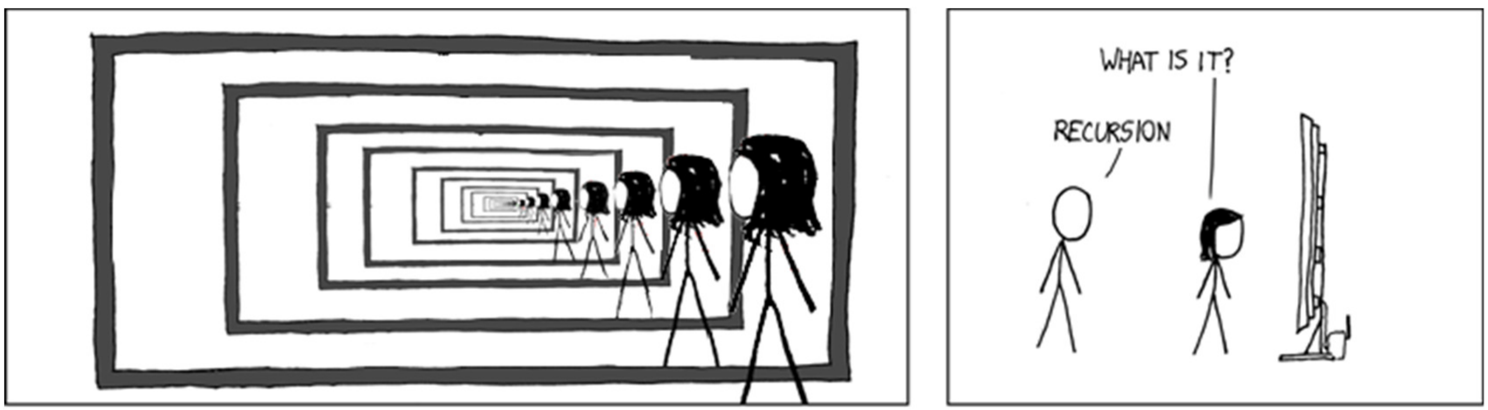
CSE 311: Foundations of Computing

Lecture 16: Recursively Defined Sets & Structural Induction



Last class: Recursive Definition of Sets

Recursive definition of set S

- **Basis Step:** $0 \in S$
- **Recursive Step: If** $x \in S$**, then** $x + 2 \in S$
- **Exclusion Rule: Every element in** S **follows from the basis step and a finite number of recursive steps.**

S={even natural numbers}

We need the exclusion rule because otherwise $S = \mathbb{N}$ **would satisfy the other two parts. However, we won't always write it down on these slides.**

Last class: Recursive Definitions of Sets

Basis: $6 \in S$, $15 \in S$
Recursive: **If** $x,y \in S$, **then** $x+y \in S$

$S=\{6,12,15,18,21,\ldots\}$

Basis: $[1, 1, 0] \in S$, $[0, 1, 1] \in S$
Recursive: **If** $[x, y, z] \in S$, **then** $[\alpha x, \alpha y, \alpha z] \in S$ **for any** $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$
If $[x_1, y_1, z_1] \in S$ **and** $[x_2, y_2, z_2] \in S$, **then**
$[x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2, z_1 + z_2] \in S$.

$S=\{$**plane in** $\mathbb{R}^3$ **spanned by [1,1,0] and [0,1,1]**$\}$

Number of form 3^n **for** $n \geq 0$**:**
Basis: $1 \in S$
Recursive: If $x \in S$, **then** $3x \in S$.

Recursive Definitions of Sets: General Form

Recursive definition

- *Basis step:* Some specific elements are in S
- *Recursive step:* Given some existing named elements in S some new objects constructed from these named elements are also in S.
- *Exclusion rule*: Every element in S follows from the basis step and a finite number of recursive steps

Strings

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

- The set Σ^* of *strings* over the alphabet Σ is defined by
  - **Basis:** $\varepsilon \in \Sigma^*$ (ε is the empty string w/ no chars)
  - **Recursive:** if $w \in \Sigma^*$, $a \in \Sigma$, then $wa \in \Sigma^*$

Palindromes

Palindromes are strings that are the same backwards and forwards

Basis:

ε is a palindrome and any $a \in \Sigma$ is a palindrome

Recursive step:

If p is a palindrome then apa is a palindrome for every $a \in \Sigma$

All Binary Strings with no 1's before 0's

All Binary Strings with no 1's before 0's

Basis:

$\varepsilon \in S$

Recursive:

If $x \in S$, **then** $0x \in S$

If $x \in S$, **then** $x1 \in S$

Functions on Recursively Defined Sets (on Σ^*)

Length:

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

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

Reversal:

$\varepsilon^R = \varepsilon$

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

Concatenation:

$x \bullet \varepsilon = x$ for $x \in \Sigma^*$

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

Number of c's in a string:

$\#_c(\varepsilon) = 0$

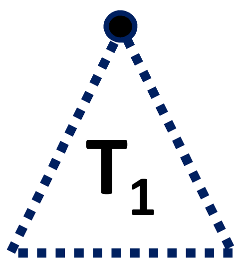
$\#_c(wc) = \#_c(w) + 1$ for $w \in \Sigma^*$

$\#_c(wa) = \#_c(w)$ for $w \in \Sigma^*$, $a \in \Sigma$, $a \neq c$

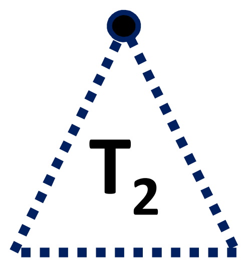
Rooted Binary Trees

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

If

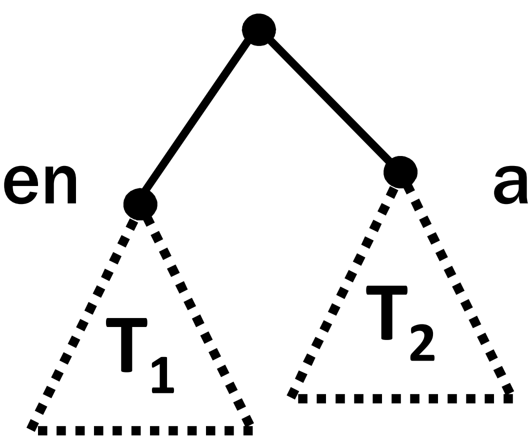


and



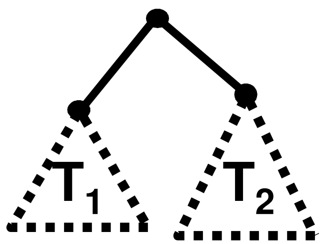
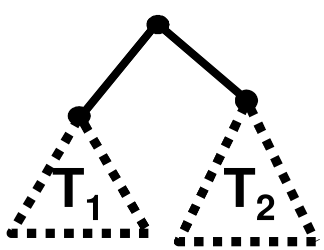
are rooted binary trees,

then



also is a rooted binary tree.

Defining Functions on Rooted Binary Trees

- size(•) = 1
- size () = 1 + size($\mathbf{T_1}$) + size($\mathbf{T_2}$)
- height(•) = 0
- height ()=1 + max{height($\mathbf{T_1}$), height($\mathbf{T_2}$)}

Structural Induction

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

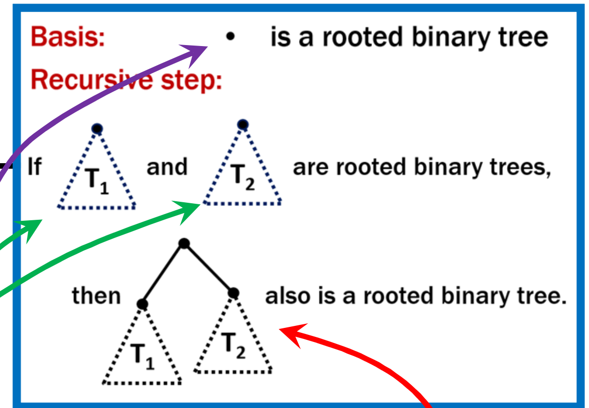
Base Case: **Show that $P(u)$ is true for all specific elements u of S mentioned in the *Basis step***

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



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

Structural Induction vs. Ordinary Induction

Ordinary induction is a special case of structural induction:

Recursive definition of $\mathbb{N}$

Basis: $0 \in \mathbb{N}$

Recursive step: If $k \in \mathbb{N}$ then $k + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$

Structural induction follows from ordinary induction:

Define $Q(n)$ to be "for all $x \in S$ that can be constructed in at most n recursive steps, $P(x)$ is true."

Using Structural Induction

- Let S be given by…
  - **Basis:** $6 \in S$; $15 \in S$;
  - **Recursive:** if $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$.

Claim: Every element of S is divisible by 3.

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1. **Let** P(x) **be** "3|x". **We prove that** P(x) **is true for all** $x \in S$ **by structural induction.**
2. **Base Case:** 3|6 **and** 3|15 **so** P(6) **and** P(15) **are true**

Basis: $6 \in S$; $15 \in S$;

Recursive: if $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$

Claim: Every element of S is divisible by 3.

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2. Base Case: $3|6$ and $3|15$ so P(6) and P(15) are true
3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that P(x) and P(y) are true for some arbitrary $x,y \in S$
4. Inductive Step: Goal: Show P(x+y)

Basis: $6 \in S$; $15 \in S$;

Recursive: if $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$

Claim: Every element of S is divisible by 3.

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3. **Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose that** P(x) **and** P(y) **are true for some arbitrary** x,y ∈ S
4. **Inductive Step:** **Goal: Show** P(x+y)

   Since P(x) **is true,** 3|x **and so** x=3m **for some integer** m **and since** P(y) **is true,** 3|y **and so** y=3n **for some integer** n**.** **Therefore** x+y=3m+3n=3(m+n) **and thus** 3|(x+y).

   Hence P(x+y) **is true.**
5. **Therefore by induction** 3|x **for all** x ∈ S.

Basis: $6 \in S$; $15 \in S$;

Recursive: if $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$

Claim: len(x•y) = len(x) + len(y) **for all** x,y ∈ Σ^*

Let P(y) **be** "len(x•y) = len(x) + len(y) for all x ∈ Σ^* "**.**
We prove P(y) **for all** y ∈ Σ^* **by structural induction.**

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

Let $P(y)$ **be** "$\text{len}(x\bullet y) = \text{len}(x) + \text{len}(y)$ for all $x \in \Sigma^*$" .
We prove $P(y)$ **for all** $y \in \Sigma^*$ **by structural induction.**

Base Case: $y = \varepsilon$. **For any** $x \in \Sigma^*$, $\text{len}(x\bullet \varepsilon) = \text{len}(x) = \text{len}(x) + \text{len}(\varepsilon)$ **since** $\text{len}(\varepsilon)=0$. **Therefore** $P(\varepsilon)$ **is true**

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

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Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that $P(w)$ **is true for some arbitrary** $w \in \Sigma^*$

Inductive Step: **Goal: Show that** $P(wa)$ **is true for every** $a \in \Sigma$

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Let P(y) **be** "len(x•y) = len(x) + len(y) for all x $\in \Sigma^*$" .
We prove P(y) **for all** y $\in \Sigma^*$ **by structural induction.**

Base Case: y= ε. **For any** x $\in \Sigma^*$, len(x• ε) = len(x) = len(x) + len(ε)
since len(ε)=0. **Therefore** P(ε) **is true**

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume that P(w) **is true for some arbitrary** w $\in \Sigma^*$

Inductive Step: **Goal: Show that** P(wa) **is true for every** a $\in \Sigma$

Let a $\in \Sigma$**. Let** x $\in \Sigma^*$. **Then** len(x•wa) = len((x•w)a) **by defn of •**
= len(x•w)+1 **by defn of len**
= len(x)+len(w)+1 **by I.H.**
= len(x)+len(wa) **by defn of len**

Therefore len(x•wa)= len(x)+len(wa) **for all** x $\in \Sigma^*$**, so** P(wa) **is true.**

So, by induction len(x•y) = len(x) + len(y) **for all** x,y $\in \Sigma^*$