



DS-210: PROGRAMMING FOR DATA SCIENCE

LECTURE 18

1. STRUCTS

2. MEMORY MANAGEMENT: STACK AND HEAP





STRUCTS

Last time: tuples, e.g., (12, 1.7, true)

Structs compared to tuples:

- **Similar:** can hold a few items of different types
- **Different:** the items have names





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```
In [2]: // Definition: list items (called fields)
//           and their types

struct Person {
    name: String,
    year_born: u16,
    time_100m: f64,
    likes_ice_cream: bool,
}
```





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```

```
In [3]: // Instantiation: replace types with values

let mut cartoon_character = Person {
    name: String::from("Tasmanian Devil"),
    year_born: 1954,
    time_100m: 7.52,
    likes_ice_cream: true,
};
```



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struct Person {
    name: String,
    year_born: u16,
    time_100m: f64,
    likes_ice_cream: bool,
}
```

```
In [4]: // Accessing fields: use ".field_name"
println!("{}",
    cartoon_character.name,
    cartoon_character.year_born);
cartoon_character.year_born = 2022;
println!("{}",
    cartoon_character.name,
    cartoon_character.year_born);
```

```
Tasmanian Devil was born in 1954
Tasmanian Devil was born in 2022
```

```
In [3]: // Instantiation: replace types with values

let mut cartoon_character = Person {
    name: String::from("Tasmanian Devil"),
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cartoon_character.year_born = 2022;
println!("{}",
    cartoon_character.name,
    cartoon_character.year_born);
```

```
Tasmanian Devil was born in 1954
Tasmanian Devil was born in 2022
```

Structs vs tuples: Which are better?





TUPLE STRUCTS

Named tuples to impose more meaning and delineate a different type.

Example: both `(f64, f64, f64)`

- box size (e.g., 8.5 in × 11 in × 6 in)
- Euclidean coordinates of a point in 3D





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```
In [5]: struct BoxSize(f64, f64, f64);  
        struct Point(f64, f64, f64);
```





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In [5]: struct BoxSize(f64, f64, f64);  
struct Point(f64, f64, f64);
```

```
In [6]: let mut my_box = BoxSize(3.2, 6.0, 2.0);  
let mut p : Point = Point(-1.3, 2.1, 0.0);
```



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In [5]: struct BoxSize(f64, f64, f64);  
        struct Point(f64, f64, f64);
```

```
In [7]: // won't work  
        my_box = p;  
  
        // Impossible to accidentally confuse different  
        // types of triples.  
        // No runtime penalty! Verified at compilation.  
  
        my_box = p;  
                ^ expected struct `BoxSize`, found struct `Point`  
mismatched types
```

```
In [6]: let mut my_box = BoxSize(3.2, 6.0, 2.0);  
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In [5]: struct BoxSize(f64, f64, f64);
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my_box = p;
      ^ expected struct `BoxSize`, found struct `Point`
mismatched types
```

```
In [6]: let mut my_box = BoxSize(3.2, 6.0, 2.0);
        let mut p : Point = Point(-1.3, 2.1, 0.0);
```

```
In [8]: // Accessing via index
println!("{}", p.0, p.1, p.2);
p.0 = 17.2;

// Destructuring
let Point(first, second, third) = p;
println!("{}", first, second, third);

-1.3 2.1 0
17.2 2.1 0
```



NAMED STRUCTS IN ENUMS

Structs with braces and exchangeable with tuples in many places

```
In [9]: enum LPSolution {  
    None,  
    Point{x:f64,y:f64}  
}  
  
let example = LPSolution::Point{x:1.2, y:4.2};
```



NAMED STRUCTS IN ENUMS

Structs with braces and interchangeable with tuples in many places

```
In [9]: enum LPSolution {  
    None,  
    Point{x:f64,y:f64}  
}  
  
let example = LPSolution::Point{x:1.2, y:4.2};
```

```
In [10]: if let LPSolution::Point{x:first,y:second} = example {  
    println!("coordinates: {} {}", first, second);  
};  
  
coordinates: 1.2 4.2
```



MEMORY MANAGEMENT: STACK VS. HEAP

- Two different places where space for data can be allocated
- We will discuss them one by one





STACK

- FILO (first in last out) memory allocation
- Stores current local variables and additional information such as:
 - function arguments
 - function output
 - where to continue when a function terminates
- Fast memory allocation
- Usually small fraction of the memory
- Often: size of the allocated memory has to be known in advance (compilation time)





STACK

- FILO (first in last out) memory allocation
- Stores current local variables and additional information such as:
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- Fast memory allocation
- Usually small fraction of the memory
- Often: size of the allocated memory has to be known in advance (compilation time)

Almost everything you saw so far allocated on stack

- Exception: data in `String` allocated on heap





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [11]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
    let mut y = 8;  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true); // x = x + y  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // y = x - y  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // x = x - y  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

x = 3, y = 8

x = 8, y = 3





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [11]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
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    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true); // x = x + y  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // y = x - y  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // x = x - y  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

```
x = 3, y = 8  
x = 8, y = 3
```

STEP 1: CALL `main`

- `x` and `y` allocated on stack and initiated
- Stack: `main (x, y)`





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [11]: fn main() {
  let mut x = 3;
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  println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);
  x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true); // x = x + y
  y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // y = x - y
  x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false); // x = x - y
  println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);
}

fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {
  let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};
  x + second_arg
}

fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {
  -x
}

main();
```

```
x = 3, y = 8
x = 8, y = 3
```

STEP 1: CALL `main`

- `x` and `y` allocated on stack and initiated
- Stack: `main (x, y)`

STEP 2: CALL `add_or_subtract` (1ST TIME)

- arguments for `add_or_subtract` put on stack
- space for solution allocated on stack
- space for `second_arg` allocated as well
- Stack: `main (x, y), add_or_subtract` (all the above + auxiliary information)





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [ ]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
    let mut y = 8;  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true);  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

STEP 3: **add_or_subtract** TERMINATES

- process and remove all information about the call
- Stack: **main** (x, y)





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [ ]: fn main() {
  let mut x = 3;
  let mut y = 8;
  println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);
  x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true);
  y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);
  x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);
  println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);
}

fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {
  let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};
  x + second_arg
}

fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {
  -x
}

main();
```

STEP 3: **add_or_subtract** TERMINATES

- process and remove all information about the call
- Stack: **main (x, y)**

STEP 4: CALL **add_or_subtract** (2ND TIME)

- arguments for **add_or_subtract** put on stack
- space for solution allocated on stack
- space for **second_arg** allocated as well
- Stack: **main (x, y), add_or_subtract** (all the above + auxiliary information)





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [ ]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
    let mut y = 8;  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true);  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

STEP 5: CALL `negate` (1ST TIME)

- the argument for `negate` put on stack
- space for solution allocated on stack
- Stack: `main (x, y)`, `add_or_subtract (...)`, `negate` (all of the above + auxiliary information)





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [ ]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
    let mut y = 8;  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true);  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

STEP 5: CALL **negate** (1ST TIME)

- the argument for **negate** put on stack
- space for solution allocated on stack
- Stack: **main** (x, y), **add_or_subtract** (...), **negate** (all of the above + auxiliary information)

STEP 6: **negate** TERMINATES

- process and remove all information about the call
- Stack: **main** (x, y), **add_or_subtract** (...)





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

```
In [ ]: fn main() {  
    let mut x = 3;  
    let mut y = 8;  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,true);  
    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

STEP 7: `add_or_subtract` TERMINATES

- [...]
- Stack: `main (x, y)`





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

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In [ ]: fn main() {
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    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);
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main();
```

STEP 7: `add_or_subtract` TERMINATES

- [...]
- Stack: `main (x, y)`

STEP 8: CALL `add_or_subtract` (3RD TIME)

- [...]
- Stack: `main (x, y), add_or_subtract (...)`





STACK EXAMPLE (IDEALIZED)

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In [ ]: fn main() {  
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    y = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    x = add_or_subtract(x,y,false);  
    println!("x = {}, y = {}",x,y);  
}  
  
fn add_or_subtract(x:i32, y:i32, add:bool) -> i32 {  
    let second_arg = if add {y} else {negate(y)};  
    x + second_arg  
}  
  
fn negate(x:i32) -> i32 {  
    -x  
}  
  
main();
```

STEP 7: `add_or_subtract` TERMINATES

- [...]
- Stack: `main (x, y)`

STEP 8: CALL `add_or_subtract` (3RD TIME)

- [...]
- Stack: `main (x, y), add_or_subtract (...)`

...





LIMITED SPACE ON STACK!

In [12]:

```
fn same_number(x:u32) -> u32 {  
    match x {  
        0 => 0,  
        _ => 1 + same_number(x - 1),  
    }  
}
```





LIMITED SPACE ON STACK!

In [12]:

```
fn same_number(x:u32) -> u32 {  
    match x {  
        0 => 0,  
        _ => 1 + same_number(x - 1),  
    }  
}
```

In [13]: same_number(7)

Out[13]: 7





LIMITED SPACE ON STACK!

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```
fn same_number(x:u32) -> u32 {  
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    }  
}
```

In [13]: same_number(7)

Out[13]: 7

In [14]: same_number(123_456)

Out[14]: 123456





LIMITED SPACE ON STACK!

In [12]:

```
fn same_number(x:u32) -> u32 {  
    match x {  
        0 => 0,  
        _ => 1 + same_number(x - 1),  
    }  
}
```

In [13]: same_number(7)

Out[13]: 7

In [14]: same_number(123_456)

Out[14]: 123456

In [15]: same_number(1_000_000)

Child process terminated with status: signal: 11 (core dumped)





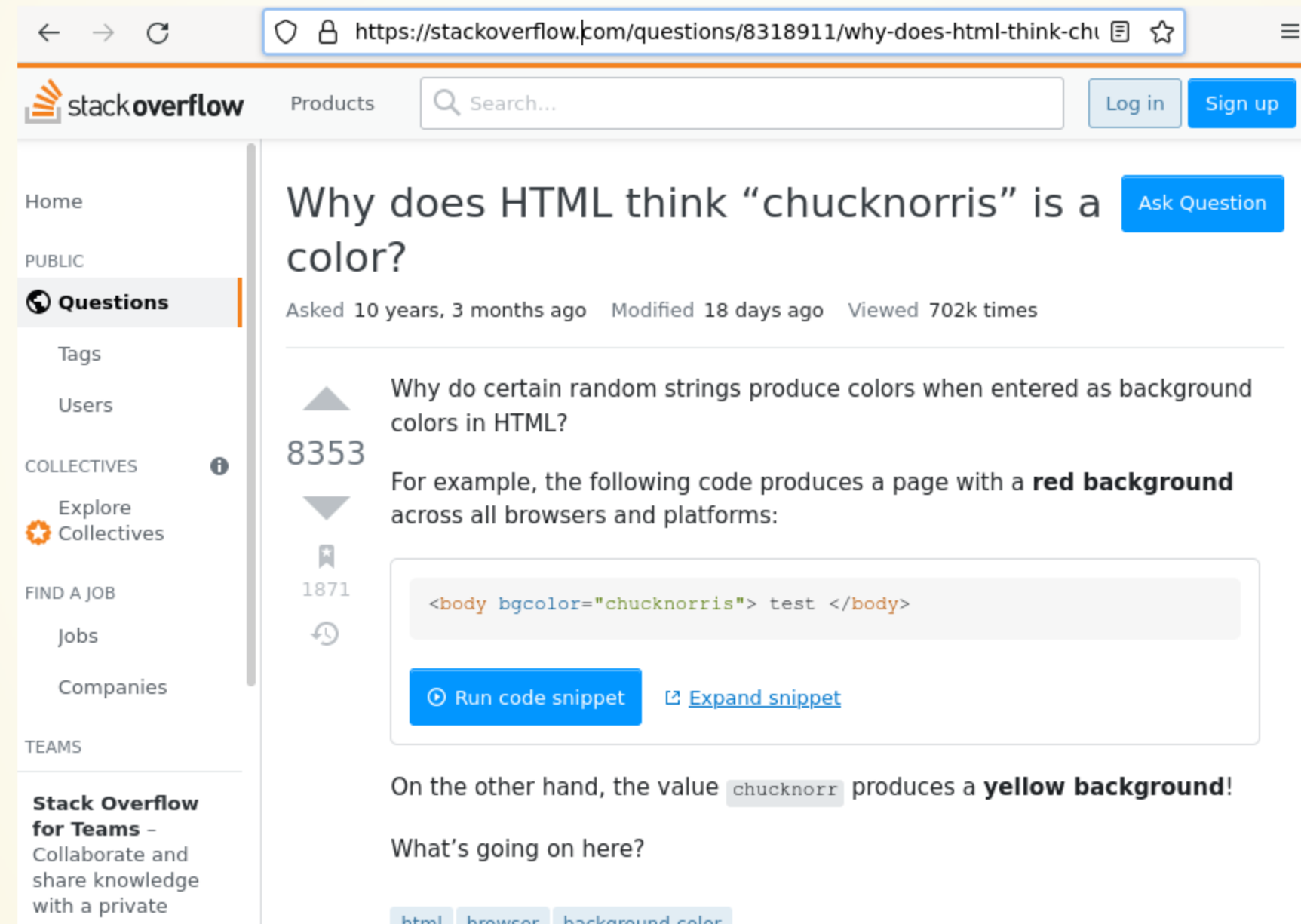
USING TOO MUCH MEMORY ON STACK: *STACK OVERFLOW*





USING TOO MUCH MEMORY ON STACK: *STACK OVERFLOW*

This is where the name of the popular webpage for asking questions about programming comes from!





HEAP

- Memory allocated and freed in arbitrary order
- Arbitrary amount allocated
- The application knows a *pointer* = the address of assigned memory

Pros and cons?





HEAP

- Memory allocated and freed in arbitrary order
- Arbitrary amount allocated
- The application knows a *pointer* = the address of assigned memory

Pros and cons?

Pros:

- Arbitrary amount of data
- No copying to pass data around
 - Just share the pointer!

Cons:

- Slower allocation:
 - Possible request for more space to the operating system
- Possible memory fragmentation
- Slower access:
 - Have to follow the pointer to get to data





STACK VS. HEAP IN PYTHON

- Elementary pieces of data allocated on stack: integers, floats, Boolean values, ...
- Anything else allocated on the heap





STACK VS. HEAP IN PYTHON

- Elementary pieces of data allocated on stack: integers, floats, Boolean values, ...
- Anything else allocated on the heap

[SWITCH TO THE PYTHON NOTEBOOK]





Sample difference between stack and heap in Python

```
In [1]: # x on the stack, copied when passed to the function  
# Modifying the copy doesn't modify the original.  
def plus_one(x):  
    x += 1  
  
x = 3  
print(x)  
plus_one(x)  
print(x)
```

```
3  
3
```





Sample difference between stack and heap in Python

In [1]: *# x on the stack, copied when passed to the function
Modifying the copy doesn't modify the original.*

```
def plus_one(x):  
    x += 1
```

```
x = 3  
print(x)  
plus_one(x)  
print(x)
```

```
3  
3
```

In [2]: *# Internally, a list is allocated on the heap.
Passing a list to a function means copying
its pointer, not a copy of the list. Modifying
the list will modify the original.*

```
def append_one(y):  
    y.append(1)
```

```
y = [4,3,2]  
print(y)  
append_one(y)  
print(y)
```

```
[4, 3, 2]  
[4, 3, 2, 1]
```



Stack overflow in Python?

```
In [3]: def same_number(x):  
        if x == 0:  
            return 0  
        else:  
            return 1 + same_number(x-1)  
  
        same_number(123)
```

Out[3]: 123





Stack overflow in Python?

```
In [3]: def same_number(x):  
        if x == 0:  
            return 0  
        else:  
            return 1 + same_number(x-1)  
  
same_number(123)
```

Out[3]: 123

```
In [4]: # overflow the stack  
same_number(1230000)
```

```
-----  
-----  
RecursionError                                Traceback (most  
recent call last)  
Input In [4], in <module>  
      1 # overflow the stack  
----> 2 same_number(1230000)  
  
Input In [3], in same_number(x)  
      3     return 0  
      4 else:  
----> 5     return 1 + same_number(x-1)  
  
Input In [3], in same_number(x)  
      3     return 0  
      4 else:  
----> 5     return 1 + same_number(x-1)  
  
[... skipping similar frames: same_number at line 5  
(2969 times)]  
  
Input In [3], in same_number(x)  
      3     return 0  
      4 else:  
----> 5     return 1 + same_number(x-1)  
  
Input In [3], in same_number(x)  
      1 def same_number(x):  
----> 2     if x == 0:  
      3         return 0  
      4     else:  
  
RecursionError: maximum recursion depth exceeded in comparison
```





BONUS CONTENT: STACK OVERFLOW?

```
In [16]: // an obfuscated way of computing 1 so the compiler
// does not realize :-)
fn return_one(x:u64) -> u64 {
  let x = (if x > 1000 {x-10} else {x}) as u128;
  let y = (x + 1) * (x + 1);
  (y - 2*x - x*x) as u64
}
```





BONUS CONTENT: STACK OVERFLOW?

```
In [16]: // an obfuscated way of computing 1 so the compiler  
// does not realize :-)  
fn return_one(x:u64) -> u64 {  
    let x = (if x > 1000 {x-10} else {x}) as u128;  
    let y = (x + 1) * (x + 1);  
    (y - 2*x - x*x) as u64  
}
```

```
In [17]: fn same_number_2(x:u64) -> u64 {  
    fn same_number_aux(y:u64, accumulate:u64) -> u64 {  
        match y {  
            0 => accumulate,  
            _ => same_number_aux(  
                y - return_one(y),  
                accumulate + 1),  
        }  
    }  
    same_number_aux(x,0)  
}
```





BONUS CONTENT: STACK OVERFLOW?

```
In [16]: // an obfuscated way of computing 1 so the compiler
// does not realize :-)
fn return_one(x:u64) -> u64 {
  let x = (if x > 1000 {x-10} else {x}) as u128;
  let y = (x + 1) * (x + 1);
  (y - 2*x - x*x) as u64
}
```

```
In [17]: fn same_number_2(x:u64) -> u64 {
  fn same_number_aux(y:u64, accumulate:u64) -> u64 {
    match y {
      0 => accumulate,
      _ => same_number_aux(
        y - return_one(y),
        accumulate + 1),
    }
  }
  same_number_aux(x,0)
}
```

```
In [18]: same_number_2(1234)
```

```
Out[18]: 1234
```





BONUS CONTENT: STACK OVERFLOW?

```
In [16]: // an obfuscated way of computing 1 so the compiler
// does not realize :-)
fn return_one(x:u64) -> u64 {
    let x = (if x > 1000 {x-10} else {x}) as u128;
    let y = (x + 1) * (x + 1);
    (y - 2*x - x*x) as u64
}
```

```
In [17]: fn same_number_2(x:u64) -> u64 {
    fn same_number_aux(y:u64, accumulate:u64) -> u64 {
        match y {
            0 => accumulate,
            _ => same_number_aux(
                y - return_one(y),
                accumulate + 1),
        }
    }
    same_number_aux(x,0)
}
```

```
In [18]: same_number_2(1234)
```

```
Out[18]: 1234
```

```
In [19]: same_number_2(10_000_000_00)
```

```
Out[19]: 1000000000
```

- **No stack overflow!** Why? Look up **tail call** and **tail recursion**.
- Not guaranteed in Rust, but sometimes works.

