

Lecture 7

Inductive Sets of Data & Recursive Procedures



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Lecture Nuggets



- Recursion is important
- We can specify data recursively
 - Inductive data specification
 - Defining sets using grammars
 - Induction
- We can use prove properties of recursively defined data
- We can write programs recursively
 - Smaller sub-problem principle (wishful thinking)
 - Examples
 - Auxiliary procedures

Nugget



Recursion is important

Recursion is important



- Recursion is important
 - Syntax in programming languages is nested
- Data definitions can be recursive
- Procedure definitions can be recursive

```
Program ::= Expression
         [a-program (exp1)]

Expression ::= Number
            [const-exp (num)]

Expression ::= - (Expression , Expression)
            [diff-exp (exp1 exp2)]

Expression ::= zero? (Expression)
            [zero?-exp (exp1)]

Expression ::= if Expression then Expression else Expression
            [if-exp (exp1 exp2 exp3)]

Expression ::= Identifier
            [var-exp (var)]

Expression ::= let Identifier = Expression in Expression
            [let-exp (var exp1 body)]
```

Figure 3.2 Syntax for the LET language

Nugget



We can define data recursively

Recursion example



- Inductive specification of a subset of natural numbers $N = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

Definition 1.1.1 A natural number n is in S if and only if

1. $n = 0$, or
2. $n - 3 \in S$.

- Which subset of N is this?
- Is 6 in S ?

Simple procedure for testing membership



- Write a procedure that follows the definition
- Remember the definition

Definition 1.1.1 *A natural number n is in S if and only if*

1. $n = 0$, or

2. $n - 3 \in S$.

- And the procedure

```
in-S? :  $N \rightarrow Bool$   
usage: (in-S? n) = #t if n is in S, #f otherwise  
(define in-S?  
  (lambda (n)  
    (if (zero? n) #t  
        (if (>= (- n 3) 0)  
            (in-S? (- n 3))  
            #f))))
```

Simple procedure for testing membership



- More about the procedure

- Contract
- Domain
- Co-Domain (range)
- Usage
- Argument

```
in-S? :  $N \rightarrow Bool$   
usage: (in-S? n) = #t if n is in S, #f otherwise  
(define in-S?  
  (lambda (n)  
    (if (zero? n) #t  
        (if (>= (- n 3) 0)  
            (in-S? (- n 3))  
            #f))))
```

Alternative definition of S



Definition 1.1.2 Define the set S to be the smallest set contained in N and satisfying the following two properties:

1. $0 \in S$, and
2. if $n \in S$, then $n + 3 \in S$.

- Show that “the smallest set” constraint is needed
- Show that there is only one set that is smallest

Yet another way of defining S



- Rule of Inference
- Concepts
 - Hypothesis (antecedent)
 - Conclusion (consequent)
 - Implies
 - Implicit AND
 - Axiom

$$\frac{\overline{0 \in S} \quad n \in S}{(n + 3) \in S}$$

Three different ways of defining S

- **Top-down**
 - The recursion ends at the base case
- **Bottom-up**
 - Induction starts at the base case
- **Rules-of-inference**
 - Must find a sequence of derivations

Defining list of integers

Definition 1.1.3 (list of integers, top-down) A Scheme list is a list of integers if and only if either

1. it is the empty list, or
2. it is a pair whose car is an integer and whose cdr is a list of integers.

Definition 1.1.4 (list of integers, bottom-up) The set *List-of-Int* is the smallest set of Scheme lists satisfying the following two properties:

1. $() \in \text{List-of-Int}$, and
2. if $n \in \text{Int}$ and $l \in \text{List-of-Int}$, then $(n . l) \in \text{List-of-Int}$.

Definition 1.1.5 (list of integers, rules of inference)

$$() \in \text{List-of-Int}$$

$$\frac{n \in \text{Int} \quad l \in \text{List-of-Int}}{(n . l) \in \text{List-of-Int}}$$

Example



- Show that $(-7 \ 3 \ 14)$ is a list of integers:

$(-7 \ . \ (3 \ . \ (14 \ . \ ())))$

Example



- Show that $(-7 \ 3 \ 14)$ is a list of integers:

$(-7 \ . \ (3 \ . \ (14 \ . \ ())))$

- Derivation (deduction tree)

$$\frac{-7 \in N \quad \frac{3 \in N \quad \frac{14 \in N \quad () \in \text{List-of-Int}}{(14 \ . \ ()) \in \text{List-of-Int}}}{(3 \ . \ (14 \ . \ ())) \in \text{List-of-Int}}}{(-7 \ . \ (3 \ . \ (14 \ . \ ()))) \in \text{List-of-Int}}$$

Defining Sets Using Grammars

$List\text{-of-Int} ::= ()$

$List\text{-of-Int} ::= (Int \ . \ List\text{-of-Int})$

- Components of a grammar

- Terminals
- Non-terminals (syntactic categories)
- Productions (no context)
- Optional bits
- Naming conventions $e \in Expression$

- BNF, CNF

- Kleene notation

- Star $\{<exp>\}^*$, Plus $\{<exp>\}^+$, Separated list Plus $\{<exp>\}_{+,()}$

Grammar example

- S-lists

Definition 1.1.6 (s-list, s-exp)

$S\text{-list} ::= (\{S\text{-exp}\}^*)$

$S\text{-exp} ::= Symbol \mid S\text{-list}$

- Examples

- S-list $\rightarrow ()$
- S-exp $\rightarrow x$
- S-list $\rightarrow (x)$
- S-exp $\rightarrow (x)$
- S-list $\rightarrow ((x) x (x) ((x) x (x)))$

Grammar example



- Binary Trees

Definition 1.1.7 (binary tree)

$$\text{Bintree} ::= \text{Int} \mid (\text{Symbol Bintree Bintree})$$

- Examples

Grammar example



- Lambda Calculus

Definition 1.1.8 (lambda expression)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LcExp} &::= \text{Identifier} \\ &::= (\text{lambda } (\text{Identifier}) \text{ LcExp}) \\ &::= (\text{LcExp LcExp}) \end{aligned}$$

where an identifier is any symbol other than `lambda`.

- Examples
- `(lambda (x) x)`
- `(lambda (x) (lambda (y) z))`

Grammar example

• Lambda Calculus

Definition 1.1.8 (lambda expression)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LcExp} &::= \text{Identifier} \\ &::= (\text{lambda } (\text{Identifier}) \text{ LcExp}) \\ &::= (\text{LcExp } \text{LcExp}) \end{aligned}$$

where an identifier is any symbol other than lambda.

• Concepts

- Variables
- Bound variable

Nugget

We can use prove properties of
recursively defined data

Induction



- A method for formal proofs
- Steps
 - Define an induction hypothesis IH: $\text{Int} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
 - Prove base case $\text{IH}(0)$
 - Prove that $\text{IH}(k) \rightarrow \text{IH}(k+1)$
 - or more generally $\text{IH}(k') \rightarrow \text{IH}(k+1)$ for $k' \leq k$

Structural Induction



- A method for formal proofs
- Steps
 - Define an induction hypothesis IH: $\text{Int} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
 - Prove base case $\text{IH}(0)$
 - Prove that $\text{IH}(k) \rightarrow \text{IH}(k+1)$
 - or more generally $\text{IH}(k') \rightarrow \text{IH}(k+1)$ for $k' \leq k$

Proof by Structural Induction

To prove that a proposition $\text{IH}(s)$ is true for all structures s , prove the following:

1. IH is true on simple structures (those without substructures).
2. If IH is true on the substructures of s , then it is true on s itself.

Induction Example

- Prove that binary trees have odd number of nodes
 - Use structural induction
- Define IH(k)
 - Any tree of size k has odd number of elements
- Prove
 - base case
 - inductive step

Definition 1.1.7 (binary tree)

$$\text{Bintree} ::= \text{Int} \mid (\text{Symbol Bintree Bintree})$$

Nugget

We can solve problems using
recursion

Deriving Recursive Programs

- Recursive programs are easy to write if you follow two principles
 - Smaller-sub-problem principle (aka divide and conquer).

The Smaller-Subproblem Principle

If we can reduce a problem to a smaller subproblem, we can call the procedure that solves the problem to solve the subproblem.

Follow the Grammar!

When defining a procedure that operates on inductively defined data, the structure of the program should be patterned after the structure of the data.

Recursive Procedure Example

- Write a new function list-length
- Everyone should be able to go this far

```
list-length : List → Int
usage: (list-length l) = the length of l
(define list-length
  (lambda (lst)
    ...))
```

- Let the definition of **list** guide you

List ::= () | (Scheme value . List)

```
list-length : List → Int
usage: (list-length l) = the length of l
(define list-length
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        0
        ...)))
```



```
list-length : List → Int
usage: (list-length l) = the length of l
(define list-length
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        0
        (+ 1 (list-length (cdr lst))))))
```

Another Example

● Implement occurs-free?

occurs-free?

The procedure `occurs-free?` should take a variable *var*, represented as a Scheme symbol, and a lambda-calculus expression *exp* as defined in definition 1.1.8, and determine whether or not *var* occurs free in *exp*. We say that a variable *occurs free* in an expression *exp* if it has some occurrence in *exp* that is not inside some lambda binding of the same variable.

● Such that

```
> (occurs-free? 'x 'x)
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x 'y)
#f
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (x) (x y)))
#f
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (y) (x y)))
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x '((lambda (x) x) (x y)))
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (y) (lambda (z) (x (y z)))))
#t
```

The rules of occurs-free?

```
> (occurs-free? 'x 'x)
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x 'y)
#f
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (x) (x y)))
#f
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (y) (x y)))
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x '((lambda (x) x) (x y)))
#t
> (occurs-free? 'x '(lambda (y) (lambda (z) (x (y z)))))
#t
```

- If the expression *e* is a variable, then the variable *x* occurs free in *e* if and only if *x* is the same as *e*.
- If the expression *e* is of the form $(\text{lambda } (y) e')$, then the variable *x* occurs free in *e* if and only if *y* is different from *x* and *x* occurs free in *e'*.
- If the expression *e* is of the form $(e_1 e_2)$, then *x* occurs free in *e* if and only if it occurs free in *e*₁ or *e*₂. Here, we use “or” to mean *inclusive or*, meaning that this includes the possibility that *x* occurs free in both *e*₁ and *e*₂. We will generally use “or” in this sense.

How do we go about the implementation?



The Smaller-Subproblem Principle

If we can reduce a problem to a smaller subproblem, we can call the procedure that solves the problem to solve the subproblem.

Follow the Grammar!

When defining a procedure that operates on inductively defined data, the structure of the program should be patterned after the structure of the data.

How do we go about the implementation?



- The grammar

```
LcExp ::= Identifier
      ::= (lambda (Identifier) LcExp)
      ::= (LcExp LcExp)
```

- The procedure

```
occurs-free? : Sym × LcExp → Bool
usage:      returns #t if the symbol var occurs free
            in exp, otherwise returns #f.
(define occurs-free?
  (lambda (var exp)
    (cond
      ((symbol? exp) (eqv? var exp))
      ((eqv? (car exp) 'lambda)
       (and
        (not (eqv? var (car (cadr exp))))
        (occurs-free? var (caddr exp))))
      (else
       (or
        (occurs-free? var (car exp))
        (occurs-free? var (cadr exp)))))))
```