

Desugaring: Our First Elaborator

CS 350

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Syntactic Sugar

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 - They “sweeten” the experience of programming

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- Add translation from surface to core AST

Subtraction: Datatype

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```
(define-type SurfaceExpr
  (SurfNumLit [n : Number])
  (SurfPlus [left : SurfaceExpr]
            [right : SurfaceExpr])
  (SurfTimes [left : SurfaceExpr]
             [right : SurfaceExpr])
  (SurfIf0 [test : SurfaceExpr]
           [thenBranch : SurfaceExpr]
           [elseBranch : SurfaceExpr])
  (SurfSub [left : SurfaceExpr]
           [right : SurfaceExpr]))
```

Subtraction: Parser Case

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```
(define (parse [s : S-Exp]) : SurfaceExpr
  ...
  [(s-exp-match? `{- ANY ANY} s)
   (SurfSub (parse (second (s-exp->list s)))
             (parse (third (s-exp->list s))))])]
```

Subtraction: Elaborator

- Define function that translates from `SurfaceExpr` to `Expr`

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- Define function that translates from SurfaceExpr to Expr

```
(define (elab [surf : SurfaceExpr]) : Expr
  (type-case SurfaceExpr surf
    [(SurfNumLit n) (NumLit n)]
    [(SurfPlus x y) (Plus x y)]
    [(SurfTimes x y) (Times x y)]
    [(SurfIf0 test thn els) (If0 test thn els)]
    ;; Sub isn't in our core syntax
    [(SurfSub x y) (Plus x (Times (NumLit -1) y))])
  )
```

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 - Translated a small language into an even smaller one
- Compilation is just a bunch of desugaring passes
 - Simpler and simpler languages until we have something simple enough for assembly code