

LEC 05

CSE 122

# Stacks & Queues Practice

BEFORE WE START

*Talk to your neighbors:  
Debate: Are Pop-Tarts ravioli?*

Music: [Miya's 23wi CSE 122 Playlist](#)

Instructor **Miya Natsuhara**

TAs

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Steven  
Kevin  
Ken  
Vivek  
Autumn

Ambika  
Elizabeth  
Joe  
Jin  
Ben  
Evelyn  
Kent

Questions during Class?

Raise hand or send here

sli.do #cse122



# Lecture Outline

- **Announcements** 
- Quick Recap
- copyStack Review
- Structured Example: spliceStack

# Announcements

- Quiz 0
  - Feedback released later today
  - Retake logistics posted shortly after
- P0 feedback was released yesterday
  - Resubmission logistics posted soon
  - [Grade checker](#)
- P1 released today (due next Thurs, Jan 26)

# Quiz Retakes

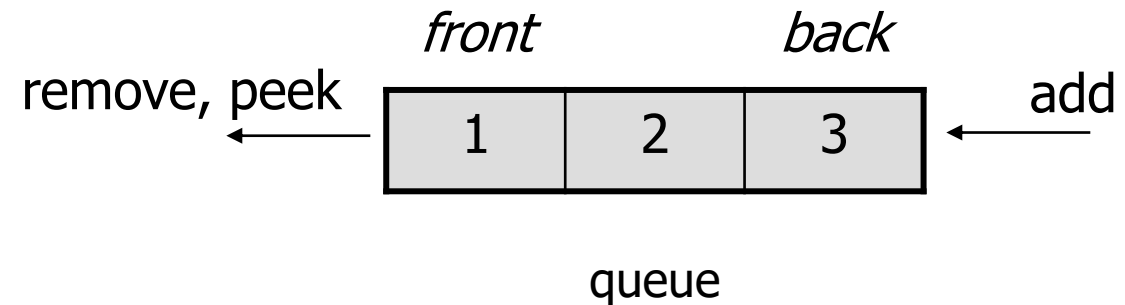
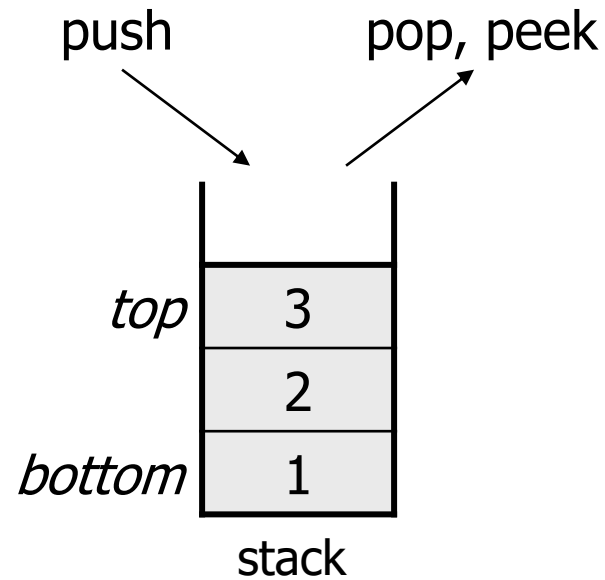
- Time slots available on Tuesdays
  - Must sign up beforehand
  - Must actually show up
- Max one retake per quiz
  - Retake must be completed within 3 weeks of original quiz date
- Quiz 0 Retake problems will not be the same as Quiz 0, but will be generally analogous
  - Same structure, same learning objectives
- Best-per-problem grading policy
- *More specific details later today!*

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# (Recap) Stacks & Queues

- Some collections are constrained, only use optimized operations
  - **Stack:** retrieves elements in reverse order as added
  - **Queue:** retrieves elements in same order as added



# (Recap) Programming with Stacks

<code>Stack&lt;E&gt;()</code>	constructs a new stack with elements of type <b>E</b>
<code>push(value)</code>	places given value on top of stack
<code>pop()</code>	removes top value from stack and returns it; throws <code>EmptyStackException</code> if stack is empty
<code>peek()</code>	returns top value from stack without removing it; throws <code>EmptyStackException</code> if stack is empty
<code>size()</code>	returns number of elements in stack
<code>isEmpty()</code>	returns <code>true</code> if stack has no elements

```
Stack<String> s = new Stack<String>();  
s.push("a");  
s.push("b");  
s.push("c");           // bottom ["a", "b", "c"] top  
System.out.println(s.pop()); // "c"
```

- Stack has other methods that we will ask you not to use

# (Recap) Programming with Queues

<code>add(value)</code>	places given value at back of queue
<code>remove()</code>	removes value from front of queue and returns it; throws a <code>NoSuchElementException</code> if queue is empty
<code>peek()</code>	returns front value from queue without removing it; returns <code>null</code> if queue is empty
<code>size()</code>	returns number of elements in queue
<code>isEmpty()</code>	returns <code>true</code> if queue has no elements

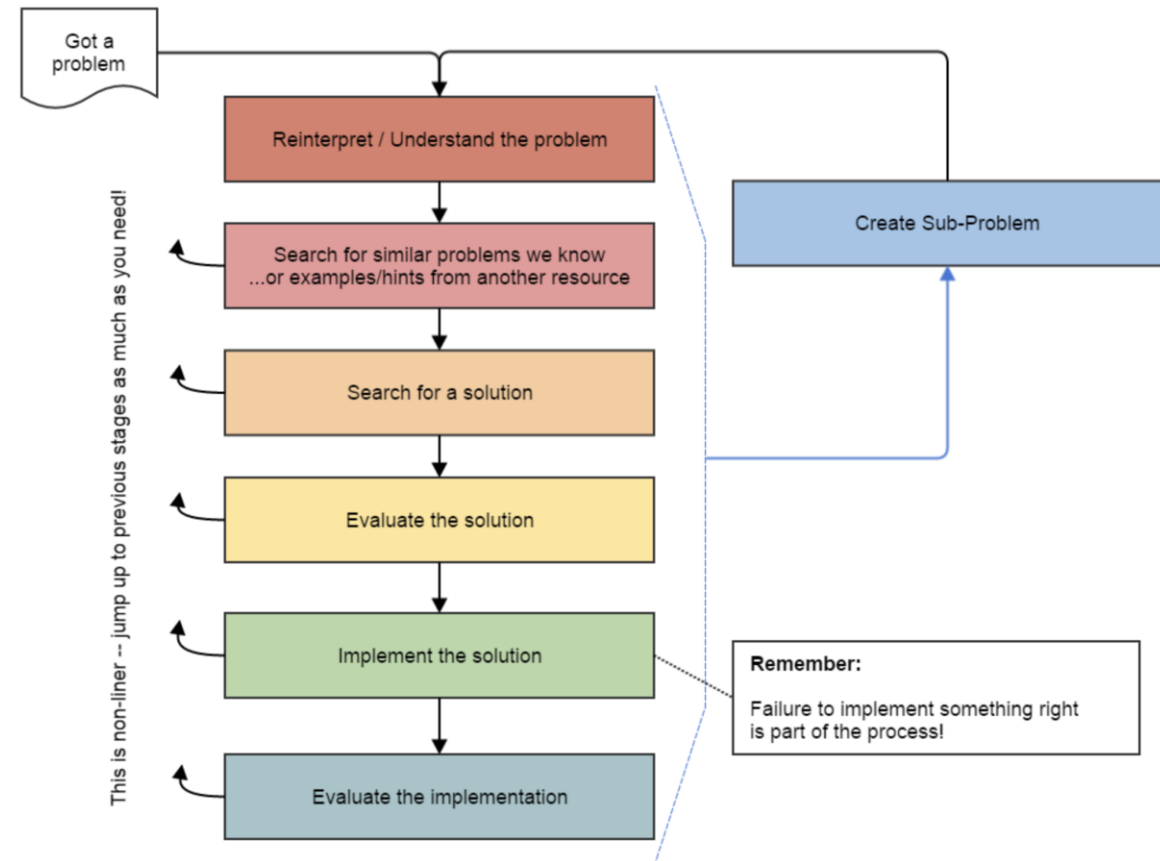
```
Queue<Integer> q = new LinkedList<Integer>();  
q.add(42);  
q.add(-3);  
q.add(17);           // front [42, -3, 17] back  
System.out.println(q.remove()); // 42
```

- **IMPORTANT:** When constructing a queue you must use a new `LinkedList` object instead of a new `Queue` object.
  - This has to do with a topic we'll discuss later called *interfaces*.



# (Recap) Problem Solving

- On their own, Stacks & Queues are quite simple with practice (few methods, simple model)
- Some of the problems we ask are complex *because* the tools you have to solve them are restrictive
  - sum(Stack) is hard with a Queue as the auxiliary structure
- We challenge you on purpose here to practice **problem solving**



Source: Oleson, Ko (2016) - Programming, Problem Solving, and Self-Awareness: Effects of Explicit Guidance

# (Recap) Common Problem-Solving Strategies

- **Analogy** – Is this similar to a problem you've seen?
  - `sum(Stack)` is probably a lot like `sum(Queue)`, start there!
- **Brainstorming** – Consider steps to solve problem before writing code
  - Try to do an example “by hand” → outline steps
- **Solve Sub-Problems** – Is there a smaller part of the problem to solve?
  - Move to queue first
- **Debugging** – Does your solution behave correctly on the example input.
  - Test on input from specification
  - Test edge cases (“What if the Stack is empty?”)
- **Iterative Development** – Can we start by solving a different problem that is easier?
  - Just looping over a queue and printing elements


# Metacognition

- **Metacognition**: asking questions about your solution process.
- Examples:
  - **While debugging**: explain to yourself why you're making this change to your program.
  - **Before running your program**: make an explicit prediction of what you expect to see.
  - **When coding**: be aware when you're not making progress, so you can take a break or try a different strategy.
  - **When designing**:
    - Explain the tradeoffs with using a different data structure or algorithm.
    - If one or more requirements change, how would the solution change as a result?
    - Reflect on how you ruled out alternative ideas along the way to a solution.
  - **When studying**: what is the relationship of this topic to other ideas in the course?

# (Recap) Common Stack & Queue Patterns

- Stack  $\rightarrow$  Queue and Queue  $\rightarrow$  Stack
  - We give you helper methods for this on problems
- Reverse a Stack with a  $S \rightarrow Q + Q \rightarrow S$
- “Cycling” a queue: Inspect each element by repeatedly removing and adding to back `size` times
  - Careful: Watch your loop bounds when queue’s size changes
- A “splitting” loop that moves some values to the Stack and others to the Queue

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- Structured Example: spliceStack

# (PCM) copyStack

Write a method `copyStack` that takes a stack of integers as a parameter and returns a copy of the original stack (i.e., a new stack with the same values as the original, stored in the same order as the original).

Your method should create the new stack and fill it up with the same values that are stored in the original stack. It is not acceptable to return the same stack passed to the method; you must create, fill, and return a new stack.

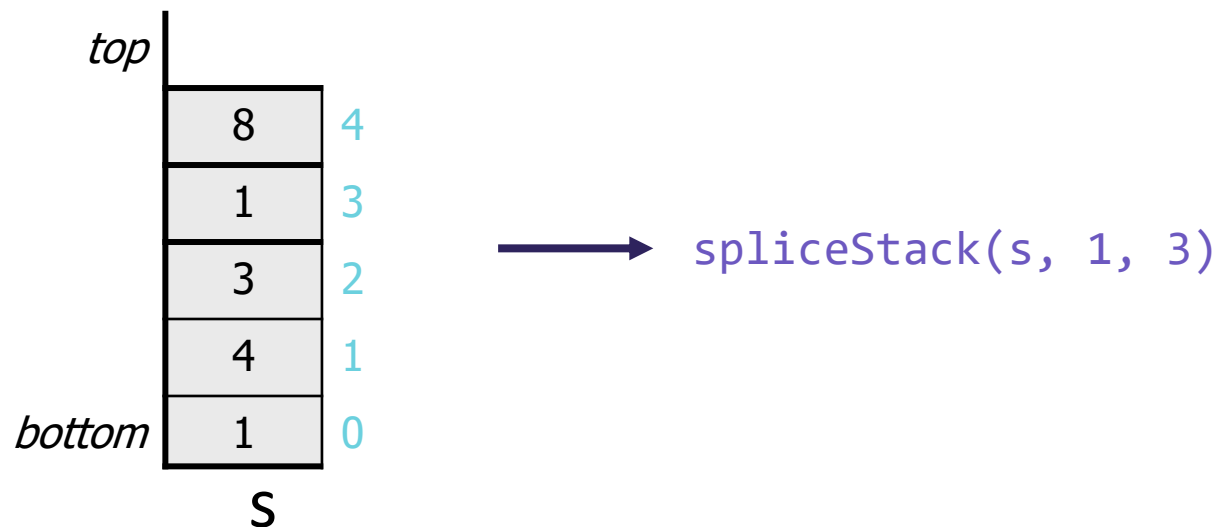
You may use one queue as auxiliary storage.

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- **Structured Example: spliceStack** ◀

# spliceStack

Write a method called `spliceStack` that takes as parameters a stack of integers `s`, a start position `i`, and an ending position `j`, and that removes a sequence of elements from `s` starting at the `i`'th element from the bottom of the stack up to (but not including) the `j`'th element from the bottom of the stack (where position 0 is the bottom of the stack), returning these values in a new stack. The ordering of elements in both stacks should be preserved.





# spliceStack

Write a method called `spliceStack` that takes as parameters a stack of integers `s`, a start position `i`, and an ending position `j`, and that removes a sequence of elements from `s` starting at the `i`'th element from the bottom of the stack up to (but not including) the `j`'th element from the bottom of the stack (where position 0 is the bottom of the stack), returning these values in a new stack. The ordering of elements in both stacks should be preserved.

