

cse 311: foundations of computing

Spring 2015

Lecture 19: Structural induction and regular expressions



- An *alphabet* Σ is any finite set of characters.

e.g. $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$ or $\Sigma = \{A, B, C, \dots X, Y, Z\}$ or

$\Sigma =$

1		28	┐	95	┐	153	Ö	186		219	
2	☹	29	↔	96	┐	154	Ü	187		220	
3	♥	30	▲	97-122	a-z	155	€	188		221	
4	♦	31	▼	123	{	156	£	189		222	
5	♣	32	(space)	124		157	¥	190		223	
6	♠	33	!	125	}	158	₽	191		224	α
7	●	34	"	126	~	159	f	192		225	β
8	■	35	#	127	△	160	á	193		226	Γ
9	○	36	\$	128	Ç	161	í	194		227	π
10	◼	37	%	129	ü	162	ó	195		228	Σ
11	σ	38	&	130	é	163	ú	196		229	σ

- The set Σ^* of *strings* over the alphabet Σ is defined by
 - **Basis:** $\varepsilon \in \Sigma^*$ (ε is the empty string)
 - **Recursive:** if $w \in \Sigma^*$, $a \in \Sigma$, then $wa \in \Sigma^*$

function definitions on recursively defined sets

Length:

$$\text{len}(\varepsilon) = 0;$$

$$\text{len}(wa) = 1 + \text{len}(w); \text{ for } w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma$$

Reversal:

$$\varepsilon^R = \varepsilon$$

$$(wa)^R = aw^R \text{ for } w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma$$

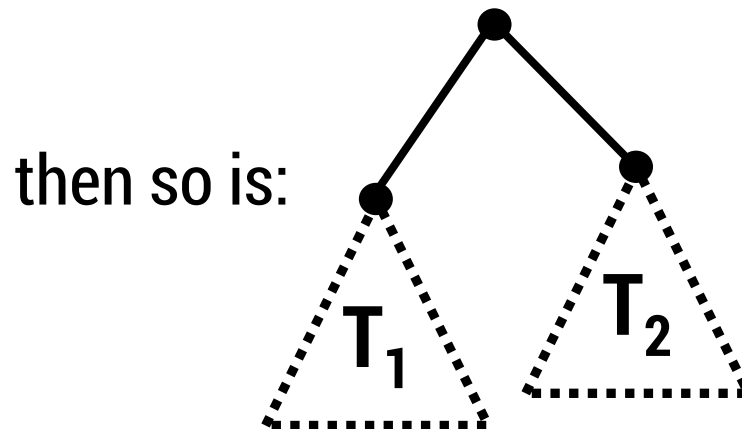
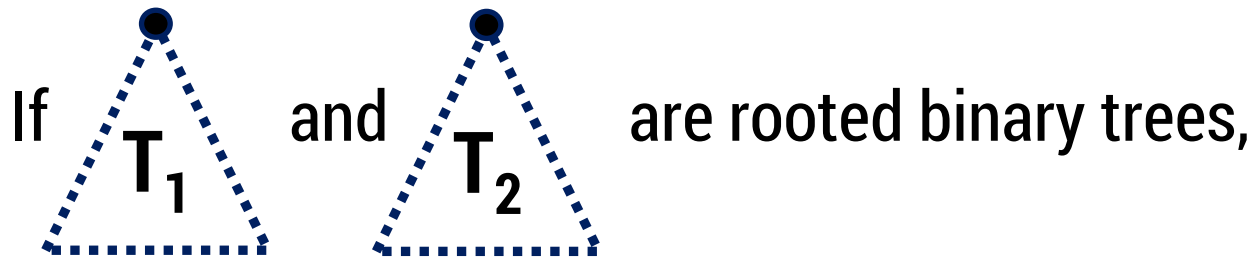
Concatenation:

$$x \bullet \varepsilon = x \text{ for } x \in \Sigma^*$$

$$x \bullet wa = (x \bullet w)a \text{ for } x, w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma$$

rooted binary trees

- **Basis:** • is a rooted binary tree
- **Recursive step:**



defining a function on rooted binary trees

- $\text{size}(\bullet) = 1$

- $\text{size} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \end{array} \right) = 1 + \text{size}(T_1) + \text{size}(T_2)$

- $\text{height}(\bullet) = 0$

- $\text{height} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \end{array} \right) = 1 + \max\{\text{height}(T_1), \text{height}(T_2)\}$

How to prove $\forall x \in S, P(x)$ is true:

Base Case: Show that $P(u)$ is true for all specific elements u of S mentioned in the *Basis step*

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that P is true for some arbitrary values of *each* of the existing named elements mentioned in the *Recursive step*

Inductive Step: Prove that $P(w)$ holds for each of the new elements w constructed in the *Recursive step* using the named elements mentioned in the Inductive Hypothesis

Conclude that $\forall x \in S, P(x)$

structural induction for strings

Let S be a set of strings over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ defined by

Basis: $a \in S$

Recursive:

If $w \in S$ then $wa \in S$ and $wba \in S$

If $u, v \in S$ then $uv \in S$

Claim: If $w \in S$ then w has more a 's than b 's.

proof continued?

prove: $\text{len}(x \cdot y) = \text{len}(x) + \text{len}(y)$ for all $x, y \in \Sigma^*$

Let $P(y)$ be " $\text{len}(x \cdot y) = \text{len}(x) + \text{len}(y)$ for all $x \in \Sigma^*$ "

Length:

$\text{len}(\varepsilon) = 0;$

$\text{len}(wa) = 1 + \text{len}(w);$ for $w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma$

defining a function on rooted binary trees

- $\text{size}(\bullet) = 1$

- $\text{size} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \end{array} \right) = 1 + \text{size}(T_1) + \text{size}(T_2)$

- $\text{height}(\bullet) = 0$

- $\text{height} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \end{array} \right) = 1 + \max\{\text{height}(T_1), \text{height}(T_2)\}$

Claim: For every rooted binary tree T , $\text{size}(T) \leq 2^{\text{height}(T)+1} - 1$

languages: sets of strings

Sets of strings that satisfy special properties are called **languages**.

Examples:

- English sentences
- Syntactically correct Java/C/C++ programs
- Σ^* = All strings over alphabet Σ
- Palindromes over Σ
- Binary strings that don't have a 0 after a 1
- Legal variable names, keywords in Java/C/C++
- Binary strings with an equal # of 0's and 1's