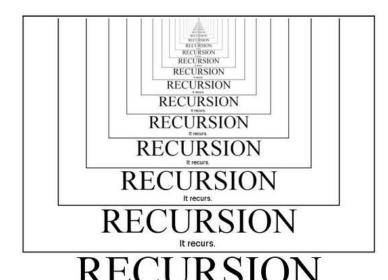
Recursion



It recurs.

By Dr. Kawal Jeet

Introduction to Recursion

□ Recursion is the process of defining a problem (or the solution to a problem) in terms of (a simpler version of) itself.

```
Way-to-Home
 If you are at home
      Stop moving
 Else
     Take one step toward home
     Way-to-home
```

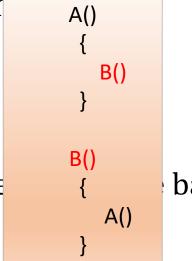


Recursion in Programming

Recursion happens when a function calls itself directly or indirectly.

A()

- All recursive algorithms must o A() impor
 - *A recursive algorithm must have a pase case.
 - ❖ A recursive algorithm must change its state and move
 - ❖ A recursive algorithm must call itself, recursively.



base case.

Recursion in Java

n! = 1*2*3*4*....*n

Factorial without recursion

```
public long factorial (int n)
{
    long fact = 1;
    for(int i = 1; i <= n; ++i)
        fact = fact * i;

    System.out.println ("Factorial=", fact);
    return(fact);
}</pre>
```

Space Complexity: Constant (for variables only)

Time Complexity: (n) for loop

Recursion in Java

$$n! = n * (n-1)!$$

Factorial with recursion

Factorial with Recursion



Stack Overflow

```
Public static void main (Strings args[])
           long x=factorial (4);
           System.out.println(x);
                                                                                                              factorial(1) = 1
                  public long factorial (4)
                                    return(num);
                                                                                                               2 * factorial (1)
                   if (num <= 1)
                                    return(4 * factorial (3));
                   Else
                                                                                                   2*1
                  4*3*2
                                                                                                               3 * factorial (2)
                                         public long factorial (3)
                                 3*2
                                                                                              3*2*1
                                           if (num <= 1)
                                                           return(num);
                                                                                                               4 * factorial (3)
                                                            return(3 * factorial (2));
                                           Else
                                                        public long factorial (2)
                                                                                                                4 * 3 * 2 * 1
                                                         if (num \ll 1)
                                                                          return(num);
                                                                          return(2* factorial (1));
                                                         Else
                                                           2*1
                                                                       public long factorial (1)
Space Complexity: n (stack)
Time Complexity: 2*n
                                                                        if (num <= 1)
              (One direct call and one return)
                                                                                  return(1);
```

Factorial with Recursion



Stack Overflow

```
Public static void main (Strings args[])
           long x=factorial (4);
           System.out.println(x);
                                                                                                              factorial(1) = 1
                  public long factorial (4)
                                    return(num);
                                                                                                              2 * factorial (1)
                   if (num <= 1)
                                    return(4 * factorial (3));
                   Else
                                                                                                   2*1
                                                                                                              3 * factorial (2)
                                         public long factorial (3)
               4*3*2*1
                              3*2*1
                                                                                             3*2*1
                                                           return(num);
                                           if (num <= 1)
                                                                                                              4 * factorial (3)
                                                            return(3 * factorial (2));
                                           Else
                                                        public long factorial (2)
                                                                                                                4 * 3 * 2 * 1
                                                         if (num \ll 1)
                                                                          return(num);
                                                                          return(2* factorial (1));
                                                         Else
                                                          2*1
                                                                       public long factorial (1)
Space Complexity: n (stack)
Time Complexity: 2*n
                                                                        if (num <= 1)
              (One direct call and one return)
                                                                                  return(1);
```

Disadvantages of Recursion

- Greater space requirements than iterative program
 - All functions will remain in the stack until the base case is reached.

- It also has greater time requirements
 - Function calls and returns overhead.

Advantages of Recursion

Recursion provides a clean and simple way to write code.

Some problems are inherently recursive like Tree Traversals, Tower of Hanoi, etc. For such problems, it is preferred to write recursive code.

In many cases, recursive algorithms resemble more closely the logical approach we'd take to solve a problem.

Maximum of an array using recursion

- Int [] a= {6, 9, 2, 4};
- Math.max(4, rec{6,9,2})
- Math.max(2, rec{6,9})
- Math.max(9, rec{6})
- Math.max{6}=6
- Max(9,6)=9
- Max(2,9)=9
- Max(4,9)=9

Reverse a string using recursion

- Recursion(soap)
- p+Recursion(soa)
- a+Recursion(so)
- o+Recursion(s)
- Recursion(s)-- \rightarrow s
- OS
- aos
- paos

References

- Eckel, Bruce. *Thinking in JAVA*. Prentice Hall Professional, 2003.
- https://web.mit.edu/6.005/www/fa15/classes/10recursion/#reading 10 recursion (Accessed on October 17, 2020)
- Lafore, Robert. *Data structures and algorithms in Java*. Sams publishing, 2017.

