

# CMSC 132: Object-Oriented Programming II

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## Recursion

# Recursion

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- ▶ When one function calls itself directly or indirectly
- ▶ a method where the solution to a problem depends on solutions to smaller instances of the same problem.

# Factorial

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**Definition:**

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0, \\ (n-1)! \times n & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$5! = ?$$

$$5! = 5 * 4!$$

$$4! = 4 * 3!$$

$$3! = 3 * 2!$$

$$2! = 2 * 1!$$

$$1! = 1$$

$$5 * 24 = 120$$

$$4 * 6$$

$$3 * 2$$

$$2 * 1$$

# Greatest Common Divisor

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- gcd: Find largest integer  $d$  that evenly divides into  $p$  and  $q$  **Euclid's algorithm. [300 BCE]**

$$\text{gcd}(p, q) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } q = 0 \\ \text{gcd}(q, p \% q) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

← base case

← reduction step,  
converges to base case

```
gcd(4032, 1272) = gcd(1272, 216)
                = gcd(216, 192)
                = gcd(192, 24)
                = gcd(24, 0)
                = 24.
```

$$4032 = 3 \times 1272 + 216$$

# Greatest Common Divisor

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Java implementation.

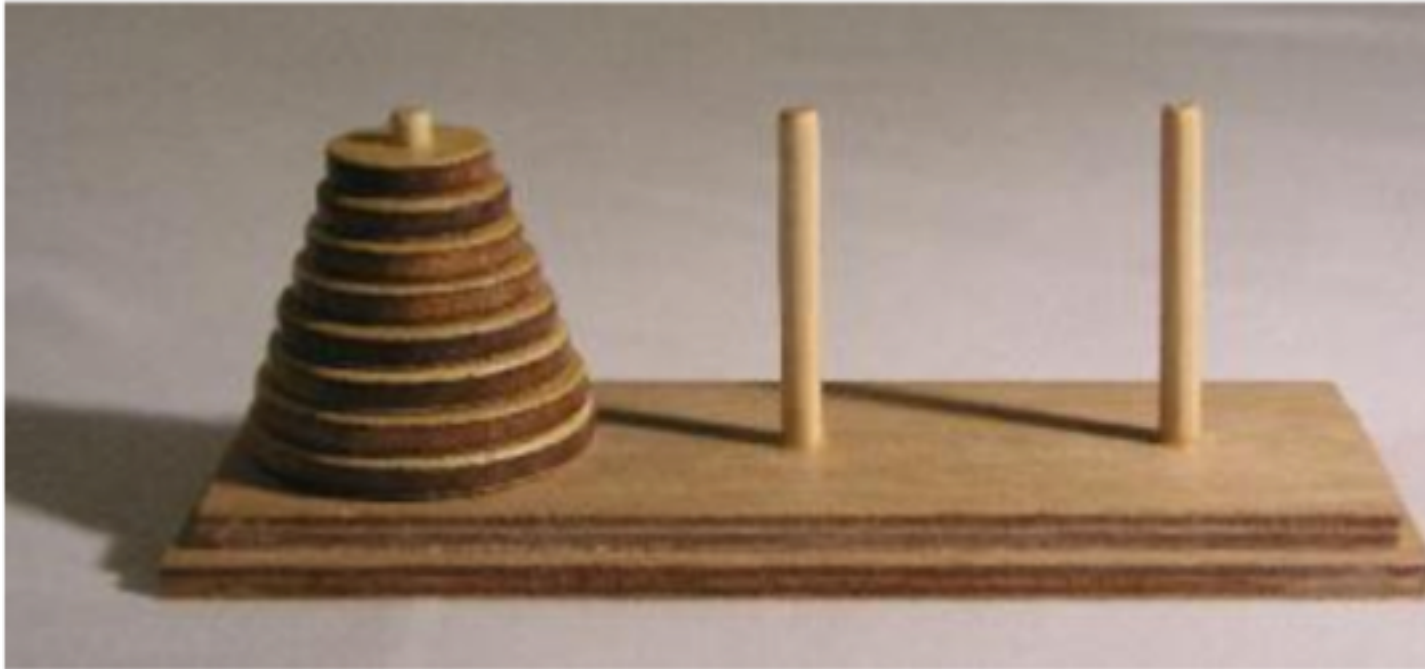
```
public static int gcd(int p, int q) {  
    if (q == 0) return p;  
    else return gcd(q, p % q);  
}
```

← base case

← reduction step

# Towers of Hanoi

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<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Hanoiklein.jpg>

# Towers of Hanoi

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- ▶ Move all the discs from the leftmost peg to the rightmost one.
  - Only one disc may be moved at a time.
  - A disc can be placed either on empty peg or on top of a larger disc



start



finish

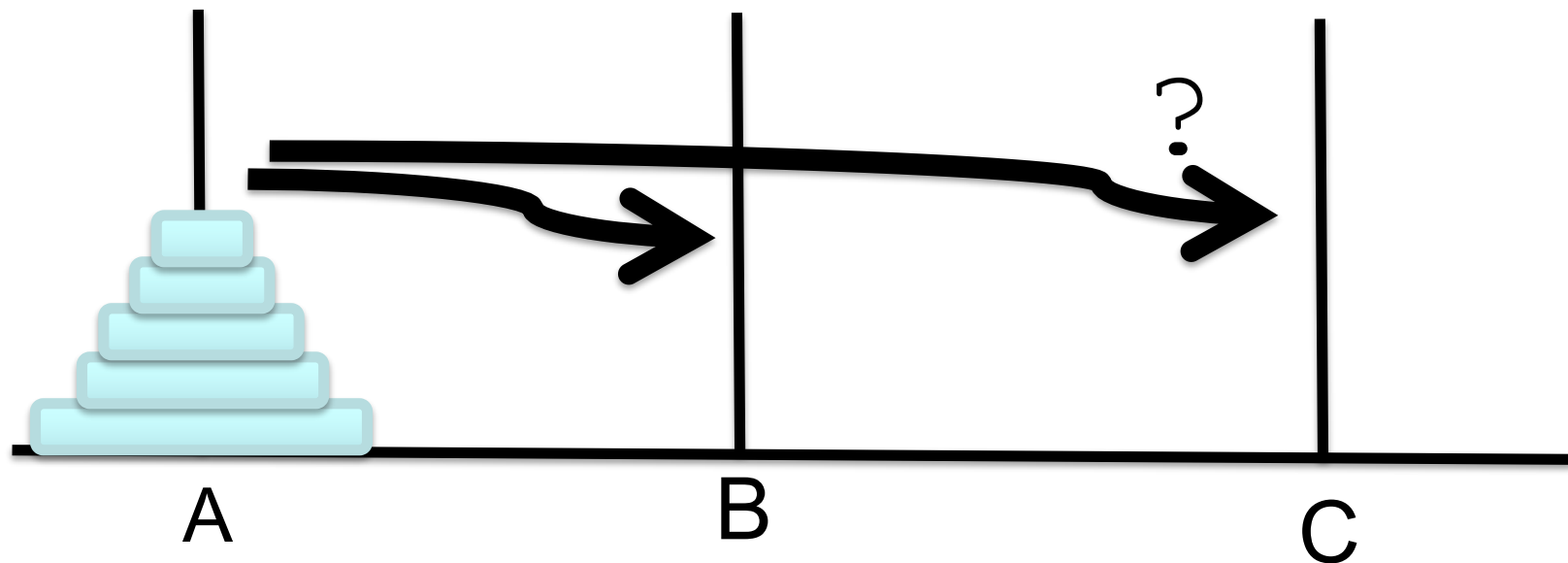
# Towers of Hanoi Legend

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- ▶ Q. Is world going to end (according to legend)?
  - 64 golden discs on 3 diamond pegs.
  - World ends when certain group of monks accomplish task.
- ▶ Q. Will computer algorithms help

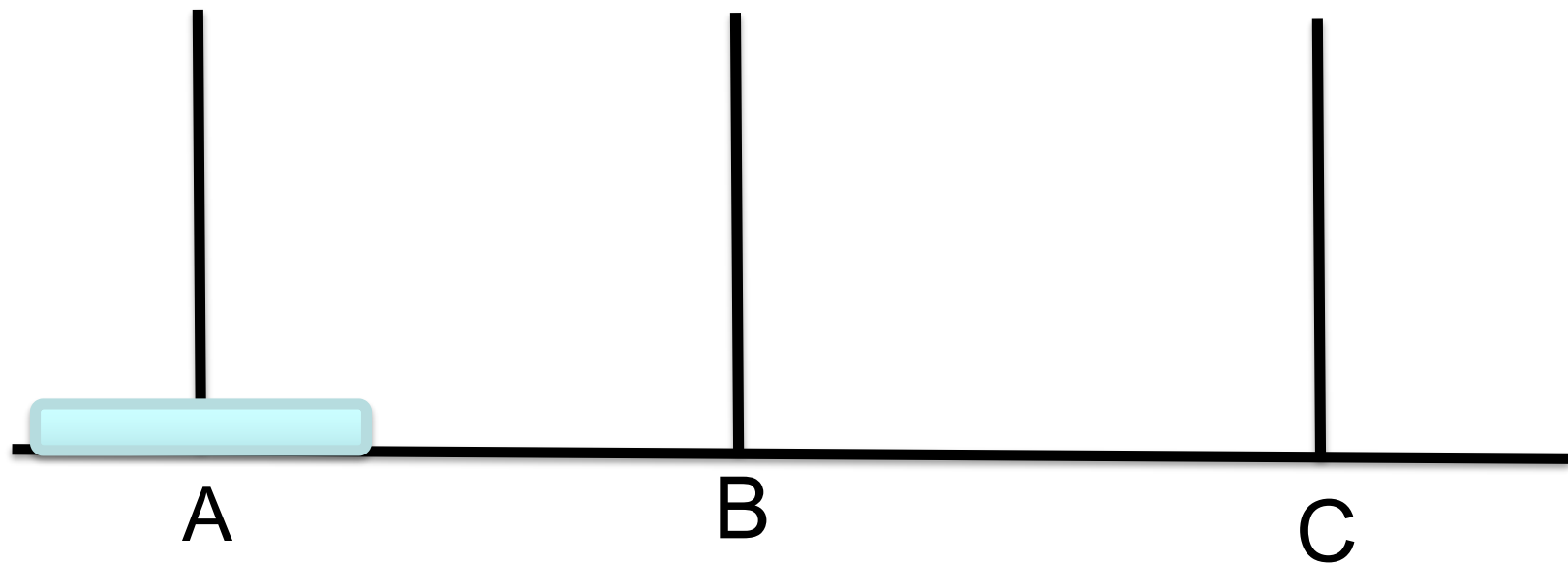
# Let's move disks

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# Move one disk

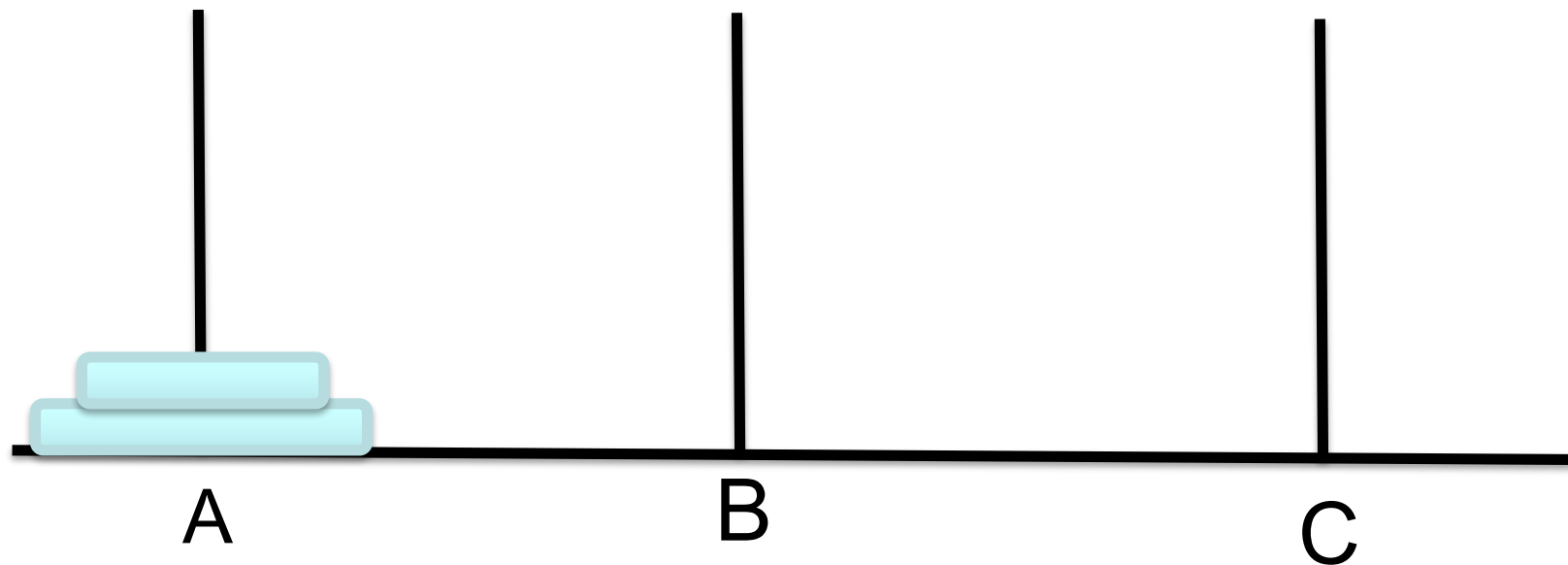
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```
void move1();
```

# Move two disks

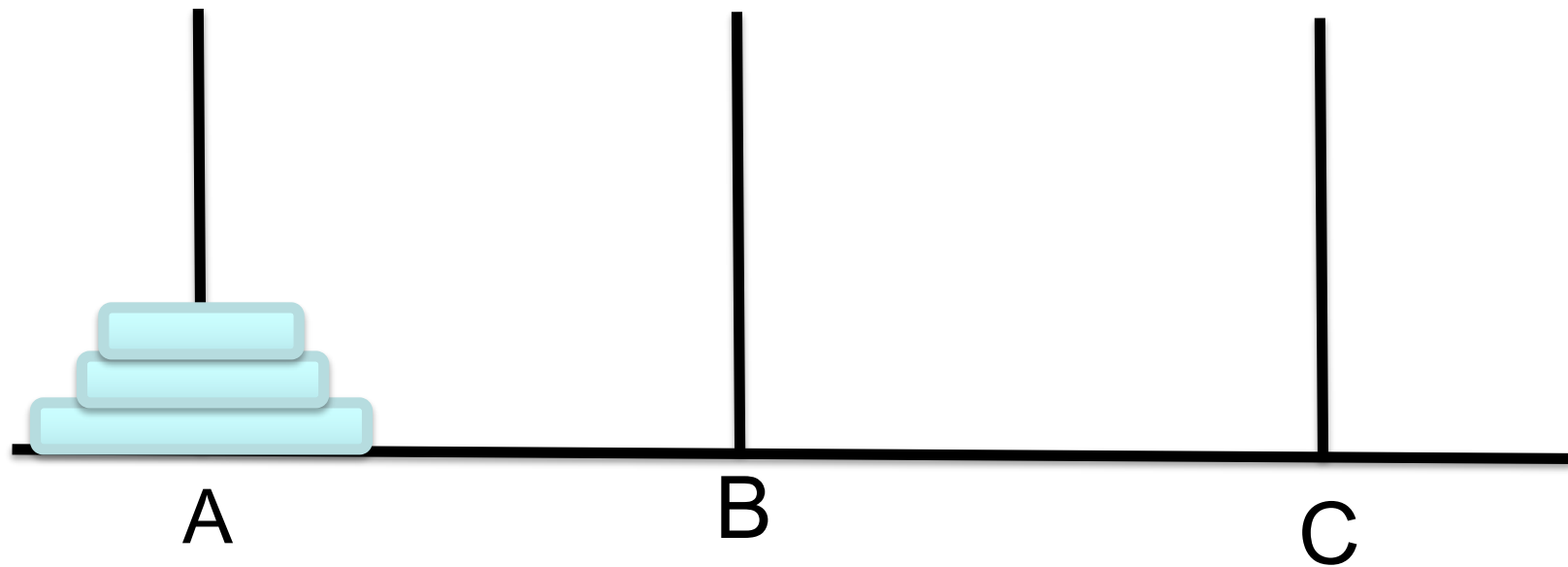
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```
void move2() {  
    move1();  
    move1();  
    move1();  
}
```

# Move three disks

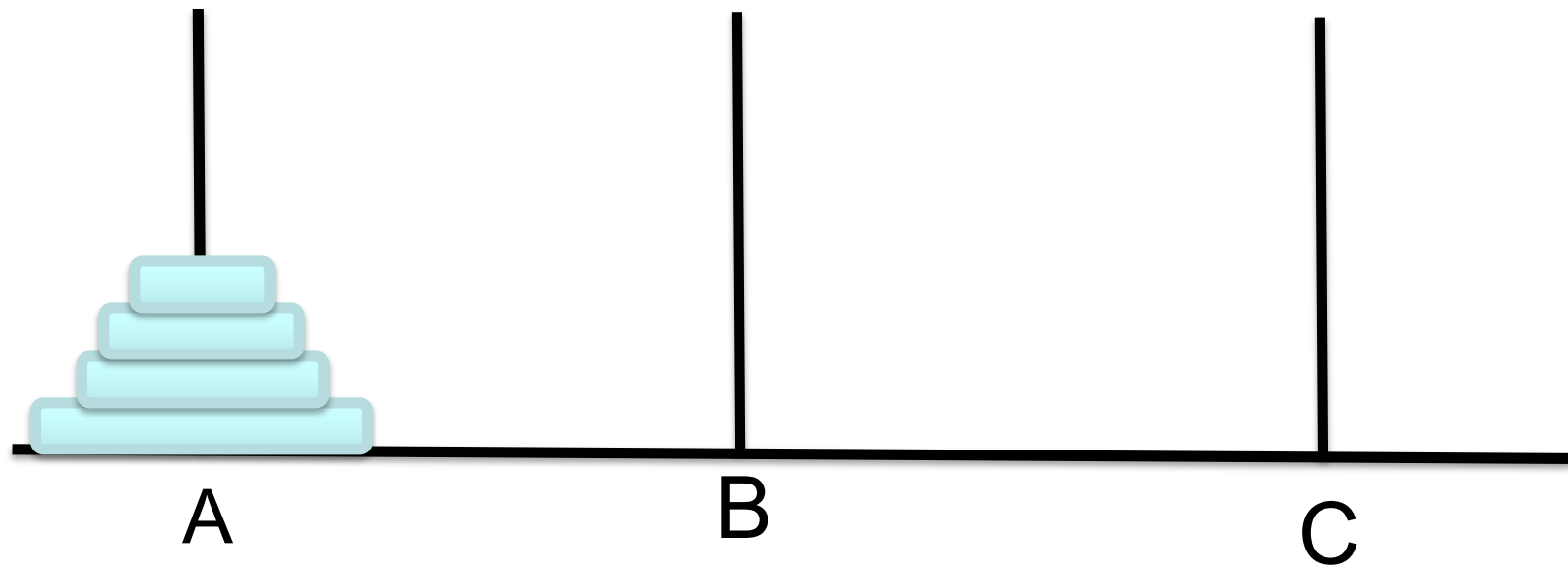
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```
void move3() {  
    move2();  
    move1();  
    move2();  
}
```

# Move four disks

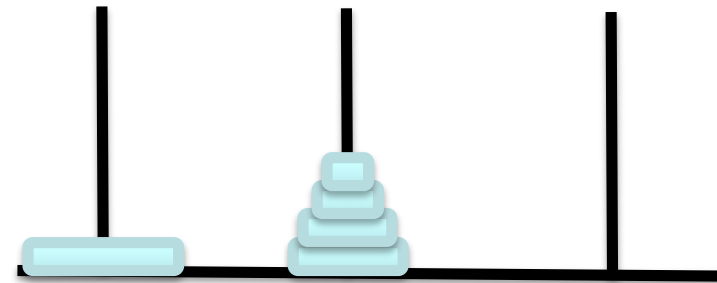
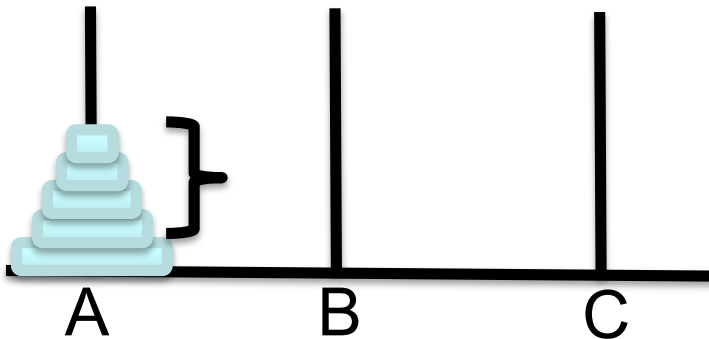
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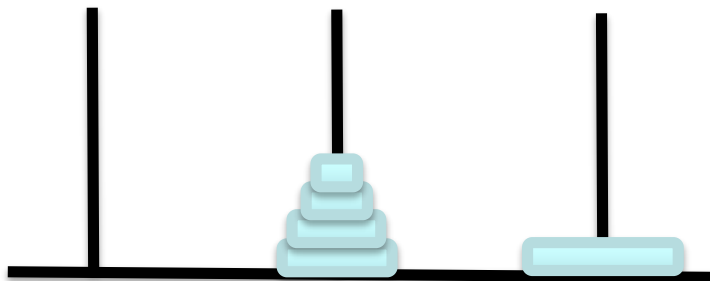
```
void move4 () {  
    move3 () ;  
    move1 () ;  
    move3 () ;  
}
```

# Move n disks

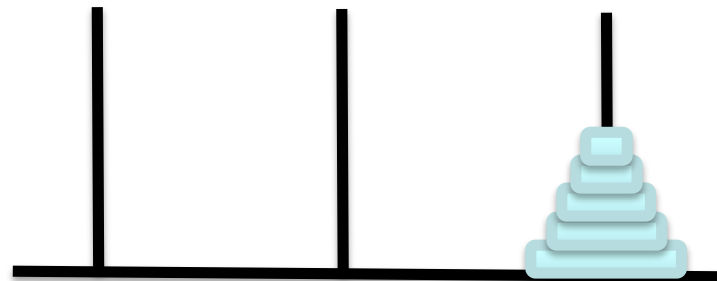
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1. Move  $n-1$  disks
2. from A  $\rightarrow$  B



2. Move the largest disk to C

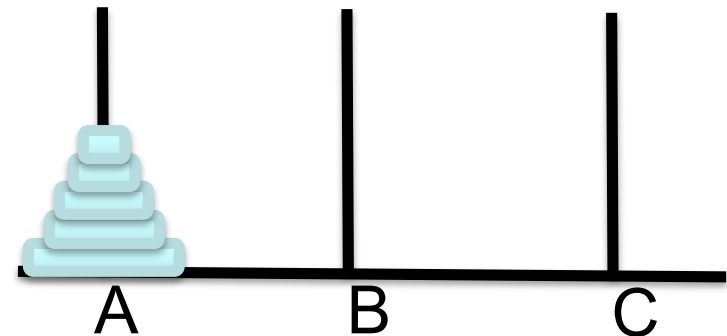


3. Move  $n-1$  disks from B  $\rightarrow$  C

# Towers of Hanoi: Recursive Solution

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```
public class TowersOfHanoi {  
    public static void solve(int n, String A, String B, String C) {  
        if (n == 1) {  
            System.out.println(A + " -> " + C);  
        } else {  
            solve(n - 1, A, C, B);  
            System.out.println(A + " -> " + C);  
            solve(n - 1, B, A, C);  
        }  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int discs = 3;  
        solve(discs, "A", "B", "C");  
    }  
}
```



# Remarkable properties of recursive solution

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- ▶ Takes  $2^n$  steps to solve  $n$  disc problem.
- ▶ Takes 585 billion years for  $n = 64$ (at rate of 1 disc per second).
- ▶ Reassuring fact: any solution takes at least this long

# Quiz 1

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It takes \_\_\_\_\_ steps to solve 8 disk problem.

- A. 64
- B. 128
- C. 256
- D. 512

# Quiz 1

---

It takes \_\_\_\_\_ steps to solve 8 disk problem.

- A. 64
- B. 128
- C. 256**
- D. 512

## Quiz 2:

---

What is the output of `fun (2) ?`

```
int fun(int n){  
    if (n == 4)  
        return n;  
    else  
        return 2*fun(n+1) ;  
}
```

- A. 4
- B. 8
- C. 16
- D. Runtime Error

## Quiz 2:

---

What is the output of `fun (2) ?`

```
int fun(int n) {  
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    else  
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}
```

- A. 4
- B. 8
- C. 16
- D. Runtime Error

## Quiz 3:

---

What is the output of fun(25)?

```
void fun(int n) {  
    if (n == 0)  
        return;  
    print(n%2) ;  
    fun(n/2) ;  
}
```

- A. 11001
- B. 10011
- C. 11111
- D. 00000

## Quiz 3:

---

What is the output of fun(25)?

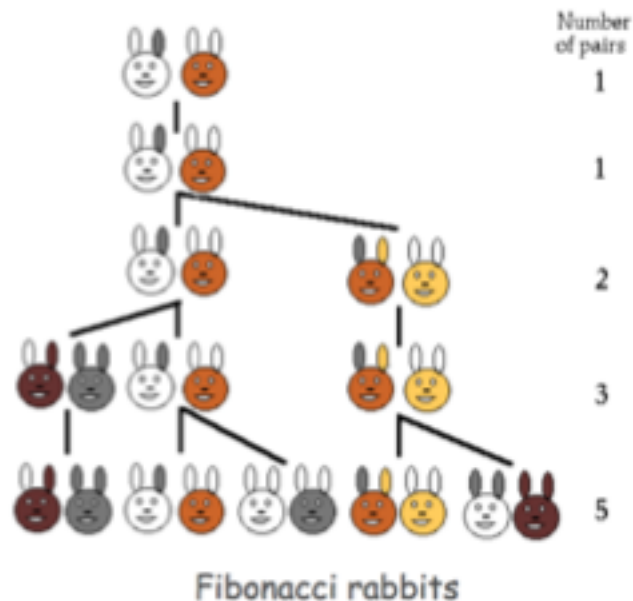
```
void fun(int n) {  
    if (n == 0)  
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    print(n%2) ;  
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}
```

- A. 11001
- B. 10011**
- C. 11111
- D. 00000

# Fibonacci Number

Fibonacci numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34

$$F_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



L. P. Fibonacci  
(1170 - 1250)

# Fibonacci Number

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Fibonacci numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34

A natural for recursion?

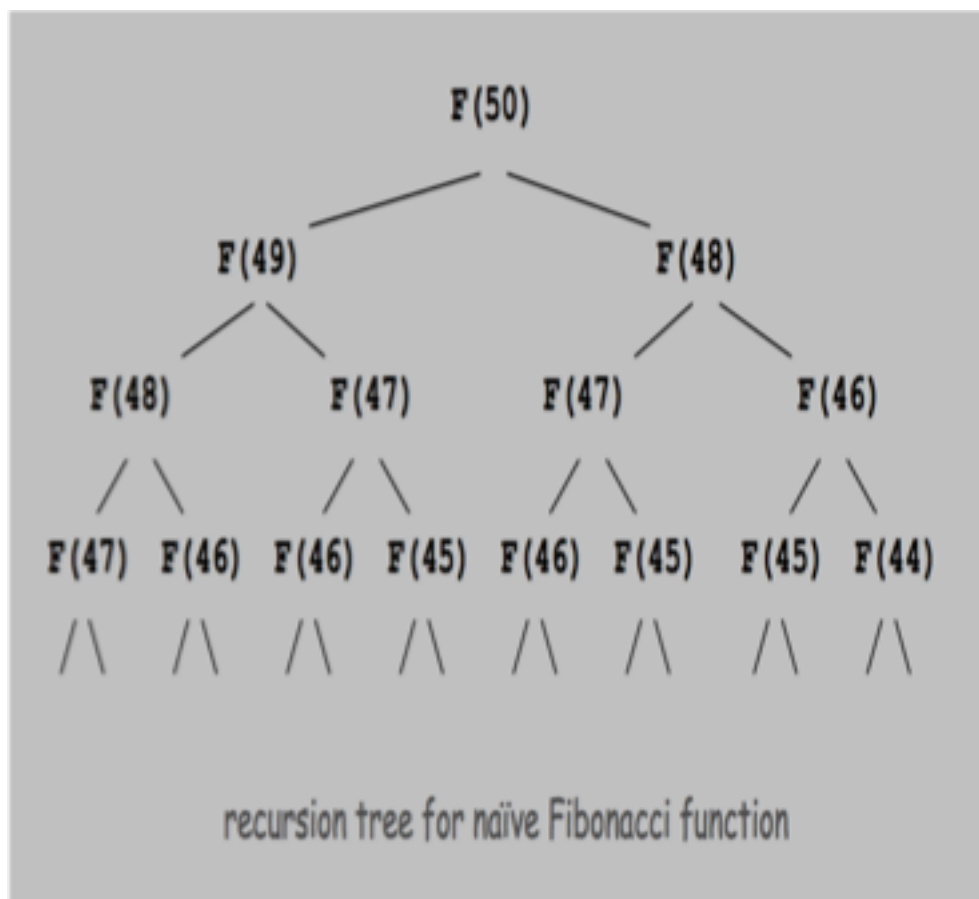
```
public static long F(int n) {  
    if (n == 0) return 0;  
    if (n == 1) return 1;  
    return F(n-1) + F(n-2);  
}
```

spectacularly inefficient code

**Observation.** It takes a really long time to compute  $F(50)$ .

# Inefficient Recursion

Fibonacci numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34



$F(50)$  is called once.

$F(49)$  is called once.

$F(48)$  is called 2 times.

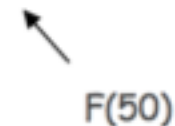
$F(47)$  is called 3 times.

$F(46)$  is called 5 times.

$F(45)$  is called 8 times.

...

$F(1)$  is called 12,586,269,025 times.



# Memoized Version of the Fibonacci

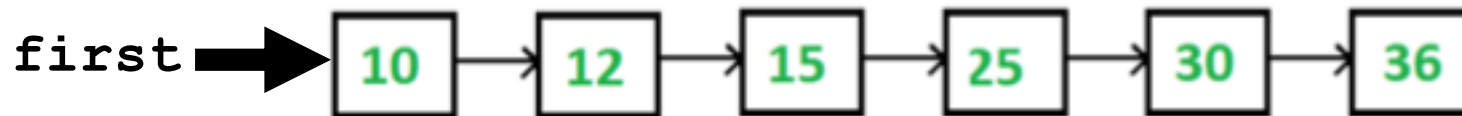
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```
public Map<Integer, Integer> fibo;
public int fib(int n){
    int f1=0,f2=0;
    if( (n == 1) || (n == 2)) return 1;
    else{
        if(fibo.containsKey(n-1)) f1 = fibo.get(n-1);
        else{
            f1 = fib(n-1);
            fibo.put(n-1,f1);
        }
        if(fibo.containsKey(n-2)) f2 = fibo.get(n-2);
        else{
            f2 = fib(n-2);
            fibo.put(n-2,f2);
        }
        return f2+f1;
    }
}
```

# Recursive Print a Linked List

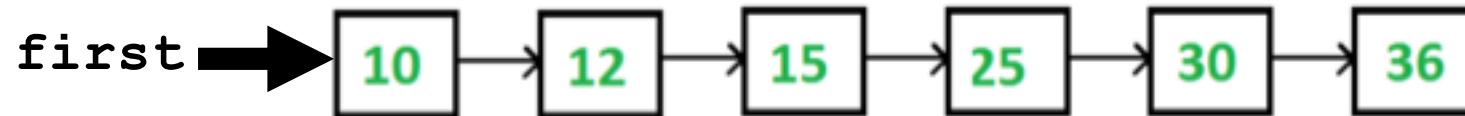
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```
public void print() {  
    print(first);  
    System.out.println("");  
}  
  
private void print(Node r) {  
    if(r == null) return;  
    System.out.print(r.data+",");  
    print(r.next);  
}
```



# Insert a Node into a Sorted List

---



```
public Node insert(Node r, E item){
    if(r == null) return new Node(item);
    if(r.data.compareTo(item)<0){
        r.next = insert(r.next, item);
        return r;
    }else{
        Node t = new Node(item);
        t.next = r;
        return t;
    }
}
```

# Contains Method

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## Iterative:

```
public boolean contains(E item) {
    Node<E> current = first;
    while (current != null) {
        if (current.data.equals(item)) { return true; }
        current = current.next;
    }
    return false;
}
```

## Recursive:

```
public boolean contains_rec(Node r, E item) {
    if (r == null) return false;
    return (r.data.equals(item))
        || contains_rec(r.next, item);
}
```

# Merge 2 Sorted Lists

---

```
public Node merge(Node list1, Node list2) {  
    if (list1 == null) return list2;  
    if (list2 == null) return list1;  
    if (list1.data < list2.data) {  
        list1.next = merge(list1.next, list2);  
        return list1;  
    } else {  
        list2.next = merge(list2.next, list1);  
        return list2;  
    }  
}
```

List1: 1→2→4→9

List2: 1→3→4→7→8→10

After merge

1→1→2→3→4→4→7→8→9→10