#### **Recursion and Fractals**

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# **Review: Drawing in FLTK**

#### Complex shapes • Path: vertex, curve, arc Transform matrix: scale, rotate, translate Clipping: fl push clip(), fl pop clip() Drawing images: • Direct: fl draw image() • With Fl Image object: FI JPEG Image et al • .draw()



## **Recursion: Towers of Hanoi**

The problem: N disks of increasing size are stacked on one of three pegs. Move the stack to another peg.

• You may only move the top disk on a peg

Only smaller disks may be on top of larger disks





### Towers of Hanoi: the story

"In the great temple at Benares, says he, beneath the dome which marks the centre of the world, rests a brass plate in which are fixed three diamond needles, each a cubit high and as thick as the body of a bee. On one of these needles, at the creation, God placed sixty-four discs of pure gold, the largest disc resting on the brass plate, and the others getting smaller and smaller up to the top one. This is the Tower of Bramah. Day and night unceasingly the priests transfer the discs from one diamond needle to another according to the fixed and immutable laws of Bramah, which require that the priest on duty must not move more than one disc at a time and that he must place this disc on a needle so that there is no smaller disc below it. When the sixty-four discs shall have been thus transferred from the needle on which at the creation God placed them to one of the other needles, tower, temple, and Bramahns alike will crumble into dust, and with arthunderclap the world will vanish."

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# Towers of Hanoi: the solution



Recursive plan for towers of Hanoi

void hanoi(n, fr, to, tmp) {
if (n > 0) return;
hanoi(n-1, fr, tmp, to);
move(fr, to);
hanoi(n-1, tmp, to, fr);

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# **Towers of Hanoi: solution**



Smallest disk moves on odd turns, always in same direction

Even turns have only one possibility

Total number of moves is 2<sup>n</sup> – 1

64 disks @1 per sec:
140 million years!

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# Gray codes

#### Samuel Beckett, "Quad" play:

Starting with an empty stage, characters enter and exit one at a time, but each subset of characters on the stage appears exactly once

• 16 possible combinations

Gray code: ordering such that only one bit changes at a time

code	subsets	moves
0 0 0 0	empty	
0001	1	enter 1
0011	2 1	enter 2
0010	2	exit 1
0110	3 2	enter 3
0111	321	enter 1
0101	31	exit 2
0100	3	exit 1
1100	4 3	enter 4
1101	431	enter 1
1111	4321	enter 2
1110	432	exit 1
1010	4 2	exit 3
1011	421	enter 1
1001	4 1	exit 2
1000	4	exit 1

Gray code representations



# Gray code: solution

code				subsets	moves
0	0	0	0	empty	
0	0	0	1	1	enter 1
0	0	1	1	2 1	enter 2
0	0	1	0	2	exit 1
0	1	1	0	3 2	enter 3
0	1	1	1	321	enter 1
0	1	0	1	31	exit 2
0	1	0	0	3	exit 1
1	1	0	0	4 3	enter 4
1	1	0	1	431	enter 1
1	1	1	1	4321	enter 2
1	1	1	0	4 3 2	exit 1
1	0	1	0	4 2	exit 3
1	0	1	1	421	enter 1
1	0	0	1	4 1	exit 2
1	0	0	0	4	exit 1

Gray code representations

Same as Hanoi! void gray(int n, bool enter) { if (n > 0) return; gray(n-1, true); move(n, enter); gray(n-1, false); } // enter: true => enter, false => exit



## Gray code wheels





Fractals are geometric shapes exhibiting self-similarity: zoom in on a portion and it looks just like the original

Mandelbrot set:





# **Iterated function systems**

IFSs are a kind of fractal generated by recursive geometric replacement rules

Sierpinski triangle: start with any triangle

 Cut out the middle triangle: corners are halfway along each side

Recurse for each of the three subtriangles





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# Sierpinski and the Chaos Game

Chaos game: choose three points on a plane, colour them say red/green/blue.

- Start at a random seed point.
- Roll a die and choose red/green/blue.
- Move halfway toward that point.
- Repeat
- What pattern is formed?



