

## 38. Count and Say

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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  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the **count-and-say** sequence.

### Example 1:

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

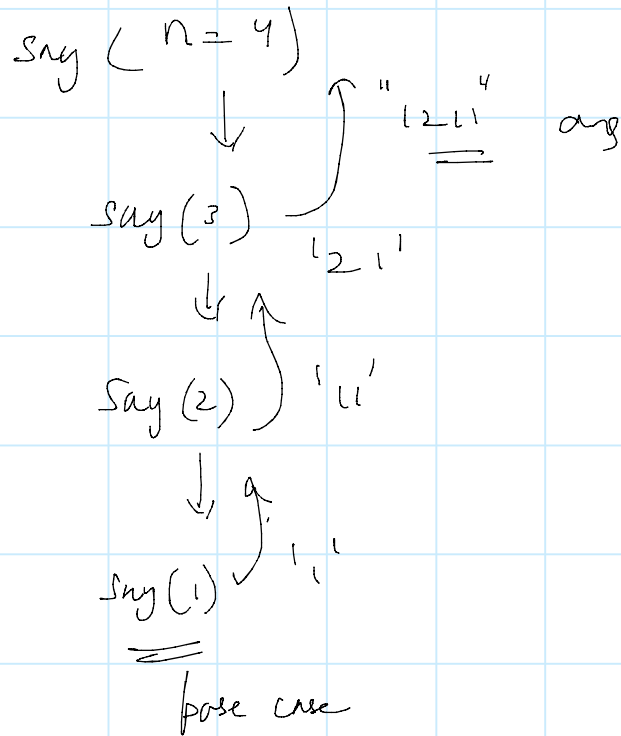
### Example 2:

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"`

$\text{Say}(1) = "1"$   
 $\text{say}(2) = "1" = \text{one } 1 = "11"$   
 $\text{say}(3) = "11" = \text{two } 1 = "21"$   
 $\text{say}(4) = "21" = \text{one } 2 \text{ one } 1 = \underline{\underline{"1211"}}$

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  
(FE)

Diagram illustrating the conversion of the input array to the frequency element format:

```
graph LR
    A["1 1 1 2 2 3 2 1"] --> B["3 1 2 2 1 3 2 1"]
    A --> C["3 1 2 2 3 1 2 1"]
```

The input array  $[1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 1]$  is converted to the frequency element format  $[3, 1, 2, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1]$ . The frequency of each element is calculated and stored in the first half of the array, and the element itself is stored in the second half.

// Making String

count = 0, result = 0

for ( $i = 0$ ,  $i < l$ ,  $i++$ )

✓

l, index out of bound

{ counter ++   
 }   
 if (i == s.length() - 1 || s.charAt(i) != s.charAt(i+1))   
 {   
 nlt = result + counter + s.charAt(i)   
 counter = 0; // reset the counter   
 }

```

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;
    }
}
  
```