

Count and Say

This problem requires building each term of the sequence by describing the previous term using run-length encoding.

[Key Idea:]

1. Base case: $\text{countAndSay}(1) = "1"$
2. Recursive / Iterative step:
Generate the next term by counting consecutive identical digits in the current term.
3. Run-Length Encoding logic:
For string "3322251" \rightarrow output "23321511":
 - 33 \rightarrow "23"
 - 222 \rightarrow "32"
 - 5 \rightarrow "15"
 - 1 \rightarrow "11"

[Iterative Solution (Optional):]

Algorithm:

1. Start with "1"
2. Repeat $n-1$ times:
 - Scan the current string.
 - Count consecutive characters.
 - Append count + char to next string.
3. Return the final string.

[Complexity:]

- Time: $O(n \times m)$ (where m is length of term, grows roughly 1.3x each step).
- Space: $O(m)$ (string building each step).