```
instance Applicative Parser where
  pure = return
CSCE 314 Reference Sheet
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General:
                                                                        .
(<*>) = ap
• newtype Parser a = P (String -> [(a,String)])
• Predicate: a function that takes one argument and returns a
                                                                    failure :: Parser a
                                                                    failure = P (\inp -> [])
 * if pred x == True then x satisfies predicate pred
                                                                    -- parse any single character
• function composition:
                                                                             :: Parser Char
= P (\inp -> case inp of
                                                                    item
                                                                    item
   - the . operator composes functions:
                                                                                                [] -> [] (x:xs) -> [(x,xs)])
 (f \cdot g) \times = f (g \times g)
useful library functions:
                                                                    parse
                                                                                                      :: Parser a -> String ->
-- Data.List
                                                                    parse (P p) inp
                                                                                                          p inp
                                                                    --Choice
nub :: Eq a => [a] -> [a]
nub xs = nubBy (==) a -- unique elements from xs
                                                                    (+++) :: Parser a -> Parser a -> Parser a
                                                                    p +++ q = P (\inp -> case parse p inp of
                                                                                                 П
                                                                                                            → parse q inp
[(v,out)] -> [(v,out)])
                                                                    --Derived primitives
-- concatenate container of lists
                                                                              :: (Char -> Bool) -> Parser Char
concat :: Foldable t => t [a] -> [a]
-- or for list-of-lists specifically:
                                                                    sat
                                                                                    = do x <- item
                                                                    sat p
                                                                                           if p x then return x else failure
concat :: [[a]] -> [a]
concat xs = foldl (++) [] xs
                                                                    digit
                                                                              :: Parser Char
                                                                    digit
                                                                                    = sat isDigit
-- like concat, but use a function to get the inner lists
concatMap :: (a -> [b]) -> [a] -> [b]
concatMap f xs = foldr ((++) . f) [] xs
                                                                              :: Parser Char
                                                                    letter
                                                                    letter
                                                                                    sat isAlpha
-- get the longest prefix of xs for which pred is true
                                                                    alphanum :: Parser Char
⇒ and also return the rest of the list

span :: (a -> Bool) -> [a] -> ([a], [a])

span pred xs = (takeWhile pred xs, dropWhile pred xs)
                                                                    alphanum
                                                                                    = sat isAlphaNum
                                                                    lower
                                                                              :: Parser Char
                                                                    lower
                                                                                    = sat isLower
-- repeat a = infinite list of a
repeat :: a -> [a]
                                                                              :: Parser Char
                                                                    upper
repeat x = map (\_ -> x) [1..]
repeat x = [ x | _ <- [1..] ]
-- replicate n a = list of length n repeating a
                                                                    upper
                                                                                    = sat isUpper
                                                                              :: Char -> Parser Char
                                                                    char
replicate :: Int -> a -> [a]
                                                                                    = sat (== x)
                                                                    char x
replicate n x = map (\  \  ) [1..n]
replicate n x = [ x | _ <- [1..n] ]
                                                                              :: String -> Parser String
                                                                    string
                                                                    string []
                                                                                   = return []
-- folds (works on any foldable, not just lists)
                                                                    string (x:xs) = do char x
foldr :: (a -> b -> b) -> b -> [a] -> b
foldr f z [a,b,c] = a `f` (b `f` (c `f`
                                                                                           string xs
                                     (c `f` z))
                                                                                           return (x:xs)
                                                                               :: Parser a -> Parser [a]
foldr f z [a,b,c] = f a $ f b $ f c z
                                                                    manv
                                                                              = many1 p +++ return []
:: Parser a -> Parser [a]
= do v <- p
vs <- many p
  combines into z from right to left
                                                                    many p
-- can potentially work on an empty list if one of the
                                                                    many1
                                                                    many1 p
    folds does not evaluate it's second argument
foldl :: (b -> a -> b) -> b -> [a] -> b

foldl f z [a,b,c] = ((z `f` a) `f` b) `f` c

foldl f z [a,b,c] = f (f (f z a) b) c
                                                                                           return (v:vs)
                                                                    ident
                                                                               :: Parser String
                                                                                   = do x <- lower
                                                                    ident
-- evaluates from right to left
                                                                                           xs <- many alphanum
-- will not work on infinite list because it must start
                                                                                           return (x:xs)
\hookrightarrow at the end of the list
                                                                               :: Parser Int
                                                                    nat
                                                                    nat
                                                                                    = do xs <- many1 digit
-- these are the same as above, except they take the
                                                                                           return (read xs)
    first two elements for the first application of f
                                                                    int
                                                                               :: Parser Int
foldr1 :: (a -> a -> a) -> [a] -> a
foldl1 :: (a -> a -> a) -> [a] -> a
                                                                                    = do char '-'
                                                                    int
                                                                                          n <- nat
                                                                                           return (-n)
Parsing.hs:
                                                                                        +++ nat
                                                                              :: Parser ()
                                                                    space
module Parsing where
                                                                                    = do many (sat isSpace)
                                                                    space
import Data.Char
                                                                                           return ()
import Control.Applicative (Applicative(...))
import Control.Monad
                               (liftM, ap)
                                                                    --Ignoring spacing
infixr 5 +++
                                                                    token
                                                                                  :: Parser a -> Parser a
                                                                    token p
                                                                                  = do space
-- Parser is the name of the type, P is the constructor.
                                                                                  v <- p
newtype Parser a = P (String -> [(a,String)])
                                                                                  space
                                                                                  return v
instance Monad Parser where
   identifier :: Parser String
   p >>= f = P (\inp -> case parse p inp of
                                                                    identifier = token ident
                                           -> []
                                [(v,out)] -> parse (f v) out)
                                                                    natural
                                                                                  :: Parser Int
                                                                    natural
                                                                                  token nat
instance Functor Parser where
   fmap = liftM
                                                                    integer
                                                                                 :: Parser Int
```

```
integer
                       = token int
symbol
                          :: String -> Parser String
symbol xs
                          token (string xs)
--Example: Arithmetic Expressions
expr :: Parser Int
expr = do t <- term
                        do {char '+' ;e <- expr
                                ;return (t + e)
                           +++ return t
term :: Parser Int
term = do f <- factor
                        do char '*'
                               t <- term
                               return (f * t)
                          +++ return f
factor :: Parser Int
factor = do d <- digit</pre>
                         return (digitToInt d)
+++ do char '('
                                        e <- expr
                                         char ')
                                         return e
               :: String -> Int
eval xs = fst (head (parse expr xs))
                                                                                                                                         eval
• sat :: (Char -> Bool) -> Parser Char
                                                                                                                                       Trees:
  * returns a character if that character satisfies the predicate
• digit, letter, alphanum :: Parser Char
  * parses a digit, letter, or alpha-numeric letter respectively
• char :: Char -> Parser Char
   * char `a' parses exactly the character `a'
• item :: Parser Char
  * parses any character
• similar to above: digit letter alphanum lower upper
  string
many :: Parser a -> Parser [a]
   * parses 0 or more instances of a and collects them into a list
• many1 :: Parser a -> Parser [a]
  * same as many, but
• (+++) choice:
  * parse first argument if possible, else parse second argument
  * first successfully parsed argument is returned
• nat :: Parser Int
  * parse natural number (positive integer)
• int :: Parser Int
     (+++) :: Parser a -> Parser a -> Parser a
     p + + + q = P ( - case parse p inp of - case p inp of 
                                              [] -> parse q inp
[(v,out)] -> [(v,out)])
• ((>>=)) sequential composition
   * a >>= b unboxes monad a into an output a0 and then unboxes
    monad b with input a0
     type Parser a = String -> [(a, String)]
          implementation for in-class mostly-complete parser
               `monads'
     (>>=) :: Parser a -> (a -> Parser b) -> Parser b
     (>>=) p1 p2 = \inp -> case parse p1 inp of [] -> []
                   [(v, out)] \rightarrow parse (p2 v) out
   * usage:
     doubleDigit :: Parser [Char]
doubleDigit =
         digit >>= \a ->
         digit >>= \b ->
         return [a,b]
     -- is equivalent to
doubleDigit' :: Parser [Char]
doubleDigit' = do
         a <- digit
b <- digit
   * (>>) is the same except that it discards the result of the first
     monad (thus it has signature (>>) :: Parser a -> Parser b -
     > Parser b)
Parsing Examples:
```

• bind and lambda method of parsing: * parse a number: • parse arithmetic expressions using do syntax: expr :: Parser Int expr = do t <- term do {char '+' ;e <- expr ;return (t + e) +++ return t term :: Parser Int term = do f <- factor do char '* t <- term return (f * t) +++ return f factor :: Parser Int factor = do d <- digit return (digitToInt d) +++ **do** char '(' e <- expr char ') return e :: String -> Int eval xs = fst (head (parse expr xs)) • represent either a leaf node or some kind of internal node • arithmetic tree declaration: data Expr = Val Int **Neg Expr** Add Expr Expr Mul Expr Expr how to fold over a tree: -- exprFold valF negF addF exprFold :: (Int->b) -> (b->b) -> (b->b) -> mulF input output $(b\rightarrow b\rightarrow b) \rightarrow Expr \rightarrow b$ exprFold valF _ _ _ (Val i) = valF i
exprFold valF negF addF mulF (Neg e) (exprFold valF negF addF mulF s2) * basically, just collect values into some type b and use supplied functions at each node to fold into single value * useful for evaluating simple things like: -- evaluate an expression = exprFold id $(\x \rightarrow 0 - x)$ (+) (*) id -- integers map to integers (\x -> 0 - x) -- negation -- everything else is just simple numeric operators -- count leaves in a tree countLeaves' = exprFold (_ -> 1) id (+) (+)
(_ -> 1) -- leaf integer node is one node
id -- negation node has only one child, pass on count
(+) (+) -- nodes with two children: add number of leaf grandchildren **HW2: Water Gates:** waterGate :: Int -> Int waterGate n = length -- number of True's
\$ filter id -- filter just True's
\$ waterGate' n initial -- initial call to helper -- start with all gates closed initial = replicate n False -- flip states waterGate' 1 state = map not state -- base case: flip every state
waterGate' n state = flip n \$ waterGate' (n-1) state -- otherwise, first get the state for (n-1) and then → flip every nth state

```
-- flip every nth gate
flip :: Int -> [Bool] -> [Bool]
  flip 1 xs = map not xs -- flip every gate
  -- flip only gates which index are multiples of n
flip nth xs = [ if (i `mod` nth == 0) then not x else x
                   -- zip each state with it's index
                   | (x,i) \leftarrow (zip xs [1..])
HW2: Goldbach's Other Conjecture:
-- check if a number is prime
primeTest :: Integer -> Bool
primeTest 1 = False
primeTest t = and [ (gcd t i) == 1 | i <- [2..t-1]]</pre>
-- all numbers less than n that are double a square
twiceSquares :: Integer -> [Integer]
twiceSquares n = takeWhile (<n) [ 2 \times x^2 \mid x \leftarrow [1..]]

    list of odd numbers

oddList = map (\x -> 2*x + 1) [0..]
-- all odd numbers that are composite (not prime)
allOddComp = [ o | o <- (drop 1 oddList)
, not (primeTest o) ]
-- if a number satisfies conditions for conjecture
-- method: for enough square nubmers, check if n-(that
\hookrightarrow number) is prime
satsConds n = or [ primeTest k |
                     k \leftarrow map (\x-\xite) (twiceSquares n) ]
-- find the first number
goldbachNum = head [ x | x <- allOddComp</pre>
                           , not (satsConds x) ]
HW4: Sets:
type Set a = [a]
a = mkSet [1,2,3,4,5]
b = mkSet [1,2,3]
addToSet :: Eq a => Set a -> a -> Set a
addToSet s a | a `elem` s = s
                 otherwise = a : s
mkSet :: Eq a => [a] -> Set a
mkSet lst = foldl addToSet [] lst
isInSet :: Eq a => Set a -> a -> Bool
isInSet [] _ = False
isInSet [a] b = a == b
isInSet (x:xs) b | x == b = True
                     otherwise = isInSet xs b
subset :: Eq a => Set a -> Set a -> Bool
subset sub super = and [ isInSet super x | x <- sub ]</pre>
setEqual :: Eq a => Set a -> Set a -> Bool
setEqual a b = subset a b && subset b a
-- instance (Eq a) => Eq (Set a) where
   a == b = subset a b && subset b a
setProd :: Set a -> Set a -> [(a,a)]
setProd a b = [ (ai,bj) | ai <- a</pre>
                              bj <- b
Prev Exam: Run Length Encoding:
import Parsing
```

```
import Parsing
import Data.Char

q4 = do
    d <- sat isUpper
    e <- char (toLower d)
    f <- many item
    return [d,e]

ones = (map (\_ -> 1) [1..])

myRLE [] = []
myRLE ls = myhelper (zip ones ls)

myhelper [(n,c)] = [(n,c)]
myhelper ((n,c):(m,d):rest)
    | (d == c) = myhelper (((n+m),c):rest)
    | otherwise = (n,c):myhelper ((m,d):rest)
```

Rock Paper Scissors:

```
data RPS = Rock | Paper | Scissors
  deriving (Eq, Show)
rps :: RPS -> RPS -> Int
rps a b | a == b = 0
rps Rock
             Scissors = 1
                      = 1
rps Paper
             Rock
                      = 1
rps Scissors Paper
rps _
rps2 :: RPS -> RPS -> Int
rps2 a b =
  if a == b then 0 else case (a,b) of
    (Rock,
               Scissors) → 1
    (Paper,
               Rock)
                         -> 1
                         ->
    (Scissors, Paper)
```

99 problems:

Java:

- Class Invariant: A logical condition that ensures that an object of a class is in a well-defined state.
- * public methods assume that invariant holds before it's called, and makes sure to preserve the invariant property
- garbage collection deals only with memory. You must manage other resources manually, such as concurrent locks, OS file handles, etc...
- anonymous classes are a thing
- inner class: class declared inside another class implicitly holds a reference to it's outer class.

This means instances of the inner class can use non-static field-s/methods of the outer class.

This is especially handy for callbacks e.g. on android

abstract class vs interface:

- Interface: all fields are public static final, all methods are public
- abstract class can extend exactly one parent class and implement any number of interfaces
- interface can extend (not implement) any number of interfaces
- abstract class can have constructor that initializes values and whatnot, but interface cannot
- * you can't instantiate an abstract class directly, you can only call it's constructor from inside the constructor of a child class. Could still be useful though.
- interfaces and abstract classes can never be instantiated
- \ast references of interface type refer to an instance of a class that implements that interface
- * references of abstract class type refer to an instance of a subclass of that type

Inheritance and Virtual Methods:

- Java classes can inherit from one class only
- * inheritance: class ChildClass extends ParentClass
- \ast child class gets access to public fields/methods (of course) and protected fields/methods
- * child class does not get access to private fields/methods
- * TODO abstract classes/methods
- interfaces: **class MultiPurpose implements** Interface1, IFace2...
- * basically an end around lack of multiple inheritance
- * interfaces cannot be instantiated, but you can have a reference of interface type. In that case, the object it points to is a real concrete class, but all that you know about it is that it implements the specified interface

```
• virtual dispatch:
```

- * all public non-static class methods are virtual. This means that if a subclass overrides a parent class method, the decision of which method implementation to use is made at runtime, depending on which type of object the reference actually refers to.
- * all interface methods are by definition virtual
- * private methods are not virtual, static methods are not virtual
- notable interfaces:
- * Iterable<T>: contains Iterator<T> iterator() method, to iterate over container
- * Iterator<E>: encapsulates an iteration over a container. Unlike C++ iterators, this iterator knows when it's reached the end, instead of relying on comparison to a one-past-end iterator
- -boolean hasNext(): ask if we're at the end
- E next(): retrieve next element, and advance iterator
- * Runnable: single **void** run() method. This is the interface that threads use

Generics:

• Subtype Operator: <:

```
* if S implements T then S <: T
 * if S <: T then you can freely use an object of type S where type
  T was required, and it will be type-safe (S can be safely used in
  that context instead of T)
   <T extends Number>
                             T <: Number
 * <T super Number>
                             T :> Number
                             S <: T
   T t = new S();
• type bound: class SortedList<T extends Comparable & Seri-
 alizable>
 * you use extends for constraints that are classes or interfaces
 * you can bound with extends or super
 * <T extends Type>: Type is an inclusive upper bound on T
 * <T super Type>: Type is an inclusive lower bound on T
• wildcards: static void printAll(List<?> lst) use ? for when
 you want to accept an object of any type
 * you can also specify <? extends ClassOrInterface...>
• PECS: Producer Extends, Consumer Super
 * to generically assign a T to something, use <? super T>
 * to generically read a T from something, use <? extends T>
public class CollectionsPECS {
  public static <T> void copy(List<? super T> dest,
                                List<? extends T> src) {
    for (int i=0; i<src.size(); i++)</pre>
      dest.set(i,src.get(i));
import java.lang.*;
class GenericWildcards
    'T is the binding of the generic parameter
  private static class GenericBox<T> {
    // it is optional, but we need it if we want to do
    things with that type
    public T t;
    public GenericBox(T t) { this.t = t; }
  private static class NumberBox<T extends Number> {
    public T t;
    public NumberBox(T t) { this.t = t; }
  public static void printBox(GenericBox<?> b)
    // here we use the ? wildcard with no type binding
    because we don't need to do things with that type
    specifically
    System.out.println(b.t);
  // method generic goes before return type
  public static <T> void printWithParameter(GenericBox<T>
    h)
    System.out.println(b.t);
  public static void main(String[] args) {
      this is using raw types, generally considered bad
    GenericBox rawBox = new GenericBox("asdf1"); //
    compiler warnings
```

```
// this cast is ok because raw types hold
    java.lang.Object
    Object o1 = rawBox.t;
      this causes no warnings for same reason as
    assignment above doesn't
    printBox(rawBox);
    // this is just using an unknown type, java says it's
    fine
    GenericBox<?> unknownBox = new GenericBox<>("asdf2");
    // this is also OK because <?> explicitly makes the
    generic parameter as java.lang.Object
    Object o2 = unknownBox.t;
    printBox(unknownBox);
    GenericBox<String> stringBox = new
    GenericBox<>("asdf3");
      the type parameter above allows Java to infer that
    this cast is safe
    String s = stringBox.t;
    System.out.println(s)
    // must specify type between class access and method
    name (works the same for instance methods too)
    GenericWild-
    cards.<String>printWithParameter(stringBox);
    // correct stuff works like expected
    NumberBox<Integer> nb1 = new NumberBox<>(5);
    System.out.println(nb1.t + 1);
    // this will fail to even allow NumberBox<String>
    because that type doesn't work
       NumberBox<String> sb1 = new NumberBox<>("asdf");
    // this will fail because the inferred type of
   NumberBox<>("asdf") is NumberBox<String>, which isn't
    allowed
    // NumberBox<?> sb1 = new NumberBox<>("asdf");
}
```

Threading:

import java.util.concurrent.locks.ReentrantLock;
import java.util.concurrent.locks.Condition;

ReentrantLock:

- ReentrantLock: basically a mutex
- ReentrantLock.lock(): acquire the lock (blocking)
 - * does **not** throw InterruptedException
- ReentrantLock.unlock(): release the lock
- * does **not** throw InterruptedException
- * you should always wrap your locking code in a try{} block (including the call to lock() itself) and put the call to unlock() in a finally{} block.

This way, unlock() gets called no matter any exception

Condition:

- \bullet created from a lock, allows one thread to send a message to another thread
- * create form lock instance using lock.newCondition()
- await(): release this lock and wait for the condition to be signaled.

When the signal happens, await() will automatically re-acquire the lock before returning

(this means you will still have to unlock manually)

- *you can only await() when you are holding the lock, and when it returns, you still have the lock, so it acts like you never unlocked it
- $* \mathbf{does} \ \mathrm{throw} \ \mathtt{InterruptedException}$
- signal(): wake up a single thread that is waiting on the condition
- * must be holding lock to signal it's condition
- * must manually release lock before other thread will return from await() (because the other thread must also acquire the lock)
- * does **not** throw InterruptedException
- signalAll(): similar to signal() except that every thread is woken up

```
* still only one thread will be able to use the lock-protected re-
  source at a time, because locks
 * does not throw InterruptedException
Threads:
• static void Thread.sleep(long ms): sleep for ms
 * throws InterruptedException if the thread was interrupted be-
  fore time elapsed
• make new thread with new Thread(Runnable r)
 * start that thread with thread.start()
synchronized:
// inside a method
synchronized(some_object /*may be this*/) {
    synchronized code here
  synchronized getInstance method for singleton
public foo synchronized getInstance() {
                                                               }
  if (inst == null) { inst = new Foo(); }
  return foo;
                                                               Reflection:
                                                                java.lang.Class<T>:
• methods marked synchronized are implicitly locked to ensure that
                                                                • allows you to reflect on class T
 only one synchronized method is ever running on a given object at
                                                                • to get:
• synchronized statement: synchronize on a specific object manually
• works as a good synchronization mechanism as long as the resource
 doesn't need to be used directly by multiple objects
• does not allow for conditions
import java.lang.*;
import java.util.concurrent.locks.ReentrantLock;
import java.util.concurrent.locks.Condition;
                                                                • Class<?>[] getInterfaces()
public class Main2
  public static class Counter {
    public int count = 0;
    public ReentrantLock lock;
    public Condition updated;
    public Counter()
      this.lock = new ReentrantLock();
      this.updated = lock.newCondition();

    methods matching getXXX()

  public static class CounterThread implements Runnable {
    private Counter counter;
    public CounterThread(Counter c) {counter = c;}
                                                                  class/interface
                                                                • Method[] getMethods()
    public void run() {
      while (true) {
        try
          counter.lock.lock();
          counter.count += 1;
          System.out.println(counter.count);
          counter.updated.signalAll();
                                                                 * public methods only
        // lock() does not throw InterruptedException
                                                                Method[] getDeclaredMethods()
          / catch (InterruptedException e) {}
        finally {counter.lock.unlock();}
        try {
                                                                • Field[] getFields()
          Thread.sleep(1000):
                                                                 * returns public fields only!
        } catch (InterruptedException e) {}
                                                                Field getField(String name)
    }
  }
  public static class IntervalPrinter implements Runnable
                                                                 * only finds public fields
    private Counter counter;
    private int mod;
    private String message;
                                                                  Class<?>... pt
    public IntervalPrinter(Counter c, int mod, String
                                                                  ing those parameter types
      counter = c;
      this.mod = mod;
                                                                T newInstance()
      message = msg;
    @Override
                                                                 constructor
    public void run() {
      while (true) {
                                                                java.lang.reflect.Method:
        int val = 0;
```

try {

counter.lock.lock();

```
counter.updated.await();
         val = counter.count:
       catch (InterruptedException e) {}
       finally {counter.lock.unlock();}
       if (val % mod == 0) {
         System.out.println(message);
public static void main(String []args) {
  Counter c = new Counter()
  new Thread(new IntervalPrinter(c,3,"fizz")).start();
new Thread(new IntervalPrinter(c,5,"buzz")).start();
  new Thread(new CounterThread(c)).start();
```

- - * Class<?> c = SomeClassName.class;
 - * Class<?> c = someObjectInstance.getClass();
- * Class<?> c = Class.forName("SomeClassName");
 - throws ClassNotFoundException
- toString() returns class declaration (more or less)
- getSimpleName() returns just the name part of it
- * Main.class.getSimpleName() → "Main"
- Class<? super T> getSuperclass()
- * on class object: get interfaces implemented by this class
- * on interface object: get interfaces extended by this interface
- methods matching getDeclaredXXX()
- * can see just things declared in the class itself, not from super
- * can see anything whether public/private/protected/etc...
- * operate on whatever the class looks like from an outside observer: only public fields/methods, and from class or super-
- * all public methods, including those inherited from super-classes and implemented in interfaces
- Method getMethod(String name, Class<?>... pt)
- * looks for fields in superclasses, then superinterfaces too
- * throws NoSuchMethodException if method not found
- * excludes inherited methods; includes any that are declared in class regardless of public, private, static, etc...
- * looks for fields in superinetrfaces, then superclasses too
- * throws NoSuchFieldException if field not found
- Constructor<T> getConstructor(Class<?>... pt)
- * get a constructor for T that matches parameter types
- * throws NoSuchMethodException if there is no constructor match-
- * create a new instance of T using the default constructor
- TODO use Constructor class to create class using non-default
- String to String() \rightarrow method prototype as string
- * includes modifiers, method name, parameters, etc...

- String $getName() \rightarrow name of method as string$
- int getModifiers() → int representing modifiers
- \ast use <code>java.lang.reflect.Modifier</code> static methods to check:
- Modifier.isStatic(m.getModifiers())
- \bullet Class<?>[] getParameterTypes() \rightarrow types of parameters of method
- * if no parameters, returns empty array
- * does not include implicit **this** parameter for instance methods
- Type[] getGenericParameterTypes(): same, but returns a Type instance that accurately represents the generic info from the actual source
- Class<?> getReturnType(): get the return type
- * if it's void, it returns a void type
- Object invoke(Object obj, Object... args)
- * invoke a method on an object. Subject to virtual method lookup
- * if the method is static, obj may be null
- * if the method returns a primitive type, it is wrapped; if void, returns null
- * throws IllegalAccessException if you can't run that method because it's private or something
- * if target method throws, it throws InvocationTargetException wrapping whatever was thrown

java.lang.reflect.Field:

- TYPE getTYPE(Object obj): bunch of methods for getting fields
 of primitive types
- * throws IllegalArgumentException if type can't be converted (widening conversions only are allowed)
- * throws IllegalArgumentException also if obj isn't of the right type
- Object get(Object obj): get an object field
- * if the field is a primitive type, it is wrapped and then returned
- \ast only throws IllegalArgumentException if obj isn't of the right type
- String getName()
- also various setTYPE(Object obj, TYPE value) and set(Object obj, Object value) equivalent to get methods