

## Learning Goals

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During this lab, you will:

- Review stacks and queues.
- Learn amortized running time analysis and strengthen intuition for applying it to new problems.
- Practice using stacks and queues to accomplish a variety of tasks.

## Stacks and Queues

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Recall the *stack* and *queue* ADTs (abstract data types) from lecture. Each is characterized by a specific way of removing elements and has a set of supported operations.

Stack	Queue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LIFO (last-in-first-out)—the most recent element that has been added to the stack will be removed first.</li> <li>• Supported operations:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– push</li> <li>– pop</li> <li>– peek</li> <li>– isEmpty</li> <li>– size</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIFO (first-in-first-out)—the least recent element that has been added to the queue will be removed first.</li> <li>• Supported operations:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– enqueue</li> <li>– dequeue</li> <li>– peek</li> <li>– isEmpty</li> <li>– size</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Implementation Details

Stacks and queues can be implemented “under the hood” with almost any data structure. In this course, we will implement stacks and queues using *expandable arrays*. The rules we will use for increasing or decreasing the size of a stack or queue’s underlying array are as follows:

1. If the array of size  $n$  is full, create a new array of size  $2n$ , and copy all elements into the new array.
2. If the array of size  $n$  has  $\frac{n}{4}$  elements in it, create a new array of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ , and copy all elements into the new array.

## Problems

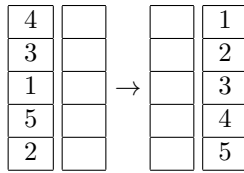
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### Problem 1: Sorting Using Stacks

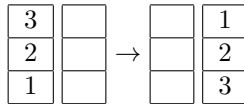
*Given:* A full stack  $S_1$  of size  $n$  and an empty stack  $S_2$  of size  $n$ .

*Objective:* Sort the  $n$  elements in ascending order in  $S_2$ . You may only use the given 2 stacks  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  (each of size  $n$ ) and  $O(1)$  additional space. What is the running time of your sorting procedure?

*Example:*



*Hint:* Start with a simpler example:



### Problem 2: Level-Order traversal of Binary Tree

*Given:* A binary tree of size n

*Objective:* Print out the level order traversal of the binary tree

*Example:* see below

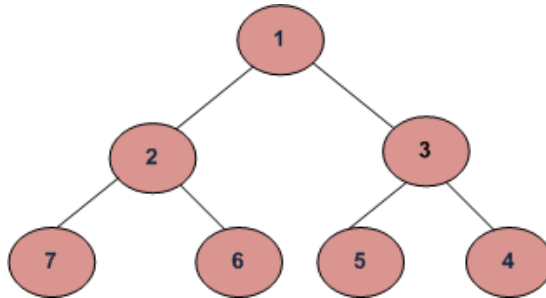


Figure 1: For this tree, your function should print 1, 2, 3, 7, 6, 5, 4.

### Problem 3: Spiral Order Tree Traversal

*Given:* A binary tree  $T$ .

*Objective:* Print the spiral order traversal of the tree  $T$ .

*Example:*

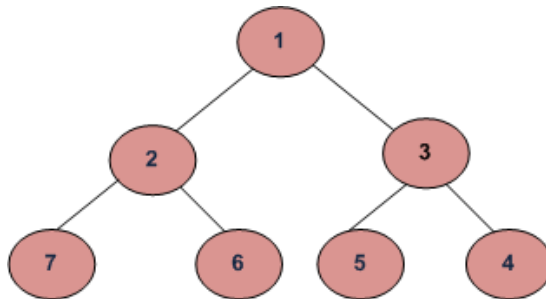


Figure 2: For this tree, your function should print 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

*Hint:* Try using 2 stacks.

## Amortized Analysis

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*Amortized analysis* refers to finding the time-averaged cost for a sequence of operations. In other words, it is the time required to perform a sequence of operations averaged over all the operations performed.

Since amortized analysis for the stack **push** operation was covered in lecture, we are going to take a closer look at the stack **pop** operation.

The worst case running time for a single **pop** operation is  $O(n)$ , since we may need to resize the array and copy the elements into it. Based on this running time, we might conclude that a tight bound for the worst case running time for  $n$  **pop** operations is  $O(n^2)$ , since there are  $n$  operations and each operation takes worst case  $O(n)$  time; however, we can find a tighter bound through some careful analysis.

If we start from a full stack of size  $n$ , what is the total cost of a sequence of  $n$  **pop** operations?

Initially, the array is of size  $n$  and contains  $n$  elements. To make our analysis simpler, let's immediately **pop** the first  $\frac{n}{2}$  elements. Each of these **pops** takes  $O(1)$  time. Now our array is of size  $n$  but contains only  $\frac{n}{2}$  elements.

In accordance with our rules, we can **pop**  $\frac{n}{4}$  more elements before resizing the array. Each of these **pops** takes  $O(1)$  time. Once we have **pop'd** those elements (leaving us with  $\frac{n}{4}$  elements in our array), we must reduce the size of our array to  $\frac{n}{2}$ , and copy the remaining  $\frac{n}{4}$  elements into the new array. Thus, the total cost for the first  $\frac{3n}{4}$  **pop** operations is  $T(\frac{3n}{4}) = \frac{n}{2} + (\frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{4})$ .

We can apply identical analysis to the new array of size  $\frac{n}{2}$  that contains  $\frac{n}{4}$  elements. We get  $\frac{1}{4}(\frac{n}{2}) = \frac{n}{8}$  **pops** "for free", after which we resize the array to be of size  $\frac{1}{2}(\frac{n}{2}) = \frac{n}{4}$  and copy the remaining  $\frac{1}{4}(\frac{n}{2}) = \frac{n}{8}$  elements into the smaller array. Thus, the total cost for the first  $\frac{7n}{8}$  **pop** operations is  $T(\frac{7n}{8}) = \frac{n}{2} + (\frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{4}) + (\frac{n}{8} + \frac{n}{4} + \frac{n}{8})$ .

Are you noticing a pattern?

Let's rewrite the expression slightly and continue to expand it:

$$T(n) = \frac{n}{2} + \left( \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^0} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{2^0} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^0} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^1} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{2^1} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^1} \right) + \\ + \left( \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{2^2} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^2} \right) + \dots + \left( \frac{1}{4}(4) + \frac{1}{2}(4) + \frac{1}{4}(4) \right)$$

We can now calculate the total cost of  $n$  **pop** operations:

$$T(n) \leq \frac{n}{2} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^i} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{2^i} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{2^i} \right) \\ = \frac{n}{2} + n \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^i} \\ = \frac{n}{2} + 2n \\ \leq 3n \\ = O(n)$$

(The first term in the summation is the *cost of the initial pops*, the second term is the *cost of allocating* a new array, and the third term is the *cost of copying* the remaining elements into the new array.)

Thus, the *amortized* time complexity of a **pop** operation is  $3 = O(1)$ , even though the worst case time complexity of a single **pop** operation is  $O(n)$ .

### Problem 4: Queue With Two Stacks

*Given:* Two stacks  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , each of size  $n$ .

*Objective:* Implement a queue using  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . Your queue's **enqueue** and **dequeue** methods should be implemented using only your stacks' **push**, **pop**, and/or **peek** methods. What are the running times of your new queue's **enqueue** and **dequeue** methods?