

61A Lecture 7

Monday, September 15

Announcements

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 - Office hours on Friday & Monday will review various topics
- No lab or office hours on Tuesday 9/23 and Wednesday 9/24 (staff will be grading exams)

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

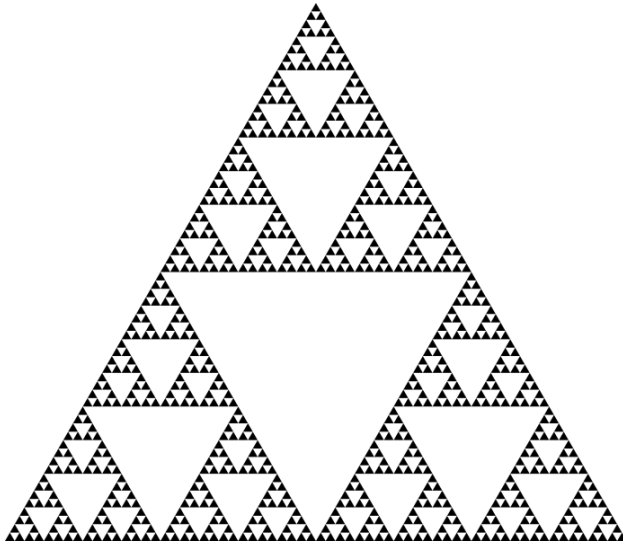
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Implication: Executing the body of a recursive function may require applying that function.

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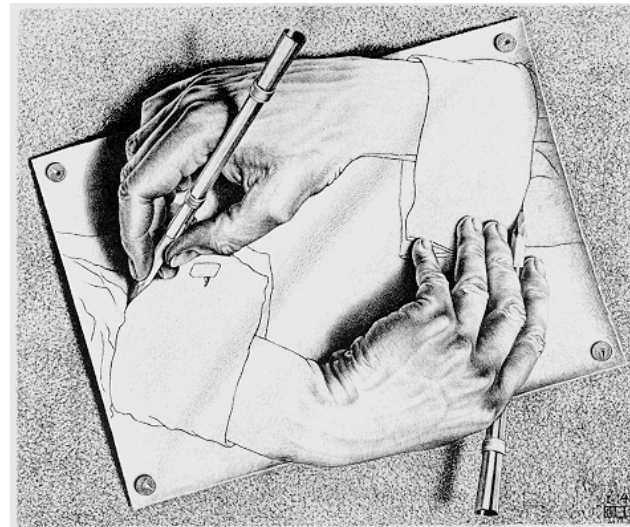
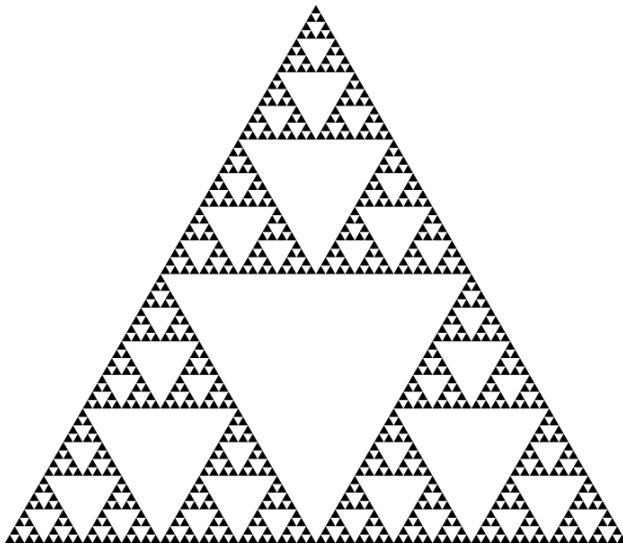
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Drawing Hands, by M. C. Escher (lithograph, 1948)

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The Bank of 61A

1234 5678 9098 7658

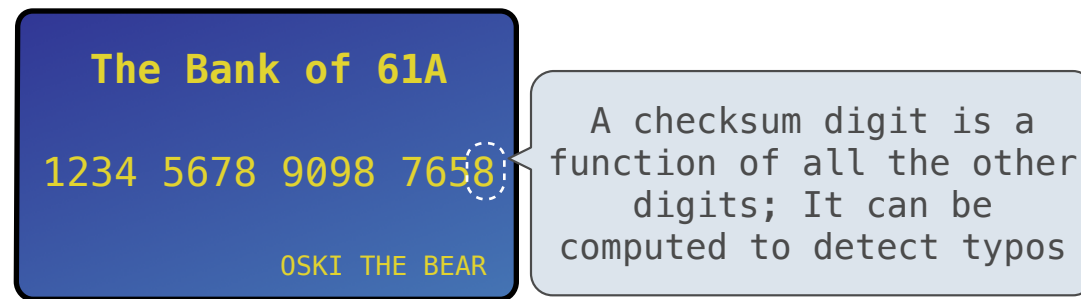
OSKI THE BEAR

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

Digit Sums

$$2+0+1+4 = 7$$

- If a number a is divisible by 9, then `sum_digits(a)` is also divisible by 9.
- Useful for typo detection!



- 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."""  
    return n // 10, n % 10
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    """Split positive n into all but its last digit and its last digit."""  
    return n // 10, n % 10  
  
def sum_digits(n):  
    """Return the sum of the digits of positive integer n."""  
    if n < 10:  
        return n  
    else:  
        all_but_last, last = split(n)  
        return sum_digits(all_but_last) + last
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The Anatomy of a Recursive Function

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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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→ 5         return n * fact(n-1)  
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7 fact(3)
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[Interactive Diagram](#)

Recursion in Environment Diagrams

(Demo)

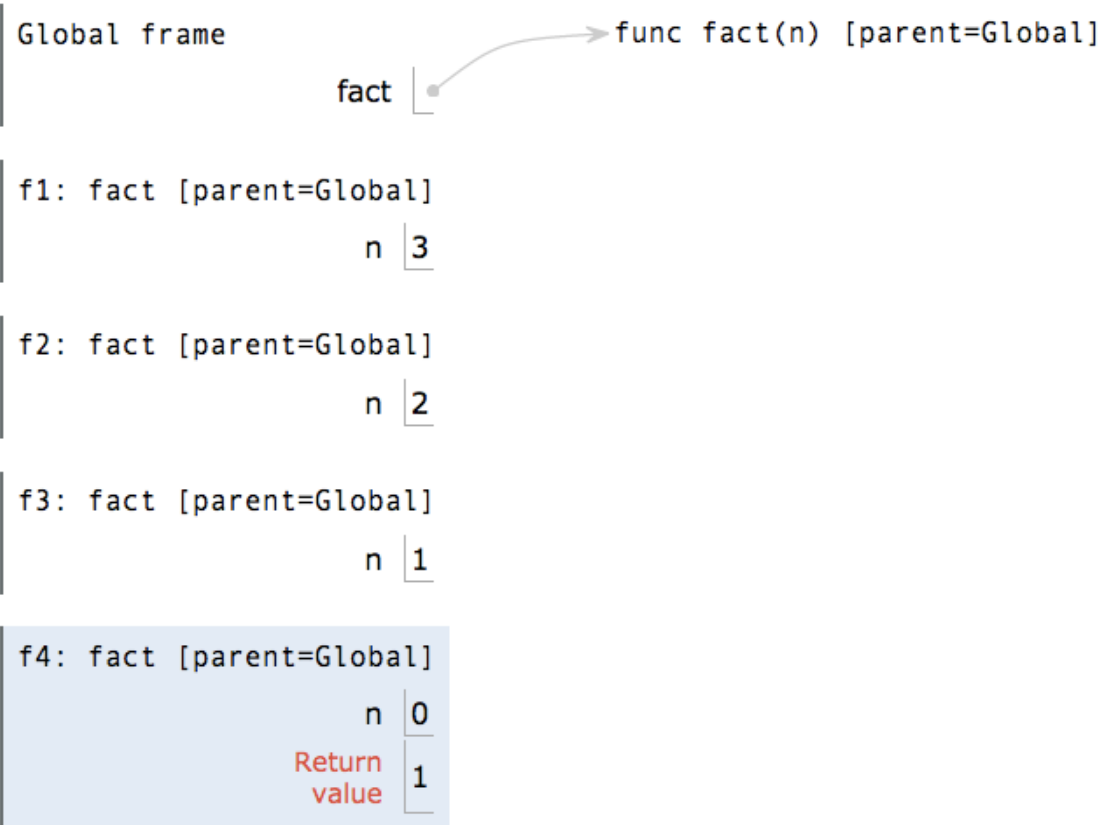
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Global frame

fact |  func fact(n) [parent=Global]

f1: fact [parent=Global]

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f2: fact [parent=Global]

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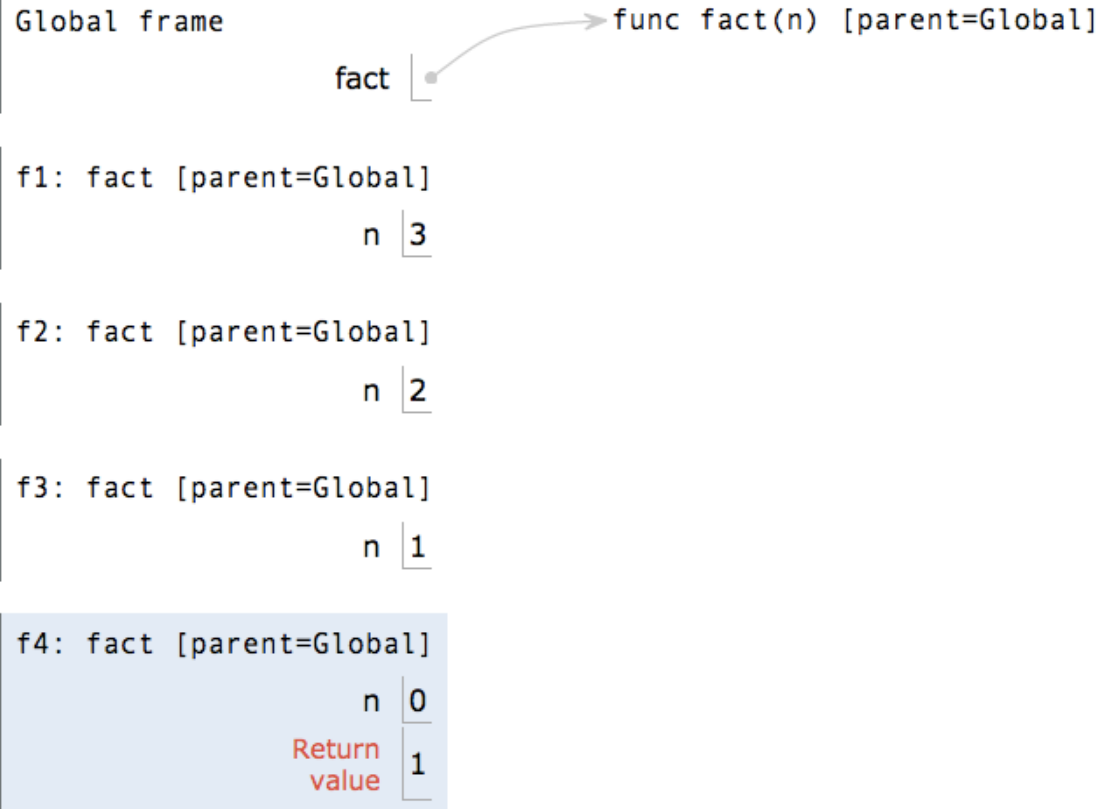
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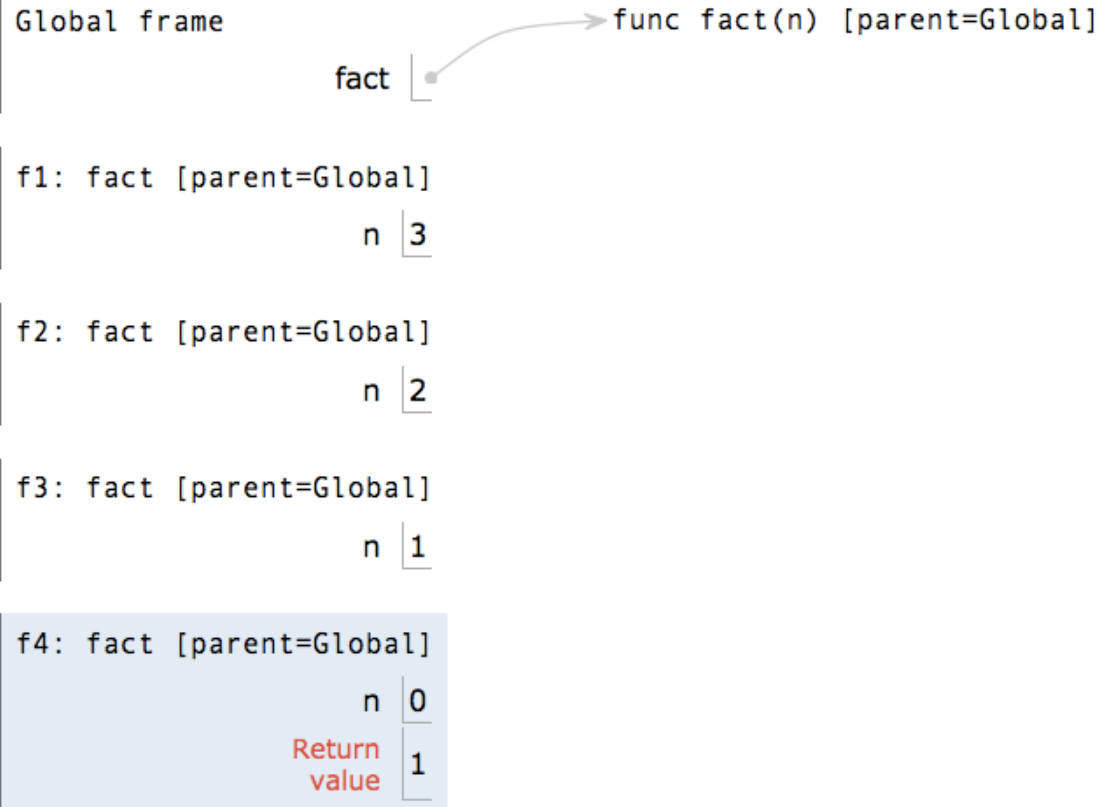
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- What n evaluates to depends upon which is the current environment.
- Each call to fact solves a simpler problem than the last: smaller n.

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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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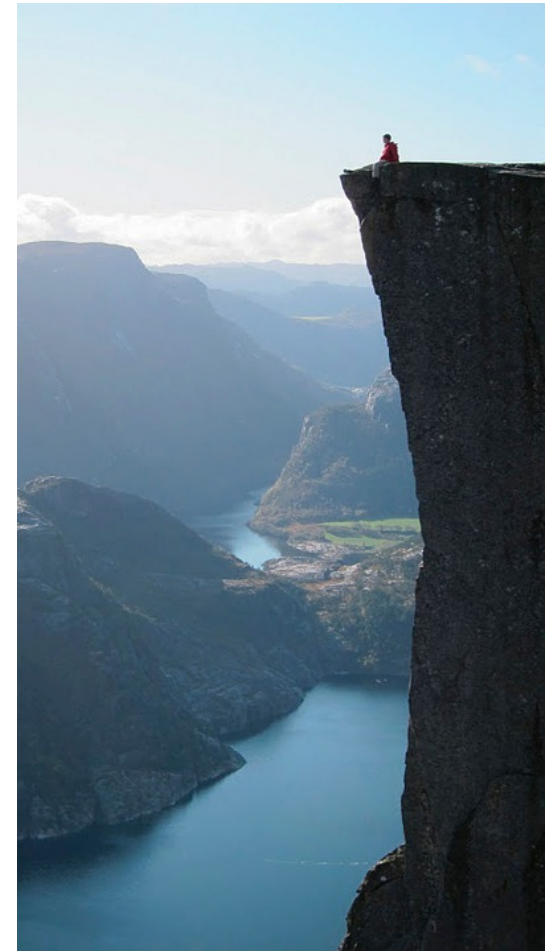


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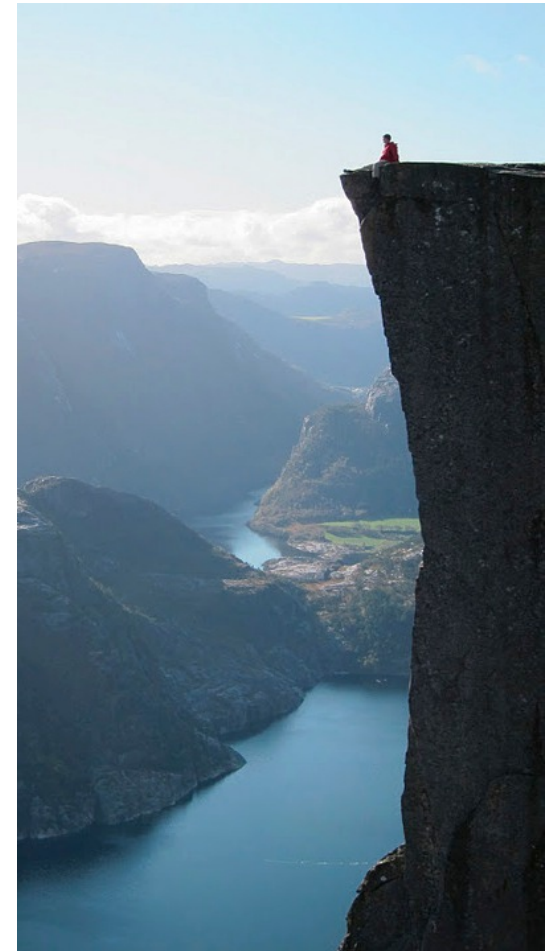


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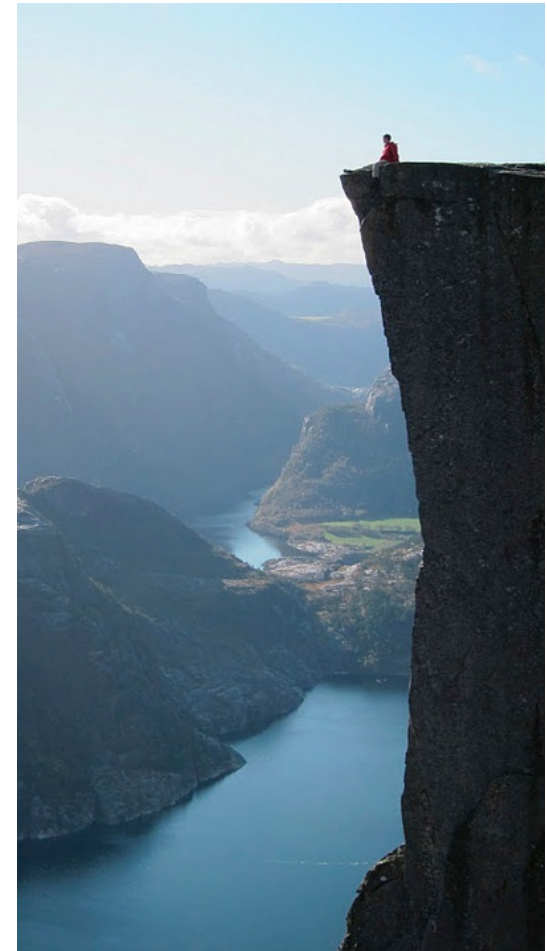


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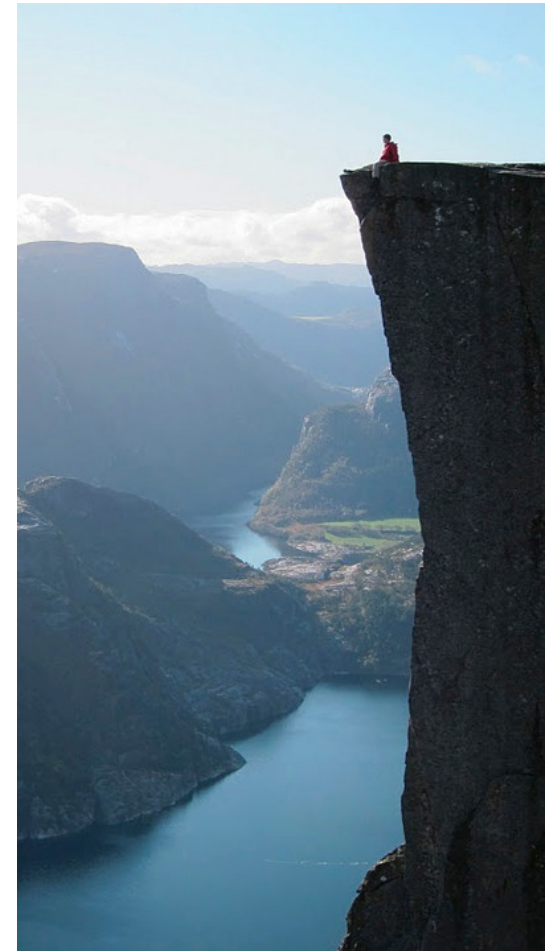


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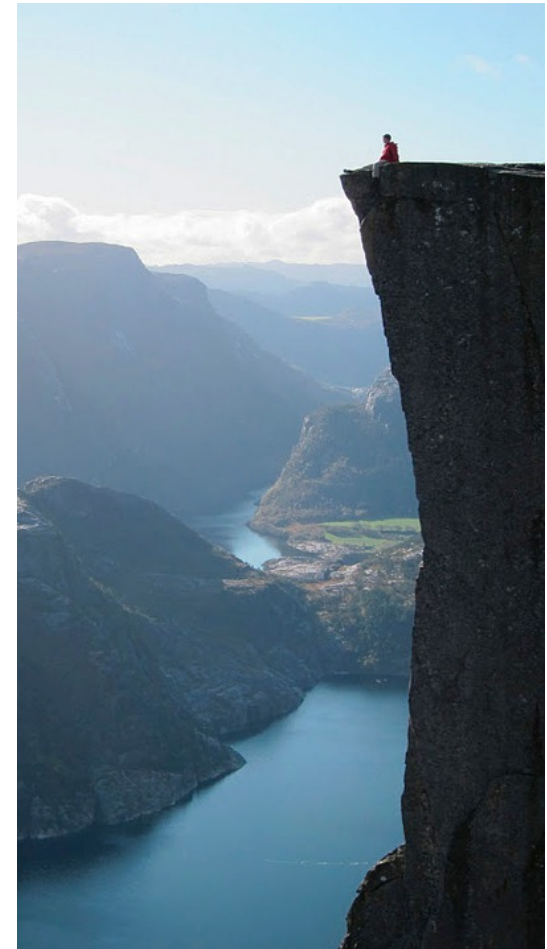


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2. Treat fact as a functional abstraction!
3. Assume that fact(n-1) is correct.
4. Verify that fact(n) is correct, assuming that fact(n-1) correct.

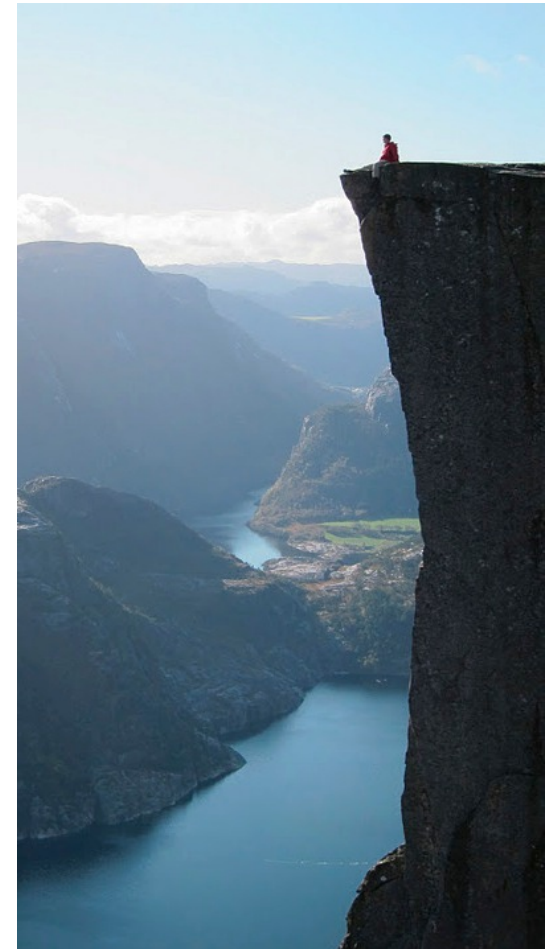


Photo by Kevin Lee, Preikestolen, Norway

Mutual Recursion

The Luhn Algorithm

The Luhn Algorithm

Used to verify credit card numbers

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- From the rightmost digit, which is the check digit, moving left, double the value of every second digit; if product of this doubling operation is greater than 9 (e.g., $7 * 2 = 14$), then sum the digits of the products (e.g., 10: $1 + 0 = 1$, 14: $1 + 4 = 5$).

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(Demo)

Recursion and Iteration

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def sum_digits(n):  
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