Rna motivation

RNA is made up of strands of four different bases that encode genomic information in specific ways. The bases are elements of the set $B = \{\mathtt{A}, \mathtt{C}, \mathtt{U}, \mathtt{G}\}$. Strands are ordered nonempty finite sequences of bases.

Formally, to define the set of all RNA strands, we need more than roster method or set builder descriptions.

Recursive sets definition

New! Recursive Definitions of Sets: The set S (pick a name) is defined by:

Basis Step:	Specify finitely many elements of S
Recursive Step:	Give rule(s) for creating a new element of S from known values existing in S, and potentially other values.

The set S then consists of all and only elements that are put in S by finitely many (a nonnegative integer number) of applications of the recursive step after the basis step.

Set recursive examples

Definition The set of nonnegative integers $\mathbb{N}$ is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:
Recursive Step:

Examples:

Definition The set of all integers $\mathbb{Z}$ is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:
Recursive Step:

Examples:

Definition The set of RNA strands S is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:	$\mathtt{A} \in S, \mathtt{C} \in S, \mathtt{U} \in S, \mathtt{G} \in S$
Recursive Step:	If $s \in S$ and $b \in B$, then $sb \in S$

where sb is string concatenation.

Examples:

Definition The set of bitstrings (strings of 0s and 1s) is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:
Recursive Step:

Notation: We call the set of bitstrings $\{0,1\}^*$ and we say this is the set of all strings over $\{0,1\}$.

Examples: