

CSC236 Homework Assignment #2

Induction Proofs on Program Correctness and
Recurrences

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Question #1

Consider the following program from pg. 53-54 of the course textbook:

```
1 def avg(A):
2     """
3     Pre: A is a non-empty list
4     Post: Returns the average of the numbers in A
5     """
6     sum = 0
7     i = 0
8     while i < len(A):
9         sum += A[i]
10        i += 1
11    return sum / len(A)
12
13 print(avg([1, 2, 3, 4])) # Example usage
```

Denote the predicate:

$$Q(j) : \text{At the beginning of the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ iteration, } \text{sum}_j = \sum_{k=0}^{i_j-1} A[k].$$

Claim:

$$\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j)$$

Proof.

This proof leverages the Principle of Simple Induction.

Base Case:

Let $j = 1$.

At the beginning of the 1st iteration, $\text{sum}_1 = 0$ and $i_1 = 0$.

It follows that

$$\text{sum}_1 = \sum_{k=0}^{i_1-1} A[k] = \sum_{k=0}^{0-1} A[k] = \sum_{k=0}^{-1} A[k] = 0.$$

Hence, $Q(1)$.

Induction Hypothesis:

Assume for some iteration $m \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A) - 1\}$, $Q(m)$.

Namely, for the m^{th} iteration,

$$\text{sum}_m = \sum_{k=0}^{i_m-1} A[k].$$

Induction Step:

Proceed to show $Q(m+1)$:

Notice that $\text{sum}_{m+1} = \text{sum}_m + A[i_{m+1}]$, by *Line 9* of the program.

By the Induction Hypothesis,

$$\text{sum}_m + A[i_{m+1}] = \sum_{k=0}^{i_m-1} A[k] + A[i_{m+1}],$$

and by *Line 10* of the program, $i_{m+1} = i_m + 1$;

$$\sum_{k=0}^{i_m-1} A[k] + A[i_{m+1}] = \sum_{k=0}^{i_{m+1}-1} A[k].$$

Thus,

$$\text{sum}_{m+1} = \sum_{k=0}^{i_{m+1}-1} A[k]$$

as needed.

Therefore, by the Principle of Simple Induction, $Q(j)$ holds for all $j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}$.



Question #2

Recall $Q(j)$ from Question # 1.

Denote the following predicate:

$$Q'(n) : 0 \leq n < \text{len}(A) \implies Q(n+1)$$

Claim:

Referencing the previous question, proving $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j)$ is equivalent to proving $\forall j \in \mathbb{N}, Q'(n)$.

Proof.

It is sufficient to show that $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j) \iff \forall j \in \mathbb{N}, Q'(n)$, to show that proving one of these statements is equivalent to proving the other.

$$\underline{(\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j)) \implies (\forall j \in \mathbb{N}, Q'(n))}:$$

Suppose $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j)$.

Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Suppose $0 \leq n \leq \text{len}(A)$.

Then, $n+1 \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}$

By assumption, $Q'(n+1)$ holds.

$$\underline{(\forall j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}, Q(j)) \iff (\forall j \in \mathbb{N}, Q'(n))}:$$

Suppose $\forall j \in \mathbb{N}, Q'(n)$.

Let $j \in \{1, \dots, \text{len}(A)\}$.

Then, $(j-1) \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 \leq j-1 \leq \text{len}(A)-1$, so $0 \leq j-1 < \text{len}(A)$.

By assumption, $Q(n)$ holds.

Conclusion:

□

Question #3

As follows below, Q6-Q10 respectively represent questions 6 through 10 from pp. 64-66 of the course textbook.

Q6:

Consider the following code:

```
1  def f(x):
2      """Pre: x is a natural number"""
3      a = x
4      y = 10
5      while a > 0:
6          a -= y
7          y -= 1
8      return a * y
```

(a): Loop Invariant Which Characterizes a and y:

Denote the loop invariant as

(b): Why This Function Fails to Terminate

wordsgohere

Q7:

(a) Consider the recursive program below:

```
1  def exp_rec(a, b):
2      if b == 0:
3          return 1
4      else if b mod 2 == 0:
5          x = exp_rec(a, b / 2)
6          return x * x
7      else:
8          x = exp_rec(a, (b - 1) / 2)
9          return x * x * a
```

Preconditions:

wordsgohere

Postconditions:

wordsgohere

Denote the following predicate:

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: expresshowthisisincorrect

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

(b) Consider the iterative version of the previous program:

```
1  def exp_iter(a, b):
2      ans = 1
3      mult = a
4      exp = b
5      while exp > 0:
6          if exp mod 2 == 1:
7              ans *= mult
8              mult = mult * mult
9              exp = exp // 2
10     return ans
```

Preconditions:

wordsgohere Postconditions:

wordsgohere

Denote the following predicate:

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: expresshowthisisincorrect

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

Q8

Consider the following linear time program:

```
1  def majority(A):
2      """
3      Pre: A is a list with more than half its entries equal to x
4      Post: Returns the majority element x
5      """
6      c = 1
7      m = A[0]
8      i = 1
9      while i <= len(a) - 1:
10         if c == 0:
11             m = A[i]
12             c = 1
13         else if A[i] == m:
14             c += 1
15         else:
16             c -= 1
17         i += 1
18     return m
```

Denote the following predicate:

$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$

Claim: expresshowthisisincorrect

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

Q9

Consider the bubblesort algorithm as follows:

```
1  def bubblesort(L):
2      """
3      Pre: L is a list of numbers
4      Post: L is sorted
5      """
6      k = 0
7      while k < len(L):
8          i = 0
9          while i < len(L) - k - 1:
10             if L[i] > L[i + 1]:
11                 swap L[i] and L[i + 1]
12             i += 1
13         k += 1
```

(a): Denote the inner loop's invariant:

$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$

Claim: proveinnerloop

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

(b): Denote the outer loop's invariant:

$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$

Claim: proveouterloop

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

(c): Denote the following predicate:

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: expresshowthisiscorrect

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

Q10

Consider the following generalization of the min function:

```
1  def extract(A, k):
2      pivot = A[0]
3      # Use partition from quicksort
4      L, G = partition(A[1, ..., len(A) - 1], pivot)
5      if len(L) == k - 1:
6          return pivot
7      else if len(L) >= k:
8          return extract(L, k)
9      else:
10         return extract(G, k - len(L) - 1)
```

(a): Proof of Correctness

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: proofofcorrectnessclaim

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

(b): Worst-Case Runtime

wordsgohere

Question #4

As follows below, VI, VII, X, XII, and XIV respectively represent questions 6, 7, 10, 12, and 14 from pp. 46-48 of the course textbook.

VI

Let $T(n)$ be the number of binary strings of length n in which there are no consecutive 1's. So, $T(0) = 1, T(1) = 2, T(2) = 3, \dots$, etc.

(a): Recurrence for $T(n)$:

recurrencehere

(b): Closed Form Expression for $T(n)$:

closedformhere

(c): Proof of Correctness of Closed Form Expression

Denote the following predicate:

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: expresshowthisisincorrect

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

VII

Let $T(n)$ denote the number of distinct full binary trees with n nodes. For example, $T(1) = 1$, $T(3) = 1$, and $T(7) = 5$. Note that every full binary tree has an odd number of nodes.

Recurrence for $T(n)$:

recurrencehere

$$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$$

Claim: $T(n) \geq \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)(2)^{(n-1)/2}$

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

X

A *block* in a binary string is a maximal substring consisting of the same symbol. For example, the string 0100011 has four blocks: 0, 1, 000, and 11. Let $H(n)$ denote the number of binary strings of length n that have no odd length blocks of 1's. For example, $H(4) = 5$:

0000 1100 0110 0011 1111

Recursive Function for $H(n)$:

$P(n) : \text{somethinghere}$

Claim: proveouterloop

Proof.

wordsgohere

□

Closed Form for H (Using Repeated Substitution):

XII

Consider the following function:

```
1  def fast_rec_mult(x, y):
2  n = length of x  # Assume x and y have the same length
3  if n == 1:
4      return x * y
5  else:
6      a = x // 10^(n // 2)
```

```
7      b = x % 10^(n // 2)
8      c = y // 10^(n // 2)
9      d = y % 10^(n // 2)
10     p = fast_rec_mult(a + b, c + d)
11     r = fast_rec_mult(a, c)
12     u = fast_rec_mult(b, d)
13
14     return r * 10^n + (p - r + u) * 10^(n // 2) + u
```

Worst-Case Runtime Analysis:

wordsgohere

XIV

Recall the recurrence for the worst-case runtime of quicksort:

$$\begin{cases} c, & \text{if } n \leq 1; \\ T(|L|) + T(|G|) + dn, & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

where L and G are the partitions of the list.

For simplicity, ignore that each list has size $\frac{n-1}{2}$.

(a): Assume the lists are always evenly split; that is, $|L| = |G| = \frac{n}{2}$ at each recursive call.

Tight Asymptotic Bound on the Runtime of Quicksort:

determinehere

(b): Assume the lists are always very unevenly split; that is, $|L| = n - 2$ and $|G| = 1$ at each recursive call.

Tight Asymptotic Bound on the Runtime of Quicksort:

determinehere