

CSCC24 2021 Summer – Assignment 4
Due: Wednesday, August 11, midnight
This assignment is worth 10% of the course grade.

In this assignment, you will implement a recursive descent parser in Haskell.
Code quality is worth 10% of the marks.

where-expressions

Mathematicians like to write like “ $x + y$ where $x = 4z$ and $y = 5t$ ”, which corresponds to the `let-in` construct in Haskell (*not* the `where` construct).

But it is possible to design a language to support mathematicians’ convention! Here is one such design in EBNF (the start symbol is `<wexpr>`):

```
<wexpr> ::= <expr> [ "where" <def> { "and" <def> } ]
<def>   ::= <var> "=" <expr>
<expr>  ::= <expr> <binop> <expr>
          | <uop> <expr>
          | <var>
          | <natural>
          | "(" <wexpr> ")"
<binop> ::= "+" | "-" | "*" | "^"
<unop>  ::= "-"
```

It contains deliberate ambiguity and omissions, to be resolved by these points:

- `<var>` can be done by `identifier` from `ParserLib`, noting that the reserved words are: `where`, `and`.
- `<natural>` can be done by `natural` from `ParserLib`.
- The part about
`<expr> ::= <expr> <binop> <expr> | <uop> <expr>`

is deliberately ambiguous and left-recursive! It is not ready for recursive descent parsing. You need to rewrite to an unambiguous, non-left-recursive form based on these operator precedence levels, from highest to lowest:

operator	associativity
parentheses ^	right
unary minus	
*	left
binary plus, minus	left

- Whitespaces around tokens are possible.

The abstract syntax tree to build is defined by this data type in `WexprDef.hs`:

```

data Wexpr
  = Nat Integer
  | Var String
  | Neg Wexpr -- unary minus
  | Plus Wexpr Wexpr
  | Minus Wexpr Wexpr
  | Times Wexpr Wexpr
  | Pow Wexpr Wexpr
  | Where Wexpr [(String, Wexpr)]

```

Here are some non-obvious examples of input strings and expected answers:

- Input: 5 - 4 + 3
Answer: Plus (Minus (Nat 5) (Nat 4)) (Nat 3)
- Input: 5 + - 4 or 5 + -4
Answer: Plus (Nat 5) (Neg 4)
- Input: -- 5
Answer: Neg (Neg (Nat 5))
- Input: -- 5
Error, -- is better not treated as two consecutive unary minuses. If you use `operator` from `ParserLib`, you get this behaviour automatically.
- Input: 5 +- 4 or 5 +-4
Error, ditto.
- Input: foo where y = 5 and z = 1
Answer: Where (Var "foo") [("y", Nat 5), ("z", Nat 1)]
- Input: (foo where y = 5) where z = (b where b = 1)
Answer:
Where (Where (Var "foo") [("y", Nat 5)])
 [("z", Where (Var "b") [(Var "b", Nat 1)])]
- Input: foo where y=5 where z=b where b=1
Error.

Implement the parser as `wexpr` in `WexprParser.hs`. My tests will only test `wexpr` directly or via `mainParser` in `testParser.hs`. You are free to organize your helper parsers.

End of questions.