CSC 181F Lecture Notes

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Software Debugging and Testing

- Debugging is the process of finding errors in a program under development that is not thought to be correct
- Testing is the process of attempting to find errors in a program that is thought to be correct. Testing attempts to establish that a program satisfies its Specification $^{\alpha}$
- Exhaustive testing is not possible for real programs due to combinatorial explosion of possible test cases. Amount of testing performed must be balanced against the cost of undiscovered errors
- Regression Testing is used to compare a modified version of a program against a previous version

Reading Assignment

Supplementary reading

S. McConnell Chapter 26,

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Program Correctness

- A program is correct if it compiles without errors and when executed produces output that satisfies the specification for the program.
- Correctness is more important than efficiency (or anything else)
- Levels of Correctness:
- No syntax errors
- No semantic errors
- 3. There exists some test data for which program gives a correct answer
- 4. Program gives correct answer for reasonable or random test data
- 5. Program gives correct answer for difficult test data
- 6. For all legal input data the program gives the correct answer
- For all legal input and all likely erroneous input the program gives a correct or reasonable answer
- 8. For all input the program gives a correct or reasonable answer

 $[^]a$ Testing can establish the presence of errors but cannot guarantee their absence (E.W. a IkStra)

Testing Strategy

- Try simple cases first so you can hand compute answer
- Try boundary conditions & special cases
- Try reasonable & random input
- Try input containing errors
- Try really hard input
- Be really cruel

What is the worst thing you can do to the program?

Try to test all parts of the program

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Sources for Test Cases

- Requirements and Specification for the program
- General knowledge about the application area
- Program design and user documentation
- Specific knowledge of the program source code (White Box Testing)
- Specific knowledge of the programming language and implementation
- Test at and near (inside and outside) the boundaries of the programs applicability
- Test with random data
- Test for response to probable errors (e.g. invalid input data)
- Think nasty when designing test cases. Try to destroy the program with your test data

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Testing & Bad Attitude

- The goal in testing software is to find as many errors as possible in the program under test with the least effort expended
- Testing efficiency is measured in the number of errors discovered per hour of testing
- When testing your attitude should be

What is the absolutely worst thing I can do to the program?

What can I do to make this program look good?

- Test case selection is one key factor in successful testing
- Insight and imagination are essential in the design of good test cases

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Testing Based on the Source Program

- Basic Path Testing design test cases to guarantee that every path through (i.e both branches of every if, every loop, all function calls) the program is executed at least once
- Derive test cases from examination of the program
- Condition Testing design test cases to test all possible outcomes for each condition (Boolean expression) in the program.
- Branch testing design test cases to cause each condition in an if to evaluate to true and false. Test every case and default in each switch statement.

 Definition-Use Testing - design tests to link definition (i.e. value assignment) and use of variables in the program

Try to execute every definition-use chain at least once

- Simple Loop Testing design test cases to exercise every loop in the program
- Loop not executed at all tests code after loop for correct handling of null case
- Loop executed once tests initialization and exit condition
- Loop executed twice tests passing of values between iterations
- Loop executed random legal number of times
- Loop executed one less than allowable maximum
- Loop executed exactly allowable maximum
- Loop executed one more than allowable maximum

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Testing - Example

Program Search an array for a given value

int Search(int Ar[], const int ArSize, const int val)

Specification if val is an element of the array Ar then Search returns its index in Ar. Otherwise Search returns -1

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Testing Example - Quadratic Program

- Easy quadratics with two real roots
- Easy quadratics with complex roots
- Degenerate cases, a, b and/or c = 0.0
- Hard quadratics

very large or very small coefficients

$$b^2 \sim 4ac$$

$$-b \sim \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$$

$$x_1 = x_2 \text{ or } x_1 \sim x_2$$

Test Data for Search

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Each of these tests is designed to catch a specific kind of error.

Array with zero elements

Array with one element

val in, not in below, not in above

Array with random even size

val not in, in random, in first, in last, in middle \pm 1

val not in, in random, in first, in last, in middle, in middle \pm 1

Array with random odd size

Array with two elements

val not in below, not in above, in first, in last

Arrays containing ordered, reverse ordered and unordered data Array random size containing all one value, equal, not equal to val

Array of maximum allowable size

Array with upper bound of largest allowable integer Array containing largest and smallest integers

Uninitialized Variable Errors

- An uninitialized variable error occurs when the value of a variable is used (e.g. the variable occurs in an expression) before a value has been assigned to the variable
- Except for some rare pathological cases, it is an **ERROR** to use a variable before it has a value. GARBAGE IN implies GARBAGE OUT.
- Any incorrect program behavior may be a symptom of an uninitialiazed variable error.
- Uninitialized variable errors are often vary hard to find
- Symptoms may vary from one run to another. Different Garbage
- Heisenbug Effect adding debugging code may change or obscure the error.
- The program "looks" OK. Unitialized variable errors are hard to see.

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Program Inspection to Improve Quality

- Program inspection is the process of examining a program in fine detail to find
- Much more effective in terms of programmer effort than testing
- ullet Read through the program a few (<= 3) lines at a time. Try to describe in words exactly what the lines do.
- Program inspection was pioneered by Bell Northern Research. It is widely effective way to find errors in programs. used in industry by real programmers since it's by far the most cost and time
- With careful inspection it is possible to write programs that will.
- run without errors the first time they are executed
- compile without errors the first time they are compiled

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- than tracing and debugging a running program. Eliminating unitialized variable errors by Inspection is much more effective
- give an (informal) argument that the variable always has a value At each place where a variable is used in a program it should be possible to
- If you can't make the argument then you have
- an ERROR in your program (99.36% probability).
- a rare pathological case that needs a special comment.

Example:

```
for ( K = 0 ; K < ASIZE ; K++ )
                                                                                                                   float sum , A[ ASIZE ];
                                                           /* Assume A is given a value here */
                                                                                           int K ;
sum += A[K];
```

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How to inspect Programs^a

- Check that every variable will always have a value before it is used
- Check all expressions to make sure the correct value is being computed Check that all subscript expressions will be valid
- Check conditions in all if statements

Do they partition between the true and false cases correctly?

Are all possibilities covered? Check cases in switch statements.

- Check all for, while and do statements Beware of off-by-one errors Is the exit condition correctly specified?
- Check all function calls for the correct type and order of parameters.
- Learn from your mistakes! If you consistently make one kind of error, inspect extra hard for that error

^aB.W. Kernighan and P.J. Plauger, Elements of Programming Style, McGraw-Hill, 1978

/* Infinite loop to read then output dates */

if (1900 <= year && year <= 3000 && dayInYear >= 1)

{ "", "January", "February", "March", "April", "May", "June", "July", "August", "September", "October", "November", "December" $\}$;

short monthLength[13] = /* monthLength[0] unused */ { 0, 31, 28, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31 };

while (true) { /* Process one correct input */ \boldsymbol{printf} ("Enter year and number of day in year $\ \boldsymbol{n}$ ") ; if (scanf ("%d%d", & year, & day) == 2)

> if (year % 4 == 0) { monthLength[2] = 29; if (dayInYear <= 366)

} else {

printf ("The Date is %s %d , %d \n " ,

break :

monthLength[2] = 28; if (dayInYear <= 365) break;

while (dayInYear < precedingDays + monthLength[month]) { precedingDays = precedingDays + monthLength[month];

monthName[month], daysInYear - precedingDays, , year

int year, dayInYear, preceedingDays, month;

/* monthName[0] unused */

K.N. King

Sections

7.1,

7.2,

7.5

Sections 16.5, 20.1 18.

N

const char * monthName[13] =

while (true) {

}

}

precedingDays = 0;

month++;

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Storage Classes

- Bitwise Operators
 - Enumerations
- Explicit Type Conversion (casting)

- Float and Double Types

All about Integer Types

Some More Details about C

The Integer Types

signed unsigned long long int ᇍ short int signed char unsigned char unsigned unsigned int unsigned short type-name 16 bits 32 bits 32 bits Size 32 bits 32 bits 32 bits 32 bits 32 bits 16 bits 16 bits -2^{15} -2^{15} -2^{31} -2^{31} Range of Values 2^{16} 2^{15} 2^{15} 2^{32} 2^{32} 2^{31} 2^{31} <u>|</u> <u>|</u> <u>|</u> 1 <u>|</u> _ <u>|</u>

Float and Double

long double	double	float	type-name
80/128 bits	64 bits	32 bits	Size
varies	$2.22 \cdot 10^{-308} \dots 1.79 \cdot 10^{308}$	$1.17 \cdot 10^{-38} \dots 3.40 \cdot 10^{38}$	Range of Values (\pm)
varies	15 digits	6 digits	Precision

- float and double constants are written in form of scientific notation.
 The constant consists of a mantissa followed by an optional exponent part.
- A float or double constant must contain a decimal point or an exponent part to distinguish it from an integer constant.
- The mantissa is a sequence of decimal digits. The manitssa may optionally include one decimal point. Example mantissas: 0.1 .23 45. 678.9
- The optional exponent part consists of an upper or lower case letter E followed by an
 optional sign and one or more exponent digits. Examples: E12 E-4 E+145 e-67 e89
- Constants are represented internally as type double unless they are followed by the letter F (float) or L (long double).
- Examples: .0123 12.34 1234. 123.456e+7 123.456E-12F

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Enumerations

enum enumTag { identifierList } ;

- The enum declaration specifies a list of symbolic names (the identifierList)
- The optional enumTag is an identifier which provides a name for the enumeration type.
- Usually the compiler assigns an internal representation to the identifiers in the list. The programmer can specify the values used by including assignments in the identifier list as in

```
enum Numbers \{ \text{ two} = 2 \text{ , three, four, eight} = 8, nine <math>\};
```

The default representation starts at zero and gives each identifier a value one greater than the identifier that precedes it.

e identifier that precedes it.

Casting - Explicit Type Conversion

(typeName) expression

Explicit type conversion forces expression to be treated as if it were the type specified by typeName

Effect as if expression was assigned to a variable of type typeName

Examples:

```
int |;
float x;
...
! = ( int ) x;
x = ( float ) |;
```

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HOW TO Use Enumerations

- Enumerations are a mechanism that allows you to declare a set of related symbolic names in cases when you don't care about the internal representation.
- Use enumerations to represent the state of variables that take on a small number of values. The symbolic names make the program easier to read.
- The same effect could be achieved using #define but enum is more elegant and makes the program easier to read.
- Almost all enumeration declarations should have an enumerator tag (unless they appear in a typedef declaration.

Examples:

Bitwise Operators

& Bitwise and
Bitwise or

Bitwise not
Bitwise exclusive or

< Left shift n bits

>> Right shift n bits

Bitwise operations are used to manipulate the pattern of *bits* in an expression, e.g extracting or combining information.

WARNING: BE CAREFUL, don't confuse

& and &&, | and ||, ~~

A & B could be zero (false) even if A and B are non-zero (true).

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Bitwise Operator Examples

unsigned short A, B, C, D;

/* 16-bit variables *,

U Ω = 03567 ; = 0x35AF; 255 ; Ω Ш Ω •• О ,, ል Ω `` /* 0000000001101011 /* Value in Binary (base 2) /* 0000011111111000 /* 0011001010111000 /* 0011011111111111 /* 0000000010101111 /* 1100101001010000 /* 0011010110101111 /* 0000000011111111 /* 0000011101110111 /* 0011010100000000 * *

Bitwise Operators Defintions

					l
-	•	_	0	0	≻
_	`	0	_	0	В
C	>	0	1	1	~ A
_	.	_	1	0	A B
_	`	0	0	0	А&В
c)	_	_	0	A ^ B

Α	A >> 1	A >> 2	A << 1	A << 2
11010	01101	00110	110100	1101000
00101	00010	00001	001010	0010100

HOW TO Use Bitwise Operators

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- Bitwise operators can be used for several purpose
- To pack data into less space and to extract packed data.
- To access packed information in hardware registers.
- To emulate higher level data structures, e.g. sets
- Bitwise operations should not be used if they make the program hard to understand and there is a simpler alternative.

To use bitwise operators you need to understand how information is represented internally in the computer. See previous slide.

- It is usually slower to access packed information so packing should only be used when the space saving is really important.
- The & operator can be used to extract information and to create a hole to put information into. The | operator can be used to insert information into a large item.

Data Packing Example

Assume that six 5-bit integers (values 0 . . 31) are to be packed in a 32-bit unsigned variable. The six subfields are called A, B, C, D, E, F.

This example shows how to access one field (D) of the packed information.

```
#define DMASK ( 0x0007C00 ) /* 0..011111000000000 */
#define FIVEBITS ( 0x1F ) /* 0 .. 011111 */
#define DSHIFT ( 10 ) /* # bits to the right of D */
unsigned x ; /* Variable containing A,B,C,D,E,F */
short dtmp , dtmp1 ; /* Variable to hold D */
x = 0xCAE1DB75 ;
dtmp1 = 0x35 ;
```

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/* Insert new D value (dtmp1) into x, trim to fit.

(x & ~DMASK) | (dtmp1 & FIVEBITS) << DSHIFT);

```
111111111111111000001111111111
                                                11001010111000011101011101110101
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     11001010111000011101101101110101
                                                                                                                                                                                                    11001010111000011000001101110101
                                                                                                                                                  0000000000011111
                                                                                               01010100000000000
                                                                                                                           000000000010101
                                                                                                                                                                          0000000000110101
                                                                                              ( dtmp1 & FIVEBITS )
                                                                                                                      ( dtmp1 & FIVEBITS )
                                                                                                                                                  FIVEBITS
                                                                                                                                                                          dtmp1
                                                                                                                                                                                               ( x & ~DMASK )
                                               x & ~DMASK )
                                                                                                                                                                                                                            DMASK
                      ( ( dtmp1 & FIVEBITS
<< DSHIFT )
                                                                          << DSHIFT
```

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Storage Classes

A storage class is associated with every declared object.

This storage class determines the extent (lifetime) of the storage associated with the object.

In some cases the storage class also affects the visibility of the object

The storage classes in C

auto locally created storage this is the default

static for variables indicates statically created permanent storage
also restricts visibility to file of declaration

extern static extern but name is visible outside file of declaration
register hint to compiler to store variable in a hardware register

Examples

static double RandomSeed = 123456.789;

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register int I,尽; extern long sharedData;

Reading Assignment

K.N. King Section

9.6

Supplementary reading

S. McConnell Chapter 16

Also Recommended

E. Roberts, Thinking Recursively SHORT-TERM LOAN - ENGINEERING LIBRARY

E. Roberts, Programming Abstractions in C

Chapters 4, 5, 6

SHORT-TERM LOAN - ENGINEERING LIBRARY

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Why Recursion?

- Recursive solutions are frequently simpler than non-recursive solutions
- Recursive programs are easier to make correct
- Use of recursion often leads to simpler, more elegant algorithms
- Recursion divides a large problem into smaller, easier to solve pieces

Extremely important programming technique

Recursion

Based on

Divide and Conquer Induction

- Think of recursion when a problem involves embedded instances of itself
- You should become proficient in using recursion as a problem solving technique

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Simple Example - Factorial

- The factorial function is a very simple example of a function that can be computed using recursion.
- Mathematical Definition

$$N! = \left\{egin{array}{ll} 1 & ext{if } N = 0 \ N \cdot (N-1)! & ext{otherwise} \end{array}
ight.$$

Key insights

1! is really easy to compute if N>0 then N-1 approaches 1 in the limit N! can be defined in terms of (N-1)!

Example - Factorial

```
/* Computing factorial */
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                int factorial (int N)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             if (N == 0)
                                                                                                                                             return N * factorial (N - 1);
                                                                                                                                                                                                 return 1; /* basis */
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    Final value = 120
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         5! = 5 * 24 = 120 is returned
Trace of call factorial(5)
                                                                                                                                                                                                   4! = 4 * 6 = 24 is returned
                                                                                                                                                       3! = 3 * 2 = 6 is returned
                                                                                                                  2! = 2 * 1! is returned
                                                                               1 returned
```

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Generic Recursive Model

```
type-name Func ( parameters )
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   if simpleCase {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          /* Handle Simple Case */
/* Combine Solution_{part} and Solution_{rest} */
                                                                                                                                                                              /* Decompose problem into parts */
                                              Solution_{rest} := \textit{Func} \left( Problem_{rest} \right)
                                                                                    Solution_{part} := Func(Problem_{part})
                                                                                                                                  /* Call the function Func recursively */
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 return ..
```

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HOW TO Use Recursion

Analyze the Problem Identify ways to divide problem Identify simple cases Rest of problem same/similar form as the problem Simple cases

Write recursive functions & procedures Select data structure to represent problem Use decomposition and recursion on the rest Handle simple cases directly

Similar to mathematical induction

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The Towers of Hanoi Problem

Brahmins alike will crumble into dust and with a thunderclap the world will creation God placed them to one of the other needles, tower, temple and When all the 64 disks have been thus transfered from the needle on which at the that he must place this disk on a needle so that there is no smaller disk below it. require that the priest on duty must not move more than one disk at a time and needle to another according to the fixed and immutable laws of Brahma, which Day and Night unceasingly, the priests transfer the disks from one diamond others getting smaller and smaller up to the top one. This is the Tower of Brahma God placed 64 disks of pure gold, the largest disk on the brass plate and the high and as thick as the body of a bee. On one of these needles at the creation, world, rests a brass plate in which are fixed three diamond needles each a cubit In the great temple at Benares beneath the dome which marks the center of the

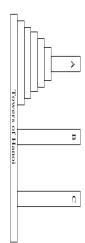
 $^{^{}lpha}$ W.W.R. Ball as quoted by E. Roberts, Programming Abstractions in C, page 196

Example - Towers of Hanoi

Move N disks from one peg to another by moving one disk at a time subject to the constraint that a larger disk may never be placed on a smaller disk

Analysis

- Simple cases: move one disk
- Division: Move top N -1 disks out of the way.
 Move bottom disk to final destination.
- Composition: Move the remaining N -1 disks to the destination.



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HOW TO Find a Recursive Strategy

- Any problem you want to solve using recursion must satisfy the conditions
- There must be one or more simple cases. i.e. cases that can be done directly.
- It must be possible to break the problem down into simpler subproblems of the same form.
- Solution of the subproblems must somehow help to solve the larger problem.
- Decomposition and recombination are often the hardest parts of the strategy.
- Once you've designed a recursive strategy, you should validate the strategy by working through a few simple examples by hand.

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Example - Hanoi

```
/* Solution to Towers of Hanoi Puzzle */
void hanoi( const char source, const char dest, const char temp, const int N )
{
    /* Move N disks from source peg to dest peg, using temp peg as temporary storage */
    if ( N == 1 ) {
        printf ("Move a disk from %c to %c\n", source, dest);
        return;
    }
    else {
        /* Move top N-1 disks out of the way to temp peg */
        hanoi( source, temp, dest, N - 1 );
        /* Move bottom source disk to destination */
        printf ("Move a disk from %c to %c\n", source, dest);
        /* Move remaining N-1 disks from temp peg to destination */
        hanoi( temp, dest, source, N - 1);
}
```

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HOW TO Avoid Pitfalls in Recursive Solutions^a

- Are simple cases checked for first?
- Are the simple cases solved correctly?
- Does the recursive decomposition make the problem simple?

Each recursion should make progress toward reaching one of the simple cases.

- Will the recursion always terminate?
- Does the simplification process *always* reach the simple cases? Have some simple cases been overlooked?
- Do the recursive calls represent subproblems that are truly identical in form to the original problem?

Do the solutions to the recursive subproblems provide a complete solution to the original problem?

 $[^]a$ Adapted from E.Roberts, Programming Abstractions in C, Chapter 4

Example - Detecting Palindromes

A palidrome is a string that reads identically forward and backward.

nples: "level" "Madam I am Adam"

Design a recursive strategy to determine if a given string is a palindrome

Analysis

- Simple cases: empty string is a palindrome,
 a string containing one character is a palindrome.
- Division: If a string is a palindrome then the first and last characters in the string must be the same.
 If a string is a palindrome than the string formed by removing the first and last characters must also be a palindrome.
- Composition: if first and last characters are unequal return false otherwise return palindromness of string with first and last characters removed.

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HOW TO Use Helper Functions

- The solution to IsPalindrome uses a helper function IsPalindrome2 to do the real work.
- Helper functions are appropriate when you need some extra parameters to carry additional information between levels of recursive calls
- Think of using helper functions in cases where the function you need to write
 (i.e. it's specifications are a given) doesn't have all the parameters you need
 to compute its value efficiently.
- Try to use the minimum number of extra parameters required to solve the problem. Usually one or two.

Example - IsPalindrome

Bool IsPalindrome(const char string[]) {

```
/* Return TRUE if string is a palindrome, FALSE otherwise */
return IsPalindrome2( string, 0, strlen( string) - 1);
}

Bool IsPalindrome2( const char string[], const int first, const int last) {
    if ( last - first <= 1)
        return true;
    else
    return ( string[first] == string[last])
        && IsPalindrome2( string, first + 1, last - 1);
}
```

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Example - Binary Search

Search sorted table (array) for key
Return table index if found, -1 otherwise

Analysis:

- Simple cases: empty table, table with one entry
- Division: Split table in half
- Composition: Result from half of table

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Example - Binary Search

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Trees using Arrays

```
#define MAXTREE ( 10000 )

#define STUMP ( 0 ) /* null tree */

#define STUMP_VALUE ( 0 )

typedef short Tree ;

typedef enum ( branch, leaf ) treeNodeType ;

typedef long int treeLeafType ;

/* Storage for trees<sup>a</sup> */

treeNodeType treeNode[ MAXTREE ] ;

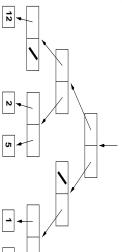
treeLeafType treeLeaf[ MAXTREE ] ;

Tree treeLeft[ MAXTREE ] ;

Tree treeLeft[ MAXTREE ] ;
```

Example - Sum Binary Tree

Binary tree:



Analysis:

- Simple cases: null tree, leaf
- Decomposiiton: left branch & right branch
- Composition: sum of left and right branches

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Example - Tree Sum

```
treeLeafType treeSum( const Tree treePtr ) {
    /* return sum of leaves of tree */
    if ( treePtr == STUMP )
        return STUMP_VALUE;
    if ( treeNode[ treePtr ] == leaf )
        /* process leaf */
        return treeLeaf[ treePtr ];
    else
        /* process branch */
    return treeSum( treeLeft[ treePtr ] )
        + treeSum( treeRight[ treePtr ] );
}
```

 $^{^{}a}$ We'll see much better ways to do trees later in the term.