

CSE 331

Spring 2025

Reasoning Extras

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DEPARTMENT	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	PREREQS
COMPUTER SCIENCE	CPSC 432	INTERMEDIATE COMPILER DESIGN, WITH A FOCUS ON DEPENDENCY RESOLUTION.	CPSC 432

xkcd #754

Matt Wang

& Ali, Alice, Andrew, Anmol, Antonio, Connor,
Edison, Helena, Jonathan, Katherine, Lauren,
Lawrence, Mayee, Omar, Riva, Saan, and Yusong

Proof By Cases

Recall: Pattern Matching

- Define a function by an exhaustive set of patterns

`type Steps := {n :  $\mathbb{N}$ , fwd :  $\mathbb{B}$ }`

`change({n: n, fwd: T}) := n`

`change({n: n, fwd: F}) := -n`

- Steps **describes** movement on the number line
- `change(s : Steps)` **says** how the position changes



- one of these two rules always applies

Proof by Cases, with Records (Case T)

$\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: T\}) := n$

$\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: F\}) := -n$

- **Prove that $|\text{change}(s)| = n$ for any $s = \{n: n, \text{fwd}: f\}$**
 - we need to know if $f = T$ or $f = F$ to apply the definition!

Case $f = T$:

$|\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: f\})|$

$= |\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: T\})|$

$= |n|$

$= n$

since $f = T$

def of change

since $n \geq 0$

Proof by Cases, with Records (Case F)

$\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: T\}) := n$

$\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: F\}) := -n$

- **Prove that $|\text{change}(s)| = n$ for any $s = \{n: n, \text{fwd}: f\}$**

Case $f = T$: $|\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: f\})| = \dots = n$

Case $f = F$:

$|\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: f\})|$

$= |\text{change}(\{n: n, \text{fwd}: F\})|$

$= |-n|$

$= n$

since $f = F$

def of change

since $n \geq 0$

Since these two cases are exhaustive, the claim holds in general.

Structural Induction

Definition of List Reversal

- Reversal of a List: “same values but in reverse order”
- Look at some examples...

L

nil

[3]

[2, 3]

[1, 2, 3]

...

rev(L)

nil

[3]

[3, 2]

[3, 2, 1]

...

3 :: nil

3 :: 2 :: nil

3 :: 2 :: 1 :: nil

Structural Recursion in List Reversal

- Look at some examples...

L	rev(L)
nil	nil
3 :: nil	3 :: nil
2 :: 3 :: nil	3 :: 2 :: nil
1 :: 2 :: 3 :: nil	3 :: 2 :: 1 :: nil

- **Where does $\text{rev}([2, 3])$ show up in $\text{rev}([1, 2, 3])$?**
 - at the beginning, with $1 :: \text{nil}$ *after* it
- **Where does $\text{rev}([3])$ show up in $\text{rev}([2, 3])$?**
 - at the beginning, with $2 :: \text{nil}$ *after* it

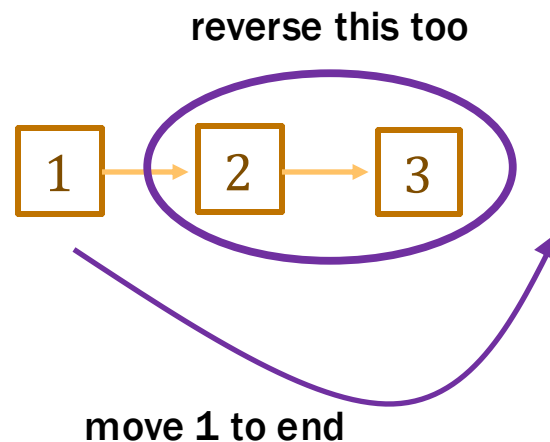
Recall: Reversing a List

- Mathematical definition of $\text{rev}(S)$

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$

$\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

– note that rev uses $\text{concat } (\#)$ as a helper function



Definition of List Reversal: Checking Examples

$1 :: 2 :: 3 :: \text{nil}$

$3 :: 2 :: 1 :: \text{nil}$

- **Mathematical definition of $\text{rev} : \text{List} \rightarrow \text{List}$**

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) := \text{nil}$

$\text{rev}(x :: L) := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- **Check that this matches examples...**

$\text{rev}(1 :: 2 :: 3 :: \text{nil})$

$= \text{rev}(2 :: 3 :: \text{nil}) \# [1]$

$= \text{rev}(3 :: \text{nil}) \# [2] \# [1]$

$= \text{rev}(\text{nil}) \# [3] \# [2] \# [1]$

$= [] \# [3] \# [2] \# [1]$

$= \dots = [3, 2, 1]$

def of rev

def of rev

def of rev

def of rev

def of concat (many times)

Example 5: Length of Reversed List: Setup

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- Suppose we have the following code:

```
const m = len(S);           // S is some List
const R = rev(S);
...
return m; // = len(rev(S))
```

– spec returns $\text{len}(\text{rev}(S))$ but code returns $\text{len}(S)$

- Need to prove that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(S)) = \text{len}(S)$ for any $S : \text{List}$

Example 5: Length of Reversed List (1/3)

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- **Prove that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(S)) = \text{len}(S)$ for any $S : \text{List}$**

Base Case (nil):

$\text{len}(\text{rev}(\text{nil})) = \text{len}(\text{nil})$ **def of rev**

Inductive Step ($\text{cons}(x, L)$):

Need to prove that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(x :: L)) = \text{len}(x :: L)$

Get to assume that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(L)) = \text{len}(L)$

Example 5: Length of Reversed List (2/3)

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- **Prove that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(S)) = \text{len}(S)$ for any $S : \text{List}$**

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(L)) = \text{len}(L)$

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{len}(\text{rev}(x :: L))$
 $=$

$= \text{len}(x :: L)$

Example 5: Length of Reversed List (3/3)

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- **Prove that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(S)) = \text{len}(S)$ for any $S : \text{List}$**

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{len}(\text{rev}(L)) = \text{len}(L)$

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{len}(\text{rev}(x :: L))$	
$= \text{len}(\text{rev}(L) \# [x])$	def of rev
$= \text{len}(\text{rev}(L)) + \text{len}([x])$	by Example 3
$= \text{len}(L) + \text{len}([x])$	Ind. Hyp.
$= \text{len}(L) + 1 + \text{len}(\text{nil})$	def of len
$= \text{len}(L) + 1$	def of len
$= \text{len}(x :: L)$	def of len

Finer Points of Structural Induction

- **Structural Induction is how we reason about recursion**
- **Reasoning also follows structure of code**
 - code uses structural recursion, so reasoning uses structural induction
- **Note that rev is defined in terms of concat**
 - reasoning about `len(rev(...))` used fact about `len(concat(...))`
 - this is common

Example 6: Reversing a List Performance

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

- **This correctly reverses a list but is slow**
 - concat takes $\Theta(n)$ time, where n is length of L
 - n calls to concat takes $\Theta(n^2)$ time
- **Can we do this faster?**
 - yes, but we need a helper function

Example 6: Reversing a List, Linear Time (1/3)

- **Helper function** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R)$ for any $S, R : \text{List}$

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

$\text{rev-acc} \left(\begin{array}{c} \boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{4} \rightarrow \text{nil} \\ \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \end{array} \right)$

Example 6: Reversing a List, Linear Time (2/3)

- **Helper function** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R)$ for any $S, R : \text{List}$

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rev-acc} & \left(\boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{4} \rightarrow \text{nil}, \quad \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \right) \\ &= \text{rev-acc} \left(\boxed{4} \rightarrow \text{nil}, \quad \boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Example 6: Reversing a List

- **Helper function** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R)$ for any $S, R : \text{List}$

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

$\text{rev-acc} \left(\begin{array}{c} \boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{4} \rightarrow \text{nil} \\ \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \end{array} \right)$

$= \text{rev-acc} \left(\begin{array}{c} \boxed{4} \rightarrow \text{nil} \\ \boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \end{array} \right)$

$= \text{rev-acc} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{nil} \\ \boxed{4} \rightarrow \boxed{3} \rightarrow \boxed{2} \rightarrow \boxed{1} \rightarrow \text{nil} \end{array} \right)$

Proving that rev-acc works, in pieces

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- Can prove that $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$ (Lemma 1)
- Can prove that $\text{concat}(L, \text{nil}) = L$ (Lemma 2)
 - structural induction like prior examples
- Prove that $\text{rev}(S) = \text{rev-acc}(S, \text{nil})$

$\text{rev-acc}(S, \text{nil}) \quad = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), \text{nil})$
 $\quad \quad \quad = \text{rev}(S)$

Lemma 1

Lemma 2

Proving Lemma 2: Setup

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{concat}(S, \text{nil}) = S$

Base Case (nil):

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, \text{nil}) \quad = \quad \text{nil}$

def of concat

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{concat}(L, \text{nil}) = \text{nil}$

Inductive Step ($\text{cons}(x, L)$): **prove that** $\text{concat}(\text{cons}(x, L), \text{nil}) = \text{cons}(x, L)$

Proving Lemma 2: Inductive Step (1/2)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{concat}(S, \text{nil}) = S$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{concat}(L, \text{nil}) = L$

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{concat}(x :: L, \text{nil}) \quad =$

$= x :: L$

Proving Lemma 2: Inductive Step (2/2)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{concat}(S, \text{nil}) = S$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{concat}(L, \text{nil}) = L$

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{concat}(x :: L, \text{nil})$	$= x :: \text{concat}(L, \text{nil})$	def of concat
	$= x :: L$	Ind. Hyp.

Proving Lemma 1: Setup

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$
 - prove by structural induction
- **Need the following property of concat ($\#$)**

$$A \# (B \# C) = (A \# B) \# C$$

- with strings, we know that “ $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$ ”
- this says the same thing for lists with “ $\#$ ”

Proving Lemma 1: Base Case (1/2)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$
 - prove by induction on S (so R is a variable)

Base Case (nil):

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad =$

$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(\text{nil}), R)$

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$ $\text{concat}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad x :: \text{concat}(L, R)$	$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$ $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \quad \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$
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Proving Lemma 1: Base Case (2/2)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$
 - prove by induction on S (so R is a variable)

Base Case (nil):

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R)$	$= R$	def of rev-acc
	$= \text{concat}(\text{nil}, R)$	def of concat
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(\text{nil}), R)$	def of rev

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$
$\text{concat}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad x :: \text{concat}(L, R)$

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$
$\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \quad \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

Proving Lemma 1: Inductive Step (1/4)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{rev-acc}(L, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), R)$ for any R

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad =$

$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(x :: L), R)$

func $\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$ $\text{concat}(\text{cons}(x, L), R) := \text{cons}(x, \text{concat}(L, R))$	func $\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$ $\text{rev}(\text{cons}(x, L)) := \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), \text{cons}(x, \text{nil}))$
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Proving Lemma 1: Inductive Step (2/4)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{rev-acc}(L, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), R)$ for any R

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R)$	$= \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$	def of rev-acc
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), x :: R)$	Ind. Hyp.

$= (\text{rev}(L) \# [x]) \# R$	??
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$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L) \# [x], R)$
--

$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(x :: L), R)$	def of rev
--	-------------------

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$
$\text{concat}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad x :: \text{concat}(L, R)$

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$
$\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \quad \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

Proving Lemma 1: Inductive Step (3/4)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{rev-acc}(L, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), R)$ for any R

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R)$	$= \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$	def of rev-acc
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), x :: R)$	Ind. Hyp.

$= \text{rev}(L) \# ([x] \# R)$	
$= (\text{rev}(L) \# [x]) \# R$	assoc. of #

$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L) \# [x], R)$	
$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(x :: L), R)$	def of rev

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$
$\text{concat}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad x :: \text{concat}(L, R)$

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$
$\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \quad \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

Proving Lemma 1: Inductive Step (4/4)

$\text{rev-acc}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$

- **Prove that** $\text{rev-acc}(S, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(S), R)$

Inductive Hypothesis: assume that $\text{rev-acc}(L, R) = \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), R)$ for any R

Inductive Step $(x :: L)$:

$\text{rev-acc}(x :: L, R)$	$= \text{rev-acc}(L, x :: R)$	def of rev-acc
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L), x :: R)$	Ind. Hyp.
	$= \text{rev}(L) \# (x :: R)$	
	$= \text{rev}(L) \# ([x] \# R)$	def of concat
	$= (\text{rev}(L) \# [x]) \# R$	assoc. of #
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(L) \# [x], R)$	
	$= \text{concat}(\text{rev}(x :: L), R)$	def of rev

$\text{concat}(\text{nil}, R) \quad := \quad R$
 $\text{concat}(x :: L, R) \quad := \quad x :: \text{concat}(L, R)$

$\text{rev}(\text{nil}) \quad := \quad \text{nil}$
 $\text{rev}(x :: L) \quad := \quad \text{rev}(L) \# [x]$

Structural Induction in General

- General case: assume P holds for constructor *arguments*

$\text{type } T := A \mid B(x : \mathbb{Z}) \mid C(y : \mathbb{Z}, t : T) \mid D(z : \mathbb{Z}, u : T, v : T)$

- To prove $P(t)$ for any t , we need to prove:
 - $P(A)$
 - $P(B(x))$ for any $x : \mathbb{Z}$
 - $P(C(y, t))$ for any $y : \mathbb{Z}$ and $t : T$ assuming $P(t)$ is true
 - $P(D(z, u, v))$ for any $z : \mathbb{Z}$ and $u, v : T$ assuming $P(u)$ and $P(v)$
- These four facts are enough to prove $P(t)$ for any t
 - for each constructor, have proof that it produces an object satisfying P
 - more generally, each inductive type has its own form of induction