

Vectors

Summary: In this laboratory, you will explore various aspects of the Vector data type that Scheme provides as an alternative to lists.

Contents:

- Exercises
 - Exercise 0: Preparation
 - Exercise 1: Create a Simple Vector
 - Exercise 2: Modifying Lists and Vectors
 - Exercise 3: Specifying Vector Length
 - Exercise 4: Summing Vectors
 - Exercise 5: Filling Vectors
- If You Have Extra Time
 - Extra 1: Rotating Vectors
 - Extra 2: Reversing Vectors
 - Extra 3: Rotating Vectors, Revisited
- Notes
 - Notes on Exercise 5: Filling Vectors

Exercises

Exercise 0: Preparation

Tell DrScheme not to print the lengths of vectors by entering `(print-vector-length #f)`.

Exercise 1: Create a Simple Vector

- a. In DrScheme's interaction window, type in a vector literal that denotes a vector containing just the two elements 3.14159 and 2.71828. How does DrScheme display the value of this vector?
- b. Create a vector that contains the same two values by using the `vector` procedure.
- c. Create a vector that contains the same two values by using the `make-vector` and `vector-set!` procedures.

Exercise 2: Modifying Lists and Vectors

Consider the following code.

```
> (define aardvark (list 1 2 3 4))
> (define baboon aardvark)
> (define aardvark (cons 5 (cdr aardvark)))
> (define chinchilla (vector 1 2 3 4))
> (define dingo chinchilla)
> (vector-set! chinchilla 0 5)
```

a. What do you expect the output of the following commands to be?

```
> (list-ref aardvark 0)
```

```
_____
> (list-ref baboon 0)
```

b. Verify your answer experimentally.

c. What do your results suggest about Scheme?

d. What do you expect the output of the following commands to be?

```
> (vector-ref chinchilla 0)
```

```
_____
> (vector-ref dingo 0)
```

e. Verify your answer experimentally.

f. What do your results suggest about Scheme?

Exercise 3: Specifying Vector Length

a. Tell DrScheme to print the length of vectors by entering `(print-vector-length #t)`.

b. Enter each of the following vector expressions in DrScheme; consider the result (perhaps by examining individual elements with `vector-ref`); and indicate what vector has been created.

- `#4(0)`
- `#4(1)`
- `#4(1 2)`
- `#2(1 2 3 4)`
- `(make-vector 4 0)`

c. Tell DrScheme not to print the lengths of vectors. Re-enter each expression. Do your results differ? What do the differences suggest?

Exercise 4: Summing Vectors

Write a procedure, `(vector-sum numbers)`, which takes one argument, a vector of numbers, and returns the sum of the elements of that vector.

You can use `vector->list` from the reading as a *pattern* for `vector-sum` -- only a few judicious changes are needed. However, you should *not* use `vector->list` as a helper.

Exercise 5: Filling Vectors

In the reading on vectors, we saw that it was possible to implement `list->vector` and `vector->list` by using more primitive operations (particularly `vector-set!` and `vector-length`).

Write your own version of `vector-fill!`. Remember that `vector-fill!` takes two parameters, a vector and a value, and puts that value in every position of the vector.

Note: You may find that you want to do two things for a particular position: fill the value at that position and recurse. Remember that when you want to sequence actions, you should use a `begin` clause: `(begin exp1 exp2)`.

If You Have Extra Time

Extra 1: Rotating Vectors

Write a procedure, `(rotate! vec)` that rotates the elements in `vec`. That is, `rotate!` puts the initial element of `vec` at the end, the element at position 1 in position 0, the element at position 2 in position 1, and so on and so forth.

Extra 2: Reversing Vectors

a. Write a procedure, `(reverse-vector vec)`, that creates a new vector whose elements appear in the reverse order of the elements in `vec`.

b. Write a procedure, `(reverse-vector! vec)`, that reverses `vec` “in place”. That is, instead of producing a new vector, it rearranges the elements within `vec`.

Extra 3: Rotating Vectors, Revisited

Write a procedure, `(rotate! vec amt)`, that rotates the values in `vec` by `amt` positions. That is, the first `amt` values in `vec` move to the end, the value in position `amt` moves to position 0, the value in position `amt+1` moves to position 1, and so on and so forth.

Notes

Notes on Exercise 5: Filling Vectors

Just as in the case of `list->vector`, you will probably want to define a helper procedure that fills only part of the vector. Your termination condition will certainly be different and should probably involve the length of the vector.

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