Dr. Racket – Installation and Settings Manual

1. Go to http://www.racket-lang.org/download/ and download the installation file (available for all platforms - Windows, Macintosh, Linux)

2. Run the executable file and install the program.

3. Run the 'DrRacket' software

4. Click on 'Language' menu, then on 'Choose Language'
   a. Select "Choose a Language"
   b. Select 'Pretty Big' in the left list (Under "Legacy Languages")
   c. Make sure that the other settings are exactly like in the image below:
      (If you do not see the right part, click 'Show Details')
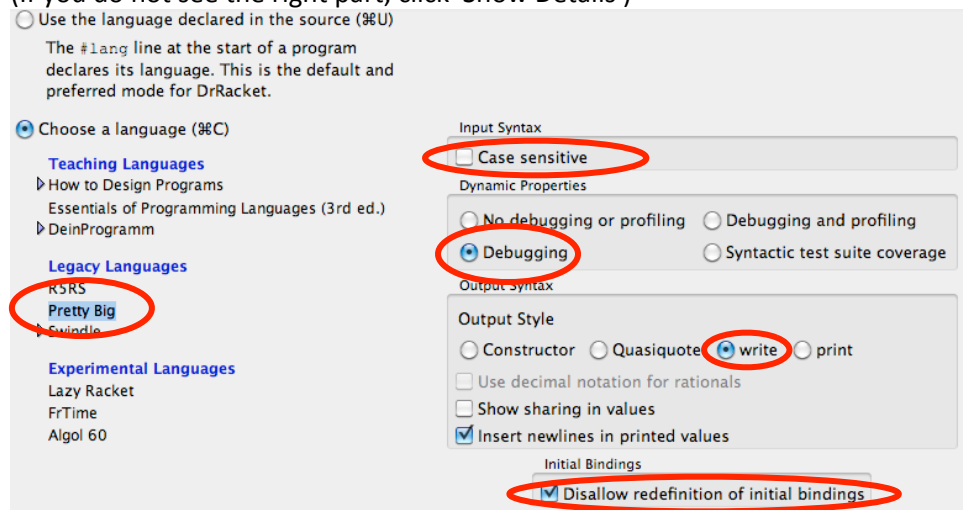

   Important settings:
   - Language: Pretty Big
   - Input Syntax: Case Insensitive (NOT case sensitive)
   - Dynamic Properties: Debugging (default)
   - Output Syntax: Write (default)
   - Check the 'Disallow redefinitions of initial bindings' checkbox
   Leave the rest of the setting at their defaults

   d. Click OK

5. Have fun!

Usage tips and tricks

1. Coding:
   - Your definitions (functions) should be written in the definitions area. This is where you actually build your <u>context</u> using the `define` command.
   - Commands (to run your functions) should be written in the interactions area. This is the interpreter command line.
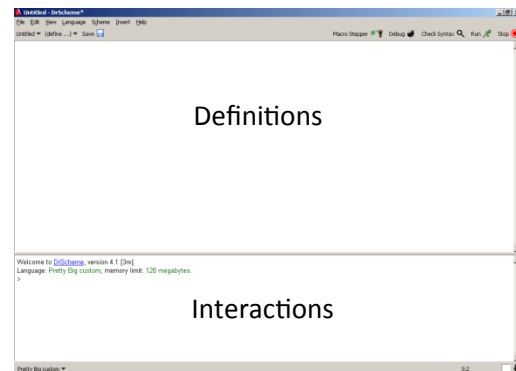
   Before starting entering commands in the interactions area, press F5 (in Windows) to run your definitions (and build your context). It will also clean the interactions area.
   (In mac press ⌘T instead of F5)

2. Debugging:
   Debugging Scheme programs is rather exhausting but you will probably have to do that at least once.
   Yet, Dr. Racket offers a pretty useful debugger.
   To start it, click on the 'Debug' button above the definitions area.
   Use the pause, go, step, over, out buttons to debug, and notice the stack and variables view on the right. You may add breakpoints by hovering above beginnings or endings of expressions and then right-click on the red dot that appears.

3. Saving
   Files should be saved using the RKT format.

4. Help
   Dr. Racket help is extremely useful. Just make sure you look at the 'Pretty Big' language help (it contains help for many languages).
   You may also find help regarding to a specific function by clicking F1 when a function name is selected.
   As always, you can find help in the course newsgroup as well!