

# NESTED ITERATOR

INTERFACE ITERATOR <T>

<T> next()  
bool hasNext()

[1, [1, [2, 3]], 3, 4, [4, 5]]

NESTED INTEGER

boolean isInteger();  
Integer getInteger();  
List<Integer> getList();

IDEA 1: flatten out recursively in a queue - inefficient.

Better Way: Think the iterator way

List<NestedInteger>

[1, [2, [3, 4]], 5, 6, [7, 8]]

iterators()  
NestedInteger

iterate our way? stack<Iterators>

Integer cursor; //hasNext() always invoked before next()

next()

need to return cursor value  
need to clear cursor

hasNext()

//goal: put Integer into cursor  
while (!stack.empty() && cursor == null)  
top ← stack.peek()  
if !top.hasNext()  
stack.pop(); continue  
NI ← top.next()  
if NI :: isInteger  
cursor ← NI, return true  
else  
stack.push(NI.iterators())  
return false

hasNext  
NI ← NI<sub>0</sub>  
cursor ← 1  
next()  
next ← cursor  
clear cursor  
return next.

hasNext  
NI ← NI<sub>1</sub>  
List.  
∴ iterators NI<sub>1</sub>  
pushed stack

# NestedIterator

```
Stack<Iterator<NestedInteger>> stack
Integer cursor

// constructor
NestedIterator(NestedList)
    stack ← new Stack<>()
    if nestedList != null
        stack.push(nestedList.iterator())

// next: evict cursor
Integer next()
    value ← cursor
    cursor ← null
    return value
```

① hasNext()

```

    outerIter gives [1]
    nestedInteger ← [1]
    cursor ← 1
    hasNext ← true

    next() // 1
    evict cursor
```

② hasNext()

```

    outerIter gives [2]
    nestedInteger ← [2]
    cursor ← 2
    hasNext ← true

    next() // 2
    evict cursor
```

③ hasNext()

```

    outerIter gives [3, 4]
    nestedInteger ← [3, 4]
    stack.push(innerIter)

    — while iterates —
    innerIter gives [3]
    nestedInteger ← [3]
    cursor ← 3
    hasNext ← true

    next() // 3
    evict cursor
```

④ hasNext()

```

    innerIter gives [4]
    nestedInteger ← [4]
    cursor ← 4
    hasNext ← true

    next() // 4
    evict cursor
```

⑤ hasNext()

```

    innerIter out of elements
    stack.pop()

    — while iterates —
    outerIter gives [5]
    nestedInteger ← 5
    cursor ← 5
    hasNext ← true

    next() // 5
    evict cursor
```

```

boolean hasNext()
    hasNext ← false
    while (true)
        if isEmpty(stack) && cursor is null
            break
        topIterator ← stack.peek()
        if topIterator.hasNext() is false
            stack.pop()
        else
            nestedInteger ← topIterator.next()
            if nestedInteger is Integer
                cursor ← nestedInteger.getInteger()
                hasNext ← true
            break
        else
            innerList ← nestedInteger.getList()
            stack.push(innerList.iterator())
```

```

hasNext()
    outerIter out of elements
    stack.pop()

    — while —
    stack empty
    cursor null

    hasNext ← false
```