

Principled Programming

Introduction to Coding in Any Imperative Language

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Stepwise Refinement

We introduce Stepwise Refinement, a key approach to programming, and illustrate its use in many examples.

- Divide and Conquer
- Sequential Refinement
- Case Analysis
- Iterative Refinement
- Recursive Refinement



All Gaul is divided into three parts.

~ Julius Caesar

Divide and Conquer:

All Gaul is divided into three parts. To conquer Gaul:
First, conquer the first part.
Then, conquer the second part.
Finally, conquer the third part.

A methodology.

Divide and Conquer: *Applied to programming*

To write a program:

First, break it into subprograms.

Then, write each subprogram separately.

the methodology is called programming by *Stepwise Refinement*.

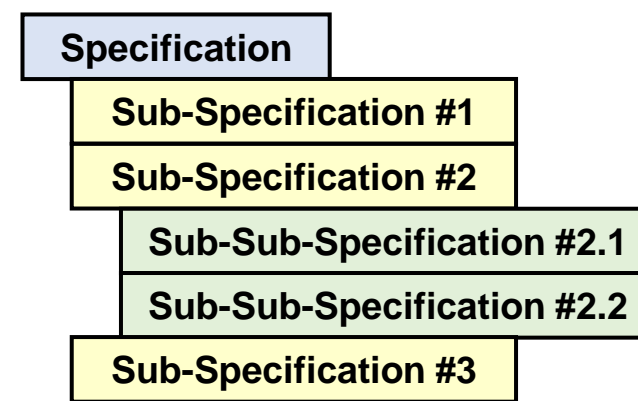
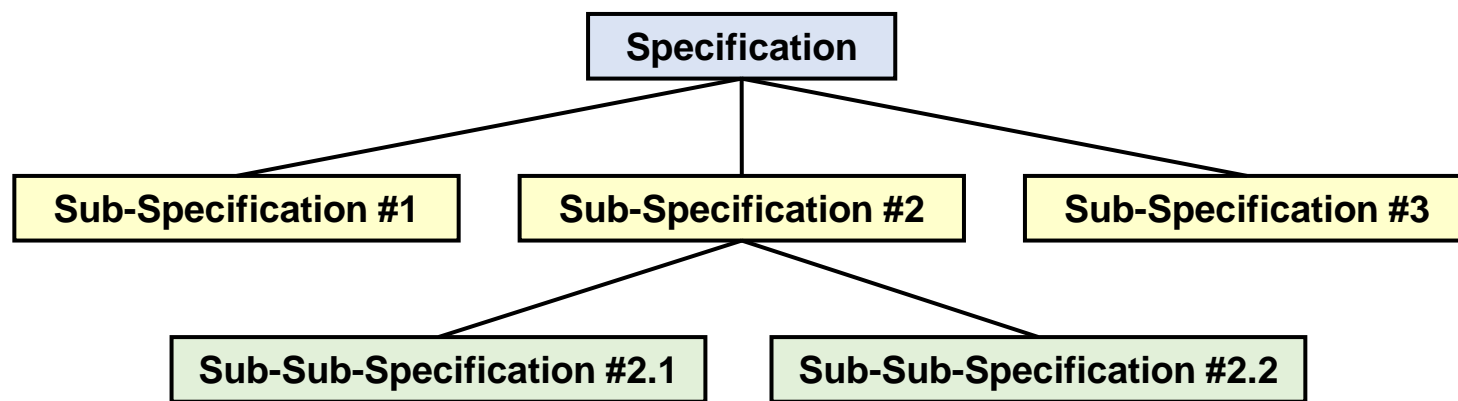
Divide and Conquer: *Applied to programming*

To write a program:
First, break it into subprograms.
Then, write each subprogram separately.

the methodology is called programming by *Stepwise Refinement*.

 **Program top-down, outside-in.**


Stepwise Refinement: Creates a hierarchy of subprograms, each with its own specification.



☞ **Program top-down, outside-in.**

Stepwise Refinement: A “program” to follow as you code.

```
if (  $P$  is simple to write ) Write it;  
else {  
    Refine  $P$  into simpler subprograms;  
    Write each subprogram;  
}
```

 **Program top-down, outside-in.**

where **Refine** is:

Sequential steps

Do one thing after another.

Case analysis

Do one thing or another.

Iteration

Do one thing repeatedly.

Recursion

Do something based on self-similarity.

Selection from a library of patterns

Do some pattern of the previous kinds of refinement.

Stepwise Refinement: Is recursive

```
if (  $P$  is simple to write ) Write it;  
else {  
    Refine  $P$  into simpler subprograms;  
    Write each subprogram;  
}
```

because it uses itself for writing each subprogram.

Stepwise Refinement: Terminates

```
if (  $P$  is simple to write ) Write it;  
else {  
    Refine  $P$  into simpler subprograms;  
    Write each subprogram;  
}
```

provided the subprograms get simpler to write.

Stepwise Refinement: Terminates when P is so simple that you just write it.

```
if (  $P$  is simple to write ) Write it;  
...
```

This is called the **base case** of the recursion.

Stepwise Refinement: The subproblems of each refinement must fit together like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.



We now consider each of the five kinds of refinement.

Sequential Refinement: Implement a specification P with a sequence of steps P_1 through P_n executed one after the other.

```
/* Specification P. */  
  /* Specification P1. */  
  /* Specification P2. */  
  ...  
  /* Specification Pn. */
```

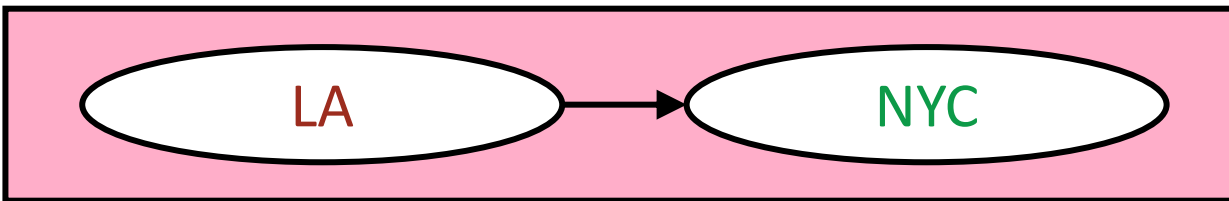
where if any */* Specification P_i */* is simple enough, it can be just code.

Example 1: A top-level specification

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */
```

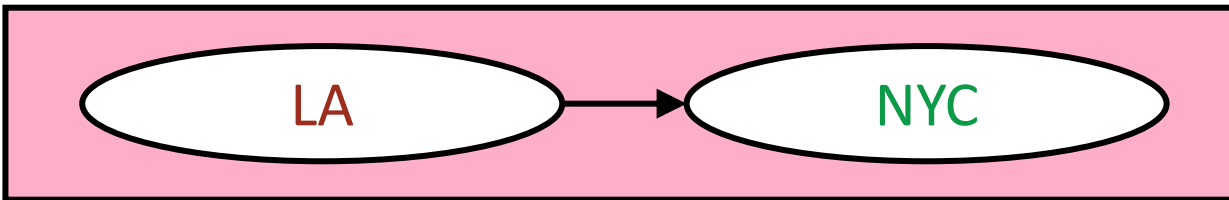
Example 1: A top-level specification that calls for the state-space effect shown.

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */
```



Example 1: A Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```



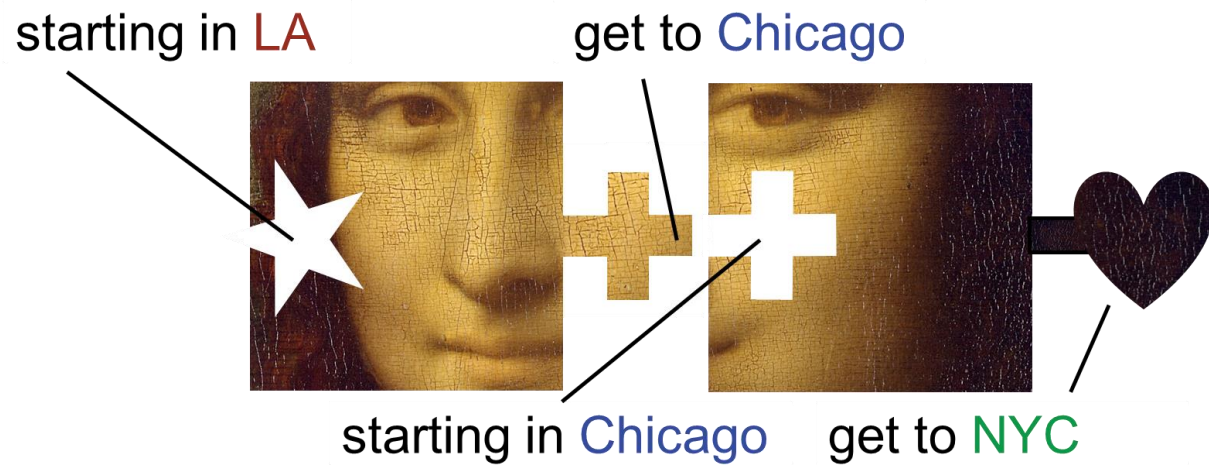
Example 1: A Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```



Example 1: A Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```



Example 2: A different Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to St. Louis. */  
  /* Drive from St. Louis to NYC. */
```

Different roads and scenery, but the same net effect (the *external interface*):
If I leave from LA, I will get to NYC.

Example 3: An incorrect Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from St. Louis to NYC. */
```

The first step does not establish what the second step requires.

Example 3: A corrected Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to St. Louis. */  
  /* Drive from St. Louis to NYC. */
```

Example 4: An infeasible Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Tokyo. */  
  /* Drive from Tokyo to NYC. */
```

You can't drive from LA to Tokyo.

Just because you can express a requirement doesn't mean that it can be accomplished.

Example 1, continued:

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```


Example 1, continued:

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```

 Refine specifications and placeholders in an order that makes sense for development, without regard to execution order.

Example 1, continued:

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */  
    /* Drive from Chicago to Pittsburgh. */  
    /* Drive from Pittsburgh to NYC. */
```

 Refine specifications and placeholders in an order that makes sense for development, without regard to execution order.

Example 4, continued: Backtrack out of an infeasible Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Tokyo. */  
  /* Drive from Tokyo to NYC. */
```

You can't drive from LA to Tokyo.

Example 4, continued: Backtrack out of an infeasible Sequential Refinement

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Tokyo. */  
  /* Drive from Tokyo to NYC. */
```

You can't drive from LA to Tokyo.

 **Don't be wedded to code. Revise and rewrite when you discover a better way.**

Example 4, continued: An infeasible Sequential Refinement **undone**.

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */
```

 **Don't be wedded to code. Revise and rewrite when you discover a better way.**

Example 4, continued: An infeasible Sequential Refinement **revised**.

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Denver. */  
  /* Drive from Denver to NYC. */
```

You can drive from LA to Denver and from Denver to NYC.

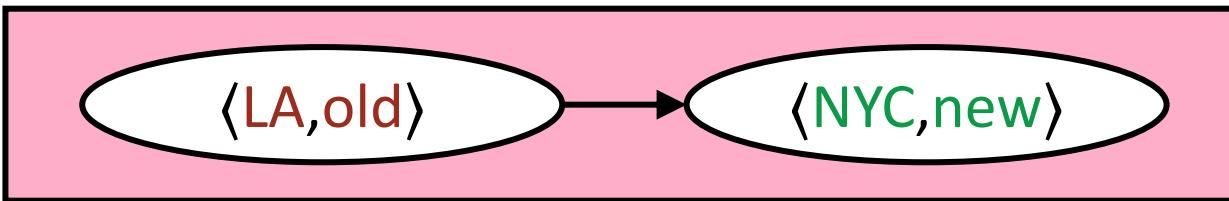
 **Don't be wedded to code. Revise and rewrite when you discover a better way.**

Example 5: A new top-level specification

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC and buy a new car (in any order). */
```

Example 5: A new top-level specification

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC and buy a new car (in any order). */
```



Example 5: One possible order

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC and buy a new car (in any order). */  
  /* Buy a new car. */  
  /* Drive from LA to NYC. */
```

Example 5: Another possible order

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC and buy a new car (in any order). */  
  /* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Buy a new car. */
```

Example 5: and its possible refinement.

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC and buy a new car (in any order). */  
  /* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
    /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
    /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */  
  /* Buy a new car. */
```

Implicitly, unmentioned components of state may not be changed.

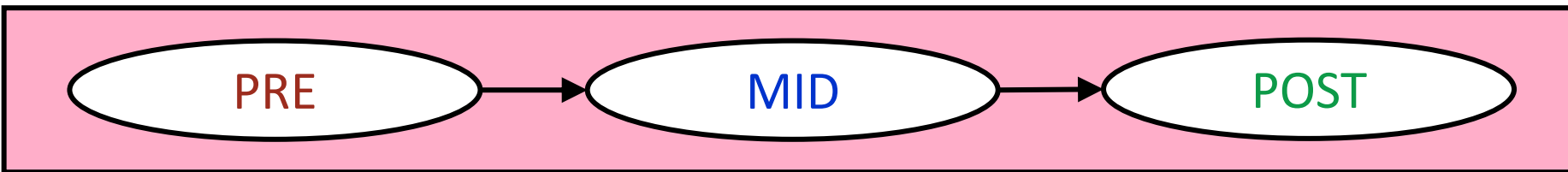
Example 5: and its possible refinement.

```
/* Get from ⟨LA,old⟩ to ⟨NYC,new⟩. */  
  /* Get from ⟨LA,old⟩ to NYC,old⟩. */  
    /* Get from ⟨LA,old⟩ to ⟨Chicago,old⟩. */  
      /* Get from ⟨Chicago,old⟩ to NYC,old⟩. */  
        /* Get from ⟨NYC,old⟩ to ⟨NYC,new⟩. */
```

I.e., the convention that unmentioned state components may not be changed implies that the previous version would be as shown above.

Generalization:

```
/* Get from PRE to POST. */  
  /* Get from PRE to MID. */  
  /* Get from MID to POST. */
```



Loosening the Coupling: Between the two sub-steps

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```



Loosening the Coupling: by weakening a precondition

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
/* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
/* Drive from Illinois to NYC. */
```



Loosening the Coupling: by weakening a precondition

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
/* Drive from California to Chicago. */  
/* Drive from Chicago to NYC. */
```



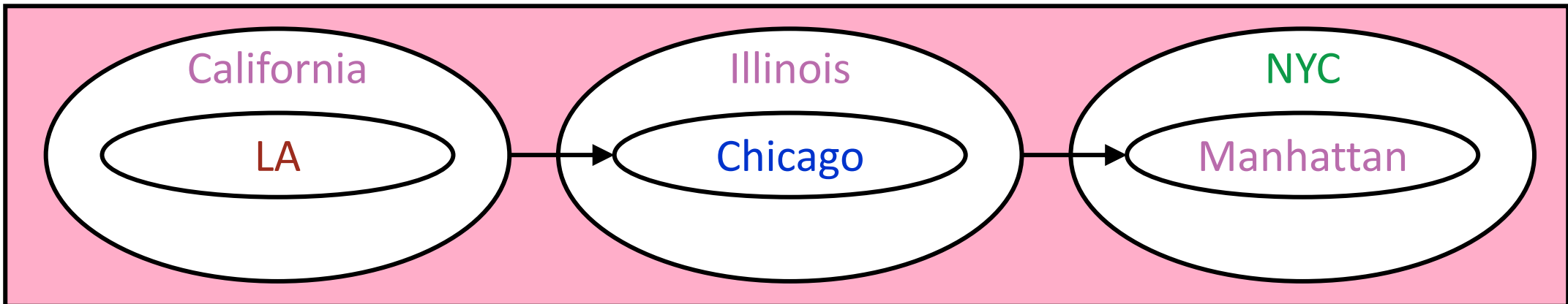
Loosening the Coupling: or by strengthening a postcondition

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
/* Drive from LA to Chicago. */  
/* Drive from Chicago to Manhattan. */
```



Loosening the Coupling: or by doing both.

```
/* Drive from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Drive from California to Chicago. */  
  /* Drive from Illinois to Manhattan. */
```



2-Step Sequential Refinement: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
  /* Get from A1 to B1. */  
  /* Get from A2 to B2. */
```

where

establishing PRE automatically establishes A₁,
establishing B₁ automatically establishes A₂, and
establishing B₂ automatically establishes POST.

n-Step Sequential Refinement: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
  /* Get from A1 to B1. */  
  /* Get from A2 to B2. */  
  ...  
  /* Get from An to Bn. */
```

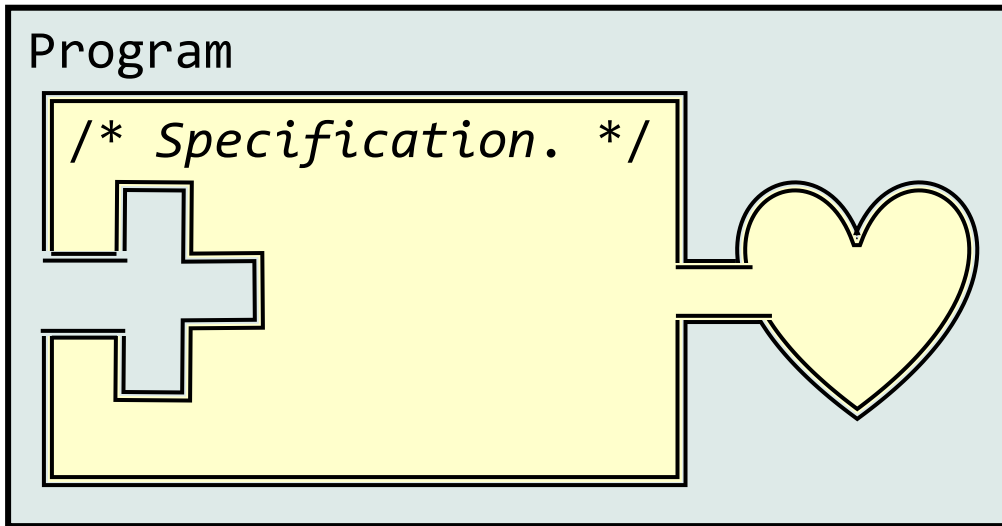
where

establishing PRE automatically establishes A₁,
establishing B_k automatically establishes A_{k+1}, for k from 1 through n-1, and
establishing B_n automatically establishes POST.

Loosening in Practice: Consider an individual specification

```
/* Get from PRE to POST. */
```

in the context of a program



Loosening in Practice: The specification

```
/* Get from PRE to POST. */
```

can be implemented by any code that satisfies the specification

```
/* Get from PRE' to POST'. */
```

where **PRE'** is any weakening of **PRE**, and **POST'** is any strengthening of **POST**.

Example 1: Precondition is essential, but postcondition can be strengthened

```
/* Get from  $x \geq 0$  to  $y$  is a number that when squared equals  $x$ . */  
y = Math.sqrt(x);
```

Any weakening of $x \geq 0$ would make the specification infeasible for real y , but we are free to choose y as either the positive or negative root of x .

Example 2: Precondition is convenient, but not essential

```
/* Get from  $x \geq 0$  to  $y$  is  $|x|$ . */  
y = x;
```

The precondition $x \geq 0$ simplifies the code that sets y to the absolute value of x , because in that case the absolute value of x is just x itself.

Example 3: Precondition is irrelevant

```
/* Get from  $x \geq 0$  to  $y$  is  $x$  squared. */  
y = x*x;
```

because x squared is $x*x$ regardless of whether x is positive or negative.

Example 4: Precondition is customarily ignored

```
/* Get from array A's elements are unique to A's elements are  
   numerically ordered. */
```

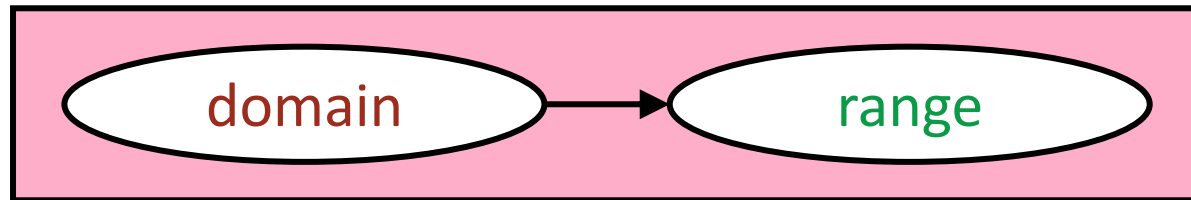
because conventional techniques for establishing the postcondition are more general, and do not rely on the given precondition.

Example 5: Chapter-1 example, revisited

```
/* Given  $n \geq 0$ , output the integer part of the square root of  $n$ . */  
/* Given  $n \geq 0$ , let  $r$  be the integer part of the square root of  $n \geq 0$ . */  
System.out.println( r );
```

Consider the **domain** and **range** of the general-purpose output statement

```
System.out.println( r );
```



The **domain** is any state where variable r exists and contains a value, regardless of whether it is the integer square root of n . The **range** is any state with the additional property that the output ends with the given value.

Conjunctive Normal Form: A condition of the form

$$C_1 \text{ and } C_2 \text{ and } \dots \text{ and } C_n$$

where each C_i is called a *conjunct*.

Example:

x is declared **and** x contains a value **and** x is greater than or equal to 0
state is NY **and** city is NYC

Conjunctive Normal Form: A condition in CNF can be weakened by dropping a conjunct, e.g.,

Replace:

x is declared **and** x contains a value **and** x is greater than or equal to 0

with:

x is declared **and** x contains a value

and can be strengthened by appending an additional conjunct, e.g.,

Replace:

state is NY **and** city is NYC

with:

state is NY **and** city is NYC **and** borough is Manhattan

Implicit Preconditions: In practice, explicit preconditions are often omitted.

```
/* Get from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Get to Chicago. */  
  /* Get to St. Louis. */  
  /* Get to NYC. */
```

implicitly means

```
/* Get from LA to NYC. */  
  /* (Given that we are in LA) Get to Chicago. */  
  /* (Given that we are in Chicago) Get to St. Louis. */  
  /* (Given that we are in St. Louis) Get to NYC. */
```

Implicit Preconditions: The reader of

```
/* Get from LA to NYC. */  
  /* Get to Chicago. */  
  /* Get to St. Louis. */  
  /* Get to NYC. */
```

must infer the relevant precondition, and scan backwards to confirm that it has been established and survives, i.e., has not subsequently been invalidated.

Implicit Preconditions: Minimize the distance between code that establishes a precondition, and code that relies on it, if possible.

```
int k = 0;
/* 10 pages of code to do whatever. */
k++;
```

If the 10 pages have nothing to do with variable k, the following is better

```
int k = 0;
whatever();
k++;
```

 **Many short procedures are better than large blocks of code.**

Implicit Preconditions: Minimize the distance between code that establishes a precondition, and code that relies on it, if possible, **especially if the procedure can be placed outside of the scope of such a variable k .**

If the distance remains great, consider an explicit indication of where the precondition was established:

```
/* Given PRE (established at point  $p$  in the code), get to POST. */
```

 **Many short procedures are better than large blocks of code.**

Problem Reduction: A special case of Sequential Refinement

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?

A

| | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|---|
| 14 | 7 | 14 | 34 | 7 |
|----|---|----|----|---|

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?

A

| | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|---|
| 14 | 7 | 14 | 34 | 7 |
|----|---|----|----|---|

Tally of each **first** instance of a value
i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value
doesn't occur in $A[0..k-1]$, for k
from 0 through $n-1$.

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?

A

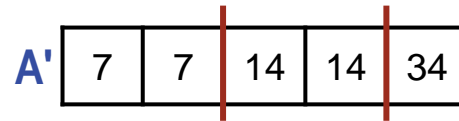
| | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|---|
| 14 | 7 | 14 | 34 | 7 |
|----|---|----|----|---|

Tally of each **first** instance of a value
i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value
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from 0 through $n-1$.

 **Solve a different problem, and use that solution to solve the original problem.**

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?



Tally of each **first** instance of a value
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Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?



Tally of each **first** instance of a value
i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value
doesn't occur in $A[0..k-1]$, for k
from 0 through $n-1$.



1 + the number of **adjacent pairs** of
unequal elements in A' , a version of A
rearranged into numerical order.

 **Solve a different problem, and use that solution to solve the original problem.**

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?



Tally of each **first** instance of a value i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value doesn't occur in $A[0..k-1]$, for k from 0 through $n-1$.

In worst case, running time is proportional to n^2 .



1 + the number of **adjacent pairs** of unequal elements in A' , a version of A rearranged into numerical order.

Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?



Tally of each **first** instance of a value i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value doesn't occur in $A[0..k-1]$, for k from 0 through $n-1$.

In worst case, running time is proportional to n^2 .



1 + the number of **adjacent pairs** of unequal elements in A' , a version of A rearranged into numerical order.

In worst case, running time is proportional to $n \log n$, i.e., time to sort an array of length n + time to count the number of unequal adjacent element pairs.

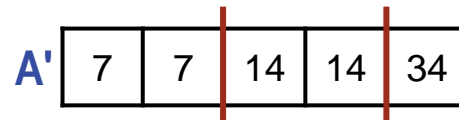
Problem Reduction: An example

How many distinct values occur in an `int` array $A[0..n-1]$?



Tally of each **first** instance of a value i.e., each $A[k]$ for which that value doesn't occur in $A[0..k-1]$, for k from 0 through $n-1$.

In worst case, running time is proportional to n^2 .



1 + the number of **adjacent pairs** of unequal elements in A' , a version of A rearranged into numerical order.

In worst case, running time is proportional to $n \log n$, i.e., time to sort an array of length n + time to count the number of unequal adjacent element pairs.

Problem Reduction: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
  /* Get from PRE to A. */  
  /* Get from B to POST. */
```

where establishing **A** automatically establishes **B**.

Problem Reduction: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
/* Get from PRE to A. */  
/* Get from B to POST. */
```

where establishing **A** automatically establishes **B**.

 Solve a different problem, and use that solution to solve the original problem.

Problem Reduction: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
/* Get from PRE to A. */  
  /* Define problem P' based on PRE. */  
  /* Solve problem P'. */  
  /* Establish A from the solution to P'. */  
/* Get from B to POST. */
```

where establishing **A** automatically establishes **B**.

 **Solve a different problem, and use that solution to solve the original problem.**

Case Analysis: Implement a specification P as a choice of one step to execute from among P_1, \dots, P_n .

```
/* Specification P. */  
  if ( condition1 ) /* Specification P1. */  
  else if ( condition2 ) /* Specification P2. */  
  ...  
  else if ( conditionn-1 ) /* Specification Pn-1. */  
  else /* Specification Pn. */
```

Case Analysis: Implement a specification P as a choice of one step to execute from among P_1 and P_2 .

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
if ( condition1 ) /* Specification  $P_1$ . */  
else /* Specification  $P_2$ . */
```

Case Analysis: Implement a specification P as a choice of one step to execute or not.

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
  if ( condition1 ) /* Specification  $P_1$ . */
```


Case Analysis: Implement a specification P as a choice of one step to execute from among P_1, \dots, P_n .

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
if ( condition1 ) /* Specification  $P_1$ . */  
else if ( condition2 ) /* Specification  $P_2$ . */  
...  
else if ( condition $n-1$  ) /* Specification  $P_{n-1}$ . */  
else /* Specification  $P_n$ . */
```

Appropriate when distinct program behaviors are required for different situations.

Case Analysis: Implement a specification P as a choice of one step to execute from among P_1, \dots, P_n .

- In the real world: Animal, vegetable, or mineral?
- In a maze: Facing a wall or not?
- After a search: Found or not found?
- In mathematics: Even or odd? Positive or negative?

Appropriate when distinct program behaviors are required for different situations.

Case Analysis: An example

```
/* Let y be |x|. */
```

Appropriate when distinct program behaviors are required for different situations.

Case Analysis: An example

```
/* Let y be |x|. */  
  if ( x >= 0 ) y = x;  
  else y = -x;
```

Appropriate when distinct program behaviors are required for different situations.

Case Analysis: An example

```
/* Let y be |x|. */  
if ( x >= 0 ) y = x;  
else y = -x;
```

 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

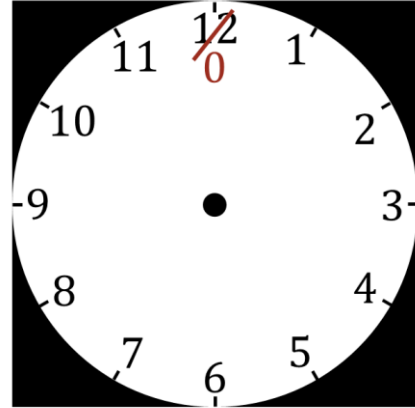
Case Analysis: An example

```
/* Let y be |x|. */  
y = Math.abs(y);
```

 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

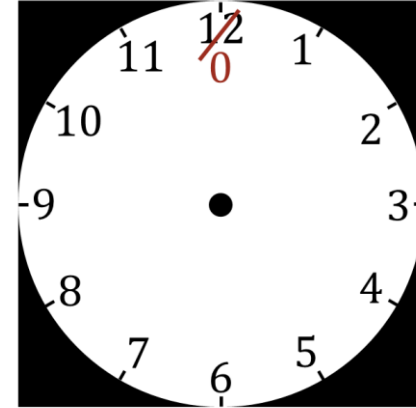
Case Analysis: A second example

```
/* Advance k to the next hour. */
```

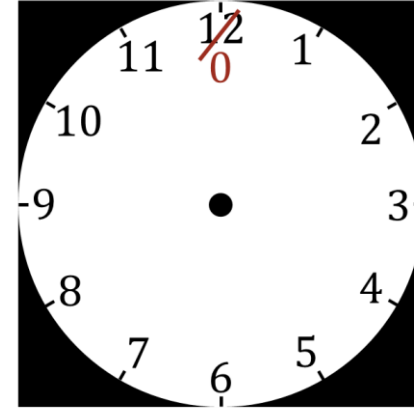


Case Analysis: A second example

```
/* Advance k to the next hour. */  
if (k==11) k = 0;  
else k = k+1;
```



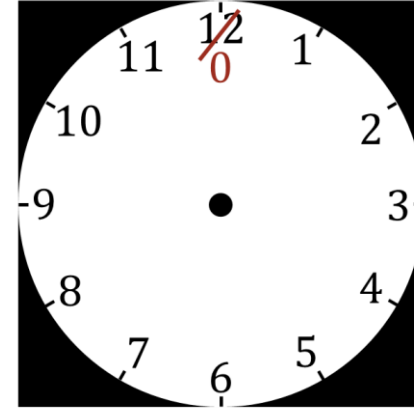
Case Analysis: A second example



```
/* Advance k to the next hour. */  
if (k==11) k = 0;  
else k = k+1;
```

👉 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

Case Analysis: A second example

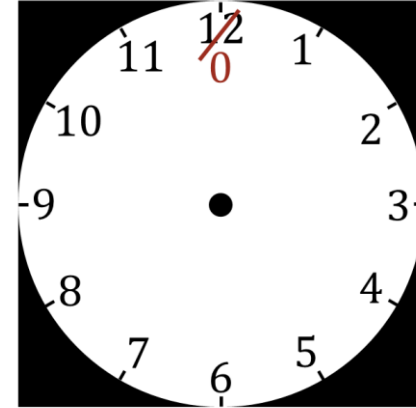


```
/* Advance k to the next hour. */  
k = (k+1)%12;
```

👉 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

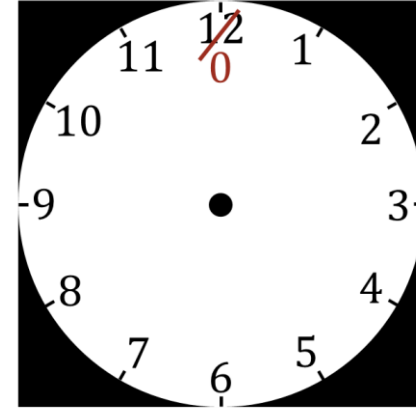
Case Analysis: A third example

```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */
```

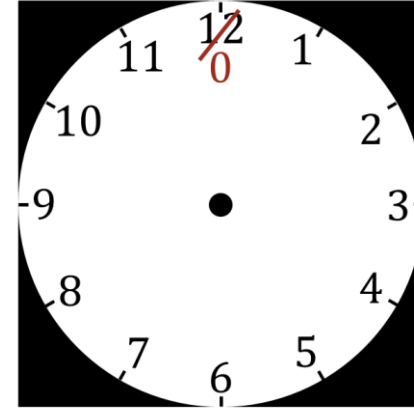


Case Analysis: A third example

```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */  
if (k==0) k = 11;  
else k = k-1;
```



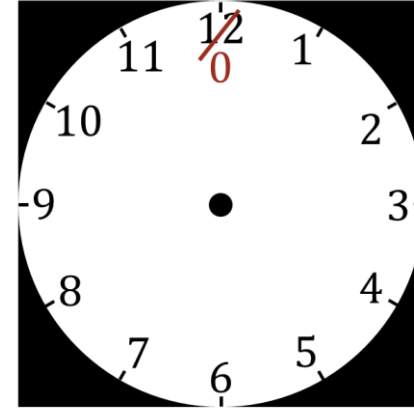
Case Analysis: A third example



```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */  
if (k==0) k = 11;  
else k = k-1;
```

👉 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

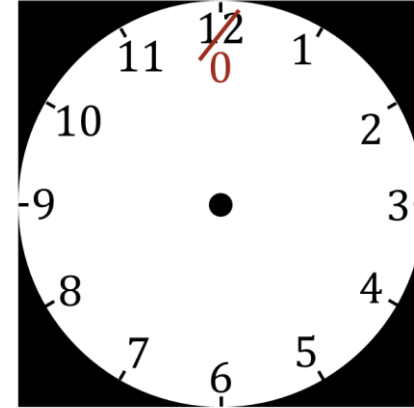
Case Analysis: A third example



```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */  
k = (k+11)%12;
```

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Case Analysis: A third example

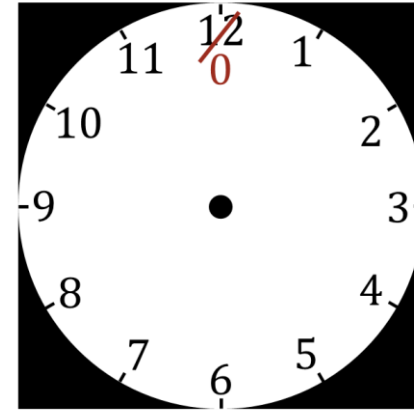


```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */  
k = (k+11)%12;
```

Why not $(k-1)\%12$?

👉 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

Case Analysis: A third example



```
/* Advance k to the previous hour. */  
k = (k+11)%12;
```

Why not $(k-1)\%12$?

This would be fine in Python, but in other languages (e.g., Java), $(k-1)\%12$ is negative for negative $k-1$. The issue is avoided if we write $(k+11)\%12$

👉 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

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☞ Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices: “==” or “!=”, “<” or “<=”, “x” or “x-1”, *condition* or *!condition*, positive or negative, 0-origin or 1-origin, “even integers are divisible by 2, but array segments of odd length have middle elements”.

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.



Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: parity

```
/* Output whether n is odd or even. */
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: parity

```
/* Output whether n is odd or even. */  
if ( (n%2)==1 ) System.out.println( "odd" );  
else System.out.println( "even" );
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: parity

```
/* Output whether n is odd or even. */  
if ( (n%2)==1 ) System.out.println( "odd" );  
else System.out.println( "even" );
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: parity

```
/* Output whether n is odd or even. */  
if ( (n%2)==1 ) System.out.println( "odd" );  
else System.out.println( "even" );
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

Because $n\%2$ for negative n is negative, the code will report all negative n as even.

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: parity, **corrected**

```
/* Output whether n is odd or even. */  
if ( (n%2)==0 ) System.out.println( "even" );  
else System.out.println( "odd" );
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */  
  boolean im; // Roots are imaginary.  
  if ( B*B-4*A*C < 0 ) im = true;  
  else im = false;
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */  
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Example: roots, real or imaginary

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else im = false;
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

Is the case of $B*B-4*A*C==0$ correct?

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */  
boolean im; // Roots are imaginary.  
if (  $B*B-4*A*C < 0$  ) im = true;  
else im = false;
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

Is the case of $B*B-4*A*C==0$ correct? **Yes.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */  
boolean im; // Roots are imaginary.  
if ( B*B-4*A*C < 0 ) im = true;  
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Example: roots, real or imaginary

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/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */
```

 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: roots, real or imaginary

```
/* Let im be true iff the roots of quadratic  $Ax^2+Bx+C=0$  are imaginary. */  
  boolean im = B*B-4*A*C < 0 ; // Roots are imaginary.
```

 **Beware of unnecessary Case Analysis; hope for code uniformity; avoid code bloat.**

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: Parallel or intersecting lines

```
/* Output whether lines  $y=m_1 \cdot x+b_1$  and  $y=m_2 \cdot x+b_2$  are parallel or intersect. */
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: Parallel or intersecting lines

```
/* Output whether lines  $y=m_1 \cdot x+b_1$  and  $y=m_2 \cdot x+b_2$  are parallel or intersect. */  
if ( (m1==m2) && (b1!=b2) )  
    System.out.println( "parallel" );  
else System.out.println( "intersect" );
```

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: Parallel or intersecting lines

```
/* Output whether lines  $y=m_1 \cdot x+b_1$  and  $y=m_2 \cdot x+b_2$  are parallel or intersect. */  
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```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

What if m_1 is $0.0e0$ and m_2 is smallest floating-point number?

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: Parallel or intersecting lines

```
/* Output whether lines  $y=m_1 \cdot x+b_1$  and  $y=m_2 \cdot x+b_2$  are parallel or intersect. */  
if ( (m1==m2) && (b1!=b2) )  
    System.out.println( "parallel" );  
else System.out.println( "intersect" );
```

 **Be alert to high-risk coding steps associated with binary choices.**

What if $m_1==m_2$, but b_1 is $0.0e0$ and b_2 is smallest floating-point number?

Case Analysis: The *condition* in a Case Analysis is often the locus of error.

Example: Parallel or intersecting lines

```
/* Output whether lines  $y=m_1 \cdot x+b_1$  and  $y=m_2 \cdot x+b_2$  are parallel or intersect. */  
if ( compare slopes and intercepts wrt tolerances )  
    System.out.println( "parallel" );  
else System.out.println( "intersect" );
```

 **Never test two floating-point numbers for equality or inequality.**

Iterative Refinement: Implement a specification P by repeatedly executing step P' .

```
/* Specification P. */  
  /* Setup for P'. */  
  while ( condition )  
    /* Specification P'. */
```

Iterative Refinement: Implement a specification P by repeatedly executing step P' .

```
/* Specification P. */  
  /* Setup for P'. */  
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    /* Specification P'. */
```

Invariant: The thing that stays the same, and allows P' to remain applicable.

Variant: The thing that changes, and eventually causes the loop to stop.

Iterative Refinement: Implement a specification P by repeatedly executing step P' .

```
/* Specification P. */  
  /* Setup for P'. */  
  while ( condition )  
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```

Invariant: The thing that stays the same, and allows P' to remain applicable.

Variant: The thing that changes, and eventually causes the loop to stop.

Infinite loops have their utility, but termination is the norm.

Iterative Refinement: Implement a specification P by repeatedly executing step P' .

```
/* Specification P. */  
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```

Invariant: The thing that stays the same, and allows P' to remain applicable.

Variant: The thing that changes, and eventually causes the loop to stop.

Infinite loops have their utility, but termination is the norm. For termination, think of the variant as a necessarily nonnegative integer that necessarily decreases by 1 on each iteration. You can only do that a finite number of times.

Iterative Refinement: Implement a specification P by repeatedly executing step P' .

```
/* Specification P. */  
  /* Setup for P'. */  
  while ( condition )  
    /* Specification P'. */
```

A fruitful real-world analogy: Hammering a nail into a block of wood.

```
/* Drive a nail vertically into a block of wood. */
```

```
/* Drive a nail vertically into a block of wood. */
```

```
/* Setup: Stabilize the nail vertically, with height $\geq 0$ . In doing so,  
establish the invariant (nail vertical, and height $\geq 0$ ) and the  
initial value of the variant (height of nail). */
```



```
/* Drive a nail vertically into a block of wood. */
```

```
/* Setup: Stabilize the nail vertically, with height $\geq 0$ . In doing so,  
establish the invariant (nail vertical, and height $\geq 0$ ) and the  
initial value of the variant (height of nail). */
```



```
while the-head-of-the-nail-sticks-out :
```

```
/* Hit the nail with the hammer squarely. In doing so, maintain the invariant (by  
hitting the nail vertically, but not so hard that its height becomes negative),  
and reduce the variant (by hitting the nail hard enough to reduce the height  
such that a finite number of hits suffices). */
```



```
/* Drive a nail vertically into a block of wood. */
```

```
/* Setup: Stabilize the nail vertically, with height $\geq 0$ . In doing so, establish the invariant (nail vertical, and height $\geq 0$ ) and the initial value of the variant (height of nail). */
```



while *the-head-of-the-nail-sticks-out* :

```
/* Hit the nail with the hammer squarely. In doing so, maintain the invariant (by hitting the nail vertically, but not so hard that its height becomes negative), and reduce the variant (by hitting the nail hard enough to reduce the height such that a finite number of hits suffices). */
```



```
/* The invariant still holds (nail vertical, and height $\geq 0$ ), and the variant is reduced to zero (height $=0$ ). */
```



Iterative Refinement: What can go wrong?

- Setup doesn't *establish* the nail's verticality (the invariant). The very first hammer blow flattens the nail, or begins the process of bending it, even if the loop body is perfectly correct.

Iterative Refinement: What can go wrong?

- Loop body doesn't *maintain* the nail's verticality (the invariant). Eventually, the nail is flattened.

Iterative Refinement: What can go wrong?

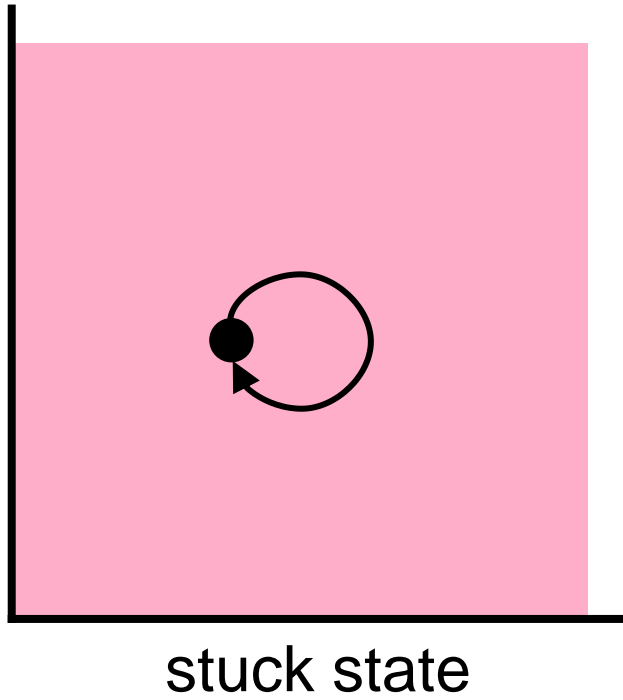
- Loop body doesn't *maintain* the nail's nonnegative height (the invariant), splits the wood, and the nail goes into the table top.

Iterative Refinement: What can go wrong?

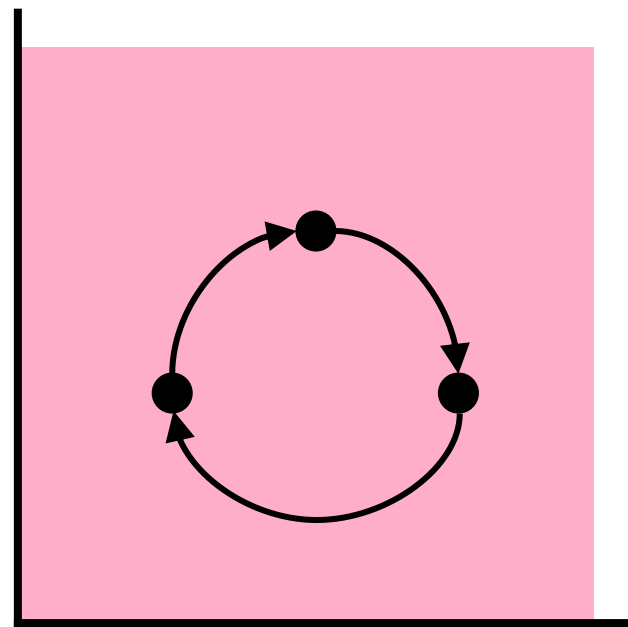
- Loop body makes *insufficient progress* (the variant). The loop runs forever and the nail never gets flush with the surface.

This can be because the height is an infinite decreasing sequence that doesn't converge to zero, or because you hit a knot, and stop advancing altogether.

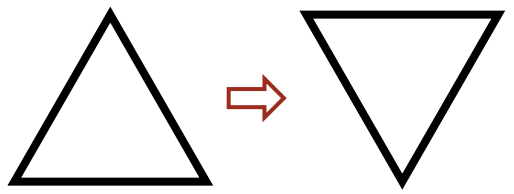
No advancement: Use a feather instead of a hammer, or at a knot.



Cyclic advancement: Movement, but destined to return to a prior state.

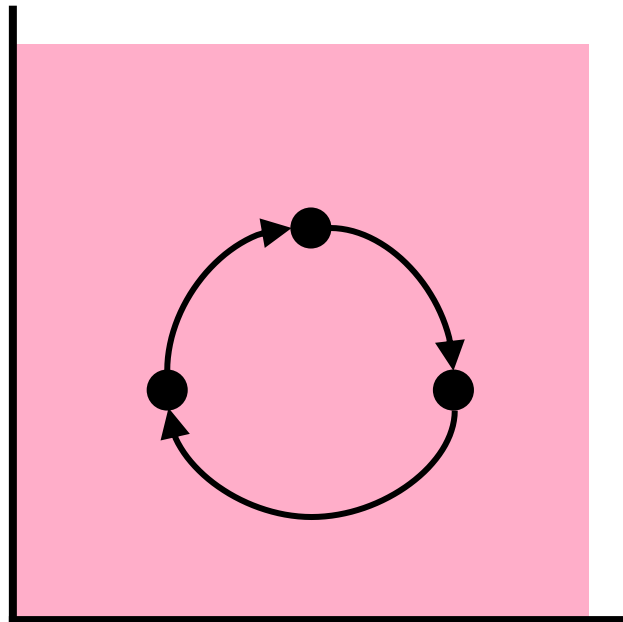


orbit of states

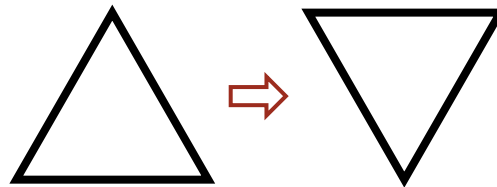


```
/* Make triangle point down. */
```

Cyclic advancement: Movement, but destined to return to a prior state.

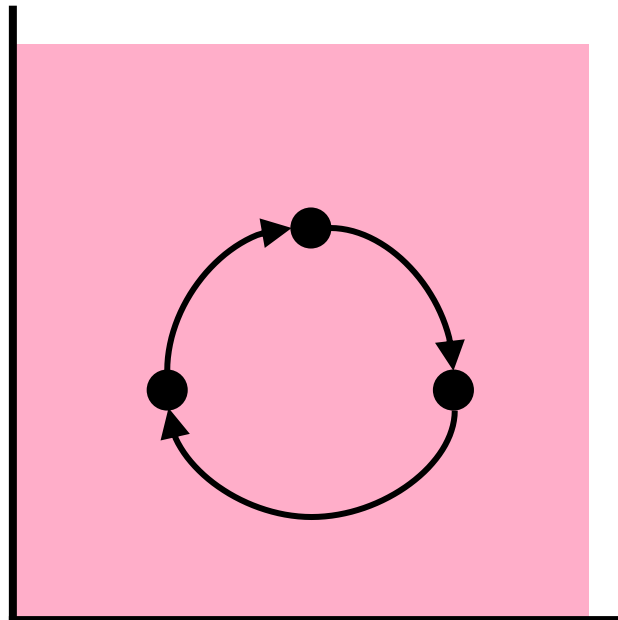


orbit of states

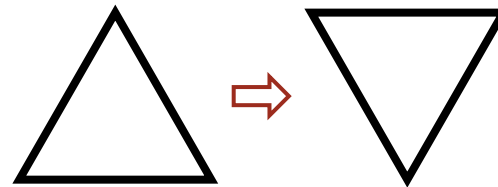


```
/* Make triangle point down. */  
/* Compute angle  $\delta$ . */  
while ( not-pointing-down )  
    /* Turn angle  $\delta$ . */
```

Cyclic advancement: Movement, but destined to return to a prior state.



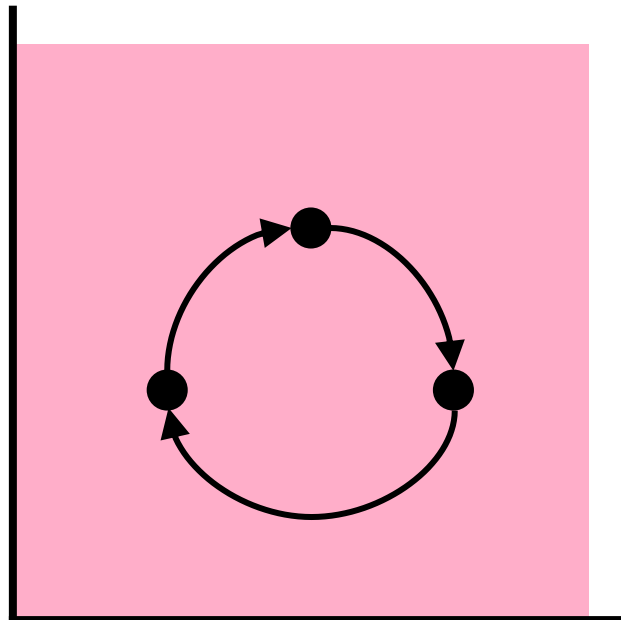
orbit of states



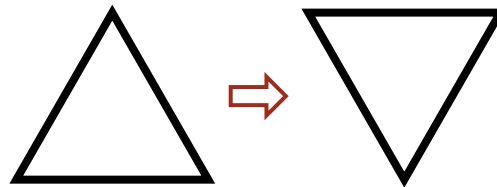
```
/* Make triangle point down. */  
/* Compute angle  $\delta$ . */  
while ( not-pointing-down )  
    /* Turn angle  $\delta$ . */
```

Runs forever if δ is 120°

Cyclic advancement: Movement, but destined to return to a prior state.



orbit of states

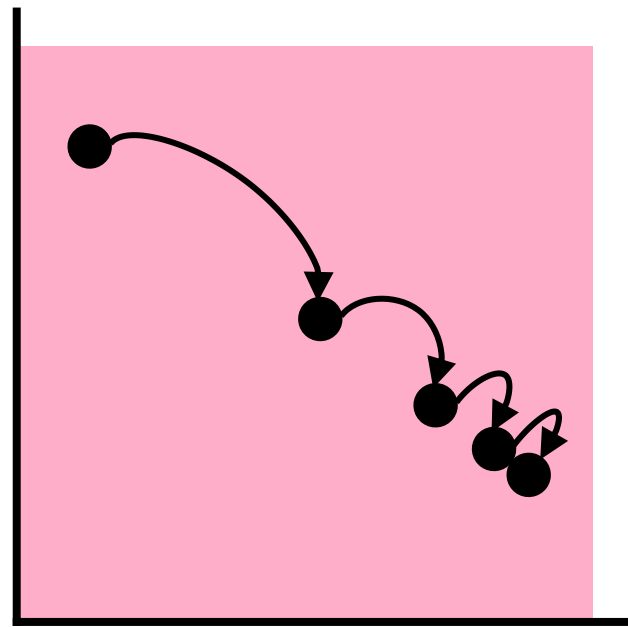


```
/* Make triangle point down. */  
/* Compute angle  $\delta$ . */  
while ( not-pointing-down )  
    /* Turn angle  $\delta$ . */
```

Runs forever if δ is 120°

(Doesn't happen in hammering a nail.)

Non-convergent advancement: Variant must be a nonnegative integer that is reduced by at least 1 on each iteration.

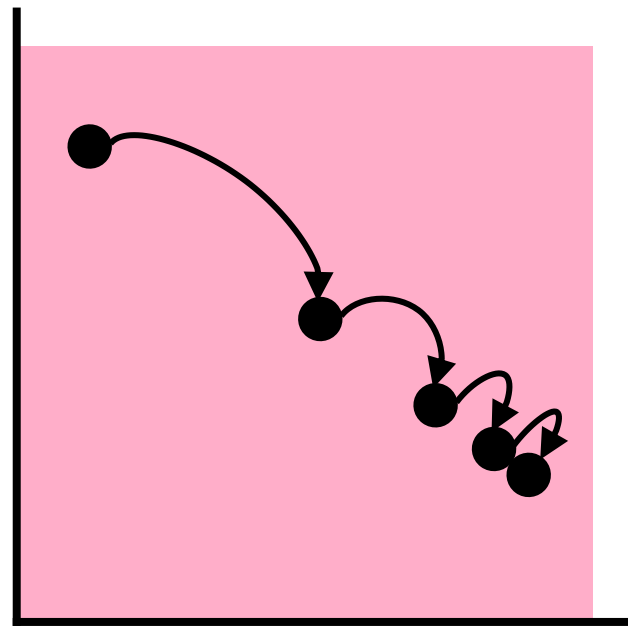


sequence of states

```
int h = 10;  
while ( h > 0 ) h = h/2;
```

terminates

Non-convergent advancement: Variant must be a nonnegative integer that is reduced by at least 1 on each iteration.

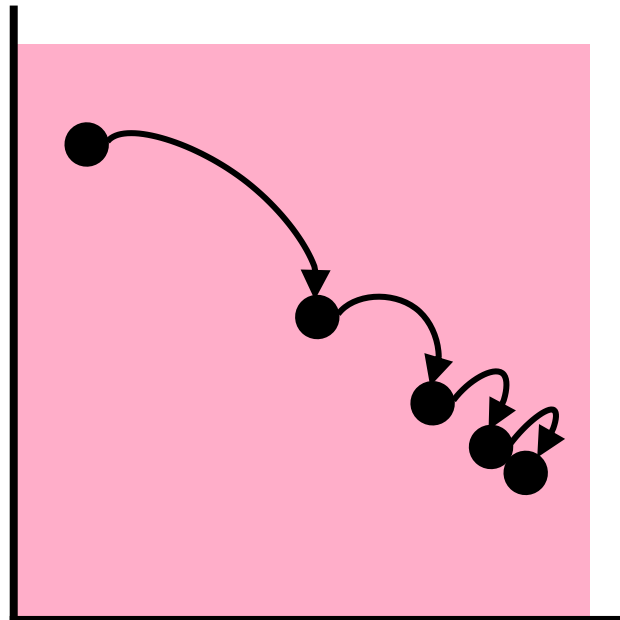


sequence of states

```
float h = 10;  
while ( h > 0 ) h = h/2;
```

terminates

Non-convergent advancement: Variant must be a nonnegative integer that is reduced by at least 1 on each iteration.



sequence of states

```
Rational h = new Rational(10);  
while ( !Rational.isZero(h) )  
    h = Rational.divide( h, new Rational(2) );
```

Runs forever (Code explained in Chapter 18.)

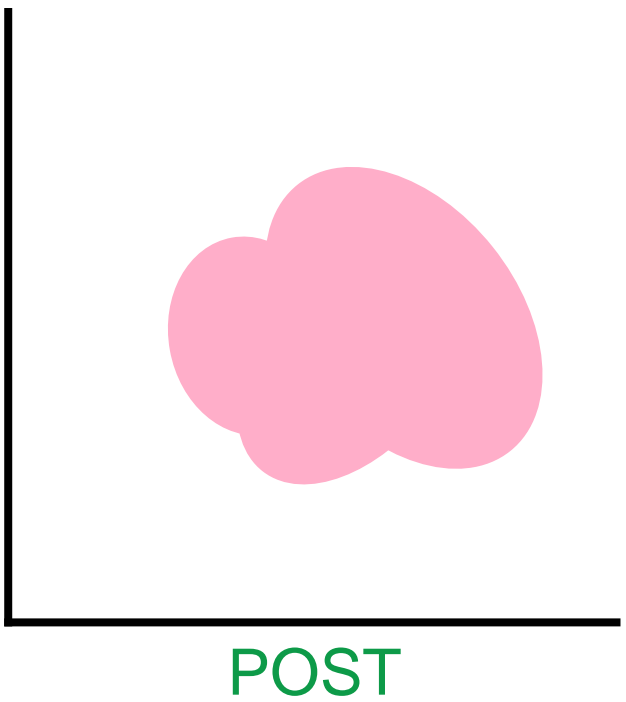
Iterative Refinement: In general

```
/* Specification P: Get from PRE to POST. */  
/* Setup: Get from PRE to INVARIANT. */  
while ( condition ) {  
    /* Get from condition & INVARIANT to INVARIANT. */  
}
```

where $\text{!condition} \ \& \ \text{INVARIANT}$ entails **POST**.

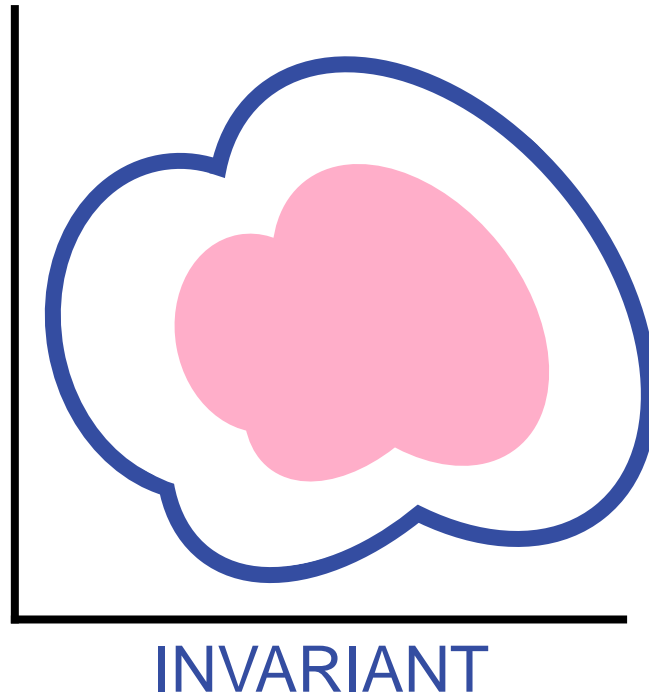
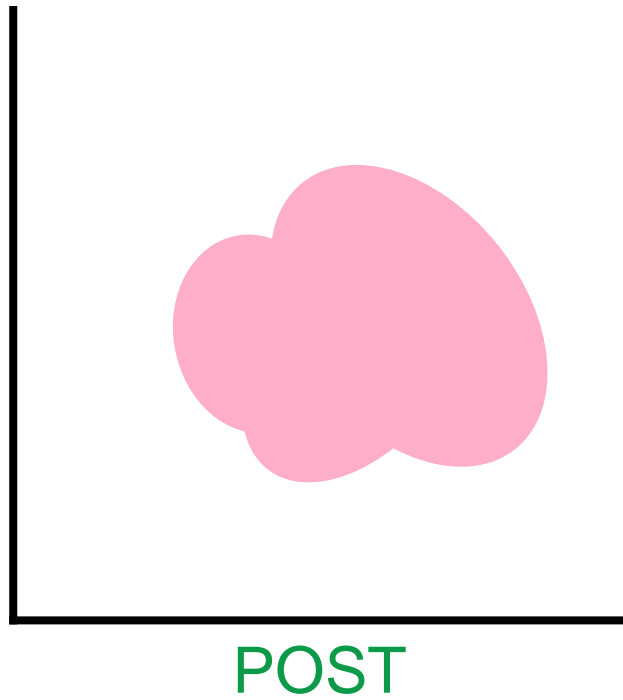
Finding Loop Invariants

Iteration: To get to **POST** iteratively



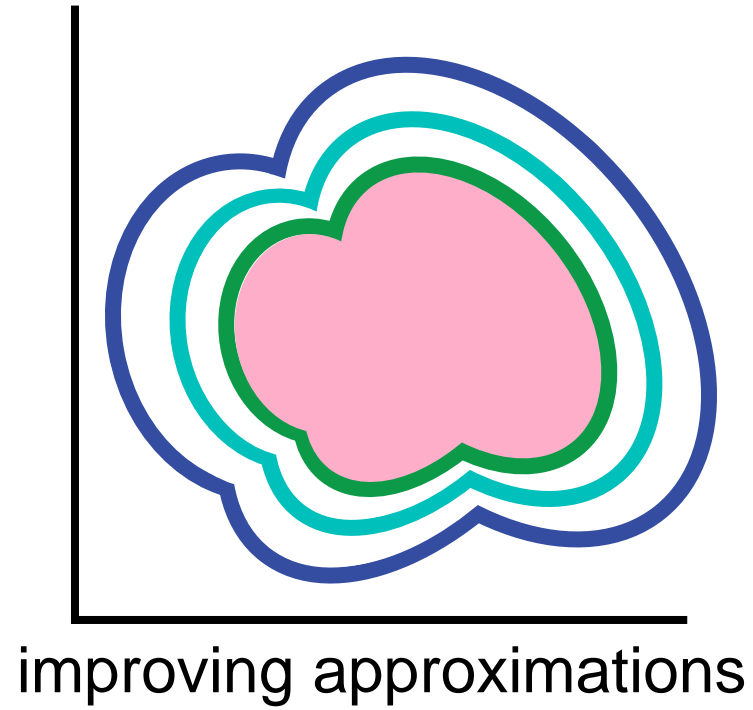
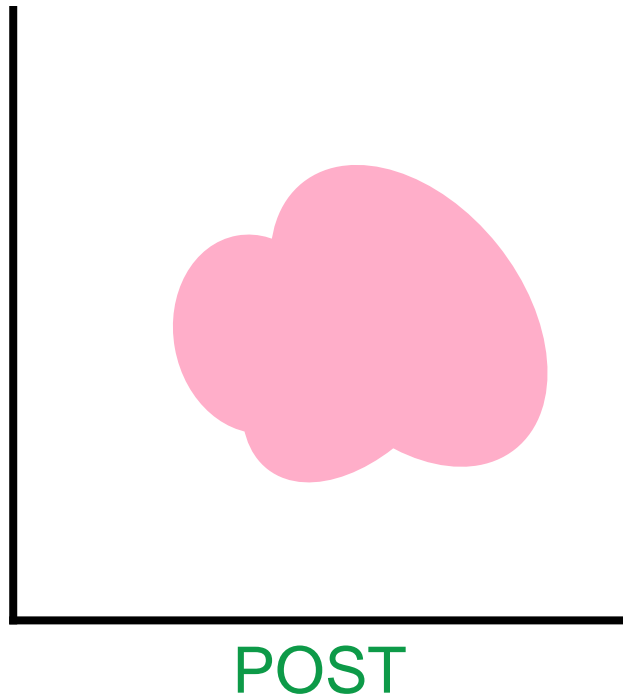
Finding Loop Invariants

Iteration: To get to **POST** iteratively, choose a **weakened POST** as **INVARIANT**



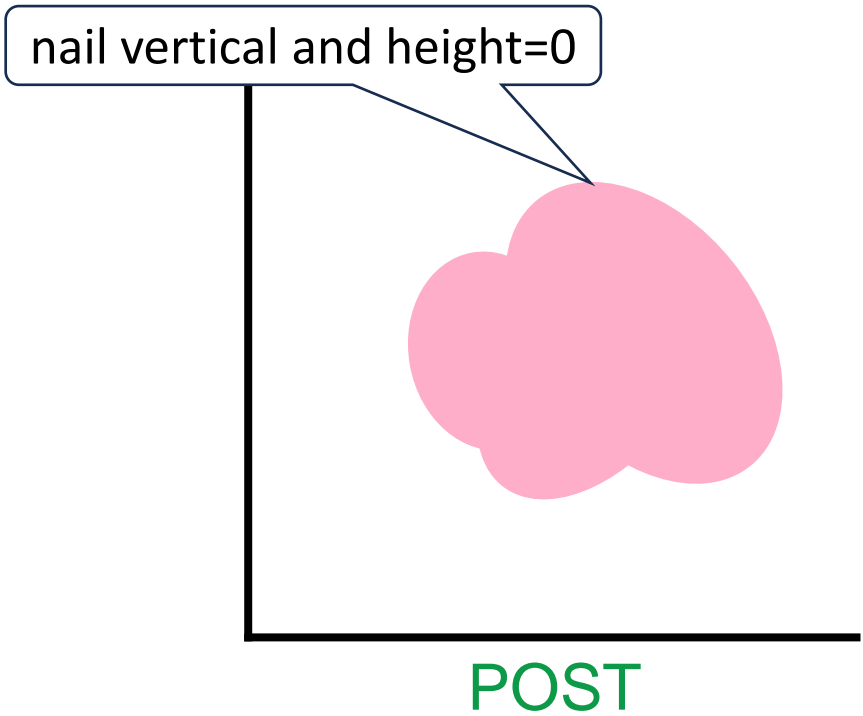
Finding Loop Invariants

Iteration: Then, iteratively change the **INVARIANT**'s parameters.



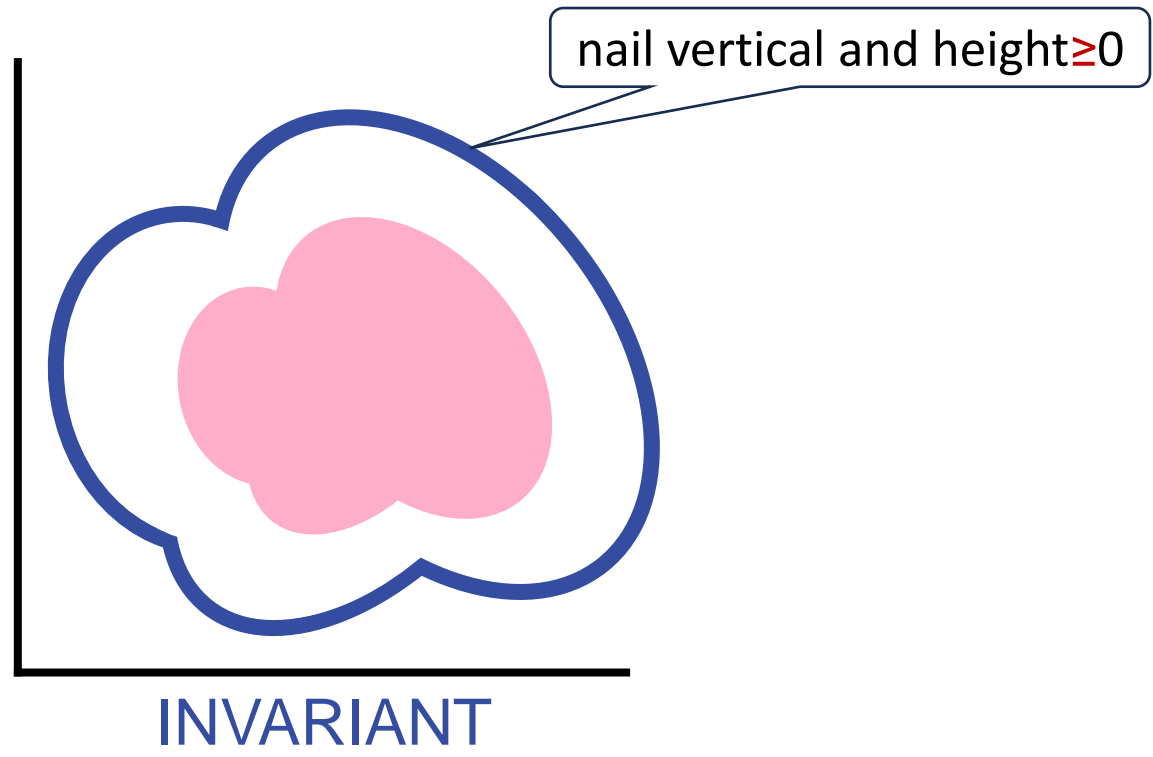
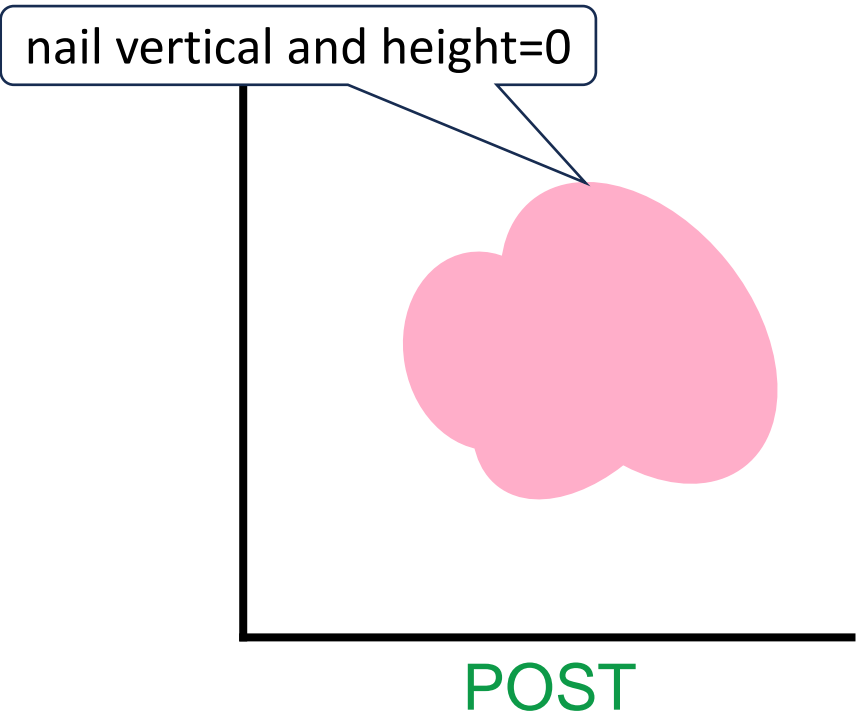
Finding Loop Invariants

Example: Hammering a nail, the goal



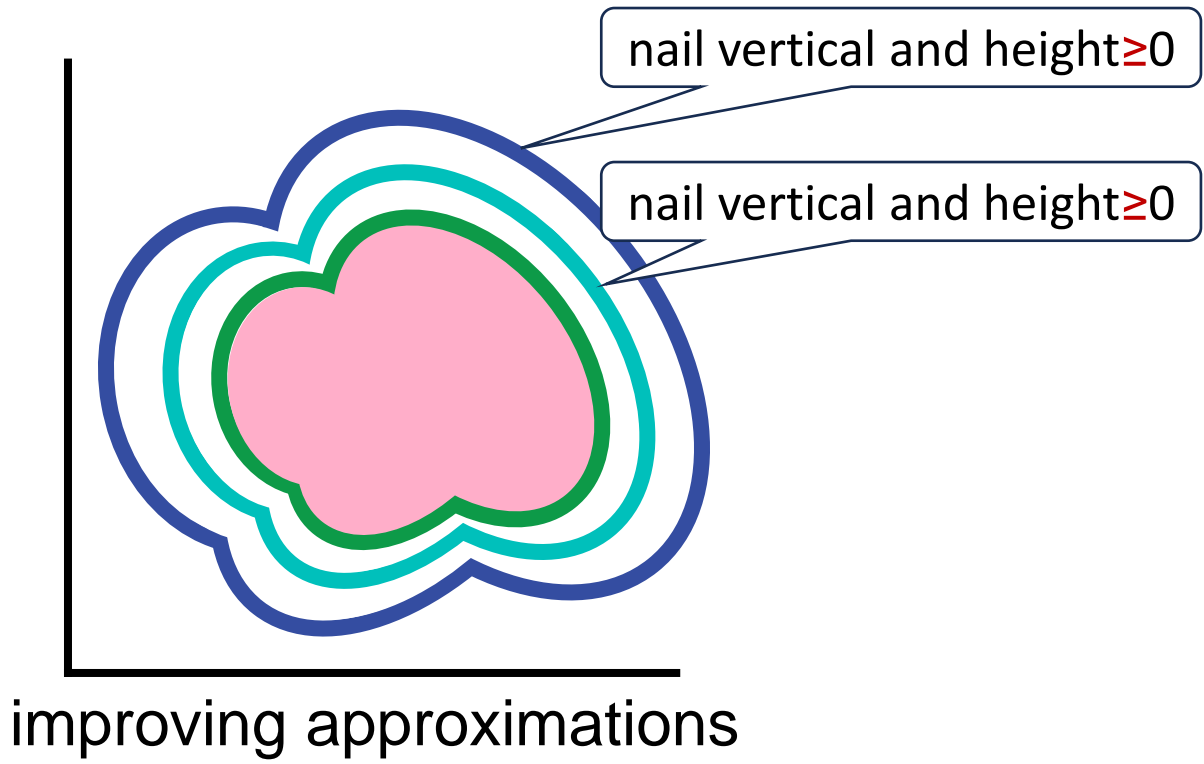
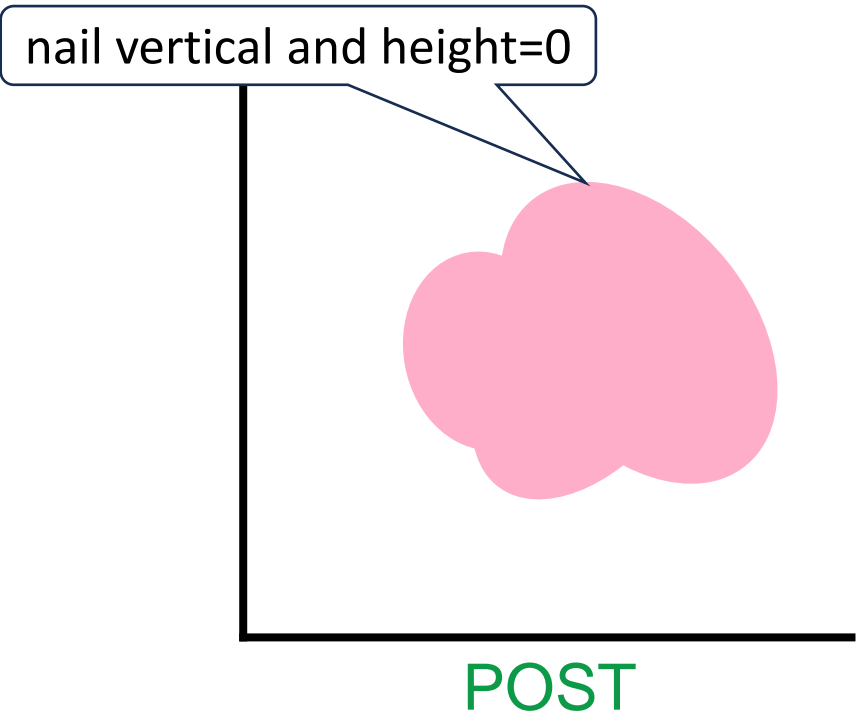
Finding Loop Invariants

Example: Hammering a nail, set up the INVARIANT



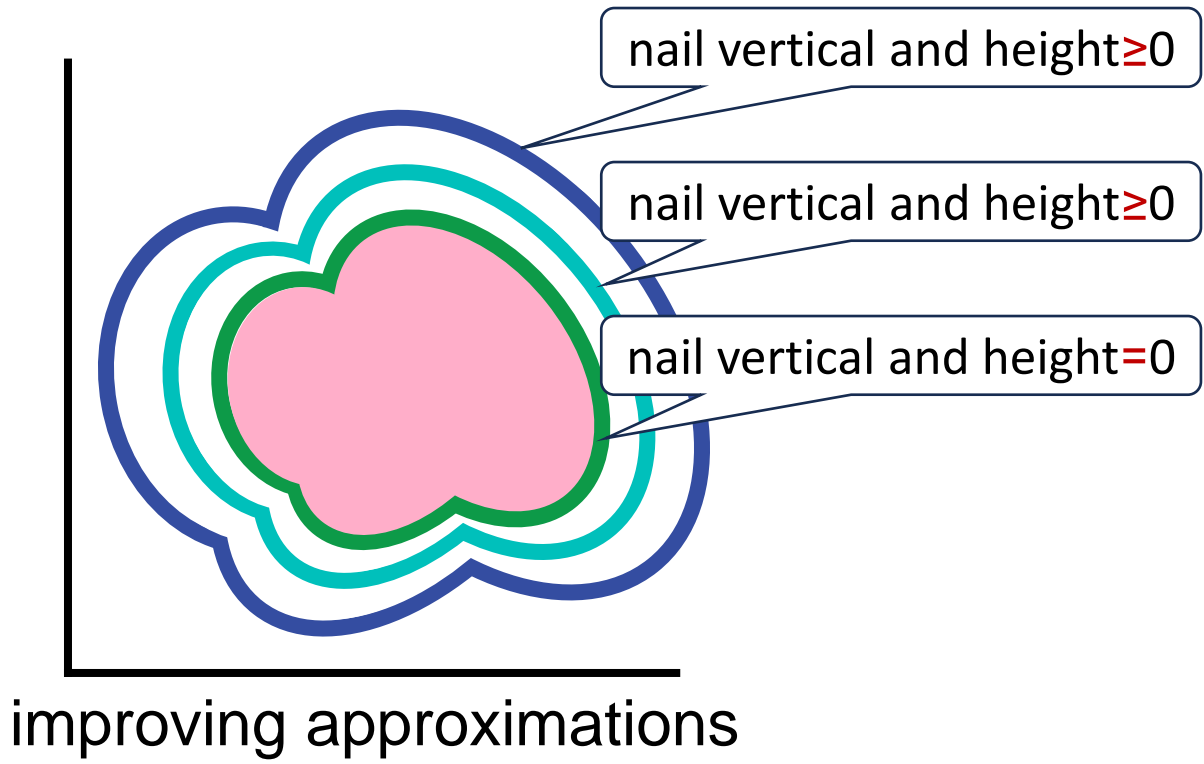
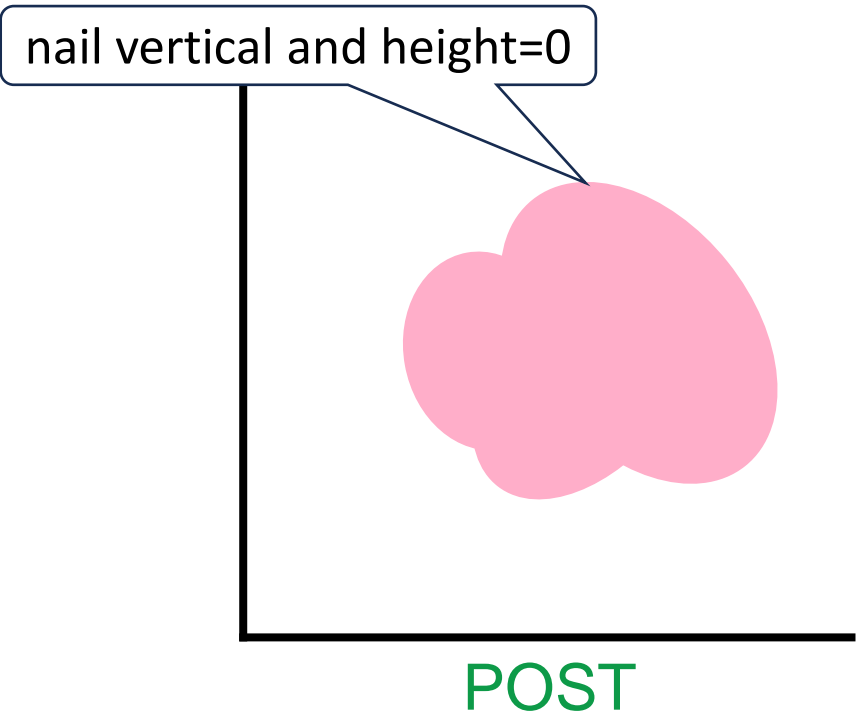
Finding Loop Invariants

Example: Hammering a nail, the process



Finding Loop Invariants

Example: Hammering a nail, the process

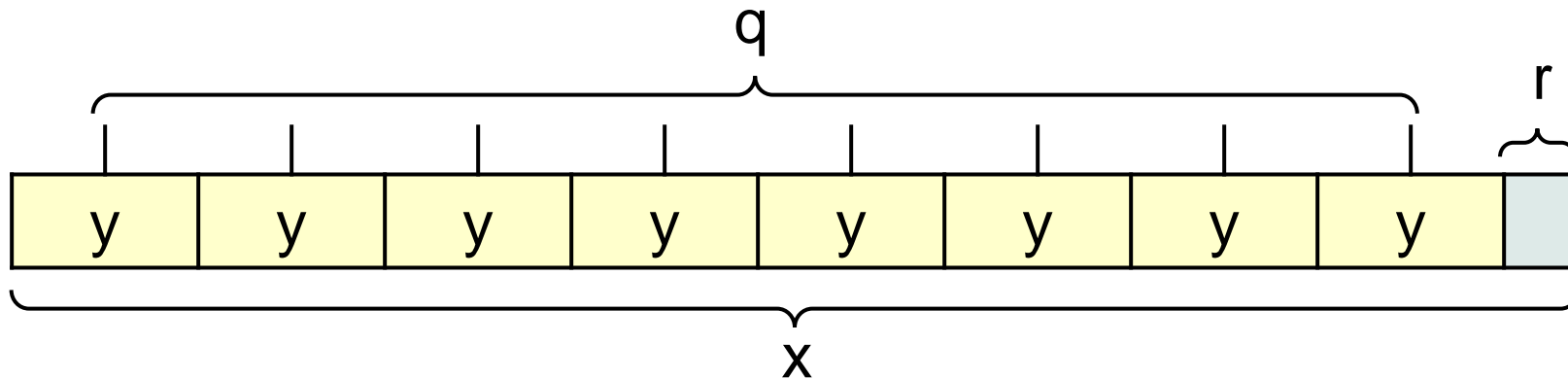


Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$

Example: Integer division. The goal.

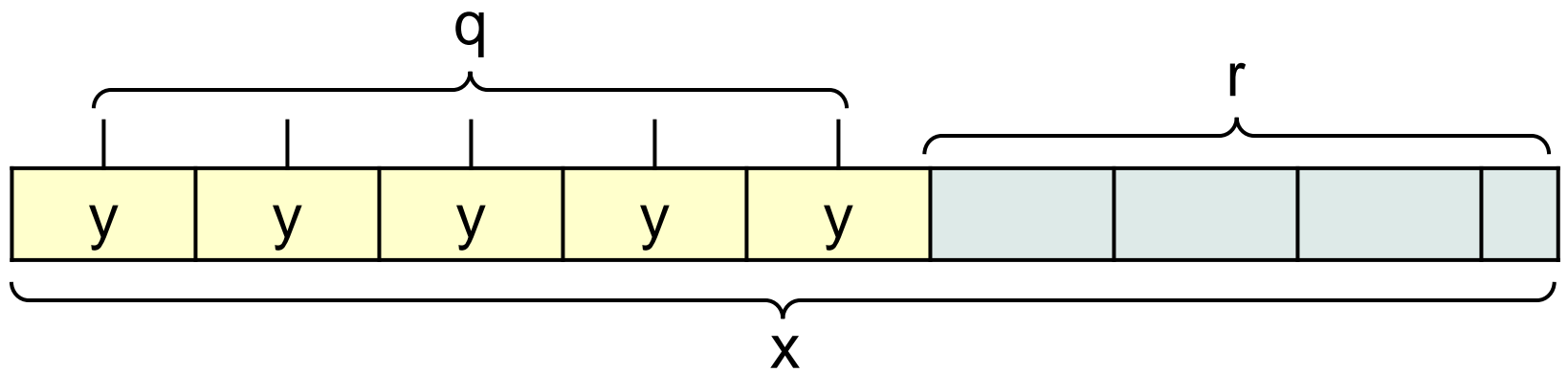
```
/* Given int x ≥ 0 and int y > 0, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
```



PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y$, and $0 \leq q$
INVARIANT:

Example: Integer division. The process: Choose the **INVARIANT** as ...

```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
```

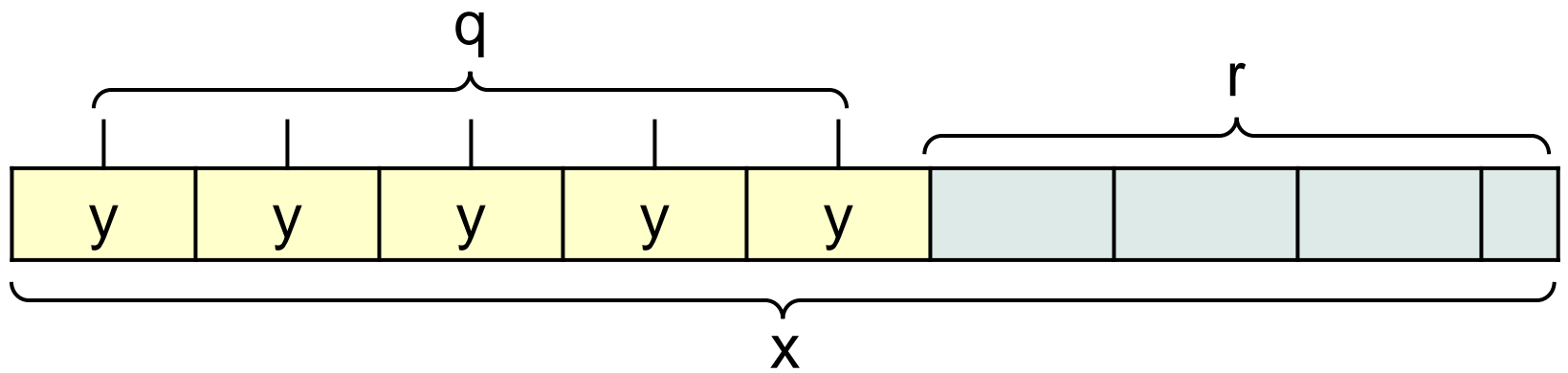


Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y$, and $0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r$, and $0 \leq q$

Example: Integer division. ... **INVARIANT** as a weakened **POST**.

```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
```

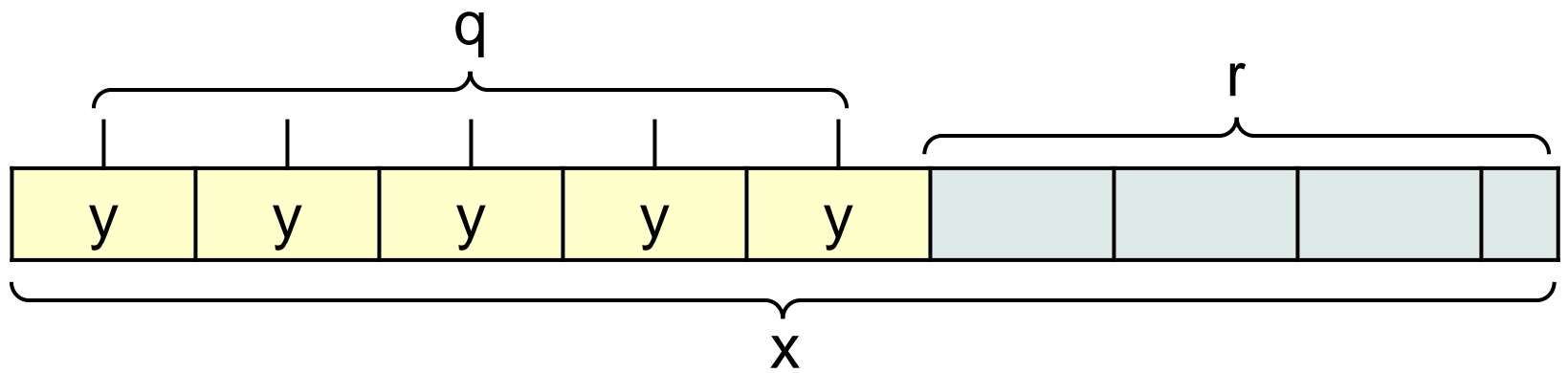


Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y$, and $0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r$, and $0 \leq q$

Example: Integer division. The process ...

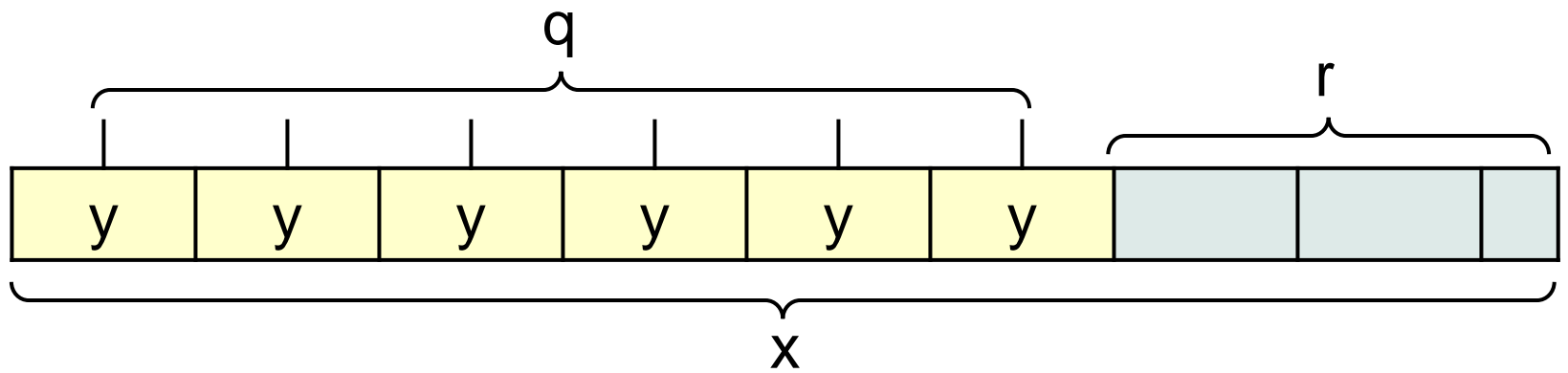
```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = __; int q = __;
while ( condition ) { _____ }
```



PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$

Example: Integer division. The process of maintaining the **INVARIANT** ...

```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = __; int q = __;
while ( condition ) { r = r - y; q++; }
```

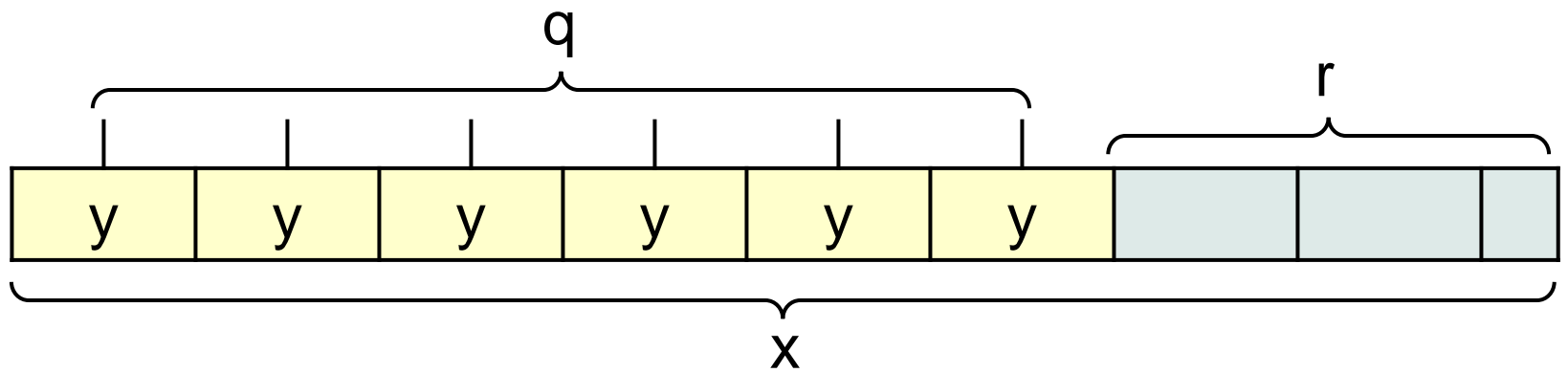


Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r$, and $0 \leq q$

Example: Integer division. ... while reducing the **VARIANT** to 0 ...

```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = ___; int q = ___;
while ( r ≥ y ) { r = r - y; q++; }
```



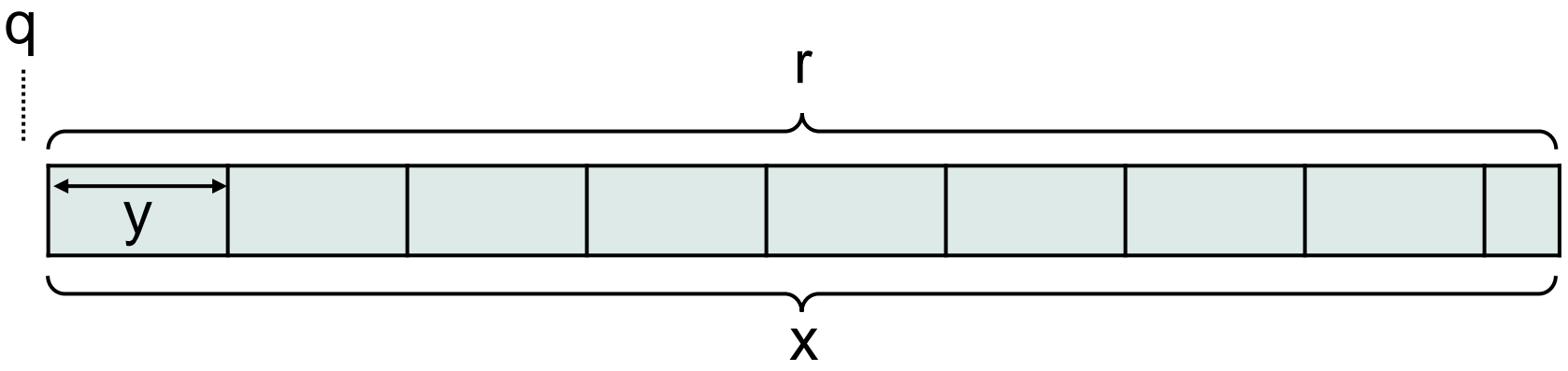
Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
VARIANT: $x - q * y$

Example: Integer division. ... after first having established the **INVARIANT**.

```

/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = x; int q = 0;
while ( r ≥ y ) { r = r - y; q++; }
    
```

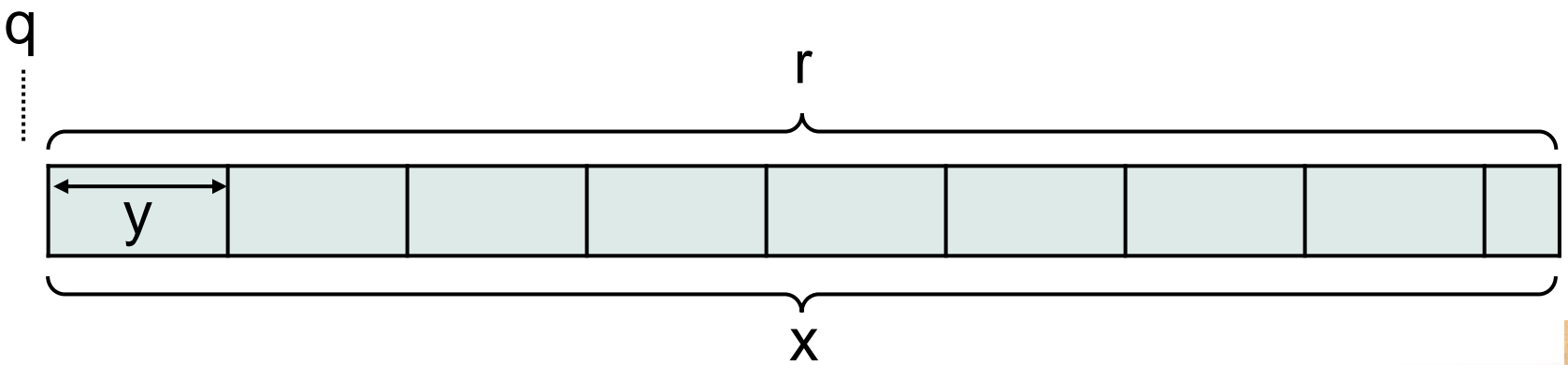


Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
VARIANT: $x - q * y$

Example: Played in execution order, with nail and wood analogy, the set up

```
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = x; int q = 0;
while ( r >= y ) { r = r - y; q++; }
```



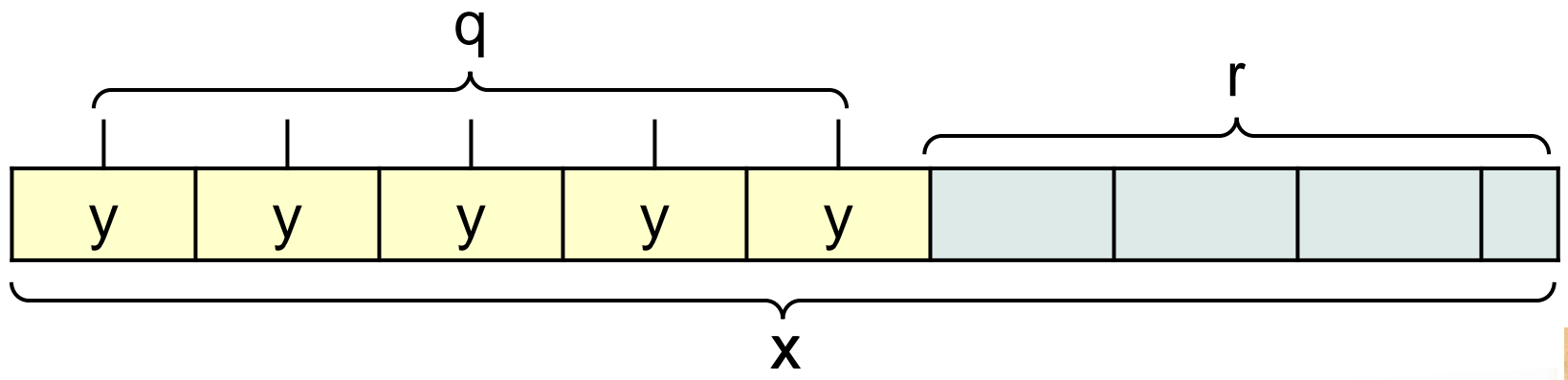
Integer Division

PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
VARIANT: $x - q * y$

Example: Played in execution order, with nail and wood analogy, the process

```

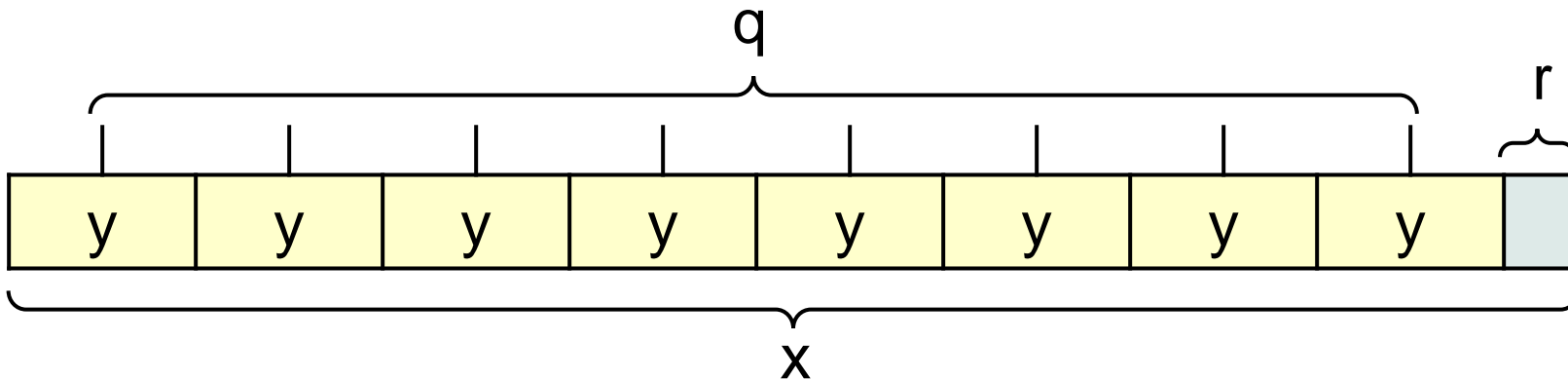
/* Given ints x and y, 0 ≤ x and 0 < y, set int q to x/y, and int r to x%y. */
int r = x; int q = 0;
while ( r >= y ) { r = r - y; q++; }
    
```



PRE: $0 \leq x, 0 < y$
POST: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r < y, \text{ and } 0 \leq q$
INVARIANT: $x = q * y + r, 0 \leq r$, and $0 \leq q$
VARIANT: $x - q * y$

Example: Played in execution order, with nail and wood analogy, **termination**

```
/* Given ints x and y,  $0 \leq x$  and  $0 < y$ , set int q to  $x/y$ , and int r to  $x \% y$ . */
int r = x; int q = 0;
while ( r >= y ) { r = r - y; q++; }
```



Example: Euclid's Algorithm, the goal

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */  
static int gcd(int x, int y) {  
    _____  
    return ____;  
}
```

Let X and Y be positive integers, GCD be the mathematical greatest-common-divisor function, and $GCD(X, Y) = d$. When invoked on argument expressions with values X and Y , the Java function `gcd` is required to return d .

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, the **INVARIANT**

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */  
static int gcd(int x, int y) {  
    while ( condition )  
        _____  
    return ____;  
}
```

We plan to update x or y on each iteration while maintaining the **INVARIANT**

$$x > 0 \text{ and } y > 0 \text{ and } \mathit{GCD}(x, y) = d$$

which holds initially because invocation of gcd with argument values X and Y initializes parameters x and y to X and Y , respectively.

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, the **VARIANT**

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */
static int gcd(int x, int y) {
    while (  $x \neq y$  )
        _____
    return  $x$ ;
}
```

To assure termination, we will reduce the non-negative **VARIANT** expression $x+y$ by at least 1 on each iteration. You can only do that a finite number of times (while guaranteeing that $x+y$ remains positive) before $x+y$ stops changing. When it does, we must show that $x=y$. (It remains until after knowing how x and y are updated to show that $x+y$ is reduced by 1 on each iteration.)

The **return** statement implements the observation that the *gcd* of any number and itself is that number.

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, **Case Analysis**

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */  
static int gcd(int x, int y) {  
    while (  $x \neq y$  )  
        if ( _____ ) _____  
        else _____  
    return x;  
}
```

There are only two cases: either $x > y$ or $x < y$ (the third possibility of $x = y$ having been ruled out by the loop termination condition).

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, Case Analysis, $x > y$

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */
static int gcd(int x, int y) {
    while (  $x \neq y$  )
        if (  $x > y$  ) _____
        else _____
    return  $x$ ;
}
```

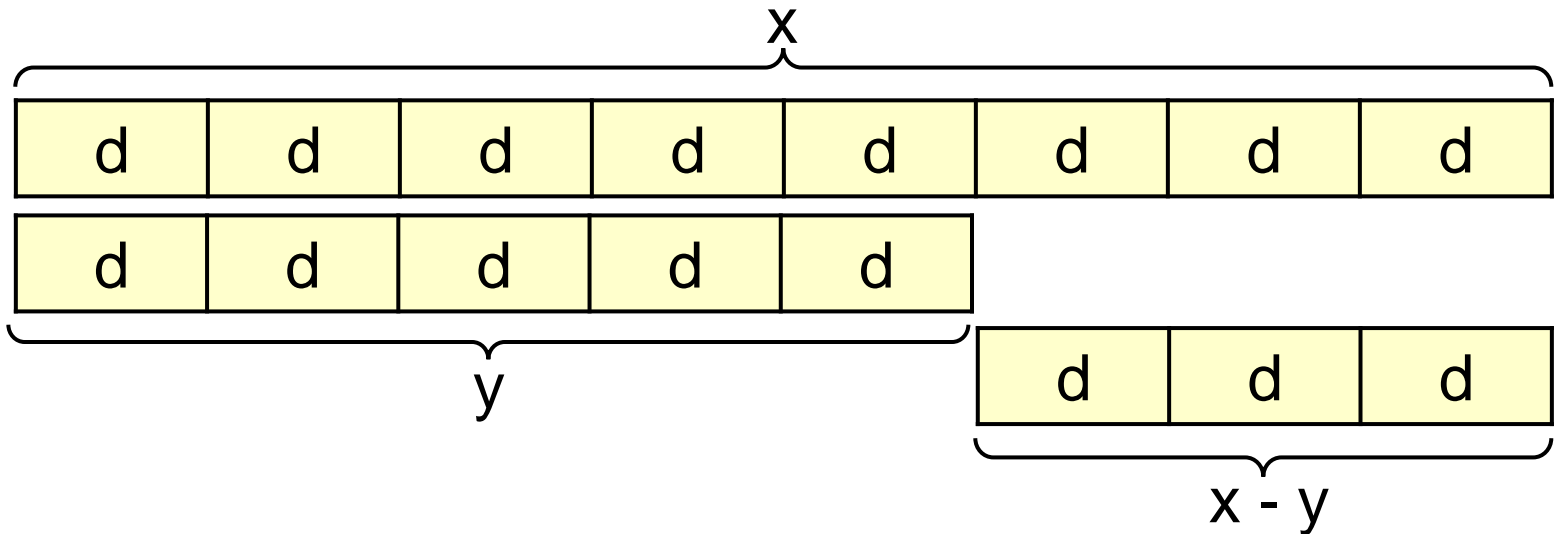
First case: $x > y$. Observe by diagrammatic reasoning (next slide), that x can be replaced by $x - y$ while maintaining the **INVARIANT**, i.e., designating the new value of x by x' , then

$$x' > 0 \text{ and } y > 0 \text{ and } \text{GCD}(x', y) = d$$

That $x' > 0$ follows from $x > y$.

Euclid's Algorithm

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, Case Analysis, $x > y$



if x and y have a common divisor d

then y and $x-y$ have a common divisor of d .

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, Case Analysis, $x > y$

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */
static int gcd(int x, int y) {
    while (  $x \neq y$  )
        if (  $x > y$  )  $x = x - y$ ;
        else _____
    return x;
}
```

First case: $x > y$. Observe by diagrammatic reasoning (next slide), that x can be replaced by $x - y$ while maintaining the **INVARIANT**, i.e., designating the new value of x by x' , then

$$x' > 0 \text{ and } y > 0 \text{ and } \text{GCD}(x', y) = d$$

That $x' > 0$ follows from $x > y$. **This has been done, above.**

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, Case Analysis, $x < y$, by **symmetry**

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */
static int gcd(int x, int y) {
    while ( x != y )
        if ( x > y ) x = x - y;
        else y = y - x;
    return x;
}
```

Second case: $x < y$. Follows by the symmetric argument.

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, correctness

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */  
static int gcd(int x, int y) {  
    while ( x != y )  
        if ( x > y ) x = x - y;  
        else y = y - x;  
    return x;  
}
```

If the loop stops, the **INVARIANT** and negation of the condition imply that the value returned is correct, i.e.,

$x > 0$ and $y > 0$ and $GCD(x, y) = d$ and $x = y$ implies $x = d$.

This is called *partial correctness*.

Example: Euclid's Algorithm, **termination**

```
/* Given  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , return the greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$ . */
static int gcd(int x, int y) {
    while ( x!=y )
        if ( x>y ) x = x-y;
        else y = y-x;
    return x;
}
```

Why does $x+y$ stop changing, with $x=y$, and therefore the iteration stops?

Because one of x or y is reduced by at least 1 on each iteration, and if x is not equal to y , then in the next iteration $x+y$ can be further reduced.

Partial correctness plus guaranteed termination is called *total correctness*.

Termination: Can be nontrivial, i.e., hard, unknown, or even unknowable

Termination: Are the following two code segments equivalent?

```
/* Given input  $n > 0$ , output “done”. */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
System.out.println( "done" );
```

```
/* Given input  $n > 0$ , output “done”. */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
while ( n != 1 )  
    if ( (n%2)==0 ) n = n/2;  
    else n = 3*n+1;  
System.out.println( "done" );
```

Answer turns on whether the loop terminates for every input.

Termination: Are the following two code segments equivalent?

```
/* Given input n>0, output "done". */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
System.out.println( "done" );
```

```
/* Given input n>0, output "done". */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
while ( n!=1 )  
    if ( (n%2)==0 ) n = n/2;  
    else n = 3*n+1;  
System.out.println( "done" );
```

Sample input 3:

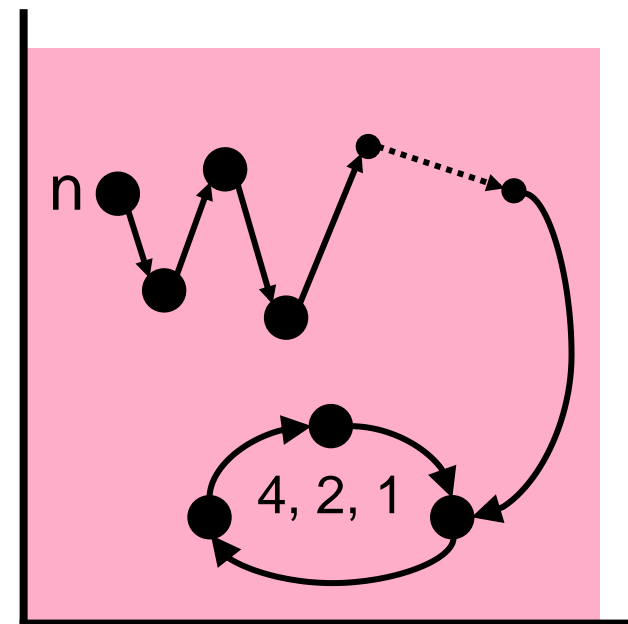
3 → 10 → 5 → 16 → 8 → 4 → 2 → 1

Collatz Conjecture

Termination: Are the following two code segments equivalent?

```
/* Given input  $n > 0$ , output "done". */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
System.out.println( "done" );
```

```
/* Given input  $n > 0$ , output "done". */  
int n = in.nextInt();  
while ( n != 1 )  
    if ( (n%2)==0 ) n = n/2;  
    else n = 3*n+1;  
System.out.println( "done" );
```



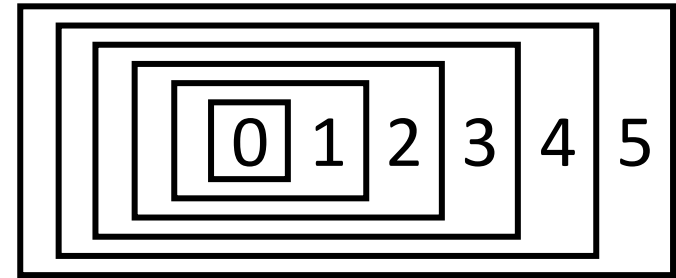
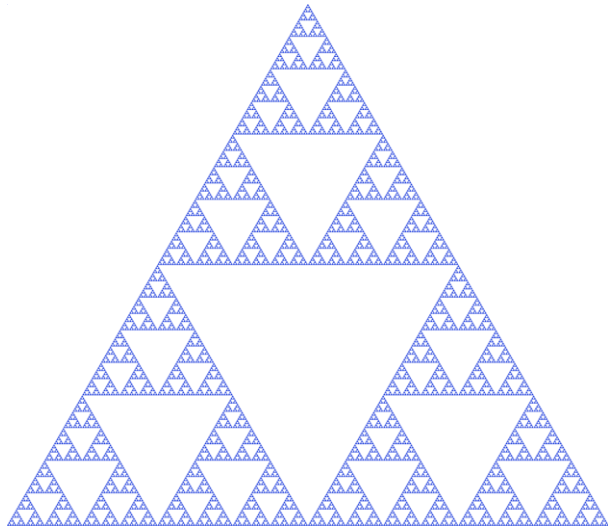
Collatz Conjecture

That every such sequence reaches 1 is an open problem in mathematics.

Recursive Refinement: Implement specification P by using the very refinement being defined to solve self-similar subproblems.

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
if ( base case ) /*  $P_\theta$ . */  
else  
    /* Identify smaller instance(s) of  $P$  within  $P$  itself, apply this  
       approach to each such instance, and combine the results. */
```

Self-similarity: Same or similar structure at every scale



Recursive Refinement: Implement specification P by using the very refinement being defined to solve self-similar subproblems.

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
if ( base case ) /*  $P_\theta$ . */  
else  
    /* Identify smaller instance(s) of  $P$  within  $P$  itself, apply this  
       approach to each such instance, and combine the results. */
```

To use the refinement within both the specification and in the refinement itself, define it separately as a procedure, and invoke it by name.

Recursive Refinement: Implement specification P by using the very refinement being defined to solve self-similar subproblems.

```
/* Specification  $P$ . */  
   $P( arguments )$ 
```

and elsewhere define:

```
  static type  $P( parameters )$  {  
    if ( base case ) /*  $P_0$ . */  
    else  
      /* Identify smaller instance(s) of  $P$  within  $P$  itself, invoke  
         $P( arguments )$  on each such instance, and combine the results. */  
  }
```

To use the refinement within both the specification and in the refinement itself, define it separately as a procedure, and invoke it by name.

Example: 5 4 3 2 1 BLASTOFF

```
/* Count down from 5, and say "BLASTOFF" at 0. */  
    countdown(5);
```

and elsewhere define:

```
/* Count down from n, and say "BLASTOFF" at zero. */  
static void countdown(int n) {  
    if ( n==0 ) System.out.println( "BLASTOFF" );  
    else {  
        System.out.println( n );  
        countdown(n-1);  
    }  
}
```


A second example: $(\dots(((0+1)+2)+3)+\dots+100)$

```
/* Output the sum of 1 through 100. */  
System.out.println( sum(100) );
```

and elsewhere define:

```
/* Return the sum of 0 through n. */  
static int sum(int n) {  
    if ( n==0 ) return 0;  
    else return sum(n-1)+n;  
}
```

A third example: (1+(2+(3+...+(100+0)...)))

```
/* Output the sum of 1 through 100. */  
    System.out.println( sum(100) );
```

and elsewhere define:

```
/* Return the sum of 0 through n. */  
static int sum(int n) { return sumAux(n,0); }
```

```
/* Return the sum of 0 through n, and acc. */  
static int sumAux(int n, int acc) {  
    if ( n==0 ) return acc;  
    else return sumAux(n-1, n+acc);  
}
```

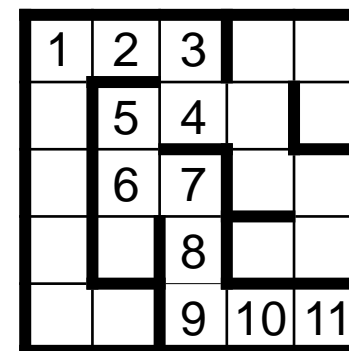
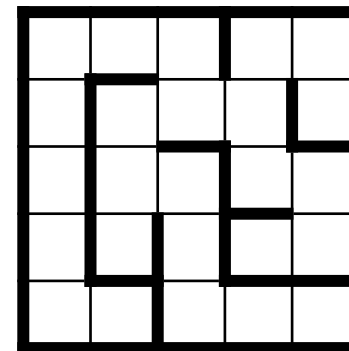
Library of Patterns: Implement specification P by using a previously used and analyzed parameterized composition of constructs.

Build your personal library over your lifetime.

Extended Example: Running a Maze

Background. Define a maze to be a square two-dimensional grid of cells separated (or not) from adjacent cells by walls. One can move between adjacent cells if and only if no wall divides them. A solid wall surrounds the entire grid of cells, so there is no escape from the maze.

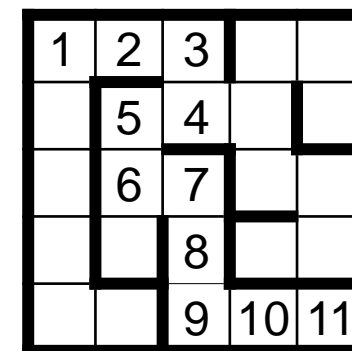
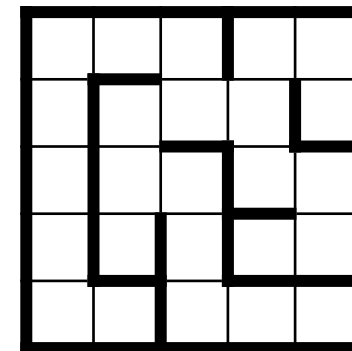
Problem Statement. Write a program that inputs a maze, and outputs a direct path from the upper-left cell to the lower-right cell if such a path exists, or outputs “Unreachable” otherwise. A path is direct if it never visits any cell more than once.



Extended Example: Running a Maze

Background. Define a maze to be a square two-dimensional grid of cells separated (or not) from adjacent cells by walls. One can move between adjacent cells if and only if no wall divides them. A solid wall surrounds the entire grid of cells, so there is no escape from the maze.

Problem Statement. Write a program that inputs a maze, and outputs a direct path from the upper-left cell to the lower-right cell if such a path exists, or outputs “Unreachable” otherwise. A path is direct if it never visits any cell more than once.



👉 **Use Stepwise Refinement. Write simple code immediately, otherwise refine the problem statement using: (a) Sequential Refinement, (b) Case Analysis, (c) Iterative Refinement, (d) a known pattern.**

Specify the goal

```
/* Find path in maze from upper-left to lower-right, if one exists. */
```

Refine with an architecture

```
/* Find path in maze from upper-left to lower-right, if one exists. */  
  /* Input. */  
  /* Compute. */  
  /* Output.*/
```

 Master stylized code patterns, and use them.

Refine with an architecture **and elaborate**

```
/* Find path in maze from upper-left to lower-right, if one exists. */  
/* Input a maze of arbitrary size, or output “malformed input” and  
   stop if the input is improper. Input format: TBD. */  
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */  
/* Output the direct path found, or “unreachable” if there is none.  
   Output format: TBD. */
```



Master stylized code patterns, and use them.

Ignore Input and Output, and focus on essence

```
/* Find path in maze from upper-left to lower-right, if one exists. */  
/* Input a maze of arbitrary size, or output "malformed input" and  
   stop if the input is improper. Input format: TBD. */  
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */  
/* Output the direct path found, or "unreachable" if there is none.  
   Output format: TBD. */
```

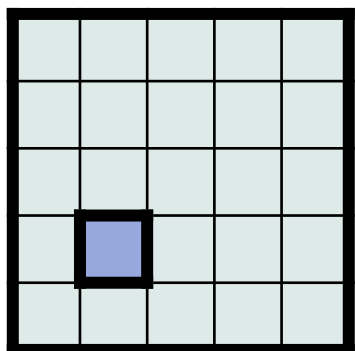
Ignore Input and Output, and focus on essence

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

Investigate:

-
- 👉 **Analyze first.**
 - 👉 **Confirm your understanding of a programming problem with concrete examples. Elaborate the expected input/output mapping explicitly.**
 - 👉 **There is no shame in reasoning with concrete examples.**
 - 👉 **Simple examples may be as good (or better) than complicated ones for guiding you toward a solution.**
 - 👉 **Seek algorithmic inspiration from experience. Hand-simulate an algorithm that is in your “wetware”. Be introspective. Ask yourself: What am I doing?**
-

Investigate:



Example 1

Begin with a (near) empty maze

Investigate:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 7 |
| | | | | 8 |
| | | | | 9 |

Example 1

Traverse clockwise along the perimeter

Investigate:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 7 |
| | | | | 8 |
| | | | | 9 |

Example 1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 2

Interpose a protruding wall. Continue excursion along it, pirouette to its other size, and continue.

Investigate:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 7 |
| | | | | 8 |
| | | | | 9 |

Example 1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 2

| | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | | |
| | | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 3

Interpose a second protruding wall. Continue excursion along it (effectively backing out of a cul-de-sac), and continue.

Investigate:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 7 |
| | | | | 8 |
| | | | | 9 |

Example 1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 2

| | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | | |
| | | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 3

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Example 4

Interpose a third protruding wall. Continue excursion along it (effectively backing out of a room-sized cul-de-sac), and continue.

Investigate:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 7 |
| | | | | 8 |
| | | | | 9 |

Example 1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 2

| | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| | | 9 | | |
| | | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | 13 |

Example 3

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Example 4

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

Example 5

Block access to lower-right cell. Continue excursion along bottom and left perimeter, and then stop in upper-left cell.

Return to code

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

Return to code, **and simplify**

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

 **Never be (very) lost. Don't stray far from a correct (albeit, partial) program.**

Iterative Refinement:

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

```
while ( _____ ) _____  
_____
```

 If you “smell a loop”, write it down.

Iterative Refinement:

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */  
  _____3_____  
while ( _____2_____ ) _____1_____  
  _____4_____
```

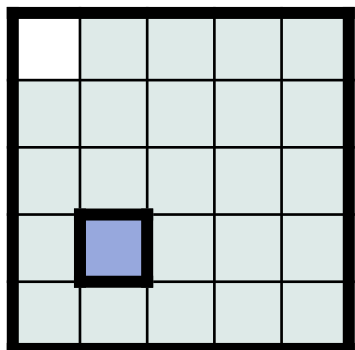
☞ Code iterations in the following order: (1) body, (2) termination, (3) initialization, (4) finalization, (5) boundary conditions.

The loop body

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */  
  _____3_____  
while ( _____2_____ ) _____1_____  
  _____4_____
```

 **Body. Do 1st.**

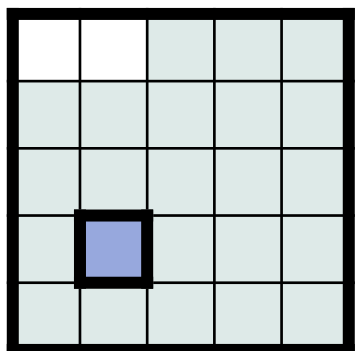
Pick an example, and imagine running the program for a while



Example 1

👉 **Body. Do 1st. Play “musical chairs”**

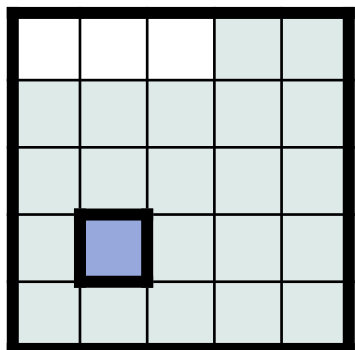
Pick an example, and imagine running the program for a while



Example 1

👉 **Body. Do 1st. Play “musical chairs”**

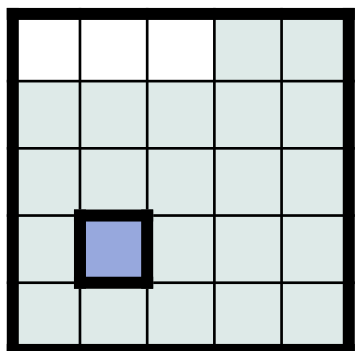
Pick an example, and imagine running the program for a while



Example 1

👉 **Body. Do 1st. Play “musical chairs”**

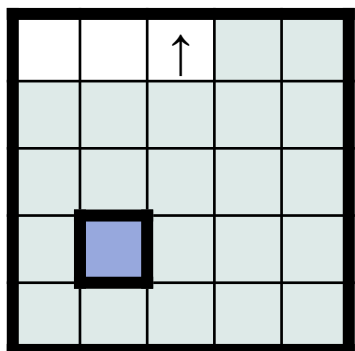
Stop at an arbitrary moment



Example 1

👉 **Body. Do 1st. Play “musical chairs” and “stop the music”.**

Characterize the state

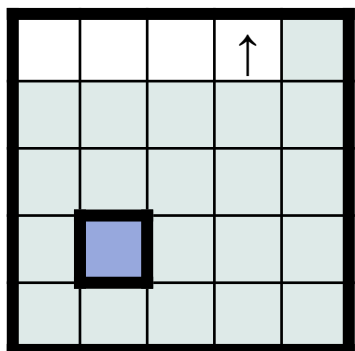


Facing a wall

Example 1

-
- 👉 **Body. Do 1st. Play “musical chairs” and “stop the music”. Characterize the “program state” when the music stops, i.e., at the instant the loop-body is about to execute yet again.**
-

Characterize the state, **and the state transition**

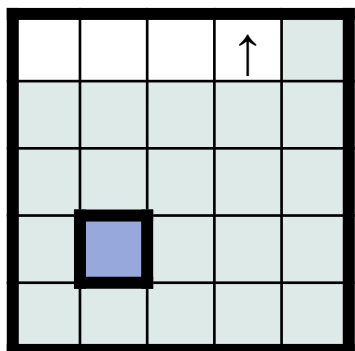


Example 1

INVARIANT: Hand on wall

-
- ☞ **Body.** Do 1st. Play “musical chairs” and “stop the music”. Characterize the “program state” when the music stops, i.e., at the instant the loop-body is about to execute yet again. **If you had stopped one iteration later, what would have looked the same (the “loop invariant”), and what would have changed (the “loop variant”)?**
-

Characterize the state, **and the state transition**



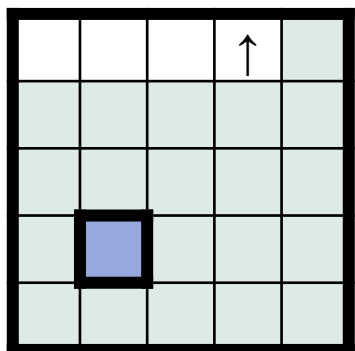
Example 1

INVARIANT: Hand on wall

VARIANT: Distance to goal

-
- ☞ **Body.** Do 1st. Play “musical chairs” and “stop the music”. Characterize the “program state” when the music stops, i.e., at the instant the loop-body is about to execute yet again. If you had stopped one iteration later, what would have looked the same (the “loop invariant”), **and what would have changed (the “loop variant”)?**
-

Characterize the state, **and the state transition**



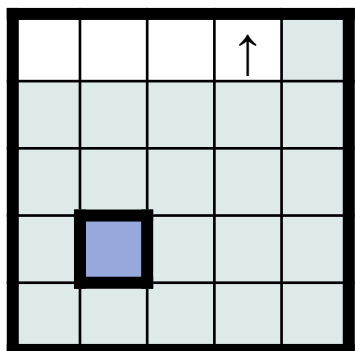
Example 1

INVARIANT: Hand on wall

VARIANT: Distance to goal

👉 A Case Analysis in the loop body is often needed for characterizing different ways in which to **decrease the loop variant** while **maintaining the loop invariant**.

Characterize the state, **and the state transition**



Example 1

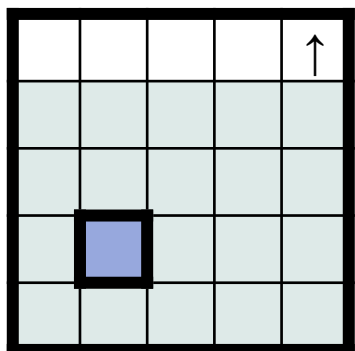
INVARIANT: Hand on wall

VARIANT: Distance to goal

Transition rule



Resume playing musical chairs, applying the transition rule



Example 1

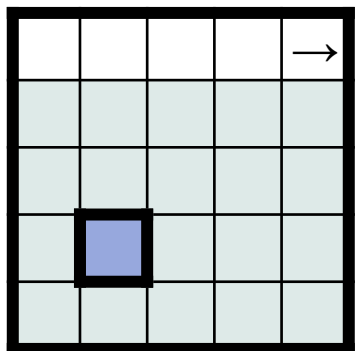
INVARIANT: Hand on wall

VARIANT: Distance to goal

Transition rule



Introduce a new transition rule when needed



Example 1

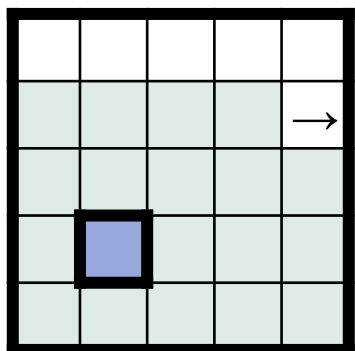
INVARIANT: Hand on wall

VARIANT: Distance to goal

Transition rules



and resume playing musical chairs

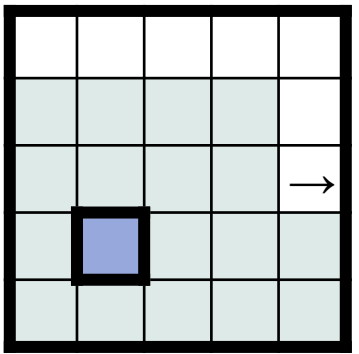


Example 1

Transition rules

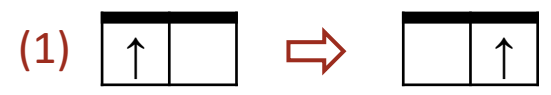


and resume playing musical chairs

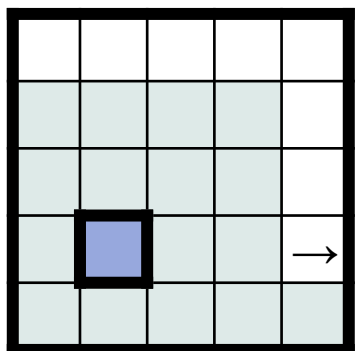


Example 1

Transition rules



and resume playing musical chairs

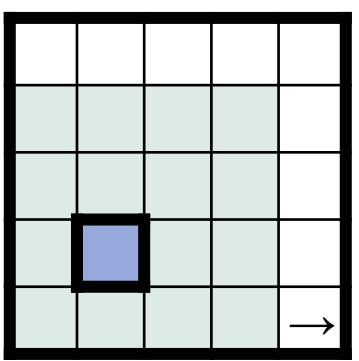


Example 1

Transition rules

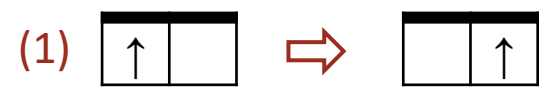


and resume playing musical chairs

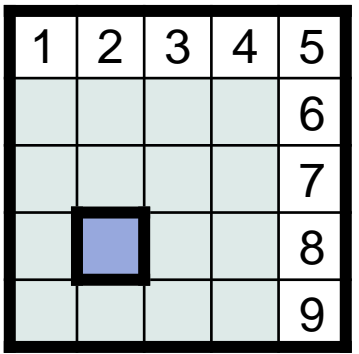


Example 1

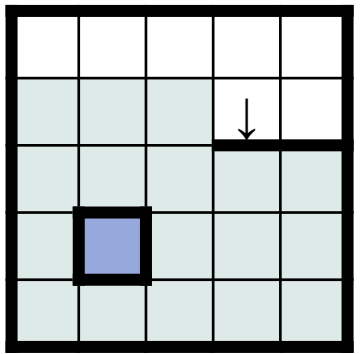
Transition rules



Try another example

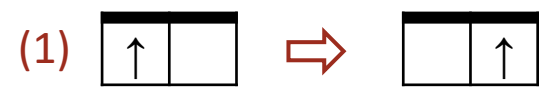


Example 1

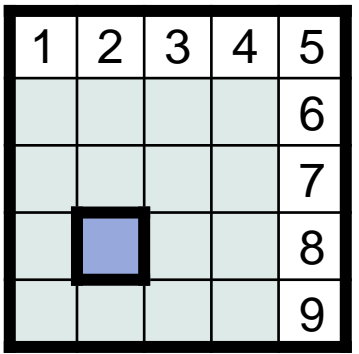


Example 2

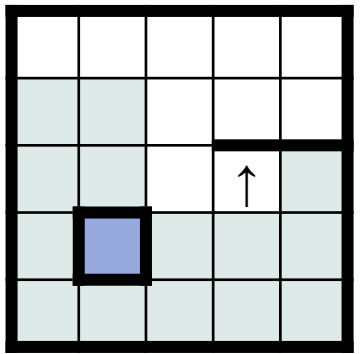
Transition rules



Try another example, and introduce a new transition rule when needed

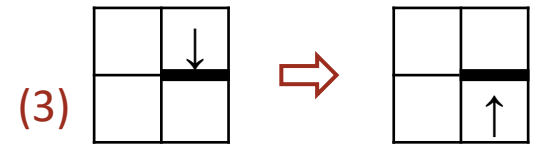
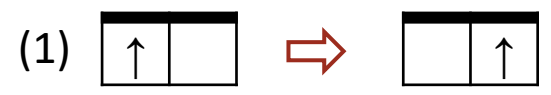


Example 1

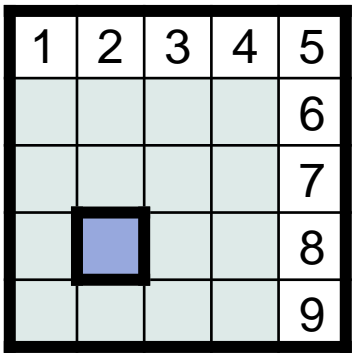


Example 2

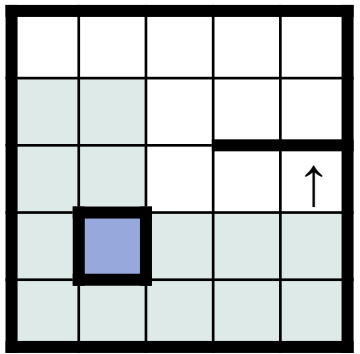
Transition rules



Then resume playing musical chairs

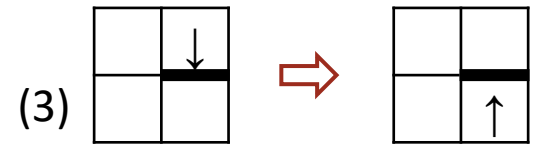
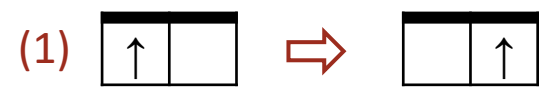


Example 1

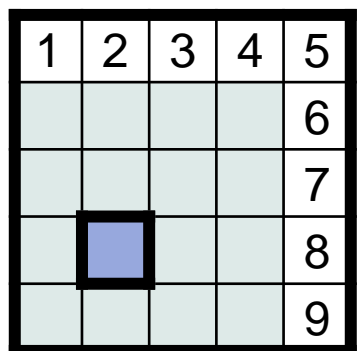


Example 2

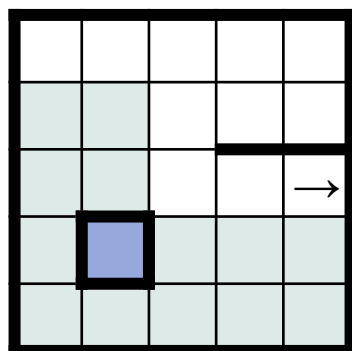
Transition rules



Then resume playing musical chairs

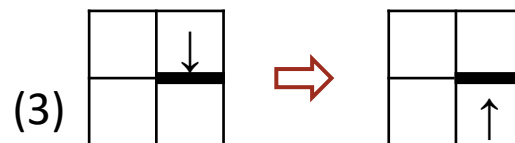


Example 1

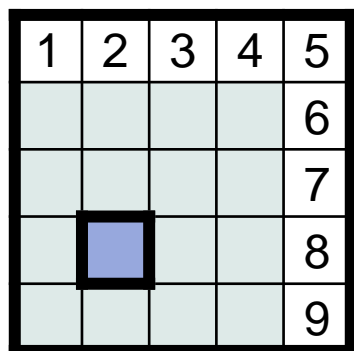


Example 2

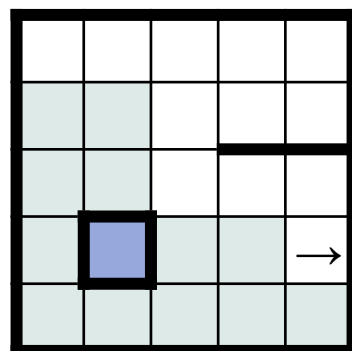
Transition rules



Then resume playing musical chairs

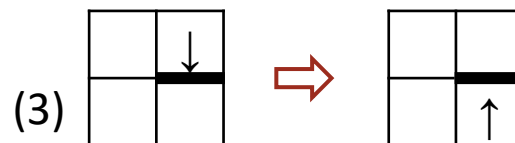


Example 1

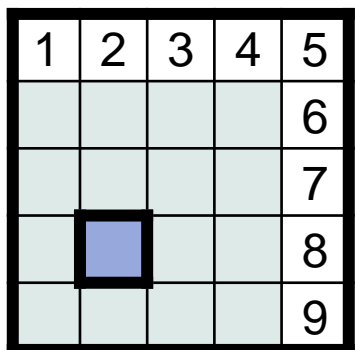


Example 2

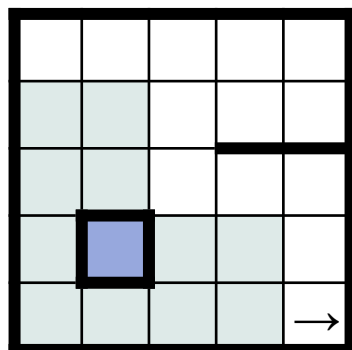
Transition rules



Then resume playing musical chairs

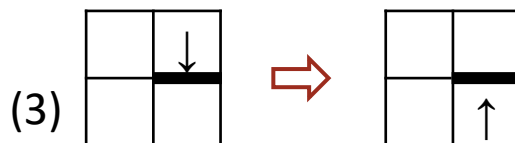


Example 1

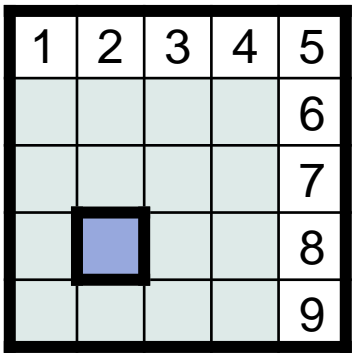


Example 2

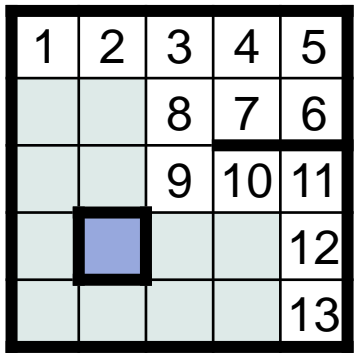
Transition rules



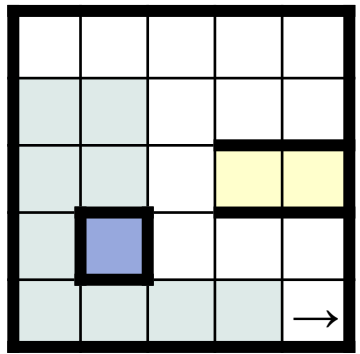
Try another example, and see that the three transition rules suffice



Example 1

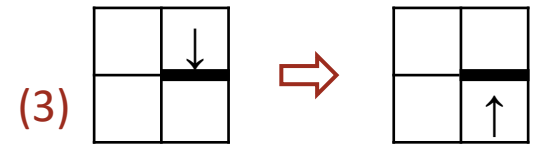
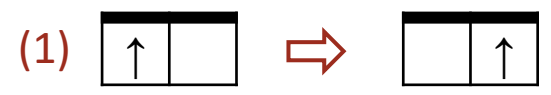


Example 2

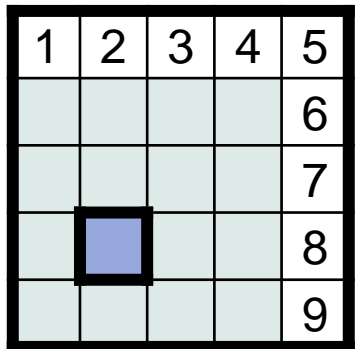


Example 3

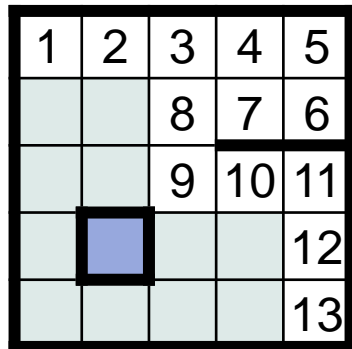
Transition rules



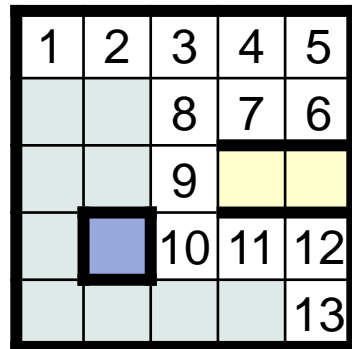
Try another example, and see that the three transition rules get you far



Example 1

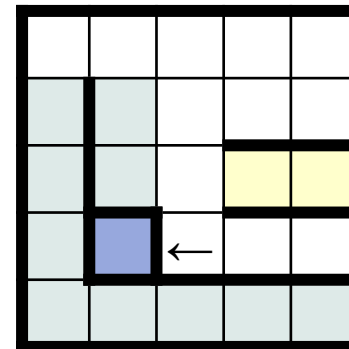


Example 2



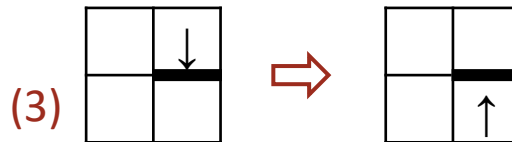
Example 3

Numbering reflects the direct path

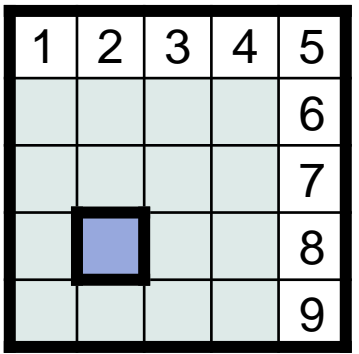


Example 4

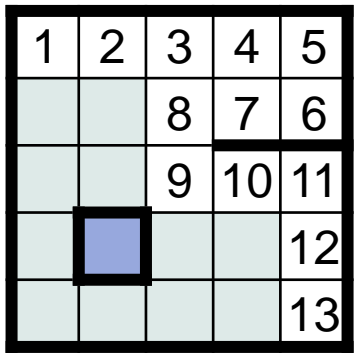
Transition rules



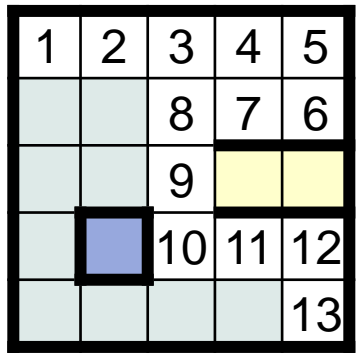
until a fourth rule is needed



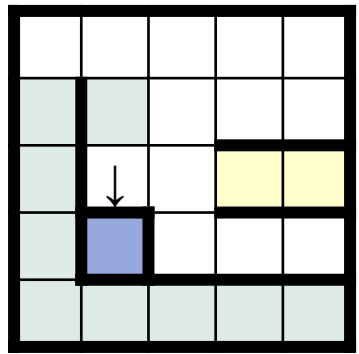
Example 1



Example 2

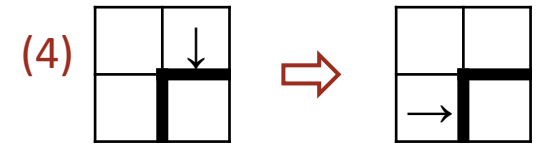
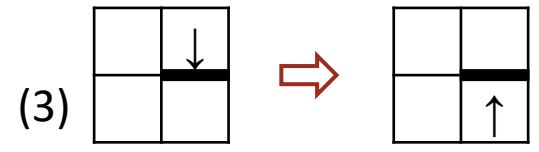
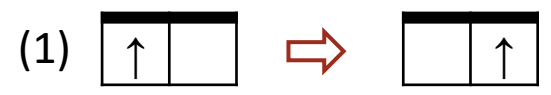


Example 3

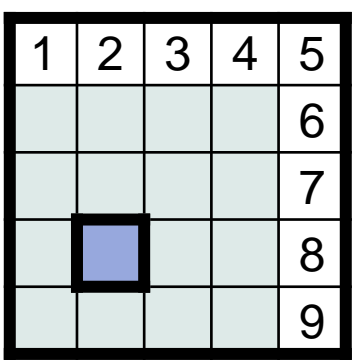


Example 4

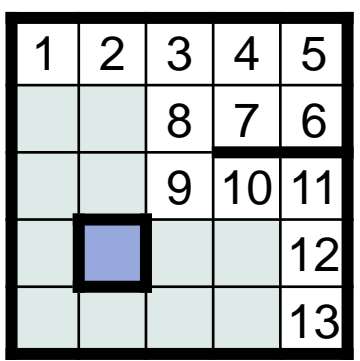
Transition rules



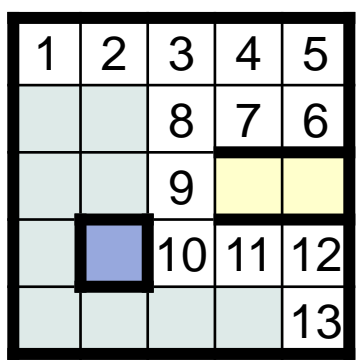
Resume



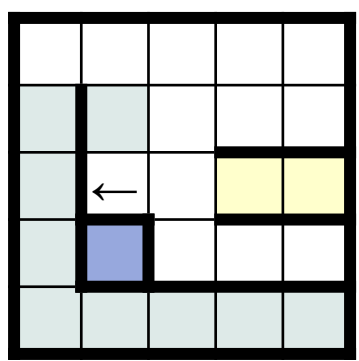
Example 1



Example 2

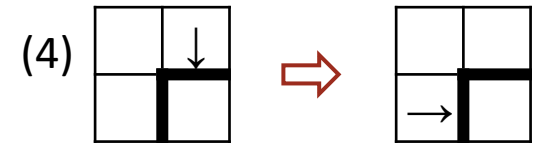
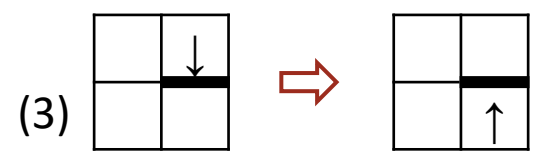
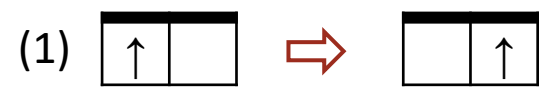


Example 3

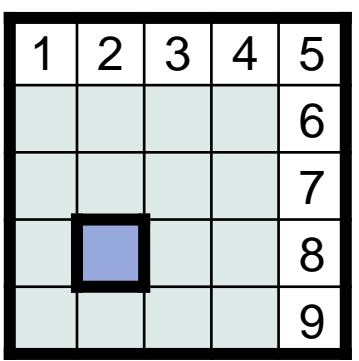


Example 4

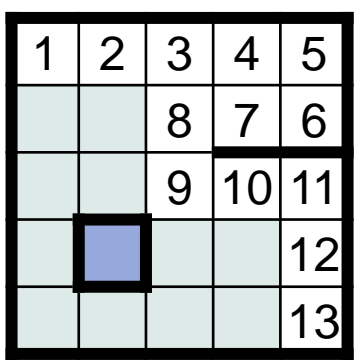
Transition rules



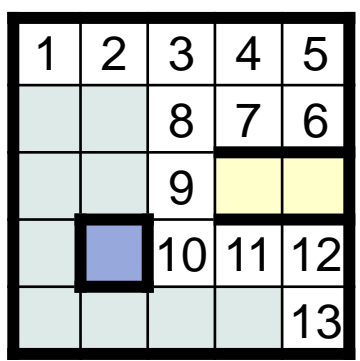
Resume



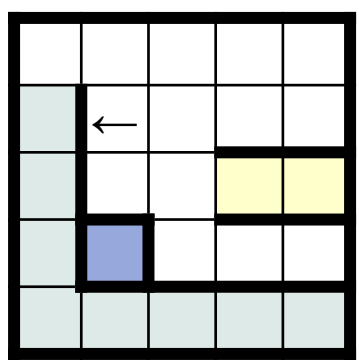
Example 1



Example 2

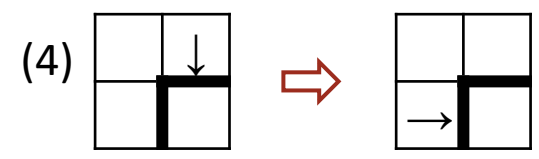
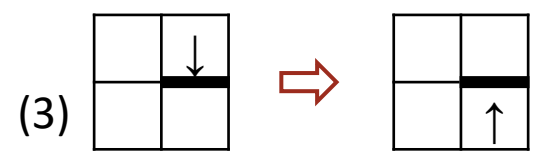
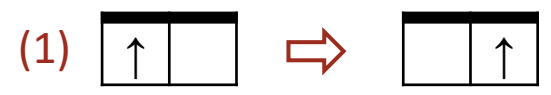


Example 3

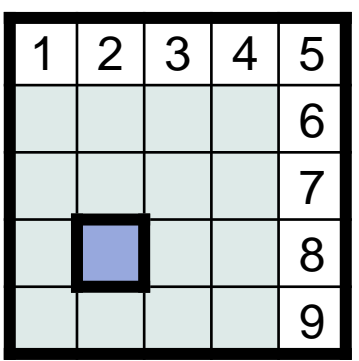


Example 4

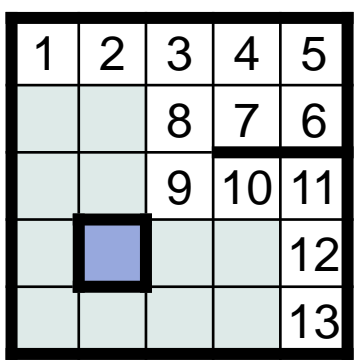
Transition rules



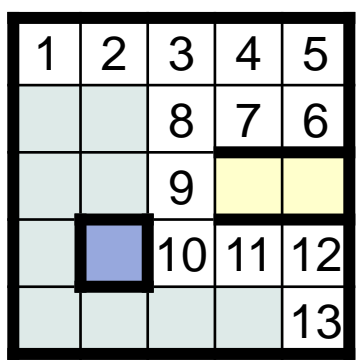
Resume



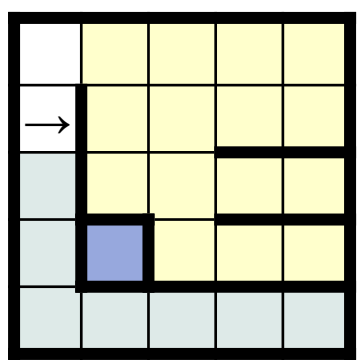
Example 1



Example 2

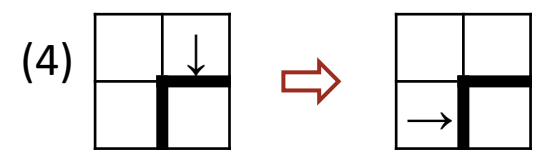
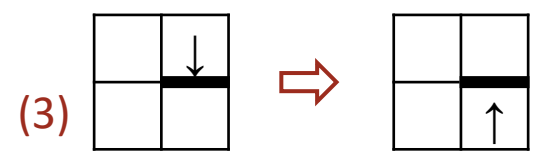
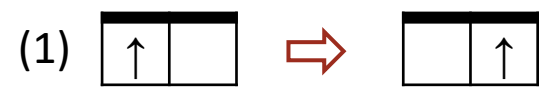


Example 3

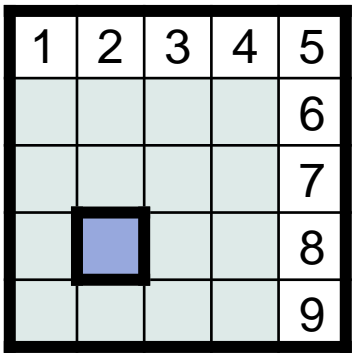


Example 4

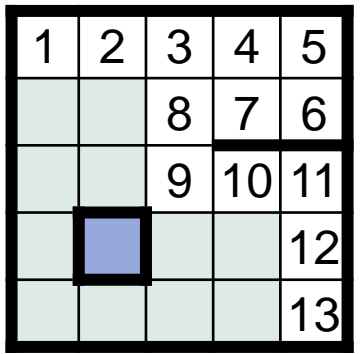
Transition rules



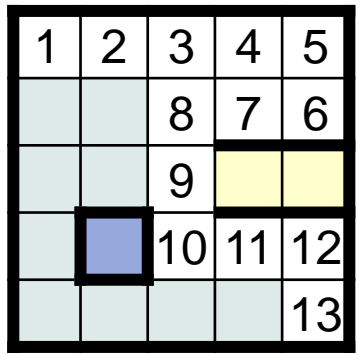
Resume, and go all the way



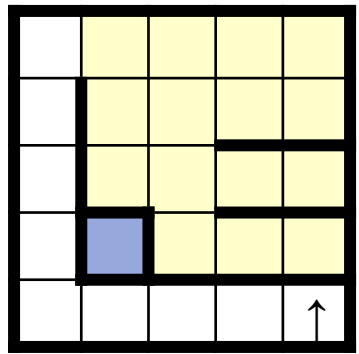
Example 1



Example 2

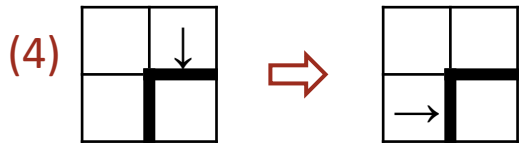
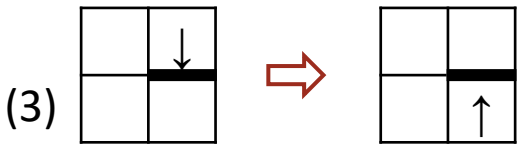


Example 3

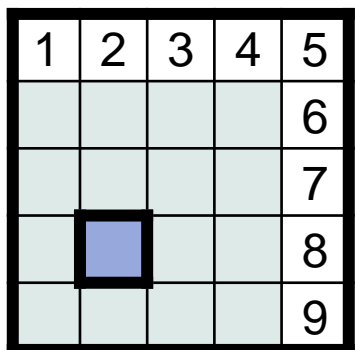


Example 4

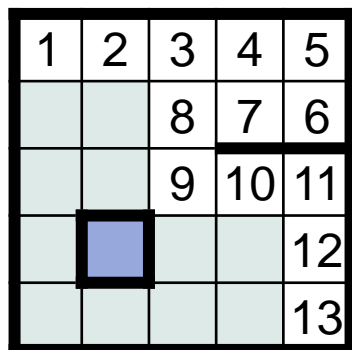
Transition rules



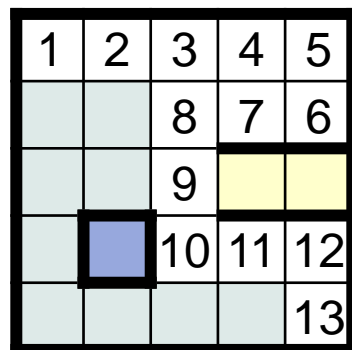
And yet another example



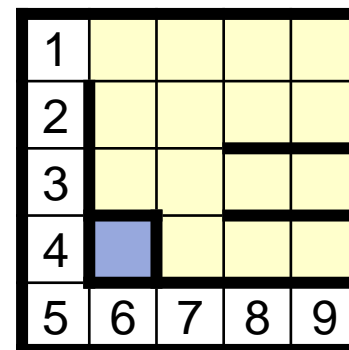
Example 1



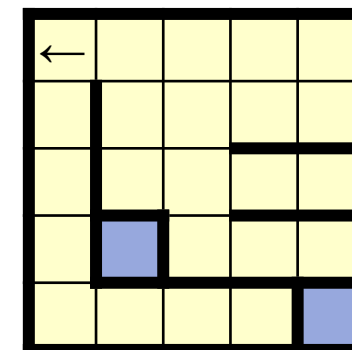
Example 2



Example 3



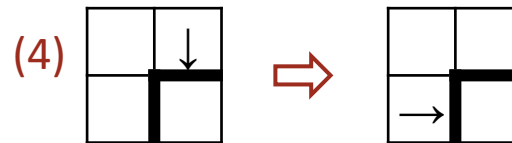
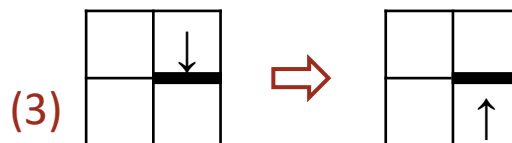
Example 4



Example 5

Numbering reflects the direct path

Transition rules



The loop body: One case for each transition rule

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```


```
_____  
while ( _____ )  
    if ( _____ )  
  
        _____  
        else if ( _____ )  
  
            _____  
            else if ( _____ )  
  
                _____  
                else _____  
_____  
_____
```

The loop body: One case for each transition rule, **but they are too complex.**

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

```
_____  
while ( _____ )  
    if ( _____ )  
  
        _____  
        else if ( _____ )  
  
            _____  
            else if ( _____ )  
  
                _____  
                else _____  
_____  
_____
```

The loop body: One case for each transition rule, but they are too complex.

For example: (1) 

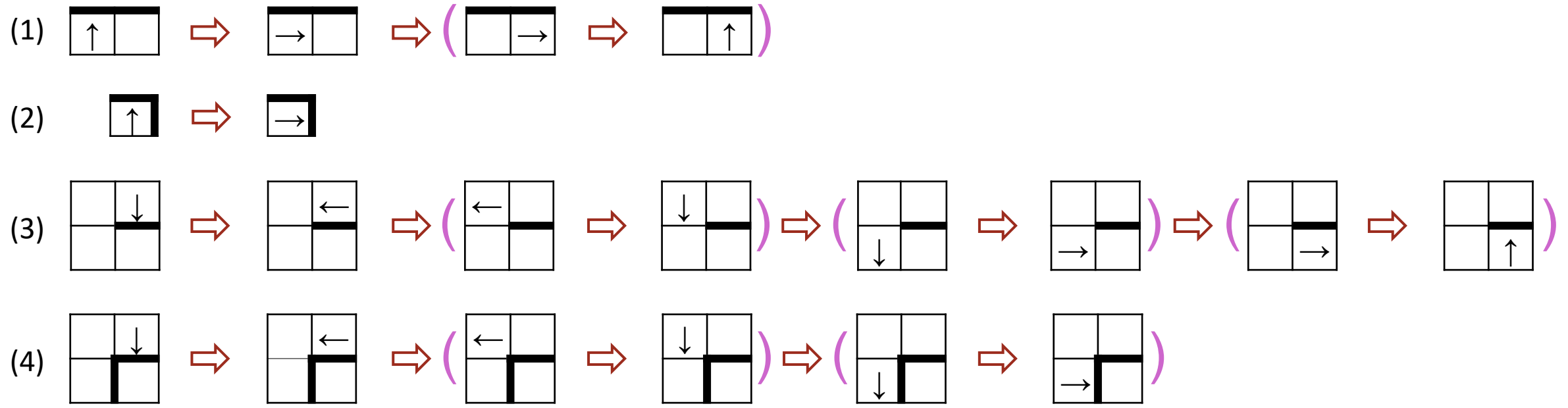
```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

```

_____
while ( _____ )
    if ( two colinear walls not separated by a perpendicular wall )
        sidestep
    else if ( _____ )
        _____
    else if ( _____ )
        _____
    else _____
_____

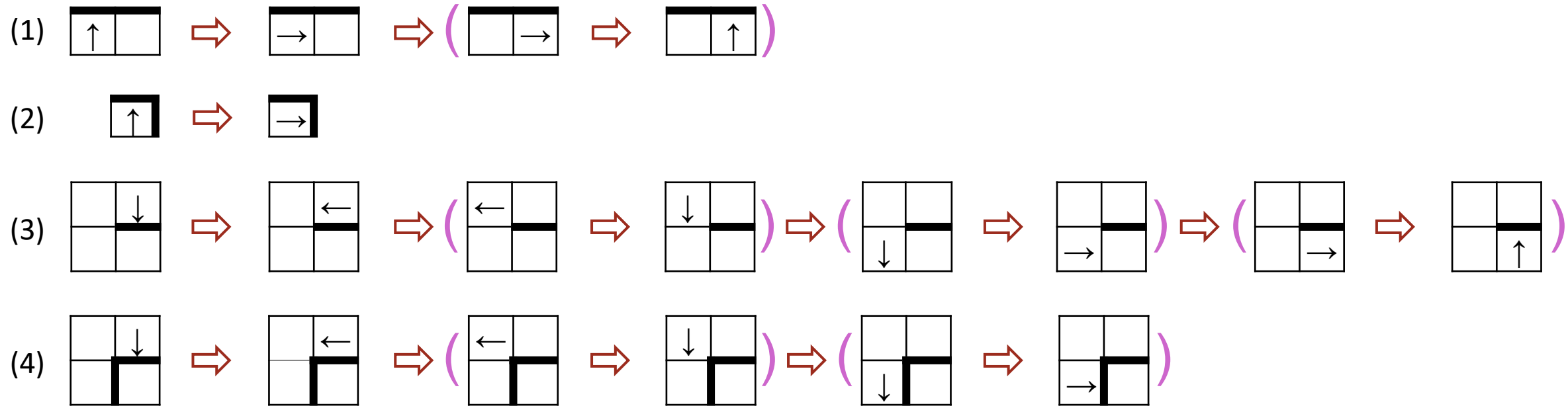
```

Idea: Implement coarse-grain transition steps with micro-operations



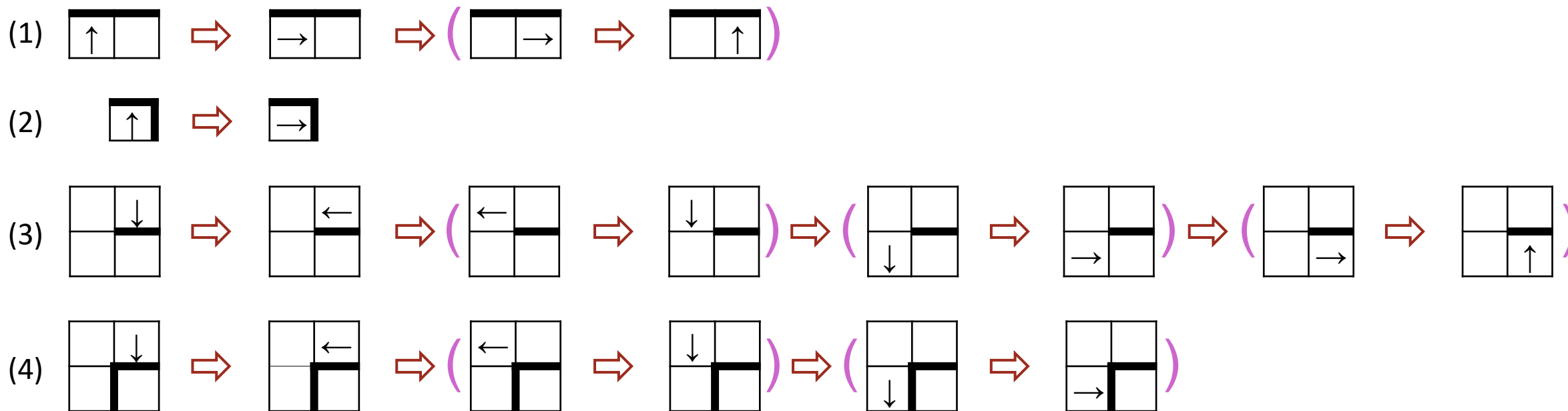
Idea: Implement coarse-grain transition steps with micro-operations

Turn 90° clockwise Step forward and turn 90° counterclockwise



Idea: Implement coarse-grain transition steps with micro-operations

Turn 90° clockwise Step forward and turn 90° counterclockwise



new **INVARIANT**: Hand on wall or door

new **VARIANT**: Number of wall segments or doors to goal

The loop body: Now only two simpler cases to consider.

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

```

_____
while ( _____ )
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */
    else {
        /* Step forward. */
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */
    }
_____

```

new **INVARIANT**: Hand on wall or door

new **VARIANT**: Number of wall segments or doors to goal

Iteration: (2) termination

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
```

```
_____  
while ( /* !in-lower-right && !in-upper-left-about-to-cycle */ )  
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )  
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */  
    else {  
        /* Step forward. */  
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */  
    }  
_____
```

Iteration: (3) initialization

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
/* Start in upper-left cell, facing up. */
while ( /* !in-lower-right && !in-upper-left-about-to-cycle */ )
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */
    else {
        /* Step forward. */
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */
    }
```

Iteration: Correctness relies on subtle problem constraints

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */  
/* Start in upper-left cell, facing up. */  
while ( /* !in-lower-right && !in-upper-left-about-to-cycle */ )  
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )  
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */  
    else {  
        /* Step forward. */  
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */  
    }  
}
```

Iteration: Correctness relies on subtle problem constraints

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | 8 | 7 | | |
| 2 | | 6 | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

If started facing down, not up

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 5 | 4 | 3 | | | |
| 6 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| 7 | 8 | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

If outer wall not solid

| | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 16 | | | | 6 |
| 15 | | | | 7 |
| 14 | | | 🧀 | 8 |
| 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 |

If cheese could be in interior cell

Iteration: (4) finalization (nothing to do)

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
/* Start in upper-left cell, facing up. */
while ( /* !in-lower-right && !in-upper-left-about-to-cycle */ )
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */
    else {
        /* Step forward. */
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */
    }
```

The core algorithm is in hand

```
/* Compute a direct path through the maze, if one exists. */
/* Start in upper-left cell, facing up. */
while ( /* !in-lower-right && !in-upper-left-about-to-cycle */ )
    if ( /* facing-wall */ )
        /* Turn 90° clockwise. */
    else {
        /* Step forward. */
        /* Turn 90° counterclockwise. */
    }
```