CS3: Introduction to Symbolic Programming

Lecture 15: Summary, Exam problems

Spring 2008

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Announcements

The FINAL

- Wednesday, May 21st, 12:30-3:30 pm
- Bechtel Auditorium
- Questions will be asked on everything
 - With the main emphasis on the post-midterm-2 material (lists, trees, non-functional programming).
 - Only 2 hours worth of material 25% more fattening than a midterm
- Review session, to be announced
- Office hours this week: Wed, 11-1:30
- Don't forget about the final survey
 - This will be worth 1 course point...
 - Your answers won't factor into your grade.

How are you going to study for the Final?

So, what have we done in CS3?

- Consider the handout of topics
 - Common topics
 - Pre-recursion
 - Recursion
 - Higher order procedures
 - Lists and beyond
 - Case studies
 - Working with large programs

Another list...

- 1. Functional programming
- 2. Functions as data
- 3. Recursion
- 4. Managing large programs

(1) Functional Programming

- All that can matter to a procedure is what it returns.
- Small functions can be easily tested (isolated)
- In other languages, you typically:
 - Perform several actions in a sequence
 - Set the value of a global or local variable.
 - Print, write files, draw pictures, connect to the internet, etc.
- Other "paradigms" include: sequential, objectoriented, event-driven, declarative

(2) Functions as data

Higher order procedures take functions as parameters.

It is useful to return functions at times

 lambda is quite useful, and sometimes necessary.

(3) Recursion

- Linear (simple) to quite advanced
 - They all have base and recursive cases in a conditional
 - Thinking about "inner" recursive calls as possible solutions in their own right can help.
- In contrast to iteration and looping (where counters or state define looping constraints)
 - Knowledge of recursion will help these simpler cases.

(4) Managing large programs

- Style—commenting, naming conventions, etc.
- Abstraction—carving up programs into small, coherent units
 - for maintenance and collaboration
- Iterative and unit testing
- Reading the specifications, and communicating often with colleagues