

Recursion

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Recursion - Introduction

- A function calling itself.
- Solving a problem using a smaller version of the same problems (subproblem).

3 Steps to implement Recursive code

- ☐ **Assumption:** Decide what your function does and assume that it does.
- ☐ **Main Logic:** Break down and solve problems using sub problems.
- ☐ **Base Condition:** Decide when your function should stop.

Function Call Tracing

| | |
|---|---|
| <pre>Int add(N, M){ return (N+M) } Int Square(N){ Return N*N } Int twice(N){ Return 2*N }</pre> | <pre>main(){ Int x = add(10, 20) Int y = Square(x); Int z = twice(y); print(z); } main(){ print(twice square(add(10, 20))) }</pre> |
|---|---|

Add -> square -> twice

30 -> 900 -> 1800

Problems

Problem 1: Given N, find the factorial of N!

$$N! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4 * \dots * N$$
$$5! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4 * 5$$
$$= 120$$

Assumption:

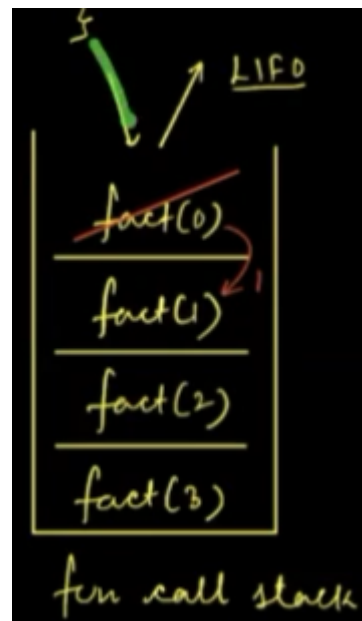
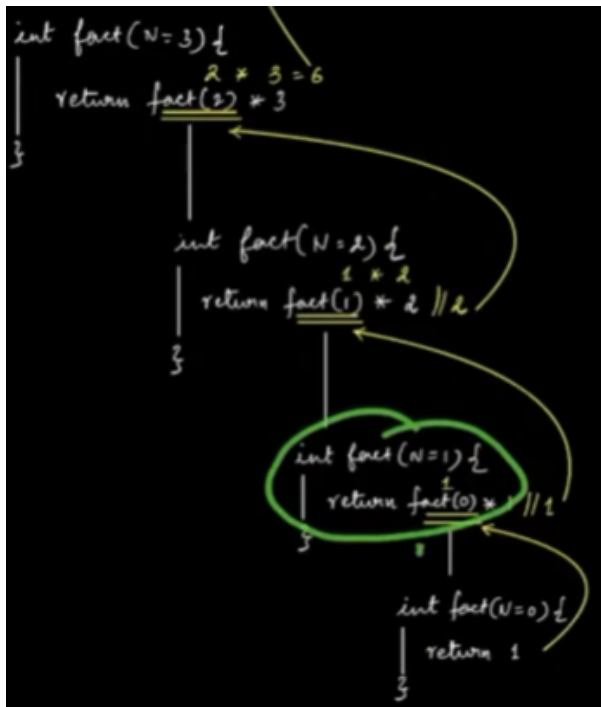
```
Int factorial(int N){  
    .....  
}
```

Main Logic: Try to break the problem

$$N! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4 * 5 * 6 * 7 * \dots * (N-1) * N$$

Base Condition:

When $N == 1$, return 1;



Problem 2: Fibonacci Series / Sequence

Write a function to compute Nth Fibonacci

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | ... |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 13 | |

1) **Given N**, the function will calculate Nth Fib and return

```
int fib(int N){
    .....
}
```

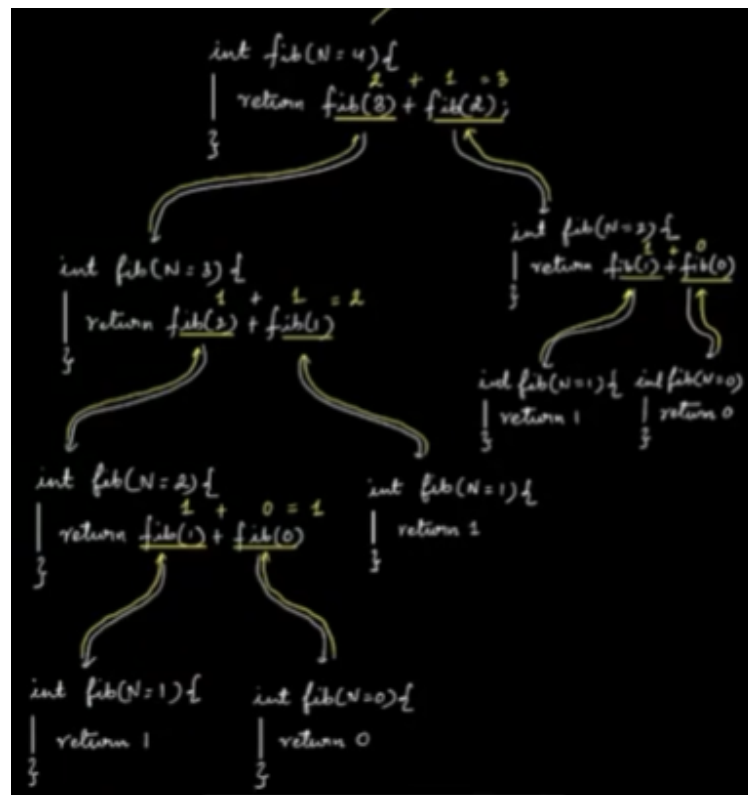
2) **Main Logic**,

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

3) **Base Condition**

```
If (N == 0 || N == 1){
    return N;
}
```

Function Call Trace:



Problem 3:

Given 2 integers a and N. Find a^N using Recursion.

1) **Assumption:** given a and N, the function will calculate and return a^N .

```
int pow(int a, int N){
```

```
.....
```

```
}
```

2) **Main Logic:**

$a^N = a * a * \dots * a$ (N times)

Approach 1) $a * \text{pow}(a, N-1)$;

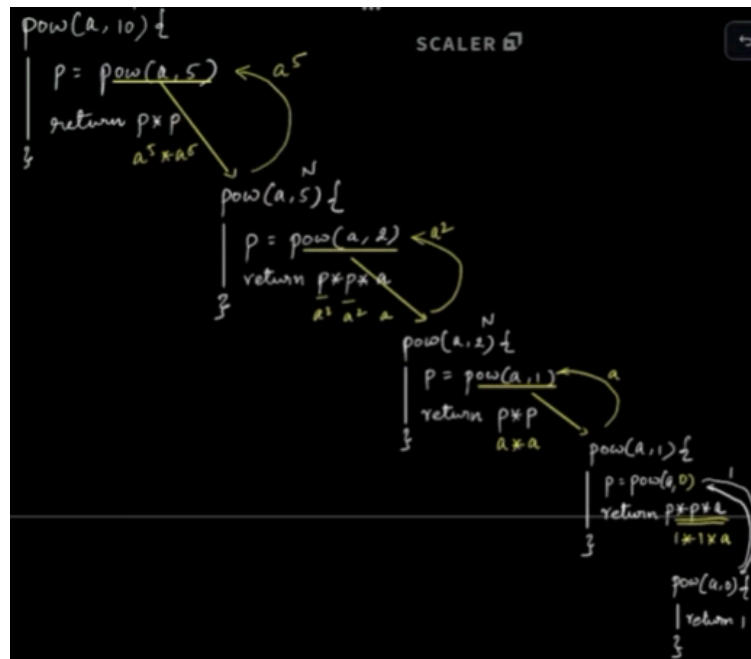
Approach 2)

```
if(N % 2 == 0) {
    |    $a^N = a^{N/2} * a^{N/2}$ 
    |
    }
else {
    |    $a^N = a^{N/2} * a^{N/2} * a$ 
    |
    }
```

3) **Base Condition:**

```
if(N == 0){
    return 1;
}
```

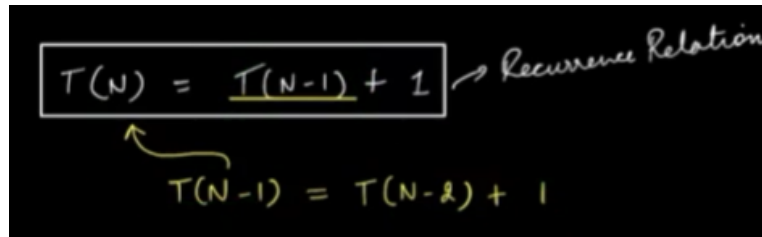
Function Call Stack:



Time Complexity For Recursive Function

- Use the substitution method to find the recursive Functions.

1. For Factorial:


$$T(N) = T(N-1) + 1 \rightarrow \text{Recurrence Relation}$$
$$T(N-1) = T(N-2) + 1$$

$$T(N) = T(N-1) + 1$$

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

.....

.....

$$T(N) = T(N-K) + K$$

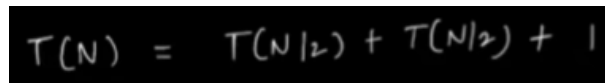
$$T(0) = 1$$

$$N-K = 0$$

$$K=N$$

$$T.c = O(N)$$

2. For Pow Function


$$T(N) = T(N/2) + T(N/2) + 1$$

$$T(N) = 2[T(N/2)] + 1;$$

$$T(N/2) = 2[2T(N/4) + 1] + 1 = 4T(N/4) + 3$$

.....

$$= 8T(N/8) + 7$$

.....

$$\text{Generalized Eqn : } T(N) = 2^K[T(N/2^K) + (2^K - 1)]$$

$$N/2^K = 1$$

$$N = 2^K$$

$$K = \log N$$

$$T.c = O(\log N)$$

• Generalized Definition Of Time Complexity

Time Complexity = No of Function Calls * Time Taken in a Single Function Call.