

CSC148 Worksheet 8 Solution

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Question 1

- No. It's not a good solution.

The code is trying to count the number of elements in list.

The *for* loop takes $\Theta(n)$ time, and this is not an efficient solution.

We can do better than that by reducing the runtime to $\Theta(1)$ by using *len(...)* function.

Correct Solution:

No. It's not a good solution.

Stacks are not iterable

Question 2

- Yes. This is a good solution.

The quick points are

- The method is trying to determine the number of elements in *Stack*.
- *pop()* method removes an element from stack. This works as an indexing variable for the while loop.
- *is_empty()* method checks for the condition of stack not having any elements. This allows while loop to terminate after using stack's *pop()* method sufficient number of times.
- *count* variable allows the number of elements to be counted, as it is being removed from *Stack* by *pop* method.

Correct Solution:

No. This is not a good solution.

The quick points are

- The code uses *pop()* method.
- *pop()* method causes *Stack* to mutate in number of elements, and the next time the *size* function is called, it will return 0.
- *size()* function should not affect the number of elements in stack.

Question 3

- This is a good solution if the instance attribute *_items* is using list to store items.

Going further, this is a good solution for any iterable objects with *__len__* method (it should be correctly defined as well!).