

Lojban: The good parts

Language is a complex solution to the simple problem of communication. Natural languages, such as English, do not have brevity or simplicity as core precepts. Lojban goes most of the way to simplifying language. But in covering all possible meanings, Lojban - the most logical of languages - becomes too complex.

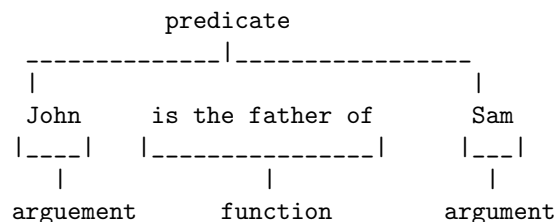
This article will attempt to present Lojban, distilled in its purest form.

Terms

Lojban is a carefully constructed spoken language designed in the hope of removing a large portion of the ambiguity from human communication.

Syntax

To anyone coming from a computing or mathematical background, Lojban's structure will look very familiar:



To most programmers (except Haskell coders) having an argument before the function is odd. This is called infix notation. Consider the **plus** function. In postfix notation, we use it thusly:

```
plus(2, 4)
= 6
```

with infix, we would use it like this:

```
2 plus 4
= 6
```

which makes perfect sense if we were to use a language such as Scala that allows **+** to be used as a function:

```
2 + 4
= 6
```