

---

Subject: Re: Recursive Function Program in IDL  
Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Wed, 14 Dec 2005 16:36:44 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

this computes the binomial coefficients recursively  
(the numbers showing up in Pascal's triangle)

```
FUNCTION binomial,n,j

IF n LT j THEN BEGIN
    print,'INVALID INPUT IN BINOMIAL'
    RETURN,-1
ENDIF

IF j LE 0 THEN RETURN,1

IF j EQ n THEN $
    RETURN,1 ELSE $
    RETURN,binomial(n-1,j)+binomial(n-1,j-1)

END
```

Ciao,  
Paolo

David Fanning wrote:

```
> Folks,
>
> Does anyone have a handy recursive function that does something neat?
> Someone is asking, and I don't have time to work on this. He
> (apparently) can't get to the newsgroup.
>
> Thanks,
>
> David
>
```

---