

CSE 341, Autumn 2012, Assignment 2

Racket Project and Macros

Due: Wednesday Jan 22, 10:00pm

The purpose of this assignment is to give you experience with writing a larger program in Racket, and also with using Racket macros. You can (and should) use side effects, with care, in Question 3. Don't use side effects for the answers to any of the other questions.

Points: 15 points Question 1, 4 points each Questions 2, 3 and 4.

You can use up to 3 late days for this assignment.

Turnin: Turn in two files: `polynomials.rkt`, with the functions and unit tests for Questions 1 and 2; and `macros.rkt`, with the functions, macros, and unit tests for Questions 3 and 4. You don't need to turn in sample output — the unit tests are enough for those. As before, your program should be tastefully commented (i.e. put in a comment before each function definition saying what it does). Style counts!

1. Write and test a Racket function `poly-multiply` that multiplies two polynomials in a symbolic variable and returns the result. The polynomials should be represented as lists of terms, where each term is in turn a list consisting of a coefficient and an exponent of the symbolic variable.

The polynomials should be normalized: they should be sorted with the largest exponent first, there shouldn't be two terms with the same exponent, and that shouldn't be any terms with a coefficient of 0. You can assume that the exponents will be non-negative integers. The zero polynomial is represented as the empty list. The result returned by `poly-multiply` should be normalized as well.

For example:

```
(poly-multiply '((1 3) (1 2) (1 1) (1 0)) '((1 1) (-1 0)))
```

should evaluate to `'((1 4) (-1 0))`.

In standard algebraic notation, this represents

$$x^4 - 1 = (x^3 + x^2 + x + 1) \cdot (x - 1)$$

Here are some other polynomial pairs that you can turn into unit tests for your function:

$$(-3x^4 + x + 5) \cdot 0$$

$$0 \cdot x^2$$

$$(x^3 + x - 1) \cdot -5$$

$$(-10x^2 + 100x + 5) \cdot (x^{999} - x^7 + x + 3)$$

$$3 \cdot x$$

$$x \cdot 3$$

2. Define a function `poly->code` that converts a polynomial in normalized form as in Question 1 into evaluable Racket code. It should take two parameters: the list representing the polynomial, and the symbolic variable. Here are some examples:

```
(poly->code '((1 3) (5 2) (7 1) (10 0)) 'x) =>  
'(+ (expt x 3) (* 5 (expt x 2)) (* 7 x) 10)
```

```
(poly->code '((1 1) (-10 0)) 'x) => '(+ x -10)
```

```
(poly->code '((1 1)) 'x) => 'x
(poly->code '((10 0)) 'x) => 10
(poly->code '((1 0)) 'x) => 1
(poly->code '() 'x) => 0
```

So in general, the result will be a sum of terms, but if there is just one term, just return that term. In general a term is the coefficient times the variable raised to the exponent; but omit the coefficient if it is 1 and the exponent isn't 0, omit the exponent if it is 1, and omit both the variable and the exponent if the exponent is 0. Finally, return 0 for the zero polynomial.

Add appropriate unit tests for your `poly->code` function.

Since the result returned from `poly->code` is legal Racket code, we should be able to evaluate it. Suppose we define two polynomials `p1` and `p2` and a number `x` in the interaction pane:

```
(define p1 '((1 3) (1 2) (1 1) (1 0)))
(define p2 '((1 1) (-1 0)))
(define x 4)
```

Then both of these expressions should evaluate to the same number, namely 255:

```
(eval (poly->code (poly-multiply p1 p2) 'x))
(* (eval (poly->code p1 'x)) (eval (poly->code p2 'x)))
```

(If you use these examples in the definition pane, for example in unit tests, you'll need to use an additional namespace argument to `eval`.)

3. Racket macros: the lecture notes and code for `delay` and `force` include functions `my-delay` and `my-force`. Rewrite `my-delay` as a macro, so that the user doesn't have to manually wrap the delayed expression in a lambda. So the syntax for `my-delay` should be just like Racket's `delay`. Note in particular that you can have multiple expressions in the body. For example, this should work:

```
(my-delay (write "hi there ") (+ 3 4))
```

Rewrite the `my-force` function from the lecture notes if necessary so that it works correctly with your `my-delay` macro. (Or perhaps it will be OK as is.) Leave `my-force` as a function in any case, rather than making it a macro.

For the unit tests for `my-delay` and `my-force`, you want to demonstrate that the expressions aren't evaluated when you construct the delay; that they are evaluated the first time you use `my-force` and that it returns the correct value; and that additional uses of `my-force` continue to return the correct value without re-evaluating the expressions. You can use side effects judiciously here. The tests need to be automated — do things like checking the value of a counter, rather than expecting the user to look at the output and see if something got printed.

4. Another Racket macro: define a macro `my-and` that does exactly the same thing as the built-in Racket `and`. (Hint: see the handouts for macros, in particular the `my-or` example. Remember that `and` works on an indefinite number of expressions, including 0 expressions.) Include suitable unit tests.