



```
$ (a bspace c) $
$ (an (space ((ifext (-)list)) (space (with (space lots) (space ((of) (space nesting)))$
  A binary tree with numeric leaves and interior nodes labeled with symbols may be represented using three-element lists for the interior nodes as follows:
$ (angle tree /angle (space := (space (angle number /angle ) (angle symbol /angle (space (angle tree /angle ) $
Examples of such trees follow:
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Induction

Having described data types inductively, we can use the inductive definitions in two ways: to prove theorems about members of the data type and to write programs that manipulate them. Writing the program is the subject of the next two sections; here we present an example of such a proof.

*Theorem.* *t* is a tree. Let  $s \in (tree) \in (tree)$ . Then  $s$  contains an odd number of nodes.

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on the size of  $s$ , where we take the size of  $s$  to be the number of nodes in  $s$ . The induction hypothesis,  $IH(k) \equiv IH(k)$ , is that any tree of size  $s \leq k$  has an odd number of nodes. We follow the usual prescription for an inductive proof: we first prove that  $IH(0) \equiv IH(0)$  is true, and we then prove that whenever  $k$  is a number such that  $IH(k)$  is true for  $k$ , then  $IH(k+1)$  is true for  $k+1$  also.

i. There are no trees with 0 nodes, so  $IH(0) \equiv IH(0)$  holds trivially.

ii. Let  $k$  be a number such that  $IH(k) \equiv IH(k)$  holds, that is, any tree with  $s \leq k$  nodes actually has an odd number of nodes. We need to show that  $IH(k+1) \equiv IH(k+1)$  holds as well: that any tree with  $s \leq k+1$  nodes has an odd number of nodes. If  $s$  has  $s \leq k+1$  nodes, there are exactly two possibilities according to the BNF definition of  $(tree)$ :

a.  $s$  could be of the form  $tn$ , where  $n$  is a number. In this case,  $s$  has exactly one node, and one is odd.

b.  $s$  could be of the form  $(s_1 s_2)$ , where  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are trees. Now  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  must have fewer nodes than  $s$ . Since  $s$  has  $s \leq k+1$  nodes,  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  must have  $s_1 \leq k$  and  $s_2 \leq k$  nodes. Therefore they are covered by  $IH(k) \equiv IH(k)$ , and they must each have an odd number of nodes, say  $2n_1 + 1$  and  $2n_2 + 1$  nodes, respectively. Therefore the total number of nodes in the tree, counting the two subtrees and the root, is

$$(2n_1 + 1) + (2n_2 + 1) + 1 = 2(n_1 + n_2 + 1) + 1$$

which is once again odd.

This completes the proof of the claim that  $IH(k+1) \equiv IH(k+1)$  holds and therefore completes the induction.  $\square$

The key to the proof is that the substructures of a tree  $s$  are always smaller than  $s$  itself. Therefore the induction might be rephrased as follows:

- $IH(k)$  is true on simple structures (those without substructures).
- If  $IH(k)$  is true on the substructures of  $s$ , then  $s$  is true on  $s$  itself.

## 2.2 Recursively Specified Programs

In the previous section, we used the method of inductive definition to characterize complicated sets. Starting with simple members of the set, the BNF rules were used to build more and more complex member of the set. We now use the same idea to define procedures for manipulating those sets. First we define the simple parts of a procedure's behavior (how it behaves on simple inputs), and then we use this behavior to define more complex behaviors.

Imagine we want to define a procedure to find powers of numbers,  $e.g. e(n, x) = x^n e(n, x) = x^n$ , where  $n$  is a nonnegative integer and  $x$  is a number. It is easy to define a sequence of procedures that compute particular powers:  $e_0(x) = x^0 e_0(x) = x^0$ ,  $e_1(x) = x^1 e_1(x) = x$ ,  $e_2(x) = x^2 e_2(x) = x^2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} e_0(x) &= 1 \\ e_1(x) &= x \times e_0(x) \\ e_2(x) &= x \times e_1(x) \\ e_3(x) &= x \times e_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

$e_0(x) \equiv (x^2) e_2(x) = 1 = x \times e_0(x) = x \times e_1(x) = x \times e_2(x)$

In general, if  $n$  is a positive integer,

$$e_n(x) = x \times e_{n-1}(x)$$

At each stage, we use the fact that the problem has already been solved for smaller  $n$ . We are using mathematical induction. Next the subscript can be removed from  $e$  by making it a parameter.

- If  $n$  is 0,  $e(n, x) = 1$ .
  - If  $n$  is greater than 0, we assume it is known how to solve the problem for  $n - 1$ . That is, we assume that  $e(n - 1, x)$  is well defined. Therefore,  $e(n, x) = x \times e(n - 1, x)$  is well defined. Therefore,  $e(n, x) = x \times e(n - 1, x)$  is well defined. Therefore,  $e(n, x) = x \times e(n - 1, x)$  is well defined.
- To prove that  $e(n, x) = x^n$ , we use induction on  $n$ .

- (Base Step) When  $n = 0$ ,  $e(0, x) = 1 = x^0$ .
- (Induction Step) Assume that the procedure works for the first argument is  $k$ , that is,  $e(k, x) = x^k$ . Then we claim that  $e(k + 1, x) = x^{k+1}$ . We calculate as follows

$$\begin{aligned} e(k + 1, x) &= x \times e(k, x) && \text{(definition of } e) \\ &= x \times x^k && \text{(IH at } k) \\ &= x^{k+1} && \text{(fact about exponentiation)} \end{aligned}$$

This completes the induction.

We can write a program to compute  $e$  based upon the inductive definition

```
(define e
  (lambda (n x)
    (if (= n 0)
        1
        (e (- n 1) x))))
```

The two branches of the `if` expression correspond to the two cases detailed in the definition.

If we can reduce a problem to a smaller subproblem, we can call the procedure that solved the problem to solve the subproblem. The solution it returns for the subproblem may then be used to solve the original problem. This works because each time we call the procedure, it is called with a smaller problem, until eventually it is called with a problem that can be solved directly, without another call to itself.

In the above example, we used induction on integers, so the subproblem was solved by recursively calling the procedure with a smaller value of  $n$ . When manipulating inductively defined structures, subproblems are usually solved by calling the procedure recursively on a substructure of the original.

When a procedure calls itself in this manner, it is said to be **recursively defined**. Such **recursive calls** are possible in Scheme and most other languages. The general phenomenon is known as **recursion**, and it occurs in contexts other than programming, such as inductive definitions. Later we shall study how recursion is implemented in programming languages.

### 2.2.1 Deriving Programs from BNF Data Specifications

Recursion is a powerful programming technique that is used extensively throughout this book. It requires an approach to programming that differs significantly from the style commonly used in statement-oriented languages. For this reason, we devote the rest of this section to this style of programming.

A BNF definition for the type of data being manipulated serves as a guide both to where recursive calls should be used and to which base cases need to be handled. This is a fundamental point: when defining a program based on structural induction, the structure of the program should be patterned after the structure of the data.

A typical kind of program based on inductively defined structures is a predicate that determines whether a given value is a member of a particular data type. Let us write a Scheme predicate, `list-of-numbers?` that takes a datum and determines whether it belongs to the syntactic category .

```
> (list-of-numbers? '(1 2 3))
#t
> (list-of-numbers? '(1 two 3))
#f
> (list-of-numbers? '(1 . 2))
#f
```

Recall the definition of :

```
(list-of-numbers) := ((number) (list-of-numbers))

(list-of-numbers) := () (number) (list-of-numbers))
```

We begin by writing down the simplest behavior of the procedure: what it does when the input is the empty list.

```
(define list-of-numbers?
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        #t
        ...)))
```

By definition, the empty list is a . Otherwise `lst` is not a unless it is a pair:

```
(define list-of-numbers?
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        #t
        (if (pair? lst)
            ...
            #f))))
```

(Throughout this book, bars in the left margin indicate lines that have changed since an earlier version of the same definition.) If `lst` is a pair, there are two alternatives : either the first element is a number, or it is not. If not, the original value cannot be a list of numbers, so we write

```
(define list-of-numbers?
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        #t
        (if (pair? lst)
            (if (number? (car lst))
                ...
                #f)
            #f))))
```

The only case left to consider is when the first element of the list in question passes the `number?` test. According to the definition of , a nonempty list belongs to if and only if its first element is a number and its `cdr` belongs to . Since we already know that `lst` is nonempty and its `car` is a number, we can deduce that `lst` is a list of numbers if and only if its `cdr` is a list of numbers. Therefore we write

```
(define list-of-numbers?
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        #t
        (if (pair? lst)
            (if (number? (car lst))
                (list-of-numbers? (cdr lst))
                #f)
            #f))))
```

To prove the correctness of `list-of-numbers?`, we would like to use induction on the length of `lst`. However, the argument to `list-of-numbers?` may not be a list at all. This prompts us to define the list-size of a datum to be zero if the datum is not a list and its length if it is a list. We now proceed by induction on the list-size.

- `list-of-numbers?` works on data of list-size 0, since the only list of length 0 is the empty list, for which the correct answer, true, is returned, and if `list-of-numbers?` is not a list, the correct answer, false is returned.
- Assuming `list-of-numbers?` works on lists of length  $k$ , we show that it works on lists of length  $k + 1$ . Let `lst` be such a list. By the definition of , `lst` belongs to if and only if its `car` is a number and its `cdr` belongs to . Since `lst` is of length  $k + 1$ , its `cdr` is of length  $k$ , so by the induction hypothesis we can determine the `cdr`'s membership in by passing it to `list-of-numbers?`. Hence `list-of-numbers?` correctly computes membership in for lists of length  $k + 1$ , and the induction is complete.

The recursion terminates because every time `list-of-numbers?` is called, it is passed a shorter list. (This assumes lists are finite, which will always be the case unless the list mutation techniques introduced in section 4.5.3 have been used.)

As a second example, we define a procedure `nth-elt` that takes a list `lst` and a zero-based index  $n$  and returns element number  $n$  of `lst`.

```
> (nth-elt '(a b c) 1)
b
```

The procedure `nth-elt` does for lists what `vector-ref` does for vectors. (Actually, Scheme provides the procedure `list-ref`, which is the same as `nth-elt` except for error reporting, but we chose another name because standard procedures should not be tampered with unnecessarily.)

When  $n$  is 0, the answer is simply the `car` of `lst`. If  $n$  is greater than 0, then the answer is element  $n - 1$  of `lst`'s `cdr`. Since neither the `car` nor `cdr` of `lst` exist if `lst` is the empty list, we must guard the `car` and `cdr` operations so that we do not take the `car` or `cdr` of an empty list.

```
(define nth-elt
  (lambda (lst n)
    (if (null? lst)
        (error "nth-elt: list too short")
        (if (= n 0)
            (car lst)
            (nth-elt (cdr lst) (- n 1))))))
```

The procedure `error` signals an error by printing its arguments, in this case a single string, and then aborting the computation. (`error` is not a standard Scheme procedure, but most implementations provide something of the sort. See appendix D and check your Scheme language reference manual for details.) If error checking were omitted, we would have to rely on `car` and `cdr` to complain about being passed the empty list, but their error messages would be less helpful. For example, if you receive an error message from `car`, you might have to look for uses of `car` throughout your program. Even this would not find the error if `nth-elt` were provided by someone else, so that its definition was not a part of your program.

Let us try one more example of this kind before moving on to harder examples. The standard procedure `length` determines the number of elements in a list.

```
> (length '(a b c))
3
> (length '())
0
```

We write our own procedure, called `list-length`, to do the same thing. The length of the empty list is 0.

```
(define list-length
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        0
        (+ 1 (list-length (cdr lst))))))
```

The blank is filled in by observing that the length of a nonempty list is one more than the length of its `cdr`.

```
(define list-length
  (lambda (lst)
    (if (null? lst)
        0
        (+ 1 (list-length (cdr lst))))))
```

Exercise 2.2.1

The procedures `nth-elt` and `list-length` do not check whether their arguments are of the expected type. What happens on your Scheme system if they are passed symbols when a list is expected? What is the behavior of `list-ref` and `length` in such cases? Write your own versions that guard against these situations. Is it always necessary to signal errors when this occurs, or can a sensible value sometimes be returned? When is it worth the effort to check that arguments are of the right type? Why?  $\square$

### 2.2.2 Three Important Examples

In this section, we present three simple recursive procedures that will be used as examples later in this book. As in previous examples, they are defined so that (1) the structure of a program reflects the structure of its data and (2) recursive calls are employed at points where recursion is used in the data type's inductive definition.

The first procedure is `remove-list`, which takes two arguments: a symbol, `s`, and a list of symbols, `los`. It returns a list with the same elements arranged in the same order as `los`, except that the first occurrence of the symbol `s` is removed. If there is no occurrence of `s` in `los`, then `los` is returned.

```
> (remove-first 'a '(a b c))
(b c)
> (remove-first 'b '(e f g))
(e f g)
> (remove-first 'a4 '(c1 a4 c1 a4))
(c1 c1 a4)
> (remove-first 'x '())
()
```

Before we start on the program, we must complete the problem specification by defining the data type . Unlike the s-lists introduced in the last section, these lists of symbols do not contain sublists.

(list-of-symbols) ::= ()|(symbol)(list-of-symbols)

(list-of-symbols) ::= ()|(symbol)(list-of-symbols)

A list of symbols is either the empty list or a list whose car is a symbol and whose cdr is a list of symbols. If the list is empty, there are no occurrences of s to remove, so the answer is the empty list.

```
(define remove-first
  (lambda (s los)
    (if (null? los)
        '()
        (cons (car los) (remove-first s (cdr los))))))
```

If los is nonempty, is there some case where we can determine the answer immediately? If los = (s s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>)|los = (s s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>), the first occurrence of s is as the first element of los. So the result of removing it is just (s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>)|s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>.

If the first element of los is not s, say los = (s<sub>0</sub> s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>)|los = (s<sub>0</sub> s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>), then we know that s<sub>0</sub> is not the first occurrence of s. Therefore the first element of the answer must be s<sub>0</sub>. Furthermore, the first occurrence of s in los<sub>0</sub> must be its first occurrence in (s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>)|s<sub>1</sub> ... s<sub>n-1</sub>. So the rest of the answer must be the result of removing the first occurrence of s from the cdr of los<sub>0</sub>. Since the cdr of los<sub>0</sub> is shorter than los<sub>0</sub>, we may recursively call remove-first remove-first to remove s from the cdr of los<sub>0</sub>. Thus using (cons (car los) (remove-first s (cdr los)))|cons (car los) (remove-first s (cdr los))), the answer may be obtained. With this, the complete definition of remove-first follows.

```
(define remove-first
  (lambda (s los)
    (if (null? los)
        '()
        (if (eq? (car los) s)
            (cdr los)
            (cons (car los) (remove-first s (cdr los)))))))
```

-- Exercise 2.2.2

In the definition of remove-first, if the inner if's alternative (cons ...) were replaced by (remove-first s (cdr los))|remove-first s (cdr los)), what function would be resulting procedure compute? □□

The second procedure is remove, defined over symbols and lists of symbols. It is similar to remove-first, but it removes all occurrences of a given symbol from a list of symbols, not just the first.

```
> (remove 'a4 '(c1 a4 d1 a4))
(c1 d1)
```

Since remove-first and remove work on the same input, their structure is similar. If the list los is empty, there are no occurrences to remove, so the answer is again the empty list. If los is nonempty, there are again two cases to consider. If the first element of los is not s, the answer is obtained as in remove-first.

```
(define remove
  (lambda (s los)
    (if (null? los)
        '()
        (if (eq? (car los) s)
            (remove s (cdr los))
            (cons (car los) (remove s (cdr los)))))))
```

If the first element of los is the same as s, certainly the first element is not to be part of the result. But we are not quite done: all the occurrences of s must still be removed from the cdr of los. Once again this may be accomplished by invoking remove recursively on the cdr of los.

```
(define remove
  (lambda (s los)
    (if (null? los)
        '()
        (if (eq? (car los) s)
            (remove s (cdr los))
            (cons (car los) (remove s (cdr los)))))))
```

-- Exercise 2.2.3

In the definition of remove, if the inner if's alternative (cons ...) were replaced by (remove s (cdr los))|remove s (cdr los)), what function would the resulting procedure compute? □□

The last of our examples is subst. It takes three arguments: two symbols, new and old, and an s-list slst. All elements of slst are examined, and a new list is returned that is similar to slst but with all occurrences of old replaced by instances of new.

```
> (subst 'a 'b '(b c) (b d))
(a c) (a d)
```

Since subst is defined over s-lists, its organization reflects the definition of s-lists

(s-list) ::= (symbol-expression)\*

(symbol-expression) ::= (symbol)(s-list)

If the list is empty, there are no occurrences of old to replace.

```
(define subst
  (lambda (new old slst)
    (if (null? slst)
        '()
        (cons (subst new old (car slst)) (subst new old (cdr slst))))))
```

If slst is nonempty, its car is a member of and its cdr is another s-list. Thus the program branches on the type of the symbol expression in the car of slst. If it is a symbol, we need to ask whether it is the same as the symbol old. If it is , the car of the new answer is new; if not, the car of the answer is the same as the car of slst. In either case, to obtain the answer's cdr, we need to change all occurrences of old to new in the cdr of slst. Since the cdr of slst is a smaller list, we may use recursion.

```
(define subst
  (lambda (new old slst)
    (if (null? slst)
        '()
        (if (symbol? (car slst))
            (if (eq? (car slst) old)
                (cons new (subst new old (cdr slst)))
                (cons (car slst) (subst new old (cdr slst))))
            (cons (car slst) (subst new old (cdr slst)))))))
```

In the final case to be considered the car of slst is a list. Since the car and cdr of slst are both lists, the answer is obtained by invoking subst on both and consing the results together.

```
(define subst
  (lambda (new old slst)
    (if (null? slst)
        '()
        (if (symbol? (car slst))
            (if (eq? (car slst) old)
                (cons new (subst new old (cdr slst)))
                (cons (car slst) (subst new old (cdr slst))))
            (cons (subst new old (car slst)) (subst new old (cdr slst)))))))
```

This definition has been completed by following the structure of and then checking for old when dealing with symbols.

The supersubst (subst new old (cdr slst)) appears three times in the above definition. This redundancy can be eliminated by noting that when slst is nonnull, the answer's car and cdr may be independently computed and then combined with cons. The answer's cdr is obtained by invoking subst on the cdr of slst. The answer's car is obtained by substituting new for old in the car of slst, but the type of slst's car is , not , so subst cannot be used directly. The solution is to make a separate procedure for handling substitutions on members of .

```
(define subst
  (lambda (new old slst)
    (if (null? slst)
        '()
        (cons (subst-symbol-expression new old (car slst))
              (subst new old (cdr slst)))))
(define subst-symbol-expression
  (lambda (new old se)
    (if (symbol? se)
        (if (eq? se old) new se)
        (subst new old se))))
```

Since we have strictly followed the BNF definition of and , this recursion is guaranteed to halt. Observe that subst and subst-symbol-expression call each other recursively. Such procedures are said to be mutually recursive.

-- Exercise 2.2.4

In the last line of subst-symbol-expression, the recursion is on se and not a smaller substructure. Why is the recursion guaranteed to halt? □□

-- Exercise 2.2.5

Write subst using map. □□

The decomposition of subst into two procedures, one for each syntactic category, is an important technique. It allows us to think about one syntactic category at a time, which is important in more complicated situations.

There are many other situations in which it may be helpful or necessary to introduce auxiliary procedures to solve a problem. Always feel free to do so. In some cases the new procedure is necessary in order to introduce an additional parameter. As an example, we consider the problem of summing all the values in a vector.

Since vectors require a program structure that differs from the ones we have used for lists , let us first solve the problem of summing the values in a list of numbers. This problem has a natural recursive solution because nonempty lists decompose naturally into their car and cdr components. We return 0 as the sum of the elements in the empty list.

```
(define list-sum
  (lambda (lon)
    (if (null? lon)
        0
        (+ (car lon) (list-sum (cdr lon))))))
```

It is not possible to proceed in this way with vectors, because they do not decompose as readily. Sometimes the best way to solve a problem is to solve a more general problem and use it to solve the original problem as a special case. For the vector sum problem, since we cannot decompose vectors, we generalize the problem to compute the sum of part of the vector. We define partial-vector-sum, which takes a vector of numbers, von, and a number, n, and returns the sum of the first n values in von.

```
(define partial-vector-sum
  (lambda (von n)
    (if (zero? n)
        0
        (+ (vector-ref von (- n 1)) (partial-vector-sum von (- n 1))))))
```

Observe that von does not change. In the next chapter we shall see how the conceptual overhead of passing such parameters may be avoided. Since n decreases steadily to zero, a proof of correctness for this program would proceed by induction on n. It is now a simple matter to solve our original problem

```
(define vector-sum
  (lambda (von)
    (partial-vector-sum von (vector-length von))))
```

-- Exercise 2.2.6

Prove the correctness of partial-vector-sum with the following assumptions: 0 ≤ n < length(von) 0 ≤ n < length(von). □□

Getting the knack of writing recursive programs involves practice. Thus we conclude this section with a number of exercises.

-- Exercise 2.2.7

Define, test, and debug the following procedures. Assume that s is any symbol, n is a nonnegative integer, lst is a list, v is a vector, los is a list of symbols, vos is a vector of symbols, slst is an s-list, and v is any object; and similarly s1 is a symbol, los2 is a list of symbols, v1 is an object, etc. Make no other assumptions about the data unless further restrictions are given as part of a particular problem. You do not have to check that the input matches the description, for each procedure, assume that its input values are members of the specified data types.

To test your procedures, at the very minimum try all of the given examples. You should also use other examples to test your procedures, since the given examples are not adequate to reveal all possible errors.

- (duple n x) returns a list containing n copies of x.
 

```
> (duple 2 3)
(3 3)
> (duple 4 '(ho ho))
(ho ho) (ho ho) (ho ho) (ho ho)
> (duple 8 '(blah))
()
()
```
- (invert lst), where lst is a list of 2-lists (lists of length two), returns a list with each 2-list reversed.
 

```
> (invert '((a 1) (a 2) (b 1) (b 2)))
((1 a) (2 a) (1 b) (2 b))
```
- (list-index s los) returns the zero-based index of the first occurrence of s in los, or -1 if there is no occurrence of s in los.
 

```
> (list-index 'c '(a b c d))
2
> (list-ref '(a b c) (list-index 'b '(a b c)))
b
```
- (vector-index s vos) returns the zero-based index of the first occurrence of s in vos, or -1 if there is no occurrence of s in vos.
 

```
> (vector-index 'c '#(a b c d))
2
> (vector-ref '#(a b c) (vector-index 'b '#(a b c)))
b
```
- (ribassoc s los v fail-value) returns the value in v that is associated with s, or fail-value if there is no associated value. If the first occurrence of s in los has index n, the value associated with s is the n<sup>th</sup> value in v. There is no associated value for s if s is not a member of los. You may assume that los and v are the same length.
 

```
> (ribassoc 'b '(a b c) '#(1 2 3) 'fail)
2
> (ribassoc 'c '(a b foo) '#(3 squiggle bar) 'fail)
fail
> (ribassoc '1 '(a 1 a 1) '#(fx (fx) (f) (fx fe)) 'fail)
(fz)
```
- (filter-in p lst), where p is a predicate, returns the list of those elements in lst that satisfy the predicate.
 

```
> (filter-in number? '(a 2 (1 3) b 7))
(2 7)
> (filter-in symbol? '(1 2 (b c) 17 foo))
(a foo)
```
- (product los1 los2) returns a list of 2-lists that represents the Cartesian product of los1 and los2. The 2-lists may appear in any order.
 

```
> (product '(a b c) '(x y))
((a x) (b y) (b x) (b y) (c x) (c y))
```
- (swapper s1 s2 slst) returns a list the same as slst, but with all occurrences of s1 replaced by s2 and all occurrences of s2 replaced by s1.
 

```
> (swapper 'a 'd '(a b c d))
(d b c a)
> (swapper 'x 'y '((x) y (z x)))
((y) x (z y))
```
- (rotate los) returns a list similar to los, except that the last element of los becomes the first in the returned list.
 

```
> (rotate '(a b c d))
(d a b c)
> (rotate '(notmuch))
(notmuch)
> (rotate '())
()
```

```

()
-- Exercise 2.2.8
These are a bit harder.

1. (down lst) wraps parentheses around each top-level element of lst.

> (down '(1 2 3))
((1) (2) (3))
> (down '(a more (complicated) object))
((a) (more (complicated)) (object))

2. (up lst) removes a pair of parentheses from each top-level element of lst. If a top-level element is not a list, it is included in the result, as is. The value of (up (down lst)) is equivalent to lst, but (down (up lst)) is not necessarily lst.

> (up '((1 2) (3 4)))
(1 2 3 4)
> (up '({x (y)} z))
({x (y)} z)

3. (count-occurrences s slst) returns the number of occurrences of s in slst.

> (count-occurrences 'x '({(f x) y (((x z) x))))
3
> (count-occurrences 'w '({(f x) y (((x z) x))))
0

4. (flatten slst) returns a list of the symbols contained in slst in the order in which they occur when slst is printed. Intuitively, flatten removes all the inner parentheses from its argument.

> (flatten '(a b c))
(a b c)
> (flatten '({(a b) c (((d)) e)))
(a b c d e)
> (flatten '(a b ((c))))
(a b c)

5. (merge lon1 lon2), where lon1 and lon2 are lists of numbers that are sorted in ascending order, returns a sorted list of all the numbers in lon1 and lon2.

> (merge '(1 4) '(1 2 8))
(1 1 2 4 8)
> (merge '(35 82 83 98 99) '(3 83 85 89==98))
(3 35 82 83 85 89 98 99 91)

□□

-- Exercise 2.2.9
These are harder still:

1. (path n lst), where n is a number and lst is a binary search tree that contains the number n, returns a list of Ls and Rs showing how to find the node containing n. If n is found at the root, it returns the empty list.

> (path 17 '(14 (7 (1) (12 (1) (1)))
              (28 (20 (17 (1) (1))
                    (31 (1) ())))))
(R L L)

2. (car&cdr2 s slst errval) returns an expression that, when evaluated, produces the code for a procedure that takes a list with the same structure as slst and returns the value in the same position as the leftmost occurrence of s in slst. If s does not occur in slst, then errval is returned.

> (car&cdr2 'a '(a b c) 'fail)
(lambda (lst) (car lst))
> (car&cdr2 'c '(a b c) 'fail)
(lambda (lst) (car (cdr (cdr lst))))
> (car&cdr2 'dog '(cat lion (fish dog) pig) 'fail)
(lambda (lst) (car (cdr (cat lion (fish dog) pig) (cdr lst))))
> (car&cdr2 'a '(b c) 'fail)
fail

3. (car&cdr2's slst errval) is like the previous exercise, but it generates procedure compositions.

> (car&cdr2 'a '(a b c) 'fail)
car
> (car&cdr2 'c '(a b c) 'fail)
(compose car (compose cdr cdr))
> (car&cdr2 'dog '(cat lion (fish dog) pig) 'fail)
(compose car (compose cdr (compose car (compose cdr cdr))))
> (car&cdr2 'a '(b c) 'fail)
fail

4. (compose p1 ... pn), where p1...pn is a sequence of zero or more procedures of one argument, returns the composition of all the procedures. The composition of zero procedures is the identity procedure, the composition of one procedure is the procedure itself, and the composition of two or more procedures is specified by this equation:

((compose p1 p2 ...) x) = (p1 ((compose(p2 ...) x))

((compose p1 p2 ...) x) = (p1 ((compose(p2 ...) x))

> (((compose '(a b c d))
(a b c d)
> ((compose car) '(a b c d))
a
> (((compose car cdr cdr) '(a b c d))
c

5. (sort lon) returns a list of the elements of lon in increasing order.

> (sort '(8 2 5 2 3))
(2 2 3 5 8)

6. (sort-predicate lon) returns a list of elements determined by the predicate.

> (sort < '(8 2 5 2 3))
(2 2 3 5 8)
> (sort > '(8 2 5 2 3))
(8 5 3 2 2)

```

### 2.3 Static Properties of Variables

Those properties of a program that can be determined by analyzing the text of a program are said to be *static*, as opposed to the *dynamic* properties that are determined by run-time inputs. It is important to determine if a property is static, because static properties can be analyzed by a compiler to detect errors before run time and to improve the efficiency of object code. In Scheme, as in most other languages, the relation between a variable reference and the formal parameter to which it refers is a static property. In this section we focus on this relation and some of its important consequences.

#### 2.3.1 Free and Bound Variables

In order to focus on variable binding with a minimum of distraction, we initially study it in the most abstract context possible. For this purpose we introduce a language that has only variable references, *lambda* expressions with a single formal parameter, and procedure calls.

```

(exp) ::= (varref)
        ((lambda(var))(exp))
        ((exp) (exp))

(exp1) ::= (varref)((lambda(var))(exp))((exp) (exp))

```

This language is called the "lambda calculus. Although quite concise, its concepts generalize easily to most programming languages. For these reasons, the lambda calculus is the formal basis for much of the theory of programming languages.

The traditional syntax for procedures in the lambda calculus uses the Greek letter  $\lambda$  (lambda), replacing the second alternative in the above grammar with

```

λ(var).(exp)

```

We use the keyword **lambda** and the extra parentheses so that these expressions look like Scheme expressions. Furthermore, since elements of (*exp*)(*exp*) are lists, it is convenient to write programs that manipulate them.

A variable reference is said to be *bound* in an expression if it refers to a formal parameter introduced in the expression. A reference that is not bound to a formal parameter in the expression is said to be *free*. This in

```

((lambda(x) x) y) (*)

```

the reference to *x* is bound and the reference to *y* is free. A variable is said to *occur bound* in an expression if the expression contains a bound reference to the variable. Similarly, a variable is said to *occur free* in an expression if the expression contains a free reference to the variable.

All variable references must have some associated value when they are evaluated at run time. If they are bound to a formal parameter, they are said to be *lexically bound*. Otherwise, they must either be bound at top level by definitions or be supplied by the system. In this case, they are said to be *globally bound*. It is an error to reference a variable that is neither lexically nor globally bound.

The value of an expression depends only on the value associated with the variables that occur free within the expression. The context that surrounds the expression must provide these values. For example, the value of  $(*)$  depends on the value of the free variable *y*. If  $(*)$  were embedded in the body of a lambda expression with formal parameter *x*, as in

```

(lambda(y) ((lambda(x) x) y)) (**)

```

then the binding of this parameter would provide the value for the reference to variable *y*. Thus a variable reference that is free in one context, such as  $(*)$ , may be bound in a larger surrounding context, such as  $(*)$ .

The value of an expression is independent of binding for variables that do not occur free in the expression. For example, the value of  $(*)$  is independent of any bindings that might exist for *x* at the time that  $(*)$  is evaluated. By the time the free occurrence of *x* in the body of  $(lambda(*x*) *x*)$  is evaluated, it will have a new binding (in  $(*)$ ), the value associated with *y*.

The meaning of  $(lambda(*x*) *x*)$  is always the same: it is the identity function that returns whatever value it is passed. Other lambda expression without free variables also have fixed meanings. For example, the value of

```

(lambda (f)
  (lambda (x)
    (f x)))

```

is a procedure that takes a procedure *f*, and returns a procedure that takes a value *x*, applies *f* to it, and returns the result. Lambda expressions without free variables are called *combinators*. A few combinators, such as the identity function and the above application combinator, are useful programming tools. We shall use more elaborate combinators in the procedural representation of data types, beginning in section 3.6.

Free and bound occurrences may be defined formally as follows:

A variable *x* occurs *free* in an expression *E* if and only if

1. *E* is a variable reference and *E* is the same as *x*; or
2. *E* is of the form  $(E_1 E_2)$  and *x* occurs free in  $E_1 E_1$  or  $E_2 E_2$ ; or
3. *E* is of the form  $(lambda (y) E' E')$ , where *y* is different from *x* and *x* occurs free in  $E' E'$ .

A variable *x* occurs *bound* in an expression *E* if and only if

1. *E* is of the form  $(E_1 E_2)$  and *x* occurs bound in  $E_1 E_1$  or  $E_2 E_2$ ; or
2. *E* is of the form  $(lambda (y) E' E')$ , where *x* occurs bound in  $E' E'$  or *x* and *y* are the same variable and *y* occurs free in  $E' E'$ .

No variable occurs bound in an expression consisting of just a single variable.

-- Exercise 2.3.1

Write a procedure *free-vars* that takes a list structure representing an expression in the lambda calculus syntax given above and returns a set, a list without duplicates, of all the variables that occur free in the expression. Similarly, write a procedure *bound-vars* that returns a set of all the variables that occur bound in its argument.

Hint: The definitions of occurs free and occurs bound are recursive and based on the structure of an expression. Your program should have a similar structure. □□

-- Exercise 2.3.3

Give an example of a lambda calculus expression in which the same variable occurs both bound and free. □□

-- Exercise 2.3.4

Give an example of a lambda calculus expression in which a variable occurs free but which has a value that is independent of the value of the free variable. □□

-- Exercise 2.3.5

Scheme **lambda** expression may have any number of formal parameters, and Scheme procedure calls may have any number of operands. Modify the definitions of occurs free and occurs bound to allow **lambda** expressions with any number of formal parameters and procedure calls with any number of operands. □□

-- Exercise 2.3.6

Extend the formal definitions of occurs free and occurs bound to include if expressions. □□

-- Exercise 2.3.7

What effect does quote have on the set of free and bound variables? □□

#### 2.3.2 Scope and Lexical Address