

## A Full-fill-ing Problem

Two requirements:

- Your solution to this problem must use a recursive function, using the definition presented in the problem.
- Your solution must not use global variables.

**Solutions that violate either of these requirements will receive no credit.**

Suppose we have a 0-indexed array  $a$  of integers like this:

---

<b>values</b>	7	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	5
<b>index</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

---

We can define a **fill** operation that, starting at an index  $i$ , replaces the value at  $i$ , and any contiguous positions containing that same value, with a new value  $x$ . For example, performing the **fill** operation on the above array with  $i = 4$  and  $x = 0$  would result in the following array:

---

<b>values</b>	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	3	5
<b>index</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

---

And performing the **fill** operation on the original array with  $i = 1$  and  $x = 0$  would result in the following array:

---

<b>values</b>	7	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	3	5
<b>index</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

---

Another example would be taking the following array and performing the **fill** operation with  $i = 7$  and  $x = 1$ .

---

<b>values</b>	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
<b>index</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

---

Such operation on the original array would output the following:

---

<b>values</b>	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>index</b>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

---

Notice how, in this case, the element at index 7 (with value 2) is unaffected because the `fill` operation only affects positions *contiguous* to position  $i$  that have the same value contained in position  $i$ .

The `fill` operation is commonly used in two-dimensional arrays representing images, to replace some contiguous region of one color with a different color. For simplicity, we will only deal with one-dimensional arrays and, in particular, we will implement the `fill` operation recursively as follow: Given a 0-indexed array  $a$  with  $N$  elements, an index  $i$ , an original value  $v$  and a new value  $x$ :

- If  $i < 0$  or  $i \geq N$ , do nothing and return (the index is out of bounds).
- If  $a[i] \neq v$ , do nothing and return (we've encountered a value that is not the one we want to replace).
- If  $a[i] = x$ , do nothing and return (we've already changed the value at this index).
- Otherwise, set  $a[i]$  to  $x$  and call `fill` recursively two times: one with  $i - 1$  and another with  $i + 1$  ( $a$ ,  $v$ , and  $x$  remain the same in the recursive calls)

Note that `fill` does not return anything. Its purpose is to modify an array in-place. Also, take into account that the initial call to the `fill` function should pass  $a[i]$  as the value for  $v$ .

#### Reminders:

- Your solution to this problem must use a recursive function. The recursive function must be based on the definition presented above.
- Your solution must not use global variables.

**A solution that violate either of these requirements, even if the testing system judges it correctly, will receive no credit.**

Your task is to complete the function `fill`, which takes an array (a list in Python) of integer values, an integer index  $i$ , and an integer replacement value  $x$ . This function should update values as described above.

Here is the skeleton code for this task:

```

'''
Distribution file of the fill problem.
'''

from typing import List

def fill(array: List[int], i: int, x: int) -> None:
    '''
    Performs a fill operation on the list, replacing all continuous elements
    with same value as list[i] with x.

    Note that this function works recursively.

    Arguments:
        array: a list of integers
        i: an integer
        x: an integer

    Returns:
        None
    '''
    # TODO: Implement this function.
    pass

```

When you take the placement exam, you will be expected to copy the skeleton code into a file and then complete the function. For the practice problems, we have provided a file named `problem7.py` that includes the above header for your convenience.