CSE1729 - Introduction to Programming | February 7, 2017

Problem Set 2 Solutions

Remark 1. *When you are asked to hand in* SCHEME *code for a function, you may cut-and-paste the definition from your interpreter window into your solution set.* ***Always include with your code a number of illustrative examples.***

1. Recall from class the definition of `number-sum`, which computes the sum of the first n numbers:

```
(define (number-sum n)
  (if (= n 0)
      0
      (+ n (number-sum (- n 1)))))
```

   (a) Adapt the function so that it computes the sum of the first n positive squares. (So your function, when evaluated at 4, should return the sum of the first 4 positive perfect squares: $1+4+9+16=30$.)

   An immediate adaptation yields:

```
(define (square-sum n)
  (if (= n 0)
      0
      (+ (* n n) (square-sum (- n 1)))))
```

   (b) Adapt the function so that it computes the sum of the first n even numbers. (So your function, when evaluated at 4, should return the sum of the first 4 even numbers: $2+4+6+8=20$.)

   Incidentally, evaluate your function at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. Does this sequence of numbers look familiar?

   The kth even number is $(2k)$. Thus we have:

```
(define (even-number-sum n)
  (if (= n 0)
      0
      (+ (* 2 n) (even-number-sum (- n 1)))))
```

   You will notice that the sum of the first n even numbers is exactly $n(n+1)$.

2. Write a recursive function that, given a positive integer k, computes the product

$$\underbrace{\left(1-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{3}\right)\cdots\left(1-\frac{1}{k}\right)}_{k-1}.$$

   (Experiment with the results for some various values of k; this might suggest a simple non-recursive way to formulate this function.)

```
(define (h-product n)
  (if (= n 1)
      1
      (* (- 1 (/ 1 n)) (h-product (- n 1)))))
```

   With a little experimentation, you'll discover that this product is always equal to $1/n$.

3. Consider the problem of determining how many divisors a positive integer has. For example:

- The number 4 has three divisors: 1, 2, and 4;
- The number 5 has two divisors: 1 and 5;
- The number 10 has four divisors: 1, 2, 5, and 10.

In this problem you will write a SCHEME function `(divisors n)` that computes the number of divisors of a given number n.

The first tool you will need is a way to figure out if a given whole number ℓ divides another whole number n evenly. We provide the code for this, which you can just use as-is in your solution (it involves a function that we haven't talked about in class yet):

```
(define (divides a b) (= 0 (modulo b a)))
```

Once you have defined this function, `(divides a b)` will be `#t` if a divides b evenly, and `#f` if not. For example:

```
> (divides 2 4)
#t
> (divides 3 5)
#f
> (divides 6 3)
#f
```

At first glance, the problem of defining `(divisors n)` appears a little challenging, because it's not at all obvious how to express `(divisors n)` in terms of, for example, `(divisors (- n 1))`; in particular, it's not really clear how to express this function recursively.

To solve the problem, you need to introduce some new structure! Here's the idea. Focus, instead, on the function `(divisors-upto n k)` which computes the number of divisors n has between 1 and k (so it computes the number of divisors of n upto the value k). Now you will find that there is a straightforward way to compute `(divisors-upto n k)` in terms of `(divisors-upto n (- k 1))`. Specifically, notice that

$$\texttt{(divisors-upto n k)} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k = 0; \\ 0 & \text{if } n = 0; \quad \text{(otherwise, } n \geq 1\text{, and)} \\ 1 & \text{if } k = 1; \\ 1 + \texttt{(divisors-upto n (- k 1))} & \text{if } k \text{ divides } n; \\ \texttt{(divisors-upto n (- k 1))} & \text{if } k \text{ does not divide } n. \end{cases}$$

Write the SCHEME code for the function `divisors-upto`; notice then that you can define

```
(define (divisors n) (divisors-upto n n))
```

In this case, we call `divisors-upto` a "helper" function. What did it do? It let us "re-structure" the problem we wish to solve in such a way that we can recursively decompose it.

```
(define (divides a b) (= 0 (modulo b a)))

(define (divisors-upto n k)
  (cond ((= k 1)        1)
        ((divides k n) (+ 1 (divisors-upto n (- k 1))))
        (else           (divisors-upto n (- k 1)))))

(define (divisors n) (divisors-upto n n))
```

4. Write a function that, given a positive integer k, returns the sum of the first k terms of the infinite series:

$$\frac{4}{1}-\frac{4}{3}+\frac{4}{5}-\frac{4}{7}+\frac{4}{9}-\cdots.$$

Use your function to sum the first 100 terms of this series.

Observe that signs alternate in this series; one easy way to implement an alternating sign is to use the function $(-1)^\ell$, which is 1 when ℓ is even, and -1 when ℓ is odd. You may wish to use the built-in SCHEME function `(expt x t)`, which returns x^k (and so provides a straightforward way to compute $(-1)^\ell$).

Depending on how you wrote your code, SCHEME may have produced *exact* output of the form a/b. To coerce SCHEME to give you an approximation in decimal form, change the constant `4` in your code to `4.0`.

Now compute the sum of the first 100,000 terms. Does this number look (roughly) familiar?

```
(define (pi-series k)
  (if (= k 0)
      0.0
      (+ (* -1 (expt -1 k) (/ 4 (- (* 2 k) 1)))
         (pi-series (- k 1)))))
```

This series converges (rather slowly) to π.

5. Consider the definition of your last function.

   (a) To compute the 300 terms, how many calls to `expt` were made? What are the actual values passed to each call?

   The evaluation of the function required 300 evaluations of `expt` (one for each recursive call).

   (b) Revise the function you just wrote to eliminate the repeated invocations of `expt`. (Your function should not use `expt` at all but somehow compute the signs on its own.) You can introduce a helper function with more arguments if you wish!

```
;; An auxilliary function to determine if a number is even.
(define (even k) (= 0 (modulo k 2)))

;; The workhorse; note how it passes the sign
;; to its recursive child.
(define (pi-aux k s)
  (if (= k 0) 0.0
              (+ (* s (/ 4 (- (* 2 k) 1)))
                 (pi-aux (- k 1) (- s)))))

;; The caller to the auxiliary; to get things started,
;; we determine if the number is even or odd; a bit of
;; a hack.
(define (pi-two k)  (pi-aux k
                            (if (even k) -1 1)))
```

   Another version, that doesn't even use `even`. This gives a slightly different recursive decomposition. The function `pi-aux-b` will return the sum of the terms numbered `t` through `desired-length` of the series, so long as you give it the sign of the first term (in the parameter `s`).

```
;; The workhorse, which computes the sum of terms t through
;; desired-depth of the series, so long as you give it the
;; sign (s) that it is supposed to start with.
```

```
(define (pi-aux-b t s desired-depth)
  (if (> t desired-depth) 0.0
      (+ (* s (/ 4 (- (* 2 t) 1)))
         (pi-aux-b (+ t 1) (- s) desired-depth))))

;; The caller to the auxiliary
(define (pi-two k)  (pi-aux-b 1 1 k))
```

6. (cf. SICP problem 1.4) Suppose we designed a new `if` function as follows:

```
(define (new-if predicate then-clause else-clause)
        (if predicate then-clause else-clause))
```

Check that `new-if` works as you might expect by evaluating:

```
> (new-if (= 0 0) 4 5)
4
> (new-if (= 0 1) 4 5)
5
```

Recall now the `factorial` function that we defined and discussed in class:

```
(define (factorial n)
    (if (= n 0)
        1
        (* n (factorial (- n 1)))
    )
  )
```

How does `factorial` behave if you replace the usage of `if` with `new-if`? Explain.

We discussed this at length in class: usage of `new-if` will result in a `factorial` function that never terminates.

7. Recall from high-school trigonometry the sin function: If T is a right triangle whose hypotenuese has length 1 and interior angles x and $\pi/2 - x$, $\sin(x)$ denotes the length of the edge opposite to the angle x (here x is measured in radians). You won't need any fancy trigonometry to solve this problem.

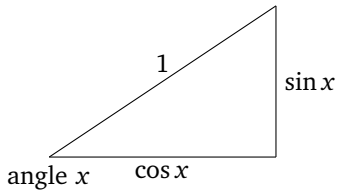

Figure 1: A right triangle.

It is a remarkable fact that for all real x,

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \cdots$$

Write a SCHEME function `new-sin` so that `(new-sin x n)` returns the sum of the first $(n+1)$ terms of this power series evaluated at x. Specifically, `(new-sin x 3)`, should return

$$x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!}$$

and, in general, `(new-sin x n)` should return

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}.$$

You may use the built-in function `(expt x k)`, which returns x^k. It might make sense, also, to define `factorial` as a separate function for use inside your `new-sin` function. (Aesthetic hint: Note that the value $2k$ is used several times in the definition of the kth term of this sum. Perhaps you can use a `let` statement to avoid computing this quantity more than once?)

One solution is the following:

```
(define (factorial n)
  (if (= n 0)
      1
      (* n (factorial (- n 1)))))

(define (new-sin x k)
     (if (= k 0)
         x
         (let ((p (+ (* 2 k) 1)))
           (+ (* (expt -1 k)
                 (expt x p)
                 (/ 1 (factorial p)))
              (new-sin x (- k 1))))))
```