

Tree Recursion

Announcements

Recursion Review

How to Know That a Recursive Implementation is Correct

Tracing: Diagram the whole computational process (only feasible for very small examples)

Induction: Check $f(0)$, then check that $f(n)$ is correct as long as $f(n-1) \dots f(0)$ are.

Abstraction: Assume f is correct (on simpler examples), then use it to implement f .

Streak (from Spring 2024's Midterm 1, A+ Question)

```
def streak(n):  
    """Return True if all the digits in positive integer n are the same.  
  
    >>> streak(22222)  
    True  
    >>> streak(4)  
    True  
    >>> streak(2222322) # 2 and 3 are different digits.  
    False  
    """  
    return (n >= 0 and n <= 9) or (n > 9 and n % 10 == n // 10 % 10 and streak(n // 10))
```

Idea: In a streak, all *pairs* of adjacent digits are equal

Hint: floor division //
(divides, discards the remainder)

Hint: modulo %
(divides, returns the remainder)

```
>>> 1234 // 10  
123
```

```
>>> 1234 % 10  
4
```

Mutual Recursion

Tree Recursion

Counting Partitions

The number of *partitions* of a positive integer n , using parts up to size m , is the number of ways in which n can be expressed as the sum of positive integer parts up to m .

`count_partitions(6, 4)`

$$2 + 4 = 6$$

$$1 + 1 + 4 = 6$$

$$3 + 3 = 6$$

$$1 + 2 + 3 = 6$$

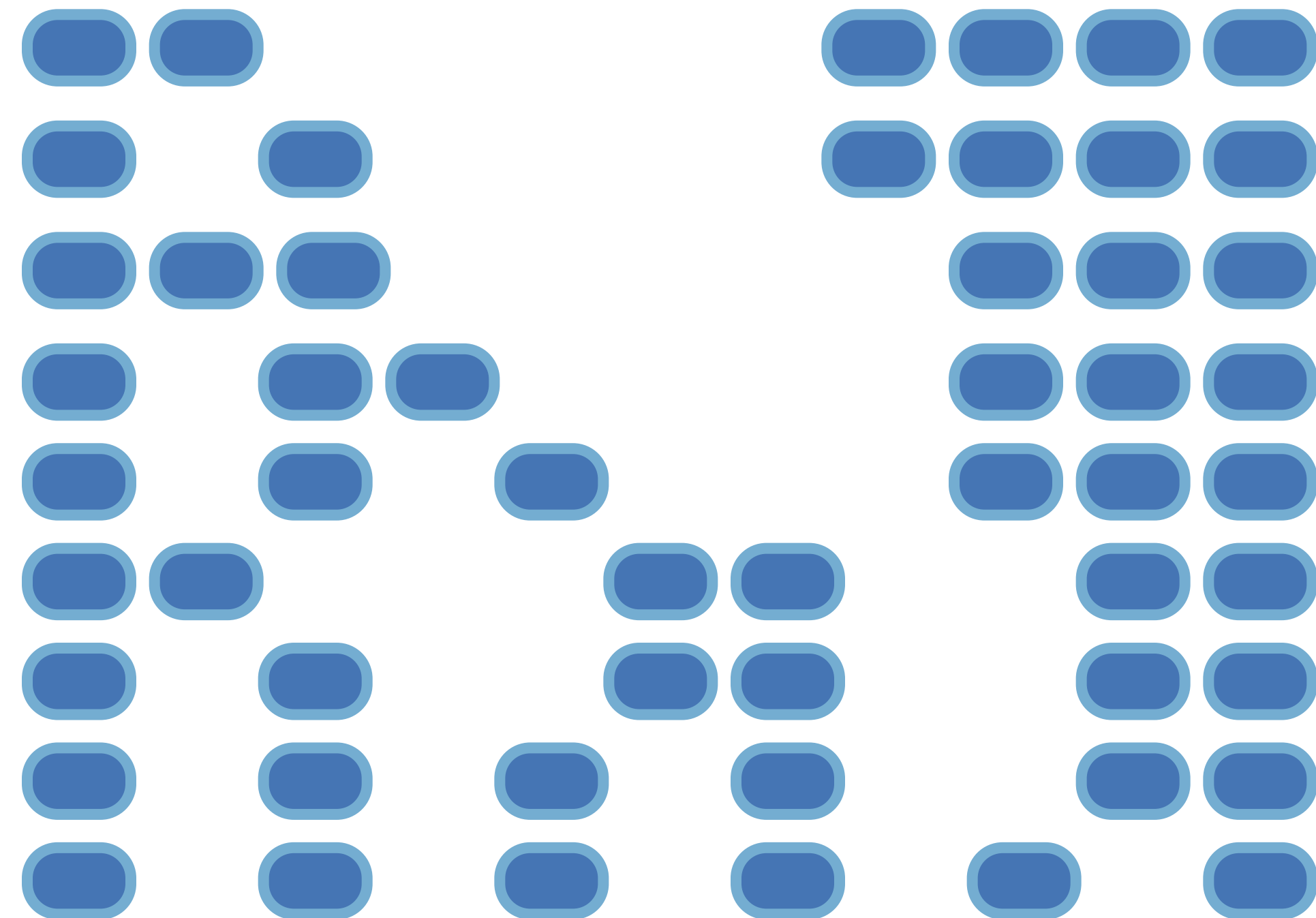
$$1 + 1 + 1 + 3 = 6$$

$$2 + 2 + 2 = 6$$

$$1 + 1 + 2 + 2 = 6$$

$$1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 2 = 6$$

$$1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 6$$

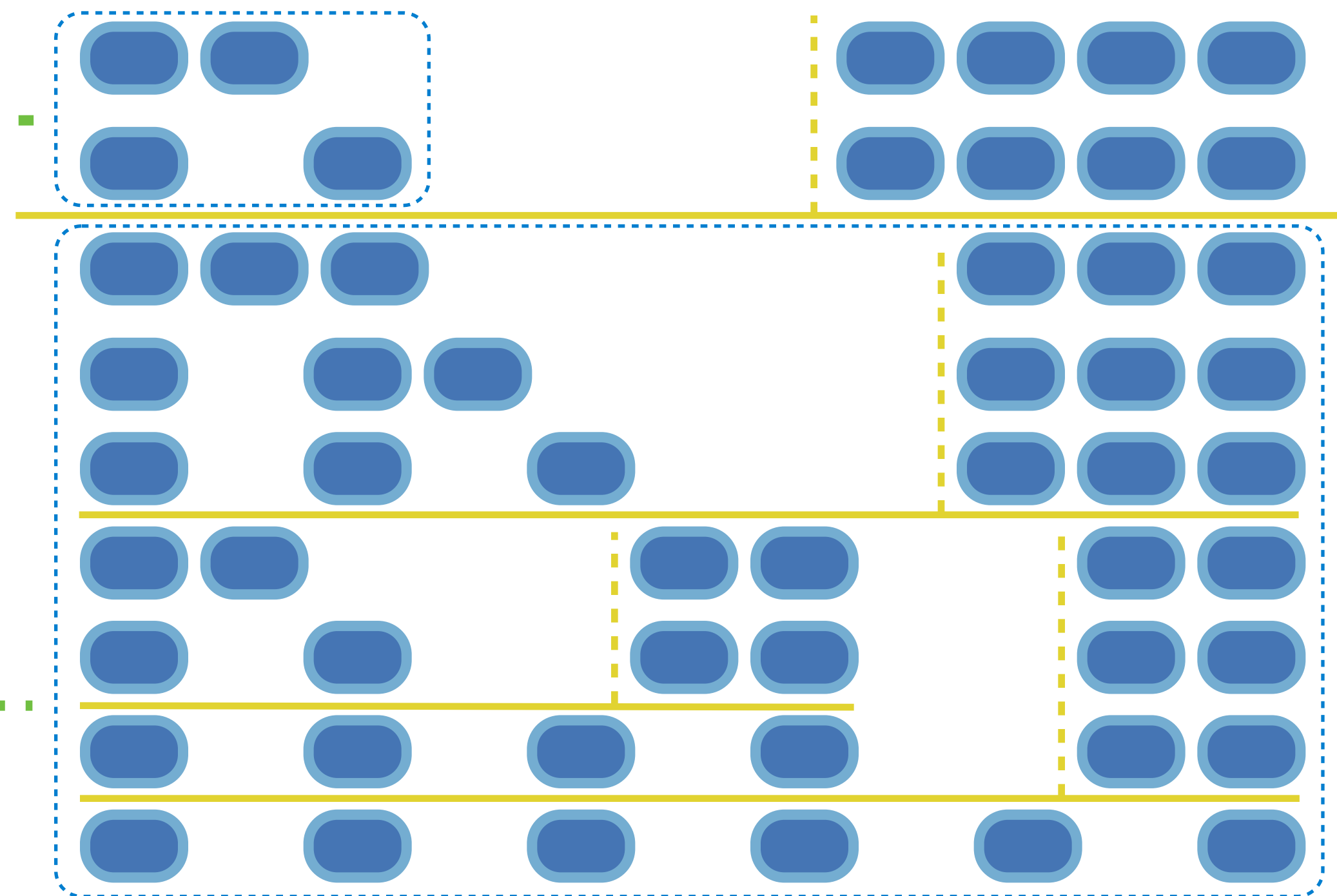


Counting Partitions

The number of partitions of a positive integer n , using parts up to size m , is the number of ways in which n can be expressed as the sum of positive integer parts up to m .

`count_partitions(6, 4)`

- Recursive decomposition: finding simpler instances of the problem.
- Explore two possibilities:
 - Use at least one 4
 - Don't use any 4
- Solve two simpler problems:
 - `count_partitions(2, 4)`
 - `count_partitions(6, 3)`
- Tree recursion often involves exploring different choices.



Spring 2023 Midterm 2 Question 5

Definition. When parking vehicles in a row, a motorcycle takes up 1 parking spot and a car takes up 2 adjacent parking spots. A string of length n can represent n adjacent parking spots using % for a motorcycle, <> for a car, and . for an empty spot.

For example: `'.%%.<><>'` (Thanks to the Berkeley Math Circle for introducing this question.)

Implement `count_park`, which returns the number of ways that vehicles can be parked in n adjacent parking spots for positive integer n . Some or all spots can be empty.

```
def count_park(n):
    """Count the ways to park cars and motorcycles in n adjacent spots.
    >>> count_park(1) # '.' or '%'
    2
    >>> count_park(2) # '.. ', '.%', '%.', '%%', or '<>'
    5
    >>> count_park(4) # some examples: '<><>', '.%%.', '%<>%', '%.<>'
    29
    """
    if n < 0:
        return 0
    elif n == 0:
        return 1
    else:
        return count_park(n-2) + count_park(n-1) + count_park(n-1)
```