Recursive Definitions of Sets

Q1: What is this set?

Basis Step: $6 \in S, 15 \in S$

Recursive Step: If $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$

Q2: Write a recursive definition for the set of powers of 3 $\{1,3,9,27, \ldots\}$

Basis Step:

Recursive Step:

Structural Induction

Let $P(x)$ be "x is divisible by 3."

We show $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$ by structural induction.

Base Cases:

Inductive Hypothesis:

Inductive Step:

We conclude $P(x) \forall x \in \mathrm{S}$ by the principle of induction.

Basis: $6 \in \mathrm{S}, 15 \in S$

Recursive: if $x, y \in S$ then $x + y \in S$.

Structural Induction Template

1. Define $P()$ State that you will show $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$ and that your proof is by structural induction.

2. Base Case: Show $P(b)$
[Do that for every b in the basis step of defining S]

3. Inductive Hypothesis: Suppose $P(x)$
[Do that for every x listed as already in S in the recursive rules].

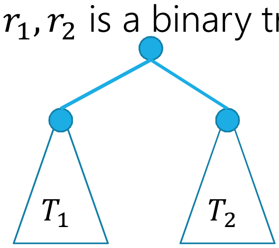
4. Inductive Step: Show $P()$ holds for the "new elements."
[You will need a separate step for every element created by the recursive rules].

5. Therefore $P(x)$ holds for all $x \in S$ by the principle of induction.

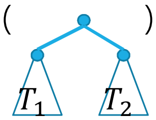
Binary Trees

Basis: A single node is a rooted binary tree.

Recursive Step: If T_1 and T_2 are rooted binary trees with roots r_1 and r_2, then a tree rooted at a new node, with children r_1, r_2 is a binary tree.



size( )=1

size(


) =

size(T_1) + size(T_2) + 1

height( ) = 0

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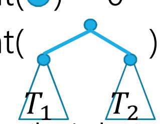

) =

1+max(height(T_1),height(T_2))