



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:

`(element_0 element_1 ... element_n)` A recursive Scheme list

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

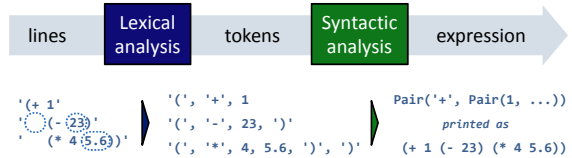
Parsers must validate that expressions are well-formed

http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme_reader.py.html

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', ')', ')'

Base case: symbols and numbers

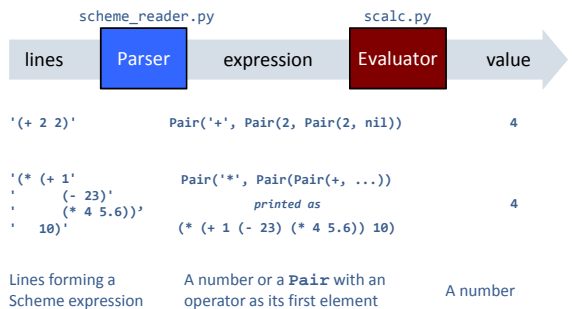
Recursive call: `scheme_read` sub-expressions and combine them as pairs

http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp13/projects/scalc/scheme_reader.py.html

Expression Trees



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



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 == '-':
        ...
    ...
```

Dispatch on operator name

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

Raising Application Errors



The `-` and `/` operators have restrictions on argument number
Raising exceptions in *apply* can identify such issues

```
def calc_apply(operator, args):
    """Apply the named operator to a list of args."""
    if operator == '-':
        if len(args) == 0:
            raise TypeError(operator + ' requires ' +
                            'at least 1 argument')
        ...
    if operator == '/':
        if len(args) != 2:
            raise TypeError(operator + ' requires ' +
                            'exactly 2 arguments')
        ...
```

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!