

61A Lecture 6

Monday, February 2

Announcements

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 - Conflict? Fill out the conflict form today! <http://goo.gl/2P5fKq>

Recursive Functions

Recursive Functions

Recursive Functions

Definition: A function is called recursive if the body of that function calls itself, either directly or indirectly.

Recursive Functions

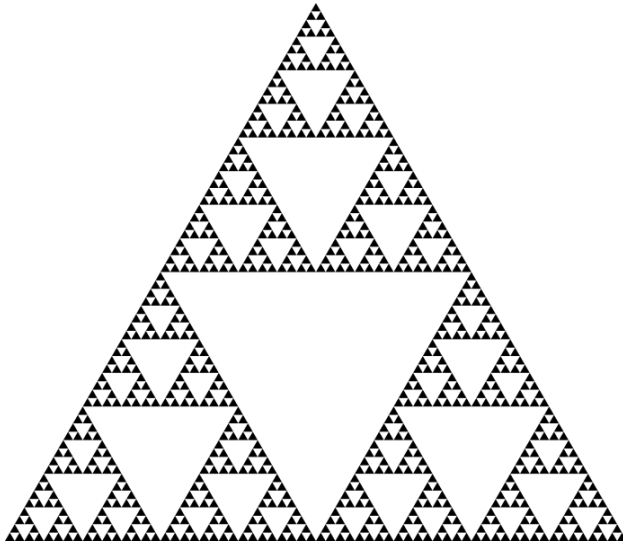
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Implication: Executing the body of a recursive function may require applying that function.

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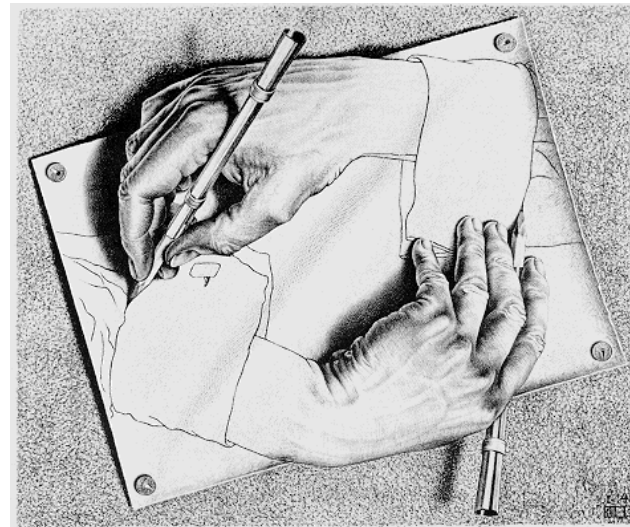
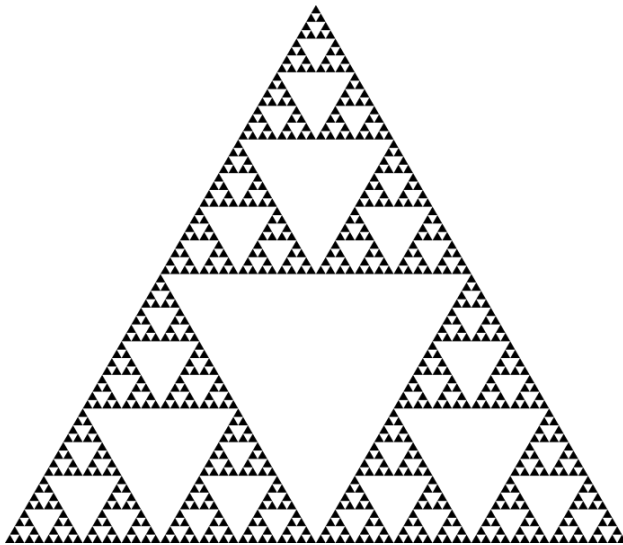
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Drawing Hands, by M. C. Escher (lithograph, 1948)

Digit Sums

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The Bank of 61A

1234 5678 9098 7658

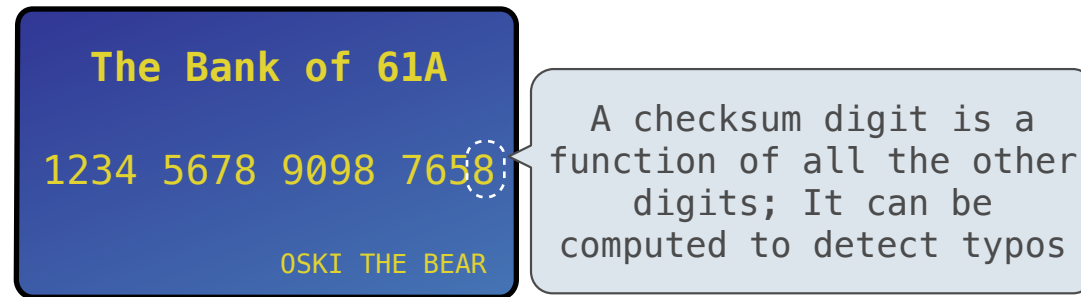
OSKI THE BEAR

A checksum digit is a function of all the other digits; It can be computed to detect typos

Digit Sums

$$2+0+1+5 = 8$$

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- Credit cards actually use the Luhn algorithm, which we'll implement after `digit_sum`.

Sum Digits Without a While Statement

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def split(n):  
    """Split positive n into all but its last digit and its last digit."""  
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def sum_digits(n):  
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    if n < 10:  
        return n
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(Demo)

Recursion in Environment Diagrams

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```
1 def fact(n):  
→ 2     if n == 0:  
3         return 1  
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7 fact(3)
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[Interactive Diagram](#)

Recursion in Environment Diagrams

(Demo)

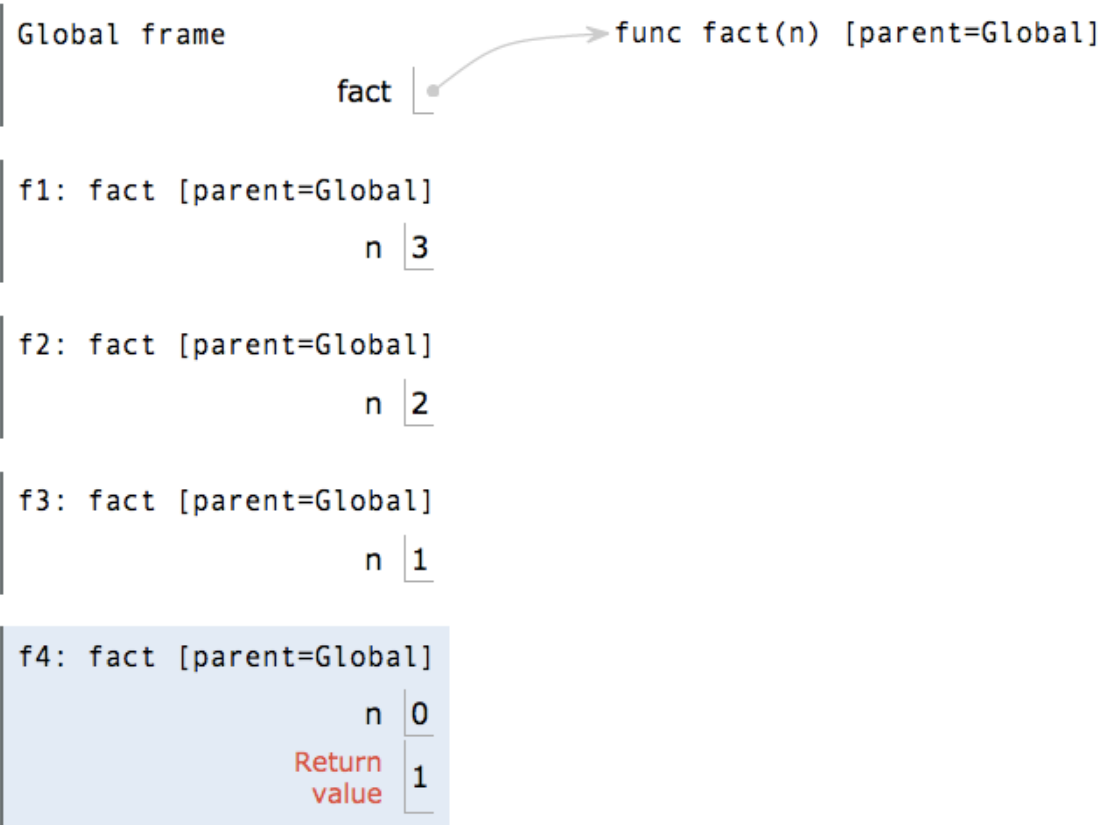
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Global frame

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f1: fact [parent=Global]
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- What n evaluates to depends upon which is the current environment.
- Each call to fact solves a simpler problem than the last: smaller n.

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n, fact

Verifying Recursive Functions

The Recursive Leap of Faith

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Photo by Kevin Lee, Preikestolen, Norway

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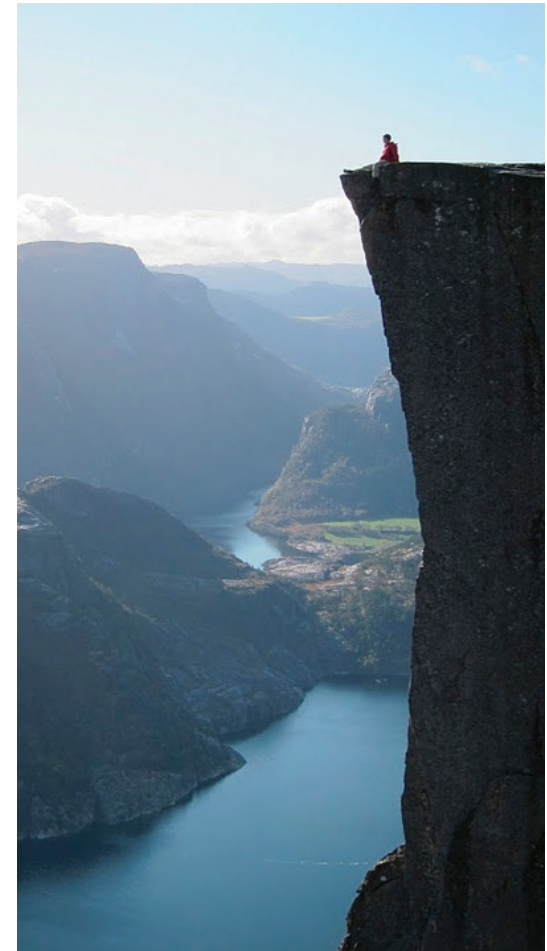


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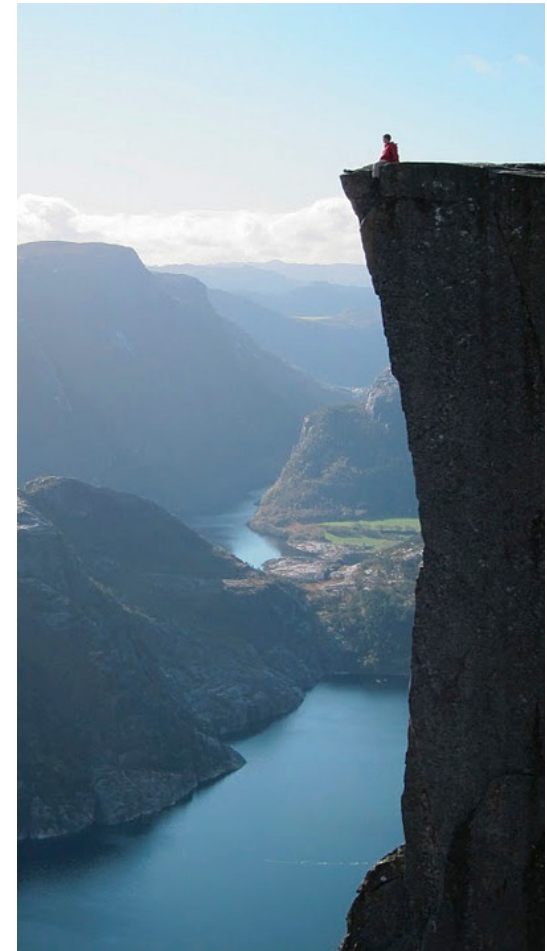


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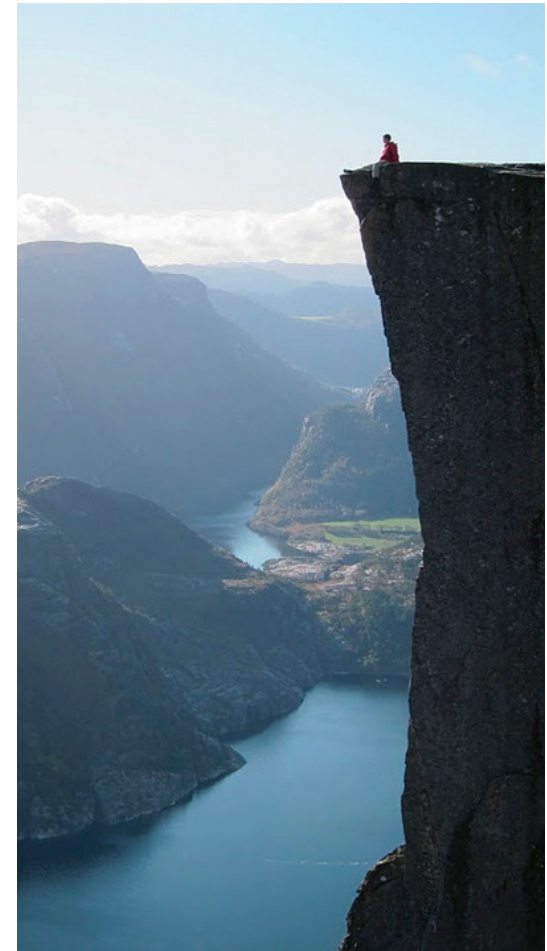


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2. Treat **fact** as a functional abstraction!

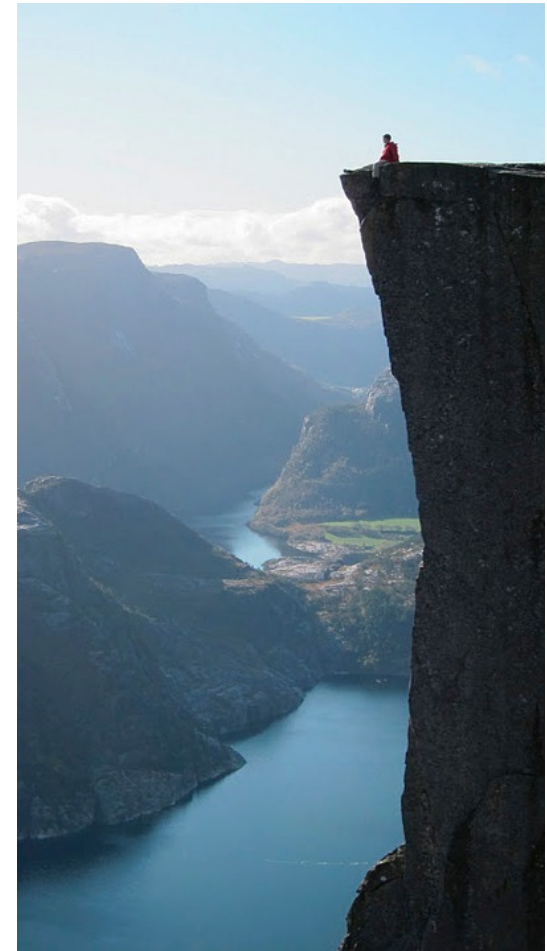


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3. Assume that `fact(n-1)` is correct.

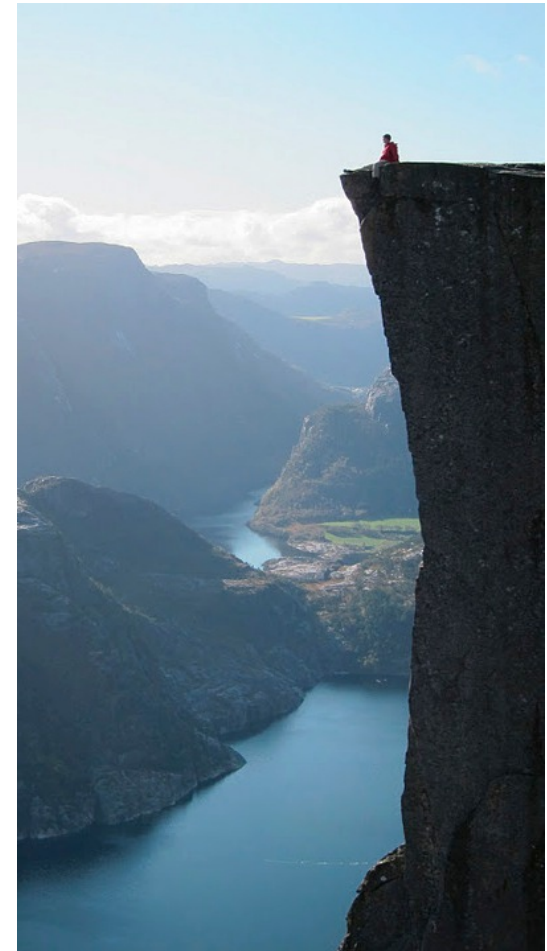


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Is fact implemented correctly?

1. Verify the base case.
2. Treat `fact` as a functional abstraction!
3. Assume that `fact(n-1)` is correct.
4. Verify that `fact(n)` is correct, assuming that `fact(n-1)` correct.

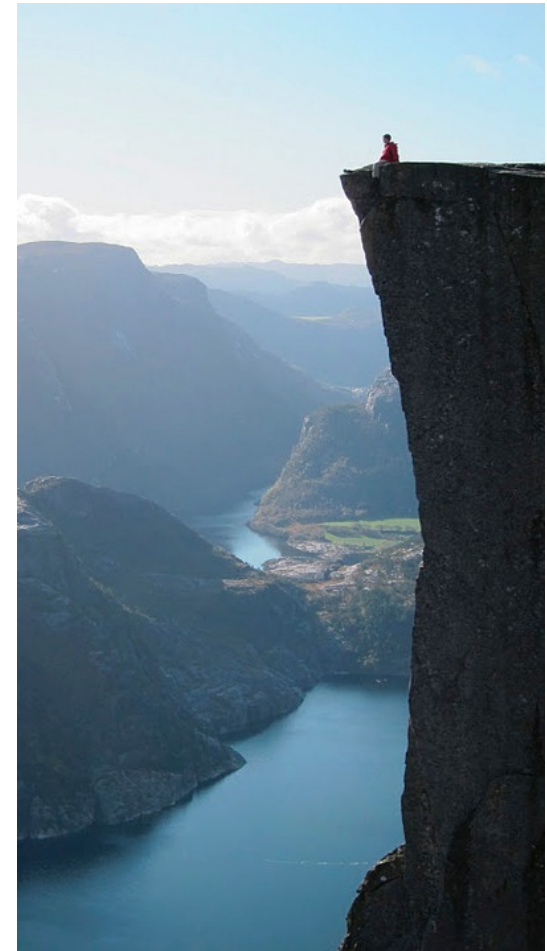


Photo by Kevin Lee, Preikestolen, Norway

Verifying Digit Sum



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def sum_digits(n):  
    """Return the sum of the digits of positive integer n."""  
    if n < 10:  
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`sum_digits(n)` will be [REDACTED]. **(conclusion)**

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Verifying Digit Sum

The `sum_digits` function computes the sum of positive `n` correctly because:

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`sum_digits(n)` will be `sum_digits(n//10)` plus the last digit of `n`. **(conclusion)**

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Mutual Recursion

The Luhn Algorithm

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Used to verify credit card numbers

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(Demo)

Recursion and Iteration

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...arguments to a recursive call