

# Function evaluation, recursion and complexity

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# Substitution Model

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- What is the idea behind it?
  - Certain expressions are *irreducible*.
  - Computation continues until we cannot proceed further, i.e. we get something that is irreducible.
  - By performing repeated reductions, we can simplify and find the result of any given statement.

# Applicative Order Reduction

What does this do?

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12345 % math_pow(10, math_floor(math_log10(12345)));
```



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- `12345 % math_pow(10, math_floor(4.09...));`

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- `12345 % math_pow(10, 4);`
- `12345 % 10000;`
- `2345;`

# Normal Order Reduction

What does this do?

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function sq(x) { return x * x };  
function dist(x, y) { return math_sqrt(sq(x) + sq(y)) };  
dist(1 + 5, 2 * 10);
```

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Let's try:

- `dist(1 + 5, 2 * 10);`
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- `math_sqrt((1 + 5) * (1 + 5) + (2 * 10) * (2 * 10))`

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- `math_sqrt((6) * (1 + 5) + (2 * 10) * (2 * 10))`
- `math_sqrt((6) * (6) + (2 * 10) * (2 * 10))`
- etc.

# Exercise

## Ex. 1.5

```
function p() {  
    return p();  
}  
  
function test(x, y) {  
    return x === 0 ? 0 : y;  
}  
  
test(0, p());
```

What does this evaluate to?

# Recursion

From Wikipedia:

Recursion (adjective: recursive) occurs when a thing is defined in terms of itself or of its type.



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This gives rise to a way of solving certain problems. Certain problems exhibit the property of *optimal substructure*. This means that the method to solve a large problem is by breaking it up and solving the smaller sub-problems. Then you piece it back together.

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$$s_0 = 0 \quad s_n = s_{n-1} + 1$$

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Ex: Listing out  $\mathbb{N}$

$$s_0 = 0 \quad s_n = s_{n-1} + 1$$

Ex: Fib( $n$ )

$$F_1 = 1, F_2 = 1 \quad F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$

# Time and Space Complexities

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# Time and Space Complexities

- Why do we care?
  - We need an abstract way to talk about resources consumed.
  - We do not want to care about worldly problems like programming languages, computer architecture, CPU speed, etc.
  - We want to know how input affects it.

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- Some abstract measure of time taken for the program to run.

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  - Simple operations:
    - All arithmetic e.g.  $4 * 5$
    - Memory read and write e.g. `const a = 4;`

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  - Number of operations performed.
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  - Simple operations:
    - All arithmetic e.g. `4 * 5`
    - Memory read and write e.g. `const a = 4;`
    - Conditionals e.g. `if (a === 4)`
- An asymptotic bound on the number of primitive operations by *nice* functions <sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>You can forget about this entirely, you will never meet a bad function in this course. This is however usually enforced because there exist pathological functions that really mess up complexity classes.

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# Space Complexity

- Some abstract measure of space taken for the program to run.
- How do we characterize it?
  - Number of symbols created.
  - Maximum number of “simple” symbols created.
- An asymptotic bound on the space required relative to input size.



# Big O notation

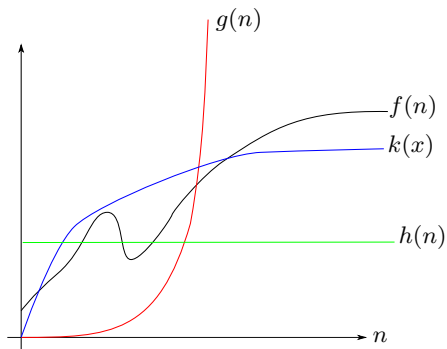
To accomplish these things we use the Big O asymptotic notation.

Name	Definition	Meaning
$f(n) = O(g(n))$	$\exists k > 0, \exists N, \forall n > N, f(n) \leq k \cdot g(n)$	$f$ is bounded above by $g$ .
$f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$	$\exists k > 0, \exists N, \forall n > N, f(n) \geq k \cdot g(n)$	$f$ is bounded below by $g$ .
$f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$	$\exists k_1, k_2 > 0, \exists N, \forall n > N,$ $k_1 \cdot g(n) \leq f(n) \leq k_2 \cdot g(n)$	$f$ is bounded by $g$ .

We can find some constant factor(s) such that regardless of how large the input gets (asymptotic) we can provide a bound on the function.

# Big O notation

## Graphical illustration



## S3 Q1

```
function f1(rune_1, n, rune_2) {  
  return n === 0  
    ? rune_2  
    : f1(rune_1, n - 1, beside(rune_1, stack([], rune_2)));  
}
```

Evaluate  $f1(\blacksquare, 3, \heartsuit)$  using the substitution model.

$f1(\blacksquare, 3, \heartsuit)$

## S3 Q1

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function f1(rune_1, n, rune_2) {  
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## S3 Q2

```
function f2(rune, n) {  
  return n === 0  
    ? rune  
    : stack(beside(□, f2(rune, n - 1)), ■);  
}
```

Evaluate  $f2(\heartsuit, 3)$  using the substitution model.

```
f2(♡, 0);
```

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♥

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f2(♡, 1);
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stack(beside(□, f2(♡, 0)), ■)
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  return n === 0  
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$stack(□\heartsuit, ■)$



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}
```

Evaluate  $f2(\heartsuit, 3)$  using the substitution model.

```
f2(♥, 0);
```

```
♥
```

```
f2(♥, 1);
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```
stack(beside(□, f2(♥, 0)), ■)
```

```
stack(beside(□, ♥), ■)
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```
□♥
```

```
■
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}
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Evaluate  $f2(\heartsuit, 3)$  using the substitution model.

$f2(\heartsuit, 0);$

♥

$f2(\heartsuit, 2);$

$f2(\heartsuit, 1);$

$stack(beside(□, f2(\heartsuit, 0)), ■)$

$stack(beside(□, \heartsuit), ■)$

$stack(□\heartsuit, ■)$

□♥

■

## S3 Q2

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$f2(\heartsuit, 2);$

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$f2(\heartsuit, 1);$

stack(beside(□,  $f2(\heartsuit, 0)$ ), ■)

stack(beside(□, ♥), ■)

stack(□♥, ■)

□♥

■

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♥

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$stack(beside(\square, f2(\heartsuit, 0)), \blacksquare)$

$stack(beside(\square, \heartsuit), \blacksquare)$

$stack(\square\heartsuit, \blacksquare)$

□♥

■

$f2(\heartsuit, 2);$

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□  
□♥  
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stack(□♥, ■)

□  
♥

■

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f2(♥, 0);
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f2(♥, 1);
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stack(beside(□, f2(♥, 0)), ■)
```

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f2(♥, 2);
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```

```
□  
□♥  
■
```

```
f2(♥, 3);
```

```
□  
□  
□♥  
■
```

# Q1

Write a function `moony_1(rune)` that outputs this:



## Q1

Write a function `moony_1(rune)` that outputs this:



```
function moony_1(rune) {  
    return stack(aside(circle, blank),  
                 aside(square, rune));  
}
```



## Q2

Write a function `moony_2` to recursively insert circles into the right place. Example output of `moony_2(4)`:



## Q2

Write a function `moony_2` to recursively insert circles into the right place. Example output of `moony_2(4)`:



```
function moony_2(n) {
```

## Q2

Write a function `moony_2` to recursively insert circles into the right place. Example output of `moony_2(4)`:



```
function moony_2(n) {  
  return n === 1  
    ? circle
```

## Q2

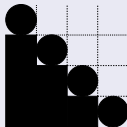
Write a function `moony_2` to recursively insert circles into the right place. Example output of `moony_2(4)`:



```
function moony_2(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? circle  
        : moony_1(moony_2(n - 1));  
}
```

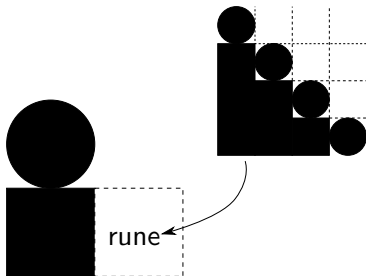
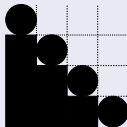
## Q3

Now make the circles have the same diameters:



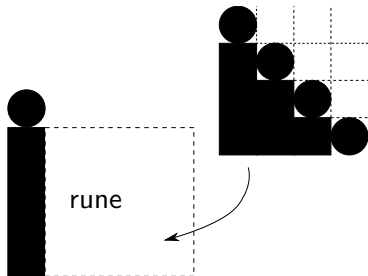
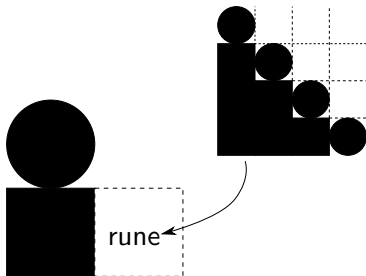
# Q3

Now make the circles have the same diameters:



# Q3

Now make the circles have the same diameters:



# Q3

Cont.

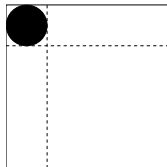
```
function moony(n) {  
  return n === 1  
    ? circle
```



## Q3

Cont.

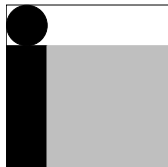
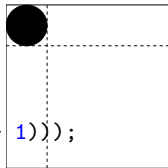
```
function moony(n) {  
  return n === 1  
    ? circle  
    : stack_frac(1 / n,  
                 beside_frac(1/n, circle, blank),
```



## Q3

Cont.

```
function moony(n) {  
  return n === 1  
    ? circle  
    : stack_frac(1 / n,  
      beside_frac(1/n, circle, blank),  
      beside_frac(1/n, square, moony(n - 1)));  
}
```



## Q4

Do your functions give rise to recursive or iterative processes? What is the time and space complexities of your `moony`?

Name	Process	Space	Time
<code>moony_1</code>	—	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
<code>moony_2</code>	Recursive	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
<code>moony</code>	Recursive	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$

# Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$

## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$
- $5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 3)$

## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$
- $5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 3)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 2)$

## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$
- $5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 3)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 2)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 1)$



## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$
- $5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 3)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 2)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 1)$
- ...

## Q1

```
function expt(b, n) {  
    return n === 0  
        ? 1  
        : b * expt(b, n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{expt}(b, 4)$
- $5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 3)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 2)$
- $5 * 5 * 5 * 5 * \text{expt}(b, 1)$
- ...
  
- Time:  $\Theta(e)$
- Space:  $\Theta(e)$

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

- `fast_power(3, 4)`

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

- `fast_power(3, 4)`
- `fast_power(9, 2)`

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

- `fast_power(3, 4)`
- `fast_power(9, 2)`
- `fast_power(81, 1)`

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

- `fast_power(3, 4)`
- `fast_power(9, 2)`
- `fast_power(81, 1)`
- `81 * fast_power(81, 0) ✓`

## Q2

```
function fast_power(b, e) {  
  return e === 0  
    ? 1  
    : is_even(e)  
      ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)  
      : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);  
}
```

- `fast_power(3, 4)`
- `fast_power(9, 2)`
- `fast_power(81, 1)`
- `81 * fast_power(81, 0) ✓`
  
- Time:  $\Theta(\log e)$
- Space:  $\Theta(1)$



## Q9

Cont.

```
return e === 0
  ? 1
  : is_even(e)
    ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
    : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e == 0
    ? 1
    : is_even(e)
        ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
        : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

- `fast_power(3, 10)`

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e == 0
    ? 1
    : is_even(e)
        ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
        : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

- `fast_power(3, 10)`
- `fast_power(9, 5)`

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e === 0
  ? 1
  : is_even(e)
    ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
    : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

- `fast_power(3, 10)`
- `fast_power(9, 5)`
- `9 * fast_power(9, 4)`

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e == 0
    ? 1
    : is_even(e)
        ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
        : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

- `fast_power(3, 10)`
- `fast_power(9, 5)`
- `9 * fast_power(9, 4)`
- `9 * fast_power(81, 2)`

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e == 0
    ? 1
    : is_even(e)
        ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
        : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

- `fast_power(3, 10)`
- `fast_power(9, 5)`
- `9 * fast_power(9, 4)`
- `9 * fast_power(81, 2)`
- `9 * fast_power(6561, 1)`

## Q9

Cont.

```
return e == 0
    ? 1
    : is_even(e)
        ? fast_power(b * b, e / 2)
        : b * fast_power(b, e - 1);
```

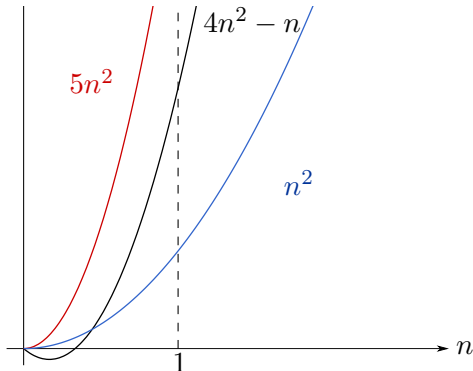
- `fast_power(3, 10)`
- `fast_power(9, 5)`
- `9 * fast_power(9, 4)`
- `9 * fast_power(81, 2)`
- `9 * fast_power(6561, 1)`
- `9 * 6561 * fast_power(6561, 0)` ✓

## Q1

Show that  $4n^2 - n = \Theta(n^2)$

$$n_0 = 1, k_2 = 5, k_1 = 1.$$

In fact one can show that for any polynomial  $p_m(n)$  of degree  $m$ ,  $p_m(n) = \Theta(n^m)$ .





## Q2

Show that  $\log_5(n) = \Theta(\ln n)$

## Q2

Show that  $\log_5(n) = \Theta(\ln n)$

$$\log_a n = \frac{\log_b n}{\log_b a}$$

Q3

$$10n \log n \stackrel{?}{=} O(n^2)$$

## Q3

$$10n \log n \stackrel{?}{=} O(n^2)$$

$$10n \log n \stackrel{?}{\leq} 2n^2$$
$$\log n \leq n$$

## Q4

$$n^3 \stackrel{?}{=} O(2^n)$$

## Q4

$$n^3 \stackrel{?}{=} O(2^n)$$

$$n^3 \stackrel{?}{\leq} k \cdot 2^n$$

$$\log n^3 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \log k + \log 2^n$$

$$3 \log n \leq \log k + n \log 2$$

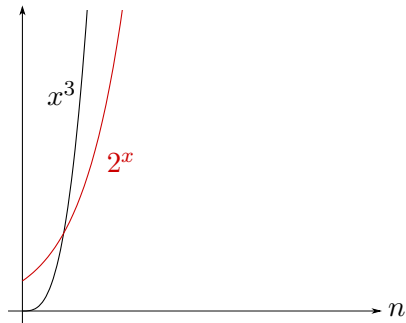
## Q4

$$n^3 \stackrel{?}{=} O(2^n)$$

$$n^3 \stackrel{?}{\leq} k \cdot 2^n$$

$$\log n^3 \stackrel{?}{\leq} \log k + \log 2^n$$

$$3 \log n \leq \log k + n \log 2$$



## Q5

- a)  $5n^2 + n = \Theta(?)$
- b)  $\sqrt{n} + n = \Theta(?)$
- c)  $3^n n^2 = \Theta(?)$



## Q5

a)  $5n^2 + n = \Theta(?)$

b)  $\sqrt{n} + n = \Theta(?)$

c)  $3^n n^2 = \Theta(?)$

a)  $\Theta(n^2)$

## Q5

a)  $5n^2 + n = \Theta(?)$

b)  $\sqrt{n} + n = \Theta(?)$

c)  $3^n n^2 = \Theta(?)$

a)  $\Theta(n^2)$

b)  $\Theta(n)$

## Q5

a)  $5n^2 + n = \Theta(?)$

b)  $\sqrt{n} + n = \Theta(?)$

c)  $3^n n^2 = \Theta(?)$

a)  $\Theta(n^2)$

b)  $\Theta(n)$

c)  $\Theta(3^n n^2)$

For the next few questions, give the space and time complexities of the functions presented.

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- `5 * factorial(4)`

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- `5 * factorial(4)`
- `5 * 4 * factorial(3)`

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{factorial}(4)$
- $5 * 4 * \text{factorial}(3)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * \text{factorial}(2)$



## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{factorial}(4)$
- $5 * 4 * \text{factorial}(3)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * \text{factorial}(2)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * \text{factorial}(1)$

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- `5 * factorial(4)`
- `5 * 4 * factorial(3)`
- `5 * 4 * 3 * factorial(2)`
- `5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * factorial(1)`
- `5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1`

## Q6

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? 1  
        : n * factorial(n - 1);  
}
```

- $5 * \text{factorial}(4)$
- $5 * 4 * \text{factorial}(3)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * \text{factorial}(2)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * \text{factorial}(1)$
- $5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1$
  
- Time:  $\Theta(n)$
- Space:  $\Theta(n)$

## Q7

Write `factorial` that gives rise to an iterative process.

## Q7

Write factorial that gives rise to an iterative process.

```
function _(n, res) {  
    return n === 1  
        ? res  
        : _(n - 1, n * res);  
}
```

```
function factorial(n) {  
    return _(n, 1);  
}
```