

Recursion ctd

15-111
Advanced Programming

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Lists and Recursion

Thinking about Lists recursively

- A list can be defined recursively
- A list is either empty or the first element of the list followed by another list (called tail of the list)
 - $L = \Phi$ or
 - $L = \{\text{first}(L), \text{tail}(L)\}$

List Operations

- Prepend
 - $\text{prepend}(a, L) = \{a\}$ if $L = \Phi$
 - $\text{prepend}(a, L) = \{a, \text{prepend}(\text{first}(L), \text{tail}(L))\}$
- Append recursively
 - $\text{Append}(L, a) = \{a\}$ if $L = \Phi$
 - $\text{Append}(L, a) = \text{prepend}(\text{first}(L), \text{Append}(\text{tail}(L), a))$

Length of a list recursively

- $\text{Length}(L) = 0$ if $L = \Phi$
- Otherwise
 - $\text{Length}(L) = 1 + \text{length}(\text{tail}(L))$

Reversing a list

- $\text{Rev}(L) = L$ if $L = \Phi$
- $\text{Rev}(L) = \text{append}(\text{first}(L), \text{Rev}(\text{tail}(L)));$