Interpreters

Discussion 10: April 16, 2025

Switch to Pensieve:

• Everyone: Go to pensieve.co, log in with your @berkeley.edu email, and enter your group number as the room number (which was in the email that assigned you to this discussion). As long as you all enter the same number (any number), you'll all be using a shared document.

Once you're on Pensieve, you don't need to return to this page; Pensieve has all the same content (but more features). If for some reason Penseive doesn't work, return to this page and continue with the discussion.

Attendance

Fill out this discussion attendance form with the unique number you receive from your TA. As soon as you get your number, fill out the form, selecting *arrival* (not *departure* – that's later).

Getting Started

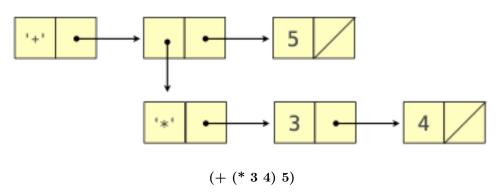
If there are fewer than 3 people in your group, feel free to merge your group with another group in the room.

Everybody say your name, and then figure out who is planning to travel outside of the Bay Area the soonest. Feel free to discuss your travel plans.

Representing Lists

A Scheme call expression is a Scheme list that is represented using a Pair instance in Python.

For example, the call expression (+ (* 3 4) 5) is represented as:



The Pair class and nil object are defined in pair.py of the Scheme project.

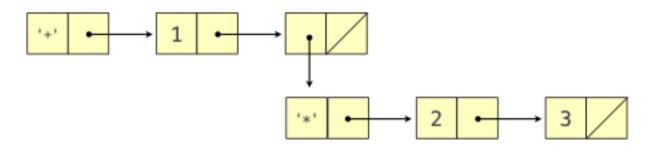
```
class Pair:
    "A Scheme list is a Pair in which rest is a Pair or nil."
    def __init__(self, first, rest):
        self.first = first
        self.rest = rest
    ... # There are also __str__, __repr__, and map methods, omitted here.
```

Q1: Representing Expressions

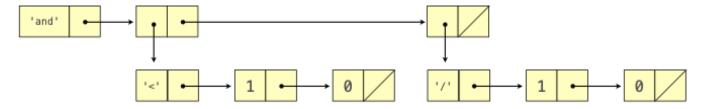
Write the Scheme expression in Scheme syntax represented by each Pair below. Try drawing the linked list diagram too. The first one is done for you.

```
Pair('+', Pair(Pair('*', Pair(3, Pair(4, nil))), Pair(5, nil)))
```

```
>>> Pair('+', Pair(1, Pair(Pair('*', Pair(2, Pair(3, nil))), nil)))
```



>>> Pair('and', Pair(Pair('<', Pair(1, Pair(0, nil))), Pair(Pair('/', Pair(1, Pair(0, nil))), nil)))



Answer 1: (+ (* 3 4) 5)

Answer 2: (+ 1 (* 2 3))

Answer 3: (and (< 1 0) (/ 1 0))

Discussion Time: What does (and (< 1 0) (/ 1 0)) evaluate to? Discuss among your group until you all agree.

#f

Evaluation

To evaluate the expression (+ (* 3 4) 5) using the Project 4 interpreter, scheme_eval is called on the following expressions (in this order):

```
1. (+ (* 3 4) 5)
2. +
3. (* 3 4)
4. *
5. 3
6. 4
7. 5
```

Discussion time: Describe to each other why * is evaluated and what it evaluates to.

The * is evaluated because it is the operator sub-expression of (* 3 4), which is an operand sub-expression of (+ (* 3 4) 5).

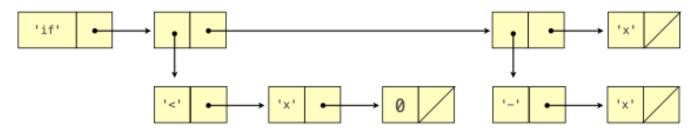
By default, * evaluates to a procedure that multiplies its arguments together. But * could be redefined at any time, and so the symbol * must be evaluated each time it is used in order to look up its current value.

```
scm> (* 2 3) ; Now it multiplies
6
scm> (define * +)
*
scm> (* 2 3) ; Now it adds
5
```

An if expression is also a Scheme list represented using a Pair instance.

For example, (if (< x 0) (- x) x) is represented as:

Pair('if', Pair(Pair('<', Pair('x', Pair(0, nil))), Pair(Pair('-', Pair('x', nil)), Pair('x', nil))))</pre>



To evaluate this expression in an environment in which x is bound to 2 (and < and - have their default values), scheme_eval is called on the following expressions (in this order): 1. (if (< x 0) (- x) x) 1. (< x 0) 1. < 1. x 1. 0 1. x

Discussion time: Come up with a short explanation of why neither if nor - are evaluated even though they both appear in (if (< x 0) (- x) x).

The symbol **if** is not evaluated because it is the start of a special form, not part of a call expression. The symbols that introduce special forms (and, if, lambda, etc.) are never evaluated.

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The symbol - is not evaluated, nor is the whole sub-expression (-x) that it appears in, because (< x 0) evaluates to #f. If you're still not certain why some parts are evaluated and some aren't, ask the course staff.

Q2: Evaluation

(Note: Some past exams have had a question in exactly this format.) Which of the following are evaluated when $scheme_eval$ is called on (if (< x 0) (- x) (if (= x -2) 100 y)) in an environment in which x is bound to -2? (Assume <, -, and = have their default values.)

- if
- <
- =
- X
- y
- 0
- -2
- 100
- -
- (
-)

With x bound to -2, (< x 0) evaluates to #t, and so (- x) will be evaluated, but (if (= x -2) 100 y) will not. The operator and operands of a call expression are evaluated for every call expression that is evaluated. (< x 0) and (- x) are both call expressions.

Q3: Print Evaluated Expressions

Define print_evals, which takes a Scheme expression expr that contains only numbers, +, *, and parentheses. It prints all of the expressions that are evaluated during the evaluation of expr. They are printed in the order that they are passed to scheme_eval.

Note: Calling **print** on a **Pair** instance will print the Scheme expression it represents.

```
>>> print(Pair('+', Pair(Pair('*', Pair(3, Pair(4, nil))), Pair(5, nil))))
(+ (* 3 4) 5)
```

```
def print_evals(expr):
    """Print the expressions that are evaluated while evaluating expr.
    expr: a Scheme expression containing only (, ), +, *, and numbers.
    >>> nested_expr = Pair('+', Pair(Pair('*', Pair(3, Pair(4, nil))), Pair(5, nil)))
    >>> print_evals(nested_expr)
    (+(*34)5)
    (*34)
    3
    4
    >>> print_evals(Pair('*', Pair(6, Pair(7, Pair(nested_expr, Pair(8, nil))))))
    (* 6 7 (+ (* 3 4) 5) 8)
    6
    (+ (* 3 4) 5)
    (*34)
    3
    4
    5
    8
    if not isinstance(expr, Pair):
        print(expr)
    else:
        print(expr)
        while expr is not nil:
            print_evals(expr.first)
            expr = expr.rest
```

If expr is not a pair, then it is a number or '+' or '*'. In all of these cases, the expr should be printed to indicate that it would be evaluated.

If expr is a pair, then it is a call expression. Print it. Then, the operator and operands are evaluated. These are the elements in the list expr. So, iterate through expr (using either a while statement or expr.map(...)) and call print_evals on each element.

Document the Occasion

Let your TA know you're done so that you can each get a departure number, and fill out the attendance form again (this time selecting departure instead of arrival). If your TA isn't in the room, go find them next door.