

#DEAR FUTURE SELF,  
#  
# YOU'RE LOOKING AT THIS FILE BECAUSE  
# THE PARSE FUNCTION FINALLY BROKE.  
#  
# IT'S NOT FIXABLE. YOU HAVE TO REWRITE IT.  
# SINCERELY, PAST SELF

| DEAR PAST SELF, IT'S KINDA  
| CREEPY HOW YOU DO THAT.

#ALSO, IT'S PROBABLY AT LEAST  
# 2013. DID YOU EVER TAKE  
# THAT TRIP TO ICELAND?

STOP JUDGING ME!



# My office hours have changed!

In-person (no zoom)

Jacob's Courtyard (tent)

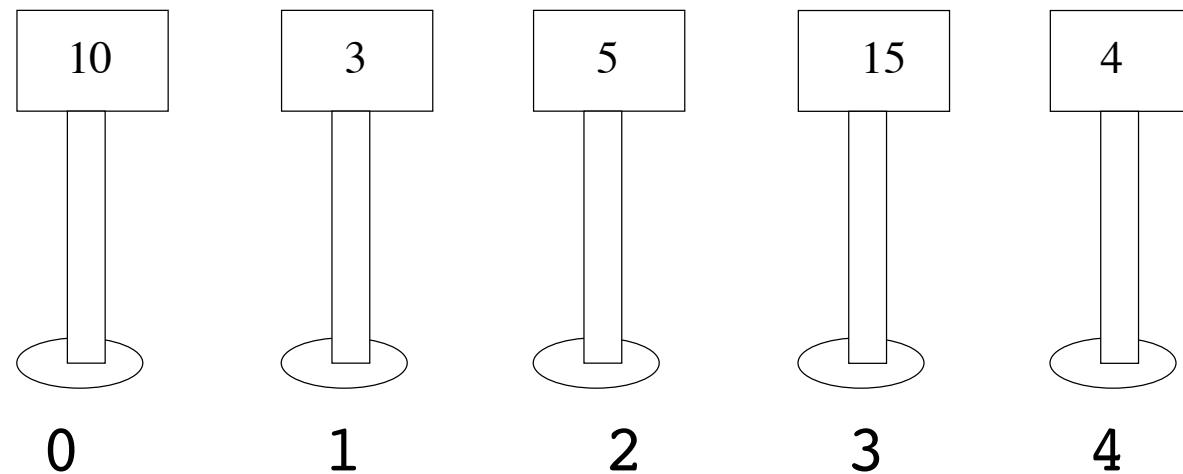
Fridays 3-4pm (same as before)



## Learning Goals

- Review use-it-or-lose-it
- Explain mutability
- Describe problems with recursion
- Use dictionaries
- Explain how memoization makes recursion faster

# The Game of Pegs...



Choose a set of pegs of maximum total value, without choosing two adjacent pegs.  
Return the max value

```
>>> pegs([10, 3, 5, 15, 4])  
???
```

# The Game of Pegs

```
def pegs(pegList):
    """Accepts a list of pegs as input. Finds and
    returns the maximum value obtainable without
    using adjacent pegs."""
    if pegList == [ ]: return _____
else:
    it = pegList[0]

    useIt = _____

    loseIt = _____

return _____
```

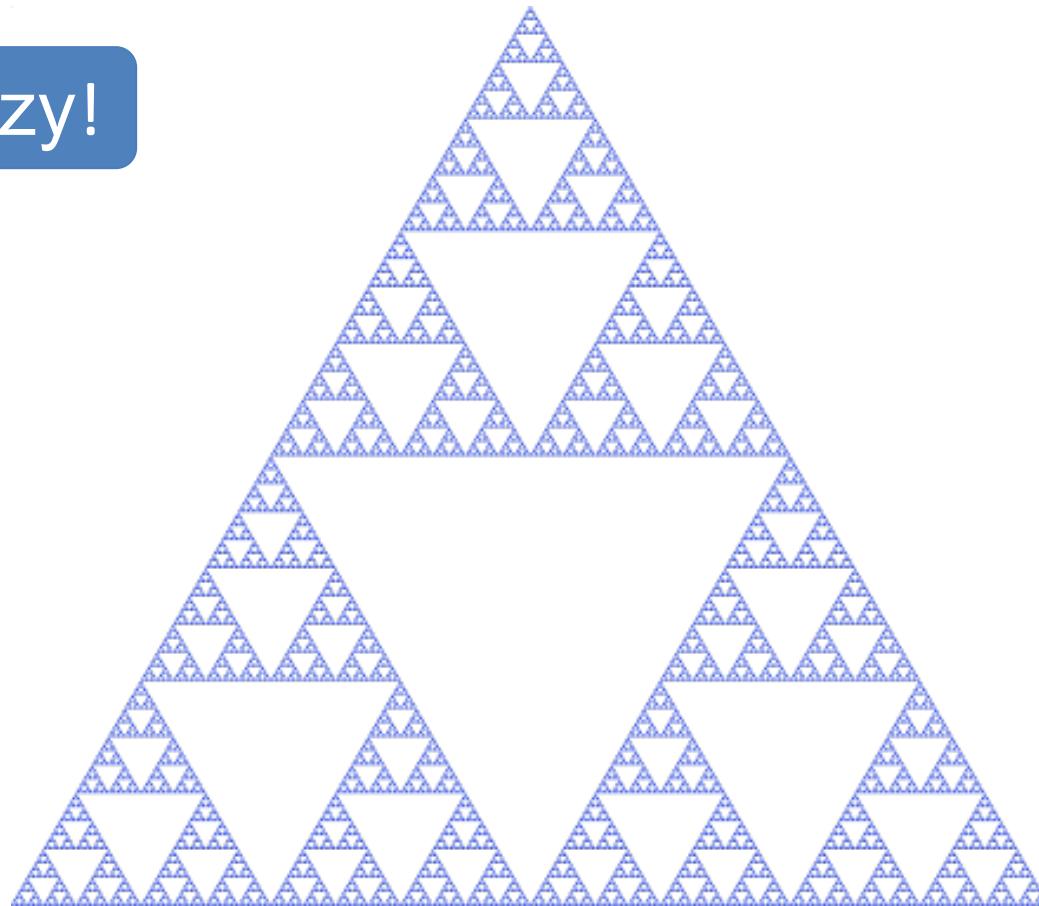


Courtesy of Allie Russell

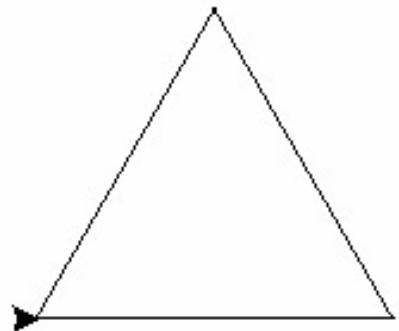
# The Sierpinski Triangle!



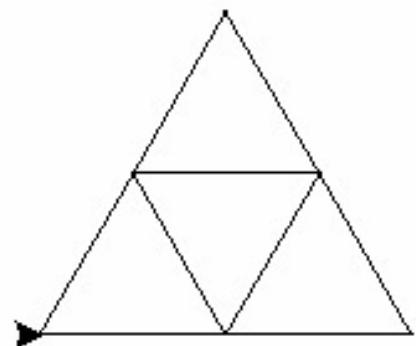
Snazzy!



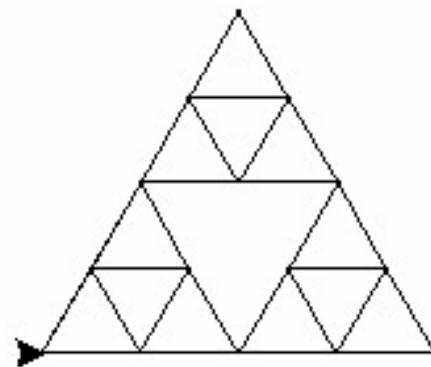
```
>>> fractal(200, 0)
```



```
>>> fractal(200, 1)
```



```
>>> fractal(200, 2)
```



# An aside on “mutability”

```
>>> L = [29, 47, 17, 23]
>>> L
[29, 47, 17, 23]
>>> L[1] = 42 # mutate the list at index 1
>>> L
[29, 42, 17, 23] # lists are mutable

>>> S = "spam"
>>> S[1] = "c" # strings are immutable
TypeError: 'str' object does not
support item assignment
```



# An aside on “mutability”

```
>>> L = [29, 47, 17, 23]  
>>> L.append(42)  
>>> L  
[29, 47, 17, 23, 42]
```

```
>>> S = "spam"  
>>> S.append("q")
```

**BARF!**

```
>>> S = S + "q"  
>>> S  
"spamq"
```

“Barf” is a  
technical term!



# + (add operator)

```
>>> L = [6, 3]
>>> L
[6, 3]
>>> L + [9,11]
[6, 3, 9, 11]
>>> L
[6, 3]
```

```
>>> L = [6,3]
>>> L
[6, 3]
>>> L = L + [9, 11]
>>> L
[6, 3, 9, 11]
```

add returns a new list! We must assign it!

# Why append and extend?

```
>>> L = list(range(10**8))
```

```
>>> L = L + [42] # 0.8s
```

```
>>> L = list(range(10**8))
```

```
>>> L.append(42) # 0.02s
```

```
>>> L = L + [5, 6, 7, 8] # 1.2s
```

```
>>> L.extend([5, 6, 7, 8]) # 0.03s
```

~50x faster for  
these operations!



# append

```
>>> L = [6, 3]
>>> L
[6, 3]
>>> L.append([9,11])
>>> L
[6, 3, [9, 11]]
```

# extend

```
>>> L = [6,3]
>>> L
[6, 3]
>>> L.extend([9,11])
>>> L
[6, 3, 9, 11]
```

**Nothing is returned! L is modified instead!**

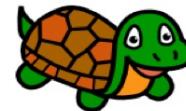
# A subtle point...

```
def initely():
    L = [1, 2, 3]
    M = [4, 5, 6]
    return L + M
```



Happy, but slow

```
def unct():
    L = [1, 2, 3]
    M = [4, 5, 6]
    return L.extend(M)
```



sad

```
def initive():
    L = [1, 2, 3]
    M = [4, 5, 6]
    L.extend(M)
    return L
```



Happy, and fast

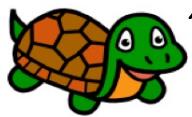
Demo

# LCS Revisited...

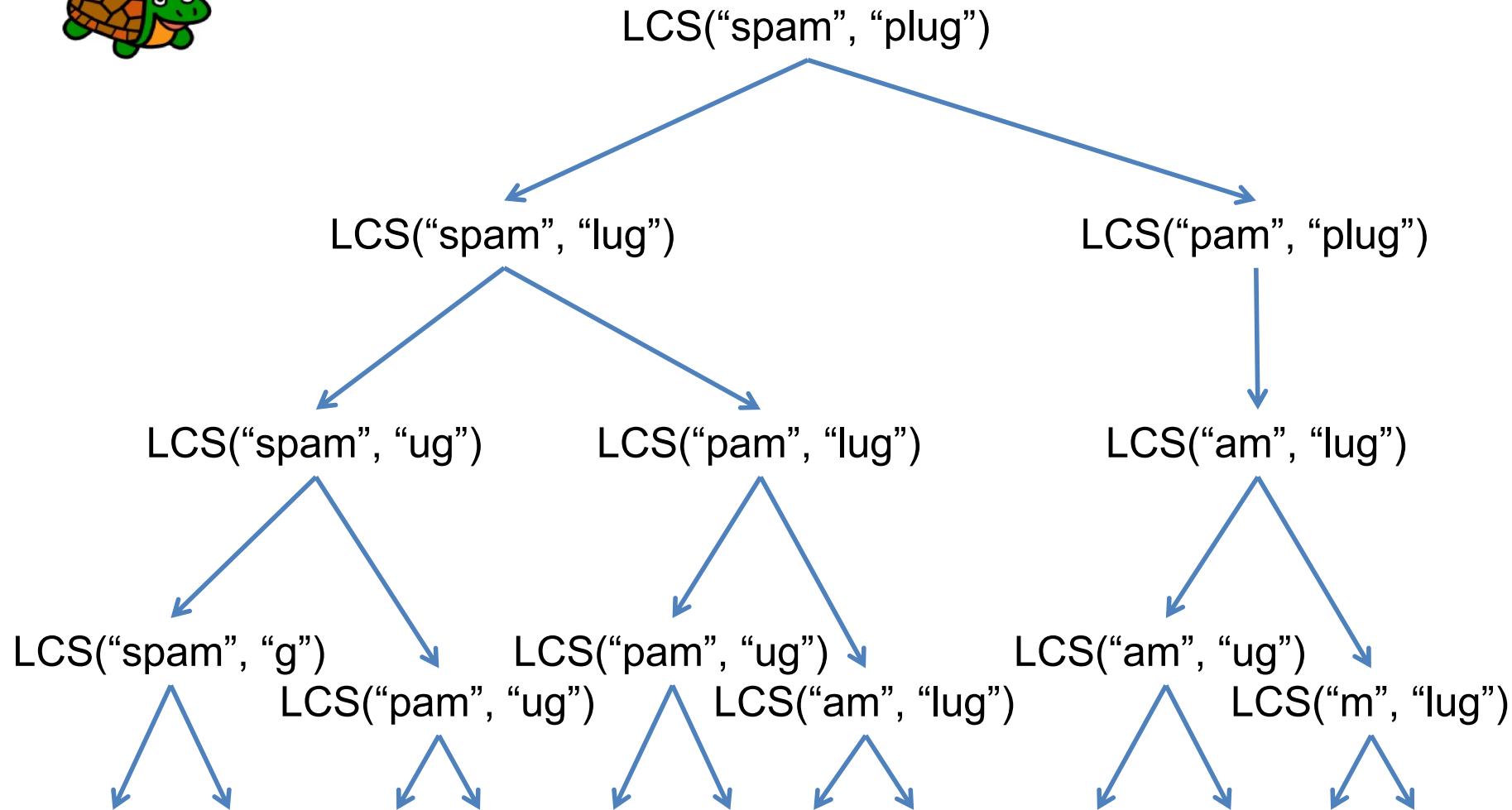
```
def LCS(stringA, stringB):
    """Accepts two strings as input. Returns the length of
    the Longest Common Substring."""
    # base case
    if stringA == "" or stringB == "": return 0

    # add 1 if first characters match; check remaining
    elif stringA[0] == stringB[0]:
        return 1 + LCS(stringA[1:], stringB[1:])

    # try dropping 1 char from each string; return max
    else:
        option1 = LCS(stringA, stringB[1:])
        option2 = LCS(stringA[1:], stringB)
        return max(option1, option2)
```



It works, but it's  
slower than I am!



# Jumping off paper...

1 sheet of regular paper

Folds (n)	Layers ( $2^n$ )	Height
0	1	1 paper thick
1	2	2 sheets thick
... skip a few ...		
7	$2^7$	notebook
13	$2^{13}$	1 meter
17	$2^{17}$	2 story house
20	$2^{20}$	1/4 Sears Tower
30	$2^{30}$	Outer limit of atmosphere
50	$2^{50}$	Distance to sun

# $2^n$ is really bad!



$n = 20$ : 0.001 seconds



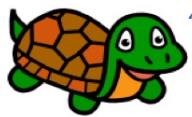
That's fast!

1 billion operations  
per second!

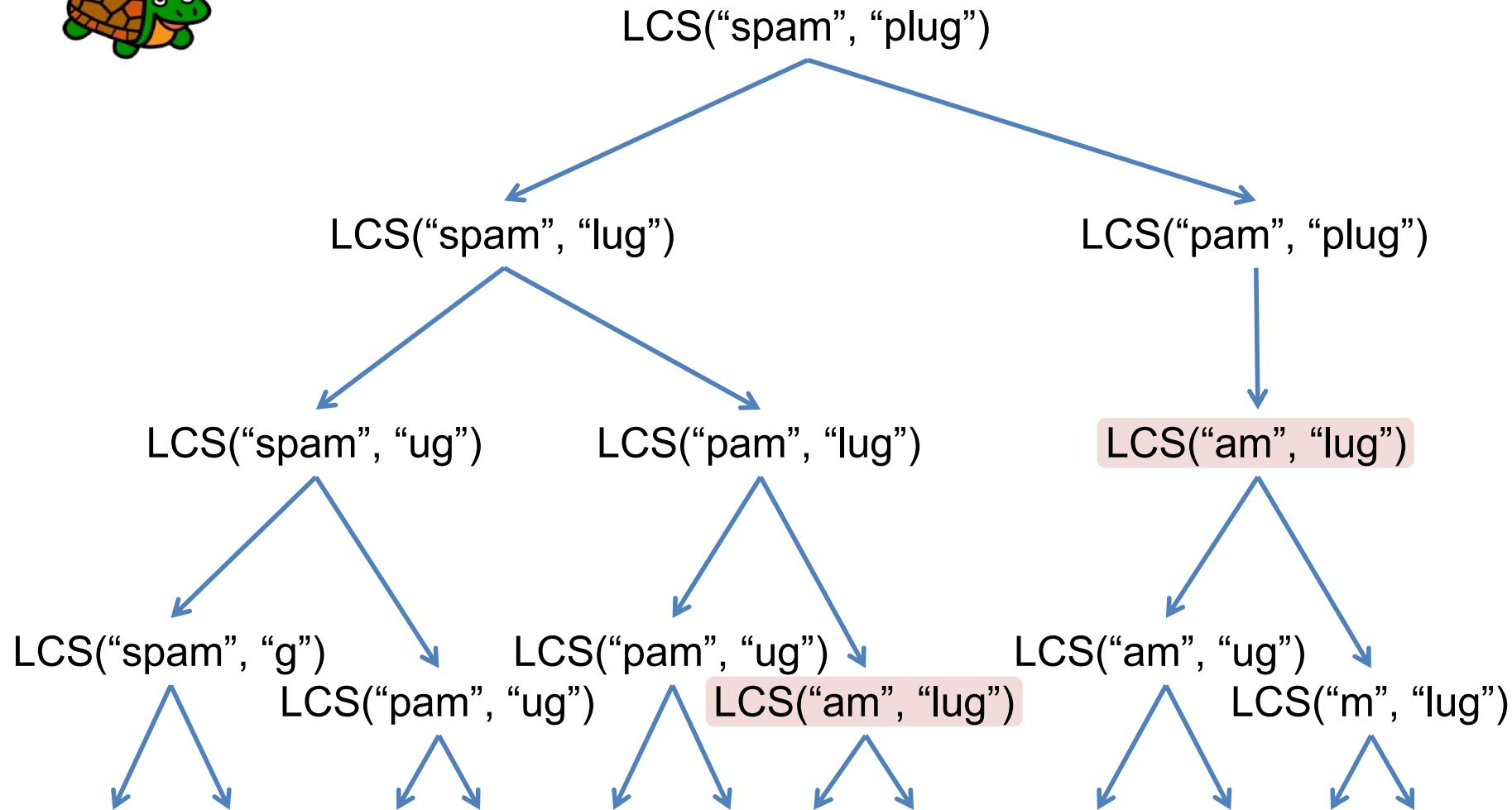
$n = 50$ :

$n = 100$ :

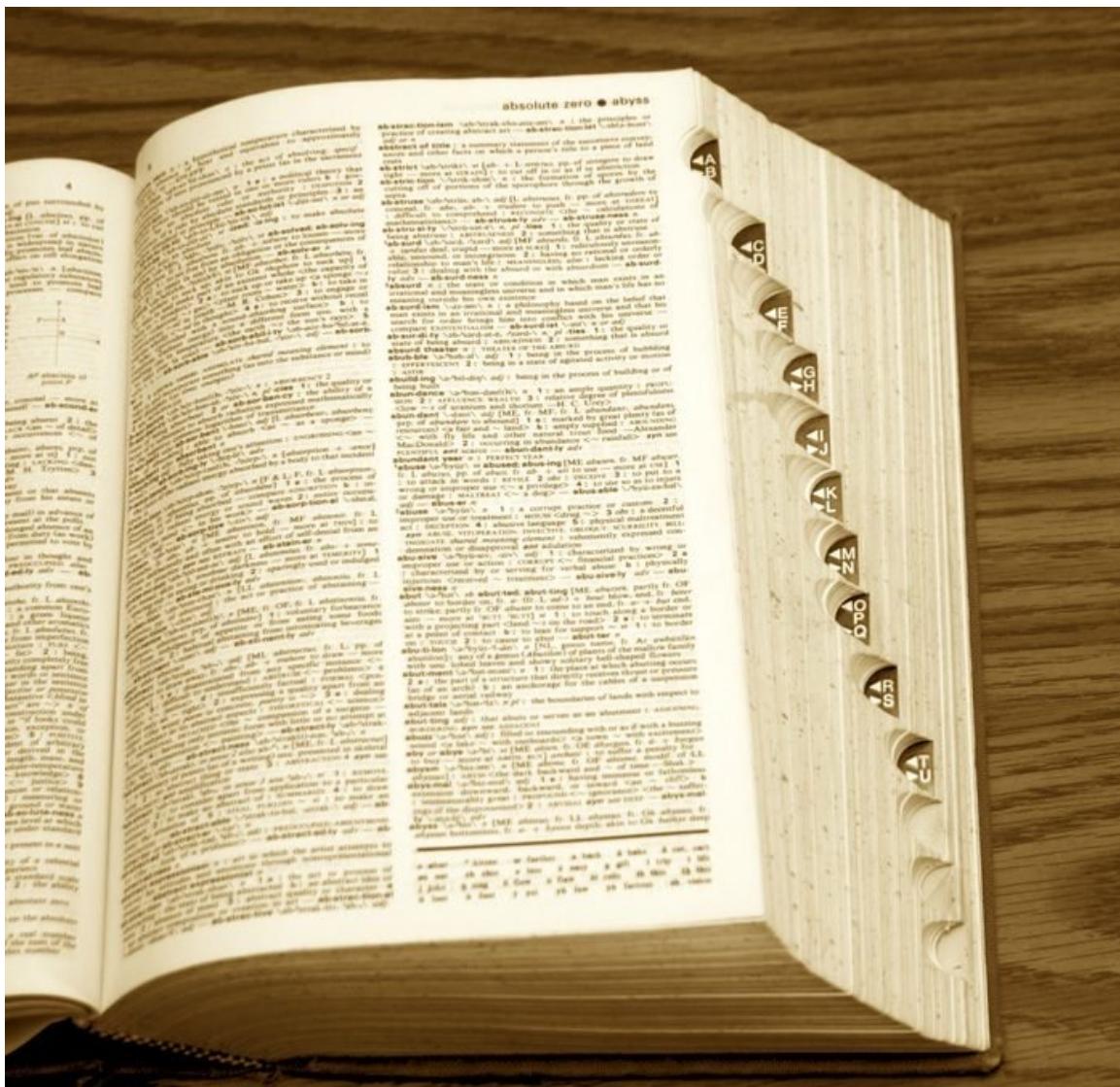
$n = 300$ :



There's repeated work here!



# Dictionaries!



the *key*

Each *word* in a dictionary has a *definition*

the *value*

Words are stored in a way that enables easy look-up.

the *key*

the *value*

```
>>> D = {}  
>>> D["spam"] = "a health food product"  
>>> D[42] = "an important number"  
>>> D["joe"] = ["jwirth@hmc.edu", "olin 1253"]  
>>> D  
{'spam': 'a health food product', 42: 'an important number', 'joe': ['jwirth@hmc.edu', 'olin 1253']}  
>>> D.keys()  
dict_keys(['spam', 42, 'joe']) # can also do D.values()  
>>> D[42]  
'an important number'  
>>> 42 in D  
True  
>>> 43 in D  
False  
>>> "bjorn" in D  
False  
>>> D["bjorn"]  
Traceback (most recent call last):  
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>  
KeyError: 'bjorn'
```



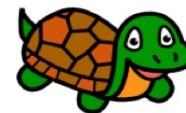
Q

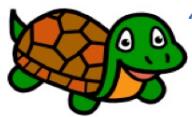
# Try This...

```
>>> scrabbleDict = {"a":1, "b":3, "c":3, "d":2, ...}  
>>> score("spam", scrabbleDict)  
8
```

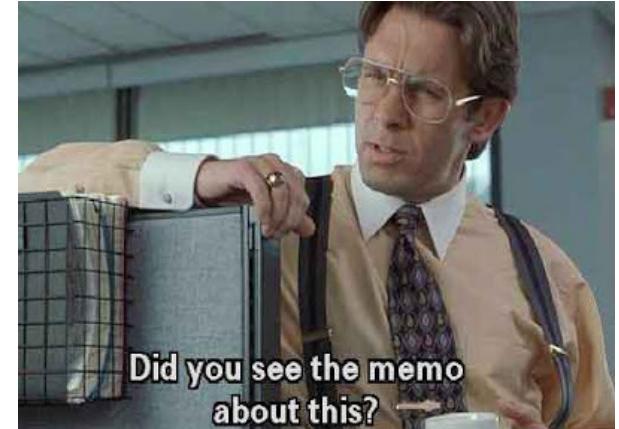
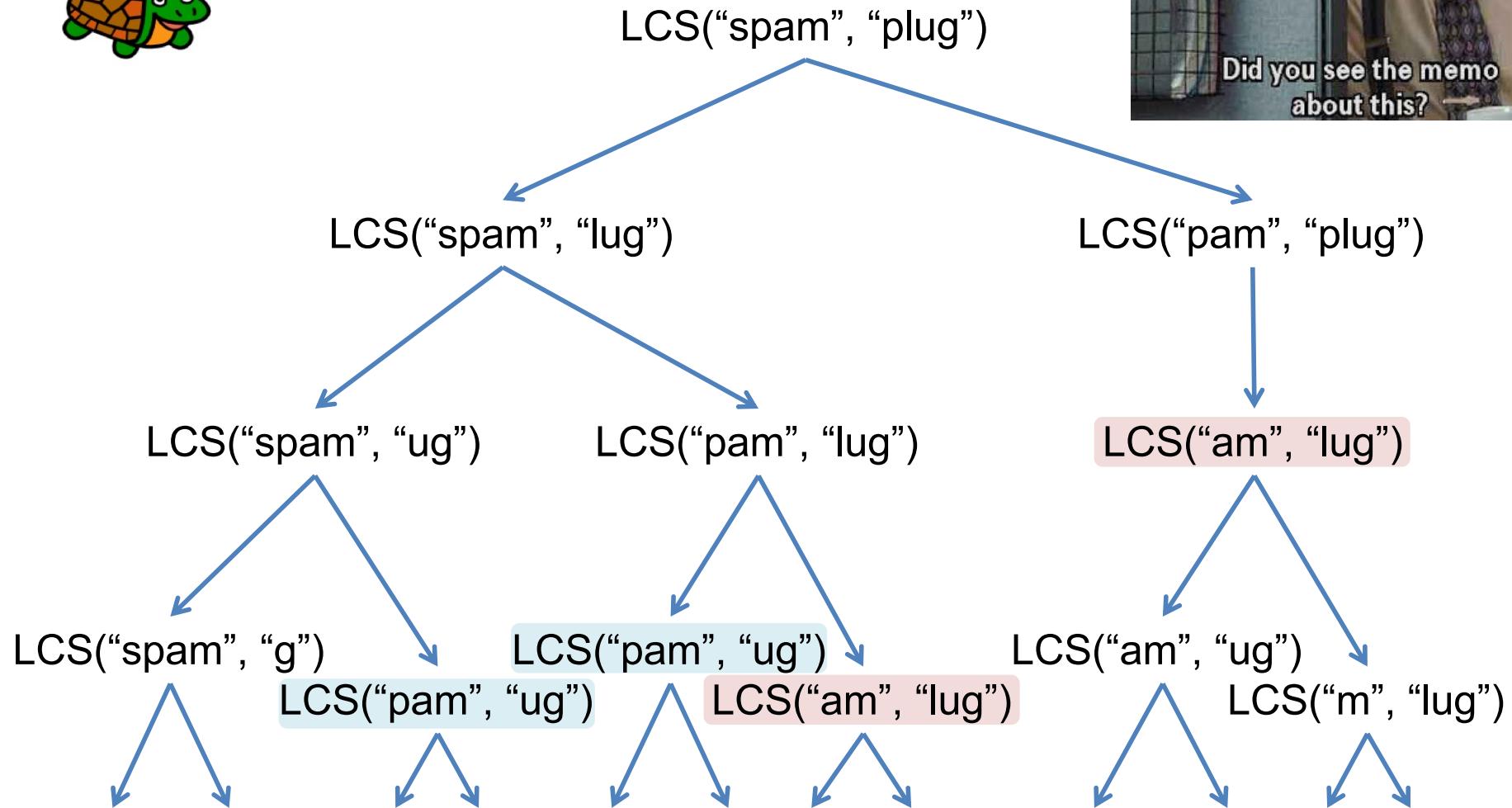
You can use recursion  
or iteration here...

```
def score(myString, myDict):  
    """Returns the score of a word in scrabble"""
```





There's repeated work here!



Did you see the memo  
about this? →

# Modify LCS to be fastLCS

Q

```
def fastLCS(stringA, stringB, memoD):
    """Accepts two strings and a dictionary as inputs. Returns
    the length of the Longest Common Substring."""

```

```
# base case: either string empty => no LCS
if stringA == "" or stringB == "": return 0

# char match => +1 to count; check remaining strings
elif stringA[0] == stringB[0]:
    return 1 + fastLCS(stringA[1:], stringB[1:])

# try removing one char from each string
else:
    option1 = fastLCS(stringA, stringB[1:])
    option2 = fastLCS(stringA[1:], stringB)
    return max(option1, option2)
```

# Extra Practice!

(implement a recursive sorting algorithm)

# Mergesort

msort([42, 3, 1, 5, | 27, 8, 2, 7])



msort([42, 3, 1, 5]) | msort([27, 8, 2, 7])

“the magic of recursion!”

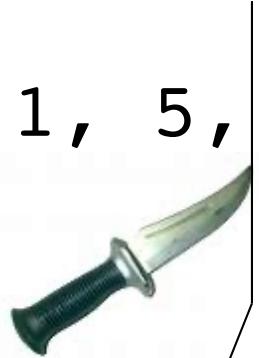
[1, 3, 5, 42]

[2, 7, 8, 27]

merge([1, 3, 5, 42], [2, 7, 8, 27])

# Mergesort

```
msort([42, 3, 1, 5, 27, 8, 2, 7])
```



```
msort([42, 3, 1, 5]) / msort([27, 8, 2, 7])
```

```
merge([1, 3, 5, 42], [2, 7, 8, 27])
```

```
[1] + merge([3, 5, 42], [2, 7, 8, 27])
```

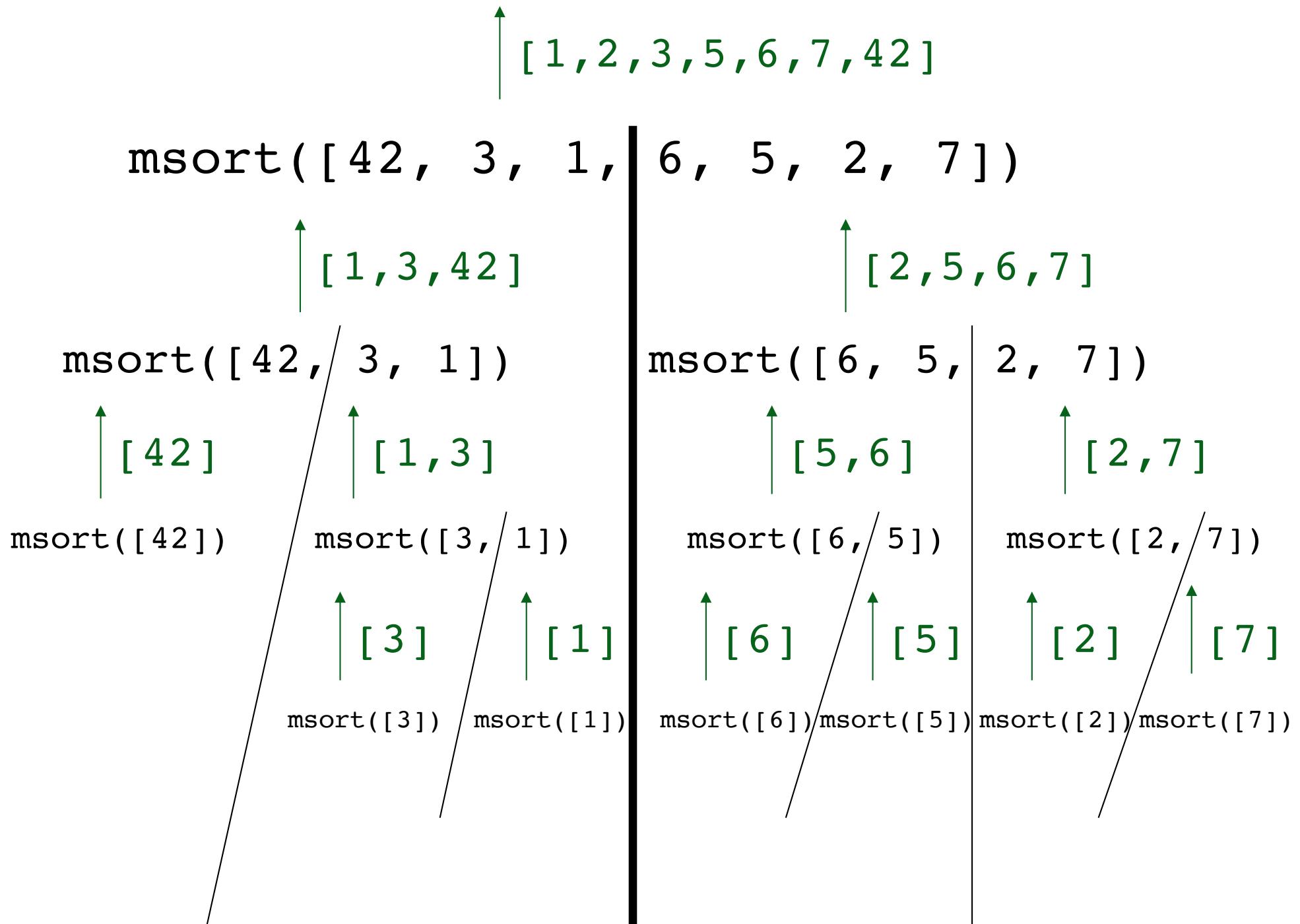
```
[2] + merge([3, 5, 42], [7, 8, 27])
```

```
[3] + merge([5, 42], [7, 8, 27])
```

...

```
[27] + merge([42], [])
```

```
[42]
```





Q

```
def mergesort(my_list):
    """mergesort the given list"""
    if len(my_list) <= 1: return my_list
    else:

def merge(sorted_list1, sorted_list2):
    """merge two sorted arrays"""
    if sorted_list1 == []: return sorted_list2
    elif sorted_list2 == []: return sorted_list1
    elif sorted_list1[0] < sorted_list2[0]:
        return ???
    else:
        return ???
```

## **Reminder:**

- Lecture feedback form  
[\(https://forms.gle/aPmkpXDUTp4Xo4CV7\)](https://forms.gle/aPmkpXDUTp4Xo4CV7)