Example One – Tracing – Reversing a list

#Call	lst	Base Case?	Returned
1	[1, 1, 2, 3, 5]	N	[5] + rev_list([1, 1, 2, 3])
2	[1, 1, 2, 3]	N	[3] + rev_list([1, 1, 2])
3	[1, 1, 2]	N	[2] + rev_list([1, 1])
4	[1, 1]	N	[1] + rev_list([1])
5	[1]	Y	[1]

Return #	Lst(line5)	Returned
1	[1]	[1]
2	[1, 1]	[1] + [1] = [1, 1]
3	[1, 1, 2]	[2] + [1, 1] = [2, 1, 1]
4	[1, 1, 2, 3]	[3] + [2, 1, 1] = [3, 2, 1, 1]
5	[1, 1, 2, 3, 5]	[5] + [3, 2, 1, 1] = [5, 3, 2, 1, 1]

Example 2 – Tracing a Mystery Recursive Function

Call#	s	Base Case?	Returned
1	'abceba'	N	True and spam('bceb')
2	'bceb'	N	True and spam('ce')
3	'ce'	N	False and spam('')
4	''	Y	True

Return#	s(line5)	Returned(line5)
1	''	True
2	'ce'	False and True = False
3	'bceb'	True and False = False
4	'abceba'	True and False = False