

# (06) Linear Data Structures Part 2: Stacks

Video (23 mins): <https://youtu.be/8DsBibOIsB8>

# So the Last shall be First, and the First Last

*Linear data structures*



- ◆ Stack
- ◆ Queue
- ◆ Priority Queue

# Reference

- ◆ You will need the supporting Python file for the tutorial exercises.
- ◆ Download **LinearDSLab.py** from eLearn
- ◆ Instructions:
  - ❖ Import all the linear data structures from **LinearDSLab**
  - ❖ Need to do this step each time you open a new terminal

`python`

```
>>> from LinearDSLab import *
```

or `python3` for  
MacOS

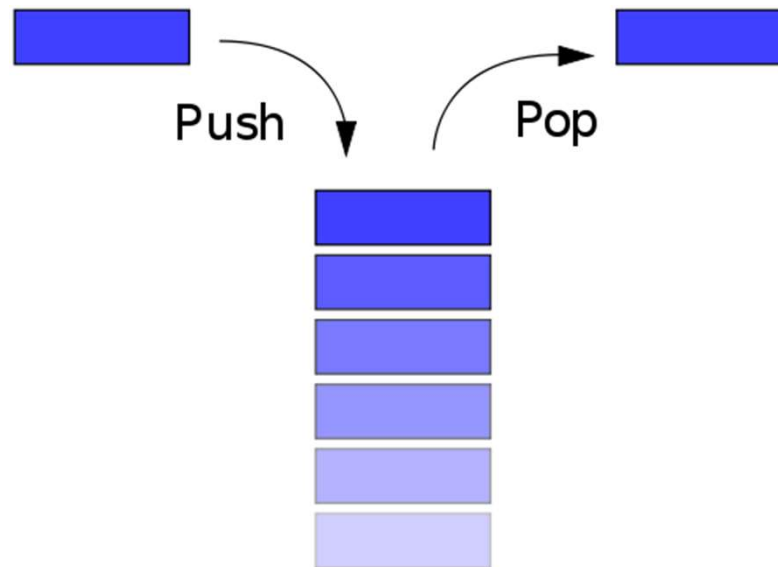
# Linear Data Structures

- ◆ Only **ONE** data element is accessible at any point of time
- ◆ Simplifies programming logic:
  - ❖ Don't need to keep track of indices.
- ◆ The key question is **which** element is accessible.
- ◆ Three types:
  - ❖ Stack
  - ❖ Queue
  - ❖ Priority Queue



# Stack

- ♦ Stack is a data structure with LIFO (Last In, First Out) property: The last item placed on the stack will be the first item removed.
- ♦ Defined primarily by three main operations: push, pop, peek

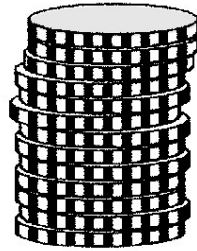


[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stack\\_\(abstract\\_data\\_type\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stack_(abstract_data_type))

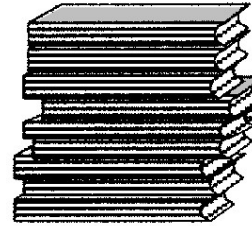
# Stacks – Motivating Examples



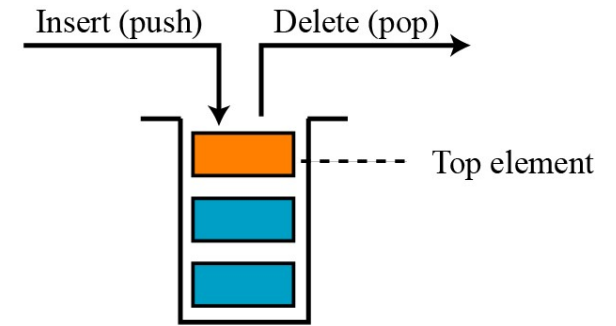
Tower of Hanoi



Stack of coins



Stack of books



Computer stack

- ♦ Computer Applications of Stacks
  - ❖ Keyboard erase/backspace key
  - ❖ Supporting UNDO/BACK operation
  - ❖ Supporting Recursion and Backtracking

# Backspace Key



Bottom of stack

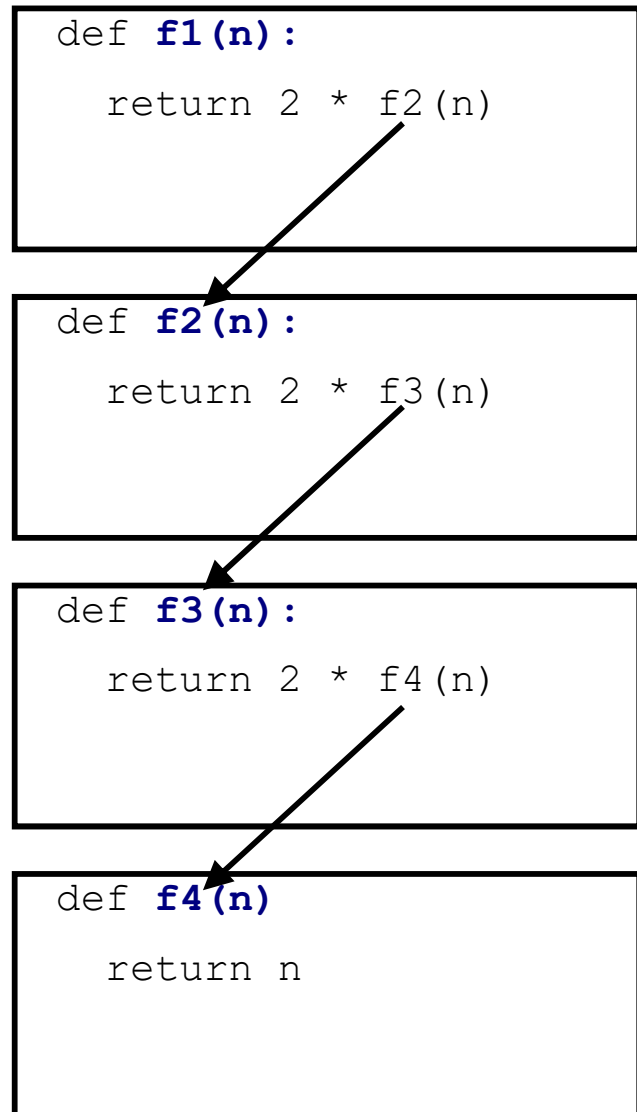
Top of stack

“The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog”

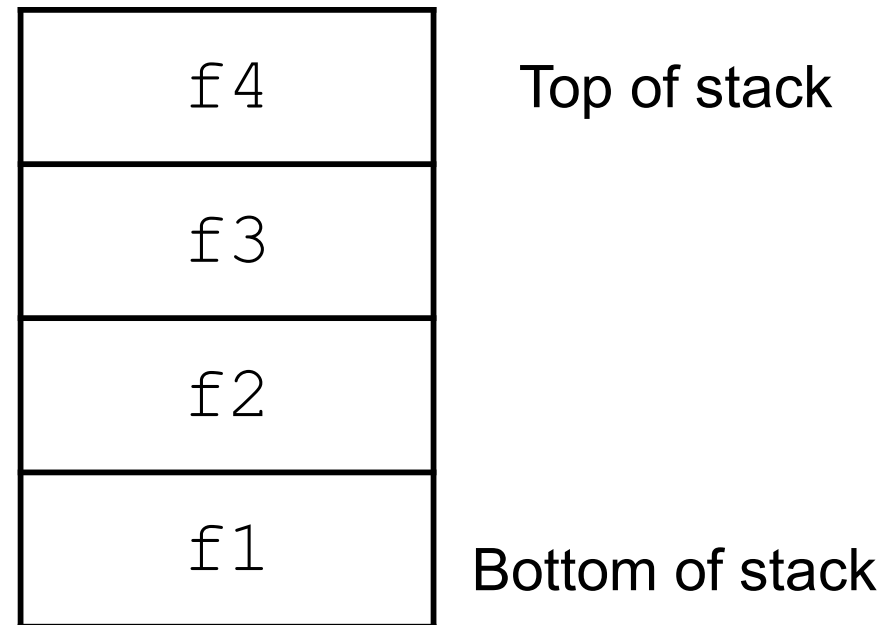


“The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy do”

# Application: Function Call Stack



## Call Stack



See example:

<http://cs.nyu.edu/courses/spring07/V22.0101-002/19slide.ppt>

(slides 12-22)



# Stack Overflow?

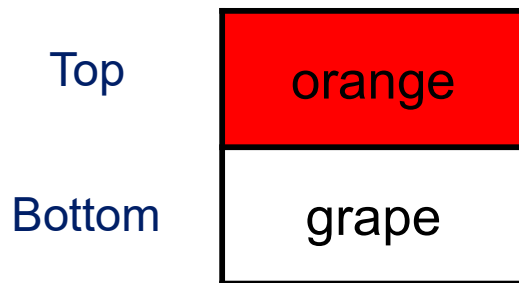


- ♦ No, not the website where you find answers for technical questions.
- ♦ Try this:

```
def stack_overflow(a):  
...   print(a)  
...   stack_overflow(a+1)  
...  
>>> stack_overflow(1)  
???
```

# Stack Operation: push

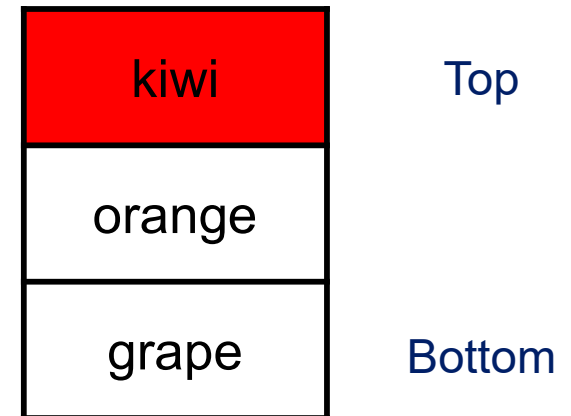
- ◆ Places a new data element to the top of a stack s



**Before**

**Create stack (Before)**

```
>>> s = Stack()
>>> s.push("grape")
>>> s.push("orange")
>>> s.display()
```



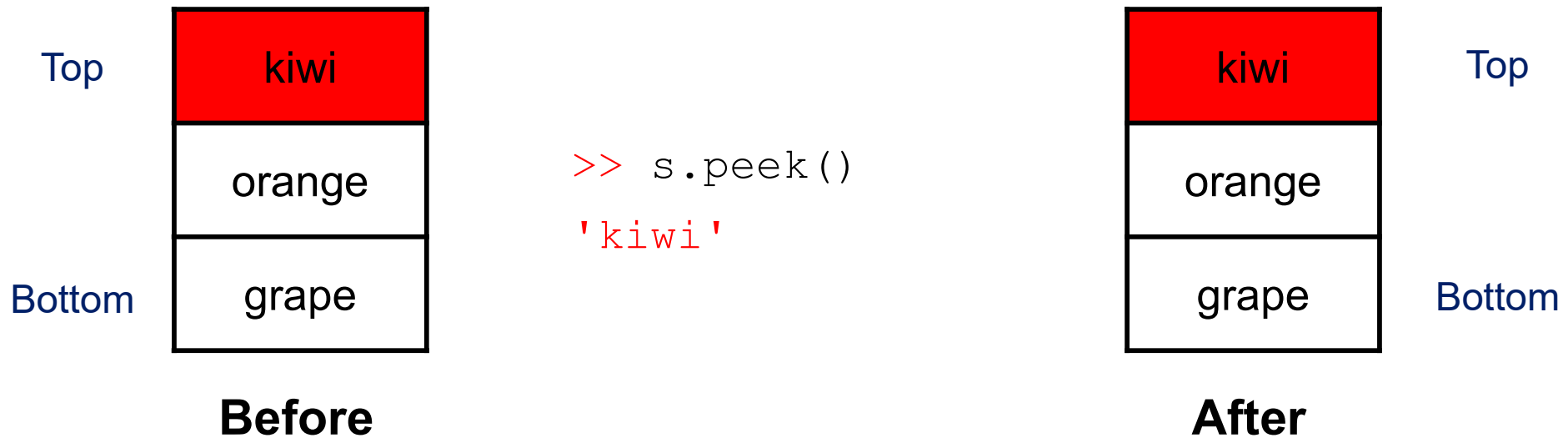
**After**

**Place new data element  
on top of stack (After)**

```
>>> s.push("kiwi")
```

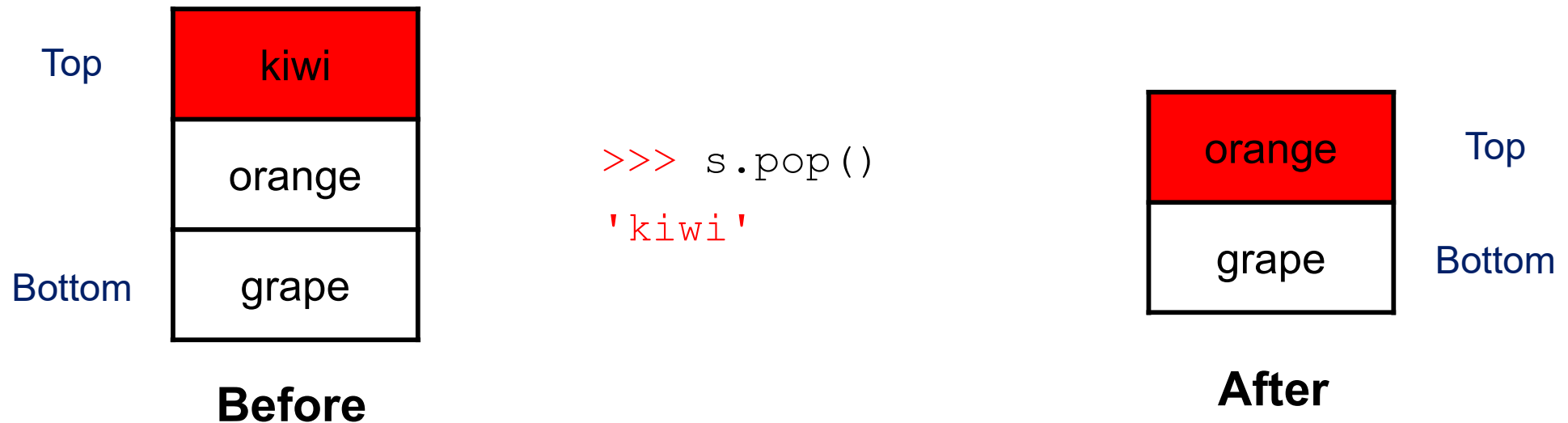
# Stack Operation: `peek`

- ◆ Inspects the data element on top of the stack without removing it



# Stack Operation: pop

- ◆ Removes and retrieves the data element on top of the stack.



# Example: Check Balancing Braces

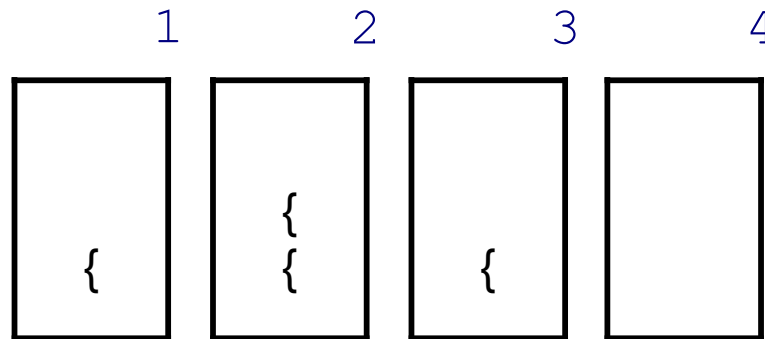
- ♦ Parentheses are commonly used in mathematical operations.
  - ❖ e.g.,  $(a + b) \times (c + d)$
- ♦ Braces are commonly used in programming languages (e.g., Java).
  - ❖ e.g., `if(condition is true) { #execute statement }`
- ♦ Imbalanced braces may cause errors.
- ♦ Braces are balanced if:
  - ❖ there is a matching closing brace for each opening brace;
  - ❖ we do not put a closing brace before an opening brace.
- ♦ How do we detect balanced braces?
  - ❖ Push “{” into stack
  - ❖ Pop from stack when “}” is encountered

## Input

## Stack states

## Stack operations

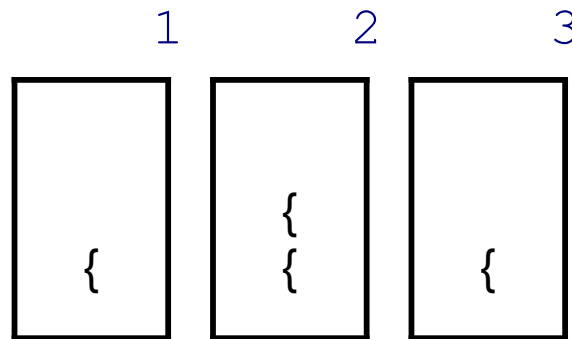
a{b{c}d}



1. push (“{”)
2. push (“{”)
3. pop ()
4. pop ()

Stack empty: *balanced*

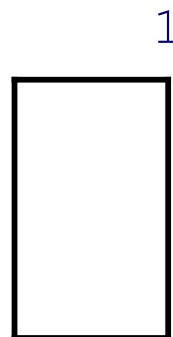
ab{{c}d



1. push (“{”)
2. push (“{”)
3. pop ()

Stack not empty: *not balanced*

a}b{cd



1. pop ()

Stack empty when “}” is encountered: *not balanced*

```
# checks whether text contains balanced braces using stack

1: def check_braces(text):    # function defined in LinearDSLlab.py
2:     s = Stack()
3:     for ch in text:
4:         if ch == "{":
5:             s.push(ch)      # push opening brace into stack
6:         elif ch == "}":
7:             if s.count() > 0: # ensure stack not empty when pop
8:                 s.pop()     # pop when closing brace encountered
9:         else:
10:            return False     # returns False since stack is empty
11:     return s.count() == 0  # returns True if stack is empty

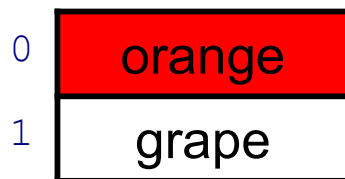
# test cases

>>> check_braces("a{b{c}d}") # returns True
>>> check_braces("ab{{c}d}") # returns False
>>> check_braces("a}b{cd}")  # returns False
```

# List-based Implementation of `push`

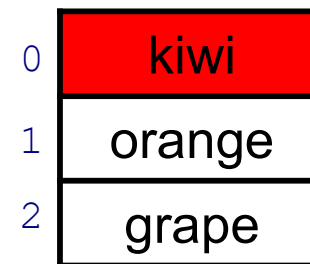
Use a list named `li` to contain data elements.  
First element (index 0) is top of the stack.

```
def push(li, item):  
    li.insert(0, item)
```



**Before**

```
>>> li = ["orange", "grape"]  
>>> push(li, "kiwi")
```



**After**

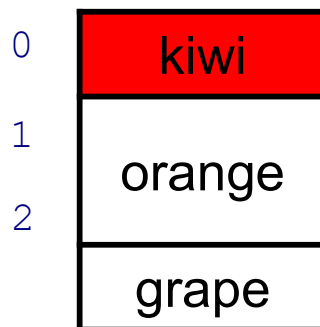
## Complexity?



# List-based Implementation of `peek`

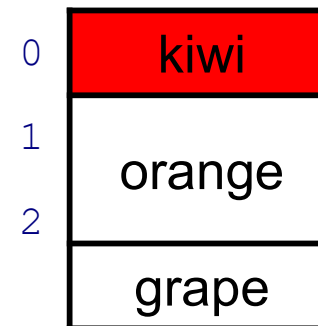
Use a list named `li` to contain data elements.  
First element (index 0) is top of the stack.

```
def peek(li):  
    if len(li) > 0:  
        return li[0]
```



Before

```
>>> peek(li)  
'kiwi'
```



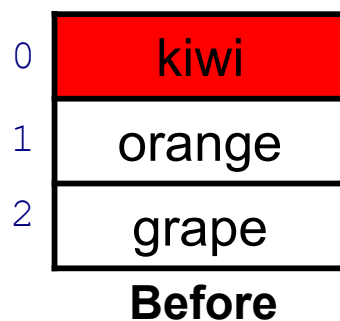
After

## Complexity?

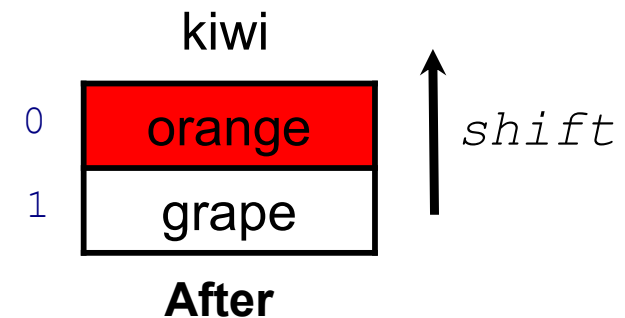
# List-based Implementation of `pop`

Use a list named `li` to contain data elements.  
First element (index 0) is top of the stack.

```
def pop(li):  
    if len(li) > 0:  
        item = li[0]  
        del li[0]  
        return item
```



```
>>> pop(li)  
'kiwi'
```



## Complexity?

# Stack and Recursion

- ♦ Stacks can be used to create a **non-recursive** version of a recursion.
- ♦ When a recursive algorithm is compiled, it is typically “reimplemented” as a stack-based iterative algorithm by the compiler.
- ♦ How is it done?
  - ❖ Create a new stack.
  - ❖ Push initial parameters onto a stack.
  - ❖ Iterate till stack is empty:
    - ▶ pop parameter from stack
    - ▶ if base case:  
do not push any more parameter to the stack
    - ▶ else (reduction step):  
push onto the stack the parameters that'd have been used in recursion  
note to push earlier function call later

# Example: Fibonacci series

- ♦ Fibonacci series: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, ...
- ♦ Each number is the sum of the previous two numbers
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(0) = 0$
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(1) = 1$
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(2) = 1 + 0 = 1$
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(3) = 1 + 1 = 2$
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(4) = 2 + 1 = 3$
  - ❖  $\text{fibonacci}(5) = 3 + 2 = 5$
  - ❖ ...
- ♦ **Reduction:**  $\text{fibonacci}(n) = \text{fibonacci}(n-1) + \text{fibonacci}(n-2)$
- ♦ **Base cases:**  $\text{fibonacci}(0) = 0$ ,  $\text{fibonacci}(1) = 1$

# Recursive Version of Fibonacci

```
1: def fibonacci(n):
2:     print(n)          #to show value at each step
3:     if n == 0:
4:         return 0
5:     elif n == 1:
6:         return 1
7:     else:
8:         return fibonacci(n-1) + fibonacci(n-2)
```

```
>>> num = fibonacci(4)
```

```
4
```

```
3
```

```
2
```

```
1
```

```
0
```

```
1
```

```
2
```

```
1
```

```
0
```

```
>>> num
```

```
3
```

# Non-recursive Fibonacci with Stack

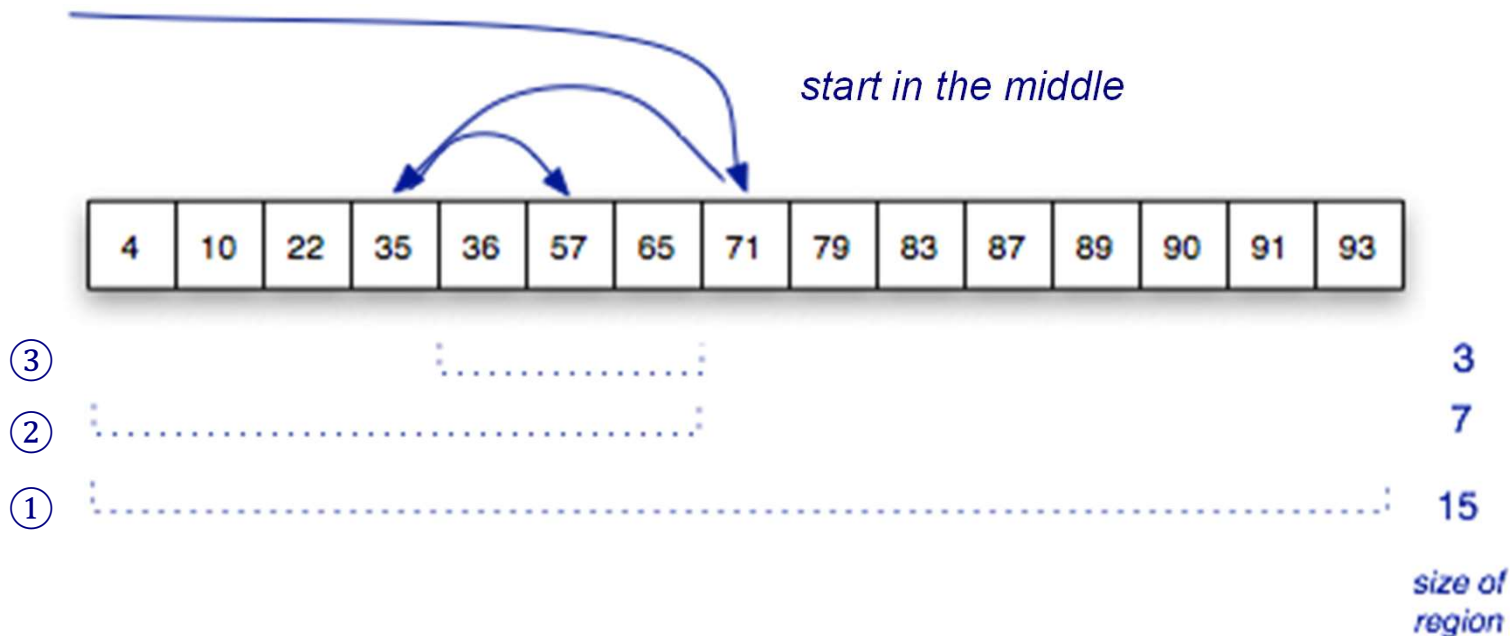
```
1: def fibonacci_stack(n):
2:     s = Stack()
3:     s.push(n)
4:     result = 0
5:     while s.count() > 0:
6:         s.display()
7:         current = s.pop()
8:         if current == 0:
9:             result += 0
10:        elif current == 1:
11:            result += 1
12:        else:
13:            s.push(current - 2)
14:            s.push(current - 1)
15:
16:    return result
```

```
>>> num = fibonacci_stack(4)
[4] <= top
[2, 3] <= top
[2, 1, 2] <= top
[2, 1, 0, 1] <= top
[2, 1, 0] <= top
[2, 1] <= top
[2] <= top
[0, 1] <= top
[0] <= top

>>> num
3
```

# Another Example: Binary Search

- ♦ To search a list of  $n$  items, first look at the item in location  $n/2$ 
  - ❖ then search either the region from 0 to  $n/2-1$   
or the region from  $n/2+1$  to  $n-1$
- ♦ Example: searching for 57 in a sorted list of 15 numbers



# Recursive Version of Binary Search

- ♦ The full definition of recursive algorithm for binary search:

```
def rbsearch(a, k, lower = None, upper = None):  
    lower = lower or -1          # assign -1 if lower = None  
    upper = upper or len(a)     # len(a) if upper = None  
    mid = (lower + upper) // 2  
  
    if mid == lower:  
        return None  
  
    if k == a[mid]:  
        return mid  
  
    if k < a[mid]:  
        return rbsearch(a, k, lower, mid)  
  
    if k > a[mid]:  
        return rbsearch(a, k, mid, upper)
```



## Non-recursive binary search with stack

```
1 : def rbsearch_stack(a, k):
2 :     lower = -1
3 :     upper = len(a)
4 :     s = Stack()
5 :     s.push(lower)
6 :     s.push(upper)
7 :
8 :     while s.count() > 0:
9 :         upper = s.pop()
10:        lower = s.pop()
11:        mid = (lower + upper) // 2
12:        if mid == lower:
13:            return -1
14:        if k == a[mid]:
15:            return mid
16:        if k < a[mid]:
17:            s.push(lower)
18:            s.push(mid)
19:        if k > a[mid]:
20:            s.push(mid)
21:            s.push(upper)
```

Getting recursion parameters.

rbsearch(a, k, lower, mid)

rbsearch(a, k, mid, upper)

# In-Class Exercises

(a)

What is the output of calling **s.pop()** after the following operations?

```
s = Stack()  
s.push(1)  
s.push(3)  
s.pop()  
s.push(4)  
s.pop()  
s.push(2)
```

(b)

What is the state of the stack after the following operations?

```
s = Stack()  
s.push(60)  
s.peek()  
s.push(34)  
s.pop()  
s.push(72)  
s.push(44)  
s.push(86)  
s.pop()  
s.pop()  
s.push(59)  
s.peek()
```

**s.display() ???**