

14-0: Function (method) calls

- What happens when a function / method is called?
 - Create space on the stack to store parameters / local variables of the method (including implicit this parameter for methods)
 - Copy values of parameters onto the stack
 - Execute the body of the method / function

14-1: Function Call Example

```
static int plus(int a, int b)
{
    return a + b;
}

static void main(String args[])
{
    int x, y;
    x = plus(3,5);
    y = plus(plus(1,2), plus(3,4));
}
```

14-2: Function Call Example

```
static int add(int a, int b)    static void main(String args[])
{
    while (b > 0)
    {
        a++;
        b--;
    }
    return a;
}

static int multiply(int a, b)
{
    int result = 0;
    while (b > 0)
    {
        result = result + a;
        b--;
    }
}
```

14-3: Recursion

- The way function calls work give us a fantastic tool for solving problems
 - Make the problem slightly smaller
 - Solve the smaller problem *using the very function that we are writing*
 - Use the solution to the smaller problem to solve the original problem

14-4: Recursion

- What is a really easy (small!) version of the problem, that I could solve immediately? (Base case)
- How can I make the problem smaller?
- Assuming that I could magically solve the smaller problem, how could I use that solution to solve the original problem (Recursive Case)

14-5: Recursion

- Example: Factorial
 - $n! = n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * \dots * 3 * 2 * 1$
 - $5! = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 120$

- $8! = 8 * 7 * 6 * 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 40320$
- What is the base case? That is, a small, easy version of the problem that we can solve immediately?

14-6: Recursion – Factorial

- Example: Factorial
 - $n! = n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * \dots * 3 * 2 * 1$
- What is a small, easy version of the problem that we can solve immediately?
 - $1! == 1$.

14-7: Recursion – Factorial

- How do we make the problem smaller?
 - What's a smaller problem than $n!$?
 - (only a *little* bit smaller)

14-8: Recursion – Factorial

- How do we make the problem smaller?
 - What's a smaller problem than $n!$?
 - $(n - 1)!$
- If we could solve $(n - 1)!$, how could we use this to solve $n!$?

14-9: Recursion – Factorial

- How do we make the problem smaller?
 - What's a smaller problem than $n!$?
 - $(n - 1)!$
- If we could solve $(n - 1)!$, how could we use this to solve $n!$?
 - $n! = (n - 1)! * n$

14-10: Recursion – Factorial

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

14-11: Recursion – Factorial

- $0!$ is defined to be 1
- We can modify `factorial` to handle this case easily

14-12: Recursion – Factorial

- $0!$ is defined to be 1
- We can modify `factorial` to handle this case easily

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

14-13: Recursion

- To solve a recursive problem:
 - Base Case:
 - Version of the problem that can be solved immediately
 - Recursive Case
 - Make the problem smaller
 - Call the function recursively to solve the smaller problem
 - Use solution to the smaller problem to solve the larger problem

14-14: Recursion – ToH

- Towers of Hanoi
 - Move a sequence of disks from starting tower to ending tower, using a temporary
 - Move one disk at a time
 - Never place a larger disk on top of a smaller disk

14-15: Recursion – ToH

- Writing a program to solve Towers of Hanoi initially seems a little tricky
- Becomes very easy with recursion!

```
void doMove(char startTower, char endTower)
{
    System.out.print("Move a single disk from tower ");
    System.out.println(startTower + "to tower " + endTower);
}

void towers(int nDisks, char startTower, char endTower, char tmpTower)
{
    ...
}
```

14-16: Recursion – ToH

- Base case:
 - What is a small version of the problem that we could solve immediately?

14-17: Recursion – ToH

- Base case:

- What is a small version of the problem that we could solve immediately?
- Moving a single disk

```
void towers(int nDisks, char startTower, char endTower, char tmpTower)
{
    if (nDisks == 1)
    {
        doMove(startTower, endTower);
    }
    ...
}
```

14-18: Recursion – ToH

- How can we move n disks?
 - We can assume that we can magically move $(n - 1)$ disk from any tower to any other tower.
 - How can this help us?

14-19: Recursion – ToH

- How can we move n disks?
 - If we could only move $n - 1$ disks from the initial disk to the final disk, we could solve the problem
 - Move the $n - 1$ disks to the temporary peg
 - Move the bottom disk to the final peg
 - Move the $n - 1$ disks from the temporary peg to the final peg

14-20: Recursion – ToH

```
void towers(int nDisks, char startTower, char endTower, char tmpTower)
{
    if (nDisks == 1)
    {
        doMove(startTower, endTower);
    }
    else
    {
        towers(n - 1, startTower, tmpTower, endTower);
        doMove(startTower, endTower);
        towers(n - 1, tmpTower, endTower);
    }
}
```

14-21: Recursion – ToH

- Trace through Towers of Hanoi

14-22: Recursion – Tips

- When writing a recursive function
 - Don't think about how the recursive function works all the way down
 - Instead, *assume that the function just works for a smaller problem*
 - Recursive Leap of Faith
 - Use the solution to the smaller problem to solve the larger problem

14-23: Recursion – Fibonacci

- Fibonacci Sequence:
 - 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, ...

- $F(0) = 1, F(1) = 1, F(n) = F(n - 1) + F(n - 2)$
- Recursive solution?

14-24: Recursion – Fibonacci

```
int fib(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1)
    {
        return 1;
    }
    else
    {
        return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2);
    }
}
```

14-25: Recursion – Fibonacci

- Problems with this version of fib?
- What about efficiency?
- Can we do it faster?

14-26: Iterative Fibonacci

```
int fib(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1)
    {
        return 1;
    }
    int fibValues = new int[n+1];
    fibValues[0] = 1;
    fibValues[1] = 1;
    for (int i = 2; i <= n; i++)
    {
        fibValues[i] = fibValues[i-1] + fibValues[i-2];
    }
    return fibValues[n];
}
```

14-27: Iterative Fibonacci

```
int fib(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1)
    {
        return 1;
    }
    int next = 1;
    int prev = 1;
    for (int i = 2; i <= n; i++)
    {
        oldNext = next;
        next = next + prev;
        prev = oldNext;
    }
    return next;
}
```

14-28: Recursion – Fibonacci

```
int fib(int n)
{
    return fib(n, 1, 1);
}

int fib(int n, int next, int prev)
{
    if (n <= 1)
    {
        return next;
    }
    else
    {
        return fib(next + prev, next, next);
    }
}
```

14-29: Recursion – Reversing Digits

- Function that takes as input an integer
- Writes out the digits in reverse order

```
void printReversed(int n)
{
    ...
}
```

14-30: Recursion – Reversing Digits

- What's a easy number to print reversed?

```
void printReversed(int n)
{
    ...
}
```

14-31: Recursion – Reversing Digits

- What's a easy number to print reversed?

```
void printReversed(int n)
{
    if (n < 10)
    {
        System.out.println(n);
    }
    ...
}
```

14-32: Recursion – Reversing Digits

- How can we make the problem smaller
 - We have to make the problem smaller such that a solution to the smaller problem helps us solve the original problem

14-33: Recursion – Reversing Digits

- How can we make the problem smaller
 - Remove the last digit (dividing by 10)
 - How can this help?

14-34: Recursion – Reversing Digits

```
void printReversed(int n)
{
    if (n < 10)
    {
        System.out.println(n);
    }
    else
    {
        System.out.print(n % 10);
        printReversed(n / 10);
    }
}
```

14-35: Recursion – Hands on

- Write a method power

```
public static int power(int x, int n)
```

 - Return x^n
- What is the base case?

- How can we make the problem smaller?
- How can we use the solution to the smaller problem to solve the original problem?

14-36: **Recursion – Reverse**

- Write a function to reverse a string
 - What is a string that is easy to reverse?
 - How do you make the string smaller
 - How do you use the solution to the smaller problem to solve the original problem?
- String Functions
 - `s.substring(k)` returns a substring starting from index `k`
 - `s.charAt(k)` returns the character at index `k` in the string