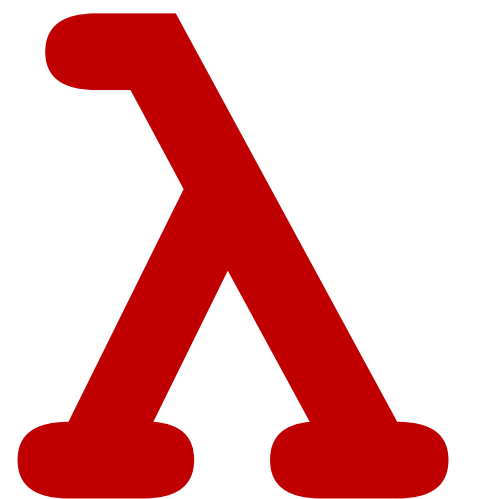


# **CSCI 275: Programming Abstractions**

**Lecture 10: The world of folds  
Spring 2025**

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Slides gratefully borrowed from Molly Q Feldman**



**Questions for the good of the group?**

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are types. And let's say `proc` takes elements of type  $\alpha$  and produces elements of type  $\beta$  (i.e. the type of `proc` is  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ ).

When calling `(map proc lst)`, what is the type of `lst`? What is the type of `map`'s return?

- A. List of  $\beta$ , List of  $\beta$
- B. List of  $\alpha$ , List of  $\alpha$
- C. List of  $\alpha$ , list of  $\beta$
- D. List of  $\beta$ , List of  $\alpha$
- E. Something else

# Review: map

**Applies a procedure to each element of a list**

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are types

```
(map proc lst)
```

```
proc :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ 
```

```
lst : list of  $\alpha$ 
```

```
map returns list of  $\beta$ 
```

E.g.,

```
 $\alpha$  = number,  $\beta$  = integer
```

```
(map floor '(1.3 2.8 -8.5))
```

# Review: apply

**Applies a procedure the arguments in a list**

```
(apply proc lst)
```

proc :  $\alpha_1 \times \alpha_2 \times \dots \times \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta$

lst :  $(\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_n)$

apply **returns**  $\beta$

**E.g.,**

$\alpha_1 = \text{number}$ ,  $\alpha_2 = \text{boolean}$ ,  $\beta = \text{number}$

```
(apply (lambda (n b) (if b (- n) n))  
      '(5 #t))
```

Even *more* abstractions, and  
thus tools in our toolbox

# Lots of similarities between functions

## **(sum lst)**

```
(define (sum lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) 0]
        [else (+ (first lst)
                  (sum (rest lst)))]))
```

---

## **(length lst)**

```
(define (length lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) 0]
        [else (+ 1
                  (length (rest lst)))]))
```

---

## **(map proc lst)**

```
(define (map proc lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) empty]
        [else (cons (proc (first lst))
                      (map proc (rest lst)))]))
```

# Even for functions that don't immediately look like they fall into the pattern...

**(remove\* x lst)**

```
(define (remove* x lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) empty]
        [(equal? x (first lst)) (remove* x (rest lst))]
        [else (cons (first lst)
                     (remove* x (rest lst)))]))
```



# Even for functions that don't immediately look like they fall into the pattern...

**(remove\* x lst)**

```
(define (remove* x lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) empty]
        [(equal? x (first lst)) (remove* x (rest lst))]
        [else (cons (first lst)
                     (remove* x (rest lst)))]))
```

We can rewrite them to look more like the others

```
(define (remove* x lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) empty]
        [else (if (equal? x (first lst))
                  (remove* x (rest lst))
                  (cons (first lst)
                        (remove* x (rest lst))))])
```

# Some similarities

Basic structure is the same!

```
(define (fun .. lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) base-case]
        [else
         (let ([head (first lst)]
               [result (fun .. (rest lst))])
           (combine head result))]))
```

Function	base-case	(combine head result)
sum	0	(+ head result)
length	0	(+ 1 result)
map	empty	(cons (proc head) result)
remove*	empty	(if (equal? x head) result (cons head result))

```
(define (fun lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) base-case]
        [else (let ([head (first lst)]
                    [result (fun (rest lst))])
                (combine head result))]))
```

*lst*: list of  $\alpha$

*base-case*:  $\beta$

What kind of function is `combine`?  
(input type to output type)

A. `combine`:  $\alpha \times \beta \rightarrow \alpha$

B. `combine`:  $\alpha \times \beta \rightarrow \beta$

C. `combine`:  $\beta \times \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

D. `combine`:  $\beta \times \alpha \rightarrow \beta$

```
(define (fun lst)
  (cond [(empty? lst) base-case]
        [else (let ([head (first lst)]
                    [result (fun (rest lst))])
                 (combine head result))]))
```

*lst*: list of  $\alpha$

*base-case*:  $\beta$

*combine*:  $\alpha \times \beta \rightarrow \beta$

If  $\alpha = \text{boolean}$  and  $\beta = \text{string}$ ,

what type is `(fun '#t '#f '#f)`?

A. `boolean`

B. `string`

C. `boolean → string`

D. `string → boolean`

# Abstraction: fold right

(foldr combine base-case lst)

combine:  $\alpha \times \beta \rightarrow \beta$

base-case:  $\beta$

lst: list of  $\alpha$

foldr:  $(\alpha \times \beta \rightarrow \beta) \times \beta \times (\text{list of } \alpha) \rightarrow \beta$

Elements of lst =  $(x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_n)$  and base-case are combined by computing

$z_n = (\text{combine } x_n \ \text{base-case})$

$z_{n-1} = (\text{combine } x_{n-1} \ z_n)$

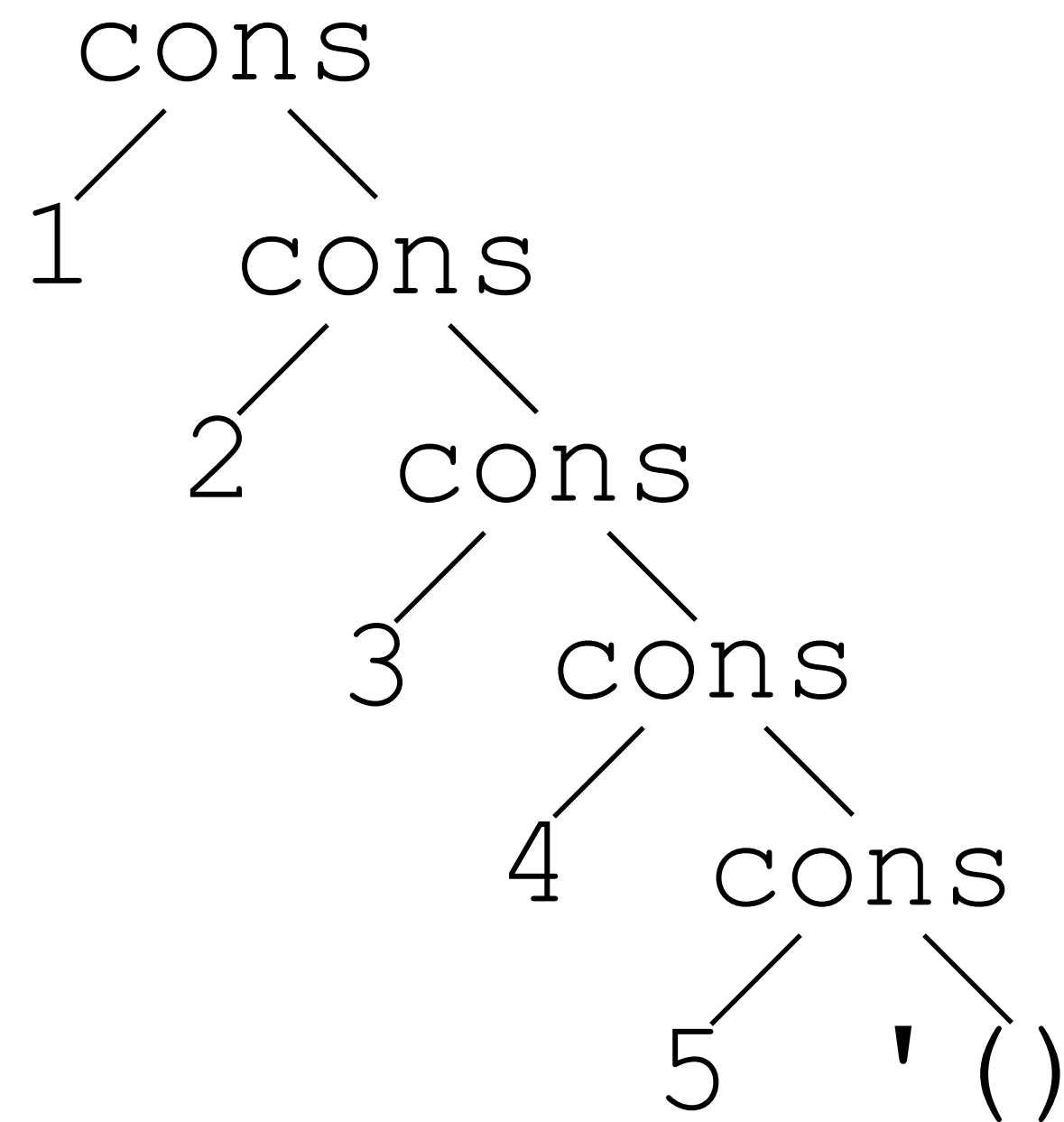
$z_{n-2} = (\text{combine } x_{n-2} \ z_{n-1})$

$\vdots$

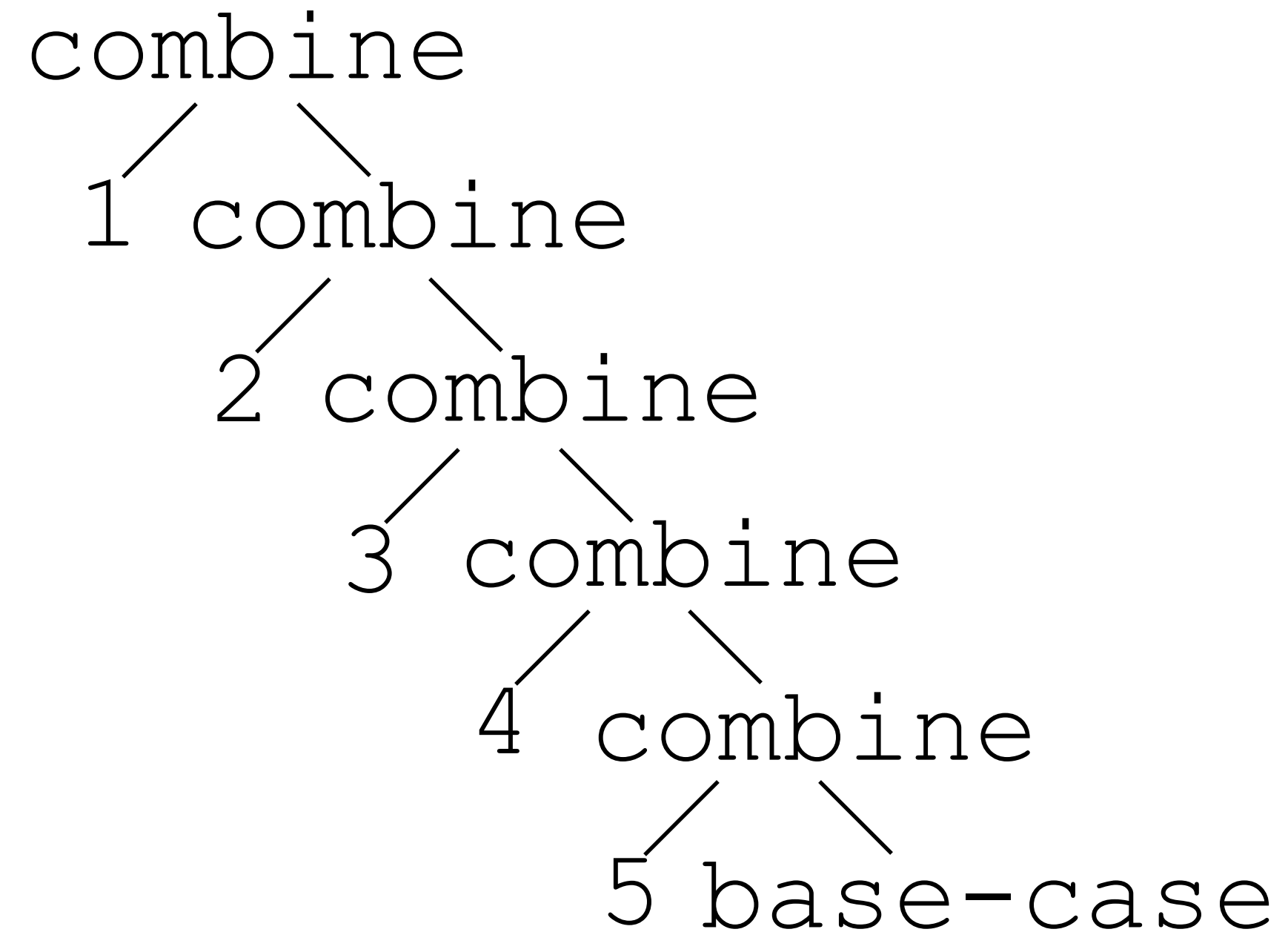
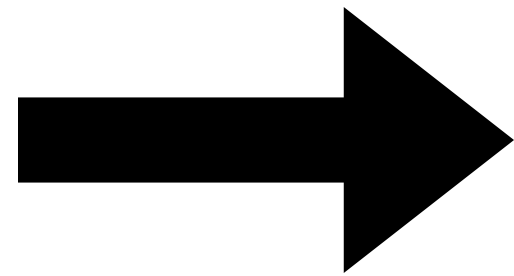
$z_1 = (\text{combine } x_1 \ z_2)$

# Abstraction: fold right

(`foldr combine base-case lst`)



Possible input `lst`



Executing `foldr`

# sum as a fold right

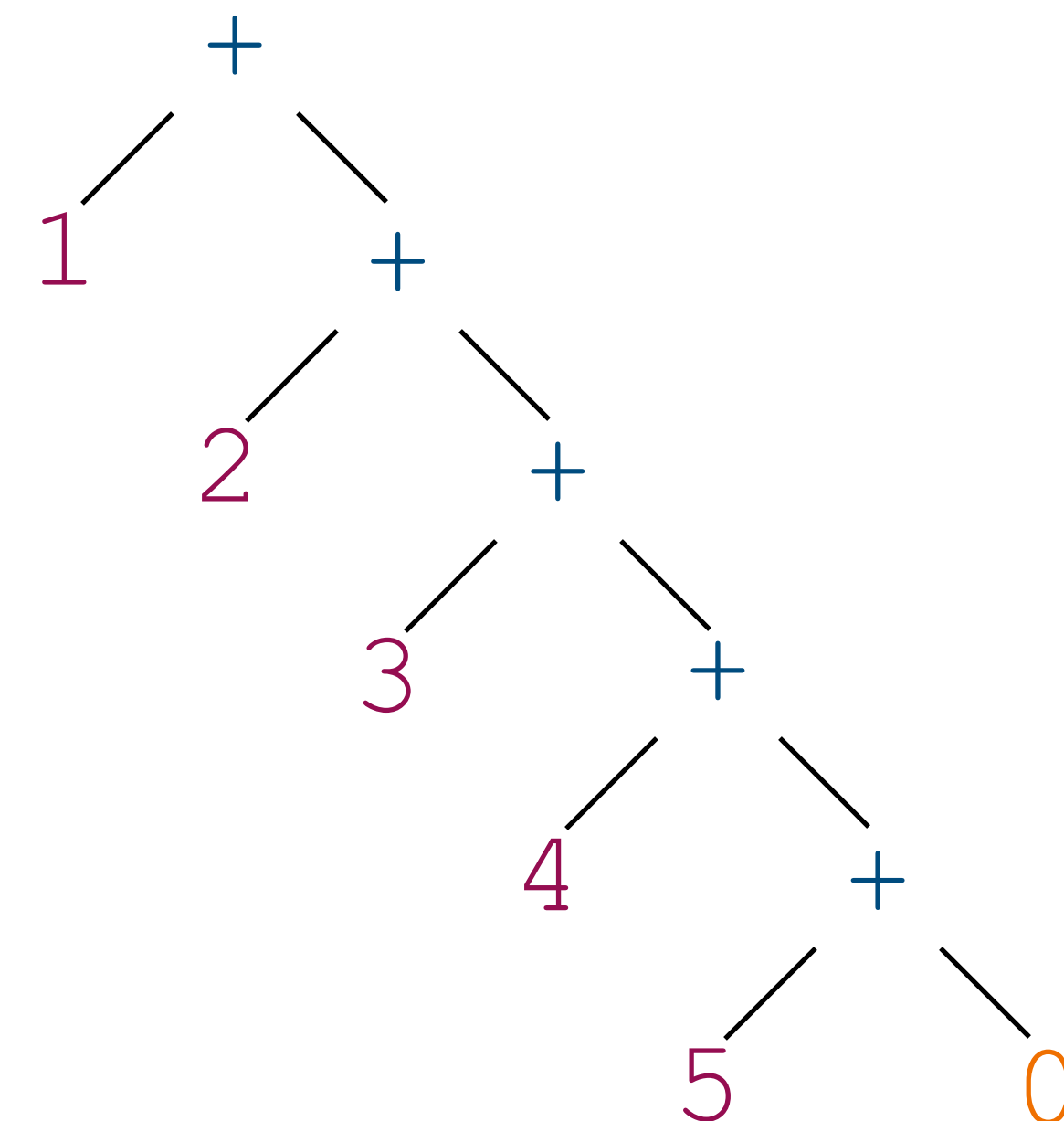
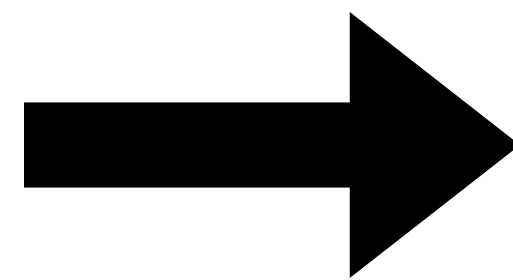
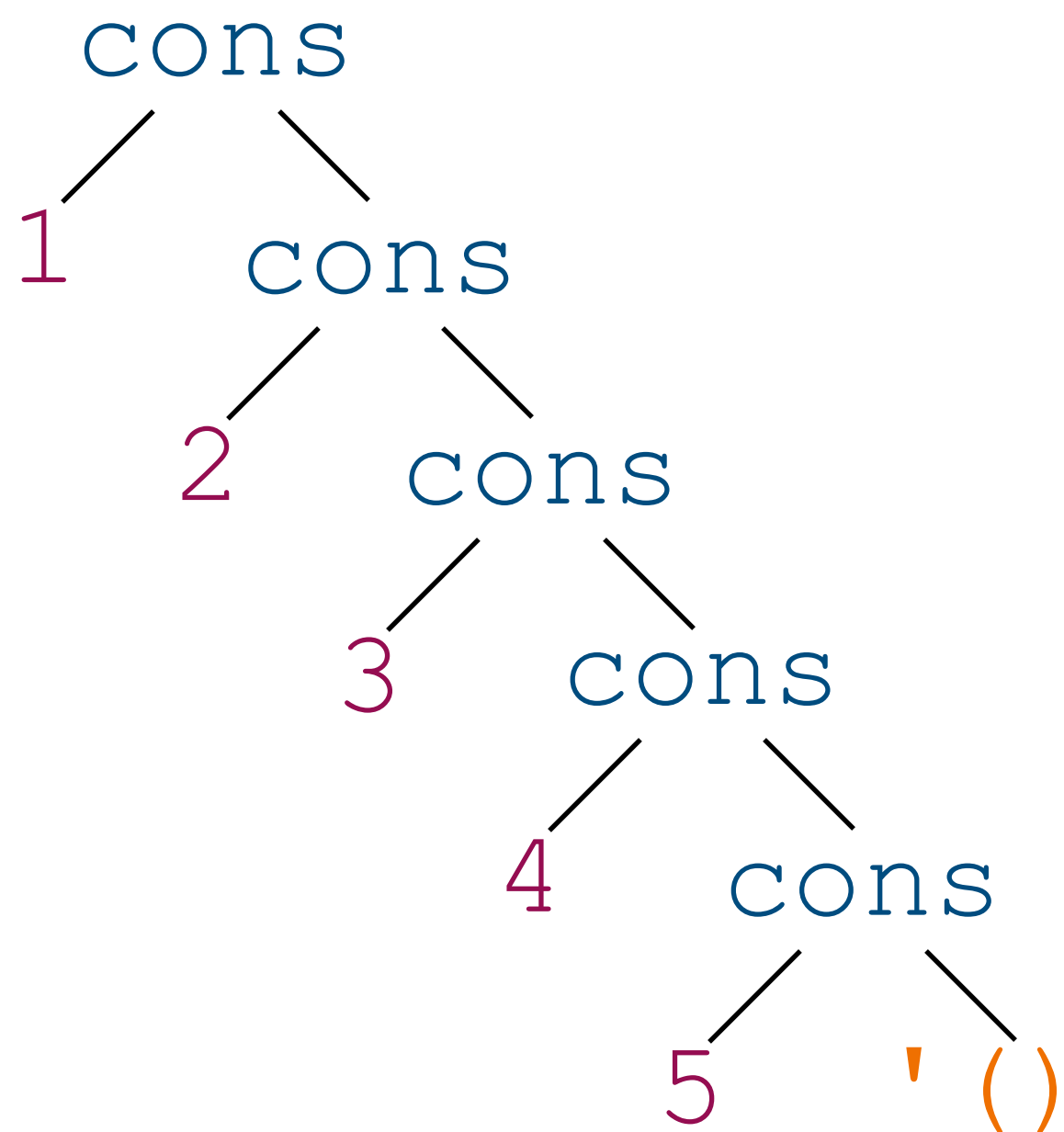
**(foldr combine base-case lst)**

```
(define sum  
  (lambda (lst)  
    (foldr + 0 lst)))
```

combine: number × number → number

base-case: number

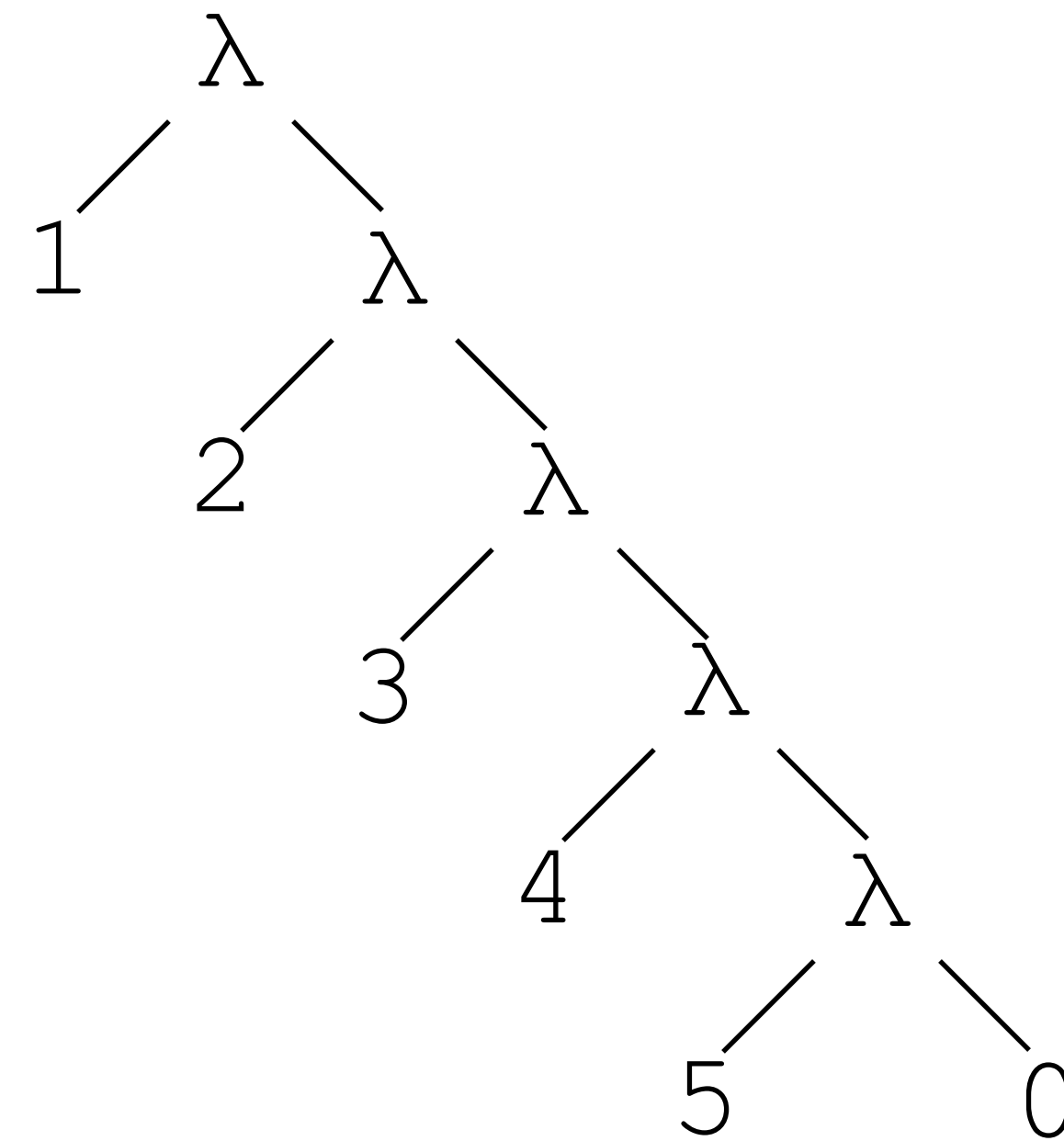
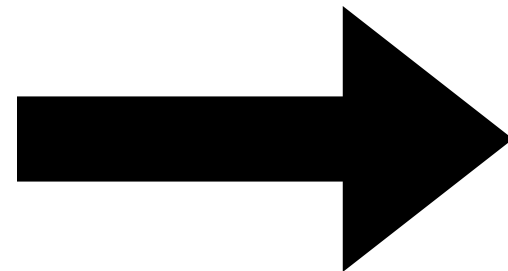
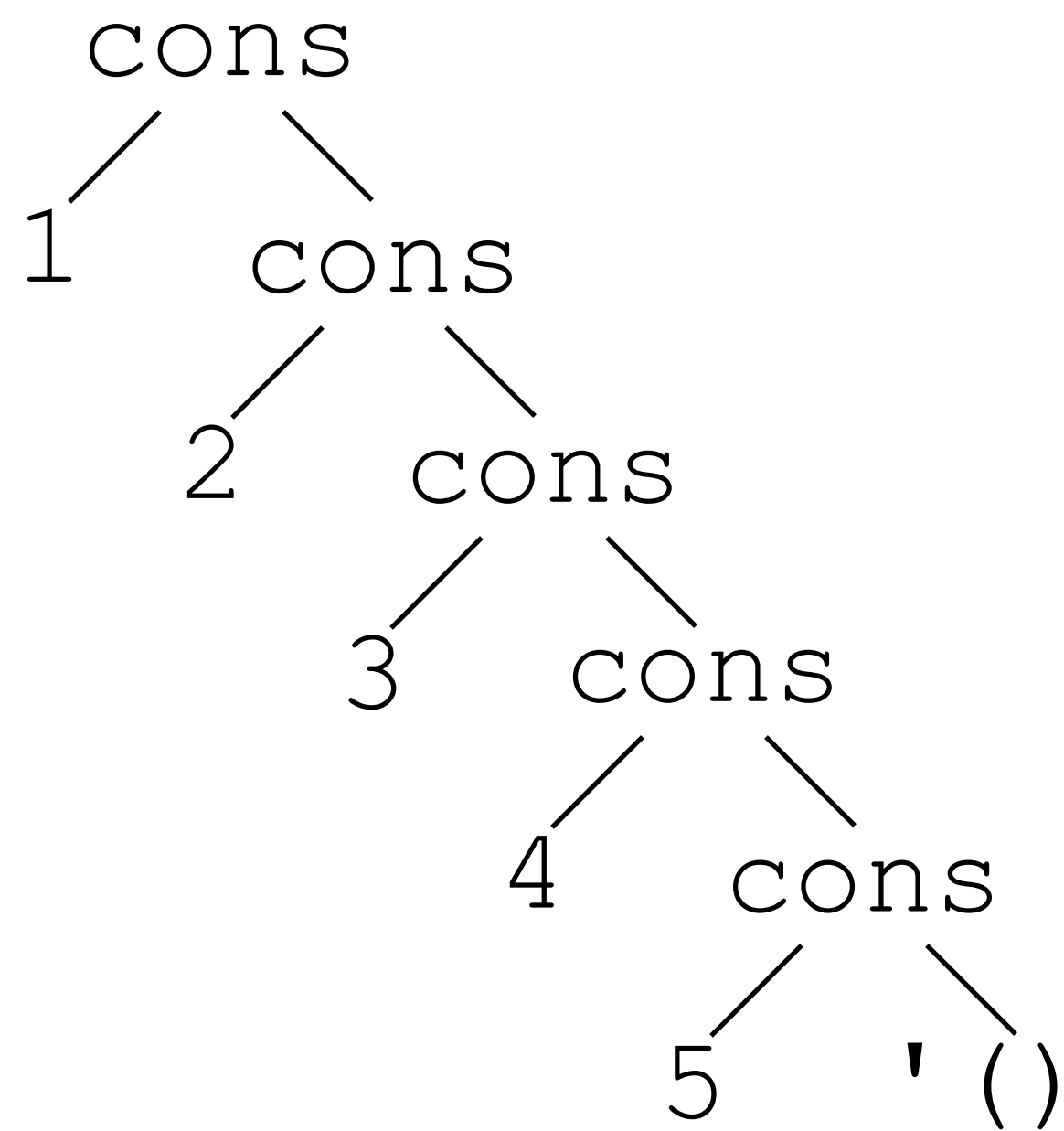
lst: list of number



# length as a fold right

**(foldr combine base-case lst)**

```
(define (length lst)
  (foldr (lambda (head result) (+ 1 result)) 0 lst))
```





# map as fold right

```
(foldr combine base-case lst)
```

```
(define (map proc lst)
  (foldr (lambda (head result)
          (cons (proc head) result))
        empty
        lst))
```

proc:  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

combine:  $\alpha \times (\text{list of } \beta) \rightarrow \text{list of } \beta$

base-case: list of  $\beta$

lst: list of  $\alpha$

map:  $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \times (\text{list of } \alpha) \rightarrow \text{list of } \beta$

# remove\* as fold right

**(foldr combine base-case lst)**

```
(define (remove* x lst)
  (foldr (lambda (head result)
          (if (equal? x head)
              result
              (cons head result)))
        empty
        lst))
```

$x: \alpha$

combine:  $\alpha \times (\text{list of } \alpha) \rightarrow \text{list of } \alpha$

base-case: list of  $\alpha$

lst: list of  $\alpha$

remove\*:  $\alpha \times (\text{list of } \alpha) \rightarrow \text{list of } \alpha$

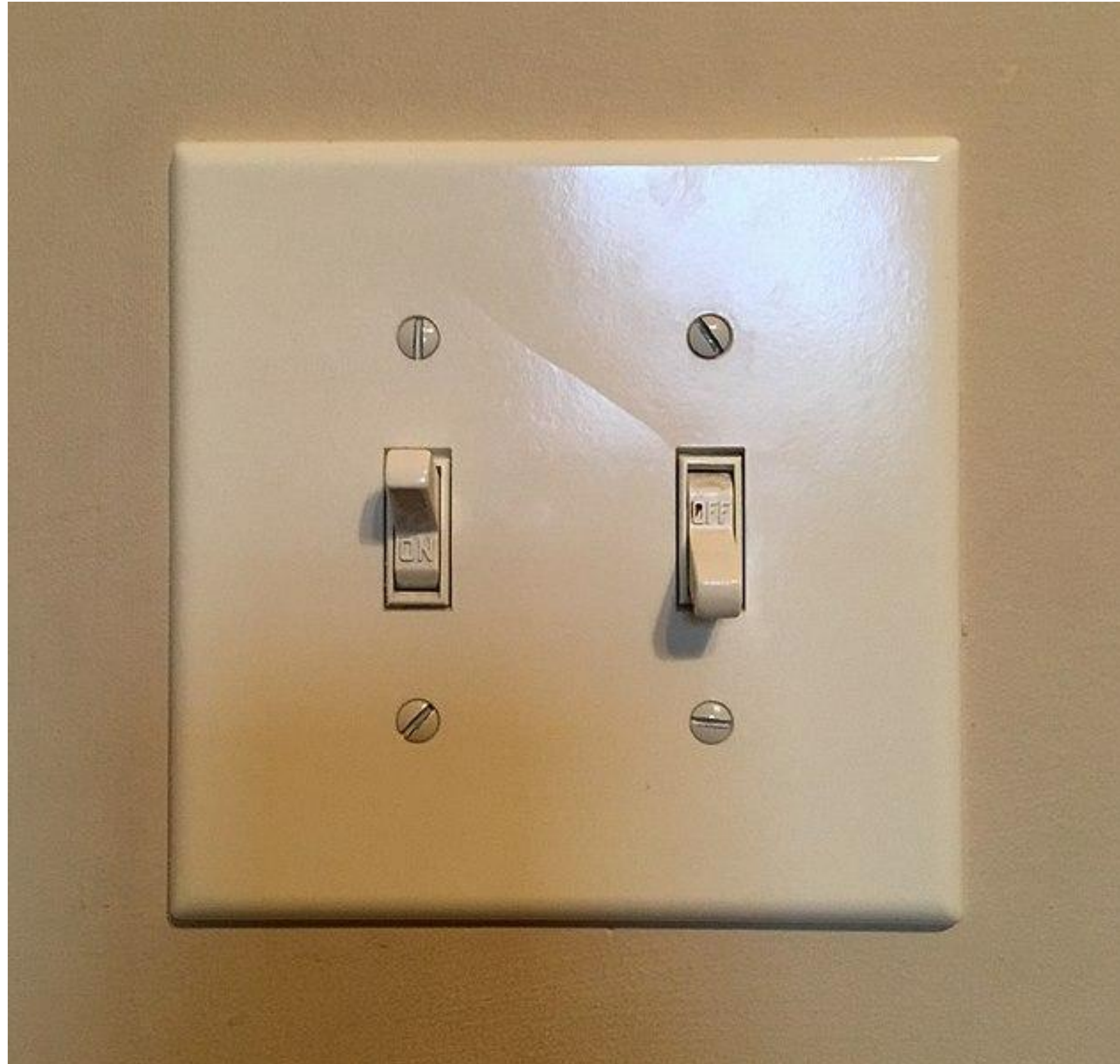
Consider the procedure

```
(foldr (lambda (str num)
        (+ num (string-length str)))
      0
      `("red" "green" "blue"))
```

What does this do?

- A. Multiplies all the string lengths
- B. Counts number of elements in the list
- C. Sums all the string lengths
- D. Error

# Example: a light switch "state machine"



# Example: a light switch "state machine"

Consider a light switch connected to a light

The light is in one of two states: on and off

- Represent this with symbols 'on and 'off

There are three actions we can take

- 'up: move the switch to the up position; turns the light on
- 'down: move the switch to the down position; turns the light off
- 'flip: flip the position of the switch; changes the state of the light

If the light is initially 'off, then after the sequence of actions

'(up up down flip flip flip), the light will be 'on



# Implement the state machine

Possible actions: `'up`, `'down`, `'flip`

Possible states: `'on`, `'off`

Write a `(next-state action state)` function that returns the next state of the light after the action is performed in the given state (no higher order needed!)

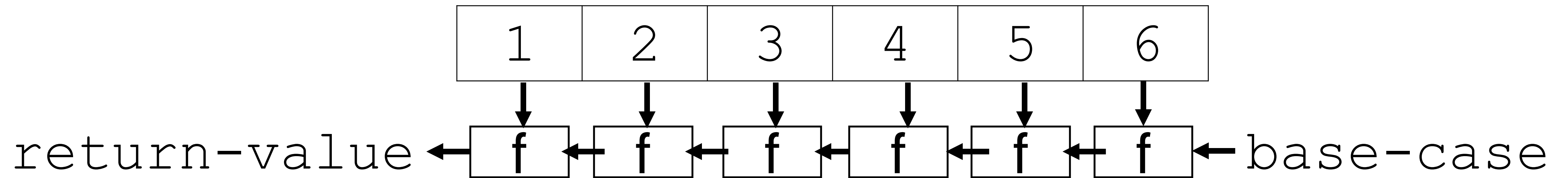
Write a `(state-after actions)` that returns the state of the light assuming it's initially `'off` and the actions in the list `actions` are performed in order

- Use `foldr`!
- Be careful about the order:

```
(state-after '(up flip)) => 'off
```

# Takeaway from state machine example

`foldr` really is fold *right*



# Next Up

Readings do continue!

**Homework 2 is live**, due Friday at 11:59pm via GitHub

- Feel free to use whatever structures you'd like to solve it (higher order not required, HW3/4 they will be!)