial condition $a_0 = 5$.
- Solution: Solve for a_2 given this relation.
 $a_2 = 2 \cdot a_1 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot a_0 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 = \mathbf{20}$

Recursion –Exercise

- Suppose Sunil deposits Rs.10,000 in a savings account at a bank, yielding 11% interest per year with interest compounded annually. How much will be in the account after 30 years?

Solution

- Solution:

Let P_n denote the amount in the account after n years. Then the sequence $\{P_n\}$ satisfies the recursive relation:

$$P_n = P_{n-1} + 0.11 P_{n-1} = (1.11)P_{n-1}$$

The initial condition is $P_0 = 10,000$.

Note that:

$$P_1 = (1.11)P_0$$

$$P_2 = (1.11)P_1 \text{ (That means } 1.11 \cdot 1.11 P_0) = (1.11)^2 P_0$$

$$P_3 = (1.11)P_2 = (1.11)^3 P_0$$

We see a pattern! In general,

$$P_n = (1.11)P_{n-1} = (1.11)^n P_0. \quad \text{For } n = 30, P_{30} = (1.11)^{30} 10,000.$$

Recurrence equation

- *Mathematical function that define the running time* of recursive functions.
- This describes the overall running time on a problem of size n in terms of the running time on smaller inputs.
- when an algorithm contains a recursive call to itself, its running time can often be described by a recurrence. A **recurrence** is an equation or inequality that describes a function in terms of its value on smaller inputs.

Definition of Recurrence Relation

- A recurrence relation for $T(N)$ is simply a recursive definition of $T(N)$.
 - This means $T(N)$ is written as a function of $T(k)$ where $k < N$.
- Two common types are:
 - **$T(N) = T(N-1) + b$**
 - **$T(N) = T(N/2) + c$**

Recurrence - Example1

- Find the Running time of the following function.

```
int factorial(int n) {  
    if (n == 0)           //A  
        return 1;         //B  
    else  
        return (n * factorial(n-1)); //C  
}
```

- Statement A takes time "**c**" for the conditional evaluation
- Statement B takes time "**d**" for the return assignment
- Statement C takes time:
 "**e**" - for the operations(multipl. & return)
 +

$T(n-1)$ – to determine $(n-1)!$

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

Finding a solution to a recurrence.

- Other methods

- Repeated Substitution method.
- Recursion tree.
- Master Theorem.

Repeated substitution method

- The technique of Repeated Substitution can be used to solve “simple” recurrence relations.
- The idea is very straight-forward. We start with the recurrence relation given to us. We use the recurrence relation to expand the right hand side of the equation. We do so a few times with the goal of ***finding a pattern*** on the right hand side as the argument becomes smaller.
- Once we find a pattern, we write a general expression on the right hand side. When we have a general expression, we can go ahead and solve the recurrence and obtain a closed form solution.
- We illustrate the technique by solving a number of recurrences. In the course of performing this method, it is common practice to make assumptions regarding the values the argument n can take, in order to be able to solve a recurrence relation.

Method

1. Determine $T(n)$ for the general case
2. Determine $T(0)$ or $T(1)$ i.e. base case
3. Expand $T(n)$ determined in step 1 in $T(n-1)$, $T(n-2)$, etc.
4. Solve it to determine: $T(n) = \text{Polynomial}$
5. Apply Big- \mathbf{O} to determine the order of $\mathbf{O}(T(n))$.

Repeated substitution method(Example 01)

Example 1:

$T(n) = T(n - 1) + c$, $n > 1$ & c is a small positive constant. $T(1) = d$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n - 1) + c \\&= (T(n - 2) + c) + c \\&= (T(n - 2) + 2c) \\&= (T(n - 3) + c) + 2c \\&= (T(n - 3) + 3c)\end{aligned}$$

....after k times

$$= (T(n - k) + kc)$$

If $k=n-1$

$$\begin{aligned}&= T(n - (n - 1)) + (n - 1)c \\&= T(1) + (n - 1)c \\&= d + (n - 1)c\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= nc + (d - c) \\ \text{Running Time} &: O(n)\end{aligned}$$

Repeated substitution method (Example 02)

Example 2:

$T(n) = T(n/2) + c$, $n > 1$ & c is a small positive constant. $T(1) = d$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n/2) + c \\&= (T(n/4) + c) + c \\&= (T(n/2^2) + 2c) \\&= (T(n/8) + c+c) + c \\&= (T(n/2^3) + 3c)\end{aligned}$$

...after k times

$$= (T(n/2^k) + k.c)$$

If $k = \log_2 n$

$$\begin{aligned}&= (T(n/2^{\log_2 n}) + (\log_2 n).c) \\&= T(n/n) + c . \log_2 n \\&= T(1) + c . \log_2 n \\&= d + c . \log_2 n\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= c . \log_2 n + d \\ \text{Running Time} &: O(\log_2 n)\end{aligned}$$

