Overview

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Céu provides Structured Synchronous Reactive Programming with the following general characteristics:

- Reactive: code executes in reactions to events.
- Structured: code uses structured control-flow mechanisms, such as spawn and await (to create and suspend lines of execution).
- Synchronous: event reactions run atomically and to completion on each line of execution.

The lines of execution in Céu, known as *trails*, react all together to input events one after another, in discrete steps. An input event is broadcast to all active trails, which share the event as an unique and global time reference.

The example in Céu that follows blinks a LED every second and terminates on a button press:

```
input none BUTTON;
output on/off LED;
par/or do
    await BUTTON;
with
    loop do
        await 1s;
    emit LED(on);
    await 1s;
    emit LED(off);
    end
end
```

The synchronous concurrency model of Céu greatly diverges from multithreaded and actor-based models (e.g. *pthreads* and *erlang*). On the one hand, there is no preemption or real parallelism at the synchronous core of the language (i.e., no multi-core execution). On the other hand, accesses to shared variables among trails are deterministic and do not require synchronization primitives (i.e., *locks* or *queues*).

Céu provides static memory management based on lexical scope and does not require a garbage collector.

Céu integrates safely with C, particularly when manipulating external resources (e.g., file handles). Programs can make native calls seamlessly while avoiding common pitfalls such as memory leaks and dangling pointers.

Céu is free software.

```
{overview/environments.md!}
{overview/synchronous_execution_model.md!}
{overview/parallel_compositions_and_abortion.md!}
{overview/bounded_execution.md!}
{overview/deterministic_execution.md!}
{overview/internal_reactions.md!}
```

Lexical Rules

Lexical Rules

Keywords

Keywords in Céu are reserved names that cannot be used as identifiers (e.g., for variables and events):

and	as	async	atomic	await
bool	break	byte	call	code
const	continue	data	deterministic	do
dynamic	else	emit	end	escape
event	every	false	finalize	FOREVER
hold	if	in	input	int
integer	is	isr	kill	lock
loop	lua	native	NEVER	new
no	nohold	none	not	nothing
null	off	on	or	outer
output	par	pause	plain	pool
pos	pre	pure	r32	r64
real	recursive	request	resume	s16

s32	s64	s8	sizeof	spawn
ssize	static	then	thread	tight
traverse	true	u16	u32	u64
u8	uint	until	usize	val
var	watching	with	yes	

TODO: catch, throw, throws

Identifiers

Céu uses identifiers to refer to types (ID_type), variables (ID_int), vectors (ID_int), pools (ID_int), internal events (ID_int), external events (ID_ext), code abstractions (ID_abs), data abstractions (ID_abs), fields (ID_field), native symbols (ID nat), and block labels (ID int).

```
::= [a-z, A-Z, 0-9, _]+ // a sequence of letters, digits, and underscores
ID
ID_int
         ::= ID
                                 // ID beginning with lowercase
ID_ext
         ::= ID
                                 // ID all in uppercase, not beginning with digit
{\tt ID\_abs}
        ::= ID {`.´ ID}
                                 // IDs beginning with uppercase, containing at least one
                                 // ID not beginning with digit
ID_field ::= ID
                                 // ID beginning with underscore
ID_nat
        ::= ID
ID_type ::= ( ID_nat | ID_abs
             none
                     | on/off | yes/no
             | bool
             | byte
             | r32
                     | r64
                               | real
             | s8
                     | s16
                               | s32
                                         | s64
                                         | u64
             | u8
                               | u32
                     | u16
```

Declarations for **code** and **data** abstractions create new types which can be used as type identifiers.

| integer

Examples:

| int

| uint

| ssize | usize)

```
var int a;  // "a" is a variable, "int" is a type
emit e;  // "e" is an internal event
await I;  // "I" is an external input event
```

```
spawn Move();  // "Move" is a code abstraction and a type
var Rect r;  // "Rect" is a data abstraction and a type
escape r.width;  // "width" is a field
_printf("hello world!\n");  // "_printf" is a native symbol
```

Literals

Céu provides literals for booleans, integers, reals, strings, and null pointers.

Booleans

The boolean type has only two possible values: true and false.

The boolean values on and yes are synonymous to true and can be used interchangeably. The boolean values off and no are synonymous to false and can be used interchangeably.

Integers

Céu supports decimal and hexadecimal integers:

- Decimals: a sequence of digits (i.e., [0-9]+).
- Hexadecimals: a sequence of hexadecimal digits (i.e., [0-9, a-f, A-F]+) prefixed by 0x.

Examples:

```
// both are equal to the decimal 127 v = 127; // decimal v = 0x7F; // hexadecimal
```

Floats

```
TODO (like C)
```

Strings

A sequence of characters surrounded by the character " is converted into a *null-terminated string*, just like in C:

```
_printf("Hello World!\n");
```

Null pointer

```
TODO (like C)
```

Comments

Céu provides C-style comments:

- Single-line comments begin with // and run to end of the line.
- Multi-line comments use /* and */ as delimiters. Multi-line comments can be nested by using a different number of * as delimiters.

Examples:

```
var int a;  // this is a single-line comment

/** comments a block that contains comments

var int a;

/* this is a nested multi-line comment
a = 1;
*/

**/
```

Types

Types

Céu is statically typed, requiring all variables, events, and other storage entities to be declared before they are used in programs.

A type is composed of a type identifier, followed by an optional sequence of pointer modifiers &&, followed by an optional option modifier ?:

```
Type ::= ID_type {`&&´} [`?´]

Examples:

var u8 v; // "v" is of 8-bit unsigned integer type
var _rect r; // "r" is of external native type "rect"
var Tree t; // "t" is a data of type "Tree"
var int? ret; // "ret" is either unset or is of integer type
input byte&& RECV; // "RECV" is an input event carrying a pointer to a "byte"
```

Primitives

Céu has the following primitive types:

```
// void type
none
bool
                   // boolean type
                   // synonym to bool
on/off
yes/no
                   // synonym to bool
byte
                   // 1-byte type
                   // platform dependent signed and unsigned integer
int
         uint
integer
                   // synonym to int
                   // signed and unsigned 8-bit integers
s8
         u8
s16
         u16
                   // signed and unsigned 16-bit integers
         u32
                   // signed and unsigned 32-bit integers
s32
         u64
                   // signed and unsigned 64-bit integers
s64
                   // platform dependent real
real
                   // 32-bit and 64-bit reals
r32
         r64
                   // signed and unsigned size types
ssize
         usize
```

Natives

Types defined externally in C can be prefixed by _ to be used in Céu programs.

Example:

```
var _message_t msg; // "message_t" is a C type defined in an external library Native types support modifiers to provide additional information to the compiler.
```

Abstractions

See Abstractions.

Modifiers

Types can be suffixed with the pointer modifier && and the option modifier ?.

Pointer

```
TODO (like in C)
TODO cannot cross yielding statements
```

Option

```
TODO (like "Maybe")
TODO: _
```

Storage Entities

Storage Entities

Storage entities represent all objects that are stored in memory during execution. Céu supports *variables*, *vectors*, *events* (external and internal), and *pools* as entity classes.

An entity declaration consists of an entity class, a type, and an identifier.

Examples:

```
var int v;  // "v" is a variable of type "int"
var[9] byte buf;  // "buf" is a vector with at most 9 values of type "byte"
input none&& A;  // "A" is an input event that carries values of type "none&&"
event bool e;  // "e" is an internal event that carries values of type "bool"
pool[] Anim anims; // "anims" is a dynamic "pool" of instances of type "Anim"
```

A declaration binds the identifier with a memory location that holds values of the associated type.

Lexical Scope

Storage entities have lexical scope, i.e., they are visible only in the block in which they are declared.

The lifetime of entities, which is the period between allocation and deallocation in memory, is also limited to the scope of the enclosing block. However, individual elements inside *vector* and *pool* entities have dynamic lifetime, but which never outlive the scope of the declaration.

Entity Classes

Variables

A variable in Céu holds a value of a declared type that may vary during program execution. The value of a variable can be read in expressions or written in assignments. The current value of a variable is preserved until the next assignment, during its whole lifetime.

```
var int v = _; // empty initializaton
par/and do
    v = 1; // write access
with
    v = 2; // write access
end
escape v; // read access (yields 2)
```

Vectors

A vector in Céu is a dynamic and contiguous collection of variables of the same type.

A vector declaration specifies its type and maximum number of elements (possibly unlimited). The current length of a vector is dynamic and can be accessed through the operator \$.

Individual elements of a vector can be accessed through an index starting from 0. Céu generates an error for out-of-bounds vector accesses.

Example:

```
var[9] byte buf = [1,2,3]; // write access
buf = buf .. [4]; // write access
escape buf[1]; // read access (yields 2)
TODO: ring buffers
```

Events

Events account for the reactive nature of Céu. Programs manipulate events through the await and emit statements. An await halts the running trail until the specified event occurs. An event occurrence is broadcast to the whole program and awakes trails awaiting that event to resume execution.

Unlike all other entity classes, the value of an event is ephemeral and does not persist after a reaction terminates. For this reason, an event identifier is not a variable: values can only be communicated through emit and await statements. A declaration includes the type of value the occurring event carries.

Note: none is a valid type for signal-only events with no associated values.

As described in Internal Reactions, Céu supports external and internal events with different behavior.

External Events

External events are used as interfaces between programs and devices from the real world:

- input events represent input devices such as a sensor, button, mouse, etc.
- output events represent output devices such as a LED, motor, screen, etc.

The availability of external events depends on the environment in use.

Programs can emit output events and await input events.

Internal Events

Internal events, unlike external events, do not represent real devices and are defined by the programmer. Internal events serve as signalling and communication mechanisms among trails in a program.

Programs can emit and await internal events.

Pools

A pool is a dynamic container to hold running code abstractions.

A pool declaration specifies the type of the abstraction and maximum number of concurrent instances (possibly unlimited). Individual elements of pools can only be accessed through iterators. New elements are created with spawn and are removed automatically when the code execution terminates.

Example:

When a pool declaration goes out of scope, all running code abstractions are automatically aborted.

TODO: kill

Locations

A location (aka *l-value*) is a path to a memory position holding a value.

The list that follows summarizes all valid locations:

- storage entity: variable, vector, internal event (but not external), or pool
- native expression or symbol
- data field
- vector index
- vector length \$
- pointer dereferencing *
- option unwrapping!

Locations appear in assignments, event manipulation, iterators, and expressions. Locations are detailed in Locations and Expressions.

Examples:

References

Céu supports *aliases* and *pointers* as references to entities, aka *strong* and *weak* references, respectively.

An alias is an alternate view for an entity: after the entity and alias are bounded, they are indistinguishable.

A pointer is a value that is the address of an entity, providing indirect access to it.

As an analogy with a person's identity, a family nickname referring to a person is an alias; a job position referring to a person is a pointer.

Aliases

Céu support aliases to all storage entity classes, except external events and pointer types. Céu also supports option variable aliases which are aliases that may be bounded or not.

An alias is declared by suffixing the entity class with the modifier & and is acquired by prefixing an entity identifier with the operator &.

An alias must have a narrower scope than the entity it refers to. The assignment to the alias is immutable and must occur between its declaration and first access or next yielding statement.

Example:

An option variable alias, declared as var&?, serves two purposes:

- Map a native resource to Céu. The alias is acquired by prefixing the associated native call with the operator &. Since the allocation may fail, the alias may remain unbounded.
- Hold the result of a spawn invocation. Since the allocation may fail, the alias may remain unbounded.

Accesses to option variable aliases must always use option checking or unwrapping.

Pointers

A pointer is declared by suffixing the type with the modifier && and is acquired by prefixing an entity with the operator &&. Applying the operator * to a pointer provides indirect access to its referenced entity.

Example:

The following restrictions apply to pointers in Céu:

- No support for pointers to events, vectors, or pools (only variables).
- A pointer is only accessible between its declaration and the next yielding statement.

Statements

Statements

A program in Céu is a sequence of statements delimited by an implicit enclosing block:

```
Program ::= Block
Block ::= {Stmt `;'}
```

Note: statements terminated with the end keyword do not require a terminating semicolon.

Nothing

nothing is an innocuous statement:

```
Nothing ::= nothing
```

Blocks

A Block delimits a lexical scope for storage entities and abstractions, which are only visible to statements inside the block.

Compound statements (e.g. do-end, if-then-else, loops, etc.) create new blocks and can be nested to an arbitrary level.

do-end and escape

The do-end statement creates an explicit block. The escape statement terminates the deepest matching enclosing do-end:

```
Escape ::= escape ['/'ID_int] [Exp]
```

A do-end and escape accept an optional identifier following the symbol /. An escape only matches a do-end with the same identifier. The neutral identifier _ in a do-end is guaranteed not to match any escape statement.

A do-end also supports an optional list of identifiers in parenthesis which restricts the visible storage entities inside the block to those matching the list. An empty list hides all storage entities from the enclosing scope.

A do-end can be assigned to a variable whose type must be matched by nested escape statements. The whole block evaluates to the value of a reached escape. If the variable is of option type, the do-end is allowed to terminate without an escape, otherwise it raises a runtime error.

Programs have an implicit enclosing do-end that assigns to a *program status* variable of type int whose meaning is platform dependent.

```
do
    do/a
       do/_
            escape; // matches line 1
        escape/a;
                        // matches line 2
    end
end
var int a;
var int b;
do (a)
    a = 1;
   b = 2; // "b" is not visible
end
var int? v =
    do
        if <cnd> then
            escape 10; // assigns 10 to "v"
        else
                        // "v" remains unassigned
            nothing;
        end
    end;
escape 0;
                        // program terminates with a status value of 0
```

pre-do-end

The pre-do-end statement prepends its statements in the beginning of the program:

All pre-do-end statements are concatenated together in the order they appear and are moved to the beginning of the top-level block, before all other statements.

Declarations

A declaration introduces a storage entity to the enclosing block. All declarations are subject to lexical scope.

Céu supports variables, vectors, pools, internal events, and external events:

Sources ::= /* (see "Assignments") */

Most declarations support an initialization assignment.

Variables

A variable declaration has an associated type and can be optionally initialized. Declarations can also be aliases or option aliases.

Examples:

```
var int v = 10; // "v" is an integer variable initialized to 10 var int a=0, b=3; // "a" and "b" are integer variables initialized to 0 and 3 var& int z = &v; // "z" is an alias to "v"
```

Vectors

A vector declaration specifies a dimension between brackets, an associated type and can be optionally initialized. Declarations can also be aliases. TODO: ring buffers

Examples:

```
var int n = 10;  var[10] \text{ int } vs1 = []; \qquad // \text{"vs1" is a static vector of 10 elements max}   var[n] \text{ int } vs2 = []; \qquad // \text{"vs2" is a dynamic vector of 10 elements max}   var[] \text{ int } vs3 = []; \qquad // \text{"vs3" is an unbounded vector}   var\&[] \text{ int } vs4 = \&vs1; \qquad // \text{"vs4" is an alias to "vs1"}
```

Pools

A pool declaration specifies a dimension and an associated type. Declarations for pools can also be aliases. Only in this case they can be initialized.

The expression between the brackets specifies the dimension of the pool.

Examples:

Dimension

Declarations for vectors or pools require an expression between brackets to specify a dimension as follows:

- constant expression: Maximum number of elements is fixed and space is statically pre-allocated.
- variable expression: Maximum number of elements is fixed but space is dynamically allocated. The expression is evaulated once at declaration time.
- *omitted*: Maximum number of elements is unbounded and space is dynamically allocated. The space for dynamic dimensions grow and shrink automatically.
- TODO: ring buffers

Events

An event declaration specifies a type for the values it carries when occurring. It can be also a list of types if the event communicates multiple values.

External Events

```
input none A; // "A" is an input event carrying no values output int MY_EVT; // "MY_EVT" is an output event carrying integer values input (int,byte&&) BUF; // "BUF" is an input event carrying an "(int,byte&&)" pair TODO: output &/impl
```

Internal Events

Declarations for internal events can also be aliases. Only in this case they can be initialized.

Examples:

Assignments

An assignment associates the statement or expression at the right side of the symbol = with the location(s) at the left side:

Céu supports the following constructs as assignment sources:

- do-end block
- external emit
- await
- watching statement
- thread
- lua statement
- code await
- code spawn
- vector length & constructor

- data constructor
- expression
- the special identifier _

The special identifier _ makes the assignment innocuous. In the case of assigning to an option type, the _ unsets it.

TODO: required for uninitialized variables

Await ::= await (ID_ext | Loc) [until Exp]

Copy Assignment

A *copy assignment* evaluates the statement or expression at the right side and copies the result(s) to the location(s) at the left side.

Alias Assignment

An alias assignment, aka binding, makes the location at the left side to be an alias to the expression at the right side.

The right side of a binding must always be prefixed with the operator &.

Event Handling

await FOREVER;

Await

The await statement halts the running trail until the specified event occurs. The event can be an input event, an internal event, a terminating code abstraction, a timer, a pausing event, or forever (i.e., never awakes):

```
| await (WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE)
                                               /* timers */
       | await (pause|resume)
                                               /* pausing events */
                                               /* forever */
       | await FOREVER
Examples:
await A;
                         // awaits the input event "A"
await a until v==10;
                     // awaits the internal event "a" until the condition is satisfied
var&? My_Code my = <...>; // acquires a reference to a code abstraction instance
                         // awaits it terminate
await my;
await 1min10s30ms100us; // awaits the specified time
                         // awaits the current value of the variable "t" in milliseconds
await (t)ms;
```

/* events and option aliases */

An await evaluates to zero or more values which can be captured with an optional assignment.

// awaits forever

Event

The await statement for events halts the running trail until the specified input event or internal event occurs. The await evaluates to a value of the type of the event.

The optional clause until tests an awaking condition. The condition can use the returned value from the await. It expands to a loop as follows:

```
loop do
    <ret> = await <evt>;
    if <Exp> then // <Exp> can use <ret>
        break;
    end
end
Examples:
                                // "E" is an input event carrying "int" values
input int E;
var int v = await E until v>10; // assigns occurring "E" to "v", awaking only when "<math>v>10"
                                // "e" is an internal event carrying "(bool,int)" pairs
event (bool,int) e;
var bool v1;
var int v2;
(v1,v2) = await e;
                                // awakes on "e" and assigns its values to "v1" and "v2"
```

Code Abstraction

The await statement for a code abstraction halts the running trail until the specified instance terminates.

The await evaluates to the return value of the abstraction.

```
TODO: option return on kill
Example:
var&? My_Code my = spawn My_Code();
var? int ret = await my;
```

Timer

The await statement for timers halts the running trail until the specified timer expires:

- WCLOCKK specifies a constant timer expressed as a sequence of value/unit pairs.
- WCLOCKE specifies an integer expression in parenthesis followed by a single unit of time.

The await evaluates to a value of type s32 and is the residual delta time (dt) measured in microseconds: the difference between the actual elapsed time and the requested time. The residual dt is always greater than or equal to 0.

If a program awaits timers in sequence (or in a loop), the residual dt from the preceding timer is reduced from the timer in sequence.

Examples:

Pausing

Pausing events are dicussed in Pausing.

FOREVER

The await statement for FOREVER halts the running trail forever. It cannot be used in assignments because it never evaluates to anything.

Example:

```
if v==10 then await FOREVER; \ //\ this trail never awakes if condition is true end
```

Emit

The emit statement broadcasts an event to the whole program. The event can be an external event, an internal event, or a timer:

Events

The emit statement for events expects the arguments to match the event type.

An emit to an input or timer event can only occur inside asynchronous blocks.

An emit to an output event is also an expression that evaluates to a value of type s32 and can be captured with an optional assignment (its meaning is platform dependent).

An emit to an internal event starts a new internal reaction.

Examples:

```
input int I;
async do
    emit I(10);    // broadcasts "I" to the application itself, passing "10"
end

output none 0;
var int ret = emit O(); // outputs "O" to the environment and captures the result

event (int,int) e;
emit e(1,2);    // broadcasts "e" passing a pair of "int" values
```

Timer

The emit statement for timers expects a timer expression.

Like input events, time can only be emitted inside asynchronous blocks.

Examples:

```
async do $\operatorname{\textsc{emit}}$ 1s; $\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scalebox{\scal
```

Lock

TODO

Conditional

The if-then-else statement provides conditional execution in Céu:

```
Block ] end
```

Each condition Exp is tested in sequence, first for the if clause and then for each of the optional else/if clauses. On the first condition that evaluates to true, the Block following it executes. If all conditions fail, the optional else clause executes.

All conditions must evaluate to a value of type bool.

Loops

Céu supports simple loops, numeric iterators, event iterators, and pool iterators:

```
Loop ::=
      /* simple loop */
        loop ['/'Exp] do
            Block
        end
      /* numeric iterator */
      | loop ['/'Exp] NumericRange do
            Block
        end
      /* event iterator */
      | every [(Loc | `(' LIST(Loc|'_') `)') in] (ID_ext|Loc|WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE) do
            Block
        end
      /* pool iterator */
      | loop [`/'Exp] (ID_int|`_') in Loc do
            Block
        end
         ::= break ['/'ID int]
Break
Continue ::= continue [`/'ID_int]
NumericRange ::= /* (see "Numeric Iterator") */
```

The body of a loop Block executes an arbitrary number of times, depending on the conditions imposed by each kind of loop.

Except for the every iterator, all loops support an optional constant expression '/ Exp that limits the maximum number of iterations to avoid infinite execution. If the number of iterations reaches the limit, a runtime error occurs.

break and continue

The break statement aborts the deepest enclosing loop.

The continue statement aborts the body of the deepest enclosing loop and restarts it in the next iteration.

The optional modifier '/'ID_int in both statements only applies to numeric iterators.

Simple Loop

The simple loop-do-end statement executes its body forever:

The only way to terminate a simple loop is with the break statement.

Examples:

```
// blinks a LED with a frequency of 1s forever
loop do
    emit LED(1);
    await 1s;
    emit LED(0);
    await 1s;
end
loop do
    loop do
        if <cnd-1> then
                        // aborts the loop at line 2 if <cnd-1> is satisfied
            break;
        end
    end
    if <cnd-2> then
        continue;
                        // restarts the loop at line 1 if <cnd-2> is satisfied
    end
end
```

Numeric Iterator

The numeric loop executes its body a fixed number of times based on a numeric range for a control variable:

The control variable assumes the values specified in the interval, one by one, for each iteration of the loop body:

- **control variable:** ID_int is a read-only variable of a numeric type. Alternatively, the special anonymous identifier _ can be used if the body of the loop does not access the variable.
- interval: Specifies a direction, endpoints with open or closed modifiers, and a step.
 - direction:
 - * ->: Starts from the endpoint Exp on the left increasing towards Exp on the right.
 - * <-: Starts from the endpoint Exp on the right decreasing towards Exp on the left. Typically, the value on the left is smaller or equal to the value on the right.
 - endpoints: [Exp and Exp] are closed intervals which include Exp as the endpoints;]Exp and Exp[are open intervals which exclude Exp as the endpoints. Alternatively, the finishing endpoint may be _ which means that the interval goes towards infinite.
 - step: An optional positive number added or subtracted towards the limit. If the step is omitted, it assumes the value 1. If the direction is ->, the step is added, otherwise it is subtracted.

If the interval is not specified, it assumes the default [0 -> [.

A numeric iterator executes as follows:

• initialization: The starting endpoint is assigned to the control variable. If the starting enpoint is open, the control variable accumulates a step immediately.

• iteration:

- 1. **limit check:** If the control variable crossed the finishing endpoint, the loop terminates.
- 2. body execution: The loop body executes.
- 3. **step** Applies a step to the control variable. Goto step 1.

The break and continue statements inside numeric iterators accept an optional modifier '/'ID int to affect the enclosing loop matching the control variable.

```
// prints "i=0", "i=1", ...
var int i;
loop i do
   _printf("i=%d\n", i);
```

```
end
// awaits 1s and prints "Hello World!" 10 times
loop _ in [0 -> 10[ do
    await 1s;
    _printf("Hello World!\n");
end
var int i;
loop i do
   var int j;
   loop j do
        if <cnd-1> then
            continue/i;
                                // continues the loop at line 1
        else/if <cnd-2> then
            break/j;
                                // breaks the loop at line 4
        end
    end
end
```

Note: the runtime asserts that the step is a positive number and that the control variable does not overflow.

Event Iterator

The every statement iterates over an event continuously, executing its body whenever the event occurs:

The event can be an external or internal event or a timer.

The optional assignment to a variable (or list of variables) stores the carrying value(s) of the event.

An every expands to a loop as illustrated below:

However, the body of an every cannot contain synchronous control statements, ensuring that no occurrences of the specified event are ever missed.

```
TODO: reject break inside every
Examples:
every 1s do
    _printf("Hello World!\n"); // prints the "Hello World!" message on every second
event (bool,int) e;
var bool cnd;
var int v;
every (cnd,v) in e do
    if not cnd then
       break;
                                   // terminates when the received "cnd" is false
    else
        _printf("v = %d\n", v);
                                   // prints the received "v" otherwise
    end
end
```

Pool Iterator

The pool iterator visits all alive abstraction instances residing in a given pool:

On each iteration, the optional control variable becomes a reference to an instance, starting from the oldest created to the newest.

The control variable must be an alias to the same type of the pool with the same rules that apply to spawn.

Parallel Compositions

The parallel statements par/and, par/or, and par fork the running trail in multiple others. They differ only on how trails rejoin and terminate the composition.

The spawn statement starts to execute a block in parallel with the enclosing block.

The watching statement executes a block and terminates when one of its specified events occur.

See also Parallel Compositions and Abortion.

par

The par statement never rejoins.

Examples:

par/and

The par/and statement stands for *parallel-and* and rejoins when all nested trails terminate.

Examples:

par/or

The par/or statement stands for *parallel-or* and rejoins when any of the trails terminate, aborting all other trails.

Examples:

spawn

The spawn statement starts to execute a block in parallel with the enclosing block. When the enclosing block terminates, the spawned block is aborted.

Like a do-end block, a spawn also supports an optional list of identifiers in parenthesis which restricts the visible variables inside the block to those matching the list.

```
spawn do
    every 1s do
    <...> // does something every "1s"...
    end
end
```

```
<...> // ...in parallel with whatever comes next
```

watching

A watching expands to a par/or with n+1 trails: one to await each of the listed events, and one to execute its body, i.e.:

The watching statement accepts a list of events and terminates when any of them occur. The events are the same supported by the await statement. It evaluates to what the occurring event value(s), which can be captured with an optional assignment.

If the event is a code abstraction, the nested blocked does not require the unwrap operator !.

Examples:

Pausing

The pause/if statement controls if its body should temporarily stop to react to events:

```
Pause_Await ::= await (pause|resume)
```

A pause/if specifies a pausing event of type bool which, when emitted, toggles between pausing (true) and resuming (false) reactions for its body.

When its body terminates, the whole pause/if terminates and proceeds to the statement in sequence.

In transition instants, the body can react to the special pause and resume events before the corresponding state applies.

```
TODO: finalize/pause/resume
```

```
Examples:
```

```
event bool e;
                   // pauses/resumes the nested body on each "e"
pause/if e do
    every 1s do
        <...>
                    // does something every "1s"
    end
end
event bool e;
pause/if e do
                            // pauses/resumes the nested body on each "e"
    <...>
        loop do
            await pause;
                            // does something before pausing
            <...>
            await resume;
            <...>
                            // does something before resuming
        end
    <...>
end
```

Exceptions

TODO

Asynchronous Execution

Asynchronous execution allow programs to departure from the rigorous synchronous model and preform computations under separate scheduling rules.

Céu supports asynchronous blocks, threads, and interrupt service routines:

Asynchronous execution supports tight loops while keeping the rest of the application, aka the *synchronous side*, reactive to incoming events. However, it does not support any synchronous control statement (e.g., parallel compositions, event handling, pausing, etc.).

By default, asynchronous bodies do not share variables with their enclosing scope, but the optional list of variables makes them visible to the block.

Even though asynchronous blocks execute in separate, they are still managed by the program hierarchy and are also subject to lexical scope and abortion.

Asynchronous Block

Asynchronous blocks, aka *asyncs*, intercalate execution with the synchronous side as follows:

- 1. Start/Resume whenever the synchronous side is idle. When multiple *asyncs* are active, they execute in lexical order.
- 2. Suspend after each loop iteration.
- 3. Suspend on every input emit (see Simulation).
- 4. Execute atomically and to completion unless rules 2 and 3 apply.

This rules imply that *asyncs* never execute with real parallelism with the synchronous side, preserving determinism in the program.

```
// calculates the factorial of some "v" if it doesn't take too long
var u64  v = <...>;
var u64  fat = 1;
var bool ok = false;
```

Simulation

An async block can emit input and timer events towards the synchronous side, providing a way to test programs in the language itself. Every time an async emits an event, it suspends until the synchronous side reacts to the event (see rule 1 above).

```
Examples:
```

```
input int A;
// tests a program with input simulation in parallel
par do
    // original program
    var int v = await A;
    loop i in [0 -> _[ do
        await 10ms;
        _printf("v = %d\n", v+i);
    end
with
    // input simulation
    async do
                        // initial value for "v"
        emit A(0);
                        // the loop in the original program executes 103 times
        emit 1s35ms;
    end
    escape 0;
end
// The example prints the message v = \langle v+i \rangle exactly 103 times.
```

Thread

Threads provide real parallelism for applications in Céu. Once started, a thread

executes completely detached from the synchronous side. For this reason, thread execution is non deterministic and require explicit atomic blocks on accesses to variables to avoid race conditions.

A thread evaluates to a boolean value which indicates whether it started successfully or not. The value can be captured with an optional assignment.

Examples:

Asynchronous Interrupt Service Routine

TODO

Atomic Block

Atomic blocks provide mutual exclusion among threads, interrupts, and the synchronous side of application. Once an atomic block starts to execute, no other atomic block in the program starts.

```
// A "race" between two threads: one incrementing, the other decrementing "count".
var s64 count = 0;
                                                // "count" is a shared variable
par do
    every 1s do
        atomic do
            _printf("count = %d\n", count);
                                              // prints current value of "count" every "1s
        end
    end
with
    await async/thread (count) do
        loop do
            atomic do
                count = count - 1;
                                                // decrements "count" as fast as possible
```

```
end
end
end
with
  await async/thread (count) do
    loop do
    atomic do
    count = count + 1;  // increments "count" as fast as possible
    end
    end
end
end
```

C Integration

Céu provides native declarations to import C symbols, native blocks to define new code in C, native statements to inline C statements, native calls to call C functions, and finalization to deal with C pointers safely:

```
Nat_Symbol ::= native ['/'(pure|const|nohold|plain)] '(' LIST(ID_nat) ')'
Nat_Block ::= native `/'(pre|pos) do
                <code definitions in C>
            end
Nat_End
         ::= native \' end
Nat_Stmts
        ::= [call] (Loc | `(´ Exp `)´) `(´ [ LIST(Exp)] `)´
Nat_Call
Finalization ::= do [Stmt] Finalize
           | var [`&´|`&?´] Type ID_int `=´ `&´ (Call_Nat | Call_Code) Finalize
Finalize ::= finalize [ `(´ LIST(Loc) `)´ ] with
              Block
           [ pause with Block ]
           [ resume with Block ]
           end
```

Native calls and statements transfer execution to C, losing the guarantees of the synchronous model. For this reason, programs should only resort to C for asynchronous functionality (e.g., non-blocking I/O) or simple struct accessors, but never for control purposes.

TODO: Nat_End

Native Declaration

In Céu, any identifier prefixed with an underscore is a native symbol defined externally in C. However, all external symbols must be declared before their first use in a program.

Native declarations support four modifiers as follows:

- const: declares the listed symbols as constants. Constants can be used as bounded limits in vectors, pools, and numeric loops. Also, constants cannot be assigned.
- plain: declares the listed symbols as *plain* types, i.e., types (or composite types) that do not contain pointers. A value of a plain type passed as argument to a function does not require finalization.
- nohold: declares the listed symbols as *non-holding* functions, i.e., functions that do not retain received pointers after returning. Pointers passed to non-holding functions do not require finalization.
- pure: declares the listed symbols as pure functions. In addition to the nohold properties, pure functions never allocate resources that require finalization and have no side effects to take into account for the safety checks.

Examples:

```
// values
native/const _LOW, _HIGH;
                              // Arduino "LOW" and "HIGH" are constants
native
                               // POSIX "errno" is a global variable
             _errno;
// types
native/plain char;
                               // "char" is a "plain" type
             _SDL_PixelFormat; // SDL "SDL_PixelFormat" is a type holding a pointer
native
// functions
native
             _uv_read_start; // Libuv "uv_read_start" retains the received pointer
native/nohold _free;
                               // POSIX "free" receives a pointer but does not retain it
native/pure strlen;
                              // POSIX "strlen" is a "pure" function
```

Native Block

A native block allows programs to define new external symbols in C.

The contents of native blocks is copied unchanged to the output in C depending on the modifier specified:

- pre: code is placed before the declarations for the Céu program. Symbols defined in pre blocks are visible to Céu.
- pos: code is placed after the declarations for the Céu program. Symbols implicitly defined by the compiler of Céu are visible to pos blocks.

Native blocks are copied in the order they appear in the source code.

Since Céu uses the C preprocessor, hash directives # inside native blocks must be quoted as ## to be considered only in the C compilation phase.

If the code in C contains the terminating end keyword of Céu, the native block should be delimited with matching comments to avoid confusing the parser:

Symbols defined in native blocks still need to be declared for use in the program.

Examples:

```
native/plain _t;
native/pre do
   typedef int t;
                                // definition for "t" is placed before Céu declarations
end
                                // requires "t" to be already defined
var _t x = 10;
input none A;
                                // declaration for "A" is placed before "pos" blocks
native _get_A_id;
native/pos do
   int get_A_id (void) {
       return CEU_INPUT_A;
                               // requires "A" to be already declared
    }
end
native/nohold _printf;
native/pre do
                                // include the relevant header for "printf"
    ##include <stdio.h>
end
native/pos do
    /****/
    char str = "This `end` confuses the parser";
    /*****/
end
```

Native Statement

The contents of native statements in between { and } are inlined in the program.

Native statements support interpolation of expressions in Céu which are expanded when preceded by the symbol @.

Native Call

Expressions that evaluate to a native type can be called from Céu.

If a call passes or returns pointers, it may require an accompanying finalization statement.

Examples:

```
// all expressions below evaluate to a native type and can be called
_printf("Hello World!\n");

var _t f = <...>;
f();

var _s s = <...>;
s.f();
```

Resources & Finalization

A finalization statement unconditionally executes a series of statements when its associated block terminates or is aborted.

Céu tracks the interaction of native calls with pointers and requires finalize clauses to accompany the calls:

- If Céu passes a pointer to a native call, the pointer represents a **local** resource that requires finalization. Finalization executes when the block of the local resource goes out of scope.
- If Céu **receives** a pointer from a native call return, the pointer represents an **external resource** that requires finalization. Finalization executes when the block of the receiving pointer goes out of scope.

In both cases, the program does not compile without the finalize statement.

A finalize cannot contain synchronous control statements.

```
_send_cancel(&&msg);
end
await SEND_ACK; // transmission is complete
end
```

In the example above, the local variable msg is an internal resource passed as a pointer to <code>_send_request</code>, which is an asynchronous call that transmits the buffer in the background. If the enclosing watching aborts before awaking from the await <code>SEND_ACK</code>, the local msg goes out of scope and the external transmission would hold a <code>dangling pointer</code>. The finalize ensures that <code>_send_cancel</code> also aborts the transmission.

In the example above, the call to _fopen returns an external file resource as a pointer. If the enclosing watching aborts before awaking from the await A, the file would remain open as a *memory leak*. The finalize ensures that _fclose closes the file properly.

To access an external resource from Céu requires an alias assignment to a variable alias. If the external call returns NULL and the variable is an option alias var&?, the alias remains unbounded. If the variable is an alias var&, the assignment raises a runtime error.

Note: the compiler only forces the programmer to write finalization clauses, but cannot check if they handle the resource properly.

Declaration and expression modifiers may suppress the requirement for finalization in calls:

- nohold modifiers or /nohold typecasts make passing pointers safe.
- pure modifiers or /pure typecasts make passing pointers and returning pointers safe.
- /plain typecasts make return values safe.

Examples:

```
// "_free" does not retain "ptr"
native/nohold _free;
_free(ptr);
// or
(_free as /nohold)(ptr);
```

```
// "_strchr" does retain "ptr" or allocates resources
native/pure _strchr;
var _char&& found = _strchr(ptr);
// or
var _char&& found = (_strchr as /pure)(ptr);
// "_f" returns a non-pointer type
var _tp v = _f() as /plain;
```

Lua Integration

Céu provides Lua states to delimit the effects of inlined Lua statements. Lua statements transfer execution to the Lua runtime, losing the guarantees of the synchronous model:

Programs have an implicit enclosing *global Lua state* which all orphan statements apply.

Lua State

A Lua state creates an isolated state for inlined Lua statements.

Example:

```
// "v" is not shared between the two statements
par do
   // global Lua state
    [[v = 0]];
    var int v = 0;
    every 1s do
        [[print('Lua 1', v, @v) ]];
        v = v + 1;
        [[v = v + 1]];
    end
with
    // local Lua state
    lua[] do
        [[v = 0]];
        var int v = 0;
        every 1s do
```

```
[[print('Lua 2', v, @v)]];
    v = v + 1;
    [[ v = v + 1 ]];
    end
    end
end
TODO: dynamic scope, assignment/error, [dim]
```

Lua Statement

The contents of Lua statements in between [[and]] are inlined in the program.

Like native statements, Lua statements support interpolation of expressions in Céu which are expanded when preceded by a **©**.

Lua statements only affect the Lua state in which they are embedded.

If a Lua statement is used in an assignment, it is evaluated as an expression that either satisfies the destination or generates a runtime error. The list that follows specifies the *Céu destination* and expected *Lua source*:

- a boolean variable expects a boolean value
- a numeric variable expects a number value
- a pointer variable expects a lightuserdata value
- a byte vector expects a string value

TODO: lua state captures errors

Examples:

Abstractions

Céu supports reuse with data declarations to define new types, and code declarations to define new subprograms.

Declarations are subject to lexical scope.

Data

A data declaration creates a new data type:

A declaration may pack fields with storage declarations which become publicly accessible in the new type. Field declarations may assign default values for uninitialized instances.

Data types can form hierarchies using dots (.) in identifiers:

- An isolated identifier such as A makes A a base type.
- A dotted identifier such as A.B makes A.B a subtype of its supertype A.

A subtype inherits all fields from its supertype.

The optional modifier as expects the keyword nothing or a constant expression of type int:

- nothing: the data cannot be instantiated.
- constant expression: typecasting a value of the type to int evaluates to the specified enumeration expression.

Examples:

```
data Rect with
    var int x;
    var int y;
    var int h;
    var int w;
    var int z = 0;
end
var Rect r = val Rect(10,10, 100,100, _); // "r.z" defaults to 0
               as nothing; // "Dir" is a base type and cannot be intantiated
data Dir
data Dir.Right as 1;  // "Dir.Right" is a subtype of "Dir"
                           // "Dir.Left" is a subtype of "Dir"
data Dir.Left as -1;
data Dir.Leit as -1,
var Dir dir = <...>;
                            // receives one of "Dir.Right" or "Dir.Left"
escape (dir as int);
                            // returns 1 or -1
TODO: new, pool, recursive types
```

Data Constructor

A new data value is created in the contexts that follow:

- Prefixed by the keyword val in an assignment to a variable.
- As an argument to a code invocation.
- Nested as an argument in a data creation (i.e., a data that contains another data).

In all cases, the arguments are copied to the destination. The destination must be a plain declaration (i.e., not an alias or pointer).

The constructor uses the data identifier followed by a list of arguments matching the fields of the type.

Variables of the exact same type can be copied in assignments.

For assignments from a subtype to a supertype, the rules are as follows:

- · Copy assignments
 - plain values: only if the subtype contains no extra fields
 - pointers: allowed
- Alias assignment: allowed.

Code

The code/tight and code/await declarations specify new subprograms that can be invoked from arbitrary points in programs:

```
Code_Spawn ::= spawn Mods Abs_Cons [in Loc]
Code_Kill ::= kill Loc [ `(` Exp `)` ]

Mods ::= [`/´dynamic | `/´static] [`/´recursive]
```

A code/tight is a subprogram that cannot contain synchronous control statements and its body runs to completion in the current internal reaction.

A code/await is a subprogram with no restrictions (e.g., it can manipulate events and use parallel compositions) and its body execution may outlive multiple reactions.

A prototype declaration specifies the interface parameters of the abstraction which invocations must satisfy. A full declaration (aka definition) also specifies an implementation with a block of code. An invocation specifies the name of the code abstraction and arguments matching its declaration.

Declarations can be nested. A nested declaration is not visible outside its enclosing declaration. The body of a nested declaration may access entities from its enclosing declarations with the prefix outer.

To support recursive abstractions, a code invocation can appear before the implementation is known, but after the prototype declaration. In this case, the declaration must use the modifier /recursive.

Examples:

```
code/tight Absolute (var int v) -> int do // declares the prototype for "Absolute"
    if v > 0 then
                                            // implements the behavior
        escape v;
    else
        escape -v;
    end
end
var int abs = call Absolute(-10);
                                            // invokes "Absolute" (yields 10)
code/await Hello World (none) -> NEVER do
    every 1s do
        _printf("Hello World!\n"); // prints "Hello World!" every second
    end
end
await Hello_World();
                                    // never awakes
code/tight/recursive Fat (var int v) -> int;
                                                // "Fat" is a recursive code
code/tight/recursive Fat (var int v) -> int do
    if v > 1 then
        escape v * (call/recursive Fat(v-1)); // recursive invocation before full declara-
    else
        escape 1;
    end
```

Code Declaration

Code abstractions specify a list of input parameters in between the symbols (and). Each parameter specifies an entity class with modifiers, a type and an identifier. A none list specifies that the abstraction has no parameters.

Code abstractions also specify an output return type. A code/await may use NEVER as output to indicate that it never returns.

A code/await may also specify an optional *public field list*, which are local storage entities living in the outermost scope of the abstraction body. These entities are visible to the invoking context, which may access them while the abstraction executes. Likewise, nested code declarations in the outermost scope, known as methods, are also visible to the invoking context.

TODO: throws

Code Invocation

A code/tight is invoked with the keyword call followed by the abstraction name and list of arguments. A code/await is invoked with the keywords await or spawn followed by the abstraction name and list of arguments.

The list of arguments must satisfy the list of parameters in the code declaration.

The call and await invocations suspend the current trail and transfer control to the code abstraction. The invoking point only resumes after the abstraction terminates and evaluates to a value of its return type which can be captured with an optional assignment.

The spawn invocation also suspends and transfers control to the code abstraction. However, as soon as the abstraction becomes idle (or terminates), the invoking point resumes. This makes the invocation point and abstraction to execute concurrently.

The spawn invocation evaluates to a reference representing the instance and can be captured with an optional assignment. The alias must be an option alias variable of the same type of the code abstraction. If the abstraction never terminates (i.e., return type is NEVER), the variable may be a simple alias. If the spawn fails (e.g., lack of memory) the option alias variable is unset. In the case of a simple alias, the assignment raises a runtime error.

The spawn invocation also accepts an optional pool which provides storage and scope for invoked abstractions. When the pool goes out of scope, all invoked abstractions residing in that pool are aborted. If the spawn omits the pool, the

invocation always succeed and has the same scope as the invoking point: when the enclosing block terminates, the invoked code is also aborted.

TODO: kill

Code References

The spawn invocation and the control variable of pool iterators evaluate to a reference as an option alias to an abstraction instance. If the instance terminates at any time, the option variable is automatically unset.

A reference provides access to the public fields and methods of the instance.

Examples:

Dynamic Dispatching

Céu supports dynamic code dispatching based on multiple parameters.

The modifier /dynamic in a declaration specifies that the code is dynamically dispatched. A dynamic code must have at least one dynamic parameter. Also, all dynamic parameters must be pointers or aliases to a data type in some hierarchy.

A dynamic declaration requires other compatible dynamic declarations with the same name, modifiers, parameters, and return type. The exceptions are the dynamic parameters, which must be in the same hierarchy of their corresponding parameters in other declarations.

To determine which declaration to execute during runtime, the actual argument runtime type is checked against the first formal dynamic parameter of each declaration. The declaration with the most specific type matching the argument wins. In the case of a tie, the next dynamic parameter is checked.

A *catchall* declaration with the most general dynamic types must always be provided.

If the argument is explicitly typecast to a supertype, then dispatching considers that type instead.

Example:

```
data Media as nothing;
                 with <...> end
data Media.Audio
data Media.Video
                 with <...> end
data Media. Video. Avi with <...> end
code/await/dynamic Play (dynamic var& Media media) -> none do
    _assert(0);
                           // never dispatched
end
code/await/dynamic Play (dynamic var& Media.Audio media) -> none do
                            // plays an audio
end
code/await/dynamic Play (dynamic var& Media. Video media) -> none do
                            // plays a video
code/await/dynamic Play (dynamic var& Media.Video.Avi media) -> none do
                                            // prepare the avi video
    await/dynamic Play(&m as Media.Video); // dispatches the supertype
end
var& Media m = <...>;
                            // receives one of "Media.Audio" or "Media.Video"
await/dynamic Play(&m);
                            // dispatches the appropriate subprogram to play the media
```

Synchronous Control Statements

The synchronous control statements which follow cannot appear in event iterators, pool iterators, asynchronous execution, finalization, and tight code abstractions: await, spawn, emit (internal events), every, finalize, pause/if, par, par/and, par/or, and watching.

As exceptions, an every can emit internal events, and a code/tight can contain empty finalize statements.

Locations & Expressions

Locations & Expressions

Céu specifies locations and expressions as follows:

```
| Exp <binop> Exp
    | <unop> Exp
    | Exp (`:´|`.´) (ID_int|ID_nat)
    | Exp (`?'|`!')
    | Exp `[ Exp `] `
     | Exp `(' [ LIST(Exp) ] `)'
     | Exp is Type
     | Exp as Type
    | Exp as \( \) (nohold|plain|pure)
     | sizeof `('(Type|Exp) `)'
    | Nat_Call | Code_Call
    | ID_int
       ID_nat
    | outer
/* Locations */
Loc ::= Loc [as (Type | `/(nohold|plain|pure)) `)`
    | [`*´|`$´] Loc
    | Loc { `['Exp`]' | (`:'|`.') (ID_int|ID_nat) | `!' }
    | ID_int
    | ID_nat
    | outer
       `{' <code in C> `}'
    | `(' Loc `)'
/* Operator Precedence */
   /* lowest priority */
    // locations
         $
                     !
   as
    // expressions
   is
                                                       // binops
    or
    and
    !=
                         <
                               >
               <=
                     >=
    &
    <<
         >>
               %
```

```
not + - ~ $$ $ * && & // unops
: . ! ? () []
/* highest priority */
```

Primary

TODO

Outer

TODO

Arithmetic

Céu supports the arithmetic expressions addition, subtraction, modulo (remainder), multiplication, division, unary-plus, and unary-minus through the operators that follow:



Bitwise

Céu supports the bitwise expressions not, and, or, xor, left-shift, and right-shift through the operators that follow:



Relational

Céu supports the relational expressions equal-to, not-equal-to, greater-than, less-than, greater-than-or-equal-to, and less-than-or-equal-to through the operators that follow:



Relational expressions evaluate to $\it true$ or $\it false$.

Logical

Céu supports the logical expressions not, and, and or through the operators that follow:

not and or

Logical expressions evaluate to true or false.

Types

Céu supports type checks and casts:

```
Check ::= Exp is Type
Cast ::= Exp as Type
```

Type Check

A type check evaluates to *true* or *false* depending on whether the runtime type of the expression is a subtype of the checked type or not.

The static type of the expression must be a supertype of the checked type.

Example:

Type Cast

A type cast converts the type of an expression into a new type as follows:

- 1. The expression type is a data type:
 - 1. The new type is **int**: Evaluates to the type enumeration for the expression type.
 - 2. The new type is a subtype of the expression static type:
 - 1. The expression runtime type is a subtype of the new type: Evaluates to the new type.
 - 2. Evaluates to error.
 - 3. The new type is a supertype of the expression static type: Always succeeds and evaluates to the new type. See also Dynamic Dispatching.
 - 4. Evaluates to error.
- 2. Evaluates to the new type (i.e., a weak typecast, as in C).

Examples:

```
var Direction dir = <...>;
_printf("dir = %d\n", dir as int);
var Aa a = <...>;
```

```
_printf("a.v = %d\n", (a as Aa.Bb).v);
var Media.Video vid = <...>;
await/dynamic Play(&m as Media);
var bool b = <...>;
_printf("b= %d\n", b as int);
```

Modifiers

Expressions that evaluate to native types can be modified as follows:

```
Mod ::= Exp as `/'(nohold|plain|pure)
```

Modifiers may suppress the requirement for resource finalization.

References

Céu supports aliases and pointers as references.

Aliases

An alias is acquired by prefixing a native call or a location with the operator &:

```
Alias ::= `&´ (Nat_Call | Loc)
```

See also the unwrap operator! for option variable aliases.

Pointers

The operator && returns the address of a location, while the operator * dereferences a pointer:

```
Addr ::= `&& Loc
Deref ::= `* Loc
```

Option

The operator ? checks if the location of an option type is set, while the operator ! unwraps the location, raising an error if it is unset:

```
Check ::= Loc `?´
Unwrap ::= Loc `!´
```

Sizeof

A size of expression returns the size of a type or expression, in bytes:

```
Sizeof ::= sizeof `(´(Type|Exp) `)´
```

Calls

See Native Call and Code Invocation.

Vectors

Index

Céu uses square brackets to index vectors:

```
Vec_Idx ::= Loc `[' Exp `]'
```

The index expression must be of type usize.

Vectors start at index zero. Céu generates an error for out-of-bounds vector accesses.

Length

The operator \$ returns the current length of a vector, while the operator \$\$ returns the max length:

```
Vec_Len ::= `$´ Loc
Vec_Max ::= `$$´ Loc
TODO: max
The vector length can also be assigned:
var[] int vec = [ 1, 2, 3 ];
```

\$vec = 1;
The new length must be smaller or equal to the current length, otherwise

the assignment raises a runtime error. The space for dynamic vectors shrinks automatically.

Constructor

Vector constructors are only valid in assignments:

Examples:

```
var[3] int v; // declare an empty vector of length 3 (v = []) v = v .. [8]; // append value '8' to the empty vector (v = [8]) v = v .. [1] .. [5]; // append values '1' and '5' to the vector (v = [8, 1, 5])
```

Fields

The operators . and : access public fields of data abstractions, code abstractions, and native structs:

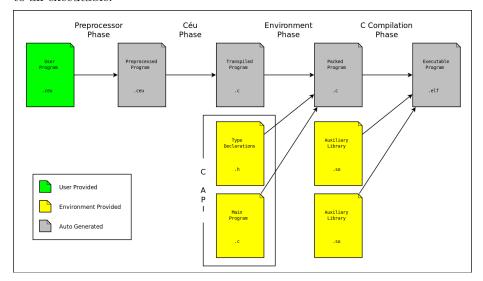
```
Dot ::= Loc `.´ (ID_int|ID_nat)
Colon ::= Loc `:´ (ID_int|ID_nat)
The expression e:f is a sugar for (*e).f.
```

TODO: ID_nat to avoid clashing with Céu keywords.

Compilation

Compilation

The compiler converts an input program in Céu to an output in C, which is further embedded in an environment satisfying a C API, which is finally compiled to an executable:



Command Line

The single command ceu is used for all compilation phases:

```
Usage: ceu [<options>] <file>...
```

Options:

```
--help
                                display this help, then exit
                                display version information, then exit
--version
--pre
                                Preprocessor phase: preprocess Céu into Céu
--pre-exe=FILE
                                    preprocessor executable
--pre-args=ARGS
                                    preprocessor arguments
--pre-input=FILE
                                    input file to compile (Céu source)
                                    output file to generate (Céu source)
--pre-output=FILE
                                Céu phase: compiles Céu into C
--ceu-input=FILE
                                    input file to compile (Céu source)
                                    output source file to generate (C source)
--ceu-output=FILE
--ceu-line-directives=BOOL
                                    insert `#line` directives in the C output (default
--ceu-features-trace=BOOL
                                    enable trace support (default `false`)
--ceu-features-exception=BOOL
                                    enable exceptions support (default `false`)
                                    enable dynamic allocation support (default `false`)
--ceu-features-dynamic=BOOL
--ceu-features-pool=BOOL
                                    enable pool support (default `false`)
                                    enable `lua` support (default `false`)
--ceu-features-lua=BOOL
--ceu-features-thread=BOOL
                                    enable `async/thread` support (default `false`)
--ceu-features-isr=BOOL
                                    enable `async/isr` support (default `false`)
                                    enable `pause/if` support (default `false`)
--ceu-features-pause=BOOL
--ceu-err-unused=OPT
                                    effect for unused identifier: error|warning|pass
--ceu-err-unused-native=OPT
                                               unused native identifier
--ceu-err-unused-code=OPT
                                               unused code identifier
                                    effect for uninitialized variable: error|warning|pas
--ceu-err-uninitialized=OPT
--ceu-err-uncaught-exception=OPT
                                    effect for uncaught exception: error|warning|pass
                                         ... at the main block (outside `code` abstraction
--ceu-err-uncaught-exception-main=OPT
--ceu-err-uncaught-exception-lua=OPT
                                         ... from Lua code
                                Environment phase: packs all C files together
--env
--env-types=FILE
                                    header file with type declarations (C source)
                                    header file with thread declarations (C source)
--env-threads=FILE
                                    output file from Céu phase (C source)
--env-ceu=FILE
--env-main=FILE
                                    source file with main function (C source)
                                    output file to generate (C source)
--env-output=FILE
```

```
--cc C phase: compiles C into binary
--cc-exe=FILE C compiler executable
--cc-args=ARGS compiler arguments
--cc-input=FILE input file to compile (C source)
--cc-output=FILE output file to generate (binary)
```

All phases are optional. To enable a phase, the associated prefix must be enabled. If two consecutive phases are enabled, the output of the preceding and the input of the succeeding phases can be omitted.

Examples:

C API

The environment phase of the compiler packs the converted Céu program and additional files in the order as follows:

- 1. type declarations (option --env-types)
- 2. thread declarations (option --env-threads, optional)
- 3. a callback prototype (fixed, see below)
- 4. Céu program (option --env-ceu, auto generated)
- 5. main program (option --env-main)

The Céu program uses standardized types and calls, which must be previously mapped from the host environment in steps 1-3.

The main program depends on declarations from the Céu program.

Types

The type declarations must map the types of the host environment to all primitive types of Céu.

Example:

```
##include <stdint.h>
##include <sys/types.h>

typedef unsigned char bool;
typedef unsigned char byte;
typedef unsigned int uint;
```

```
typedef ssize_t ssize;
typedef size_t
                 usize;
typedef int8_t
                  s8;
typedef int16_t s16;
typedef int32_t s32;
typedef int64_t s64;
typedef uint8 t
                 u8;
typedef uint16_t u16;
typedef uint32_t u32;
typedef uint64_t u64;
typedef float
                real;
typedef float
                r32;
typedef double r64;
```

Threads

If the user program uses threads and the option --ceu-features-thread is set, the host environment must provide declarations for types and functions expected by Céu.

Example:

```
##include <pthread.h>
##include <unistd.h>
##define CEU_THREADS_T
                                     pthread_t
##define CEU_THREADS_MUTEX_T
                                     pthread_mutex_t
##define CEU_THREADS_CREATE(t,f,p)
                                     pthread_create(t,NULL,f,p)
##define CEU_THREADS_CANCEL(t)
                                     ceu_dbg_assert(pthread_cancel(t)==0)
##define CEU_THREADS_JOIN_TRY(t)
##define CEU_THREADS_JOIN(t)
                                     ceu_dbg_assert(pthread_join(t,NULL)==0)
##define CEU_THREADS_MUTEX_LOCK(m)
                                     ceu_dbg_assert(pthread_mutex_lock(m)==0)
##define CEU_THREADS_MUTEX_UNLOCK(m) ceu_dbg_assert(pthread_mutex_unlock(m)==0)
##define CEU_THREADS_SLEEP(us)
                                     usleep(us)
##define CEU THREADS PROTOTYPE(f,p)
                                     void* f (p)
##define CEU_THREADS_RETURN(v)
                                     return v
```

Céu

TODO: describe them

The converted program generates types and constants required by the main program.

External Events

For each external input and output event <ID> defined in Céu, the compiler generates corresponding declarations as follows:

- 1. An enumeration item CEU_INPUT_<ID> that univocally identifies the event.
- 2. A define macro _CEU_INPUT_<ID>_.
- 3. A struct type tceu_input_<ID> with fields corresponding to the types in of the event payload.

Example:

```
Céu program:
```

```
input (int,u8&&) MY_EVT;
Converted program:
enum {
    ...
    CEU_INPUT_MY_EVT,
    ...
};
##define _CEU_INPUT_MY_EVT_

typedef struct tceu_input_MY_EVT {
    int _1;
    u8* _2;
} tceu_input_MY_EVT;
```

Data

The global CEU_APP of type tceu_app holds all program memory and runtime information:

The struct tceu_code_mem_ROOT holds the whole memory of the Céu program. The identifiers for global variables are preserved, making them directly accessible.

Example:

```
var int x = 10;
typedef struct tceu_code_mem_ROOT {
    ...
    int x;
} tceu_code_mem_ROOT;
```

Main

The main program provides the entry point for the host platform (i.e., the main function), implementing the event loop that senses the world and notifies the Céu program about changes.

The main program interfaces with the Céu program in both directions:

- Through direct calls, in the direction main -> Céu, typically when new input is available.
- Through callbacks, in the direction Céu -> main, typically when new output is available.

Calls

The functions that follow are called by the main program to command the execution of Céu programs:

- void ceu_start (tceu_callback* cb, int argc, char* argv[])
 Initializes and starts the program. Should be called once. Expects a callback to register for further notifications. Also receives the program arguments in argc and argv.
- void ceu_stop (void)
 Finalizes the program. Should be called once.
- void ceu_input (tceu_nevt id, void* params)

Notifies the program about an input id with a payload params. Should be called whenever the event loop senses a change. The call to ceu_input(CEU_INPUT__ASYNC, NULL) makes asynchronous blocks to execute a step.

- int ceu_loop (tceu_callback* cb, int argc, char* argv[])

 Implements a simple loop encapsulating ceu_start, ceu_input, and ceu_stop. On each loop iteration, make a CEU_CALLBACK_STEP callback and generates a CEU_INPUT__ASYNC input. Should be called once. Returns the final value of the program.
- void ceu_callback_register (tceu_callback* cb)
 Registers a new callback.

Callbacks

The Céu program makes callbacks to the main program in specific situations:

```
enum {
    CEU_CALLBACK_START,
                                         /* once in the beginning of `ceu_start`
    CEU_CALLBACK_STOP,
                                         /* once in the end of `ceu_stop`
    CEU_CALLBACK_STEP,
                                         /* on every iteration of `ceu_loop`
    CEU_CALLBACK_ABORT,
                                         /* whenever an error occurs
    CEU CALLBACK LOG,
                                         /* on error and debugging messages
                                       /* once after executing the last statement
    CEU CALLBACK TERMINATING,
    CEU CALLBACK ASYNC PENDING,
                                        /* whenever there's a pending "async" block
    CEU_CALLBACK_THREAD_TERMINATING,
                                         /* whenever a thread terminates
                                         /* whenever interrupts should be enabled/disabled
    CEU_CALLBACK_ISR_ENABLE,
                                        /* whenever an "async/isr" starts
    CEU CALLBACK ISR ATTACH,
                                        /* whenever an "async/isr" is aborted
    CEU_CALLBACK_ISR_DETACH,
    CEU CALLBACK ISR EMIT,
                                         /* whenever an "async/isr" emits an innput
    CEU_CALLBACK_WCLOCK_MIN,
                                       /* whenever a next minimum timer is required
                                        /* whenever the elapsed time is requested
    CEU_CALLBACK_WCLOCK_DT,
    CEU_CALLBACK_OUTPUT,
                                        /* whenever an output is emitted
                                         /* whenever memory is allocated/deallocated
    CEU CALLBACK REALLOC,
};
TODO: payloads
Céu invokes the registered callbacks in reverse register order, one after the other,
stopping when a callback returns that it handled the request.
A callback is composed of a function handler and a pointer to the next callback:
typedef struct tceu callback {
    tceu_callback_f
    struct tceu_callback* nxt;
} tceu_callback;
A handler expects a request identifier with two arguments, as well as runtime
trace information (e.g., file name and line number of the request):
typedef int (*tceu_callback_f) (int, tceu_callback_val, tceu_callback_val, tceu_trace);
An argument has one of the following types:
typedef union tceu_callback_val {
    void* ptr;
    s32
         num;
    usize size;
} tceu_callback_val;
```

A handler returns whether it handled the request or not (return type int).

Depending on the request, the handler must also assign a return value to the global ceu_callback_ret:

```
static tceu_callback_val ceu_callback_ret;
```

Example

```
Suppose the environment supports the events that follow:
input int I;
output int 0;
The main.c implements an event loop to sense occurrences of I and a callback
to handle occurrences of \mathbb{O}:
##include "types.h"
                          // as illustrated above in "Types"
                         // detects program termination
int ceu_is_running;
int ceu_callback_main (int cmd, tceu_callback_val p1, tceu_callback_val p2, tceu_trace trace
    int is_handled = 0;
    switch (cmd) {
        case CEU_CALLBACK_TERMINATING:
            ceu_is_running = 0;
            is_handled = 1;
            break;
        case CEU_CALLBACK_OUTPUT:
            if (p1.num == CEU_OUTPUT_0) {
                printf("output 0 has been emitted with %d\n", p2.num);
                is_handled = 1;
            }
            break;
    }
    return ret;
}
int main (int argc, char* argv[])
{
    ceu_is_running = 1;
    tceu_callback cb = { &ceu_callback_main, NULL };
    ceu_start(&cb, argc, argv);
    while (ceu_is_running) {
        if (<call-to-detect-if-A-occurred>()) {
            int v = <argument-to-A>;
            ceu_input(CEU_INPUT_A, &v);
        ceu_input(CEU_INPUT__ASYNC, NULL);
```

```
ceu_stop();
}
```

Syntax

Syntax

Follows the complete syntax of Céu in a BNF-like syntax:

```
• A : non terminal (starting in uppercase)
   • a : terminal (in bold and lowercase)
   • '.': terminal (non-alphanumeric characters)
   • A ::= \dots : defines A as \dots
   • x y : x \text{ in sequence with } y
   • x|y: x \text{ or } y
   • \{x\}: zero or more xs
   • [x] : optional x
   • LIST(x): expands to x {', 'x} [', ']
   • (...) : groups ...
   • \langle \ldots \rangle: special informal rule
Program ::= Block
Block ::= {Stmt `; ´}
Stmt ::= nothing
  /* Blocks */
      // Do ::=
       | do [`/´(ID_int|`_´)] [`(´ [LIST(ID_int)] `)´]
             Block
       | escape [`/'ID_int] [Exp]
      /* pre (top level) execution */
       | pre do
             Block
         end
  /* Storage Entities / Declarations */
      // Dcls ::=
       | var [`&´|`&?´] `[´ [Exp [`*´]] `]´ [`/dynamic´|`/nohold´] Type ID_int [`=´ Sources]
       | pool [`&´] `[´ [Exp] `]´ Type ID_int [`=´ Sources]
```

```
| event [`&´] (Type | `(´ LIST(Type) `)´) ID_int [`=´ Sources]
    | input (Type | `(´ LIST(Type) `)´) ID_ext
    | output (Type | `(´ LIST([`&´] Type [ID_int]) `)´) ID_ext
          [ do Block end ]
/* Event Handling */
    // Await ::=
    | await (ID_ext | Loc) [until Exp]
    | await (WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE)
    | await (FOREVER | pause | resume)
    // Emit_Ext ::=
    | emit ID_ext [`( [LIST(Exp| `_ `)] `) `]
    | emit (WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE)
    //
    | emit Loc [`(' [LIST(Exp|'_')] `)']
    | lock Loc do
          Block
      \quad \text{end} \quad
/* Conditional */
    | if Exp then
          Block
      { else/if Exp then
          Block }
      [ else
          Block 1
      end
/* Loops */
    /* simple */
    | loop [`/'Exp] do
          Block
      end
    /* numeric iterator */
    | loop [`/´Exp] (ID_int|`_´) in [Range] do
          Block
      end
      // where
```

```
Range ::= (`[' | `]')
                       ( ( Exp `-> (Exp|`_ `))
                      | ((Exp|'_') '<-' Exp ) )
                     (`['|`]') [`,' Exp]
    /* pool iterator */
    | loop [`/'Exp] (ID_int|`_') in Loc do
          Block
      end
    /* event iterator */
     | \  \, every \  \, [(Loc \ | \ `(` LIST(Loc|`\_`) \ `)`) \  \, in] \  \, (ID\_ext|Loc|WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE) \  \, do \\
          Block
      end
    | break ['/'ID_int]
    | continue [`/'ID_int]
/* Parallel Compositions */
    /* parallels */
    | (par | par/and | par/or) do
          Block
      with
          Block
      { with
          Block }
       end
    /* watching */
    // Watching ::=
    | watching LIST(ID_ext|Loc|WCLOCKK|WCLOCKE|Abs_Cons) do
      end
    /* block spawn */
    | spawn [`(' [LIST(ID_int)] `)'] do
          Block
      end
/* Exceptions */
    | throw Exp
    | catch LIST(Loc) do
          Block
      end
```

```
/* Pause */
   | pause/if (Loc|ID_ext) do
        Block
     end
/* Asynchronous Execution */
   | await async [ `(' LIST(Var) `)' ] do
        Block
     end
   // Thread ::=
   Block
     end
   | spawn async/isr `[´ LIST(Exp) `]´ [ `(´ LIST(Var) `)´ ] do
        Block
     end
   /* synchronization */
   | atomic do
        Block
     end
/* C integration */
   | native [`/´(pure|const|nohold|plain)] `(´ LIST(ID_nat) `)´
   | native `/´(pre|pos) do
        <code definitions in C>
     end
   | native `/´ end
   // Nat_Call ::=
   | [call] Exp
   /* finalization */
   | do [Stmt] Finalize
   | var [`&´|`&?´] Type ID_int `=´ `&´ (Nat_Call | Code_Call) Finalize
     // where
        Finalize ::= finalize [ `(´ LIST(Loc) `)´ ] with
                       Block
                   [ pause with Block ]
```

```
[ resume with Block ]
                       end
/* Lua integration */
    // Lua_State ::=
    | lua `[´ [Exp] `]´ do
          Block
      end
    // Lua_Stmts ::=
    | `[' {`='} `['
         { {<code in Lua> | `@´ (`('Exp`)'|Exp)} } /* `@@' escapes to `@' */
      /* Abstractions */
    /* Data */
    | data ID_abs [as (nothing|Exp)] [ with
          Dcls `;´ { Dcls `;´ }
      end ]
    /* Code */
    // Code_Tight ::=
    | code/tight Mods ID_abs `( Params `) ` `-> Type
    // Code_Await ::=
    | code/await Mods ID_abs `(´ Params `)´
                                  [ `->´ `(´ Params `)´ ]
                                     `-> (Type | NEVER)
                              [ throws LIST(ID_abs) ]
      // where
          Params ::= none | LIST(Dcls)
    /* code implementation */
    | (Code_Tight | Code_Await) do
          Block
      end
    /* code invocation */
    // Code_Call ::=
    | call Mods Abs_Cons
    // Code_Await ::=
```

```
| await Mods Abs_Cons
      // Code_Spawn ::=
      | spawn Mods Abs_Cons [in Loc]
      | kill Loc [ `(` Exp `)` ]
        // where
            Mods ::= [`/´dynamic | `/´static] [`/´recursive]
            Abs_Cons ::= [Loc `.´] ID_abs `(´ LIST(Data_Cons|Vec_Cons|Exp|`_´) `)´
  /* Assignments */
      | (Loc | `( LIST(Loc| `_ `) `) `=  Sources
        // where
            Sources ::= ( Do
                        | Emit Ext
                        | Await
                        | Watching
                        | Thread
                        | Lua_Stmts
                        | Code_Await
                        | Code_Spawn
                        | Vec_Cons
                        | Data_Cons
                        | Exp
                        | `_ ` )
            Vec_Cons ::= (Loc | Exp) Vec_Concat { Vec_Concat }
                       | `[´ [LIST(Exp)] `]´ { Vec_Concat }
                        // where
                            Vec_Concat ::= `..´ (Exp | Lua_Stmts | `[´ [LIST(Exp)] `]´)
            Data_Cons ::= (val|new) Abs_Cons
/* Identifiers */
ID
         ::= [a-zA-Z0-9_]+
ID_int
         ::= ID
                            // ID beginning with lowercase
ID_ext
                            // ID all in uppercase, not beginning with digit
{\tt ID\_abs}
        ::= ID {`.´ ID}
                            // IDs beginning with uppercase, containing at least one lower
ID_field ::= ID
                            // ID not beginning with digit
                            // ID beginning with underscore
ID_nat
        ::= ID
ID_type ::= ( ID_nat | ID_abs
             | none
             | bool | on/off | yes/no
             | byte
             | r32
                     | r64
                              | real
             | s8
                     | s16
                              | s32
                                        | s64
```

```
| u8
                             | u32
                                       | u64
                     | u16
             | int
                    | uint
                             | integer
            ssize
                      | usize )
/* Types */
Type ::= ID_type { `&&´ } [`?´]
/* Wall-clock values */
WCLOCKK ::= [NUM h] [NUM min] [NUM s] [NUM ms] [NUM us]
WCLOCKE ::= `(´ Exp `)´ (h|min|s|ms|us)
/* Literals */
NUM ::= [0-9] ([0-9]|[xX]|[A-F]|[a-f]|\.)* // regex
STR ::= " [^\"\n]* "
                                           // regex
/* Expressions */
Exp ::= NUM | STR | null | true | false | on | off | yes | no
    | `(´ Exp `)´
    | Exp <binop> Exp
    | <unop> Exp
    | Exp (`:´|`.´) (ID_int|ID_nat)
    | Exp (`?´|`!´)
    | Exp `[ Exp `] `
    | Exp `( [ LIST(Exp) ] `) `
     | Exp is Type
     | Exp as Type
    | Exp as \/(nohold|plain|pure)
     | sizeof `(´(Type|Exp) `)´
    | Nat_Call | Code_Call
    | ID_int
       ID_nat
       outer
/* Locations */
Loc ::= Loc [as (Type | `/(nohold|plain|pure)) `)`
    | [`*´|`$´] Loc
    Loc { `['Exp`] ' | (`:'|`.') (ID_int|ID_nat) | `!' }
    | ID_int
    | ID_nat
    | outer
     | `{' <code in C> `}'
```

```
| `(' Loc `)'
/* Operator Precedence */
    /* lowest priority */
    // locations
              !
                      []
    as
    // expressions
    is
          as
                                                         // binops
    or
    and
    !=
    &
    not
                            $$
                                              &&
                                                       // unops
                      ?
                            ()
                                   []
    /* highest priority */
/* Other */
    // single-line comment
    /** nested
        /* multi-line */
        comments **/
    # preprocessor directive
TODO: statements that do not require ;
```

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