# $\sum$ A Library for Ansi Common Lisp

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### Chapter 1

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### Chapter 2

## Introduction

The  $\Sigma$  library is a generic library of mostly random useful code for ANSI Common Lisp. It is currently only really focused on SBCL, but patches to add support for other systems are more than welcome.

This library started out as a single file, utilities.lisp, that I personally used for shared generic code for all of my Lisp code. Most lispers have a similar file of some name, utilities.lisp, misc.lisp, shared.lisp, or even stuff.lisp, that is just a random collection of useful little generic macros and functions. Mine has grown over the years, and in 2012 I decided that I should try to make it useful to people other than myself.

You can download the library from GitHub at:

https://github.com/cgore/sigma

and I have some other information on it at my own website at:

http://cgore.com/programming/lisp/sigma/

#### 2.1 Getting Lisp

Before using this library you need a working Lisp. I use and recommend SBCL, Steel Bank Common Lisp, which is available at:

http://www.sbcl.org

This is derived from CMUCL, Carnegie Mellon University Common Lisp, which is still under active development and is: available at:

http://www.cons.org/cmucl/

SBCL has information on getting started at:

http://www.sbcl.org/getting.html

If you are using Debian or a similar Linux distribution (including Ubuntu), you can just run as root:

apt-get install sbcl sbcl-doc sbcl-source

#### 2.2 Getting Emacs and Slime

After installing, the best way to interact with any Common Lisp is via SLIME, the Superior Lisp Interaction Mode for EMACS, which is available at:

http://common-lisp.net/project/slime/

This can be installed on Debian by:

apt-get install slime emacs emacs-goodies-el

#### 2.3 Using the Library

First we need to clone the utilities.

mkdir -p /programming/lisp

cd /programming/lisp

git clone git@github.com:cgore/sigma.git

Now we need to make a directory for our project and symlink to the ASDF definition. There are other ways to load ASDF libraries, especially if you want to have them available globally; I strongly recommend you read the documentation to ASDF.

mkdir our-new-project

cd our-new-project

ln -s /programming/lisp/sigma/sigma.asd

Now we need to start up our Lisp REPL. The best way to do this for perfonal use is SLIME from within Emacs, but I will demonstrate using the shell itself here.

sbcl

Now we are in SBCL.

(require :asdf) ; Require ASDF

(require :sigma); Require the system via ASDF.

 $\verb|(sigma:use-all-sigma)| ; This will pollute COMMON-LISP-USER|\\$ 

(sum (loop for i from 1 to 100 collect i)) ;  $Returns\ 5050\ and\ makes$   $Euler\ sad.$ 

Have fun!

### Chapter 3

# The Sigma/Behave Package

The sigma/behave package contains some useful code for confirming behavior of code, supporting a very basic form of behavior-driven development, BDD. The basic flow is to define the behavior of something, with multiple specs specified within that behavior specification, each consisting of various assertions, such as should=, should-equal, should-not-equal, and many others. If the behavior of the thing doesn't match the specified behavior, then there is some error.

#### 3.1 Macros

#### 3.1.1 The Behavior Macro

The behavior macro is used to specify a block of expected behavior for a thing. It specifies an example group, loosly similar to the describe blocks in Ruby's RSpec. It takes a single argument, the thing we are trying to describe, and then a body of code to evaluate that is evaluated in an implicit progn. It is to be used around a set of examples, or around a set of assertions directly.

#### **Syntax**

```
(behavior thing &body body)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Thing This is what we are describing the behavior of.

Body This is an implicit proc to contain the behavior.

```
(b (random 10.0))
    (c (random 10.0))
    (e 1.0))
(spec "closure"
      (should-be-a 'float (* a b)))
(spec "associativity"
      (should= (* (* a b) c)
               (* a (* b c))))
(spec "identity element"
      (should= a (* e a)))
(spec "inverse element"
      (let ((1/a (/ 1 a)))
        (should= (* 1/a a)
                 (* a 1/a)
                 1.0)))
(spec "commutitativity"
      (should= (* a b) (* b a))))))
```

#### 3.1.2 The Spec Macro

The spec macro is used to indicate a specification for a desired behavior. It will normally serve as a grouping for assertions or nested specs.

#### **Syntax**

```
(spec description &body body)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Description This is a string to describe the specification.

Body This is an implicit proc to contain the specification.

#### Examples

```
(spec "should pass some tests"
      (should= 12 (foo 3.5))
      (should= 14 (foo 4.22)))
```

#### 3.1.3 The Should Macro

The should macro is the basic building block for most of the behavior checking. It asserts that test returns truthfully for the arguments. Typically you will want to use one of the macros defined on top of should instead of using it directly, such as should=.

#### **Syntax**

```
(should test &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Test This is the test predicate to evaluate.

Arguments These are the arguments to the test predicate.

#### Examples

```
(should #'= 12 (* 3 4)); Passes
(should #'< 4 (* 2 3)); Passes
(should #'< 4 5 6 7); Passes
```

#### 3.1.4 The Should-Not Macro

The should-not macro is identical to the should macro, except that it inverts the result of the call with not.

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not test &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Test This is the test predicate to evaluate.

Arguments These are the arguments to the test predicate.

#### Examples

```
(should-not #'< 12 4); Passes (should-not #'= 12 44); Passes
```

#### 3.1.5 The Should-Be-Null Macro

The should-be-null macro is a short-hand method for (should #'null ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-be-null &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

 ${\it Arguments}~$  These are the arguments to null.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.6 The Should-Be-True Macro

The should-be-true macro is a short-hand method for (should #'identity ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-be-true &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to identity.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.7 The Should-Be-False Macro

The should-be-false macro is a short-hand method for (should #'not ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-be-false &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to not.

#### Examples

```
(should-be-false nil)
(should-be-false (not t))
(should-be-false (< 44 2))</pre>
```

#### 3.1.8 The Should-Be-A Macro

The should-be-a macro specifies that one or more things should be of the type specified by type.

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-be-a type &rest things)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Type This is the type to compare with via typep.

Things These are the things to confirm the type of.

#### 3.1.9 The Should= Macro

The should= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to =.

#### Examples

```
(should= 12 12) ; Passes
(should= 12 12.0) ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.10 The Should-Not= Macro

The should-not= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'= ...).

#### Syntax

```
(should-not= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to =.

```
(should-not= 12 12); Fails
(should-not= 12 12.0); Fails
(should-not= 12 14); Passes
```

#### 3.1.11 The Should/= Macro

The should/= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'/= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should/= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to /=.

#### Examples

```
(should/= 12 13) ; Passes
(should/= 12 12) ; Fails
(should/= 12 12.0) ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.12 The Should-Not/= Macro

The should-not/= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'/= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not/= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to /=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not/= 12 13)  ; Fails
(should-not/= 12 12)  ; Passes
(should-not/= 12 12.0)  ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.13 The Should Macro

The should<macro is a short-hand method for (should #'< ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should< &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

 ${\it Arguments}~$  These are the arguments to <.

#### Examples

```
(should< 12 13); Passes
(should< 13 12); Fails
(should< 12 12); Fails
```

#### 3.1.14 The Should-Not< Macro

The should-not< macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'< ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not< &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to <.

#### Examples

```
(should-not< 12 13) ; Passes
(should-not< 13 12) ; Fails
(should-not< 12 12) ; Fails</pre>
```

#### 3.1.15 The Should> Macro

The should<macro is a short-hand method for (should #'> ...).

#### Syntax

```
(should> &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to >.

#### Examples

```
(should> 12 13); Fails
(should> 13 12); Passes
(should> 12 12); Fails
```

#### 3.1.16 The Should-Not> Macro

The should-not> macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'> ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not> &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to >.

#### Examples

```
(should-not> 12 13); Passes
(should-not> 13 12); Fails
(should-not> 12 12); Passes
```

#### 3.1.17 The Should<= Macro

The should<= macro is a short-hand method for (should  $\#' \le ...$ ).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should<= &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to <=.

#### Examples

```
(should<= 12 13) ; Passes
(should<= 13 12) ; Fails
(should<= 12 12) ; Passes</pre>
```

#### 3.1.18 The Should-Not<= Macro

The should-not<= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not  $\#' \le \ldots$ ).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not<= &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to <=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not<= 12 13) ; Fails
(should-not<= 13 12) ; Passes
(should-not<= 12 12) ; Fails</pre>
```

#### 3.1.19 The Should>= Macro

The should>= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'>= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should>= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to >=.

#### Examples

```
(should>= 12 13); Fails
(should>= 13 12); Passes
(should>= 12 12); Passes
```

#### 3.1.20 The Should-Not>= Macro

The should-not>= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'>= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not>= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to >=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not>= 12 13); Passes
(should-not>= 13 12); Fails
(should-not>= 12 12); Fails
```

#### 3.1.21 The Should-Eq Macro

The should-eq macro is a short-hand method for (should #'eq ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-eq &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to eq.

#### 3.1.22 The Should-Not-Eq Macro

The should-not-eq macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'eq ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-eq &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to eq.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-eq 12 12) ; Probably fails (should-not-eq 13 12) ; Passes (should-not-eq "foo" "foo") ; May pass, may fail.
```

#### 3.1.23 The Should-Eql Macro

The should-eql macro is a short-hand method for (should #'eql ...).

#### Syntax

```
(should-eql &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to eql.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.24 The Should-Not-Eql Macro

The should-not-eql macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'eql ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-eql &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to eql.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.25 The Should-Equal Macro

The should-equal macro is a short-hand method for (should #'equal ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to equal.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.26 The Should-Not-Equal Macro

The  $\mathtt{should}$ -not-equal macro is a short-hand method for ( $\mathtt{should}$ -not  $\mathtt{\#'equal}$  ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to equal.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.27 The Should-Equal PMacro

The should-equalp macro is a short-hand method for (should #'equalp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-equalp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to equalp.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.28 The Should-Not-EqualP Macro

The should-not-equal p macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'equal p ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-equalp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to equalp.

#### Examples

#### 3.1.29 The Should-String= Macro

The should-string= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string=...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string=.

#### Examples

```
(should-string= "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-string= "F00" "foo") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.30 The Should-Not-String= Macro

The should-not-string= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string= "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-not-string= "F00" "foo") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.31 The Should-String/= Macro

The should-string/= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string/= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string/= &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string/=.

#### Examples

```
(should-string/= "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string/= "F00" "foo") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.32 The Should-Not-String/= Macro

The should-not-string/= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string/= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string/= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string/=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string/= "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string/= "FOO" "foo") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.33 The Should-String Macro

The should-string< macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string< ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string< &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string<.

#### Examples

```
(should-string< "foo" "f") ; Fails
(should-string< "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string< "foo" "FOOBAR") ; Fails
(should-string< "foo" "foobar") ; Passes</pre>
```

#### 3.1.34 The Should-Not-String< Macro

The should-not-string<macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string<...).

#### Syntax

```
(should-not-string< &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string<.

```
(should-not-string< "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-not-string< "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string< "foo" "foobar") ; Fails</pre>
```

#### 3.1.35 The Should-String> Macro

The should-string> macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string> ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string> &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string>.

#### Examples

```
(should-string> "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-string> "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string> "foo" "F00") ; Passes
(should-string> "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.36 The Should-Not-String> Macro

The should-not-string> macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string> ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string> &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string>.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string> "foo" "f")    ; Fails
(should-not-string> "foo" "foo")    ; Passes
(should-not-string> "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.37 The Should-String<= Macro

```
The should-string<= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string<= ...).
```

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string<= &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string<=.

#### Examples

```
(should-string<= "foo" "f")    ; Fails
(should-string<= "foo" "foo")    ; Passes
(should-string<= "foo" "foobar")    ; Passes</pre>
```

#### 3.1.38 The Should-Not-String<= Macro

The should-not-string<= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string<= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string<= &rest arguments)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

*Arguments* These are the arguments to string<=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string<= "foo" "f")    ; Passes
(should-not-string<= "foo" "foo")    ; Fails
(should-not-string<= "foo" "foobar")    ; Fails</pre>
```

#### 3.1.39 The Should-String>= Macro

```
The should-string>= macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string>= ...).
```

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string>= &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string>=.

```
(should-string>= "foo" "f")    ; Passes
(should-string>= "foo" "foo")    ; Passes
(should-string>= "foo" "foobar")    ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.40 The Should-Not-String>= Macro

The should-not-string>= macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string>= ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string>= &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string>=.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string>= "foo" "f")    ; Fails
(should-not-string>= "foo" "foo")    ; Fails
(should-not-string>= "foo" "foobar")    ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.41 The Should-String-Equal Macro

The should-string-equal macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-equal ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-equal.

#### Examples

```
(should-string-equal "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-string-equal "F00" "foo") ; Passes
(should-string-equal "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.42 The Should-Not-String-Equal Macro

The should-not-string-equal macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-equal ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-equal.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string-equal "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-not-string-equal "F00" "foo") ; Fails
(should-not-string-equal "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.43 The Should-String-Not-Equal Macro

The should-string-not-equal macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-not-equal ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string-not-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-equal.

#### Examples

```
(should-string-not-equal "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string-not-equal "F00" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string-not-equal "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.44 The Should-Not-String-Not-Equal Macro

The should-not-string-not-equal macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-not-equal ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string-not-equal &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-equal.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string-not-equal "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string-not-equal "F00" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string-not-equal "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.45 The Should-String-LessP Macro

The should-string-lessp macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-lessp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string-lessp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-lessp.

#### Examples

```
(should-string-lessp "foo" "f") ; Fails
(should-string-lessp "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string-lessp "foo" "FOOBAR") ; Passes
(should-string-lessp "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.46 The Should-Not-String-LessP Macro

The should-not-string-lessp macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-lessp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string-lessp &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string-lessp.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string-lessp "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-not-string-lessp "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string-lessp "foo" "FOOBAR") ; Fails
(should-not-string-lessp "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.47 The Should-String-GreaterP Macro

The should-string-greaterp macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-greaterp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string-greaterp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-greaterp.

#### Examples

```
(should-string-greaterp "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-string-greaterp "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-string-greaterp "foo" "F00") ; Fails
(should-string-greaterp "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.48 The Should-Not-String-GreaterP Macro

The should-not-string-greaterp macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-greaterp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string-greaterp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-greaterp.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string-greaterp "foo" "f") ; Fails
(should-not-string-greaterp "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-not-string-greaterp "foo" "FOO") ; Passes
(should-not-string-greaterp "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.49 The Should-String-Not-GreaterP Macro

The should-string-not-greaterp macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-not-greaterp ...).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-string-not-greaterp &rest arguments)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-greaterp.

```
(should-string-not-greaterp "foo" "f") ; Fails
(should-string-not-greaterp "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-string-not-greaterp "foo" "F00") ; Passes
(should-string-not-greaterp "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

#### 3.1.50 The Should-Not-String-Not-GreaterP Macro

The should-not-string-not-greaterp macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-not-greaterp ...).

#### Syntax

(should-not-string-not-greaterp &rest arguments)

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-greaterp.

#### Examples

```
(should-not-string-not-greaterp "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-not-string-not-greaterp "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-not-string-not-greaterp "foo" "FOO") ; Fails
(should-not-string-not-greaterp "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.51 The Should-String-Not-LessP Macro

The should-string-not-lessp macro is a short-hand method for (should #'string-not-lessp ...).

#### **Syntax**

(should-string-not-lessp &rest arguments)

#### **Arguments and Values**

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-lessp.

#### Examples

```
(should-string-not-lessp "foo" "f") ; Passes
(should-string-not-lessp "foo" "foo") ; Passes
(should-string-not-lessp "foo" "FOOBAR") ; Fails
(should-string-not-lessp "foo" "foobar") ; Fails
```

#### 3.1.52 The Should-Not-String-Not-LessP Macro

The should-not-string-not-less p macro is a short-hand method for (should-not #'string-not-less  $\dots$ ).

#### **Syntax**

```
(should-not-string-not-lessp &rest arguments)
```

#### Arguments and Values

Arguments These are the arguments to string-not-lessp.

```
(should-not-string-not-lessp "foo" "f") ; Fails
(should-not-string-not-lessp "foo" "foo") ; Fails
(should-not-string-not-lessp "foo" "FOOBAR") ; Passes
(should-not-string-not-lessp "foo" "foobar") ; Passes
```

### Chapter 4

# The Sigma/Control Package

The sigma/control package contains code for basic program control systems. These are mostly basic macros to add more complicated looping, conditionals, or similar. These are typically extensions to Common Lisp that are inspired by other programming languages. Thanks to the power of Common Lisp and its macro system, we can typically implement most features of any other language with little trouble.

#### 4.1 Macros

#### 4.1.1 The Alf Macro

The aif macro is an anaphoric variation of the built-in if control structure. This is based on [1, p. 190]. The basic idea is to provide an anaphor (such as pronouns in English) for the conditional so that it can easily be referred to within the body of the conditional expression. The most natural pronoun in the English language for a thing is "it", so that is what is used. If you need or want to use a different anaphor, use a?if. The most common use of aif is for when you want to do some additional computation with some time-consuming calculation, but only if it returned successfully.

#### **Syntax**

(aif conditional t-action & optional nil-action)

#### **Arguments and Values**

Conditional The boolean conditional to select between the t-action and the nil-action.

T-Action The action to evaluate if the conditional evaluate as true.

Nil-Action The action to evaluate if the conditional evaluates as nil.

#### Examples

Or say you need to get a user name from a database call, which might be slow.

(format t "The big-long-calculation failed!~%")))

```
(aif (get-user-name)
      (format -t "Hello, ~A!~%" it)
      (format -t "You aren't logged in, go away!~%"))
```

#### 4.1.2 The A?If Macro

The a?if macro is a variation of aif that allows for the specification of the anaphor to use, instead of being restricted to just it, the default with aif. This is most often useful when you need to nest calls to anaphoric macros.

#### **Syntax**

```
(a?if anaphor conditional t-action &optional nil-action)
```

#### **Arguments and Values**

Anaphor The result of the conditional will be stored in the variable specified as the anaphor.

Conditional The boolean conditional to select between the t-action and the nil-action.

T-Action The action to evaluate if the conditional evaluate as true.

Nil-Action The action to evaluate if the conditional evaluates as nil.

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#### 4.1.3 The AAnd Macro

The aand macro is an anaphoric variation of the built-in and. This is based on [1, p. 191]. It works in a similar manner to aif, defining it as the current argument for use in the next argument, reassigning it with each argument.

### **Syntax**

```
(aand &rest arguments)
```

### Examples

```
(aand 2 ; Sets 'it' to 2.

(* 3 it) ; Sets 'it' to 6.

(* 4 it)) ; Returns 24.
```

#### 4.1.4 The A?And Macro

The a?and macro is a variant of aand that allows for the specification of the anaphor to use, instead of being restricted to just it, the default with aand. This is most often useful when you need to nest calls to anaphoric macros.

#### Examples

```
(a?and foo 12 (* 2 foo) (* 3 foo)); Returns 72.
(a?and foo 1 2 3 'outer
  (a?and bar 4 5 6 'inner '(,foo ,bar))); Returns '(outer inner)
```

#### 4.1.5 The ALambda Macro

The alambda macro is an anaphoric variant of the built-in lambda. This is based on [1, p. 193]. It works in a similar manner to aif and aand, except it defines self instead of it as the default anaphor. This is useful so that you can write recursive lambdas.

### 4.1.6 The A?Lambda Macro

The a?lambda macro is an variant of alambda that allows you to specify the anaphor to use, instead of just the default of it.

```
(funcall (a?lambda ! (x) ; Simple recursive factorial example. 

(if (<= x 0)
1
(* x (! (1- x))))
10))) ; Calculates 10!, inefficently.
```

### 4.1.7 The ABlock Macro

The ablock macro is an anaphoric variant of the built-in block. This is based on [1, p. 193]. It works in a similar manner to aand, defining the anaphor it for each argument to the block.

#### Examples

### 4.1.8 The A?Block Macro

The a?block macro is an anaphoric variant of ablock that allows you to specify the anaphor to use, instead of just the default of it.

### Examples

### 4.1.9 The ACond Macro

The acond macro is an anaphoric variant of the built-in cond. This is based on [1, p. 191]. It works in a similar manner to aand, defining the anaphor it for each argument to the conditional.

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### Examples

### 4.1.10 The A?Cond Macro

The a?cond macro is an anaphoric variant of acond that allows you to specify the anaphor to use, instead of just the default of it.

### Examples

#### 4.1.11 The AWhen Macro

The awhen macro is an anaphoric variant of when built-in. This is based on [1, p. 191]. It works in a similar manner to aif, defining it as the default anaphor. This is useful when the conditional is the result of a complicated computation, so you don't have to compute it twice or wrap the computation in a let block yourself.

### **Syntax**

```
(awhen conditional &body body)
```

#### Examples

```
(awhen (get-user-name)
  (do-something-with-name it)
  (do-more-stuff)
  (format -t "Hello, ~A!~%" it))
```

#### 4.1.12 The A?When Macro

The a?when macro is similar to the awhen, except that it allows you to specify the anaphor to use, instead of just the default of it.

#### **Syntax**

```
(a?when conditional &body body)
```

### Examples

```
(a?when user (get-user-name)
  (do-something-with-name user)
  (do-more-stuff)
  (format -t "Hello, ~A!~%" user))
```

### 4.1.13 The AWhile Macro

The awhile macro is an anaphoric variant of while. This is based on [1, p. 191]. This is useful if you need to consume input repeatedly for all input.

### **Syntax**

```
(awhile expression &body body)
```

### Examples

```
(awhile (get-input)
  (do-something it)); Operate on input for all input.
```

#### 4.1.14 The A?While Macro

The a?while macro is a variant of awhile that allows you to specify the anaphor to use, instead of just the default it.

#### **Syntax**

```
(awhile anaphor expression &body body)
```

### Examples

```
(awhile input (get-input)
  (do-something input)); Operate on input for all input.
```

### 4.1.15 The DeleteF Macro

```
...TO DO ...
```

### 4.1.16 The Do-While Macro

```
...TO DO ...
```

### 4.1.17 The Do-Until Macro

```
...TO DO ...
```

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### The Hash Package

### 5.1 Macros

### 5.1.1 The SetHash Macro

The SetHash macro is shortcut for setf gethash.

### 5.2 Functions

### 5.2.1 The IncHash Function

The IncHash function will increment the value in key of the hash, initializing it to 1 if it isn't currently defined.

### 5.2.2 The DecHash Function

The DecHash function will decrement the value in key of the hash, initializing it to -1 if it isn't currently defined.

### The Numeric Package

- 6.1 Macros
- 6.1.1 The DivF Macro

...TO DO ...

6.1.2 The MultF Macro

...TO DO ...

- 6.2 Functions
- 6.2.1 The Bit? Function

...TO DO ...

### 6.2.2 The Choose Function

The *Choose* function computes the binomial coefficient for n and k, typically spoken as n choose k, and usually written mathematically as  $\binom{n}{k}$ .

### 6.2.3 The Factorial Function

The Factorial function computes n! for positive integers. NB, this isn't intelligent, and uses a loop instead of better approaches.

### 6.2.4 The Fractional-Part Function

6.2.5The Fractional-Value Function ...TO DO ... The Integer-Range Function 6.2.6 ...TO DO ... The Nonnegative? Function 6.2.7...TO DO ... 6.2.8The Nonnegative-Integer? Function ...TO DO ... 6.2.9The Positive-Integer? Function ...TO DO ... The Product Function 6.2.10... TO DO ... 6.2.11The Sum Function ...TO DO ... 6.2.12The Unsigned-Integer? Function  $\dots$ TO DO  $\dots$ 6.3 **Types** 6.3.1 The Nonnegative-Float Type ...TO DO ... The Nonnegative-Integer Type 6.3.2 $\dots$ TO DO  $\dots$ 6.3.3 The Positive-Float Type ... TO DO ...

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### $\mathbf{6.3.4}\quad \mathbf{The}\ \mathtt{Positive\text{--}Integer}\ \mathbf{Type}$

# The OS Package

Functions
The Perl Function
TO DO
The Python Function
TO DO
The Read-File Function
TO DO
The Read-Lines Function
TO DO
The Ruby Function
TO DO
Parameters
The *Perl-Path* Parameter
TO DO
The *Python-Path* Parameter
TO DO

### 7.2.3 The \*Ruby-Path\* Parameter

### The Probability Package

```
8.1 Macros
8.1.1 The Decaying-Probability? Macro
...TO DO ...
8.2 Functions
8.2.1 The Probability? Function
...TO DO ...
8.3 Types
8.3.1 The Probability Type
```

 $\dots$ TO DO  $\dots$ 

# The Random Package

9.1	Macros
9.1.1	The NShuffle Macro
	TO DO
9.2	Functions
9.2.1	The Gauss Function
	TO DO
9.2.2	The Random-Argument Function
	TO DO
9.2.3	The Coin-Toss Function
	TO DO
9.2.4	The Random-In-Range Function
	TO DO
9.2.5	The Random-In-Ranges Function
	TO DO
9.2.6	The Random-Range Function
	TO DO

9.2.7 The Randomize-Array Function

...TO DO ...

9.2.8 The Random-Array Function

...TO DO ...

- 9.3 Generics
- 9.3.1 The Random-Element Generic

...TO DO ...

9.3.2 The Shuffle Generic

# The Sequence Package

10.1	Macros
10.1.1	The Arefable? Macro
	TO DO
10.1.2	The NConcF Macro
	TO DO
10.1.3	The Nthable? Macro
	TO DO
10.1.4	The Set-NthCdr Macro
	TO DO
10.2	Functions
	Functions The Array-Values Function
10.2.1	The Array-Values Function
10.2.1	The Array-Values Function TO DO
10.2.1 10.2.2	The Array-Values FunctionTO DO The Nth-From-End Function
10.2.1 10.2.2	The Array-Values FunctionTO DO  The Nth-From-End FunctionTO DO

10.2.4The Empty-Sequence? Function ...TO DO ... 10.2.5 The Join-Symbol-To-All-Following Function ...TO DO ... 10.2.6 The Join-Symbol-To-All-Preceeding Function ...TO DO ... 10.2.7 The List-To-Vector Function ...TO DO ... 10.2.8 The Set-Equal Function ...TO DO ... 10.2.9The Simple-Vector-To-List Function ... TO DO ... 10.2.10The Sort-Order Function ...TO DO ... The The-Last Function 10.2.11... TO DO ... 10.2.12The Vector-To-List Function ...TO DO ... 10.3 Generics The Best Generic 10.3.1... TO DO ... 10.3.2 The Minimum Generic

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10.3.3	The Minimum? Generic
	TO DO
10.3.4	The Maximum Generic
	TO DO
10.3.5	The Maximum? Generic
	TO DO
10.3.6	The Sort-On Generic
	TO DO
10.3.7	The Slice Generic
	TO DO
10.3.8	The Split Generic
	TO DO
10.3.9	The Worst Generic
	TO DO

### The String Package

The String package contains useful tools for working with strings.

### 11.1 Functions

### 11.1.1 The Character-Range Function

The character-range function returns a list of characters from the *start* to the *end* character. Note that this is returning a list, not a string.

### **Syntax**

```
(character-range \ start \ end) \Longrightarrow `(start \dots \ end)
```

### **Arguments and Values**

Start The character to start the range with, inclusive.

End The character to end the range with, inclusive.

### Examples

```
(character-range #\a #\e) \Longrightarrow '(#\a #\b #\c #\d #\e) (character-range #\e #\a) \Longrightarrow '(#\a #\b #\c #\d #\e)
```

### 11.1.2 The Character-Ranges Function

The character-ranges function is a convenience wrapper for character-range function, concatenating several calls and making the resultant list contain only unique instances.

### **Syntax**

```
(character-ranges start_1 end_1 ... \Longrightarrow '(character_1 ...)
```

### **Arguments and Values**

 $Start_n$  The character to start the nth range with, inclusive.

 $\mathit{End}_n$  The character to end the nth range with, inclusive.

### Examples

```
(character-ranges #\a #\c #\x #\z) \Longrightarrow '(#\a #\b #\c #\x #\y #\z) (character-ranges #\a #\c #\a #\c) \Longrightarrow '(#\a #\b #\c)
```

11.1.3 The Escape-Tildes Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.4 The Replace-Char Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.5 The StrCat Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.6 The StrMult Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.7 The String-Join Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.8 The Stringify Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.9 The To-String Function

... TO DO ...

- 11.2 Methods
- 11.2.1 The Split Methods

# The Time-Series Package

12.1	Macros
12.1.1	The Snap-Index Macro
	TO DO
12.2	Functions
12.2.1	The Array-Raster-Line Function
	TO DO
12.2.2	The Distance Function
	TO DO
12.2.3	The Norm Function
	TO DO
12.2.4	The Raster-Line Function
	TO DO
12.2.5	The Similar-Points? Function
	TO DO
12.2.6	The Time-Series? Function
	TO DO

12.2.7 The Time-Multiseries? Function

...TO DO ...

12.2.8 The TMSref Function

...TO DO ...

12.2.9 The TMS-Dimensions Function

...TO DO ...

12.2.10 The TMS-Raster-Line Function

...TO DO ...

12.2.11 The TMS-Values Function

...TO DO ...

- **12.3** Types
- 12.3.1 The Time-Multiseries Type

# The Truth Package

# The Sigma Package

- 14.1 Variables
- 14.1.1 The \*Sigma-Packages\* Variable  $\dots$  TO DO  $\dots$
- 14.2 Functions
- 14.2.1 The Use-All-Sigma Function

# Bibliography

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