



Recursion - when a function calls itself directly / indirectly we call it recursion.

if solution of bigger problem

depends on

solution of smallest problem of same type

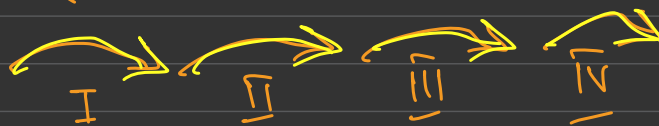
then we can apply recursion

important thing to understand is to solve one case and the rest would be taken care by recursion.



src

one step



single step



dest

$$\text{step}(4) = 1 + \text{step}(3)$$

bigger problem

depends on

smaller problem

} of same type

Mathematical Problem Statement

Ex: 1. $\text{solve}(n) \longrightarrow \text{find } 2^n$

if $\text{solve}(n) = 2^n$

then $\text{solve}(n-1) = 2 \times 2^{n-1}$

∴

$$\boxed{\text{solve}(n) = 2 \times \text{solve}(n-1)}$$

bigger problem

smaller problem
of same type

2. $\text{solve}(n)$ — print counting from n to 1

$\text{solve}(n) = n, (n-1, n-2, n-3, \dots, 1)$

if $\text{solve}(n) = (n \rightarrow 1)$ print counting

then $\text{solve}(n-1) = (n-1 \rightarrow 1)$

This would then be

$$\boxed{\text{solve}(n) = n, \text{solve}(n-1)}$$

Factorial

$$5! = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1$$

$$\text{fact}(5) = 5!$$

$$\text{fact}(5) = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1$$

$$\text{fact}(4) = 4 * 3 * 2 * 1$$

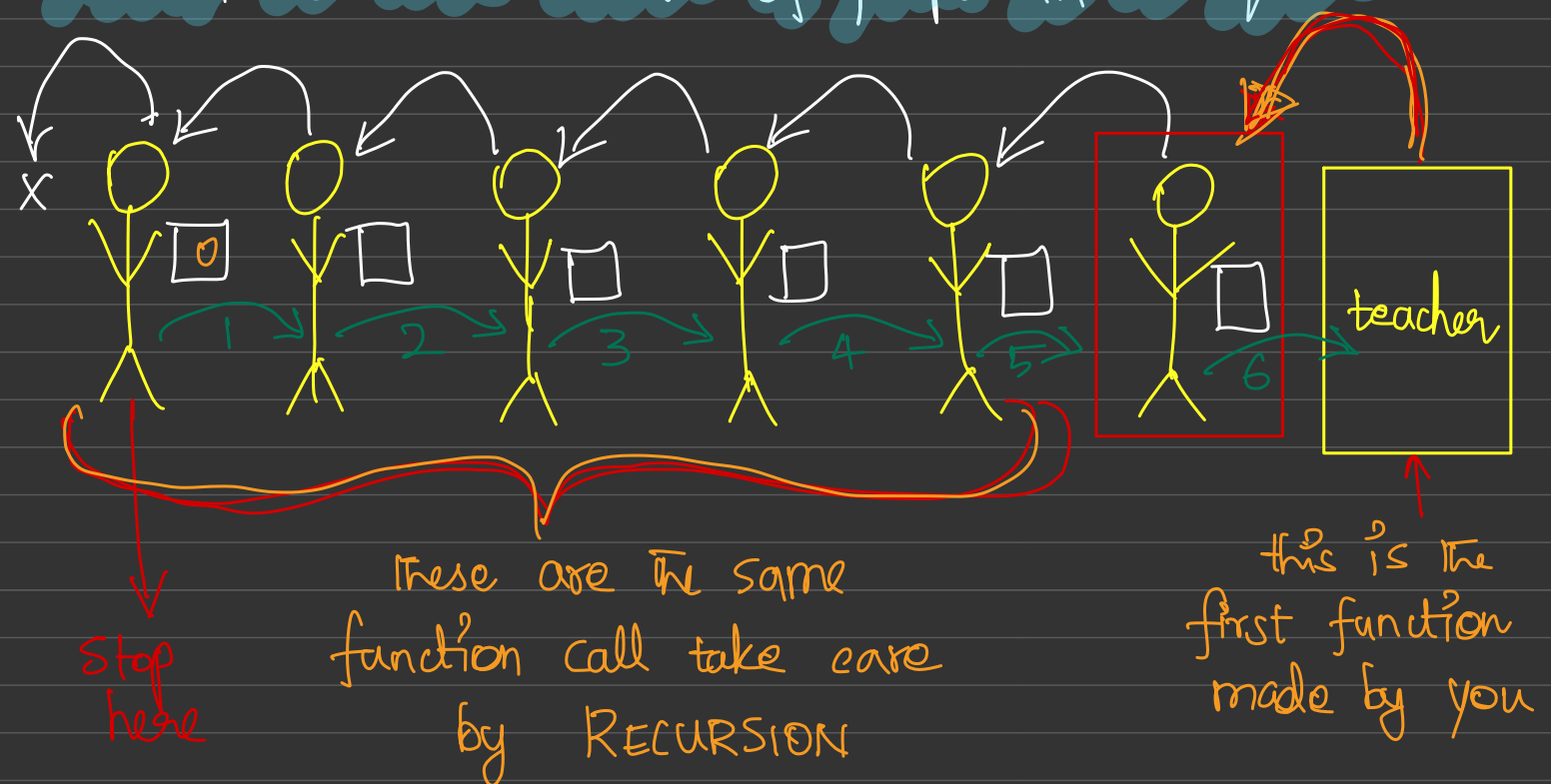
$$\therefore \text{fact}(5) = 5 * \text{fact}(4)$$

bigger problem

depends on

Smaller problem
of same type.

Problem to count number of people in the queue



Rules:

1. If someone is present behind a person pass the paper.
2. If no one present then stop passing the paper.
3. Person standing behind will pass the paper back to the person standing in front of him by adding 1.

Recursion

- Base case - mandatory
- Recursive call - mandatory
- Processing → Optional

```
int fact (int N) {  
    if (N == 0 || N == 1) {  
        return 1;  
    }  
    int temp = fact (N-1);  
    return N * temp;  
}
```

} Base case

} Recursive call

Processing
multiplication or addition etc.

fact(5) $\Rightarrow n=5$

```
if (n==0 || n==1) false
return 1;
int secAns = fact(n-1);
int finalAns = n * secAns;
return finalAns;
```

24
5 * 24 = 120

fact(4) $\Rightarrow n=4$

```
if (n==0 || n==1) false
return 1;
int secAns = fact(n-1);
int finalAns = n * secAns;
return finalAns;
```

6
4 * 6 = 24

fact(3) $\Rightarrow n=3$

```
if (n==0 || n==1) false
return 1;
int secAns = fact(n-1);
int finalAns = n * secAns;
return finalAns;
```

2
3 * 2 = 6

fact(1) $\Rightarrow n=1$

```
if (n==0 || n==1) true
return 1;
int secAns = fact(n-1);
int finalAns = n * secAns;
return finalAns;
```

fact(2) $\Rightarrow n=2$

```
if (n==0 || n==1) false
return 1;
int secAns = fact(n-1);
int finalAns = n * secAns;
return finalAns;
```

1
2 * 1 = 2

120

Print counting from N to 1 using recursion

```
void printCounting(int N){
```

```
    if (N==1) {
```

```
        System.out.println(N);
```

```
        return;
```

} Base case

```
//output: 5 4 3 2 1 }
```

```
    System.out.println(N);
```

} Processing

```
    printCounting(N-1);
```

} Recursive relation.

```
}
```

If a function ends with a recursive relation, that is called as a **tail recursion**.

if we change the ordering, where the recursion relation is called we get a different output.

```
void printCounting(int N){
```

```
    if (N==1) {
```

```
        System.out.println(N);
```

```
    } return;
```

//output: 1 2 3 4 5

```
    printCounting(N-1);
```

```
    System.out.println(N-1);
```

```
}
```

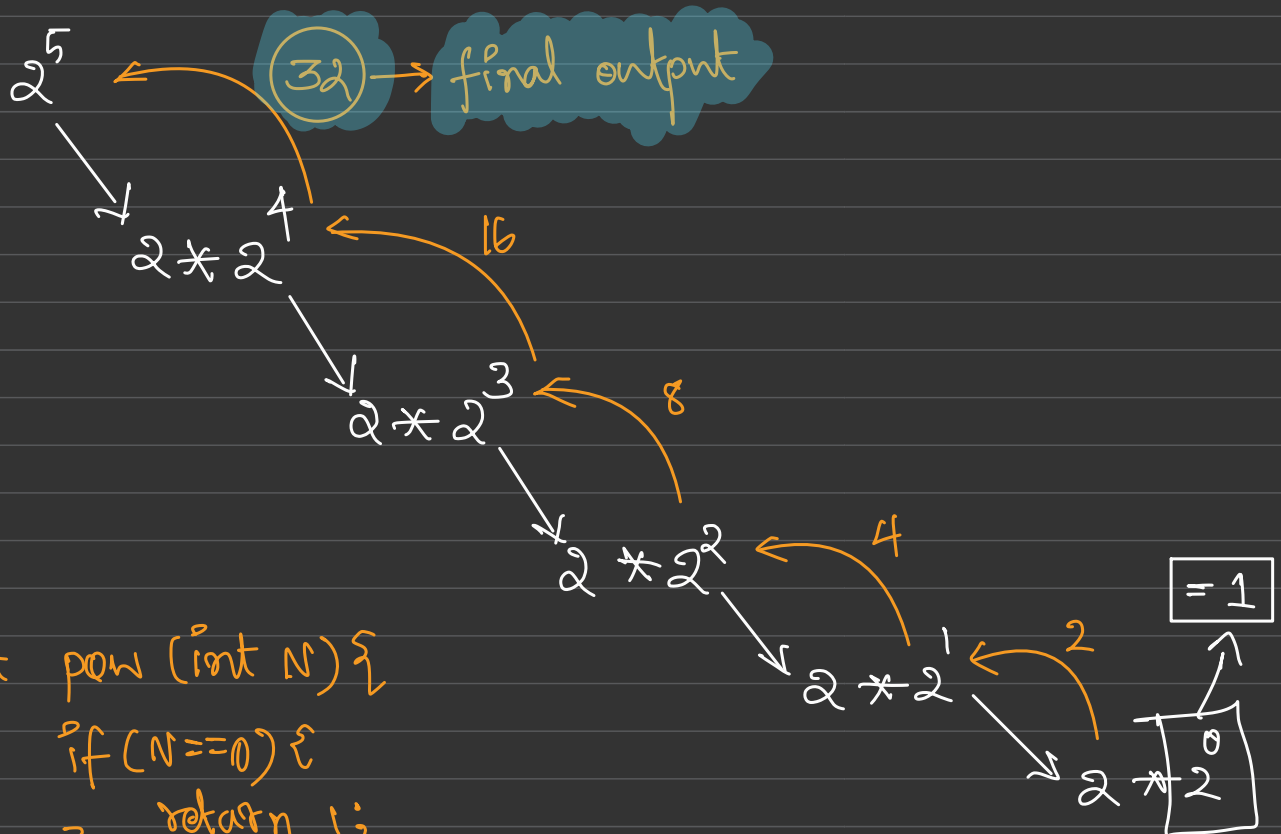
If a function has a recursive relation first and the processing comes later then it is called a **head recursion**.

Find the value of 2^N .

$$\text{pow}(N) = 2^N$$

$$\text{pow}(N) = 2 * 2^{N-1}$$

$$\text{pow}(N) = 2 * \text{pow}(N-1);$$



```
int pow(int N) {  
    if (N == 0) {  
        return 1;  
    }  
    int temp = pow(N-1);  
    return 2 * temp;  
}
```


Fibonacci Series



find n^{th} term in a fibonacci series

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

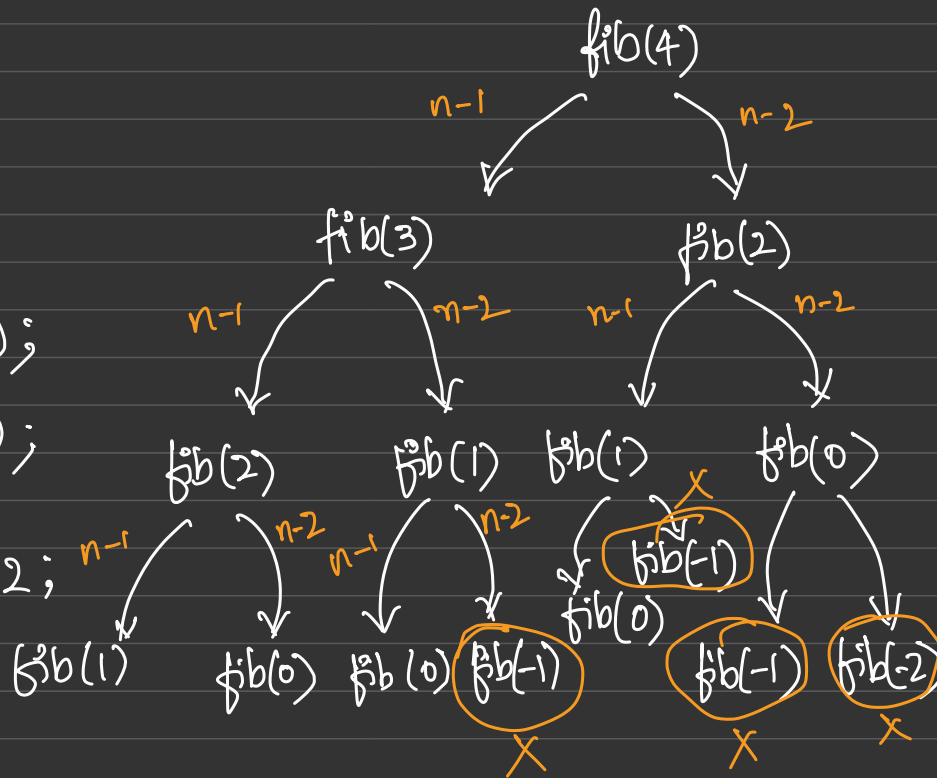
RECURSIVE RELATION

if $(n == 0)$
return 0;
if $(n == 1)$
return 1;

BASE CASE

code:

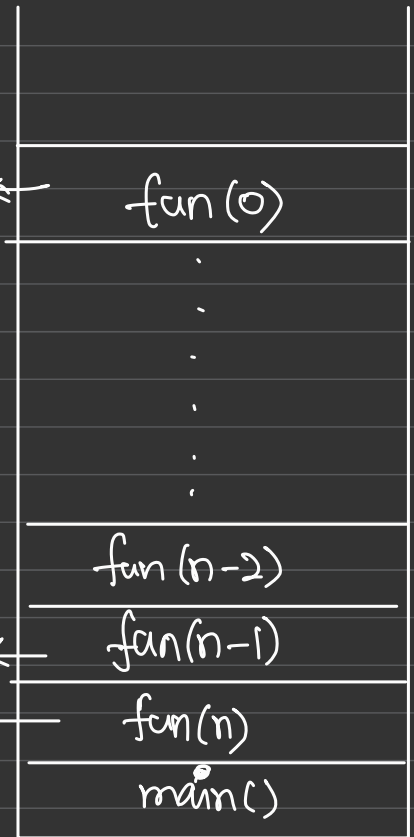
```
int fib(int n) {
    if (n == 0) return 0;
    if (n == 1) return 1;
    int ans1 = fib(n-1);
    int ans2 = fib(n-2);
    return ans1 + ans2;
}
```



Time & Space Complexity of Recursive Solutions

```
main() {  
    fun(n);  
    return 0;  
}
```

```
fun(int n) {  
    //base case  
    if (n == 0)  
        return;  
    //processing  
    int a, b, c;  
    fun(n-1);  
}
```



For every recursive call memory is allocated in the stack until we hit

K processing
m bytes allocated
K processing
m bytes allocated

the base case. Once base case is hit we unwind the stack.

STACK

Print array recursively (linear traversal of an array)

```
void printArray (int [] arr, int n) {  
    if (n == 0) return;  
    System.out.println(n);  
    printArray (arr + 1, n-1);  
}
```

Since time complexity is the time taken by any algorithm with respect to input n , we will consider only n in the recursive relation.

Formula Method:

i.e., $F(n) = K + F(n-1)$

↘ processing ↘ function called for $(n-1)$ times.

likewise, $F(n-1) = K + F(n-2)$

$F(n-2) = K + F(n-3)$

⋮

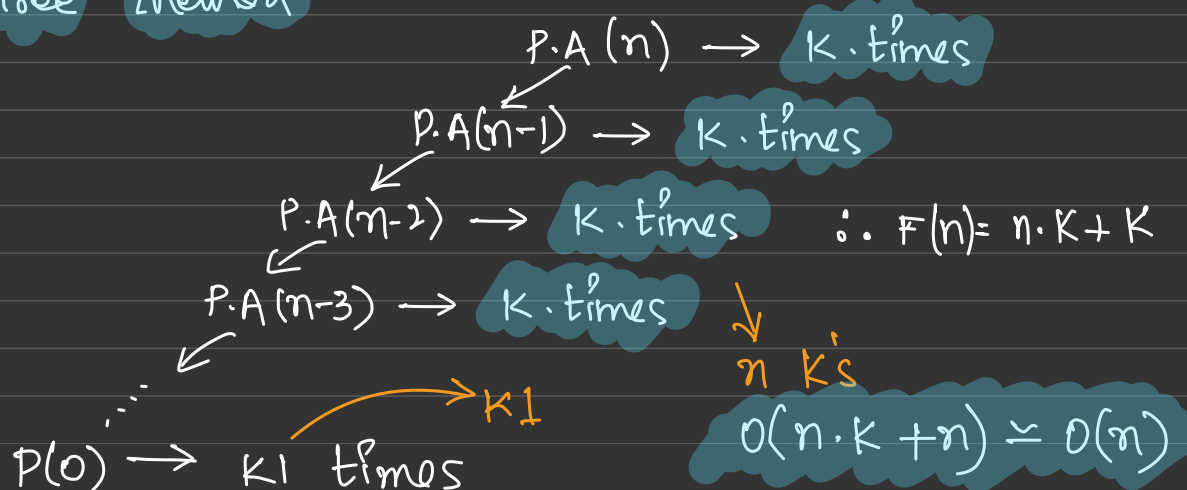
$F(1) = K + F(0)$

$F(0) = K_1 \rightarrow K_1$ because in base condition we don't call recursive relation.

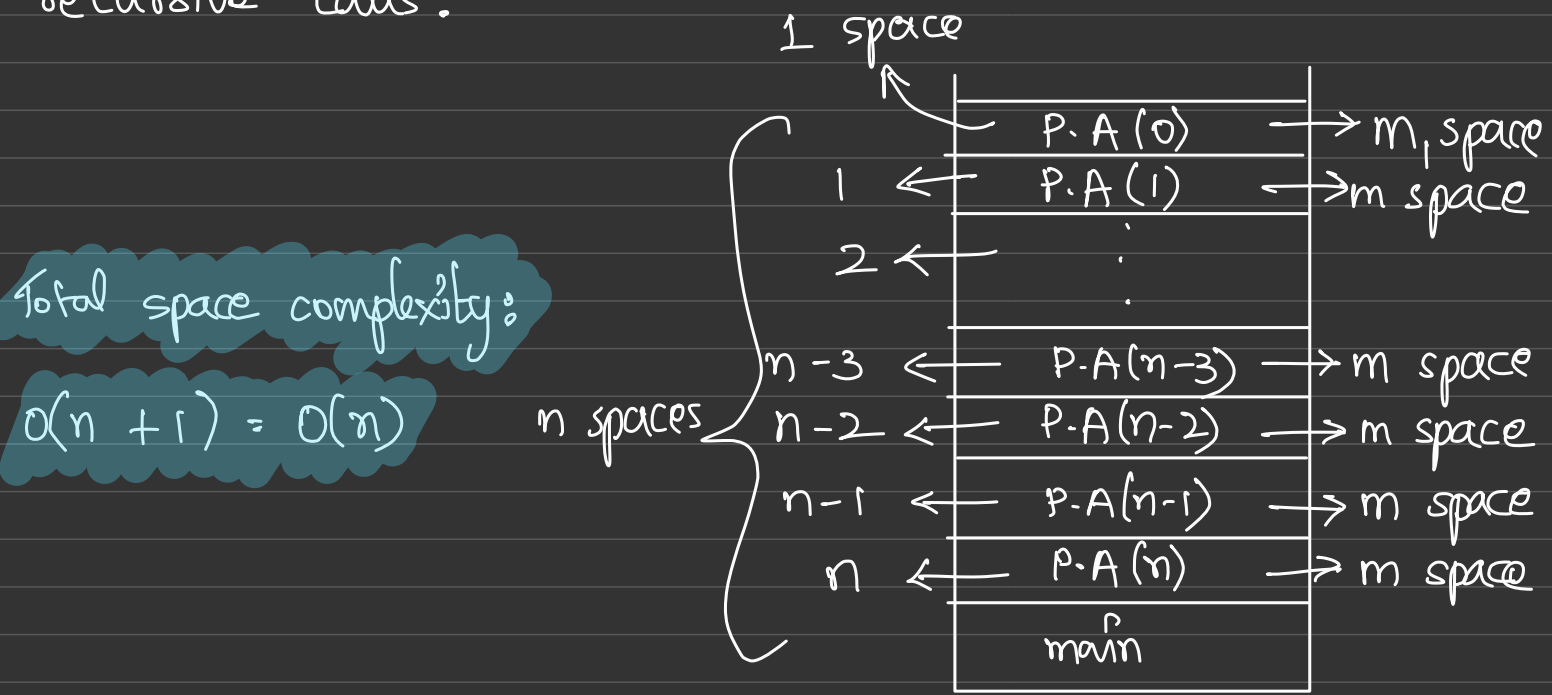
adding $\rightarrow F(n) = n \cdot K + K_1$

$O(n \cdot K + K_1) \approx O(n)$ time complexity using formula method.

Recursive Tree Method



when we use recursive relation on O.S level a call stack is maintained for all function calls allocated same amount of memory for every recursive calls.



Ex: Factorial of a number

```
int fact(int n) {
    if (n == 1)
        return 1;
    return n * fact(n-1);
}
```

$$F(n) = \underline{n} * F(n-1)$$

$$T(n) = K + \cancel{T(n-1)}$$

$$\cancel{T(n-1)} = K + \cancel{T(n-2)}$$

$$\cancel{T(n-2)} = K + \cancel{T(n-3)}$$

⋮

$$\cancel{T(1)} = K$$

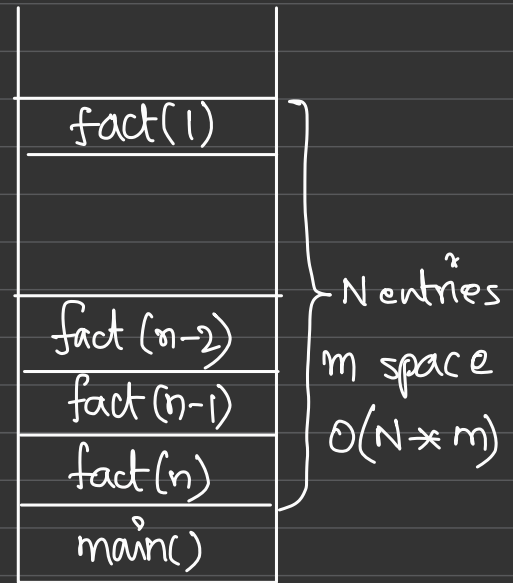
$$T(n) = n \cdot K$$

$$O(T(n)) = O(n \cdot K) = O(n) \text{ time complexity}$$

Space complexity of factorial

$O(N \times m)$ \rightarrow constant

space complexity = $O(N)$



Binary Search using recursion

```
int bsr (int[] a, int k, int start, int end) {
```

```
    if (start > end)
```

```
        return -1;
```

```
    int mid = start + (end - start) / 2;
```

```
    if (a[mid] == k)
```

```
        return mid;
```

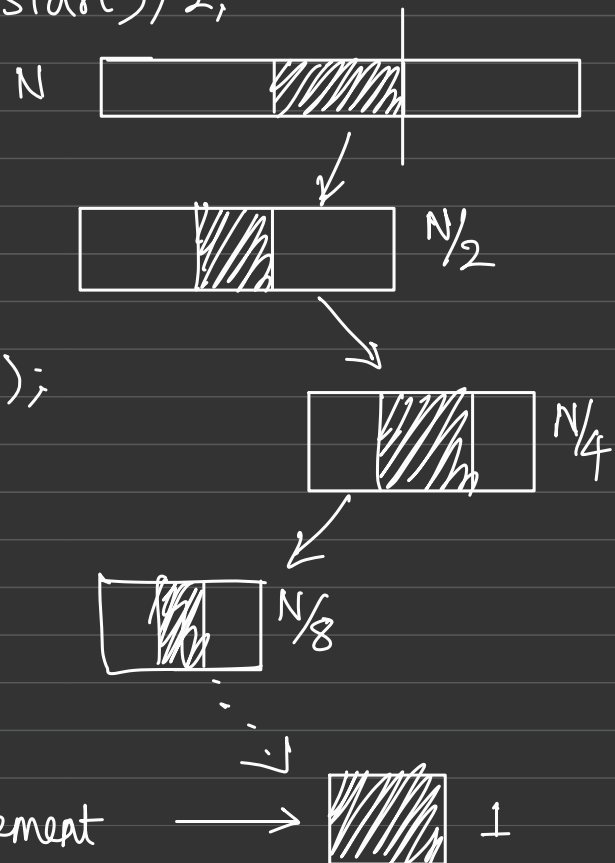
```
    else if (k > a[mid]) {
```

```
        bsr(a, k, mid + 1, end);
```

```
    else
```

```
        bsr(a, k, start, mid - 1);
```

```
}
```



$$F(n) = K + F(n/2)$$

\swarrow processing \searrow reducing input by half everytime

$$T(n) = K + T(n/2)$$

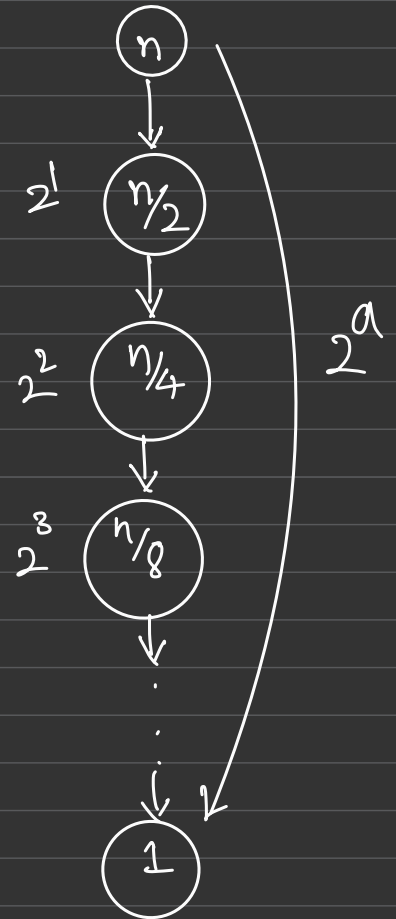
$$T(n/2) = K + T(n/4)$$

$$T(n/4) = K + T(n/8)$$

$$T(2) = K + T(1)$$

$$T(1) = K$$

$$T(n) = a * K$$



To reduce to one sized input we require 2^a operations because everytime we divide by 2^a

$$\therefore \frac{n}{2^a} = 1 \rightarrow \text{size of the array when we reduce array elements } (n) \text{ by half } (1/2^a) \text{ everytime}$$

$$n = 2^a$$

$$a = \log_2 n$$

$$T(n) = \log n * K$$

\searrow constant will be ignored

$$\therefore T(n) = \log n \Rightarrow O(T(n)) = O(\log n)$$

time complexity

space complexity

we recursively call the same function again & again.

$$a = \log n$$

$$K * \log(n)$$

$$O(T(n)) = O(k \cdot \log n)$$

$O(n) = O(\log n)$ space complexity

$\text{bsr}(1)$	$n/2^a = 1 - k$ space
\vdots	
$\text{bsr}(n/8)$	$n/8 - k$ space
$\text{bsr}(n/4)$	$n/4 - k$ space
$\text{bsr}(n/2)$	$n/2 - k$ space
$\text{bsr}(n)$	$n - k$ space
$\text{main}()$	

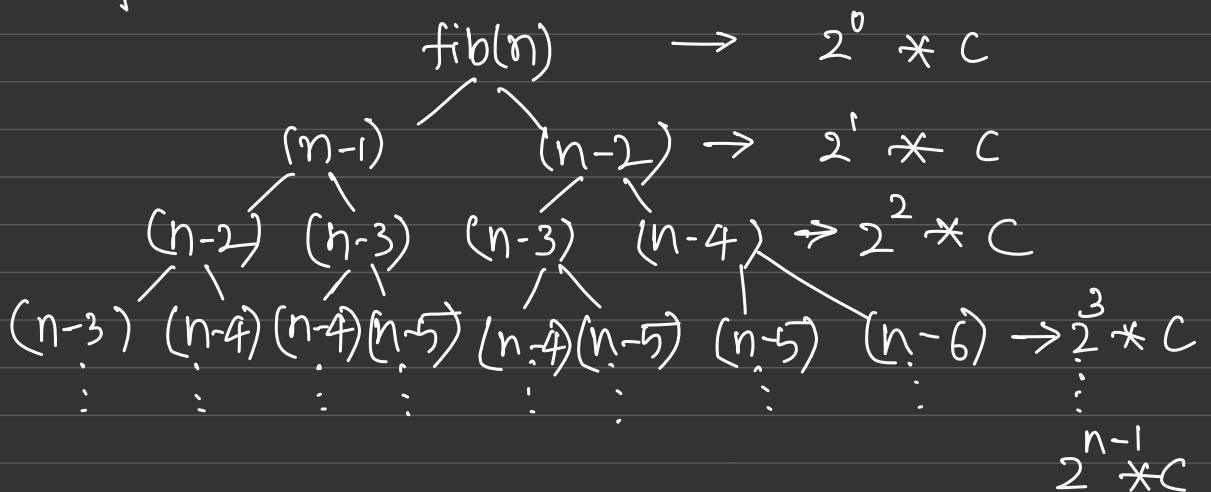
Fibonacci series recursive algorithm

```
int fib(int n){
    if (n==0 || n==1) } c time for processing
        return n;
```

```

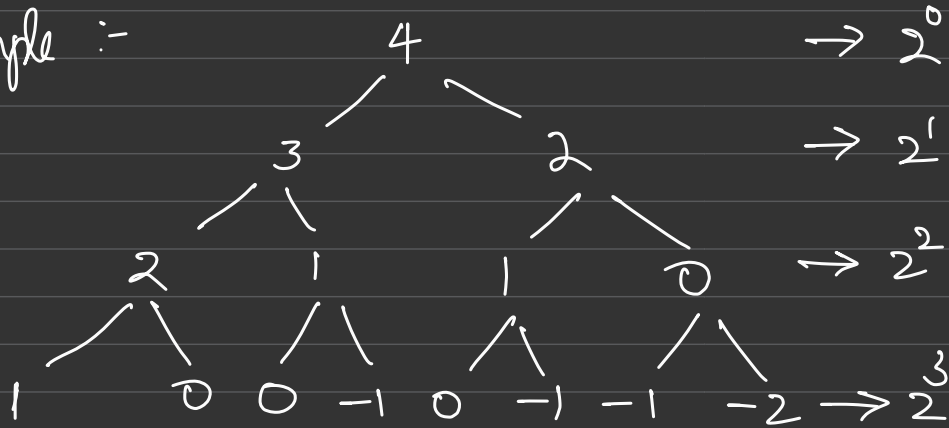
    return fib(n-1) + fib(n-2);
}
    fib(n)

```



why 2^{n-1} ?

Example :-



for $n=4$, we go till 2^3 or 2^{n-1}

$$T(n) \leq 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + \textcircled{2^3}$$

we are not having all the nodes in 2^3 level because of negatives hence we say \leq

$$\therefore T(n) \leq 2^0 * C + 2^1 * C + 2^2 * C + 2^3 * C$$

$$T(n) \leq C(2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{n-1})$$

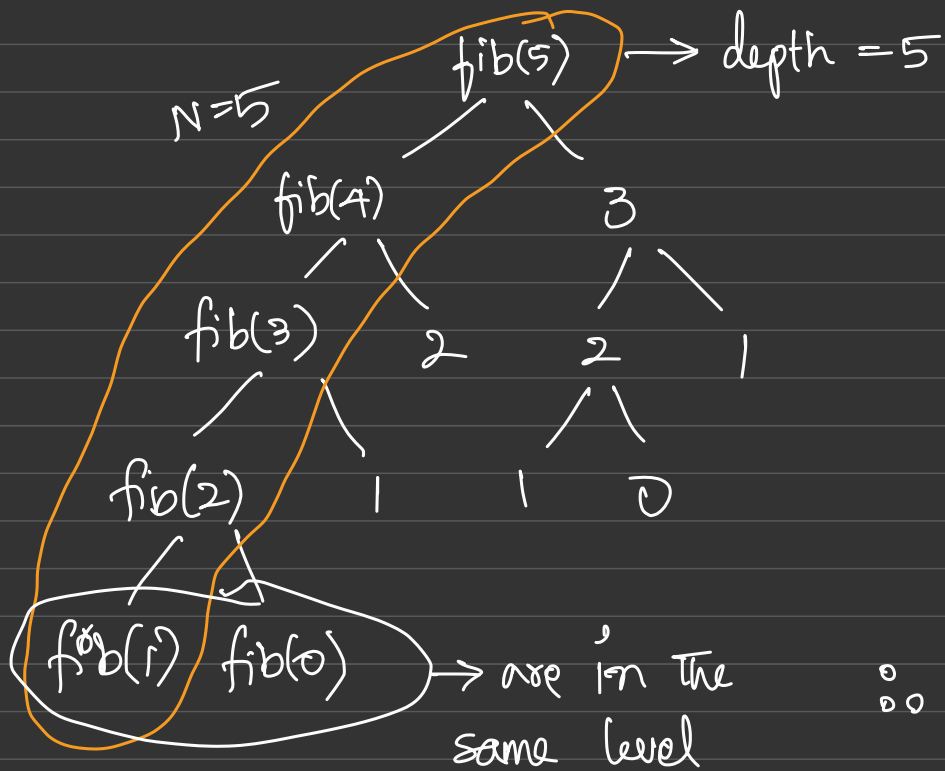
$$T(n) \leq C(2^n - 1)$$

$$\boxed{T(n) \leq 2^n - 1}$$

geometric series

$T(n) = O(2^n)$ for upper bound

space complexity of fibonacci



$\text{fib}(1)$
$\text{fib}(2)$
$\text{fib}(3)$
$\text{fib}(4)$
$\text{fib}(5)$
main

∴

S.C $\Rightarrow O(n)$