

Does your bestie (or enemy) need to take COMP110?

I still have seats available in my Summer Session I sections!

This is a great opportunity to:

- Take COMP110 in a small class environment
- Focus on COMP110 without having to balance other classes
- Not have to sit on the waitlist for COMP110 in a future semester



CL29 – ✨ Magic Methods ✨ and Recursion Review

Announcements

Re: Quiz 03:

- *Regrade requests will be open **till 11:59pm on Wednesday!***
 - Please submit a regrade request if you believe your quiz was not graded correctly according to the rubric

Re: Quiz 04:

- Practice quiz will be available on the site today
 - Come to Tutoring to work through it with TAs today (5-7pm in SN011)!
- If you have a UAA and want to reschedule your quiz to another date, please let me know!

(Reminder: The [River Simulation exercise](#) is *due Friday at 11:59pm*. Start early!)

Warmup: Try printing a Point or Line object from last lecture!

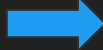
What happens?

```
0 class Point:
1     x: float
2     y: float
3
4     def __init__(self, x: float, y: float):
5         self.x = x
6         self.y = y
7
8     def dist_from_origin(self) -> float:
9         return (self.x**2 + self.y**2) ** 0.5
10
11    def translate_x(self, dx: float) -> None:
12        self.x += dx
13
14    def translate_y(self, dy: float) -> None:
15        self.y += dy
16
17 pt: Point = Point(2.0, 1.0)
```

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```

Let's implement some magic in VS Code!  

Shifting gears... remember recursion?

Recall these functions: what was the issue with the icarus function?

```
1  def icarus(x: int) -> int:
2      """Unbound aspirations!"""
3      print(f"Height: {x}")
4      return icarus(x=x + 1)
5
6  def safe_icarus(x: int) -> int:
7      """Bound aspirations!"""
8      if x >= 2:
9          return 1
10     else:
11         return 1 + safe_icarus(x=x + 1)
12
13  print(safe_icarus(x=0))
```

The dreaded **Recursion Error!**

Stack Overflow and Recursion Errors

When a programmer writes a function that calls itself indefinitely (*infinitely*), the **function call stack** will *overflow*...

This leads to a **Stack Overflow Or Recursion Error**:

```
RecursionError: maximum recursion depth exceeded while  
calling a Python object
```

Recursive function checklist:

Base case:

- ❑ Does the function have a clear base case?
 - ❑ Ensure the base case returns a result directly (without calling the function again).
- ❑ Will the base case *always* be reached?

Recursive case:

- ❑ Does the function have a recursive case that *progresses toward the base case*?
 - ❑ Does the recursive call have the right arguments? The function should call itself on a simpler or smaller version of the problem.
- ❑ Have you tested your function with multiple cases, including edge cases?

Another example of recursion: factorial!

To calculate the factorial of an int, n , we would multiply n by $(n-1)$, then $(n-2)$, and so on, until we reach 1.

For instance, to calculate $5!$, we would do: $5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1$, which would evaluate to 120.

```
def factorial(n: int) -> int:
    # Base case: factorial of 0 or 1 is 1
    if n <= 1:
        return 1
    # Recursive case:  $n! = n \times (n-1)!$ 
    return n * factorial(n - 1)
```

Visualizing recursive calls to factorial

`factorial(n = 4)`

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 4 * factorial( 3 )`

`return 4 * 6`

`return 24`

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 3 * factorial( 2 )`

`return 3 * 2`

`return 6`

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 2 * factorial( 1 )`

`return 2 * 1`

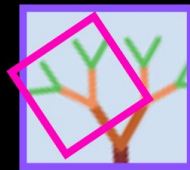
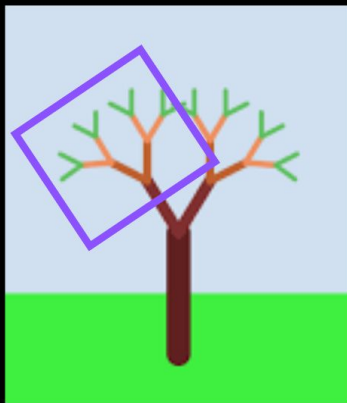
`return 2`

`return 1`

Recursion: defining an operation/object in terms of itself

A real-world phenomenon! Examples:

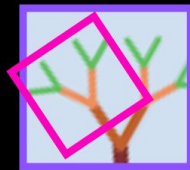
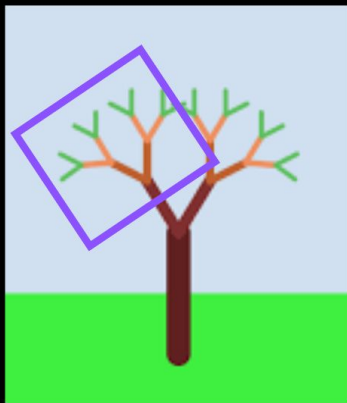
- You have **parents**, who have **parents**, who have **parents**, who have **parents**, who...
... were the **first humans**
- A **tree** has **branches**, which have **branches**, which have **branches**, which...
... have **leaves**



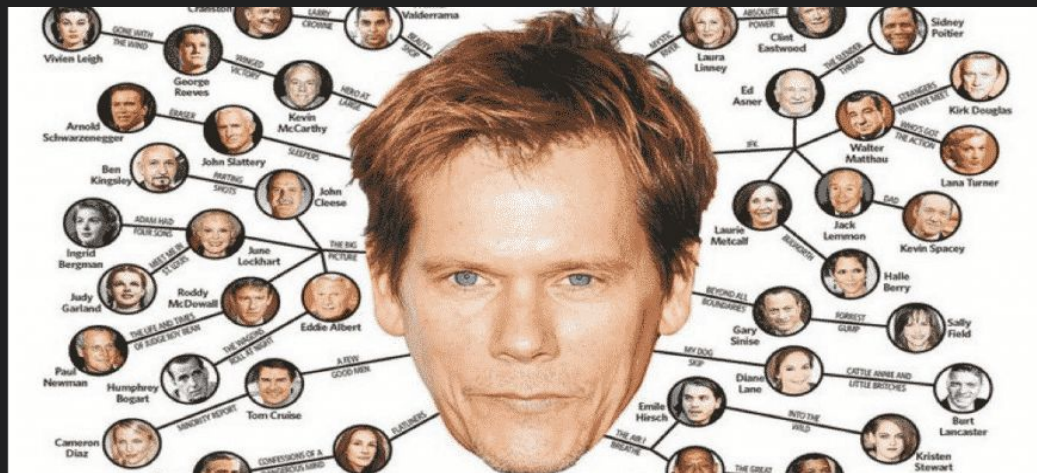
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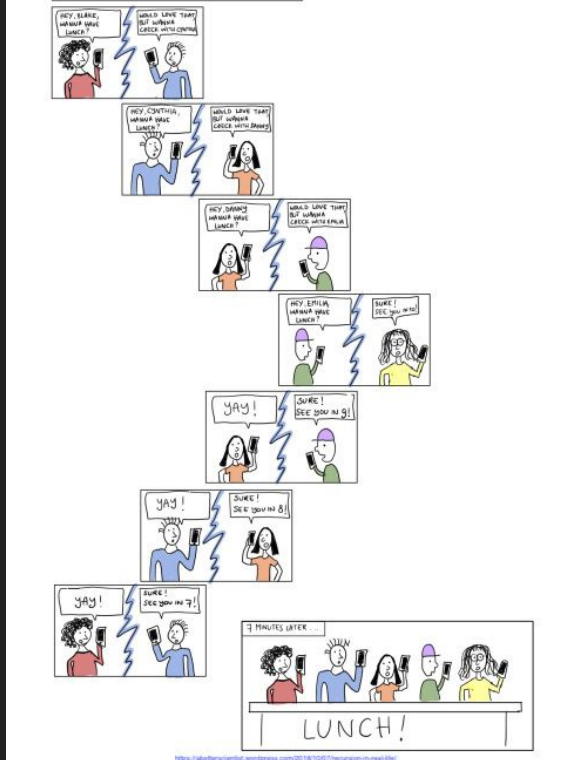


Different recursive structures for different purposes



Six degrees of Kevin Bacon

graph/network



Coordinating plans before 3-way calls were possible

linked list

factorial Algorithm

Create a recursive function called **factorial** that will calculate the product of all positive integers less than or equal to an int, **n**. E.g.,

factorial(**n**=5) would return: $5*4*3*2*1 = 120$

factorial(**n**=2) would return: $2*1 = 2$

factorial(**n**=1) would return: $1 = 1$

factorial(**n**=0) would return: **1**

Conceptually, what will our **base case** be?

What will our **recursive case** be?

What is an **edge case** for this function? How could we account for it?

Visualizing recursive calls to `factorial`

Visualizing recursive calls to factorial

`factorial(n = 4)` returns $4 * 6 = 24$

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 4 * factorial( 3 )`

`return 4 * 6`

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 3 * factorial( 2 )`

`return 3 * 2`

`return n * factorial(n - 1)`

`return 2 * factorial( 1 )`

`return 2 * 1`

`return 1`

Let's write the `factorial` function in VS Code!



Memory diagram

```
1  # Factorial
2  def factorial(n: int) -> int:
3      """Calculates factorial of int n."""
4      # Base case
5      if n == 0 or n == 1:
6          return 1
7      # Recursive case
8      else:
9          return n * factorial(n - 1)
10
11 # Example usage
12 print(factorial(3))
```

```
1  """Mysterious 'rev' from source (src) to destination (dest)!"""
2
3
4  def rev(src: str, i: int, dest: str) -> str:
5      """You happen upon a magical lil function..."""
6      if i >= len(src):
7          return dest
8      else:
9          return rev(src=src, i=i + 1, dest=src[i] + dest)
10
11
12  print(rev(src="lwo", i=0, dest=""))
```

Checklist for developing a recursive function:

Base case:

- ❑ Does the function have a clear base case?
 - ❑ Ensure the base case returns a result directly (without calling the function again).
- ❑ Will the base case *always* be reached?

Recursive case:

- ❑ Ensure the function moves closer to the base case with each recursive call.
- ❑ Combine returned results from recursive calls where necessary.
- ❑ Test the function with edge cases (e.g., empty inputs, smallest and largest valid inputs, etc.). Does the function account for these cases?