

# (12-1) Recursion

## H&K Chapter 9

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# Review Struct

```
/* in the struct.h file */

typedef enum {freshman, sophomore, junior, senior} class_t;
typedef enum {anthropology, biology, chemistry,
             english, compsci, polisci, psychology, physics,
             engineering, sociology} major_t;

typedef struct
{
    int id_number;
    class_t class_standing; /* see above */
    major_t major; /* see above */
    double gpa;
    int credits_taken;
} student_t;
```



# struct Type (8)

- Here's how we could use the previous function:

```
/* in the main.c file */
int main(void)
{
    student_t student1, student2;
    read_student(&student1);
    read_student(&student2);
    print_student(student1); /* assume print_student is defined */
    print_student(student2);
    return(1);
}
```

Similar as read in data from file



# Review Struct

```
/*in the functions.c file*/\n\nvoid read_student(student_t *student)\n{    int temp_class, temp_major;\n    printf("Please enter ID number of student: ");\n    scanf("%d", &(*student).id_num);\n\n    printf("Please enter class standing (0 = fr, \n");\n    printf("1 = so, 2 = ju, 3 = se): ");\n    scanf("%d", &temp_class);\n    (*student).class = (class_t)temp_class;\n\n    printf("Please enter major (0 = anthro., \n");\n    printf("1 = biol., 2 = chem., ... , 8 = soc.: ");\n    scanf("%d", &temp_major);\n    (*student).major = (major_t)temp_major;\n\n    printf("Please enter gpa: ");\n    scanf("%lf", &(*student).gpa);\n}
```



# Review Struct

How to check if the read in information?

- `printf("the id number is %d \n", student1.id_number);`

How about the class standing? Freshman, sophomore...?

Use **if** or **Switch**

- `If (student1.class_standing == freshman) {printf("a freshman\n");}`
- `switch(student1.class_standing)`  
`{`  
`case freshman:`  
`printf("A freshman \n");`  
`break;`  
`.....`  
`}`



# What is a Recursive Function?



Graphs are from:

[https://www.banggood.com/Set-of-5-Cute-Wooden-Nesting-Dolls-Matryoshka-Animal-Russian-Doll-p-964569.html?cur\\_warehouse=CN](https://www.banggood.com/Set-of-5-Cute-Wooden-Nesting-Dolls-Matryoshka-Animal-Russian-Doll-p-964569.html?cur_warehouse=CN)

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7520794/>



# What is a Recursive Function?

- A function that calls itself either directly or indirectly through another function

- For example:

```
int recursive_function (int r, int s)
```

```
{
```

```
...
```

```
    recursive_function (r, s-1) /* recursive call */
```

```
...
```

```
}
```



# Nature of Recursion (1)

- Problems that may be solved using recursion have these attributes:
  - One or more simple cases have a straightforward, non-recursive solution
  - The other cases may be defined in terms of problems that are closer to the simple cases
  - Through a series of calls to the recursive function, the problem eventually is stated in terms of the simple cases



# Nature of Recursion (2)

- As described by Wirth:

“The power of recursion evidently lies in the possibility of defining an infinite set of objects by a finite statement. In the same manner, an infinite number of computations can be described by a finite recursive program, even if this program contains no explicit repetitions.”



# Nature of Recursion (3)

- A divide and conquer approach
- A fresh copy of a function goes to work on a similar, but simpler problem than the original



# Properties of Recursion

- Recursive solutions have at least two cases:
  - The simple or *base* case(s)
  - The *recursive* case(s) or step(s)
- Note:

Any problem can be solved by recursion can also be resolved by iteration.



# Properties of Recursion

- Key differences

	Recursion	v.s.	Iteration
● Infinite	system crash		consumes CPU cycles.
● processor time	expensive		Not
● memory space	expensive		Not
● code	smaller		longer



# Example of Recursive Solution

- This is an example provided on p. 528 of the Hanly & Koffman text. This example performs multiplication through addition.

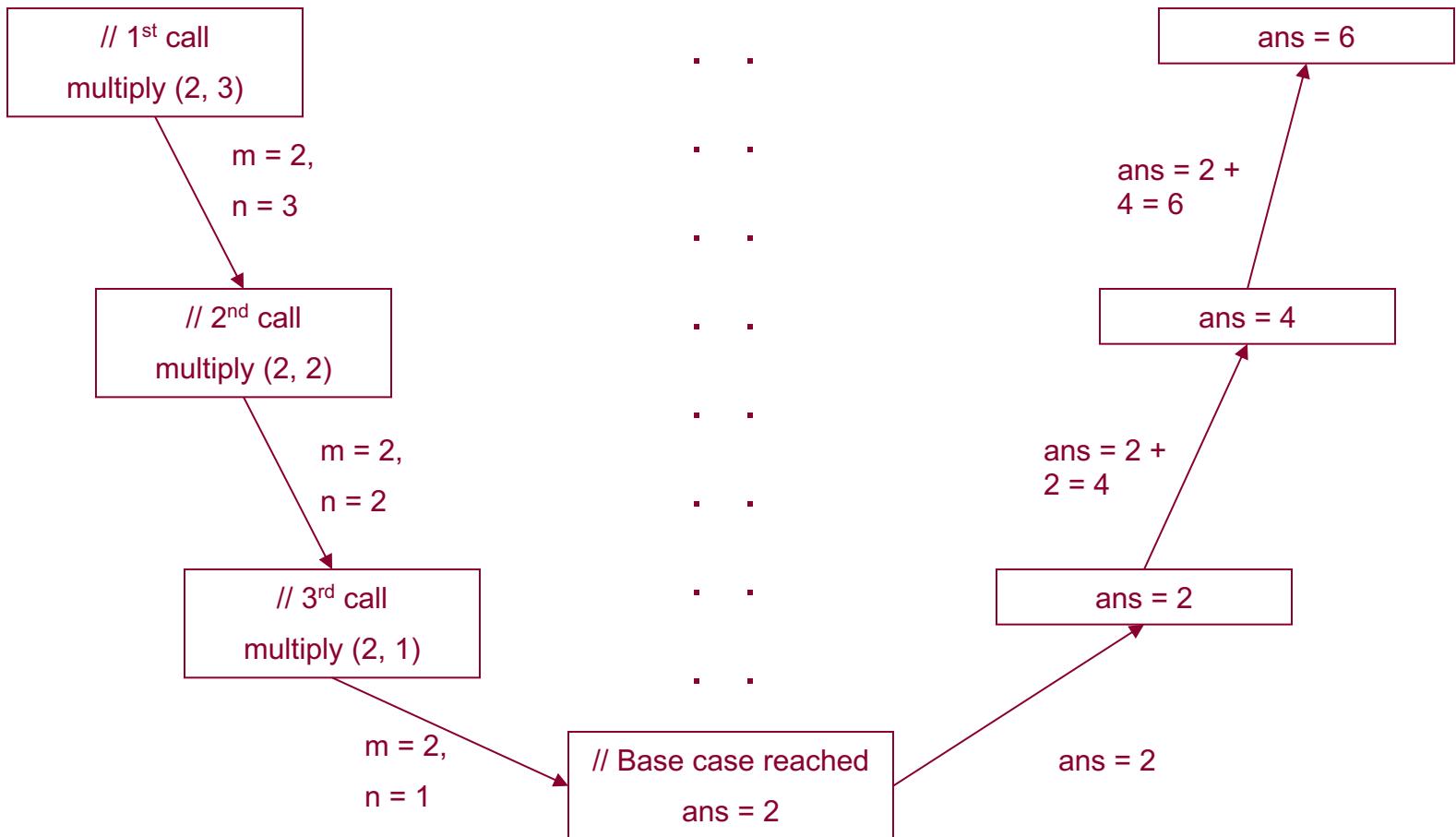
```
int multiply (int m, int n)
{
    int ans;

    if (n == 1)
    {
        ans = m; /* simple or base case */
    }
    else
    {
        ans = m + multiply (m, n - 1); /* recursive step */
    }

    return ans;
}
```



# Evaluation of Recursive Multiply



# Next Lecture...

- More recursive examples



# References

- J.R. Hanly & E.B. Koffman, *Problem Solving and Program Design in C (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*, Addison-Wesley, 2016
- P.J. Deitel & H.M. Deitel, *C How to Program (7<sup>h</sup> Ed.)*, Pearson Education , Inc., 2013.
- N. Wirth, *Algorithms + Data Structures = Programs*, Prentice-Hall, 1976



# Collaborators

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