38. Count and Say

13 February 2022 04:09 PM

The **count-and-say** sequence is a sequence of digit strings defined by the recursive formula:

- `countAndSay(1) = "1"`
- `countAndSay(n)` is the way you would "say" the digit string from `countAndSay(n-1)`, which is then converted into a different digit string.

To determine how you "say" a digit string, split it into the **minimal** number of groups so that each group is a contiguous section all of the **same character.** Then for each group, say the number of characters, then say the character. To convert the saying into a digit string, replace the counts with a number and concatenate every saying.

For example, the saying and conversion for digit string `"3322251"`:

"3322251"
two 3's, three 2's, one 5, and one 1
2 3 + 3 2 + 1 5 + 1 1
"23321511"

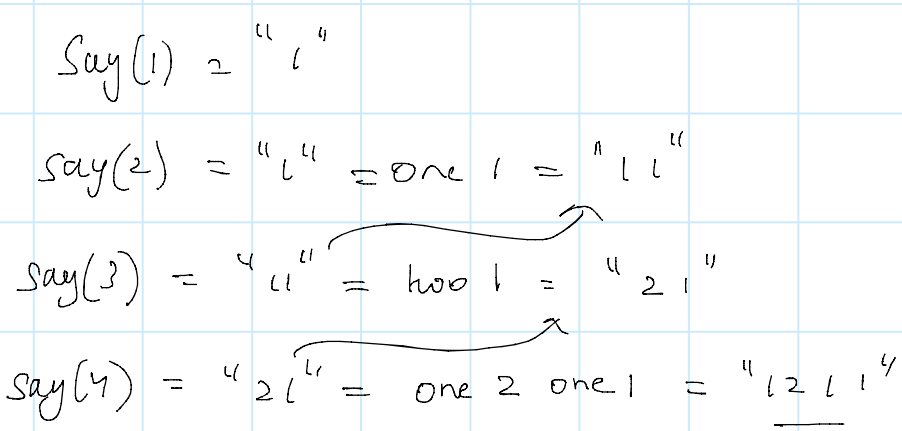
Given a positive integer `n`, return *the* n^{th} *term of the* ***count-and-say*** *sequence.*

Example 1:

```
Input: n = 1
Output: "1"
Explanation: This is the base case.
```

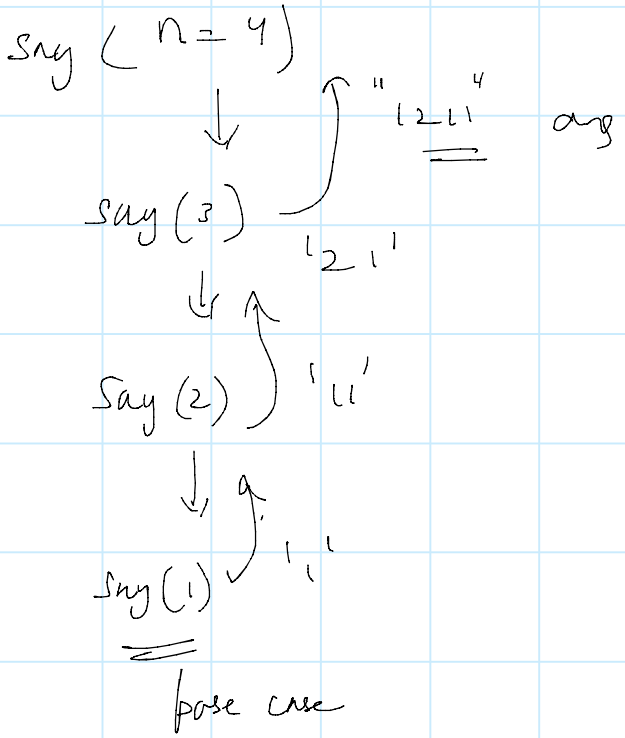
Example 2:

```
Input: n = 4
Output: "1211"
Explanation:
countAndSay(1) = "1"
countAndSay(2) = say "1" = one 1 = "11"
countAndSay(3) = say "11" = two 1's = "21"
countAndSay(4) = say "21" = one 2 + one 1 = "12" + "11" = "1211"
```



for finding 4 you need 3 same for 3 you need 2 so on.

So recursion.



So now if you watch clearly 1st is Frequency 2nd is Element

(F E)

"1 1 1 2 2 3 2 1" → "3 1 2 2 1 3 2 1 1"

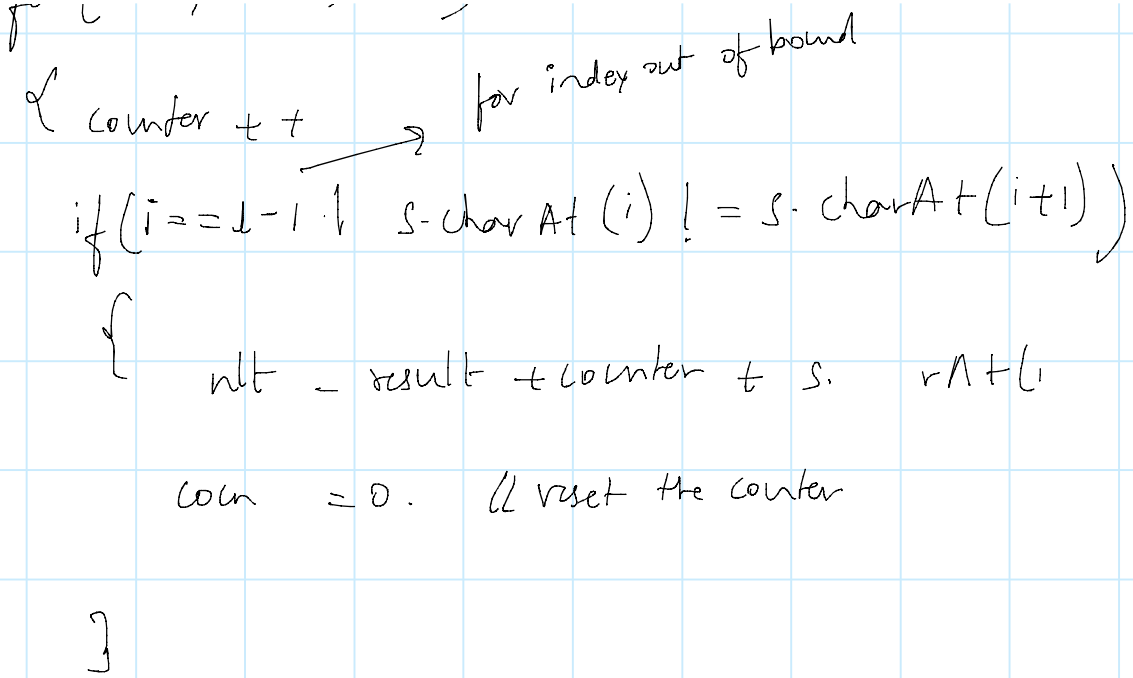
3 1 | 2 2 | 3 1 | 1 2 | 1 1

// making string

counter = 0, result = 0

for (i = 0, i < 1, i++)

for index out of bound




```java
class Solution {
    public String countAndSay(int n) {

        if(n == 1) return "1";

        // Recursion
        String s = countAndSay(n-1);
        String result = "";
        int counter = 0;

        for(int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++){
            counter++;
            // Segregating into groups
            if(i == s.length() -1 || s.charAt(i) != s.charAt(i+1)){
                result = result + counter + s.charAt(i);
                counter = 0;
            }
        }
        return result;
    }
```