Object Oriented Programming - Exercise 6: Simplified Java Verifier

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1 Goals

- 1. Implementing concepts learned in class (Regular Expressions).
- 2. Designing & implementing a complex system.

2 Submission Details

- Submission Deadline: Tuesday, 14/06/2016, 23:55.
- This exercise will be done in pairs.
- Note: In this exercise you may use the following classes in the standard Java distribution: Classes and interfaces from the java.util, java.text, java.io and java.lang packages (including sub-package). Specifically, you are required to use java.util.regexp.Matcher & java.util.regexp.Pattern (for working with regular expressions). Also consider java.util.function for existing useful functional interfaces.

If you choose to use tools not discussed in course material, you must explain in your README file why you chose to use them, and what are the downsides of using them compared to other alternatives (if such exist).

3 Introduction

Regular expressions are used to analyze text by assessing whether a given text string matches a pre-defined pattern. A common setting (which you are now very familiar with) that involves the evaluation of text against a given set of rules is the compilation of programming code. This process involves getting a text file as input, and examining each of its lines to see whether the file is a legal code file, as defined by the language specification.

In this exercise you will implement a Java verifier - a tool able to verify the validity of Java code; it knows how to read Java code and determine its validity, but not to translate it to bytecode.

As Java's syntax is rather complicated, writing a Java verifier is a highly challenging task. To make this task feasible for you, you will in fact implement an s-Java verifier (s stands for simplified), which only supports a **very limited** set of Java features (see details below). Your verifier will not have to run any code, it will only output whether or not the input file is a legal s-Java file or not.

4 Input/Output

Your program will receive a single parameter (the s-Java source file) and will run as follows:

java oop.ex6.main.Sjavac source_file_name

This already demands a certain program structure: a package named oop.ex6, containing a package named main, which in turn contains a class named Sjavac which contains the main method of the program. You are free to determine which of the other classes you create will belong in the main package, and which in other packages under the oop.ex6 package.

The output of your program is a single digit, outputted using System.out.println():

- 0 if the code is legal.
- 1 if the code is illegal.
- 2 in case of IO errors (see Section 6.1).

In case of an error, you are also required to print an informative message to the screen using System.err(error_message), describing in general what went wrong. There is no specific format you have to follow here, as it won't be tested automatically. However, very uninformative error messages might result in point reduction. See examples below.

5 s-Java specifications

s-Java is a (very) simplified version of Java. In the following, we describe its features.

5.1 General Description

- An s-Java file does not interact with other files. That is, you cannot import code from or export to other files. Each file is stand-alone.
- Each s-Java file is composed of two kinds of components:
 - Global variables, or members, are variables shared between methods.
 - Methods are general functions. Each method is composed of a list of code lines: defining local variables, giving new values to variables (local or global), calling methods, defining if/while blocks and returning (see more details below).
- s-Java has no classes. As such, it is appropriate to think of s-Java members/global variables as comparable to Java static members, and of s-Java methods as comparable to Java static methods.
- Each s-Java line is either
 - An empty line, containing only white spaces (spaces, tabs, carriage return, etc. as \s is defined to include). It should be ignored.
 - A comment line, in which the first characters are //. No characters, including white spaces, may appear before the //, and any number and kind of characters may appear after the //, and are to be ignored.
 - A code line, which **must** end with one of the following suffixes:
 - * ';' for defining variables, changing variable values, calling methods and returning.
 - * '{' for opening method declarations or if/while blocks.
 - * '}' for closing '{' blocks (has to be in its own line).

White spaces may appear before and after any of these suffixes. These suffixes may **not** appear in the next line instead, as in:

```
void foo()
{
```

- Other comment styles like multi-line comments (/* ...*/), javadoc comments (/** ...*/) and single-line comments appearing in the middle of a line are not supported by s-Java . Any appearance of such comments is illegal and should result in a printed value of 1.
- Operators are not supported (int a = 3 5;, String b = "00" + "P"; are illegal).
- \bullet Similarly, arrays are not supported in s-Java .

5.2 Variables

s-Java comes with a strict set of variable types. It does not support the creation of new types (e.g., classes, interfaces, enums). The language supports the definition of two kinds of variables: global variables and local variables (defined inside a method – see below). Both types of variables are defined in the same way as in java:

$$type \ name = value;$$

- Table 1 shows the legal s-Java types.
- name is any sequence (length > 0) of letters (uppercase or lowercase), digits and the underscore character (_). name may **not** start with a digit. name may start with an underscore, but in such a case it must contain at least one more character (i.e., '_' is not a legal name). Legal name examples: 'g2', 'b_3', '__', 'a', '-__b', '-_b', '-0', 'a_'. Illegal name examples: '2g', '-', '2__', '54_a', '3_3__3_b'.
- value can be one of the following:

 - another existing and initialized variable of the same type

Type	Description	Value Format	Examples
int	an integer	a number (positive, 0 or negative)	<pre>int number1 = 5;</pre>
1116	number		int num2 = -3 ;
double	a real	an integer or a floating-point num-	double b = 5.21;
double	number	ber (positive, 0 or negative)	double $c = 2;$
String	a string of	a string of characters	String s = "hi";
Builig	characters		String a = "i%#";
boolean	a boolean	true, false or any number (int or	<pre>boolean a = true;</pre>
Doolean	variable	double)	<pre>boolean b = 5.2;</pre>
char	a single	any character (inside single quota-	<pre>char my_cr = 'a';</pre>
Cilai	character	tion marks)	char g = '@';

Table 1: s-Java types.

5.2.1 Variable declaration

- A variable may be declared with or without an initialization. That is, both int a; and int b2 = 5; are legal s-Java lines.
- A variable declaration must be encapsulated in a single line. For example, the following are illegal:

```
int a
= 5;
int g
;
```

• Multiple variables of the same type may be declared in a single line, separated by a comma. For example, the following lines are **legal**:

```
double a, b;
int i1, i2 = 6;
char c='Z', f;
boolean a, b ,c , d = true, e, f = 5;
String a = "hello" , b = "goodbye";
```

As mentioned, our tests will not include Strings containing commas, to prevent confusion in cases such as the one shown in the above line.

• There may not be two global variables with the same name (regardless of their types). For example, in the following, given the first line, the second line is **illegal**:

```
int a = 5;
String a = "hello";
```

However, a local variable can be defined with the same name as a global one (regardless of their types). That is, in the previous example, had the first line been a declaration of a global, the second would have been legal if it was a declaration of a local variable (see test404-5.sjava). This is true even if the global variable of the same name was initialized inside the method where the local variable is later declared.

- Methods parameters are considered local variables of the method they belong to.
- Two local variables with the same name (regardless of their type) cannot be defined inside the same block (see test408-9.sjava). This also applies to variables with the same name as a method parameter (see test407.sjava).
- However, two local variable with the same name can be defined inside different blocks, even if one is nested in the other (see test410.sjava).

```
void foo(int param1){
    int a = 5;
    if (param1){
        int a = 20;
        boolean param1 = true;
        while (param1) {
```

```
double a = 2.5;
}
return;
}
```

In case of multiple variables with the same name, a reference to that name refers to the variable in the most specific scope.

• A variable may have the same name as a method (see test472-3.sjava).

5.2.2 Assigning values to variables

- Any variable may be declared using the modifier final, which makes it a constant. Such variables **must** be initialized with some value at declaration time: final int a = 5;. The modifier should appear before the type of the variable, and not after: int final a = 5;.
- A final variable may **not** be assigned a value in subsequent lines (i.e., lines other than it's declaration line).
- Other java modifiers (e.g., static, public/private) are **not** allowed (they are not part of the language specification).
- A (non final) variable can be assigned with a value after it is created:

```
int a = 521;
...
a = 832;
```

This applies both to global and local variables. Local variables can only be assigned inside the method they were declared in (including any scopes nested in it). Global variables may be assigned multiple times both inside and outside a method .

- A local variable cannot be used in any way (in an assignment, in a call to a method) before it is assigned a value (you don't have to check that the variable initialization is reachable, e.g., inside an if (false) {} block). In other words, if a local variable is not initialized in its declaration, the code is only legal if:
 - The next line **in which it appears** is an assignment of a value to that variable.
 - It is never used.
- A variable a (global or local) can be assigned with another (global or local) variable b of the same type. Additionally, a double can also be assigned with an int, and a boolean can also be assigned with an int and a double. See test052.sjava, test054.sjava and test257.sjava in the automatic tests. For example:

```
int a = 5;
double b = a;
```

5.2.3 Referring to variables

- Unlike a local variable, a global variable can be referred to by methods appearing before the line in which it was assigned a value, or even declared (see test251.sjava). Other global variables, may only be assigned with a global variable if it was already declared and assigned.
- In a case of an un-initialized global variable (meaning it is not assigned a value anywhere outside a method), all methods may refer to it (regardless of their location in relation to its declaration), but every method using it (in an assignment, as an argument to a method call) must first assign a value to the global variable itself (even if it was assigned a value in some other method).
- Accessing variables declared in a more inner scope is illegal (see test475-6.sjava).

5.3 Methods

s-Java methods are a simple version of Java's methods definition:

```
void method\_name\ (type_1\ parameter_1,\ type_2\ parameter_2,\ \ldots,\ type_n\ parameter_n)\ \{
```

where:

- method_name is defined similarly to variable names (i.e., a sequence of length > 0, containing letters (uppercase or lowercase), digits and underscore), with the exception that method names must start with a letter (i.e., they may not start with a digit or an underscore).
- parameters is a comma-separated list of parameters. Each parameter is a pair of a valid type and a valid variable name, **without** a value.
- Only void methods are supported.

After the method declaration, comes the method's code. It may contain the following lines:

- Local variable declaration lines (as defined in Section 5.2)
- Variable assignment lines (as defined in Section 5.2).
- A call to another existing method. Any method foo() may be called, **regardless** of its location in the file (i.e., before or after the definition of the current method). The syntax of calling is the java syntax:

```
method\_name\ (param_1, param_2, \dots, param_n);
```

where $method_name$ is an existing method and $param_1, param_2, \ldots, param_n$ are variables or constants (3, "hello") of types agreeing with the method definition (though a double parameter can accept an int argument and a boolean can int and double). Calling a method with an incompatible number of arguments, wrong types or uninitialized variables is **illegal**.

• An if/while block (see below).

• A return statement. Return statements may appear anywhere inside a method, but must also appear as the last line in the method's code (you do not need to check for unreachable code due to previous return statements); this is different from Java where a method can also simply end without a return statement. The return statement should not return any value, in accordance with the method's declaration. The format is:

return;

Note the following:

• Method parameters may be final. For example:

```
void foo(final int a) {
```

In this case, it is still legal to call the method with a non-final variable. It only means that the value of the parameter may not be changed inside the method.

- You may change the value of a non-final parameter inside the method's code.
- Methods must end with a line containing the single token '}' (which comes right after the return line as presented above).
- Recursive calls are allowed. I.e., a method may call itself (see test255.sjava). You are not required to check for infinite loops/recursions in the code.
- Method overloading is not supported: no two methods with the same name may exist (see test474.sjava).
- The order in which methods appear in the code is meaningless. Methods may also appear before/after/between global variable declarations.
- A method may **not** be declared inside another method.
- Method calls may only appear inside a method, and **not** in the global scope.

5.4 if and while Blocks

if and while blocks may only appear in methods, and are defined in the following way:

where condition is a boolean value (as defined in table 1), so it is either:

- One of the reserved words true or false.
- An initialized boolean, double or int variable.
- A double or int constant/value (e.g. 5, -3, -21.5).

Also, multiple conditions separated by AND/OR may appear (e.g., if (a | | b | | c) {). Notice the following:

- The || and && operators must be placed between two boolean expressions, so for example if(|| a) is illegal, and so is if(a || && b).
- if/while blocks may contain the same type of lines as methods (that is, variable declaration, method calls, etc. See Section 5.3).
- You are not required to support conditions containing brackets, like if ((a | | b) && c ...) {
 ...
 }
- Much like methods, if/while blocks must start with a '{' token (which should be at the end of the condition line) and end with a '}' token (which should be in a line of its own).
- if/while blocks can be nested to a practically unlimited depth (i.e. you should support a depth of at least java.lang.Integer.MAX_VALUE): if inside while and vise versa.
- You are not required to support else if, else blocks, do/while loops, for loops or switch statements. That is, the words else, do, for and switch are not part of the s-Java specification.

5.5 General Comments

- A main method is not required in s-Java . Of course a method called main may be defined, much like any other method.
- Naming variables or methods with reserved words (e.g int, if...) is not covered by the sJava specification, and so you can handle such cases as you wish. (For example: int double
 = 6;)
- White spaces are allowed anywhere in the code, and are to be ignored. This excludes white spaces inside variable names, values or reserved words (e.g., the following line is illegal: i n t a = 5;), and in the start of comment lines, so the following line is illegal: "\\comment after spaces"
- On the other hand, white spaces are required to separate between:
 - A method's return type (only void in s-Java) and name (e.g., voidfoo() $\{$ is illegal).
 - A variable's type and name (e.g., inta; is illegal).
 - A final modifier and a variable type (e.g., finalint a; is illegal).

Zero or more white spaces may appear between any other input tokens (this includes before/after parentheses, '=', ';','{' and '}' characters, etc.).

• Each line of code must appear in a single line, and not broken into several lines (test442.sjava). Also, no two statements may appear in the same line.

- Packages, as well as exceptions, are not supported in s-Java. That is, the words package, try, catch and finally are not part of the s-Java specification.
- The reserved keywords in s-Java are:
 - Types: int, double, boolean, char, String.
 - Other: void, final, if, while, true, false, return.

6 Important Requirements

6.1 Error Handling

As in *ex5*, you are required to use the exceptions mechanism to handle general errors of your program (e.g., an IOException caused by an illegal file name). As noted earlier, in such cases you should print the value 2.

Regarding the main task (deciding whether or not the file is a legal code file), error handling is a bit tricky. Supposedly, all the information many of your methods have to provide in this exercise is a single bit – whether or not some part of the code is legal. In this case, it is tempting to define boolean methods that return true or false according to whether the code is legal or not. However, some of the benefits of the exceptions mechanism might come in handy here. We advise you to consider using this mechanism in this exercise. **Regardless**, **report in your README file** how you handled s-Java code errors in this exercise, and why you chose to do so.

6.2 Object Oriented Design

As in previous exercises in this course, your program should follow the object oriented design principles. When working on your design, we advise you to review Tirgul 9, where we discussed possible design considerations for ex5. While the task here is very different than the one in ex5, the working process should be similar:

- Try to divide your program into small, independent units.
- Try to think of several design alternatives for each unit, consider the pros and cons of each alternative, and select the one you think is best.

You are required to specify your design, as well as your thinking process and the alternatives you ruled out, in your README file.

In addition, you should address the following points in your README file:

- How would you modify your code to add new types of variables (e.g., float)?
- Below are four features your program currently does not support. Please select **two of them**, and describe which modifications/extensions you would have to make in your code in order to support them. Please briefly describe which classes you would add to your code, which methods you would add to existing classes, and which classes you would modify. You are **not required** to implement these features.
 - switch statements.

- Arrays (of all types).
- Unary and binary operators; e.g. (negation or subtraction), *, +, etc.
- Importing the methods and global variables of one s-Java file to another.

6.3 Regular Expressions

One of the main goals of this exercise is to practice the use of the regular expression mechanism in Java. You are therefore required to make extensive use of it in your program. However, you are allowed (and encouraged!) to use other text analyzing mechanisms in your code (e.g., String class methods such as substring(), charAt(), etc.). The general rule of thumb is that you should use regular expressions whenever it makes your life easier, and not when it makes it harder.

Be sure to follow the recommendations discussed in the lecture regarding good regular expressions (e.g. the possessive quantifier). In your README file, please describe two of the main regular expressions you used in your code.

7 Submission Requirements

7.1 README

The README instructions from previous exercises apply here as well. Please describe your design and focus on non-trivial decisions you made. The README file should also include answers to the questions from Sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3.

7.2 Automatic Testing

A file called $ex6_files.zip$ can be found in the course website. The zip contains a list of 90% of the s-Java files on which your program will be tested. Additionally, the automatic tests will produce error messages containing the file number of failed tests. For example, you may receive the following error:

return value error, when ran with arguments test011.sjava : boolean global test no value

This means that your program printed a different value (0,1 or 2) than the school solution when tested with the file test011.sjava. The second line gives a short description of that specific test; in this case, the test checks how your verifier handles a declaration of a boolean global variable with no assigned value.

You can run the presubmission script directly from the shell on your .jar file by typing \sim oop/bin/ex6 myJarFile.jar

7.3 Submission Guidelines

As in previous exersices, you should submit a file named ex6.jar containing all .java files of your program, as well as your README file. Files should be submitted in the directories of their original packages. No .class files should be submitted. Remember that your program must compile without any errors or warnings - see the Exercise 5 document for a way to compile your program while check for all the error we check - and that javadoc should accept your program and produce documentation.

7.4 School Solution

The school solution may be found under ~oop/bin/ex6school. You are strongly advised to experiment with it before starting to work on your design, in order to get a feeling of how your program should behave on different inputs. You can run it on any .sjava file using the following command:

 \sim oop/bin/ex6school file.sjava

Good Luck!