

## Introductory Scheme Exercise

<http://racket-lang.org> and <http://ranger.uta.edu/~weems/NOTES3302/NEWMOTES/NOTES02/notes02.rkt> are assumed to be on your machine.

A simple game commences with two piles of stones. After agreeing on who-goes-first, each player in alternating turns may choose one of the following options:

Take a stone from one of the piles.

Take two stones, one from each of the two piles.

*The loser is the player left with two empty piles and no option for taking stones.*

(Game-theoretic disclaimer: To have “perfect information”, the number of stones in each pile is known . . .)

1. Write the simplest possible Scheme code to indicate whether the first player has a win and the strategy for the first move, as found by an exhaustive search. The “luser” should type `(play m n)` where `m` and `n` are positive integers. The possible outputs are:

```
"Win by taking from both"
"Win by taking from first"
"Win by taking from second"
"Can't win"
```

A few test cases:

```
(play 3 5)
(play 7 6)
(play 4 7)
(play 6 6)
(play 10 10)
```

2. The `member?` function in Notes 2 works for lists:

```
> (member? 444 '(111 222 333 20))
#f
> (member? 111 '(111 222 333 20))
#t
```

Modify it so it also works for lists with arbitrary elements:

```
> (member? '(444 333) '(111 (222 333) 20))
#f
> (member? '(111 222) '(555 (111 222) 333 20))
#t
```

3. Write code to:
  - a. `define` a name associated with an empty list.
  - b. Insert a list or atom at the beginning of your named list (use `set!`)
4. The simple code for part 1. is horribly inefficient since it recomputes function values. Modify the code, using parts 2. and 3., to maintain a list of pairs for each case of “winners” and “losers”.

After running a few cases, print your “caches” to reveal the secret of this game.