

## Class 24: Revisiting Lists

**Held:** Friday, March 5, 2010

**Summary:** We explore further details of Scheme's lists. Lists can be a key mechanism for structuring data. We also consider how lists can be used to represent drawings.

### Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Exploring Lists.
- Reading: Building Data Structures with Heterogeneous Lists.

### Notes:

- Reading for Monday: Recursion Basics (Warning: the reading is complex; expect to bring questions).
- Are there questions on Assignment 6?
- Skip problems 5 & 6 on today's lab.
- It appears that we'll have lots of missing students today.
- EC for today's Peace Studies sessions (1p, 3pm, or 4:45 pm).

### Overview:

- Lists, Revisited
- New List Operations
- Drawings as Values

## Lists, Revisited

- Original notion of lists:
  - Collection of values
  - Homogeneous: All the values in a list are the same type
  - Used primarily with `map` and `for-each`
- Extending that notion
  - Can also be *heterogeneous*: Values in the list may have multiple types
  - Can examine individual elements with `car`, `cdr`, and `list-ref`.
  - Can be extended (creating new lists) with `cons`.
- Why is the new view important?
  - It will soon give us the opportunity to manipulate lists in new and interesting ways.

## Implementing Drawings

- We can (and do) use lists to implement drawings.
  - The reading considers a simplified representation, in which the width and height of a drawing are the same.
  - But the general process is the same
    - Group the values in a list
    - When we need to render or manipulate a drawing, use the list operations to extract parts.
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