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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Analysis	3
2.1	Robocode	3
2.1.1	Robot	4
2.1.2	Battlefield	5
2.1.3	Energy	5
2.1.4	Scoring	5
2.2	Choice of parser generator	6
2.3	ANTLR4 Parser Generator	6
3	Language design	9
3.1	Language criteria	9
3.1.1	Readability	9
3.1.2	Writability	9
3.1.3	Reliability	10
3.2	MoSCoW analysis	10
3.2.1	Must have	11
3.2.2	Should have	11
3.2.3	Could have	11
3.2.4	Won't have	12
4	Language Description	13
4.1	Syntax walkthrough	13
4.2	Grammar	16
4.2.1	Lexicon	17
4.3	Language constructs	18
4.3.1	Setup block	18
4.3.2	Repeat block	18
4.3.3	When block	18
4.3.4	Variables	18
4.3.5	Action block	19
4.3.6	Function block	19
4.3.7	Reserved calls	19
4.3.8	Conditional block	19
4.3.9	Operators	20
4.4	Type systems	20
4.4.1	Type rules	20
4.4.2	Scope rules	20
5	Semantics	23

5.1	Syntactic categories	23
5.2	Formation rules	23
5.3	Semantic Functions	24
5.3.1	Numeral Literals	24
5.3.2	Text Literals	24
5.3.3	Boolean Literals	24
5.4	Environment Storemodel	24
5.5	Type system	24
5.6	Operational semantic	25
5.6.1	Declarations	25
5.6.2	Statements	25
5.6.3	Expressions	25
5.6.4	Arithmetic Expressions	25
5.6.5	Boolean Expressions	26
6	Conclusion	29
7	Discussion	31
8	Future work	33
	Bibliography	35
A	Appendix name	37
A.1	Reserved calls table	37
A.2	Event table	39

Introduction

1

In Danish high schools all kinds of different languages are available for the students, and the programming languages has found their place as well. For beginners, the syntactic rules, type systems and the nature of the language can be hard to comprehend at first, which is why this report will focus on constructing a language for the high school students. The interest for computer games in the 21st century is bigger than ever, and computer games is a fun and educating approach to learning programming languages. Robocode is a game where the player has to code their own robot, giving every player the opportunity to battle each other's robots, making it a competition of coding the 'best' robot. This is mainly coded in Java, which is an object-oriented programming language, and this nature of the language can be hard to understand without having programming experience. There is no popular domain-specific language for Robocode, and therefore the high school students, who is not experienced programmers, may not be likely to code a working robot due to the fact that this requires one to know an object oriented language in advance.

This is a problem, since Robocode could be a potentially great way of introducing these students for programming languages. If there was a domain-specific language, with more intuitive type systems and good writeability, students could easily be introduced for a programming language, and afterwards expand their knowledge gradually on a general purpose programming language. In this report, Robocode will be studied, and the final product should be a domain-specific language for Robocode, compiled to Java.

Analysis 2

The analysis chapter is of purpose to create a basis for the further work with developing a programming language to make the use of Robocode easier for new programmers. This chapter contains a description of Robocode and cover the basics of how to use it.

Further in the analysis the choice of a parser generator for the project will be discussed. The work of the analysis has the purpose of leading to the next chapter, 3

2.1 Robocode

Robocode is an Open Source game project on SourceForge originally started by Mathew A. Nelson in late 2000, who was inspired by RobotBattle from the 1990s. Contributors for the Open Source lead to two new projects, RobocodeNG and Robocode 2006, by Flemming N. Larsen. These two new versions had bug fixes, and new features by the community of Robocode, and in 2006 Flemming merged one of the projects, the Robocode 2006, into an official version 1.1. The Robocode client was introduced in May 2007, which can be used to create the robots for the game. These robots are usually coded in Java, but in the recent years, C# and Scala are popular as well. [RoboWiki, 2013]

In schools and universities, Robocode is introduced for education and research purposes, as it is intended to be fun and easy to understand the core principles: One robot each, with abilities to drive forward, backwards, turn to the sides, and shoot a gun. These core principles can be vastly expanded to more complicated demands, as the robots universe is bigger than it looks at a first glance. [Larsen, 2013]

The way this game works, is by writing code in one of their supported programming languages and then setting it into battle with other people's robots. There are some sample robot, when the game is downloaded, in order to give the users/players a chance to see how it's supposed to be written and from there, it's up to the single individual to make the "best" robot. [RoboWiki, 2014]

There are held tournaments around the world, where people from around the globe compete. It varies in size, some tournaments are only country based, while others are worldwide, some have leagues and the options are more or less limitless. [Nelson, 2015]

As mentioned before, the Robocode is usually coded in Java, which leads to this report only examining Java samples. This is to prevent any misleading keywords or misinterpretations. The Robocode client comes with a text editor, and the sample robots. In this chapter, some of these sample robots will be examined, and the general setup and main events or methods will be presented.

When creating a new robot in the Robocode text editor, the following methods and events are present:

Listing 2.1. Eksampel of the main loop in Robocode label

```
1 public void run() {  
2     while(true) {  
3         //Robots behaviour  
4     }  
5 }
```

This method is the loop for the robot, this loop will determine what the robot does constantly, unless interrupted by an event, which the user can define. The robot behaviour is what the user will code as the AI, along with the robot behaviour in the following code snippets.

Listing 2.2. Eksampel of the onScannedRobot event from Robocode label

```
1 public void onScannedRobot(ScannedRobotEvent e) {  
2     //Robots behaviour  
3 }
```

The robot's radar will spot enemies when they get within the vision of the radar, which will raise the onScannedRobot event. This event is used to determine how the robot reacts to spotting an enemy, where the ScannedRobotEvent e is the source for information about the enemy robot spotted.

Listing 2.3. Eksampel of the onHitByBullet event from Robocode label

```
1 public void onHitByBullet(HitByBulletEvent e) {  
2     //Robots behaviour  
3 }
```

When the robot gets hit by another robot's bullet, the event onHitByBullet will be raised. The robot can then be programmed to act a specific way, change behaviour or carry out a task when the event is raised.

Listing 2.4. Eksampel of the onHitWall event from Robocode label

```
1 public void onHitWall(HitWallEvent e) {  
2     //Robots behaviour  
3 }
```

When the robot drives into the wall, the event onHitWall will be raised, and the robot can be programmed to do a specific task when this occurs.

The above mentioned is only a few of the events that can occur in RoboCode. In the while loop, events and functions the user can use many build-in methods from the robot class, which is moving and controlling the robot, controlling the radar and the gun and getting information about the battlefield, the user's robot, other robots and many other things.

In this section the robocode concept will be described. It will include the different functions the system contains.

2.1.1 Robot

The robot is the core of the game. The robot can be coded to act differently in various of encounters. There are some events in Robocode that the users can use to program their

strategies. One of the events could be `onHitWall` which basically tells the user that if the robot hits the wall, then the robot will execute the code matches the event that occurred. The robots also have a gun. The gun is used to damage antagonist robots, in the arena. The robot has a gun, and the possibility to choose different types of bullets. For example, one play could use small and fast bullets, they won't necessarily hurt very much, but it allows the player to shoot more frequent, compared to larger slower bullets.

The robot also has a radar. The radar allows the robot to scan for other robots scan and walls. This could once again affect the strategies of the robots.

2.1.2 Battlefield

The battlefield is the arena where the robots will fight each other. It's also the visible field on screen when the game is running. When coding, the battlefield can be used for different reasons, for example, to get the number of enemies that are alive. A robot might be programmed to act differently if there are less than three robots left. All this depends on the way the player decided to program his robot. Some of the other examples that the battlefield can be queried or could be the field size, time or the current round number.

2.1.3 Energy

Robots have energy, which is the spendable resource when shooting bullets, it is the 'health' of a tank, since being hit by a wall or another robot's bullet causes a robot to lose energy. But if one robot hits another one, it regains energy. All robots start at 100 energy at the start of a fight, but can exceed this amount, by hitting other robots to regain energy, without losing it. The amount of energy gained when hitting a robot is $(3 * \text{bulletpower})$, which is three times the power you spend shooting it. By being hit by a bullet, the robot loses $(4 * \text{bulletpower})$, and hitting a wall with an AdvancedRobot extended robot will cause the robot to lose energy as well.

If a robot shoots a bullet which uses the last energy that particular robot has, it will be disabled. A disabled robot will not be able to move or shoot. The last shot that robot took, has a chance to restore the robot, if it hits an enemy and thereby regaining energy.

Energy for the robots are both the health and the spendable resource for attacking, which makes every decision of maneuvering and shooting count.

2.1.4 Scoring

Winning in robocode is not about being the sole survivor, not even in the RoboRumble gamemode, which is the "every man for himself" type of gamemode. It is all about scoring, and there are different methods for scoring points. The various types of scoring are as following:

- Survival score, every time a robot dies, all remaining robots get 50 points.
- Last survivor bonus, the last robot alive scores 10 points for every other robot that died before it.
- Bullet damage, robots score 1 point for every point of damage that robot deals to other robots.

- Bullet damage bonus, if a robot kills another robot with a shot, it will gain 20% of all the damage it did to that robot as points. Ram damage, any robot that rams another robot gains 2 points for each damage they cause through ramming.
- Ram damage bonus, every time a robot kills another robot by ramming, it scores an additional 30% of all the damage it did to that robot as points.

When all the above scoring points for all robots in a battle has been added up, the robot with the most points wins the game.

2.2 Choice of parser generator

When choosing a parser generator, one also has to choose a lexer generator, for the lexical analysis. The choice of not building a parser for this project without a generator tool, was due to the fact that the ANTLR4 tool had a build-in lexical analyzer, and a plugin for Eclipse/IntelliJ, generating abstract syntax trees while writing the grammar. Other parser generators were discussed before making a final decision, such as CUP, but the lack of lexical analyzers and abstract syntax tree builders, and at the same time the ease of installing the ANTLR4 parser generator, stated that the ANTLR4 tool was the choice of generator for this project. For the IntelliJ IDE there was a single plugin the user had to install, but for Eclipse, and the abstract syntax tree builder for Eclipse, it required a few plugins, and a bit of experience with the tool, to fully understand how to operate with the tree builder window. Both Eclipse and IntelliJ has been considered as the IDE to use. IntelliJ is preferred because of the ease of installation and use of the ANTLR4 plugin.

2.3 ANTLR4 Parser Generator

In this project, the ANTLR4 parser generator was chosen, as the tool generated both the parser and the lexical analyzer. This tool, as a plugin for both IntelliJ and Eclipse, could also build abstract syntax trees (AST), which are the trees representing abstract syntactic structures, language correct (syntactically correct) sentences (source code) in a computer language. These trees have a top representing the program, and nodes representing terminals and non-terminals. The roots of the tree are terminals, which is the syntactically correct sentence.

The AST tree builder for the ANTLR4 Eclipse plugin would show the trees in an Eclipse window, where the user would be able to write a sentence, and the window would show the AST for that particular sentence, if it was syntactically correct, corresponding to the grammar described in a .g4 file in the Eclipse project. ANTLR4 parses through an LL(*) algorithm, which means it can process any LL(x) grammar, where 'x' is the amount of lookahead needed for parsing, and the LL means it parses from left to right, with leftmost derivation. This makes it a top-down parser. The grammar input to this tool should be a CFG (Context-free grammar) in EBNF (Extended Backus-Naur form), which is a formal description of a formal language, including programming languages. This parser generator can parse to four different languages, where the interesting one for this project would be Java. This tool can also generate a C# output parser, but as this project narrows Robocode to only be written in Java, this wasn't in consideration for choosing the parser

generator. Robocode can, as earlier stated, also be written in C#, which would enforce the choice made, if this project also included the C# source code for Robocode.

The ANTLR4 tool for Eclipse required a few other plugins to make the AST window work correctly, and it is a little bugged. When the user defines a grammar, the user then generates an ANTLR4 recognizer, if the .g4 file is then saved, the user then has to edit the document to make it a not-saved file to operate in the AST window. If the user has saved the document, without editing afterwards, the window would be unresponsive.

In IntelliJ the ANTLR4 plugin requires very little work to get started. To generate the ANTLR4 files the user has to rightclick and select the generate options of the plugin and the IDE does all the work. Similarly to generate the AST all one has to do is rightclick and choose to test the grammar.

Language design 3

In this chapter the design decisions made during the process of creating the language will be described. There are three criteria for the development of the language *readability*, *writability* and *reliability*. The decisions made to accommodate these will be described in detail in the first section of the chapter. In the second part of this chapter, a list of items for the MoSCoW analysis are prioritized. The MoSCoW analysis concerns what the project *must have*, *should have*, *could have* and *won't have*. Last in the chapter each of the items in the MoSCoW analysis will be shortly described why it have been considered and why it is placed where it is.

3.1 Language criteria

In this section the three main criteria for designing the language will be discussed with focus on the implementation of these in the language. The criteria are based on theory from the book *Concepts of Programming Languages* [Sebesta, 2009].

3.1.1 Readability

Readability refers to the ease of reading and understanding a programming language. The language in this report should be very simple, since the programming language is, as earlier mentioned, targeted for high school students with little or no programming experience. Beginners would not necessarily know the concepts of object-oriented languages, but this would be needed to code robots in Java. This would be concealed from the user with this reports language, and simplifications to the type system would give the user a lesser flexibility, but it would highly increase the readability of the language. Readability will be the main priority for this report, as readability is key to understand and learn a new language.

Readability is directly affected by orthogonality, and with this language being constructed for beginners, only a few primitive types and very few constructs will be implemented.

3.1.2 Writability

Writeability is a contradiction to readability. If a language has advanced constructs that will help a programmer code big systems in little time, it will probably not be as easy for a beginner to understand. Take structs from C, if a non-experienced highschool student had to implement a struct, that person wouldn't know what to do, or how it works. This is why writeability will not be considered greatly in this report.

3.1.3 Reliability

To make the programming language reliable to use, a lot of focus has been put into making the language as write- and readable as possible, and design the language in a way that helps the user create code without errors. By making programs written in the language less prone to errors, the more reliable it will also be.

Another thing being implemented that will have an effect on the reliability of the programming language, is type checking. This is to prevent the user from assigning values to a variable that is not of the same type. If there is no type checking, bugs and errors can be hard to track down and fix, so it is better to be absolutely sure that all variables contains information of a certain type, rather than unexpected behaviour and output. The language also does not have pointers, so aliasing, having two or more variables pointing to the same memory cell, will not be a problem that could have a negative effect on reliability. It can't be ensured that there is no aliasing in our language, since even without pointers one variable can reference an object, which is aliasing.

By taking these precautions, the programming language should be reliable enough for a beginner to use, without feeling frustrated and losing interest because of language difficulties, but reliability will not be the of biggest concern in our language.

3.2 MoSCoW analysis

The *MoSCoW* method is used in this study with the purpose of specifying the importance of different requirements in the language. It is a good method for prioritizing work with the language. The criteria that has been designed can be seen in this section.

MoSCoW analysis	
Must have	Primitive types and variables While loop Reserved calls Robot naming If/Else/Elseif statements Arithmetic expressions and operators Logical expressions and operators
Should have	Events Comments Void and type methods
Could have	Cos, Sin & Tan For loops Arrays Print statements Strings Setup block
Won't have	Random number generator Other robot types

Table 3.1. Outcome of the MoSCoW analysis

3.2.1 Must have

Primitive types and variables are needed for any calculation and comparisons in the language.

While loop is needed to make the robots logic, since the Repeat block is a while loop. The Repeat block will be described in the following chapter.

Reserved calls are methods used to make the robots behaviour, this is needed to e.g. make the robot shoot, scan for other robots and move around the battlefield.

Robot naming is necessary because some of the methods in Robocode returns the robots name.

If/Else/Elseif statements is a very essential part of Robocode since it is a conditional statement, and since decision making is playing a very big role in Robocode.

Arithmetic expressions and operators are used to do calculations on primitive types and variables.

Logical expressions and operators are needed in the conditional statements.

3.2.2 Should have

Events are a big part of Robocode, it gives the robot able to act on the environment and actions around it. Events are placed in should have because it is not necessary to code a moving robot, but to make the robot more intelligent.

Comments would help on the readability of the program, if the user was able to put comments in his/her code.

Void and type methods are another way to inject intelligence to the robot. Instead of using the Robocode events, the user can make his/her own functions with or without return types.

3.2.3 Could have

Cos, Sin & Tan could be useful when programming robots in Robocode, since when the robots behaviour is made, the user is often working with degrees in the Reserved calls, so if the user wants to make his/her own functions, this could become necessary.

For loops would be another way for the user to iterate over data, but the for loop doesn't seem as necessary as the while loop for this.

Arrays is an collection construct, which doesn't seem so important for beginners, but could be useful, if the users should be able to write more advanced robots in our language.

Print statements would be a smart statement for debugging purposes. **Strings** would be necessary if the print statement would be implemented.

3.2.4 Won't have

Random number generator A random number generator would be a great tool to implement to the language. If some user would like to make their tanks movements more unpredictable, a random number generator would be very useful.

Other robot type Overall there are six different robot types in RoboCode which are: Robot, AdvancedRobot, JuniorRobot, TeamRobot, Droid and BorderSentry. This project will focus on the Robot type. JuniorRobot is very similar, where some of the other robots are allowing the user to make more advanced robots.

Language Description 4

In this chapter features of our language by means of a simple example, will be overviewed followed by a formal description of its syntax.

4.1 Syntax walkthrough

In this section an example of a sample robot from Robocode has been introduced and can be found in listing 4.1.

Listing 4.1. Eksampel of the sample robot "Corners" in our language

```
1 Tankname corners;
2 Num others;
3 Num corner = 0;
4 Bool stopWhenSeeRobot = False;
5
6 Setup{
7     others = Battlefield.enemies();
8     run goCorner();
9     Num gunIncrement = 3;
10 }
11
12 Repeat{
13     Num i = 0;
14
15     repeat while(i < 30){
16         Gun.turn(gunIncrement * -1);
17         i = i+1;
18     }
19     gunIncrement = gunIncrement * -1;
20 }
21
22 Action goCorner(){
23     stopWhenSeeRobot = false;
24     Tank.turn(Math.normalRelativeAngleDegrees(corner - Tank.heading()));
25     stopWhenSeeRobot = true;
26     Tank.forward(5000);
27     Tank.turn(-90);
28     Tank.forward(5000);
29     Gun.turn(-90);
30 }
31
32 When scannedRobot{
33     if(stopWhenSeeRobot){
34         Tank.stop();
35         run smartFire(Event.distance());
36         Radar.scan();
37         Tank.resume();
38     }else{
39         run smartFire(Event.distance());
40     }
41 }
```

```

42
43 Action smartFire(Num robotDistance){
44     if(robotDistance > 200 OR Tank.energy() < 15){
45         Gun.fire(1);
46     } else if (robotDistance > 50) {
47         Gun.fire(2);
48     } else {
49         Gun.fire(3);
50     }
51 }
52
53 When death{
54     if(others IS= 0){
55         return;
56     }
57
58     if((others - getOthers()) / others < 0.75){
59         corner = corner + 90;
60         if(corner IS= 270) {
61             corner = -90;
62         }
63         print("I died and did poorly... switching corner to " + corner);
64     } else {
65         print("I died but did well. I will still use corner " + corner);
66     }
67 }

```

Robocodes sample robot, Corners [Nelson, 2008], will as find a specific corner where to stay for the entire round, and shoot at other robots whenever scanned. Initially Corners goes to the top left corner. When Corners dies, it will see if it did well or poorly it will either use the same corner or move clockwise to the next corner on the battlefield.

In line 1-5 the Tankname is set and some global variables, are declared and initialized. The Setup block in listing 4.2 is a block there run once at the beginning of each round. In this example the Setup block is used to store in the global variable "other" the initial number of enemies. This value is obtained by calling the build-in function Battlefield.enemies(). It will run the action goCorner, which will be explained later. As the last thing, the Setup block declares a variable, gunIncrement, of type num and initializes its value to 3.

Listing 4.2. Code listing of the Setup block

```

1  Setup{
2      others = Battlefield.enemies();
3      run goCorner();
4      Num gunIncrement = 3;
5  }

```

To make the robot do repetitive actions during the battles, Robot, Gun and Radar behaviour can be placed in the Repeat block. The Repeat block is basically a loop, that will iterate through the robot's Robot, Gun and Radar behaviour. The Repeat block of the sample robot Corners, in listing 4.3, consists of a repeat while loop. At the end of the repeat while loop, the gun have been turned a total of 90 or -90 degrees.

Listing 4.3. Code listing of the Repeat block

```

1  Repeat{
2      Num i = 0;
3
4      repeat while(i < 30){
5          Gun.turn(gunIncrement * -1);

```

```
6      i = i+1;
7  }
8      gunIncrement = gunIncrement * -1;
9  }
```

In our language an Action is compared to a procedure in the language C. Corners uses an Action `goCorner()`, to move to the desired corner. In the first round of the battle, it will turn the robot the amount of degrees so it is facing the top wall, which is done at line 3 in listing 4.4. The degrees are calculated by subtracting the corner variable from the robots heading. "Heading" is getting the robot's heading, which is the direction the robot is facing. It will then move forward until it hits the wall, turn -90 degrees, again move forward until it hits the wall and turn the gun -90 degrees. At the end of the execution of this action, the robot should be sitting in a corner, ready to turn its gun 90 degrees clockwise or counter-clockwise.

Listing 4.4. Code listing of the Action `goCorner()`

```
1  Action goCorner(){
2      stopWhenSeeRobot = false;
3      Tank.turn(Math.normalRelativeAngleDegrees(corner - Tank.heading()));
4      stopWhenSeeRobot = true;
5      Tank.forward(5000);
6      Tank.turn(-90);
7      Tank.forward(5000);
8      Gun.turn(-90);
9  }
```

One of the most peculiar things about Robocode is the use of events. The event handlers are indicated by the reserved word "When". In the Action `goCorner()`, a variable of type `bool` is set to `false` on line 2 and set to `true` in line 4 in listing 4.4. This variable is used in the event `scannedRobot()` found in listing 4.5. If the before mentioned `bool` is `true`, a build-in function `Tank.Stop()` is used to stop the robots movement, then it uses the action "smartfire", where the power of the shoot will be determined by the distance between the robot and the scannedRobot. The robot will then use `Radar.scan()` and resume it's movement towards the corner. If the `bool` was `false`, the robot is already in the corner, and will shoot at scanned robots.

If an event listener is listening to the event, it can detect when the event is triggered and make sure the event handler is executed. When the behaviour in the event has been run, the robot will continue running the Repeat block.

Listing 4.5. Code listing of the event `scannedRobot()` label

```
1  When scannedRobot{
2      if(stopWhenSeeRobot){
3          Tank.stop();
4          run smartFire(Event.distance());
5          Radar.scan();
6          Tank.resume();
7      }else{
8          run smartFire(Event.distance());
9      }
10 }
```

4.2 Grammar

In this section the syntax of our language will be formally presented by means of a context-free grammar in extended BNF.

```

1  grammar Grammar;
2
3  prog : dcls EOF;
4  tankname : 'Tankname' ID ';';
5  setupblock : 'Setup' block;
6  repeatblock : 'Repeat' block;
7
8  dcls : (actdcl
9        | funcdcl
10       | vardcl';'
11       | setupblock
12       | repeatblock
13       | tankname
14       | eventdcl
15       | print';')*
16       ;
17
18 actdcl : 'Action' ID '(' params? ')' block;
19 funcdcl : 'Function' ID '(' params? ')' 'returns' TYPE functionBlock;
20 functionBlock : '{' stmts returnstmt';' '}';
21 params : param (',' param)*;
22 param : TYPE ID;
23 eventdcl : 'When' ID block;
24 block : '{' stmts '}';
25
26 stmts : (assign';'
27         | vardcl';'
28         | ifstmt
29         | whilestmt
30         | call';'
31         | print';')*
32         ;
33
34 assign : ID '=' expr;
35 vardcl : TYPE (ID|assign);
36 ifstmt : 'if' '(' expr ')' block elseif* ('else' block)?;
37 elseif : 'else' 'if' '(' expr ')' block;
38 whilestmt : 'repeat' ('while' '(' expr ')' block | block 'while' '(' expr ')');
39
40 returnstmt : 'return' expr;
41 print : 'print(' expr ')';
42
43 call : acall
44       | fcall
45       | rcall
46       | ecall
47       ;
48
49 acall : 'run' ID '(' args? ')';
50 fcall : ID '(' args? ')';
51
52 rcall : 'Tank.' ID '(' args? ')';
53       | 'Gun.' ID '(' args? ')';
54       | 'Radar.' ID '(' args? ')';
55       | 'Battlefield.' ID '(' args? ')';
56       | 'Math.' ID '(' args? ')';
57       ;
58
59 ecall : 'Event.' ID '(' args? ')';
60 args : expr (',' expr)*;

```



```

61
62 expr  : MINUS expr                #unexpr
63       | NOT expr                  #notexpr
64       | expr op=(MULT | DIV | MOD) expr #mulexpr
65       | expr op=(PLUS | MINUS) expr    #addexpr
66       | expr op=(LTEQ | GTEQ | LT | GT) expr #relexpr
67       | expr op=(EQ | NEQ) expr       #eqexpr
68       | expr AND expr               #andexpr
69       | expr OR expr                #orexpr
70       | atomic                     #atomicexpr
71       ;
72
73 atomic : '(' expr ')'
74       | call
75       | literal
76       ;
77
78 literal : ID      #id
79         | NUM     #num
80         | STRING  #string
81         | BOOL    #bool
82         ;
83
84 COMMENT : '/'~['*/*']*/*/* -> skip;
85 SPACE  : [ \r\t\n ] -> skip;

```

4.2.1 Lexicon

The definition of what input are allowed for each lexeme in the grammar is defined by means of regular expressions. This will be described here with a table of terminals with matching regex, found in table 4.1. A stream of characters is read by the scanner of the compiler and then turned into a token name defined by the regex. Due to the way the context-free grammar is implemented there are not a lot of terminals. This is because that the terminal *ID* is used widely through the CFG. The general usage of this term creates consistency for the user giving that they quickly can get a feel for what input is allowed.

Token	Regular expressions
ID	<code>[a-z] ([a-z] [A-Z])*</code>
OR	<code>'OR'</code>
AND	<code>'AND'</code>
EQ	<code>'IS=' 'NOT='</code>
REL	<code>'>' '<' '>=' '<='</code>
ADD	<code>'+' '-'</code>
MUL	<code>'*' '/'</code>
NUM	<code>[0-9]+("."[0-9]*)? "."[0-9]+</code>
BOOL	<code>'false' 'true'</code>
STRING	<code>'"'.*'"'</code>
TYPE	<code>'Num' 'Bool' 'Text'</code>

Table 4.1. Table with terminals and matching regular expressions.

4.3 Language constructs

In this section the language constructs for this project will be defined and explained, in order to give a clearer view of our language.

4.3.1 Setup block

The Setup block is a block, run only once at the beginning of each round. In this block the user can define colors of different parts of the robot, call user defined functions which should only be called in once in the beginning and reserved calls. The Setup block can only be declared once, and have to be in the code, else the user will not be able to run the code.

Definition 4.3.1

*The Setup block consists of the reserved word **Setup** followed by { **body** }, where the body is the userdefined code.*

4.3.2 Repeat block

The Repeat block will iterate through the users code, unless an event has occurred which then have first priority. The Repeat block is the general behaviour and logic of the robot, and will often contain the main movements of the robot. Just as the Setup block, the Repeat block can also only be declared once, and have to be in the code.

Definition 4.3.2

*The Repeat block is defined with the reserved word **Repeat** followed by { **body** }, where the body is the userdefined code.*

4.3.3 When block

The When block is handling an event whenever it occurs during the battle. The When block is performing the behaviour and logic when the events occur, where this will be made by the user. Only a predefined number of events can be declared, which can be found in the Appendix A.2

Definition 4.3.3

*The When block is defined as: When eventName { **body** }, **When** is the reserved word, the name of a Robocode event followed by the body which is the user defined code.*

4.3.4 Variables

In our language there are three different kind of variables, **Num**, **Bool** and **Txt**. All numeric types will be interpreted as **Num**. **Bool** can either be True or False. **Txt** is an array of characters.

Definition 4.3.4

*The variables can be declared using the reserved words **Num**, **Bool** and **Txt** followed by the desired id of the variable. If the variable should also be initialized, the assignment*

operator "=" should be used followed by the value or expression for the variable.

4.3.5 Action block

An Action block is an abstraction for statements with no return types, the Actions can be called throughout the code. The parameters in the Action block is always call by value, just as in the programming language Java, this will be the same in the Function block.

Definition 4.3.5

*An Action block is defined with the reserved word **Action** followed by the id of the Action, a desired amount of parameters in parentheses and the body of the Action block within {}. An Action block will look like: **Action** myAction (parameters) { **body** }.*

4.3.6 Function block

The Function block is very similar to the Action block. The difference of the two blocks is that the Function block have a return type.

Definition 4.3.6

*The function block is defined with the reserved word **Function** followed by the id of the Function, what the Function will be returning, a desired amount of parameters in parentheses and the body of the Function block within {}. An example of the Function block would be: **Function** myFunction Returns returnType (parameters) { **body** }*

4.3.7 Reserved calls

(Wait to explain this, till when we are sure if we want to rename tank, to robot???)

Definition 4.3.7

Hello?

4.3.8 Conditional block

The conditional block is the language's conditional statements which will execute the user defined code in its body depending on a boolean expression. Conditional blocks helps making the robots logic for its behaviour.

Definition 4.3.8

The conditional block contains a minimum of one if-construct, an optional number of else if-construct and can be ended with an optional else-construct.

*The if-construct is noted with the reserved word **if** followed by the boolean expression in parentheses and the body within {}: If(ture) body.*

*The else if-construct's structure is the same as the if-construct, except that the reserved word **else if** should be used instead of the **if**.*

The *else*-construct is noted by the reserved word **else** followed by the the body in `{}`.

4.3.9 Operators

Describe the different operators.. ?

Definition 4.3.9
Hello?

4.4 Type systems

In this section the type and scope rules will be explained. To do so, Sebesta [2009] has been used to understand and explain how the type and scope rules impacts our project.

4.4.1 Type rules

The following subsection will describe the type rules of the language. These rules will express which operators can be applied to each type, and how each expression will have a type, determined by the operands and operators in the expression. Operators have been divided into groups, and each group of the operators have semantically equivalent rules. The operators `[+, -, *, /, %]` will be used as the shorthand 'op'. Relational operators `[<, >, <=, >=, NOT=, IS=, AND, OR]` will be used as the shorthand 'relop'. There're two different types of negations, one for numbers and one for bools: `-(num)` for numbers, and `NOT(bool)` for bools.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Num \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : Num}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 op e_2 : Num}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Num \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : Num}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 relop e_2 : Bool}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Num}{\Gamma \vdash -e_1 : Num}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Txt \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 + e_2 : Txt}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Bool \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : Bool}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 relop e_2 : Bool}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : Bool}{\Gamma \vdash NOT e_1 : Bool}$$

4.4.2 Scope rules

Scope rules are where the scope of a name is part of the program, where the name binding is associated with an entity. Entities are variables, function names, event names, action names, etc. The scoping mechanism used in this project, is the lexical scoping, as the scope of a name binding refers to a portion of the source code. In our language there are three kind of scopes: local scope, global scope and function scope. A variable is visible in the specific scope, if can be referenced to. Two variables of the same name, can't be in the same scope. The local variables are declared inside blocks of code. The scope of a

name binding is delimited to the deepest block where it has been declared. The blocks are marked with { }. In the example in listing 4.6 the variable degrees is declared locally in the code block Setup, and it can't be used in other code blocks unless it is nested inside of the Setup block, it could e.g. be used in a if-loop in the Setup block.

Listing 4.6. Example of local scoping rules

```
1  Setup{
2      num degrees;
3      degrees = 90;
4
5      Tank.forward(degrees);
6  }
```

The parameters declared in a function, are visible in the function scope and can be used just as local variables for the function. It is possible to shadow parameters by creating an inner block and declare a variable with the same name. However it isn't possible to create two variables with the same name in the same block.

When a variable is declared in the global scope, it can be used in all of the other functions and code blocks. When a variable is used, it will first search for it in the local scope, if it is not found in the local scope, it will search the in the global scope. In listing 4.7 Codeblock1 uses the global variable, where Codeblock2 uses a local variable with the same name as the global variable, but the local variable will be used.

Listing 4.7. Example of global scoping rules

```
1  Num number = 2; /* Declared globally */
2
3  Codeblock1{
4      5 + number; /* Will use the global variable number */
5  }
6
7  Codeblock2{
8      Num number = 5; /* Locally declared variable */
9      5 + number; /* Will use the global variable number */
10 }
```


Semantics 5

This chapter provides a formal description of the language semantics. The chapter uses techniques and structures from the book *Transitions and Trees* Hüttel [2010].

5.1 Syntactic categories

To simplify the presentation of the semantics of our language, syntactic categories have been used. The syntactic categories are based on the grammar found in section 4.2. A collection of metavariables are presented in the following paragraphs which will be used throughout the chapter to present the type system and the operational semantics.

$e \in \mathbf{Expr}$ – *Expressions*
 $S \in \mathbf{Stmt}$ – *Statement*
 $n \in \mathbf{Num}$ – *Numerals*
 $b \in \mathbf{Bool}$ – *Boolean Literal*
 $B \in \mathbf{Block}$ – *Block*
 $tx \in \mathbf{Txt}$ – *Text Literal*
 $t \in \mathbf{Type}$ – *Num, Bool and Text types*
 $x \in \mathbf{var}$ – *Variable name*
 $f \in \mathbf{Func}$ – *Function name*
 $a \in \mathbf{Act}$ – *Action name*
 $D_a \in \mathbf{ActDcl}$ – *Action declaration*
 $D_f \in \mathbf{FuncDcl}$ – *Function declaration*
 $D_v \in \mathbf{VarDcl}$ – *Global variable declaration*

5.2 Formation rules

Missing intro!

$$\begin{aligned} B &::= \{ D_v S \} \\ Stmt &::= x = e \mid \text{if } e_1 \ B_1 \ \text{else } B_2 \\ &\mid \text{Repeat While}(e_1) \ B \mid \text{Repeat } B \ \text{While } (e_2) \mid \text{Return } e \mid \text{skip} \\ D_a &::= a(S) \ B \ D_a \mid \epsilon \\ D_f &::= f(S) \ B \ D_f \mid \epsilon \\ D_v &::= \tau \ x \ D_v \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

5.3 Semantic Functions

The purpose of the semantics functions is interpret syntactic elements to semantic elements. The semantic functions used in our language will be described in this section.

5.3.1 Numeral Literals

The numbers literal in our language will be Numerals, which will be interpreted to real numbers by means of the semantic function:

$$\mathcal{N} : \mathbf{Num} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Using this function, numerals as $\mathcal{N}[5]$ and $\mathcal{N}[5.36]$ will be mapped to the corresponding values 5 and 5.36.

5.3.2 Text Literals

A Text literal is a sequence of symbols and characters in UTF-8(Unicode Transformation Format 8-bit) except the delimiter ("). The sequence of symbols and characters must be within the delimiter, for example "Hello world!".

Text Literal are interpreted as string elements Text, by means of the following:

$$\tau : \mathbf{Txt} \rightarrow \mathbf{txtL}$$

As an example : $\tau(\text{"Insert text here"}) \rightarrow \text{Insert text here}$

5.3.3 Boolean Literals

The Boolean literals depict whether the expression is evaluated to true or false. The symbol for true is \top , and the symbol for false is \perp from the set of values from $\mathbf{bool} = \text{True}, \text{False}$.

5.4 Environment Storemodel

MISSING INTRO!

5.5 Type system

THIS SHALL BE MOVED!!!

$$[NUM] \quad \overline{\Gamma \vdash n ::= Num}$$

$$[BOOL] \quad \overline{\Gamma \vdash b ::= Bool}$$

$$[TXT] \quad \overline{\Gamma \vdash tx ::= Txt}$$

5.6 Operational semantic

MISSING INTRO! We should write about the smallstep- and bigstep semantics ?

5.6.1 Declarations

$$[EMPTY - VARDCL] \quad \frac{}{\langle \epsilon, E_v \rangle \rightarrow_{Dv} E_v}$$

$$[VARDCL] \quad \frac{\langle D_v, E_v[x \mapsto l] \rangle \rightarrow_{Dv} \langle E'_v \rangle}{\langle var \ x; D_v, E_v \rangle \rightarrow_{Dv} \langle E'_v \rangle} \quad l = E_v(next)$$

$$[EMPTY - ACTDCL] \quad \frac{}{E_v \vdash \langle \epsilon, E_a \rangle \rightarrow_{Da} E_a}$$

$$[ACTDCL] \quad \frac{E_v \vdash \langle D_a, E_a[a \mapsto (S, (x_1..x_n) E_v)] \rangle \rightarrow_D a E'_a}{E_v \text{ Action } a(x_1..x_n) \text{ is } S; D_a E_a \rightarrow_{Da} E'_a}$$

$$[EMPTY - FUNCDCCL] \quad \frac{}{E_v \vdash \langle \epsilon; D_f \rangle \rightarrow_{Df} E_f}$$

$$[FUNCDCCL] \quad \frac{E_v \vdash \langle D_f, E_f[f \mapsto (S, x_1..x_n, E_v)] \rangle \rightarrow_{Df} E'_f}{E_v \vdash \langle \text{Function } f(x_1..x_n) \text{ is } S; D_f, E_f \rangle \rightarrow_{Df} E'_f}$$

5.6.2 Statements

5.6.3 Expressions

$$[PAR - EXPR] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle (e), st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v, st')}$$

5.6.4 Arithmetic Expressions

$$[ASM - EXPR] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_1 \text{ op } a_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v, st')}$$

$$op \in \{ +, -, * \}$$

$$v = v_1 + v_2$$

$$v = v_1 - v_2$$

$$v = v_1 * v_2$$

$$[DIV - EXPR] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle a_1 \text{ op } a_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v, st')}$$

$$op \in \{ /, \% \} \mid v \neq 0$$

$$v = v_1 / v_2$$

$$v = v_1 \% v_2$$

5.6.5 Boolean Expressions

$$[EXPR_{\top}^{IS=}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 \text{ IS } = e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 = v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\perp}^{IS=}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 \text{ IS } = e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 \neq v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\top}^{NOT=}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 \text{ NOT } = e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 \neq v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\perp}^{NOT=}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 \text{ NOT } = e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 = v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\top}^{\geq}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 > e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 > v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\perp}^{\geq}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 > e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 \not> v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\top}^{\leq}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 < e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 < v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\perp}^{\leq}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 < e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 \not< v_2$$

$$[EXPR_{\top}^{\geq=}] \quad \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1, st > \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_2, st'' \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash < e_1 \geq e_2, st > \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 \geq v_2$$

$$[EXPR \geq_{\perp}^=] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 \geq e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 \not\geq v_2$$

$$[EXPR \leq_{\top}^=] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 \leq e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$v_1 \leq v_2$$

$$[EXPR \leq_{\perp}^=] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_1, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (v_2, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 \leq e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$v_1 \not\leq v_2$$

$$[EXPR !_{\top}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle v, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle !v, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$[EXPR !_{\perp}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle v, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle !v, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

$$[EXPR AND_{\top}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 AND e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st')}$$

$$[EXPR AND_{\perp}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st)}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 AND e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st)}$$

$$[EXPR OR_{\top}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st)}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 OR e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\top, st)}$$

$$[EXPR OR_{\perp}] \frac{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st'') \quad E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_2, st'' \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}{E_v, E_a, E_f \vdash \langle e_1 OR e_2, st \rangle \rightarrow_e (\perp, st')}$$

Conclusion 6

Discussion 7

Future work 8

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Rettelser

Appendix name



A.1 Reserved calls table

Reserved calls	Our language	RoboCode
Tank.	forward(num distance)	ahead(double distance)
	backward(num distance)	back(double distance)
	doNothing()	doNothing()
	energy()	getEnergy()
	heading()	getHeading()
	height()	getHeight()
	width()	getWidth()
	velocity()	getVelocity()
	xCoord()	getX()
	yCoord	getY()
	stop()	stop()
	resume()	resume()
	turn(num degrees)	turnLeft(double degrees)
Gun.	shoot(num power)	fire(double power)
	coolingRate()	getGunCoolingRate()
	heading()	getGunHeading()
	heat()	getGunHeat()
	turn(num ddegrees)	turnGunLeft(double degrees)
Radar.	heading()	getRadarHeading()
	scan()	scan()
	turn(num degrees)	turnRadarLeft(double degrees)
Battlefield.	height()	getBattleFieldHeight()
	width()	getBattleFieldWidth()
	numOfRounds()	getNumRounds()
	enemies()	getOthers()
	roundNum()	getRoundNum()
	time()	getTime()

A.2 Event table

OL / Robocode Event	OL Event Information	Robocode Event Information
BulletHit / on-BulletHit	bulletHeading()	getBullet().getHeading()
	bulletOwner()	getBullet().getName()
	bulletPower()	getBullet().getPower()
	bulletVelocity()	getBullet().getVelocity()
	bulletVictim()	getBullet().getVictim()
	bulletXCoord()	getBullet().getX()
	bulletYCoord()	getBullet().getY()
	bulletIsActive()	getBullet().isActive()
	energy()	getEnergy()
BulletHitBullet / onBulletHitBullet	bulletHeading()	getBullet().getHeading()
	bulletOwner()	getBullet().getName()
	bulletPower()	getBullet().getPower()
	bulletVelocity()	getBullet().getVelocity()
	bulletVictim()	getBullet().getVictim()
	bulletXCoord()	getBullet().getX()
	bulletYCoord()	getBullet().getY()
	bulletIsActive()	getBullet().isActive()
	enemyBulletHeading()	getHitBullet().getHeading()
	enemyBulletOwner()	getHitBullet().getName()
	enemyBulletPower()	getHitBullet().getPower()
	enemyBulletVelocity()	getHitBullet().getVelocity()
	enemyBulletVictim()	getHitBullet().getVictim()
	enemyBulletXCoord()	getHitBullet().getX()
	enemyBulletYCoord()	getHitBullet().getY()
	enemyBulletIsActive()	getHitBullet().isActive()
HitByBullet / on-HitByBullet	bearing()	getBearing()
	bearingDegrees()	getBearingDegrees
	bulletHeading()	getBullet().getHeading()
	bulletOwner()	getBullet().getName()
	bulletPower()	getBullet().getPower()
	bulletVelocity()	getBullet().getVelocity()
	bulletVictim()	getBullet().getVictim()
	bulletXCoord()	getBullet().getX()
	bulletYCoord()	getBullet().getY()
	bulletIsActive()	getBullet().isActive()
	heading()	getHeading()
	headingDegrees()	getHeadingDegrees()
	power()	getPower()
	velocity()	getVelocity()

HitRobot / on-HitRobot	bearing()	getBearing()
	bearingDegrees()	getBearingDegrees
	energy()	getEnergy()
	myFault()	isMyFault()
	enemyName()	getName()
Death / onDeath		
HitWall / onHit-Wall	bearing()	getBearing()
EnemyDeath / onRobotDeath	enemyName()	getName()
RoundEnded / onRoundEnded	round()	getRound()
	totalTurns()	getTotalTurns()
	turns()	getTurns()
ScannedRobot / onScannedRobot	bearing()	getBearing()
	distance()	getDistance()
	energy()	getEnergy()
	heading()	getHeading()
	enemyName()	getName()
	velocity()	getVelocity()
Status / onStatus	distanceRemaining()	getStatus.getDistanceRemaining()
	gunTurnRemaining()	getStatus.getGunTurnRemaining()
	radarTurnRemaining()	getStatus.getRadarTurnRemaining()
Win / onWin		