A Framework for RAD Spirit

Programs = Algorithms + Data Structures

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Outline

- What's Boost.Spirit? A short introduction
 - Qi and Karma: The Yin and Yang of Parsing Input and Generating Output
- Scheme the Minimalistic Power
 - The Spirit RAD Framework
 - Parsing and Generating S-Expressions
 - Scheme Compiler and Interpreter
 - Parsing and Generating Qi
 - Interpreting Qi

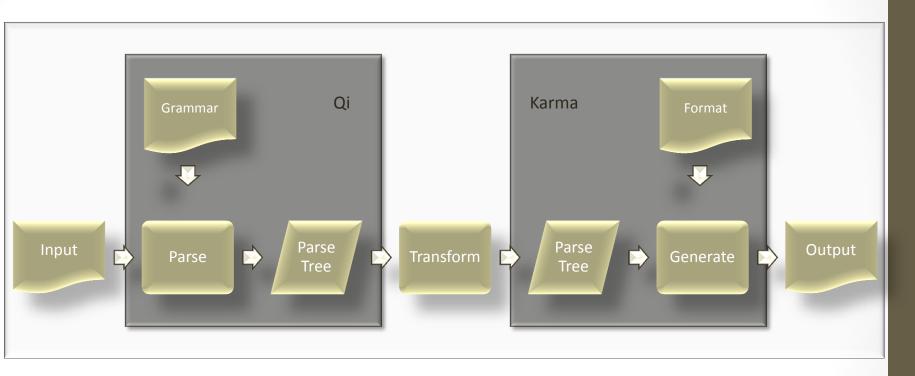
What's Boost.Spirit?

- A object oriented, recursive-descent parser and output generation library for C++
 - Implemented using template meta-programming techniques
 - Syntax of Parsing Expression Grammars (PEG's) directly in C++, used for input and output format specification
- A format driven input/output library
- Target grammars written entirely in C++
 - No separate tools to compile grammar
 - Seamless integration with other C++ code
 - Immediately executable
- Domain Specific Embedded Languages for
 - Token definition (spirit::lex)
 - Parsing (spirit::qi)
 - Output generation (spirit::karma)

Where to get the stuff

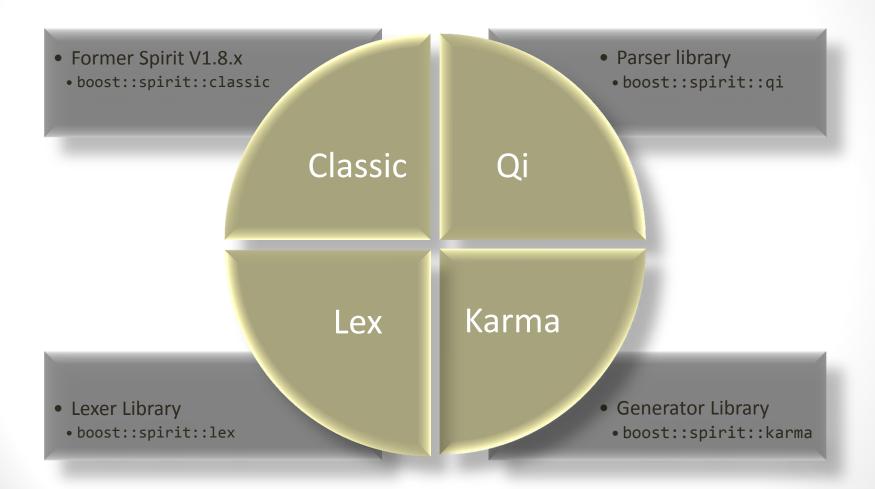
- Current version: Spirit V2.3
 - Fully integrated with Boost SVN::trunk, released since V1.40
 - Code for this talk: Boost::SVN needed (or Spirit V2.4, to be released with Boost V1.44)
- Mailing lists:
 - Spirit mailing list: http://sourceforge.net/mail/?group_id=28447
- Web:
 - http://boost-spirit.com/home

What's Boost.Spirit?



 Provides two independent but well integrated components of the text processing transformation chain: Parsing (Qi) and Output generation (Karma)

Library Structure



Spirit's Components

- Spirit Classic (spirit::classic)
- Create lexical analyzers (spirit::lex)
 - Token definition (patterns, values, lexer states)
 - Semantic actions, i.e. attach code to matched tokens
- Parsing Input (spirit::qi)
 - Grammar specification
 - Token sequence definition
 - Semantic actions, i.e. attaching code to matched sequences
 - Parsing Expression Grammar (PEG)
 - Error handling
- Generating Output (spirit::karma)
 - Format specification
 - Token sequence definition
 - Semantic actions, i.e. attaching code to sequences
 - Inverse Parsing Expression Grammars (IPEG)
 - Formatting directives
 - Alignment, whitespace delimiting, line wrapping, indentation

Qi and Karma

THE YIN AND YANG OF PARSING INPUT AND GENERATING OUTPUT

Parsing Expression Grammars

- Formal grammar for describing a formal language in terms of a set of rules used to recognize strings of this language
- Does not require a tokenization stage
 - But it doesn't prevent it
- Similar to regular expressions being added to the Extended Backus-Naur Form (EBNF)
- Unlike (E)BNF, PEG's are not ambiguous
 - Exactly one valid parse tree for each PEG
- Any PEG can be directly represented as a recursivedescent parser
- Different Interpretation than EBNF
 - Greedy Loops
 - First come first serve alternates

Parsing Input

- Qi is a library allowing to flexibly parse input based on a given grammar (PEG)
 - ,Parser generator', in the vein of yacc, bison, etc.
 - Currently generates recursive descent parsers, which perfectly map onto PEG grammars
 - A recursive descent parser is a top-down parser built from a set of mutually-recursive procedures, each representing one of the grammar elements
 - Thus the structure of the resulting program closely mirrors that of the grammar it recognizes
 - Elements: Terminals (primitives, i.e. plain characters, integer, etc.), non-terminals, sequences, alternatives, modifiers (Kleene, plus, etc.)
- Qi defines a DSEL (domain specific embedded language) hosted directly in C++
 - Using operator overloading, expression templates and template meta-programming
- Inline grammar specifications can mix freely with other C++ code, allowing excellent integration of your data types

Infix Calculator Grammar

Using Parsing Expression Grammars:

```
fact ← integer / '(' expr ')'
term ← fact (('*' fact) / ('/' fact))*
expr ← term (('+' term) / ('-' term))*
```

Infix Calculator Grammar

Using Qi:

Generating Output

- Karma is a library allowing to flexibly generate arbitrary character (byte) sequences
 - Based on the idea, that a grammar usable to parse an input sequence may as well be used to generate the very same sequence in the output
 - For parsing of some input most programmers use hand written code or parser generator tools
 - Need similar tools: 'unparser generators'
- Karma is such a tool
 - Inspired by the StringTemplate library (ANTLR)
 - Allows strict model-view separation (Separation of format and data)
 - Defines a DSEL (domain specific embedded language) allowing to specify the structure of the output to generate in a language derived from PEG

RPN Expression Format

Using Inverse Parsing Expression Grammars:

```
ast_node → integer / bin_node / u_node
bin_node → ast_node ast_node bin_code
u_node → '(' ast_node u_code ')'
bin_code → '+' / '-' / '*' / '/'
u_code → '+' / '-'
```

RPN Expression Format

Using Karma:

Spirit versus PEG Operators

Description	PEG	Spirit
Sequence	a b	Qi: a >> b
ocquerice a c	C. 10	Karma: a << b
Alternative	a / b	a b
Zero or more (Kleene)	a*	*a
One or more	a+	+a
And-predicate	&a	&a
Not-predicate	!a	!a
Optional	a?	-a

More Spirit Operators

Description	Syntax
Sequential-or (non-shortcutting, Qi only)	a b
List	a % b
Permutation (Qi only)	a ^ b
Expect (Qi only)	a > b
Semantic Action	a[f]
Character set negation (char_only)	~a

More about Parsers and Generators

- Currently recursive-descent implementation
 - Other schemes are possible, but not yet implemented
- Spirit makes the compiler generate format driven parser and generator routines
 - The C++ expression is expressed as a Proto type (representing the expression tree) at compile time
 - Achieved by ,tainting' the C++ expression by using Proto placeholders, which selects the proper overloaded Proto operators
 - The expression tree is converted into a corresponding parser/generator execution tree at runtime
- Parsers and generators are fully attributed
 - Each component either provides or expects a value of a specific type
 - Usual compatibility (convertibility) rules apply

Parser Types and their Attributes

	Qi Parser Types	Attribute Type
Literals	• 'a', "abc", lit(1.0)	No attribute
Primitive components	int_, char_, double_, bin, oct, hexbyte, word, dword, qword,streamsymbol<a>	 int, char, double uint8_t, uint16_t, uint32_t, int64_t, boost::any Explicitely specified (A)
Non-terminals	• rule <a()>, grammar<a()></a()></a()>	Explicitely specified (A)
Operators	 *a (Kleene) +a (one or more) -a (optional) a % b (list) a >> b (sequence) a b (alternative) &a, !a (predicates/eps) a ^ b (permutation) 	 std::vector<a> (std container) std::vector<a> (std container) boost::optional<a> std::vector<a> (std container) fusion::vector<a, b=""> (Fusion sequence)</a,> boost::variant<a, b=""></a,> No attribute fusion::vector< optional<a>, optional>
Directives	lexeme[a], omit[a], nocase[a]raw[]	Aboost::iterator_range<iterator></iterator>
Semantic action	• a[f]	• A

Generator Types and their Attributes

	Karma Generator Types	Attribute Type
Literals	• 'a', "abc", double_(1.0)	No attribute
Primitive components	int_, char_, double_, bin, oct, hexbyte, word, dword, qword,stream	int, char, doubleuint8_t, uint16_t, uint32_t, uint64_tboost::any
Non-terminals	rule<a()>, grammar<a()></a()></a()>	Explicitely specified (A)
Operators	 *a (Kleene) +a (one or more) -a (optional) a % b (list) a << b (sequence) a b (alternative) &a, !a (predicates/eps) 	 std::vector<a> (std container) std::vector<a> (std container) boost::optional<a> std::vector<a> (std container) fusion::vector<a, b=""> (Fusion sequence)</a,> boost::variant<a, b=""></a,> A
Directives	 verbatim[a], delimit()[a] lower[a], upper[a] left_align[a], center[a], right_align[a] 	• A • A • A
Semantic action	• a[f]	• A

Attribute Propagation

- Primitive components expose specific attribute type
 - int_ → int, double_ → double, char_ → char
 - Normal C++ convertibility rules apply
 - Qi: any C++ type may receive the parsed value as long as the attribute type of the parser is convertible to the type provided
 - Karma: any C++ type may be consumed as long as it is convertible to the attribute type of the generator
- Compound components implement specific propagation rules
 - a: A, b: B \rightarrow (a >> b): tuple<A, B>
 - Given a and b are components, and A is the attribute type of a, and B is the attribute type of b, then the attribute type of a >> b will be tuple<A, B> (any Fusion sequence of A and B).
- Some compound components implement additional compatibility rules
 - a: A, b: A → (a >> b): vector<A>
- In order for a type to be compatible with the attribute type of a compound expression it has to
 - Either be convertible to the attribute type,
 - Or it has to expose certain functionalities, i.e. it needs to conform to a concept compatible with the component.

Comparison Qi/Karma

	Qi	Karma
Main component	parser	generator
Main routines	parse(), match()	generate(), format()
Primitive components	int_, char_, double_,bin, oct, hexbyte, word, dword, qword,stream	 int_, char_, double_, bin, oct, hex byte, word, dword, qword, pad, stream
Non-terminals	• rule, grammar	• rule, grammar
Operators	 * (Kleene) + (one or more) - (optional) % (list) >> (sequence) (alternative) &,! (predicates/eps) 	 * (Kleene) + (one or more) - (optional) % (list) << (sequence) (alternative) &,! (predicates/eps)
Directives	lexeme[], skip[], omit[], raw[]nocase[]	verbatim[], delimit[]left_align[], center[], right_align[]upper[], lower[]

Comparison Qi/Karma



	Qi	Karma
Semantic Action	<pre>receives value int_ [ref(i) = _1] (char_ >> int_) [ref(c) = _1, ref(i) = _2]</pre>	<pre>provides value int_ [_1 = ref(i)] (char_ << int_) [_1 = ref(c), _2 = ref(i)]</pre>
Attributes	 Attribute of a parser component (,return type') is the type of the value it generates, it must be convertible to the target type. 	The attribute of a generator component is the type of the values it expects, i.e. the provided value must be convertible to this type.
	 Attributes are propagated up. Attributes are passed as non-const& Parser components may not have target attribute value 	 Attributes are passed down. Attributes are passed as const& Generator components need always a ,source' value: either literal or parameter

In traditional Chinese culture, Qi (氣) is an active principle forming part of any living thing. It is frequently translated as "energy flow", or "vitalism".

SPIRIT.QI A LIBRARY FOR PARSING INPUT

Parsing Input

- Qi is designed to be a practical parsing tool
- Generates a fully-working parser from a formal EBNF specification inlined in C++
- Regular-expression libraries (such as boost regex) or scanners (such as Boost tokenizer) do not scale well when we need to write more elaborate parsers.
- Attempting to write even a moderately-complex parser using these tools leads to code that is hard to understand and maintain.
- One of Qi's prime objectives is to make the parsing easy to use
 - Header only library
- Very fast execution, tight generated code

A Calculator: The Parser

```
template <typename Iterator>
struct calculator
    : grammar<Iterator>
    calculator() : calculator::base(expr)
    { /*...definition here*/ }
    rule<Iterator>
        expr, term, factor;
};
```

A Calculator: The Parser

```
expr =
    term
            '+' >> term
            '-' >> term
term =
    factor
    >> *(
            '*' >> factor
            '/' >> factor
factor =
        uint
            >> expr >> ')'
        '-' >> factor
        '+' >> factor
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Expression parser...
Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
1+2
Parsing succeeded
 * (2 + 4
Parsing failed
stopped at: ": * (2 +
```

A Calculator: The Interpreter

```
template <typename Iterator>
struct calculator
                        int()>
    : grammar<Iterator,</pre>
    calculator() : calculator::base(expr)
    { /*...definition here*/ }
                                     Grammar
    rule<Iterator,
                   int()>
        expr, term, factor;
                                      and Rule
};
                                     Signature
```

A Calculator: The Interpreter

```
expr =
   term
                                          Semantic Actions
               >> term
                          [ val -= 1 ]
               >> term
                                   C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
                                     term =
                                   Expression parser...
   factor
                          [ _val *:
   >> *(
           '*' >> factor
           '/' >> factor
                          [ val
                                   Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
                                   Parsing succeeded
factor =
                                   esult = 6
       uint
                                    + ((6 * 200) - 20) / 6
        '(' >> expr
        '-' >> factor
                            val =
                                   Parsing succeeded
        '+' >> factor
                            val =
                                    esult = 197
```

Semantic Actions

- Construct allowing to attach code to a parser component
 - Gets executed after successful invocation of the parser
 - May receive values from the parser to store or manipulate
 - May use local variables or rule arguments
- Syntax:

```
int i = 0;
int_[ref(i) = _1]
```

Easiest way to write semantic actions is phoenix

```
• _1, _2, ... refer to elements of parser
```

pass allows to make match fail (by assigning false)

A Calculator: The Compiler

```
expression =
    term
                               [ push back(code, op add) ]
                 > term
                               [ push_back(code, op_sub) ]
                 > term
                                          Expectation Points
term =
   factor
                 > factor
                                 push_back(code, op_mul) ]
                 > lactor
                               [ push_back(code, op_div) ]
factor =
        uint_
                               [ push_back(code, op_int),
                                 push_back(code, _1) ]
                 > expr > ')'
                 > factor
                               [ push_back(code, op_neg) ]
                 > factor
```

A Calculator: The Compiler

```
expression =
    term
                  > term
                  > term
term =
    factor
    >> *(
                  > factor
                  > factor
factor =
        uint
                  > expr > ')'
                  > factor
                  > factor
```

```
The Compiler
 push back(code, op add) 1
 pus C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
     Expression parser...
     Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
[ pus 1 + ((6 * 200) - 20] / 6
Error! Expecting ")" here: "] / 6"
     Parsing failed
     1 + ((6 * 200) - 20) / 6
 pus Parsing succeeded
pus
     result = 197
```

Here is the AST (simplified):

```
// A node of the AST holds either an integer, a binary
// operation description, or an unary operation description
struct ast node
    boost::variant<int, binary_op, unary_op> expr;
};
// For instance, an unary op holds the description of the
// operation and a node of the AST
                               struct binary op
struct unary op
                                    char op; // '+', '-', '*', '/'
    char op;
                                    ast node left;
    ast node subject;
};
                                    ast node right;
                                };
```

```
template <typename Iterator>
struct calculator
  : grammar<Iterator, ast node()>
    calculator() : calculator::base(expr)
    { /*...definition here*/ }
                                    Grammar
    rule<Iterator, ast_node()>
        expr, term, factor;
                                     and Rule
};
                                    Signature
```

```
expr =
   term
          '+' > term
          '-' > term
term =
   factor
   >> *( '*' > factor
          '/' > factor
factor =
       uint
       '(' > expr
            > factor
       '+' > factor
```

```
[ _val = _1 ]
[ _val += _1 ]
[ _val -= _1 ]
```

Semantic Actions



```
calculator calc;
ast_node ast;
std::string str("2*3");

// do it!
if (parse (str.begin(),
        print_ast(ast);
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Expression parser...
Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
Parsing succeeded
op:*(2, 3)
 + ((6 * 200) - 20) / 6
Parsing succeeded
op:+(1, op:/(op:-(op:*(6, 200), 20), 6))
```

Karma (Sanskrit: कर्म: act, action, performance) is the concept of "action" or "deed" in Indian religions understood as that which causes the entire cycle of cause and effect.

SPIRIT.KARMA

A LIBRARY FOR GENERATING OUTPUT

Generating Output



- Karma is the Yang to Qi's Yin
 - Everything you know about Qi's parsers is still true but has to be applied upside down (or inside out)
- Qi is all about input data matching and conversion, Karma is about converting and formatting data for output.
- Qi gets input from input iterators, Karma outputs the generated data using an output iterator
- Qi uses operator>>(), Karma uses operator<<()
- Qi's semantic actions are called after a match and receive a value, Karma's semantic actions are called before generating and provide one
- Qi's parser attributes are passed up (are returned), Karma's attributes are passed down (are consumed)

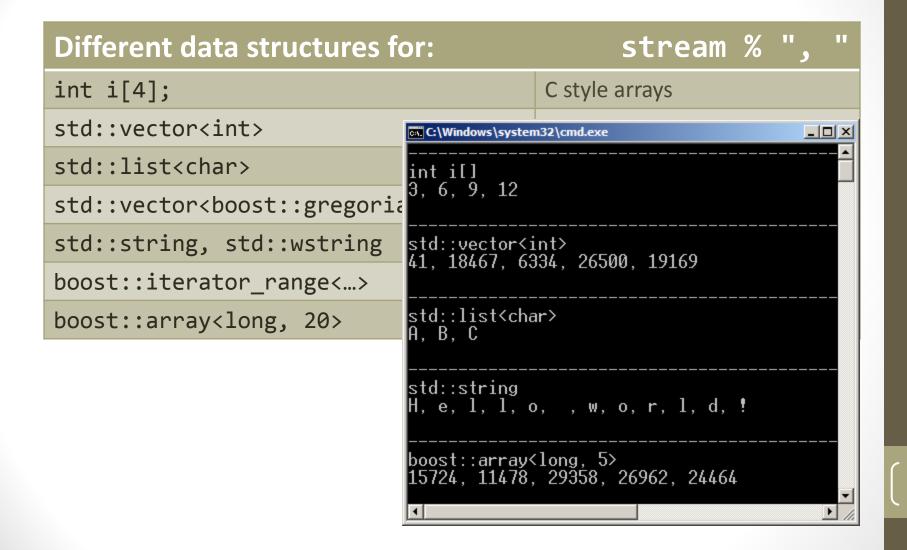
Generating Output

 Karmas DSEL (domain specific embedded language) was modeled after the PEG as used for parsing, i.e. set of rules describing what output is generated in what sequence:

Different Output Grammars

Different output formats for: std::vector<int> Without any separation: '[' << *int << ']' [12245] C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe 411846763342650019169 '[' << (int_ % ", ") << ']' 41 18467 6334 26500 19169 41, 18467, 6334, 26500, 19169 ('(' << int_ << ')') % ", (41), (18467), (6334), (26500), (19169) *("" << int_ << "") << right_align[int_]</pre>

Different Data Structures



Semantic Actions

- Construct allowing to attach code to a generator component
 - Gets executed before the invocation of the generator
 - May provide values for the generators to output
 - May use local variables or rule arguments
- Syntax similar to parser semantic actions

```
int i = 4;
int_[_1 = ref(i)]
```

Easiest way to write semantic actions is phoenix

```
    _1, _2, ... refer to elements of generator
    _a, _b, ... refer to locals (for rule<>'s)
    _r1, _r2, ... refer to arguments (for rule<>'s))
    _val refer to the left hand side's attribute
    pass assign false to make generator fail
```

Expression Generator

Here is the AST again (still simplified):

```
// A node of the AST holds either an integer, a binary
// operation description, or an unary operation description
struct ast node
    boost::variant<int, binary op, unary op> expr;
};
// For instance, an unary_op holds the description of the
// operation and a node of the AST
struct unary op
                               struct binary op
                                   char op; // '+', '-', '*', '/'
    char op;
    ast node subject;
                                   ast node left;
};
                                   ast node right;
                               };
```

Expression Generator

```
template <typename OutputIterator>
struct gen expr
    : grammar<OutputIterator, ast node()>
   gen_expr() : gen_expr::base(ast)
    { /*...definition here*/ }
    rule<OutputIterator, ast_node()> ast;
    rule<OutputIterator, unary_op()> unode;
    rule<OutputIterator, binary op()> binode;
};
```

Infix Expression Generator

Adapting the AST types as Fusion sequences

```
BOOST_FUSION_ADAPT_STRUCT(
   binary_op,
                       C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
   Dump AST's for simple expressions...
BOOST FUSION ADAPT STRUCT(
                       unary_op,
                       Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
   (char, op)(ast_node,
  Format description:
                         ((6 * 200) - 20) / 6
ast
         = int | binode
binode
         = '(' << ast <<
         = '(' << char_
unode
```

Postfix Expression Generator

Adapting the AST types as Fusion sequences

```
BOOST FUSION ADAPT STRUCT(
    binary op,
BOOST FUSION_ADAPT_STRUCT(
    unary op,
    (ast_node, subject)(ch
```

Format description:

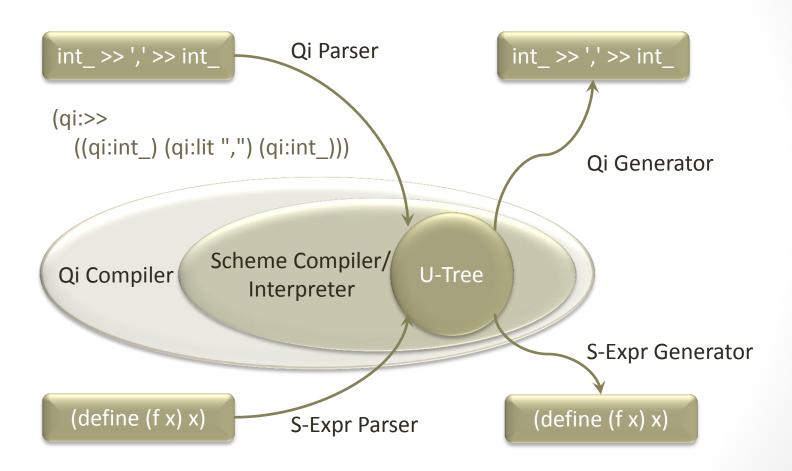
```
= int_ binode 1 6 200 * 20
ast
           = '(' << ast <<
binode
           = '(' << ast <<
unode
```

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
RPN generator for simple expressions...
                 Type an expression...or [q or Q] to quit
                  for '2 * 3':
                           * 200) - 20) / 6':
```

The Spirit RAD Framework

SCHEME THE MINIMALISTIC POWER

RAD Framework Overview



Scheme – Short Introduction

- A Small But Powerful Language
 - General-purpose
 - Scripting language
 - Extension language embedded within applications
- Derivative of LISP
- Abstract lists used universally for both data and functions
- Everything is an expression
- Lexically-scoped, block structured
- Dynamically typed
- Mostly functional language (but like C, it is still an imperative language with side-effects and all)
- First-class procedures (functions)
- Arguments are eagerly evaluated, but since functions are first class citizens, you can return functions for deferred evaluation

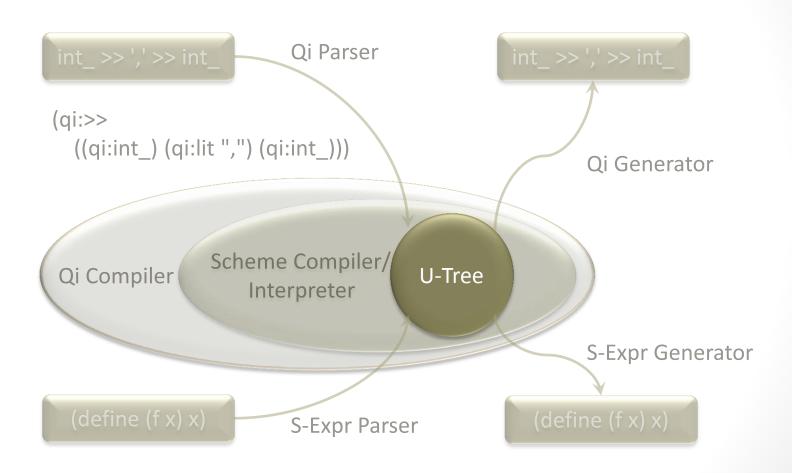
Scheme - Short Introduction

Everything is a prefix expression

```
(foo x y)
                                  ; foo(x, y)
(foo (bar x) (baz y))
                                  ; foo(bar(x),baz(y))
(+ \times y)
                                  ; x + y
(+ (* x y) (/ a b))
                                 (x * y) + (a / b)
(if (< a b) a b)
                                 ; if (a < b)
                                      return a;
                                  ; else
                                      return b;
(define (square n) (* n n))
                                  ; int square(int n)
                                      return n * n;
```

S-Expressions

- Symbolic expressions, or s-expressions, or sexps
- The language of LISP/Scheme programs (parenthesized prefix expressions)
- Very simple grammar
- Recursive, list based, data structures
- Can represent hierarchical information
 - A suitable (and terser!) replacement for XML
 - Even terser than JSON
- Other uses:
 - Document Style Semantics and Specification Language (DSSSL)
 - Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP)
 - John McCarthy's Common Business Communication Language (CBCL)



```
variant
nil,
string symbol,
list, range, st
any, function>
()
```

```
variant<
nil, bool,
string, symbol, binar
list, range, string_range,
any, function>
```

```
variant<br/>
nil, bool, int<br/>
string, symbol, b nary,<br/>
list, range, string_range,<br/>
any, function>
```

```
variant<br/>
nil, bool, int, double,<br/>
string, symbol, binary,<br/>
list, range, string_range, receive,<br/>
any, function>
```

```
variant<
nil, bool int, dou
string,
list, range, string
any, function>
"Hello, World"
```

```
variant<
nil, bool, int, druble,
string, symbol,
list, range, stri.g_range,
any, function>
foo
```

```
variant<
nil, bool, int, double,
string, symbol, binary,
list, range, string_range, r
any, function>
#ff99dd#
```

```
variant<
nil, bool, int, double.
string symbol,
list, any, function>
(foo 1 "jazz")
```

```
Slices, String ranges and
References to Utrees.

→ For internal representations

nil, bool, c, dou le,
string, s, ool, bir ry,
list, range, string_range, reference,
any, function>
```

```
utree val;
utree val(true);
utree val(123);
utree val('x');
utree val(123.456);
utree val("Hello, World");
```

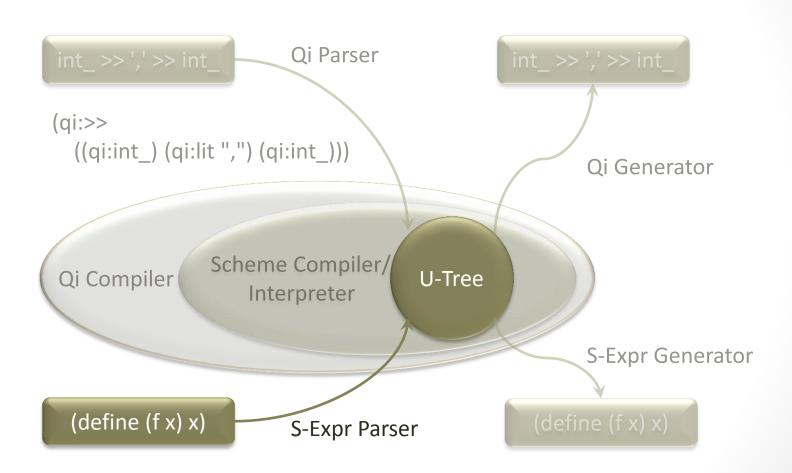
```
utree val;
val.push back(123);
val.push back("Chuckie");
utree val2;
val2.push back(123.456);
val2.push back("Mah Doggie");
val.push back(val2);
```

val.push back(val2);

```
utree val;
va]
            "Chuckie"
     123
utree val2;
val2.push bag
                        "Mah Doggie"
              123.456
val2.push bac
```

```
utree("apple") == utree("apple")
utree(1) < utree(2)
utree(456) + utree(789.123)
utree val(123);
utree ref(boost::ref(val));
utree alias(
    utree::range(b, e),
        scheme::shallow);
```

The S-Expr Parser



The S-Expr (Scheme) Parser

 Parsing S-expr (Scheme) input using Qi while creating an Utree:

```
template <typename Iterator>
struct sexpr : grammar<Iterator, utree()> { ... };
```

Input:

```
( 123.45 true false 0xFF 077
  "this is a \u20AC string" ; UTF-8 strings
  "Τη γλώσσα μου έδωσαν ελληνική"
  #0123456789ABCDEF0123456789ab# ; A binary stream
  ( 92 ("another string" apple Sîne) ) )
```

- A list of expressions which may be of type
 - symbol, double, int, boolean, string, binary data, or a list of those
- Fully Unicode capable
 - Internally stored as UTF-8 byte sequences

The S-Expr (Scheme) Parser

```
// an element is: either an atom or a list
element = atom | list;
                                                          // utree()
// a list is: 0..N elements enclosed in '()'
list = '(' > *element > ')';
                                                          // utree()
// an atom is: double, integer, string, binary data, symbol, or bool
atom = strict double | integer | string lit | byte str | symbol | bool;
                                                          // utree()
// an integer is: hexadecimal, octal, decimal
integer = lexeme[no case["0x"] > hex] | lexeme['0' >> oct] | int;
                                                            // int()
// binary data is: 1..N pairs of hex digits enclosed in '#'
byte str = lexeme['#' > +hex2 > '#'];
                                     // binary string()
// a symbol is: a character sequence excluding some
std::string exclude = std::string(" ();\"\x01-\x1f\x7f") + '\0';
symbol = lexeme[+(~char (exclude))];
                                                    // utf8 symbol()
```

The S-Expr (string_lit) Parser

- Parsing Unicode string
 - Matching escape sequences: '\u1234' and '\U12345678' inside strings and character literals
 - Matching 'normal' escape sequences: '\b', '\t', '\n', etc.
 - Converting input Unicode (UTF-16/UTF-32) code points to internally stored UTF-8 byte sequences
- Tricky as one input code point may have to be internally represented as a sequence of UTF-8 bytes
- The string_lit parser has std::string as its attribute, storing the UTF-8 bytes

The S-Expr (string_lit) Parser

```
// a character literal is: a single escaped character or not a '\''
                        enclosed in '\''
char_lit = '\'' > (char_esc(_val) | (~char_('\'')) [_val += _1] ) > '\'';
                                                    // std::string()
// a string literal is: 0..N escaped characters or not '"'
                   enclosed in '"'
string_lit = '"' > *(char_esc(_val) | (~char_('"')) [_val += _1] ) > '"';
                                                    // std::string()
// an escaped character is: '\u1234', '\U12345678', or normal escaped char
char esc = '\' > (('u' > hex4)) [push_utf8(_r1, _1)]
                  | char_("btnfr\\"'") [push_esc(_r1, _1)]
                  );
                                               // void(std::string&)
```

The S-Expr (String) Parser

```
// define a (lazy) function converting a single Unicode (UTF-32) codepoint
// to UTF-8
struct push utf8 impl
    template <typename S, typename C>
    struct result { typedef void type; };
    void operator()(std::string& utf8, boost::uint32_t code_point) const
        typedef std::back_insert_iterator<std::string> insert_iter;
        insert iter out iter(utf8);
        boost::utf8 output iterator<insert iter> utf8 iter(out iter);
        *utf8 iter++ = code point;
};
boost::phoenix::function<push utf8 impl> push utf8;
```

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The S-Expr (String) Parser

```
// define a (lazy) function converting a single Unicode (UTF-32) codepoint
// to UTF-8
struct push_esc_impl
    template <typename S, typename C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
                                               123.45 true false 255 63
    struct result { typedef void t success:
                                                  appleS kne)
    void operator()(std::string& u
                                    Press any key to continue . . . 🕳
        switch (code point)
            case 'b': utf8 += '\b
            case 't': utf8 += '\t
            // ...
            case '"': utf8 +=
            case '\\': utf8 += '\\
boost::phoenix::function<push esc</pre>
```

The S-Expr Parser Error Handling

```
// define function object to be used as error handler
template <typename Iterator>
struct error handler
{
    std::string source file;
    error_handler(std::string const& source_file = "")
      : source file(source file) {}
   void operator()(Iterator first, Iterator last,
        Iterator err pos, boost::spirit::info const& what) const
        // print information about error
};
// create instance of error handler
error handler<Iterator> handler(source file);
```

The S-Expr Parser Error Handling

- Error handlers take 4 parameters:
 - Begin of input sequence
 - End of input sequence
 - Error position in input sequence
 - Instance of spirit::info allowing to extract error context

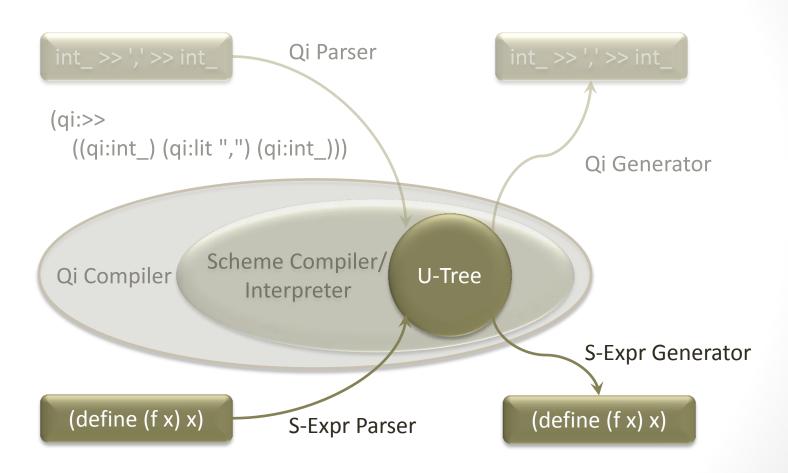
```
// Install error handler for expect operators
on_error<fail>(element, handler(_1, _2, _3, _4));
```

- Template parameter
 - fail: fail parsing
 - retry: retry after handler executed
 - accept: pretend parsing succeeded
 - rethrow: rethrow exception for next handler to catch

Lessons Learnt

- Definition of a rule not having semantic actions in its right hand side (or using operator%=() for initialization)
 - The rule's attribute is passed to the right hand side by reference
 - The right hand side's elements store their result directly in this attribute instance without any explicit code
 - Know the attribute propagation and attribute compatibility rules
- Definition of a rule having semantic actions in its right hand side
 - The rule creates a new instance of its attribute passing it to the right hand side elements
 - The right hand side's elements are responsible for storing their results in this attribute (using the place holder _val)

The Scheme Generator



 Generating S-expr (Scheme) output using Karma from a given u-tree

```
template <typename OutputIterator>
struct sexpr : grammar<OutputIterator, utree()> {...};
```

- Recreates the textual representation of an U-tree
 - Output in UTF-8
 - If output in UTF-16 or UTF-32 is required, additional output iterator wrapping is needed
- Based on type of current U-tree node (double, int, symbol, etc.) branch to corresponding format
 - Karma alternative (operator |) takes in variant (or variant like) attribute and does runtime dispatching based on actual stored type

```
// a node is: a double, int, string, symbol, binary data, a list of
             nodes, or an empty node
node = double_ | int_ | bool_ | string_ | symbol | byte_str | list | nil;
                                                           // utree()
// a list of nodes is enclosed in '()'
list = '(' << *node << ')';
                                                           // utree()
// a (UTF-8) string is enclosed in '"'
string = '"' << string << '"';
                                                     // utf8 string()
// a symbol is just a sequence of characters
symbol = string;
                                                     // utf8 symbol()
// binary data is a sequence of hex digit pairs enclosed in '#'
byte str = '#' << *right align(2, '0')[hex2] << '#';
                                                   // binary string()
// nil prints nothing
nil = eps;
                                                             // nil()
```

- Problem: U-tree is not boost::variant (obviously) and does not expose a similar interface
 - Out of the box it is not usable as an attribute for Karma's alternatives
 - Spirit has customization points (see the documentation)
 - Functions used by Spirit to access the attribute of a component
 - Need to be overloaded for custom types in user code
 - Templates which need to be specialized for custom types in user code
 - Need to (partially) specialize certain templates for custom types in user code
 - Some customization points are global for Spirit, some specific for Qi or Karma (use domain::qi, domain::karma to specialize)
 - Customization points are usually placed in

```
namespace boost::spirit::traits
```

- You are allowed to add your specializations and overloads there
- We provide all necessary specializations and overloads for scheme::utree

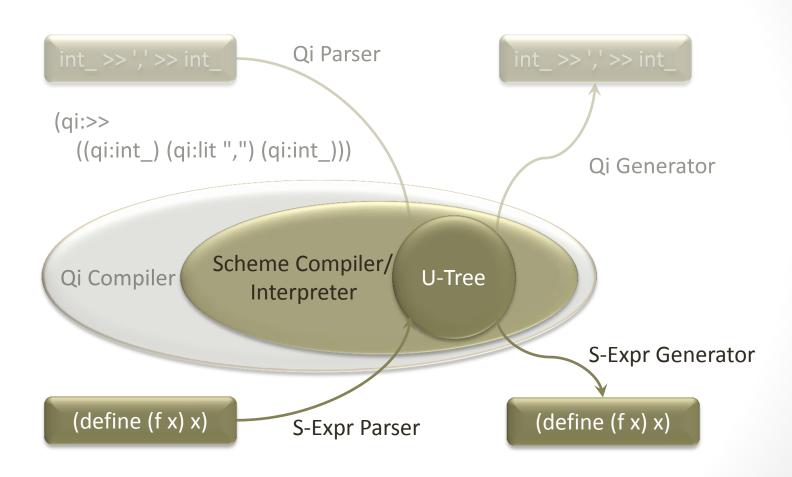
```
// tell Spirit to handle scheme::utree as if - in the context of
// karma - it was a 'real' variant (namespace boost::spirit::traits)
template <>
struct not is variant<scheme::utree, karma::domain>
   : mpl::false {};
// map any node of type utree type::double type to alternative
// exposing double attribute (namespace boost::spirit::traits)
template <>
struct compute compatible component variant<scheme::utree, double>
   : mpl::true
    typedef double compatible type;
    static bool is compatible(int d)
        return d == scheme::utree type::double type;
};
```

```
// return type of value which is stored in current node
// (namespace boost::spirit::traits)
template <>
struct variant_which<scheme::utree>
    int call(scheme::utree const& node)
        return node.which();
};
// return value stored in node as type T (namespace boost)
template <typename T>
T boost::get(scheme::utree const&)
    return node.get<T>();
```

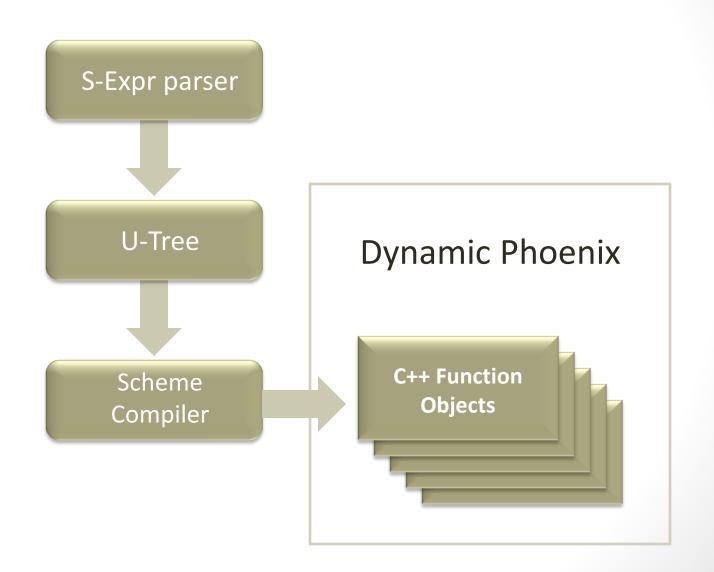
Lessons Learnt

- Build output formatting grammars based on your data types and not based on required output format
 - Attribute propagation is sufficiently powerful most of the time
 - Grammars are a natural extension of your data types, think about them as being 'yet another algorithm' to handle your data
- Prefer usage of customization points over semantic actions
 - Especially in Karma semantic actions (attribute handling by value) tend to be less efficient than direct attribute propagation (attribute handling by reference)
- Spirit's primitive components expose unique and well defined attribute types and allow for generic attribute handling
 - For instance, while the int_ component exposes int as its attribute, it is still compatible with any integral data type
- Spirit's compound operators have unique and well defined built-in attribute handling capabilities
 - For instance, while sequences expose fusion::vector as their attribute, they are additionally compatible with containers (under certain circumstances)

Scheme Compiler/Interpreter



Scheme Compiler/Interpreter



Dynamic Phoenix

- Everything is a function
 - The C++ function object is the main building block
 - We compose functions to build more complex functions... to build more complex functions... and so on
 - Values are functions
 - Arguments (_1, _2 ... _N) are functions
 - References (ref(x)) are functions
 - Control structures are functions
- Everything you know about *core Phoenix* applies. **Except!** We have one and only one function signature:

utree operator()(scope const& env) const;

The Scope

```
class scope : public boost::iterator_range<utree*>
public:
    scope(utree* first = 0,
        utree* last = 0,
        scope const* parent = 0);
    scope const* outer() const;
    int level() const;
};
```

The Actor

```
template <typename Derived>
struct actor
    typedef utree result_type;
    typedef actor<Derived> base_type;
    // operators here (later...)
    Derived const& derived() const
        return *static_cast<Derived const*>(this);
};
```

The Actor Operators

```
utree operator()(scope const& env) const
{
    return derived().eval(env);
utree operator()() const
    return derived().eval(scope());
template <typename A0>
utree operator()(A0 const& _0) const
    boost::array<utree, 1> elements;
    elements[0] = _0;
    return derived().eval(get_range(elements));
```

The Actor Operators

```
template <typename A0, typename A1>
utree operator()(A0 const& 0, A1 const& 1) const
    boost::array<utree, 2> elements;
    elements[0] = _0;
    elements[1] = _1;
    return derived().eval(get_range(elements));
template <std::size_t n>
static scope
get_range(boost::array<utree, n>& array)
    return scope(array.begin(), array.end());
```

The Polymorphic Function

```
struct function : actor<function>
   utree f;
    function() : f() {}
    function(utree const& f) : f(f) {}
    template <typename F> function(F const& f)
      : f(stored_function<F>(f)) {}
    utree eval(scope const& env) const
        return f.eval(env);
};
```

Values

```
struct value_function : actor<value_function>
    utree val;
    value_function(utree const& val) : val(val) {}
    utree eval(scope const& /*env*/) const
        return utree(boost::ref(val));
};
function val(utree const& x) const
    return function(value_function(x));
```

Arguments

```
struct argument_function : actor<argument_function>
    std::size t n;
    argument_function(std::size_t n) : n(n) {}
    utree eval(scope const& env) const
        utree const& arg = env[n];
        return arg.eval(env);
};
function const 1 = argument function(0);
function const _2 = argument_function(1);
function const 3 = argument function(2);
```

The If Function

```
struct if_function : actor<if_function>
{
    function cond;
    function then;
    function else;
    if_function(
        function const& cond,
        function const& then,
        function const& else_)
      : cond(cond), then(then), else_(else_)
    {}
    typedef utree result type;
    utree eval(scope const& env) const
        return cond(env).get<bool>() ? then(env) : else_(env);
};
```

The Composite

```
template <typename Derived>
struct composite
    typedef function result_type;
    typedef composite<Derived> base_type;
    // operators here. (later ...)
    Derived const& derived() const
        return *static_cast<Derived const*>(this);
};
```

Composite Operators

```
function operator()(actor_list const& elements) const
    return derived().compose(elements);
template <typename A0>
function operator()(A0 const& _0) const
    actor_list elements;
    elements.push_back(as_function(_0));
    return derived().compose(elements);
```

The If Composite

```
struct if composite : composite<if composite>
    function compose(actor_list const& elements) const
        actor list::const iterator i = elements.begin();
        function if = *i++;
        function then = *i++;
        function else_ = *i;
        return function(if_function(if_, then, else_));
};
if_composite const if_ = if_composite();
```

Actors On Stage!

```
plus(11, 22, 33)
                            ()
                                       == utree(66)
plus(11, 22, _1)
                            (33)
                                       == utree(66)
plus(11, _1, _2)
                         (22, 33) == utree(66)
plus(11, plus(_1, _2)) (22, 33) == utree(66)
lambda factorial;
factorial =
   if (lte( 1, 0), 1,
       times(_1, factorial(minus(_1, 1))));
factorial( 1)
                            (10)
                                       == utree(3628800)
```

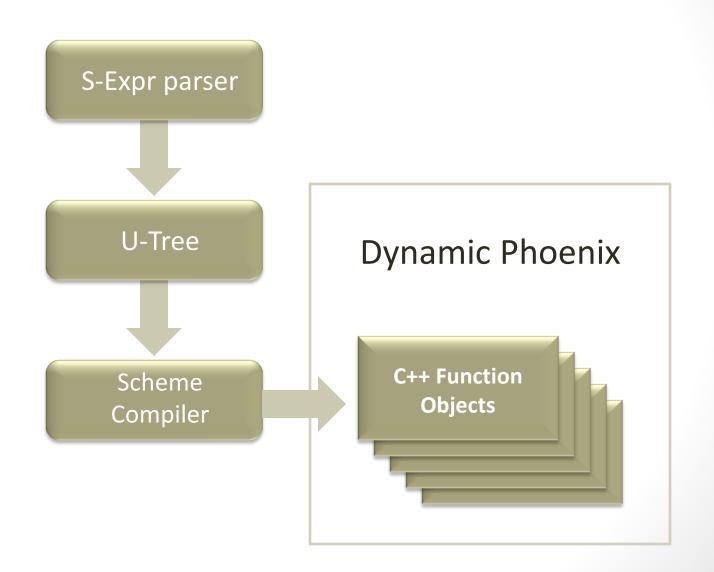
Our Objective

Transform this:

```
(define (factorial n)
     (if (<= n 0) 1 (* n (factorial (- n 1)))))</pre>
```

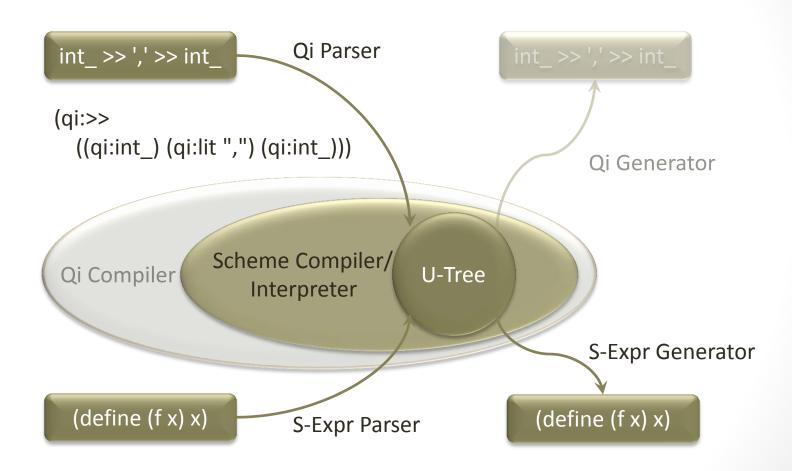
To This:

Scheme Compiler/Interpreter



Scheme Interpreter Example

```
using scheme::interpreter;
using scheme::function;
using scheme::utree;
utree src =
  "(define (factorial n) "
    "(if (<= n 0) 1 (* n (factorial (- n 1)))))";
interpreter program(src);
function factorial = program["factorial"];
std::cout << factorial(10) << std::endl;</pre>
```



- Goal: convert Qi expressions into S-Expressions
 - Allow uniform interpretation: RAD tool
 - Allow to use Scheme code to transform the parser expression
 - Anything is possible, for instance: left recursion elimination, attribute analysis, etc.
 - No information loss, it should be possible to recreate the Qi expression encoded in S-Expr
- Parser should create an U-Tree instance encoding the Qi expressions
 - S-Expr symbols are the Qi names prefixed with "qi:"
 - int_ → 'qi:int_'
 - >> → 'qi:>>'
 - Each parser component will be stored as a separate list-node:
 - int_ → (qi:int_)
 - char_('a') → (qi:char_ "a")
 - int_ >> char_ → (qi:>> (qi:int_) (qi:char_))
 - $(car p) \rightarrow refers to parser component$
 - $(cdr p) \rightarrow refers to list of arguments$

```
// sequence: A >> B --> (qi:>> A B )
sequence =
       unary term
    >> *( ">>" >> unary_term
                                                           // utree()
// unary operators: *A --> (qi:* A )
unary term =
        "*" >> unary term
        "+" >> unary_term
        "-" >> unary_term
        "&" >> unary_term
        "!" >> unary_term
        term
                                                           // utree()
// A, directives, (A) --> (A)
term = primitive | directive | '(' >> sequence >> ')';
                                                           // utree()
```

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```
// sequence: A >> B --> (qi:>> (A) (B))
sequence =
                             [ _val = _1 ]
       unary term
    >> *( ">>" >> unary_term [ make_sequence(_val, _1) ] )
                                                          // utree()
// unary operators: *A --> (qi:* (A))
unary term =
        "*" >> unary term
                              [ make kleene( val, 1) ]
       "+" >> unary_term
                              [ make plus( val, 1) ]
       "-" >> unary term
                             [ make_optional(_val, _1) ]
       "&" >> unary_term
                             [ make_and_pred(_val, _1) ]
       "!" >> unary term
                              [ make_not_pred(_val, _1) ]
                              [ val = 1 ]
       term
                                                          // utree()
// A, directives, (A) --> (A)
term = primitive | directive | '(' >> sequence >> ')';
                                                          // utree()
```

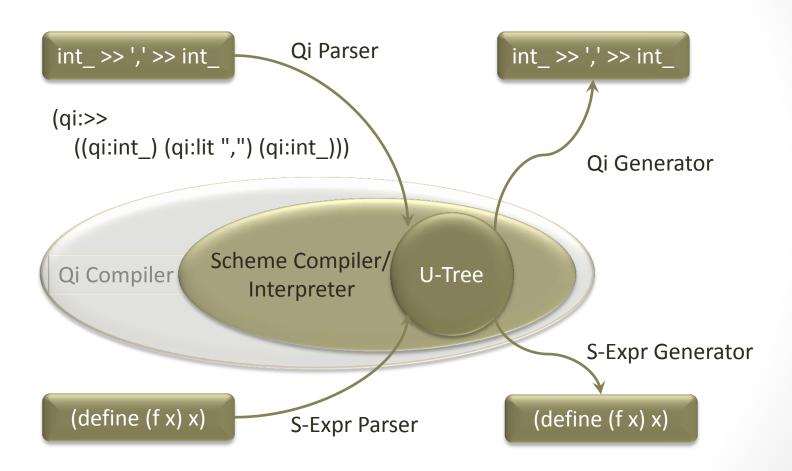
```
// any parser directive: lexeme[A] --> (qi:lexeme (A))
directive = (directive0 >> '[' >> alternative >> ']')
                            [ make directive( val, 2, 1) ];
                                                         // utree()
// any primitive parser: char_('a') --> (qi:char_ "a")
primitive %=
        primitive2 >> '(' >> literal >> ',' >> literal >> ')'
        primitive1 >> '(' >> literal >> ')'
       primitive0
                                              // taking no parameter
       literal [ make literal( val) ]
                                                         // utree()
// a literal (either 'x' or "abc")
literal =
        string lit [ phoenix::push back( val, 1) ]
       string lit.char lit [ phoenix::push back( val, 1) ]
                                                           // utree()
```

```
// symbols parser recognizes keywords
qi::symbols<char, utree> primitive1;
// a list of names for all supported parser primitives
// taking 1 parameter
static char const* const primitives1[] =
{
    "char_", "lit", "string", 0
};
// initialize symbols parser with all corresponding keywords
std::string name("qi:");
for (char const* const* p = primitives1; *p; ++p)
{
    utree u;
    u.push back(utf8 symbol(name + *p));
    primitive1.add(*p, u);
```

Lessons Learnt

- Write a parser based on given input structure (format) and not driven by required internal data structures
 - Formalize structure of input strings, identify terminals and non-terminals
 - Non-terminals are expressed as rule's, terminals as predefined components
 - Very much like structuring procedures, matter of experience, taste, personal preferences
 - If internal representation is not given
 - Create internal data structures matching the default attributes as exposed by the terminals and non-terminals of the parser
 - If internals representation is already given
 - Use BOOST_FUSION_ADAPT_[STRUCT|CLASS] to convert structures into Fusion sequences
 - Use BOOST_FUSION_ADAPT_[STRUCT | CLASS]_NAMED to define several different bindings
 - Use fusion::nview to reorder (or skip) elements of a Fusion sequence
 - Use customization points to make your data structures expose the interfaces expected by Spirit
 - Create global factory functions allowing to convert attributes exposed by parser components to your data types
 - Use semantic actions as a last resort

Qi Generator



Qi Generator (Naïve Version)

```
// sequence: (qi:>> (A) (B) ...) \rightarrow (A) >> (B) >> ...
sequence =
        &string("qi:>>") << '(' << term % ">>" << ')'</pre>
        term
                                                                // utree()
// term: (qi:*(A)) \rightarrow (*A)
// either a unary, a primitive, a directive, or a (nested) sequence
term = unary << '(' << sequence << ')'
        primitive2 << '(' << literal << ',' << literal << ')'</pre>
        primitive1 << '(' << literal << ')'</pre>
        primitive0
        directive0 << '[' << sequence << ']'</pre>
        sequence
                                                                // utree()
// symbols generator is like an 'inverse' symbol table
symbols<scheme::utf8 symbol> primitive1;
std::string name("qi:");
for (char const* const* p = primitives0; *p; ++p)
    primitive1.add(utf8 symbol(name + *p));
```

Strict and Relaxed Modes

- Default mode is relaxed (or activated by relaxed[] directive)
 - Attributes may contain more data than expected by format
 - int_ << char_: may get passed a longer Fusion sequence fusion::vector<int, char, double>
 - int_ << int_ << int_: may consume container holding more than 3 integers
 - repeat(3)[int]: may consume container holding more than 3 elements
 - Repetitive generators silently skip failed invocations of their embedded generators
 - *(int_[_pass = _1 % 2]): will output only odd integers of consumed container
 - Alternatives silently accept attributes not convertible to any of the attribute types exposed by the alternative
 - Attribute: variant<double, char const*> v (10.0);
 - Format: char_ | lit(11), will generate: 11

Strict and Relaxed Modes

- Strict mode is activated by strict[] directive
 - Number of attributes must match number of generated elements
 - All of elements in containers must be consumed by generators (sequences and repetitive generators)
 - Alternatives fail immediately if attribute is not convertible to one
 of the consumed attributes of the format alternatives
 - Attribute: variant<double, char const*> v (10.0);
 - Format: char_ | lit(11), will fail
- Compile time only directives, no runtime impact
 - Allow to fine tune behavior of compound operations

Qi Generator (Better Version)

```
// sequence: (qi:>> (A) (B) ...) \rightarrow (A) >> (B) >> ...
sequence =
         &symbol(ref("qi:>>")) << '(' << strict[term % ">>"] << ')'</pre>
         term
                                                                  // utree()
// term: (qi:*(A)) \rightarrow (*A)
// either a unary, a primitive, a directive, or a (nested) sequence
term = strict[
         unary << '(' << sequence << ')'
         primitive2 << '(' << literal << ',' << literal << ')'</pre>
         primitive1 << '(' << literal << ')'</pre>
         primitive0
         directive0 << '[' << sequence << ']'</pre>
         sequence
    ];
                                                                  // utree()
```

Creating Your Own Directive

Consider U-tree contains this data:

```
// r = int_ >> double_
[(define (r) (qi:>> (qi:int_) (qi:double_)))]
```

• If we wrote output format as:

```
rule_ = &symbol(ref("define")) << rule_name << '=' << alternative;</pre>
```

- Then rule_name and alternative would receive
 [(r)] and [(qi:>> (qi:int_) (qi:double_))] resp.
- While they need to receive:

```
[r] and [qi:>> (qi:int_) (qi:double_)]
```

Easiest way to 'dereference' is to use repetitive container: repeat(1)[...]:

Wouldn't it be nice if we could write:

Creating Your Own Directive

```
// meta-function exposing the type of new deref placeholder based on
// the type of repeat(N)
namespace traits
    template <typename Count>
    struct deref spec type
      : boost::spirit::result of::terminal<</pre>
          boost::spirit::tag::repeat(Count)> // uses predefined helper
    {};
// helper function to define new placeholder
inline typename traits::deref spec<int>::type
deref spec()
    return boost::spirit::karma::repeat(1);
typedef traits::deref spec<int>::type deref tag type;
deref tag type const deref = deref spec(); // defines new placeholder
```

Qi Generator (Final Version)

```
// sequence: (qi:>> (A) (B) ...) \rightarrow (A) >> (B) >> ...
sequence =
         &symbol(ref("qi:>>")) << '(' << strict[term % ">>"] << ')'</pre>
         term
                                                                  // utree()
// term: (qi:*(A)) \rightarrow (*A)
// either a unary, a primitive, a directive, or a (nested) sequence
term = strict[
         unary << '(' << deref[sequence] << ')'</pre>
         primitive2 << '(' << literal << ',' << literal << ')'</pre>
         primitive1 << '(' << literal << ')'</pre>
         deref[primitive0]
         directive0 << '[' << deref[sequence] << ']'</pre>
         deref[sequence]
    1;
                                                                  // utree()
```

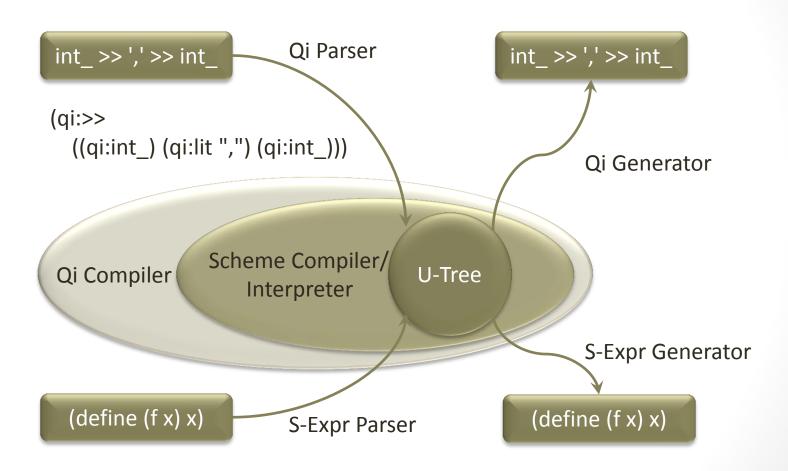
Lessons Learnt

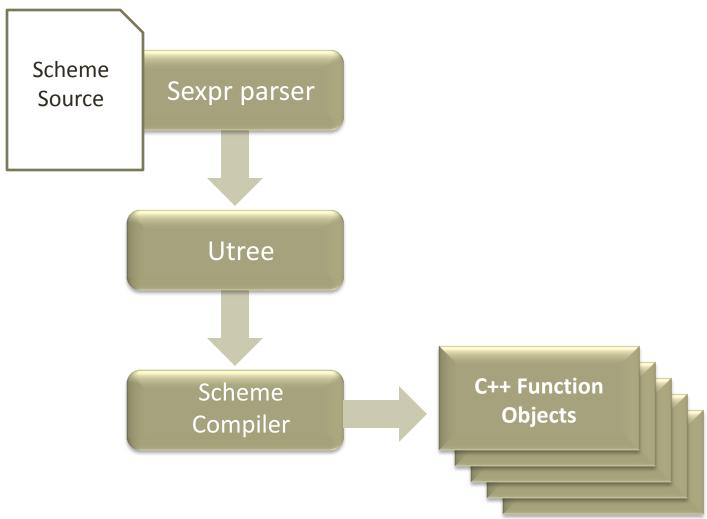
- Karma has now debug mode as well:
 - Either,

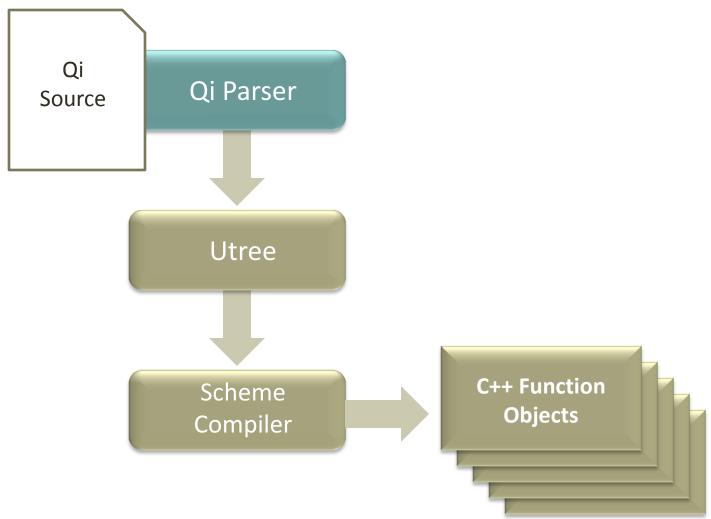
- Or, register the rules to del r.name("name"); de <name>
- Karma generators may fail
 - If consumed attribute is no
 - i.e. int_(10) will fail for
 - Alternatives fail if all sub-ex
 - Repetitive generators fail if container attribute do not </name>

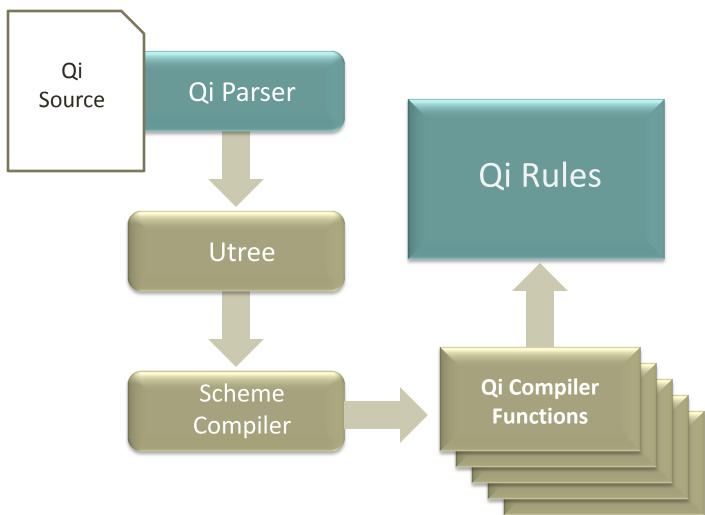
```
#define BOOST_SPIF variant<double, char const*> v(1.0);
BOOST SPIRIT_DEBUG name = karma::string | karma::double_;
                      <try>
                        <attributes>[1.0]</attributes>
                      </try>
                      <success>
                        <result>1.0</result>
                     </success>
```

- i.e. plus will fail for empty containers
- Epsilon fails if supplied expression is false
 - i.e. eps(_1 % 2) fails if _1 is an odd number









Qi Source (Calculator)

```
expression =
    term >> *(('+' >> term) | ('-' >> term))
term =
    factor >> *(('*' >> factor) | ('/' >> factor))
factor =
   uint_
    '(' >> expression >> ')'
     ('-' >> factor)
      ('+' >> factor)
```

Scheme Source (Calculator)

```
(define expression); forward declaration
(define factor
    (qi:
        (qi:int )
        (qi:>> (qi:lit "(") (expression) (qi:lit ")"))
        (qi:>> (qi:lit "-") (factor))
        (qi:>> (qi:lit "+") (factor))))
(define term
    (qi:>> (factor)
        (qi:*
            (qi:
                (qi:>> (qi:lit "*") (factor))
                (qi:>> (qi:lit "/") (factor))))))
(define expression
    (qi:>> (term)
        (qi:*
            (qi:
                (qi:>> (qi:lit "+") (term))
                (qi:>> (qi:lit "-") (term))))))
```

C++ Driver Code (Calculator)

```
using scheme::interpreter;
using scheme::environment;
using scheme::qi::build environment;
using scheme::qi::rule_fragments;
using scheme::qi::rule_type;
environment env;
rule_fragments<rule_type> fragments;
build_environment(fragments, env);
interpreter parser(in, filename, &env);
rule_type calc = fragments[parser["expression"]()].alias();
```

Conclusions

- Programs = Data Structures + Algorithms + Glue
 - STL: Iterators
 - Here: Template specialization (full and partial)
- C++ is a multi-paradigm language
 - Pure compile-time
 - Pure run-time
 - Code sitting on the fence
- Scheme is cool
 - Seamlessly integrates with C++, while extending the functional repertoire of the C++ programmer
 - The more 'run-time' it gets, the more 'dynamic' the code has to be (type erasure, type-less expressions)