Modularly Programmable Syntax and Type Structure

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Abstract

Functional programming languages like ML descend conceptually from minimal lambda calculi, but to be pragmatic, expose a concrete syntax and type structure to programmers of a more elaborate design. Language designers have many viable choices along these dimensions, as evidenced by the diversity of dialects that continue to proliferate around these languages. But such language dialects cannot be modularly combined, limiting the choices available to programmers. We describe and formally specify new language primitives designed to decrease the need for dialects by giving library providers the ability to safely and modularly control syntactic expansion, typechecking and translation to a minimal type-theoretic internal language.

TODO: should I expand abstract?

Acknowledgments

TODO: Acknowledgments

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Motivation

Language Overview

- 2.1 External Language
- 2.2 Internal Language
- 2.3 Static Language
- 2.4 Module Language

```
TEST (This is a test).
   TEST a sfdasdf (This is a test).
   TEST (This is a test).
```

TEST (This is a test).

HELLO

GOODSBYE

Part I Modularly Programmable Syntax

Motivating Examples

- 3.1 Lists
- **3.2** HTML
- 3.3 Regular Expressions
- 3.4 Monadic Commands
- 3.5 Quasiquotation

Existing Approaches

4.1 Dynamic String Parsing

4.2 Direct Syntax Extension

Related work I haven't mentioned yet:

- Fan: http://zhanghongbo.me/fan/start.html
- Well-Typed Islands Parse Faster: http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/ejs/papers/tfp12-island.pdf

4.3 Term Rewriting

Typed Syntax Macros

- 5.1 Examples
- **5.2** Minimal Formalization
- **5.3** Parameterized TSMs

Type-Specific Languages

- 6.1 Examples
- **6.2** Minimal Formalization
- **6.3** Parameterized TSLs

Part II

Modularly Programmable Type Structure

Motivating Examples

Existing Approaches

Metamodules

Conclusion & Future Work

TODO: Remove outline around links

TODO: Bibliography style