



# CS61A Lecture 33

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# Announcements



- Hog revisions due tonight
  
- HW10 due Wednesday
  
- Last chance to fill out survey on Piazza
  - We need to schedule alternate final exam times for those who have a conflict, so if you do, let us know on the survey when you are available

# Programming Languages



Computers have software written in many different languages

Machine languages: statements can be interpreted by hardware

- All data are represented as a sequence of bits
- All statements are primitive instructions

High-level languages: hide concerns about those details

- Primitive data types beyond just bits
- Statements/expressions, data can be non-primitive (e.g. calls)
- Evaluation process is defined in software, not hardware

High-level languages are built on top of low-level languages

Machine  
Language

C

Python

# Metalinguistic Abstraction



**Metalinguistic abstraction:** Establishing new technical languages (such as programming languages)

$$f(x) = x^2 - 2x + 1$$

$$\lambda f.(\lambda x.f(x x))(\lambda x.f(x x))$$

In computer science, languages can be *implemented*:

- An *interpreter* for a programming language is a function that, when applied to an expression of the language, performs the actions required to evaluate that expression
- The *semantics* and *syntax* of a language must be specified precisely in order to build an interpreter

# The Scheme-Syntax Calculator Language



A subset of Scheme that includes:

- Number primitives
- Built-in arithmetic operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$
- Call expressions

```
> (+ (* 3 5) (- 10 6))
```

```
19
```

```
> (+ (* 3  
      (+ (* 2 4)  
          (+ 3 5))))  
    (+ (- 10 7)  
      6))
```

```
57
```

# Syntax and Semantics of Calculator



## Expression types:

- A **call expression** is a Scheme list
- A **primitive expression** is an operator symbol or number

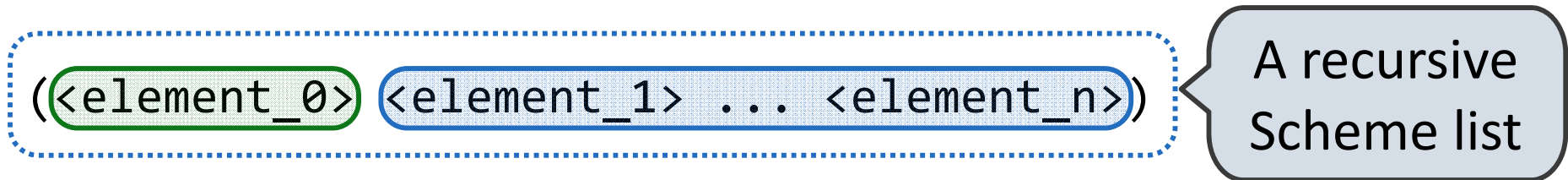
## Operators:

- The **+** operator returns the sum of its arguments
- The **-** operator returns either
  - the additive inverse of a single argument, or
  - the sum of subsequent arguments subtracted from the first
- The **\*** operator returns the product of its arguments
- The **/** operator returns the real-valued quotient of a dividend and divisor (i.e. a numerator and denominator)

# Reading Scheme Lists



A Scheme list is written as elements in parentheses:



Each `<element>` can be a combination or primitive

```
(+ (* 3 (+ (* 2 4) (+ 3 5))) (+ (- 10 7) 6))
```

The task of *parsing* a language involves coercing a string representation of an expression to the expression itself

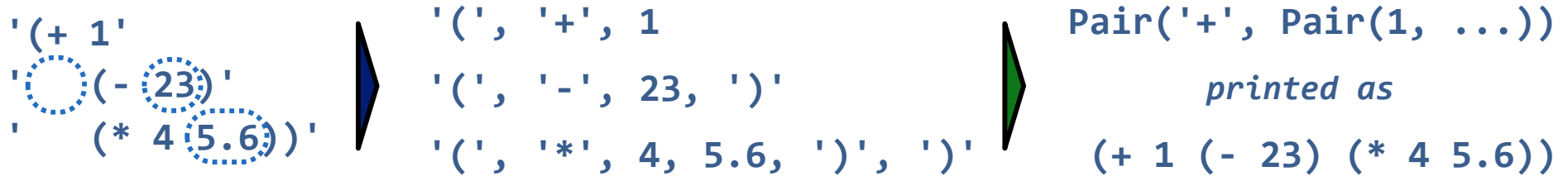
Parsers must validate that expressions are well-formed

[http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme\\_reader.py.html](http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme_reader.py.html)

# Parsing



A parser takes a sequence of lines and returns an expression.



- Iterative process
- Checks for malformed tokens
- Determines types of tokens
- Processes one line at a time

- Tree-recursive process
- Balances parentheses
- Returns tree structure
- Processes multiple lines



# Syntactic Analysis



Syntactic analysis identifies the hierarchical structure of an expression, which may be nested.

Each call to **scheme\_read** consumes the input tokens for exactly one expression.

'(', '+', 1, '(', '-', 23, ')', '(', '\*', 4, 5.6, ')', ')'

A diagram showing the tokens of the expression '(', '+', 1, '(', '-', 23, ')', '(', '\*', 4, 5.6, ')', ')'. Below each token is a small green triangle pointing upwards, indicating the position of each token in the input stream.

**Base case:** symbols and numbers

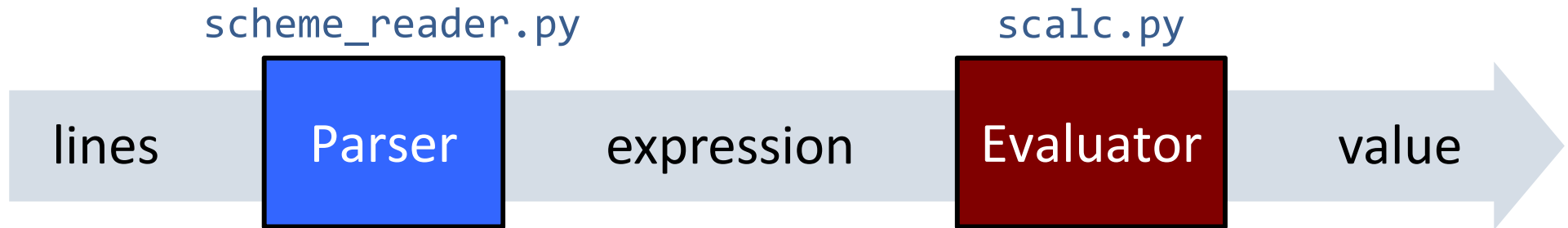
**Recursive call:** **scheme\_read** sub-expressions and combine them as pairs

[http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme\\_reader.py.html](http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme_reader.py.html)

# Expression Trees



A basic interpreter has two parts: a parser and an *evaluator*



'(+ 2 2)'                      Pair('+', Pair(2, Pair(2, nil)))                      4

'(\* (+ 1'  
'        (- 23)'  
'        (\* 4 5.6))'  
' 10)'  
Pair('\*', Pair(Pair(+, ...)))  
*printed as*  
(\* (+ 1 (- 23) (\* 4 5.6)) 10)                      4

Lines forming a  
Scheme expression

A number or a **Pair** with an  
operator as its first element

A number

# Evaluation



Evaluation discovers the form of an expression and then executes a corresponding evaluation rule

Primitive expressions are evaluated directly

Call expressions are evaluated recursively:

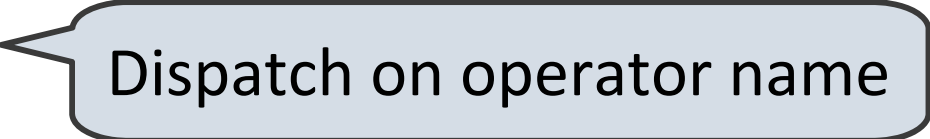
- Evaluate each operand expression
- Collect their values as a list of arguments
- *Apply* the named operator to the argument list

# Applying Operators



Calculator has a fixed set of operators that we can enumerate

```
def calc_apply(operator, args):  
    """Apply the named operator to a list of args."""  
    if operator == '+':  
        return ...  
    if operator == '-':  
        ...  
    ...  
    ...
```

A light blue callout box with a black border and a pointer pointing to the first 'if' statement in the code. It contains the text "Dispatch on operator name".

(<http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scalc.py.html>)



# Read-Eval-Print Loop



The user interface to many programming languages is an interactive loop, which

- Reads an expression from the user,
- Parses the input to build an expression tree,
- Evaluates the expression tree,
- Prints the resulting value of the expression

The REPL handles errors by printing informative messages for the user, rather than crashing

A well-designed REPL should not crash on any input!