

Bytecode – cont'd

**Last time:** For **local variables**,

- class file doesn't use the names
- compiler translates names into indexes
- used only in their own class

**Today:** For **methods** (and also for **instance & class variables**),

- potentially used in other classes too
- remember that classes are compiled separately → compiler doesn't know addresses in other classes
- hence, the .class file must keep the names = symbolic references

# Runtime constant pool

- One for each class; contains read-only constants used in the class
  - E.g. numeric, string
  - Symbolic references of method & its class
  - Types (of parameters, and return values)
- Each pool entry has an index: 0, 1, 2, ...
- Each frame, in its “other stuff”, includes pointer to constant pool for its class

# Static method calls

(non-static in the next lecture)

invokestatic 2-byte index



Used as index into constant pool of the  
class of method currently being executed



Constant pool entry is a symbolic  
reference to class & method

JVM uses these to find address of class, then  
the size needed for new frame + address of  
bytecode for method.

# Static method calls

bytecode 

invokestatic	2-byte index
--------------	--------------

constant pool entry 

symbolic references
---------------------

---

class of called method
bytecode for called method

## Method return

Static or  
non-static

For void methods  
return

- Throw away current frame
- Carry on executing using caller's frame  
(Its PC shows where it was when it made the method call.)

## Method return

For methods that return a result

e.g. `i`return

int result is popped from operand stack  
and pushed onto caller's operand stack

Other types

`l`return    `f`return    `d`return    `a`return

long

float

double

ref

Then do the return as on previous slide.

## e.g. recursive factorial

```
/**
 * Calculate factorial.
 * requires: 0 <= n
 * @param n number whose factorial is
 *         to be calculated
 * @return factorial of n
 */
public static int fact(int n){
    if (n==0){
        return 1;
    } else {
        return n*fact(n-1);
    }
}
```

$$n! = n \times \overbrace{(n-1) \times \dots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}^{(n-1)!}$$



Recursion — When a method calls itself

- More about recursion later
  - and how to write recursive methods

For now:

Example shows how methods use frames

It also shows how frames save pc & local variables

— so recursion works OK.

## Frame for fact

One parameter (n)

No other local variables

How big an operand stack?

Most complicated calculation  
 $n * \text{fact}(n-1)$

Reverse Polish:

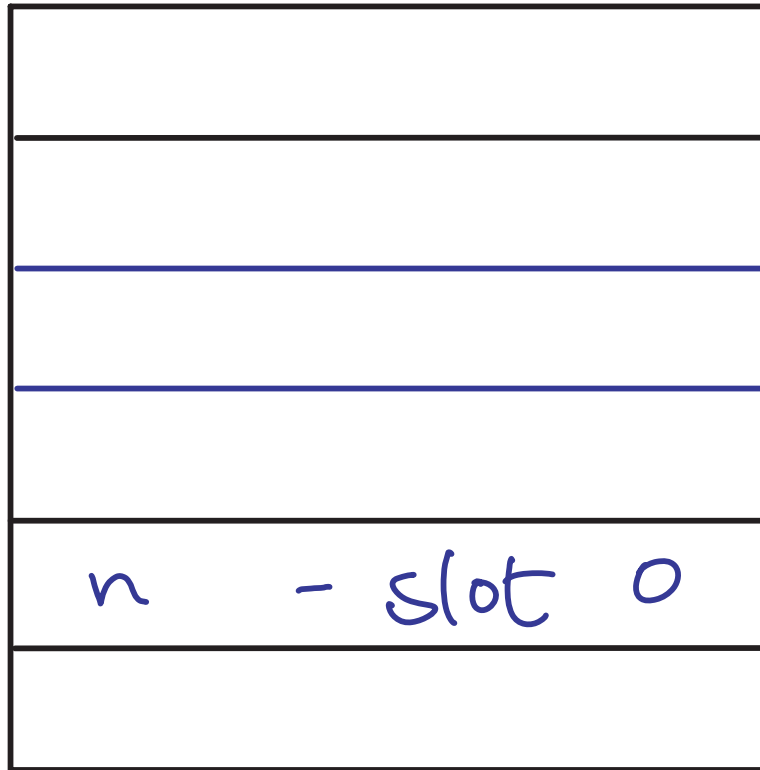
stack

n	n	1	-	fact	*
n	n	1	n-1	fact(n-1)	n * fact(n-1)
	n	n	n		
		n			

max depth = 3

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

# Frame for fact



} operand stack  
Initially empty  
Space for  
3 ints

Local variable  
one int

# javap disassembler

"disassembler" -  
converts byte code  
to mnemonics

Command `javap` can be applied to a  
.class file and displays its structure

e.g.

maybe don't need this

`javap -classpath . -c Factorial`  
look in current folder    show bytecode    disassembles Factorial.class

Option `-l` gives table of local variables

# Bytecode in mnemonics

```
public static int fact(int);
```

Code:

Addresses  
in decimal

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

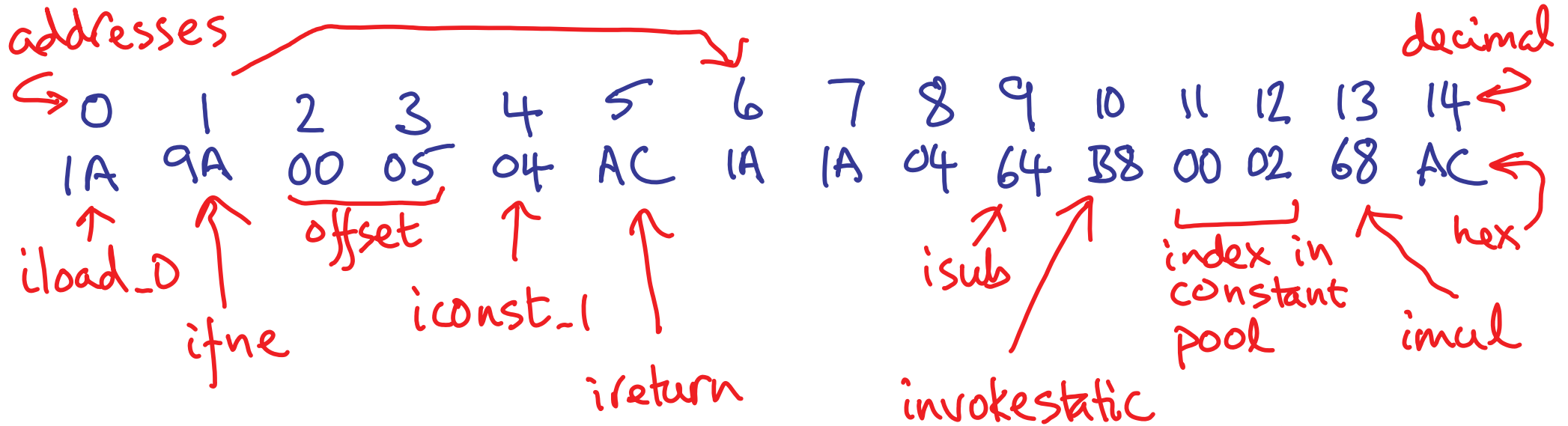
9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

14: ireturn

# Bytecode in bytes



Conditional jump is from address 1 (ifne) to 6 (iload\_0).  $\therefore$  offset = 5

Mnemonics show absolute address 6

We're not going to use these opcodes. But they are what a .class file is really made of.

# What bytecode does what java?

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload_0	public static int fact(int n){
1: ifne 6	if (n==0){
4: iconst_1	return 1;
5: ireturn	} else {
6: iload_0	return n*fact(n-1);
7: iload_0	}
8: iconst_1	}
9: isub	
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I	
13: imul	
14: ireturn	

# What bytecode does what java?

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0  
1: ifne 6  
4: iconst\_1  
5: ireturn  
6: iload\_0  
7: iload\_0  
8: iconst\_1  
9: isub  
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I  
13: imul  
14: ireturn

Why do they all start with i?



# What bytecode does what java?

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

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5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

14: ireturn

— push variable 0, i.e. n

— conditional jump

— return integer

— push integer constant 1

— integer subtract

— call fact

— integer multiply

Why do they all start with i?

Mostly: shows int type for operation.

Exceptions: ifne, invokestatic

# What bytecode does what java?

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

9: isub

10: invokestatic

13: imul

14: ireturn

stack

n

empty

1

n

n, n

n, n, 1

n, n-1

#2; //Method fact:(I)I

$n \times \text{fact}(n-1)$

$n, \text{fact}(n-1)$

# What bytecode does what java?

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

14: ireturn

```
public static int fact(int n)
{
```

```
    if (n==0){
```

```
        return 1;
```

```
    } else {
```

```
        return n*fact(n-1);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

stack

n

empty

1

n

n, n

n, n, 1

n, n-1

#2; //Method fact:(I)I

n \* fact(n-1)

n, fact(n-1)

# Executing fact(2)

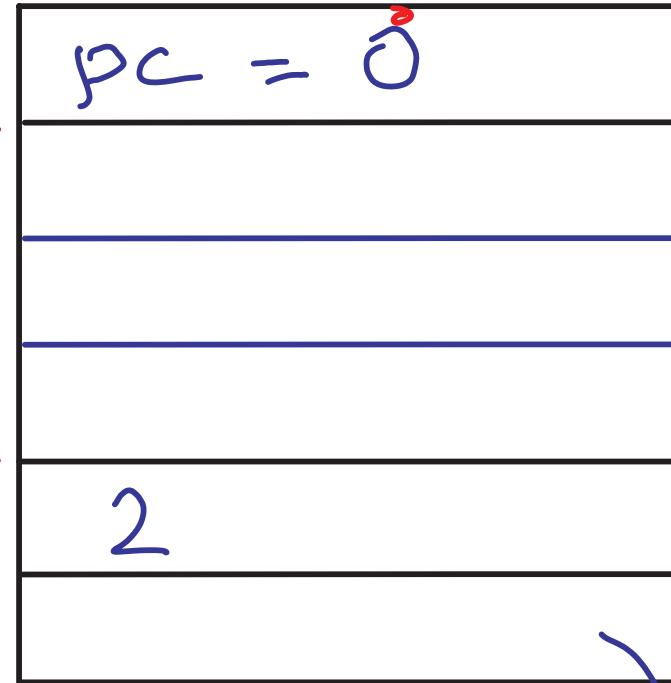
public static int fact(int);

Code:

→ 0: iload\_0  
1: ifne 6  
4: iconst\_1  
5: ireturn  
6: iload\_0  
7: iload\_0  
8: iconst\_1  
9: isub  
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I  
13: imul  
14: ireturn

operand  
stack

parameter  
index 0 →



n



# Executing fact(2)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

→ 1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

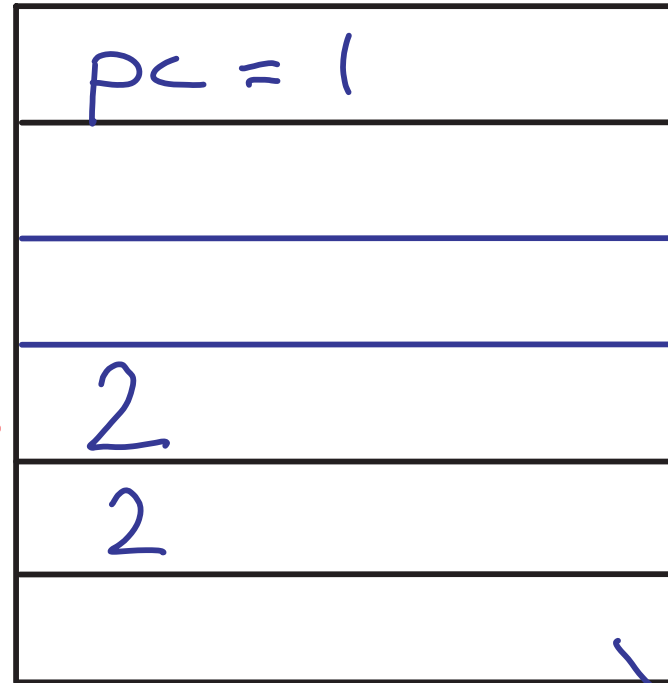
9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

14: ireturn

push n



n

frame  
for main

# Executing fact(2)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: ~~iconst\_1~~

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

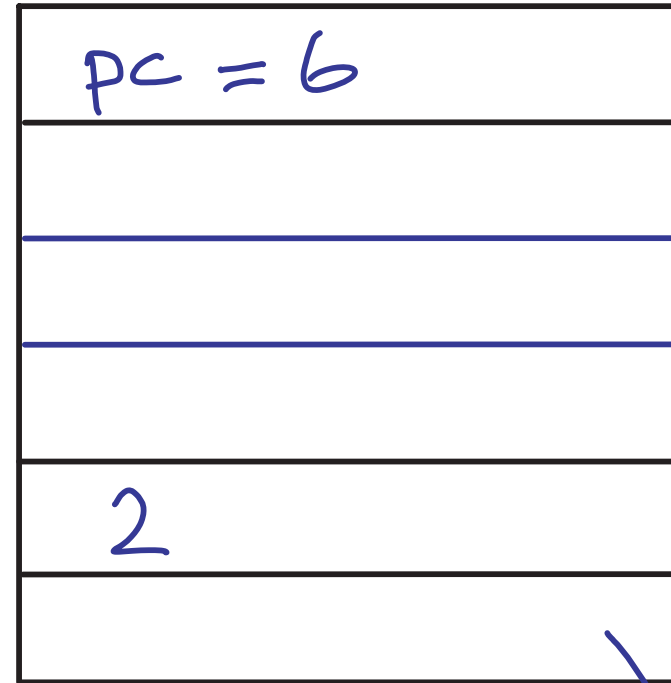
8: iconst\_1

9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

14: ireturn



n

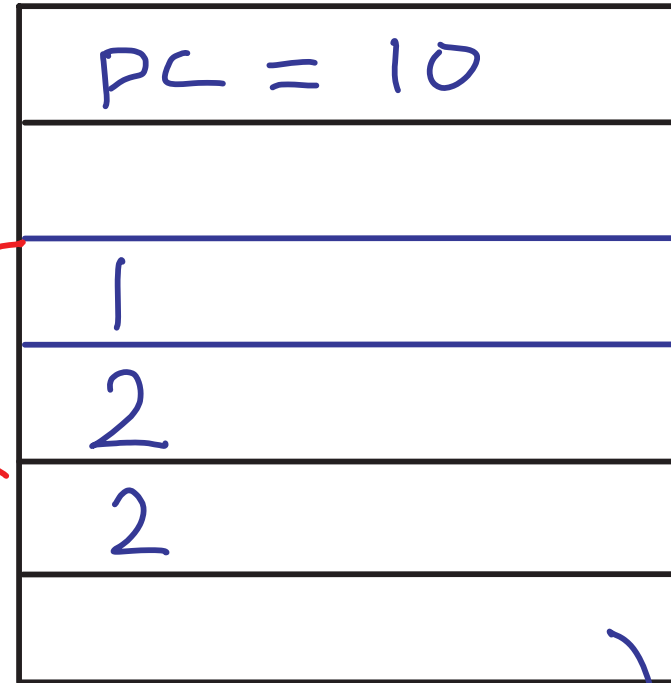
frame  
for main

# Executing fact(2)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

```
0: iload_0      2
1: ifne 6       empty
4: iconst_1
5: ireturn
6: iload_0      2
7: iload_0      2, 2
8: iconst_1     2, 2, 1
9: isub         2, 1
→ 10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I
13: imul
14: ireturn
```



n

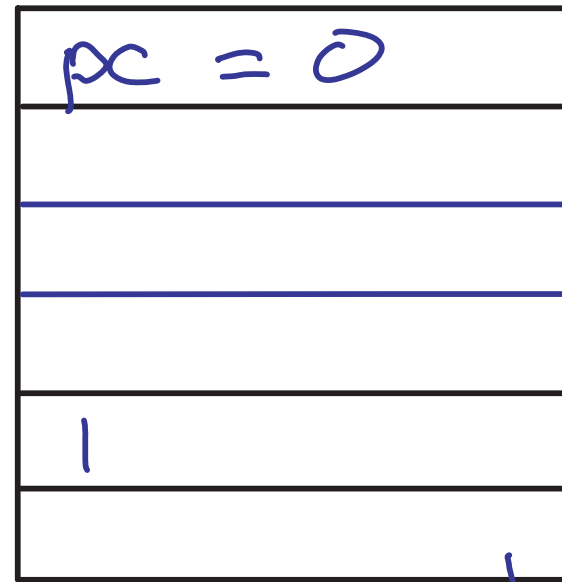
frame  
for main

# Recursive call fact(1)

public static int fact(int);

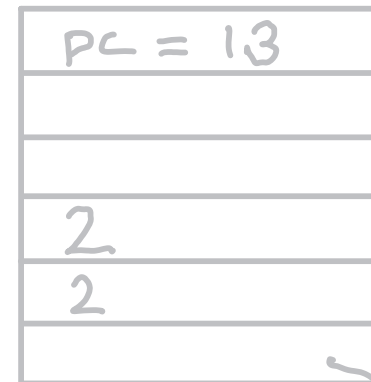
Code:

```
→ 0: iload_0  
1: ifne 6  
4: iconst_1  
5: ireturn  
6: iload_0  
7: iload_0  
8: iconst_1  
9: isub  
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I  
13: imul  
14: ireturn
```



fact(1)

n



fact(2)

n



Two frames for fact:  
one for each call



# Recursive call fact(1)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

9: isub

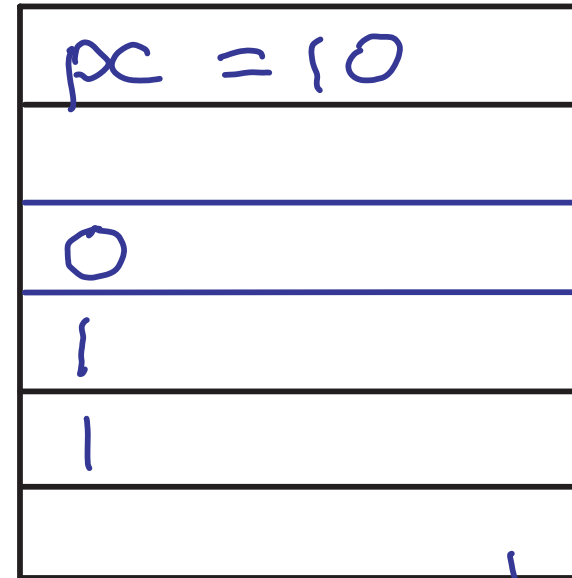
→ 10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

13: imul

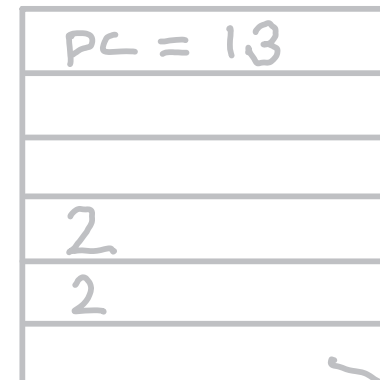
14: ireturn

1  
empty

1  
1, 1  
1, 1, 1  
1, 0



n



n



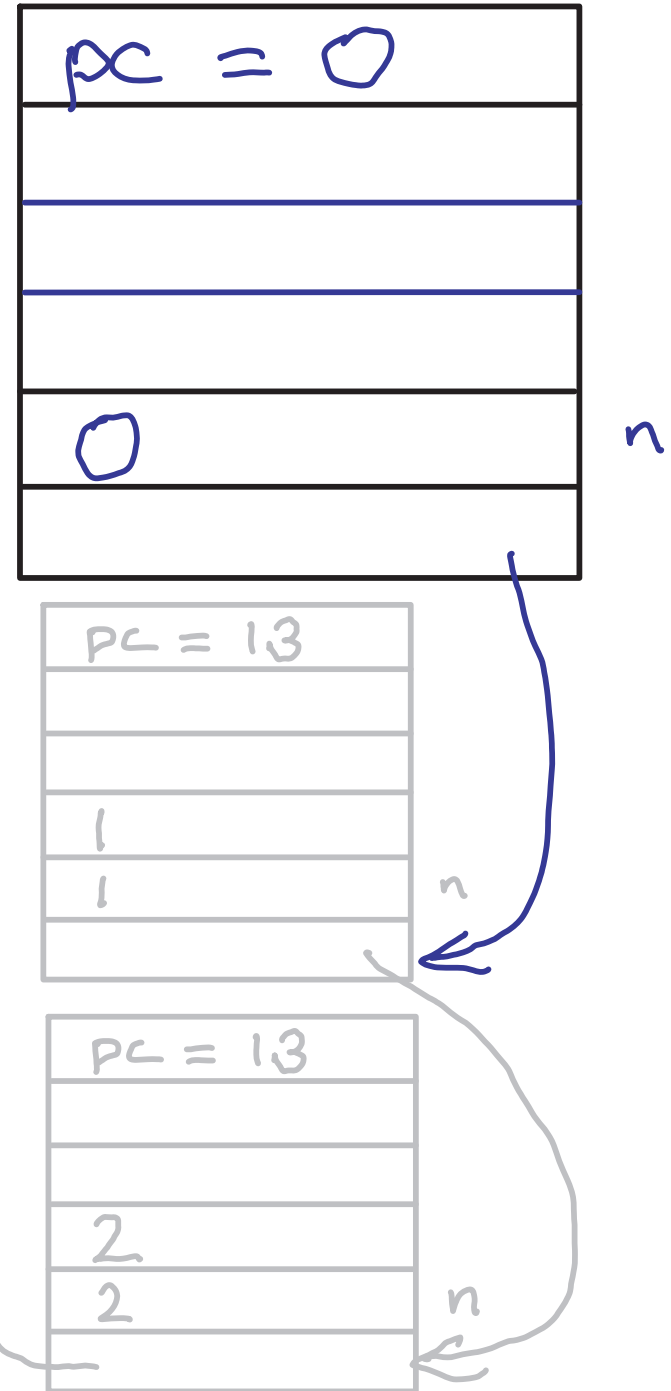
# Recursive call fact(0)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

```
→ 0: iload_0  
  1: ifne 6  
  4: iconst_1  
  5: ireturn  
  6: iload_0  
  7: iload_0  
  8: iconst_1  
  9: isub  
 10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I  
 13: imul  
 14: ireturn
```

frame  
for main



# Recursive call fact(0)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

→ 5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

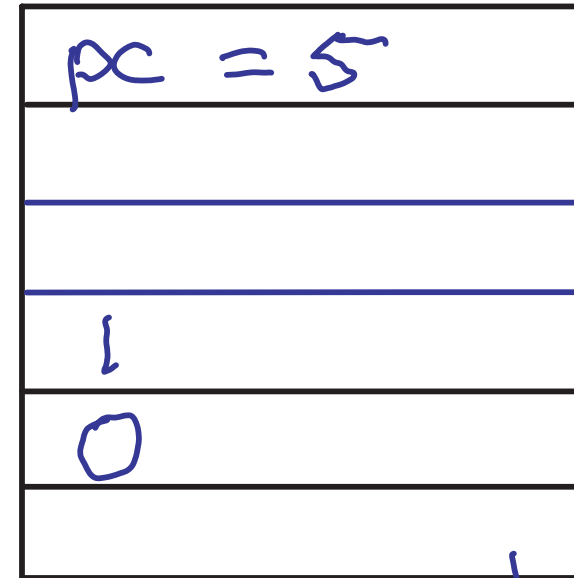
9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I

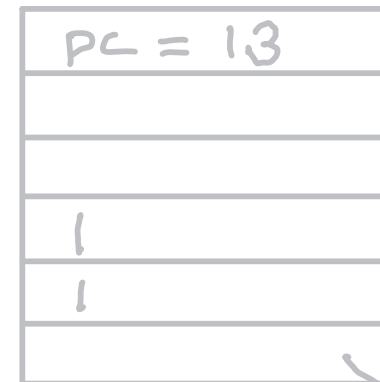
13: imul

14: ireturn

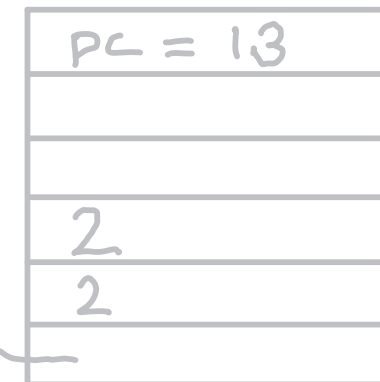
0  
empty  
1



n



n



n

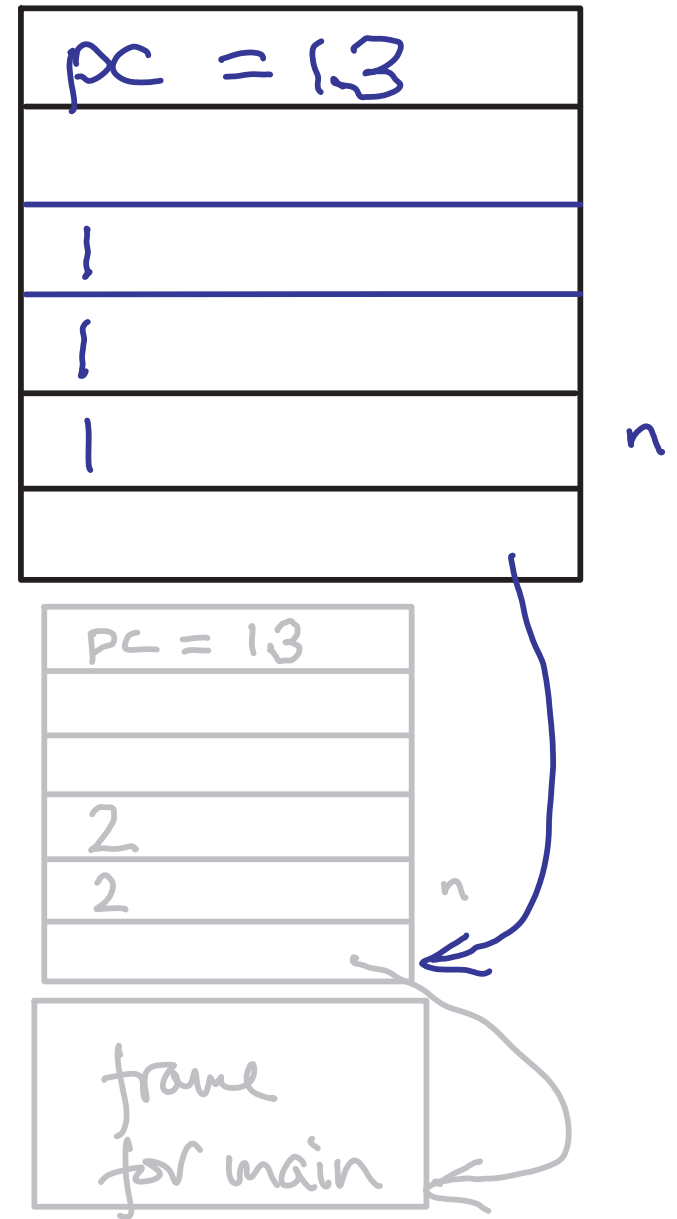
frame  
for main

# Return from fact(0)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

```
0: iload_0
1: ifne 6
4: iconst_1
5: ireturn
6: iload_0
7: iload_0
8: iconst_1
9: isub
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I
13: imul
14: ireturn
```



# Completing fact(1)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

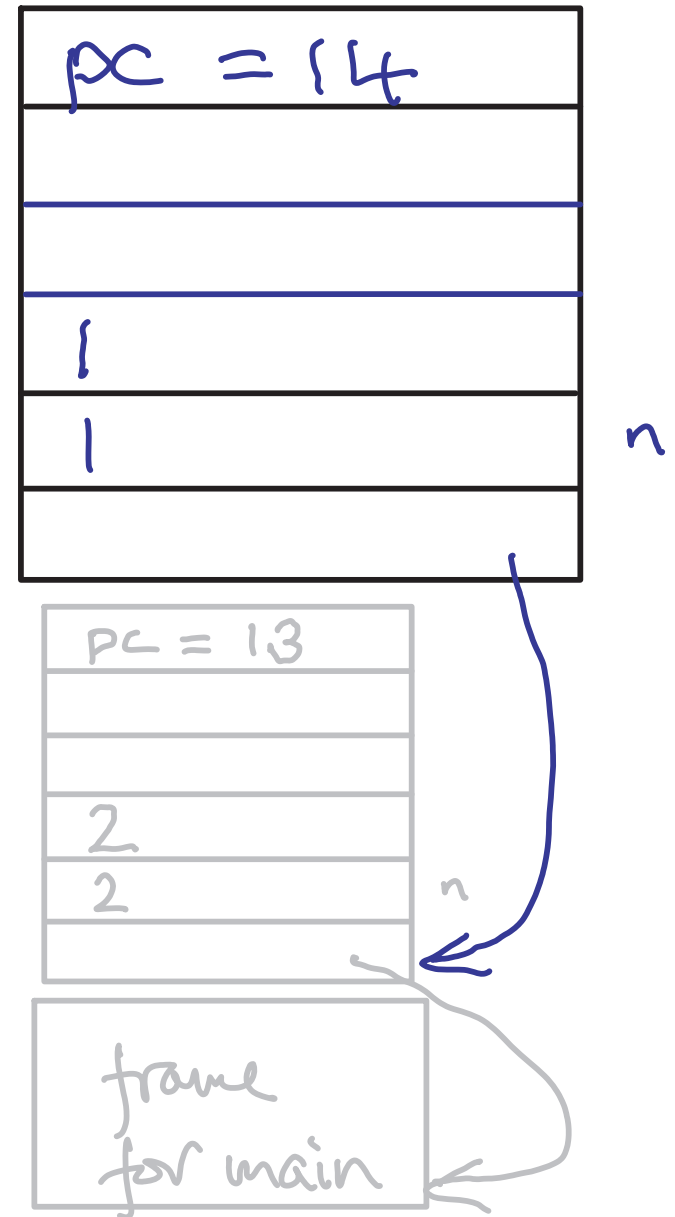
8: iconst\_1

9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I 1,1

13: imul 1

→ 14: ireturn

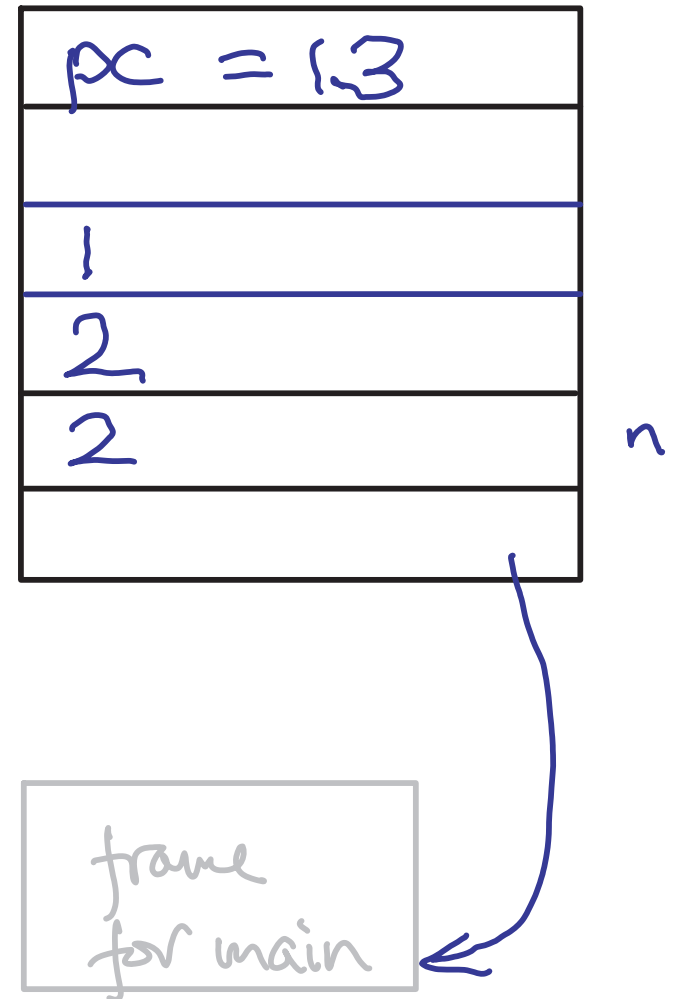


# Return from fact(1)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

```
0: iload_0
1: ifne 6
4: iconst_1
5: ireturn
6: iload_0
7: iload_0
8: iconst_1
9: isub
10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I
13: imul
14: ireturn
```



# Completing fact (2)

public static int fact(int);

Code:

0: iload\_0

1: ifne 6

4: iconst\_1

5: ireturn

6: iload\_0

7: iload\_0

8: iconst\_1

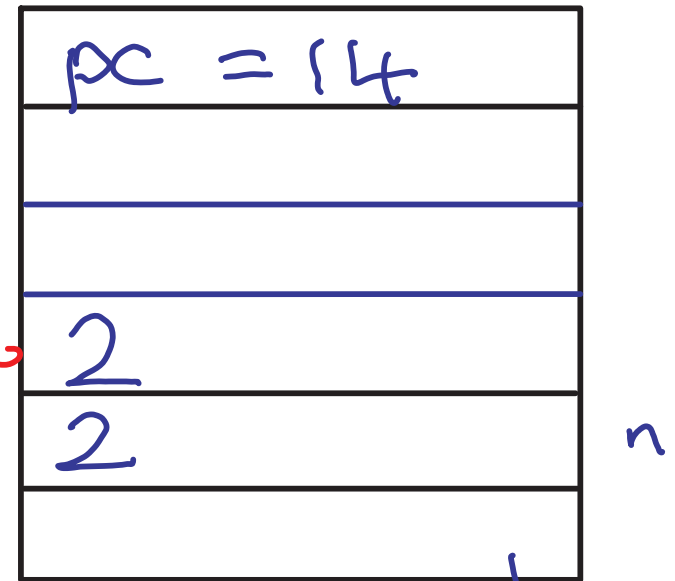
9: isub

10: invokestatic #2; //Method fact:(I)I 2,1

13: imul 2

→ 14: ireturn

result of  
fact(2)



frame  
for main