

Partition

[Here is a video walkthrough of the solutions.](#)

Implement `partition`, which takes in an `IntList lst` and an integer `k`, and *destructively* partitions `lst` into `k` `IntLists` such that each list has the following properties: Firstly, It is the **same** length as the other lists. If this is not possible, i.e. `lst` cannot be equally partitioned, then the later lists should be **one** element smaller. For example, partitioning an `IntList` of length 25 with `k = 3` would result in partitioned lists of lengths 9, 8, and 8. Secondly, its ordering is consistent with the ordering of `lst`, i.e. items in earlier in `lst` must **precede** items that are later.

These lists should be put in an array of length `k`, and this array should be returned. For instance, if `lst` contains the elements 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, and `k = 2`, then a **possible** partition (note that there are many possible partitions), is putting elements 5, 3, 2 at index 0, and elements 4, 1 at index 1.

You may assume you have the access to the method `reverse`, which destructively reverses the ordering of a given `IntList` and returns a pointer to the reversed `IntList`. You may not create any `IntList` instances. You may not need all the lines.

Hint: You may find the `%` operator helpful.

```
1 public static IntList[] partition(IntList lst, int k) {
2     IntList[] array = new IntList[k];
3     int index = 0;
4     IntList L = _____
5     while (L != null) {
6
7         _____
8
9         _____
10
11        _____
12
13        _____
14
15        _____
16
17        _____
18
19        _____
20    }
21    return array;
22 }
```

Solution:

```
1 public static IntList[] partition(IntList lst, int k) {
2     IntList[] array = new IntList[k];
```

```
3     int index = 0;
4     IntList L = reverse(lst);
5     while (L != null) {
6         IntList prevAtIndex = array[index];
7         IntList next = L.rest;
8         array[index] = L;
9         array[index].rest = prevAtIndex;
10        L = next;
11        index = (index + 1) % array.length;
12    }
13    return array;
14 }
```

Explanation: We reverse our `IntList` so that we can build up each element of the `IntList[]` array backwards—in general, it is much easier to build an `IntList` backward than forward.

The general idea is to initialize each element in the array to `null`, then put an element of `L` inside the correct index by assigning `array[index] = L`. Then, we get whatever we've built up so far (`prevAtIndex`) and add it to the end of our `rest` element so that we have the entire `IntList` again with one element at the front.

Afterwards, we advance `L` to the next element and increment the index.