

HW1 - Regular Expression Parsing

Here is a set of strings with balanced parentheses.

```
In [28]: yes1 = "x (a b c) y"
         yes2 = "(((x)))"
         yes3 = "a (b (c d) ((e)) f) (g)"
```

Here is a set of strings with unbalanced parentheses.

```
In [29]: no1 = "(a b c"
         no2 = "((( )))"
         no3 = "a (b (c d) (e)) f) (g)"
```

Write a function `check_balanced` that uses regular expressions to check whether the parentheses are balanced. Note that you can't do this with a single regular expression, you need to write a little loop around it. Your code structure might differ a little from the function below, but it shouldn't be much longer.

```
In [2]: import re
def check_balanced(s):
    number_of_subs_made = 1 # temp number
    pattern1 = "\([^()\]+)"
    repl1 = 'x' # just a filler
    while number_of_subs_made > 0:
        (new_string, number_of_subs_made) = re.subn(pattern1, repl1, s)
        s = new_string
    pattern2 = "[^\(\)]" # selects all the non parentheses
    repl2 = '' # empty string
    (new_string, number_of_subs_made) = re.subn(pattern2, repl2, s)
    return len(new_string) == 0
```

Now show that it works.

```
In [31]: print check_balanced(yes1)
         print check_balanced(yes2)
         print check_balanced(yes3)
```

```
True
True
True
```

```
In [32]: print check_balanced(no1)
         print check_balanced(no2)
         print check_balanced(no3)
```

```
False
False
False
```

```
In [3]: print check_balanced('')()
```

```
False
```

```
In [ ]:
```