

Liberal Arts Trivia: Media Studies

This 1988 book by Herman and Chomsky presented the seminal "propaganda model", arguing that as news media outlets are run by corporations, they are under competitive pressure. Consider the dependency of mass media news outlets upon major sources of news, particularly the government. If a particular outlet is in disfavor with a government, it can be subtly 'shut out', and other outlets given preferential treatment. Since this results in a loss in news leadership, it can also result in a loss of viewership. That can itself result in a loss of advertising revenue, which is the primary income for most of the mass media (newspapers, magazines, television). To minimize the possibilities of lost revenue, therefore, outlets will tend to report news in a tone more favorable to government and business, and giving unfavorable news about government and business less emphasis.

PS3: Lindenmayer System Fractals





L-Systems

CommandSequence ::= (CommandList) CommandList ::= Command CommandList CommandList ::= Command ::= F Command ::= RAngle Command ::= OCommandSequence

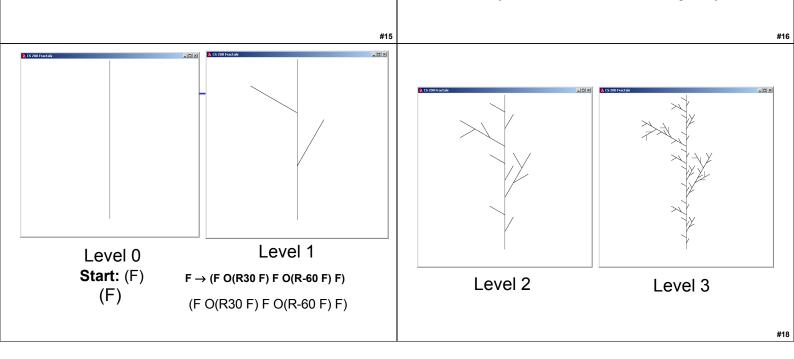
L-System Rewriting

CommandSequence ::= (CommandList) CommandList ::= Command CommandList CommandList ::= Command ::= F Command ::= RAngle Command ::= OCommandSequence

Start: (F) Rewrite Rule: $F \rightarrow (F O(R30 F) F O(R-60 F) F)$

Work like BNF replacement rules, except replace all instances at once!

Why is this a better model for biological systems?



#13

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Atear	 PS3 - Fractals In addition to completing the problem set, each time will submit their prettiest fractal. The class will then vote for favorites, and the authors of the favorites will receive extra credit. No Photoshop, etc. All PS3. You just change the rules: F → (F O(R30 F) F O(R-60 F) F) ;; one fractal F → (O(R60 F) F F O(R45 F)) ;; a new one!
Procedure Practice	Hints
 For the rest of this class, we will be practicing writing recursive procedures together. Write a procedure count-fives that takes as input a list of numbers. It returns the number of fives contained in its input list. (count-fives (list 1 2 3 4 5)) > 1 (count-fives (list 5 -5 5 7)) > 2 (count-fives (list 3 6 7 5 3 0 9)) > 1 	 Remember our strategy! Be optimistic! Assume that you can write "count-fives" So the recursive case will work out Identify the smallest input you can solve The base case How would you combine answers From the current call (usually the car of the list) And the result of the recursive call Be creative! There are usually many solutions.

Two versions of count-fives (define (count-fives lst) (if (null? lst) 0 (if (eq? (car lst) 5) (+ 1 (count-fives (cdr lst))) (count-fives (cdr lst)))))) (define (count-fives lst) (if (null? lst) 0 (+ (if (eq? (car lst) 5) 1 0) (count-fives (cdr lst)))))) #25	Liberal Arts Trivia: Medicine • This vector-borne infectious disease is caused by protozoan parasites. It is widespread in tropical regions, such as sub-Saharan African. Each year there are about 515 million cases of it, killing between one and three million people. No formal vaccine is available. Classic symptoms include sudden coldness followed by rigor and then fever and sweating.
Liberal Arts Trivia: Accounting	contains
 In this bookkeeping system, each transaction is recorded in at least two accounts. Each transaction results in one account being debited and another account being credited, with the total debits equal to the total credits. Luca Pacioli, a monk an collaborator of Leonardo da Vinci, is called the "father of accounting" because he published a usable, detailed description of this system. 	 Write a procedure contains? that takes two arguments: an element and a list. It returns #t if the list contains the given element, #f otherwise. (contains? 5 (list 1 2 3 4)) -> #f (contains? 5 (list 2 3 4 5)) -> #t (contains? null (list 1 2 3)) -> #f (contains? 1 (list 2 null 1)) -> #t (contains? 3 (list)) -> #f
contains explained	common-elt?
(define (contains? elt lst) (if (null? lst) #f (if (eq? elt (car lst)) #t (contains? elt (cdr lst)))))) (define (contains? elt lst) (if null? lst) #f (or (eq? elt (car lst)) (contains? elt (cdr lst))))) #29	 Write a procedure common-elt? that takes two lists as arguments. It returns #t if there is a common element contained in both lists, #f otherwise. (common-elt? (list 1 2 3) (list 3 4 5)) -> #t (common-elt? (list 1 2 3) (list 4 5 6)) -> #f (common-elt? (list 1 2) (list 0 0 0 1)) -> #t (common-elt? (list 1) null) -> #f (common-elt? null (list 1 2 3)) -> #f (common-elt? (list 1) (list 1 2 3)) -> #f Hint: contains? #30

<pre>common-elt? lst1 lst2) (define (common-elt? lst1 lst2) (if (null? lst1) #f (if (contains? (car lst1) lst2)) (define (common-elt? (cdr lst1) lst2)))) (define (common-elt? lst1 lst2) (if (or (null? lst1) (null? lst2)) #f (or (eq? (car lst1) (car lst2)) (common-elt? lst1 (cdr lst2)) (common-elt? (cdr lst1) lst2))))) ;; this version is super slow! #1</pre>	<pre>certo-hero that takes as input a list of strings. It returns the same list in the same order, but every element that used to be "zero" is now "hero". (zero-to-hero (list "a" "zero" "b" "jercules")) ("a" "hero" "b" "jercules") (zero-to-hero (list "zorro")) ("zorro") (zero-to-hero (list "zero" "zero" "one" "zero")) ("hero" "hero" "one" "hero")</pre>
<pre>zero-to-hero (define (zero-to-hero lst) (if (null? lst) null (if (eq? (car lst) "zero")) (cons "hero" (zero-to-hero (cdr lst))) (cons (car lst) (zero-to-hero (cdr lst)))) (define (zero-to-hero lst) (map (lambda (x) (if (eq? x "zero") "hero" x)) lst)) ;; learn map if you haven't yet! #33</pre>	 tiny-squares Write a procedure tiny-squares that takes as input a list of numbers. It returns a list of the squares of those numbers (in the same order), but any square above 100 is not included in the output. (tiny-squares (list 8 9 10 11 12)) (64 81 100) (tiny-squares (list -2 12 4 77 5)) (4 16 25) (tiny-squares (list 3 2 1 100) (9 4 1)
tiny-squares (define (tiny-squares lst) (if (null? lst) null (if (<= (car lst) 10) (cons (* (car lst) (car lst)) (tiny-squares (cdr lst))) (tiny-squares (cdr lst)))))) (define (tiny-squares lst) (filter (lambda (squared) (<= squared 100)) (map (lambda (x) (* x x)) lst))) ;; this ordering: map first, then filter! #35	EVERY Write a procedure every that takes two elements, a predicate and a list. (Recall that a predicate is a function that takes an element and returns #t or #f.) The procedure every returns #t if the predicate returns #t on every one of its elements. It returns #f if even one element does not pass the test. On the empty list, every returns #t. (every (lambda (x) (> x 3)) (list 4 5 6)) -> #t (every (lambda (x) (< x 3)) (list 3 3)) -> #t (every (lambda (x) (< x y)) (list)) -> #t

