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## CSC148 - Mutating Nested Lists

To end off our study of nested lists, we're going to look at a more complex form of recursion on nested lists involving mutation. The running example we'll use for this worksheet is the following function:

```
def add_one(obj: int | list) -> None:
    """Add one to every number stored in <obj>. Do nothing if <obj> is an int.
```

If <obj> is a list, *\*mutate\** it to change the numbers stored.

```
>>> lst0 = 1
>>> add_one(lst0)
>>> lst0
1
>>> lst1 = []
>>> add_one(lst1)
>>> lst1
[]
>>> lst2 = [1, [2, 3], [[5]]]
>>> add_one(lst2)
>>> lst2
[2, [3, 4], [[6]]]
"""
# if isinstance(obj, int):
#     ...
# else:
#     for sublist in obj:
#         ... add_one(sublist) ...
```

1. To start, think about the *base case* for this function. Implement it in the space below.

Hint: read the docstring carefully—it tells you exactly what to do.

```
if isinstance(obj, int):
```

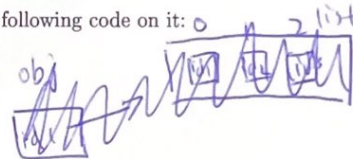
```
    return
```

we wrote the code in Pycharm.  
Do nothing.

2. Now for the recursive step. The standard "for sublist in obj" loop can mutate individual sub-nested-lists of obj that are lists, it can't mutate any *integer* element of obj directly.

To make sure you understand this, suppose obj = [1, 2, 3], and we run the following code on it:

```
else:
    # obj = [1, 2, 3]
    for sublist in obj:
        sublist += 1
```



What is the problem with this code? (Hint: review our memory model diagrams!)

The list does not change.  
we got values from list,  
but did not  
change list.

we reminded ourselves of this for-loop issue  
using an example that was unrelated to  
recursion. (This was done in the Python shell)

3. In general, if we want to replace elements of a list, we loop over the indexes of the list rather than its elements directly:

```
for i in range(len(obj)):
```

Using your answer to Question 1 and this new loop form, implement `add_one` in the space below.

Hint: you'll need different cases in your loop for when `obj[i]` is an integer or a list.

```
def add_one(obj: int | list) -> None:
    """Add one to every number stored in <obj>. Do nothing if <obj> is an int."""
    if isinstance(obj, int): when obj is int
        # Write your answer to Question 1 here.
        # Do nothing
        return None
```

else:

```
for i in range(len(obj)):
```

~~add\_one(obj[i])~~

```
if isinstance(obj[i], int):
    obj[i] += 1
```

else:

# ~~recursion~~ *first*

`add_one(obj[i])`

*We must notice int and increment ourselves.*

example

`[1, [2, 3], [[4], 5], [[6]]]`

`add_one(1) → 2`  
`add_one([2, 3]) → [3, 4]`  
`add_one([[4], 5]) → [[5], 6]`  
`add_one([[6]]) → [[7]]`

*to start*

~~Recursive~~ Design recipe.

1. identify recursive structure.

2. Base Case.

(a) identify & write doc + test.  
(b) implement.

3. Recursive Case.

a) write concrete example of greater complexity

b) write down recursive calls that need to be made

c) using only doc string, write down ~~these call will~~ what these calls will return

d). figure out how to combine recursive calls.

e) implement the recursive cases

Use partial trace, when debug recursion