

## Review 5

# **Recursion**

# What We Will Do today

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- Practice recursive specifications and functions
  - Given a recursive problem definition
    - Determine a proper specification (note preconditions)
  - Given a problem description and specification:
    - Write the recursive base case
    - Write the recursive call
    - Verify that it is correct

## Questions?

# Important Steps

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## 1. Precise Specification

- What does the function do?
- What are the preconditions?

## 2. Write the base case

- What is the most basic case?
- What causes termination of the recursive function?

## 3. Write the recursive case

- How do we make progress toward termination?
- Is your computation correct?

# Writing Specifications

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Write a specification for a function that:

- Computes the complement of a positive integer.  
i.e. The complement of 12345 is 98765.
- Reduce the positive input integer to a single digit.  
i.e.  $472 \rightarrow 4+7+2 = 13 \rightarrow 1+3 = 4$

# Writing Specifications

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Write a specification for a function that:

- Computes the complement of a positive integer.  
i.e. The complement of 12345 is 98765.

"""Returns: complement of n, by replacing each decimal digit of n by 10-n. ie. the result for 93723 is 17387.  
Precondition:  $n > 0$  an int, and no digit of n is 0"""

- Reduce the positive input integer to a single digit.  
i.e.  $472 \rightarrow 47+2 = 49 \rightarrow 4+9 = 13 \rightarrow 1+3 = 4$

"""Returns: n reduced to a single digit (summing its digits)  
Precondition:  $n > 0$  an int"""

# Writing Specifications

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Write a specification for a function that:

- Compresses a String so that duplicate are replaced with counts  
i.e. aaabbbbbbbccd -> a3b6c2d1
- Converts an integer to a string representation with commas  
i.e. 5923821 is converted to 5,923,821.

# Writing Specifications

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Write a specification for a function that:

- Compresses a String so that duplicate are replaced with counts  
i.e. aaabbbbbbbccd -> a3b6c2d1

"""Returns: s compressed so that duplicates are replaced with  
count of how many occurrences that character has in a row.  
Precondition: s a string"""

- Converts an integer to a string representation with commas  
i.e. 5923821 is converted to 5,923,821.

"""Returns: String representation of n with commas added  
Precondition: n an int (positive or negative)"""

# Complement of an Integer

---

```
def complement(int n) {  
    """Returns: the complement of n, formed by replacing  
    each decimal digit of n by 10-n.  
    i.e. the result for the integer 93723 is 17387.  
    Precondition: n > 0 and int, and no digit of n is 0"""  
    # Base Case  
  
    # Recursive Case
```



# Complement of an Integer

---

```
def complement(int n) {  
    """Returns: the complement of n, formed by replacing  
    each decimal digit of n by 10-n.  
    i.e. the result for the integer 93723 is 17387.  
    Precondition: n > 0 and int, and no digit of n is 0"""  
    # Base Case  
    if n < 10:  
        | return 10 - n  
  
    # Recursive Case  
    return complement(n/10) * 10 + (10 - n%10)
```

# Adding Commas to an Integer

---

```
def add_commas(n):
```

```
    """Returns: string representation of n with commas added
```

```
    Precondition: n is an int (positive or negative)"""
```

```
    # Base case
```

```
    # Recursive Case
```

# Adding Commas to an Integer

---

```
def add_commas(n):  
    """Returns: string representation of n with commas added  
    Precondition: n is an int (positive or negative)"""  
    # Base case  
    if n < 1000:  
        | return str(n)  
    # Recursive Case  
    number = str(n)  
    return add_commas(n/1000) + ',' + number[-3:0]
```

**Is something wrong?**

# Adding Commas to an Integer

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```
def add_commas(n):  
    """Returns: n with commas added. Precondition: n is an int (positive or negative)"""  
    if n < 0:  
        return '-' + add_commas_helper(-n)  
    else:  
        return add_commas_helper(n)
```

```
def add_commas_helper(n):  
    """Returns: n with commas added. Precondition: n > 0 is an int"""  
    # Base case  
    if n < 1000:  
        return str(n)  
    # Recursive Case  
    number = str(n)  
    return add_commas_helper(n/1000) + ',' + number[-3:]
```

# An extra problem...

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```
class FacebookProfile(object):  
    name = ''      # String, name of this profile  
    friends = []   # Friends lists; contents are FacebookProfile objects
```

We want to answer the question:

- Is this profile at most 6 degrees away from Kevin Bacon?
- In other words, is Kevin Bacon a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend?

Specification (Method inside class FacebookProfile):

```
def sixDegreesOfBacon(self):  
    """Returns: True if this FacebookProfile is at most 6  
    degrees away from Kevin Bacon; False otherwise"""
```

# 6-Degrees of Kevin Bacon

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```
class FacebookProfile(object):
    ...
    def sixDegreesOfBacon(self):
        """Returns: True if this FacebookProfile is at most 6 degrees away from Kevin Bacon"""
        return _sixDegreesHelper(6)

    def sixDegreesOfBacon(self,n):
        """Returns: True if this FacebookProfile is at most n degrees away from Kevin Bacon
        Precondition: n > 0 an int"""
        # Base case
        if (name = 'Kevin Bacon':
            return True
        if n == 0:
            return False
        # Recursive Case
        for f in self.friends:
            if f._sixDegreesHelper(n-1):
                return True
        return False
```

# Extra Problems

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- Given a list, use recursion to determine if it is sorted
- Given a String s, list all the permutations of String s:
  - “XZY”  $\rightarrow$  “XYZ”, “XZY”, “ZYG”, “YXZ”, etc
- Use recursion to find the minimum element in a list

**Questions?**