\sum A Library for ANSI Common Lisp

Christopher Mark Gore
http://www.cgore.com
cgore@cgore.com

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2317 South River Road, Saint Charles, Missouri 63303 USA.

 $Web: \verb|http://www.cgore.com| \\$

Email: cgore@cgore.com

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Introduction

The Σ 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/

0.1 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

0.2 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 avail-

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```
able at:
http://common-lisp.net/project/slime/
This can be installed on Debian by:
apt-get install slime emacs emacs-goodies-el
```

0.3 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.
(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 1

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.

1.1 Macros

1.1.1 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.

Examples

```
(behavior 'float
          (spec "is an Abelian group"
                (let ((a (random 10.0))
                      (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))))))
```

1.1.2 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

1.1.3 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.

 ${\it arguments}$ 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
```

1.1.4 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
```

1.1.5 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

arguments These are the arguments to null.

Examples

1.1.6 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

1.1.7 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>
```

1.1.8 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.

1.1.9 The should= Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to =.

Examples

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

1.1.10 The should-not= Macro

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

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to =.

Examples

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

1.1.11 The should/= Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

 ${\it arguments}$ These are the arguments to /=.

Examples

1.1.12 The should-not/= Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to /=.

Examples

1.1.13 The should < Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to <.</pre>

Examples

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

1.1.14 The should-not < Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to <.</pre>

Examples

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

1.1.15 The should> Macro

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

```
(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
```

1.1.16 The should-not> Macro

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

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
```

1.1.17 The should <= Macro

The should \leq macro is a short-hand method for (should $\#' \leq \ldots$).

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) ; Passes</pre>
```

1.1.18 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>
```

1.1.19 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
```

1.1.20 The should-not>= Macro

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

```
(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
```

1.1.21 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.

Examples

1.1.22 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

1.1.23 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

1.1.24 The should-not-eql Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to eql.

Examples

1.1.25 The should-equal Macro

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

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to equal.

Examples

1.1.26 The should-not-equal Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to equal.

Examples

1.1.27 The should-equalp Macro

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

1.1.28 The should-not-equalp Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

arguments These are the arguments to equalp.

Examples

1.1.29 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= "FOO" "foo") ; Fails
```

1.1.30 The should-not-string= Macro

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

```
(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= "FOO" "foo") ; Passes
```

1.1.31 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
```

1.1.32 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
```

1.1.33 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<.</pre>

Examples

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

1.1.34 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<.</pre>

Examples

1.1.35 The should-string> Macro

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

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

1.1.36 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

1.1.37 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

1.1.38 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<=.</pre>

Examples

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

1.1.39 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>=.

Examples

1.1.40 The should-not-string>= Macro

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

```
(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
```

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

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

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

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

1.1.45 The should-string-lessp Macro

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

```
(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
```

1.1.46 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
```

1.1.47 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

 ${\it arguments}$ These are the arguments to ${\it string-greaterp}.$

Examples

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

1.1.48 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
```

1.1.49 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.

Examples

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

1.1.50 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

1.1.51 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
```

1.1.52 The should-not-string-not-lessp Macro

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

Syntax

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

Arguments and Values

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

Examples

```
(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
```

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.

2.1 Macros

2.1.1 The aif 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

This is similar to the following, but with less typing:

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

```
(aif (get-user-name)
     (format -t "Hello,_~A!~%" it)
     (format -t "You_aren't_logged_in,_go_away!~%"))
```

2.1.2 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. 2.1. MACROS 27

Examples

2.1.3 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.
```

2.1.4 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

2.1.5 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.

```
(funcall (alambda (x) ; Simple recursive factorial example. (if (<= x 0) 1 \\ (* x (self (1- x)))) \\ 10))) ; Calculates 10!, inefficently.
```

2.1.6 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.

2.1.7 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

2.1.8 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

2.1.9 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

2.1.10 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

2.1.11 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))
```

2.1.12 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))
```

2.1.13 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.
```

2.1.14 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.
```

2.1.15 The deletef Macro

The deletef macro deletes item from sequence in-place.

Syntax

```
(deletef item sequence &rest rest)
```

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Examples

```
(let ((men '(good bad ugly)))
  (deletef 'bad men)
  (deletef 'ugly men)
  men) ; Only the good is left.
```

2.1.16 The do-while Macro

The do-while macro operates like a do $\{BODY\}$ while (CONDITIONAL) in the C programming language.

Syntax

```
(do-while conditional &body body)
```

Examples

```
(let ((t-minus 10))
  (do-while (<= 0 t-minus)
      (format t "~A_..._" t-minus)
      (decf t-minus)))
(format t "Liftoff!~%")</pre>
```

2.1.17 The do-until Macro

The do-until macro operates like a do {body} while (! conditional) in the C programming language.

Syntax

```
(do-until conditional &body body)
```

Examples

```
(let ((t-minus 10))
  (do-until (< t-minus 0)
      (format t "~A_..._" t-minus)
      (decf t-minus)))
(format t "Liftoff!~%")</pre>
```

2.1.18 The fop Macro

fop is like the opf macro, but as a post-assignment variant. The difference is similar to the difference between x++ and ++x in the C Programming Language, with opf being like ++x and fop being like x++.

Syntax

```
(fop operator variable &rest arguments)
```

Examples

```
(let ((x 10))
  (while (<= 0 x)
        (format t "~A_..._" (fop #'- x 1))))
(format t "Liftoff!~%")</pre>
```

2.1.19 The for Macro

A for macro, much like the for in the C programming language.

Syntax

```
(for initial conditional step-action &body body)
```

Examples

```
(for ((i 0))
        (< i 10)
        (incf i)
        (format t \"~%~A\"_i))</pre>
```

2.1.20 The forever Macro

The forever macro is just a way to say (while t ...) with a bit of added expressiveness and explicitness.

Examples

2.1.21 The multicond Macro

The multicond macro is much like cond, but where multiple clauses may be evaluated.

Examples

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2.1.22 The opf Macro

The opf macro is a generic operate-and-store, along the lines of incf and decf, but allowing for any operation.

Syntax

```
(opf operator variable &rest arguments)
```

Examples

```
;;; Prints 1 ... 2 ... 4 ... 8 ... ... ... 65535 ... that's it!
(let ((x 1))
   (while (<= x (expt 2 16))
        (format t "~A_..._" x)
        (opf #'* x 2)))
(format t "_that's_it!~%")</pre>
```

2.1.23 The swap Macro

This is a simple swap macro. The values of the first and second form are swapped with each other.

Syntax

```
(swap x y)
```

Examples

2.1.24 The swap-unless Macro

This macro calls swap unless the predicate evaluates to true.

Syntax

```
(swap-unless predicate x y)
```

Examples

2.1.25 The swap-when Macro

This macro calls swap when the predicate evaluates to true.

Syntax

```
(swap-when predicate x y)
```

Examples

2.1.26 The until Macro

The until macro is similar to the while loop in C, but with a negated conditional.

Syntax

```
(until conditional &body body)
```

Examples

```
(let ((x 10))
  (until (< x 0)
      (format t "~A_..._" x)
      (decf x))
  (format t "Liftoff!~%"))</pre>
```

2.1.27 The while Macro

This while macro is similar to the while loop in C.

Syntax

```
(while conditional &body body)
```

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Examples

```
(let ((x 10))
  (while (<= 0 x)
        (format t "~A_..." x)
        (decf x))
  (format t "Liftoff!~%"))</pre>
```

2.2 Functions

2.2.1 The compose Function

The compose function composes a single function from a list of several functions such that the new function is equivalent to calling the functions in succession. This is based upon a compose function in [2], which is based upon the compose function from Dylan.

Syntax

```
(compose &rest functions)
```

Examples

```
(funcall (compose \#'\sin \#'\cos \#'\tan) pi) ; Returns about 0.8414709848078965. (sin (cos (tan pi))) ; This is the same.
```

2.2.2 The conjoin Function

The conjoin function takes in one or more predicates, and returns a predicate that returns true whenever all of the predicates return true. This is from [2] and is based upon the conjoin function from Dylan.

Syntax

```
(conjoin predicate &rest predicates)
```

Examples

2.2.3 The curry Function

The curry function takes in a function and some of its arguments, and returns a function that expects the rest of the required arguments. This is from [2] and is based upon the curry function from Dylan.

Syntax

```
(curry function &rest arguments)
```

Examples

2.2.4 The disjoin Function

The disjoin function takes in one or more predicates, and returns a predicate that returns true whenever any of the predicates return true. This is from [2] and is based upon the disjoin function from Dylan.

Syntax

```
(disjoin predicate &rest predicates)
```

Examples

2.2.5 The function-alias Function

The function-alias function produces one or more aliases (alternate names) for a function.

Syntax

```
(function-alias function &rest aliases)
```

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Examples

(function-alias 'that-guy-doesnt-know-when-to-stop-typing 'shorter)

2.2.6 The operator-to-function Function

The operator-to-function function takes in any symbol and makes an evaluatable function out of it. The principle purpose for this is so that we can treat macros and other non-function things like a function, for using them with mappar or similar.

Known Issues

[Issue #8]

Syntax

```
(operator-to-function operator)
```

Examples

2.2.7 The rcompose Function

The rcompose function is a reversed variant of the compose function.

Syntax

```
(compose &rest functions)
```

Examples

```
(funcall (rcompose \#'sin \#'cos \#'tan) pi) ; Returns about 1.5574077246549023. (tan (cos (sin pi))) ; This is the same.
```

2.2.8 The rcurry Function

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

2.2.9 The unimplemented Function

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

2.3 Generics

2.3.1 The duplicate Generic

The sigma/hash Package

3.1 Macros

3.1.1 The sethash Macro

The sethash macro is shortcut for setf gethash.

3.2 Functions

3.2.1 The populate-hash-table Function

The populate-hash-table function makes initial construction of hash tables a lot easier, just taking in key/value pairs as the arguments to the function, and returning a newly-constructed hash table.

Examples

3.2.2 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.

3.2.3 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.

3.2.4 The gethash-in Function

The gethash-in function works like gethash, but allows for multiple keys to be specified at once, to work with nested hash tables.

Syntax

```
(gethash-in keys hash-table &optional default)
```

Arguments and Values

keys A list of objects.

hash-table A hash table.

default An object. The default is nil.

Returns

value An object.

present? A generalized boolean.

Examples

```
(let ((h (make-hash-table)))
  (sethash 'a h 12)
  (gethash-in '(a) h)) ; Returns 12

(let ((h (make-hash-table))
        (i (make-hash-table)))
        (sethash 'b i 123)
        (sethash 'a h i)
        (gethash-in '(a b) h 123)) ; Returns 123
```

The sigma/numeric Package

4.1 Macros

4.1.1 The +f Macro

The +f macro is an alias for incf.

4.1.2 The -f Macro

The -f macro is an alias for decf.

4.1.3 The *f Macro

The *f macro is an alias for multf.

4.1.4 The /f Macro

The /f macro is an alias for divf.

4.1.5 The divf Macro

The divf macro is divide-and-store, along the lines of incf and decf, but with division instead. This is similar to $x \neq something$ in the C programming language.

Syntax

(divf variable &rest arguments)

Examples

```
;;; Prints 65536 ... ... 8 ... 4 ... 2 ... 1 ... 0 ... that's it!
(let ((x (expt 2 16)))
   (while (<= 0 x)
        (format t "~A_..._" x)
        (divf x 2)))
(format t "_that's_it!~%")</pre>
```

4.1.6 The f+ Macro

The f+ macro is similar to incf or +f, but it is a post-increment instead of a pre-increment. That is, f+ works like x++ in C but incf and +f work like ++x in C.

Syntax

```
(f+ variable &rest addends)
```

Examples

```
(let ((x 12))
(list x (f+ x) x)); Returns '(12 12 13).
```

4.1.7 The f- Macro

The f- macro is similar to decf or -f, but it is a post-decrement instead of a pre-decrement. That is, f- works like x-- in C but decf and -f work like --x in C.

Syntax

```
(f- variable &rest subtrahends)
```

Examples

```
(let ((x 12))
(list x (f-x) x)); Returns '(12 12 11).
```

4.1.8 The f* Macro

The f* macro is similar to multf or *f, but it is a post-multiply instead of a pre-multiply. That is, f* works like x++ in C (just for multiplication instead of addition) but multf and *f work like ++x in C (again, just for multiplication instead of addition.)

Syntax

```
(f* variable &rest multiplicands)
```

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Examples

```
(let ((x 12))
(list x (f* x 2) x)); Returns '(12 12 24).
```

4.1.9 The f/ Macro

The f/ macro is similar to <code>divf</code> or <code>/f</code>, but it is a post-divide instead of a pre-divide. That is, <code>f/</code> works like <code>x++</code> in C (just for division instead of addition) but <code>divf</code> and <code>/f</code> work like <code>++x</code> in C (again, just for division instead of addition.)

Syntax

```
(f/ variable &rest divisors)
```

Examples

```
(let ((x 12))
(list x (f/ x 2) x)); Returns '(12 12 6).
```

4.1.10 The multf Macro

The divf macro is multiply-and-store, along the lines of incf and decf, but with multiplication instead. This is similar to $x \star = something$ in the C programming language.

Syntax

```
(multf variable &rest arguments)
```

Examples

```
;;; Prints 1 ... 2 ... 4 ... 8 ... ... 65535 ... that's it!
(let ((x 1))
   (while (<= x (expt 2 16))
        (format t "~A_..._" x)
        (multf x 2)))
(format t "_that's_it!~%")</pre>
```

4.2 Functions

4.2.1 The bit? Function

4.2.2 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 $\binom{n}{k}$.

4.2.3 The factorial Function

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

4.2.4 The fractional-part Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.5 The fractional-value Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.6 The integer-range Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.7 The nonnegative? Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.8 The nonnegative-integer? Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.9 The positive-integer? Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.10 The product Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.11 The sum Function

...TO DO ...

4.2.12 The unsigned-integer? Function

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4.3 Types

4.3.1 The nonnegative-float Type

...TO DO ...

4.3.2 The nonnegative-integer Type

...TO DO ...

4.3.3 The positive-float Type

...TO DO ...

4.3.4 The positive-integer Type

The sigma/os Package

5.1	Functions
5.1.1	The perl Function
	TO DO
5.1.2	The python Function
	TO DO
5.1.3	The read-file Function
	TO DO
5.1.4	The read-lines Function
	то до
5.1.5	The ruby Function
	то до
5.2	Parameters
5.2.1	The *perl-path* Parameter
	TO DO

5.2.2 The *python-path* Parameter

...TO DO ...

5.2.3 The *ruby-path* Parameter

The sigma/probability Package

- 6.1 Macros
- 6.1.1 The decaying-probabiliity? Macro

...TO DO ...

- 6.2 Functions
- 6.2.1 The probability? Function

...TO DO ...

- 6.3 Types
- 6.3.1 The probability Type

The sigma/random Package

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ction

7.2.6 The random-range Function

...TO DO ...

7.2.7 The randomize-array Function

...TO DO ...

7.2.8 The random-array Function

...TO DO ...

- 7.3 Generics
- 7.3.1 The random-element Generic

...TO DO ...

7.3.2 The shuffle Generic

The sigma/sequence Package

3.1	Macros
3.1.1	The arefable? Macro
	TO DO
3.1.2	The nconcf Macro
	TO DO
3.1.3	The nthable? Macro
	TO DO
3.1.4	The set-nthcdr Macro
	TO DO
8.2	Functions
3.2.1	The array-values Function
	TO DO
3.2.2	The nth-from-end Function
	TO DO

8.2.3 The sequence? Function

...TO DO ...

8.2.4 The empty-sequence? Function

...TO DO ...

8.2.5 The join-symbol-to-all-following Function

This function takes a symbol and a list, and for every occurance of the symbol in the list, it joins it to the item following it. For example:

Syntax

```
(join-symbol-to-all-following symbol list)
```

Examples

```
(join-symbol-to-all-following :# '(:# 10 :# 20 :# 30));; Returns '(:#10 :#20 :#30)
```

Affected By

```
*print-escape*, *print-radix*, *print-base*, *print-circle*, *print-pretty*, *print-level*, *print-length*, *print-case*, *print-gensym*, *print-array*.
```

8.2.6 The join-symbol-to-all-preceeding Function

This function takes a symbol and a list, and for every occurance of the symbol in the list, it joins it to the item preceding it. For example:

Syntax

```
(join-symbol-to-all-preceeding symbol list)
```

Examples

```
(join-symbol-to-all-preceeding :% '(10 :% 20 :% 30 :%))
;; Returns '(:10% :20% :30%)
```

Affected By

```
*print-escape*, *print-radix*, *print-base*, *print-circle*, *print-pretty*, *print-level*, *print-length*, *print-case*, *print-gensym*, *print-array*.
```

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8.2.7 The list-to-vector Function

...TO DO ...

8.2.8 The max* Function

The \max * function is a shortcut for \max . It takes in one or more lists and finds the maximum value within all of them. This is so you don't have to manually use apply and concatenate.

Syntax

```
(min &rest lists)
```

Examples

8.2.9 The min* Function

The min* function is a shortcut for min. It takes in one or more lists and finds the maximum value within all of them. This is so you don't have to manually use apply and concatenate.

Syntax

```
(min &rest lists)
```

Examples

8.2.10 The set-equal Function

...TO DO ...

8.2.11 The simple-vector-to-list Function

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

8.2.12 The sort-order Function ...TO DO ... 8.2.13 The the-last Function ...TO DO ... 8.2.14 The vector-to-list Function ...TO DO ... 8.3 Generics 8.3.1 The best Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.2 The minimum Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.3 The minimum? Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.4 The maximum Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.5 The maximum? Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.6 The sort-on Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.7 The slice Generic ...TO DO ... 8.3.8 The split Generic ...TO DO ...

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8.3.9 The worst Generic

The sigma/string Package

The String package contains useful tools for working with strings.

9.1 Functions

9.1.1 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 ... 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)
```

9.1.2 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.

 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)
```

9.1.3 The escape-tildes Function

...TO DO ...

9.1.4 The replace-char Function

...TO DO ...

9.1.5 The streat Function

...TO DO ...

9.1.6 The strmult Function

...TO DO ...

9.1.7 The string-join Function

...TO DO ...

9.1.8 The stringify Function

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9.1.9 The to-string Function

...TO DO ...

9.2 Methods

9.2.1 The split Methods

The time-series Package

10.1	Macros
10.1.1	The snap-index Macro
	TO DO
10.2	Functions
10.2.1	The array-raster-line Function
	TO DO
10.2.2	The distance Function
	TO DO
10.2.3	The norm Function
	TO DO
10.2.4	The raster-line Function
	TO DO
10.2.5	The similar-points? Function
	TO DO

10.2.6 The time-series? Function

...TO DO ...

10.2.7 The time-multiseries? Function

...TO DO ...

10.2.8 The tmsref Function

...TO DO ...

10.2.9 The tms-dimensions Function

...TO DO ...

10.2.10 The tms-raster-line Function

...TO DO ...

10.2.11 The tms-values Function

...TO DO ...

10.3 Types

10.3.1 The time-multiseries Type

The truth Package

- 11.1 Functions
- 11.1.1 The [?] Function

...TO DO ...

11.1.2 The toggle Function

...TO DO ...

- 11.2 Generics
- 11.2.1 The? Generic

The sigma Package

12.1 Variables

12.1.1 The *sigma-packages* Variable

...TO DO ...

12.2 Functions

12.2.1 The use-all-sigma Function

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