

clojure.spec

Observations / problems

- Docstrings help people but aren't useful for other programs or tests
- Programatic validation libs often complect keyset and attribute specification
- Generative tests are arguably more effective than hand written example based tests, but they require declaring properties which takes more effort than examples

Solution goals

- Minimize intrusion
- Specify scalar values, data structures, and functions using a single global system
- Decomplect specs for map keys and values
- Leverage!

Solution goals: leverage

- Documentation
- Validation
- Error reporting
- Destructuring

Solution goals: leverage (cont'd)

- Instrumentation
- Test-data generation
- Generative test generation

Predicative specs

We've already got many predicates built into the language.

```
(require '[clojure.spec :as s])
```

```
(s/valid? int? 3)
```

```
(s/valid? string? "abc")
```

```
(s/valid? nil? nil)
```

```
(s/valid? odd? 5)
```

```
(s/valid? inst? (Date.))
```

;; new in 1.9!

```
(s/valid? boolean? false)
```

;; new in 1.9!

Predicative specs

Any function of 1 arg that returns a truthy value is a predicate.

```
(s/valid? #(= 3 (count %)) [1 2 3])
```

Sets, functions of their members, are predicates.

```
(s/valid? #{:red :blue :green} :red) ;; enum
```

Conformance

```
(s/conform int? 37)    ;; 37  
(s/conform int? :foo) ;; :clojure.spec/invalid
```


Registry

Use `s/def` to associate a namespaced keyword with a spec

```
(s/def :card/suit #{:Spades :Diamonds :Clubs :Hearts})  
(s/valid? :card/suit :Hearts) ;; true  
(s/conform :card/suit :Clubs)  ;; :Clubs
```

Nils

Most predicates do not allow for `nil`

```
(s/valid? string? nil)  
;; false
```

```
(s/valid? (s/nilable string?) nil)  
;; true
```

Ranges

```
(s/def :bowling/roll (s/int-in 0 11))
```

```
(s/def :my/foo (s/double-in :min 3.2  
                           :max 5.7  
                           :infinity? false  
                           :NaN? false))
```

```
(s/def :time/aughts (s/inst-in #inst "2000" #inst "2010"))
```

Predicate conjunction (and)

All and'ed predicates must pass, will short-circuit

```
(s/def ::big-even (s/and int? even? #(> % 1000)))
```

```
(def email-regex #"^[a-zA-Z0-9._%+-]+@[a-zA-Z0-9.-]+\.[a-zA-Z]{2,63}$")  
(s/and string? #(re-matches email-regex %))
```

Predicate disjunction (or)

All parts of an or are tagged

```
(s/def ::name-or-id (s/or :name string?
                          :id  int?))
```

```
(s/valid? ::name-or-id "abc") ;; true
```

```
(s/valid? ::name-or-id 100)   ;; true
```

```
(s/valid? ::name-or-id :foo)  ;; false
```

```
(s/conform ::name-or-id "abc") ;; [:name "abc"]
```

```
(s/conform ::name-or-id 100)   ;; [:id 100]
```

```
(s/conform ::name-or-id :foo)  ;; :clojure.spec/invalid
```

Entity maps (keys)

- Specified in terms of registered attribute keys
- `:req` and `:opt` specify required and optional keys
- `:req` can specify logical combinations of keys with `and` and `or`
- `:req-un` and `:opt-un` specify unqualified keys
- All attributes checked for conformance regardless of whether they are listed!

Entity maps (keys), continued

```
;; generic types
(def email-regex #"^[a-zA-Z0-9._%+-]+@[a-zA-Z0-9.-]+\.[a-zA-Z]{2,63}$")
(s/def ::email-type (s/and string? #(re-matches email-regex %)))

;; attributes
(s/def ::first-name string?)
(s/def ::last-name string?)
(s/def ::email ::email-type)

;; entity
(s/def ::person (s/keys :req [::first-name ::last-name ::email]
                        :opt [::phone]))
```

Sequences (regex)

- Regex ops: `cat`, `alt`, `?`, `+`, `*`, `&`
 - `?`, `+`, and `*` do exactly what you think they do!
 - `cat` and `alt` tag their parts
 - `&` passes the result of a regex op and passes it through preds

Sequences, cont (regex)

```
(s/def ::odds-then-maybe-even (s/cat :odds (s/+ odd?)  
                                       :even (s/? even?)))
```

```
(s/conform ::odds-then-maybe-even [1 3 5 100])  
;;=> {:odds [1 3 5], :even 100}
```

```
(s/conform ::odds-then-maybe-even [1])  
;;=> {:odds [1]}
```

Collections (every, coll-of)

```
(s/conform (s/every ::name-or-id) ["abc" 100 "def"])  
;; ["abc" 100 "def"]
```

```
(s/conform (s/coll-of ::name-or-id) ["abc" 100 "def"])  
;; [[:name "abc"] [:id 100] [:name "def"]]
```

- *s/every* validates **coll-check-limit** vals
- *s/coll-of* conforms every val

Maps (every-kv, map-of)

```
(s/conform (s/every-kv keyword? ::name-or-id) {:a "abc" :b 100 :c "def"})  
;; {:a "abc", :b 100, :c "def"}
```

```
(s/conform (s/map-of keyword? ::name-or-id) {:a "abc" :b 100 :c "def"})  
;; {:a [:name "abc"], :b [:id 100], :c [:name "def"]}
```

- `s/every-kv` validates `*coll-check-limit*` k/v pairs
- `s/map-of` conforms every k/v pair

Tuples (tuple)

Fixed length and positional

```
(s/def :card/rank (s/int-in 1 14))  
(s/def :card/suit #{:Spades :Hearts :Clubs :Diamonds})  
(s/def ::card (s/tuple :card/rank :card/suit))  
  
(s/valid? ::card [3 :Hearts])
```

Multi spec (multi-spec)

```
(s/def :event/type keyword?)
(s/def :event/timestamp int?)
(s/def :search/url string?)
(s/def :error/message string?)
(s/def :error/code int?)

(defmulti event-type :event/type) ;; arbitrary dispatch function
(defmethod event-type :event/search [_]
  (s/keys :req [:event/type :event/timestamp :search/url]))
(defmethod event-type :event/error [_]
  (s/keys :req [:event/type :event/timestamp :error/message :error/code]))

(s/def :event/event (s/multi-spec event-type :event/type))
```

Error reporting

```
(s/def ::person (s/keys :req [:person/first-name :person/last-name :person/address]))
(s/def ::address (s/keys :req [:address/line-1 :address/zipcode] :opt [:address/line-2]))
(s/def :address/line-1 string?)
(s/def :address/line-2 string?)
(s/def :address/zipcode (s/and string? #(re-matches #"\\d{5}" %)))

(s/def :person/address ::address)
(s/explain ::person {:person/first-name "David" :person/address {:address/zipcode "0213"}})
;; val: #:person{:first-name "David", :address #:address{:zipcode "0213"}}
;;      fails spec: :user/person predicate: (contains? % :person/last-name)
;; In: [:person/address]
;;      val: #:address{:zipcode "0213"}
;;      fails spec: :person/address at: [:person/address] predicate: (contains? % :address/line-1)
;; In: [:person/address :address/zipcode]
;;      val: "0213"
;;      fails spec: :address/zipcode at: [:person/address :address/zipcode] predicate: (re-matches #"\\d{5}" %)
```

Generators!

spec provides data generators based on the predicates in the specs

- * relies on test.check

- * but you only have to depend on it if you use generators

```
(require '[clojure.spec.gen :as gen])
```

```
(gen/sample (s/gen int?))
```

```
;; (-1 -1 -1 -1 -1 0 -1 -1 -6 -2)
```

```
(gen/sample (s/gen :card/suit))
```

```
;; (:Spades :Hearts :Hearts ... :Diamonds :Clubs)
```

```
(gen/sample (s/gen :name-or-id))
```

```
("" "" -1 0 0 -3 -4 -15 29 "99vdKmNZ3")
```

Generators!

spec can't always build a usable generator for you ...

```
(s/def ::email (s/and string? #(re-matches email-regex %)))  
(gen/sample (s/gen ::email))  
;; ExceptionInfo Couldn't satisfy such-that predicate after 100 tries.
```


Generators!

... but you can supply your own

```
(s/def ::email (s/spec (s/and string? #(re-matches email-regex %))
  :gen
  #(gen/bind
    (gen/tuple (gen/such-that not-empty (gen/string-alphanumeric))
      (gen/such-that not-empty (gen/string-alphanumeric))
      (gen/elements #{"com" "org"}))
    (fn [[a b c]] (gen/return (str a "@" b "." c))))))

(gen/sample (s/gen ::email))
;; ("V@R.org" "k@s.org" "sN@N.com" "1jC@dr.org" "7j@E60x.org" "sHK5h@2Tv06.org"
;;  "su@lKjh.org" "ffHilXI@K6U.com" "6hjwt8@C2YF0F.com" "0@y.com")
```

Function specs

```
(defn ranged-rand
  "Returns random int in range start <= rand < end"
  [start end]
  (+ start (long (rand (- end start)))))
```

```
(s/def ranged-rand
  :args (s/and (s/cat :start int? :end int?)
               #(< (:start %) (:end %)))
  :ret int?
  :fn (s/and #(>= (:ret %) (-> % :args :start))
             #(< (:ret %) (-> % :args :end)))))
```

Exercise

```
(pprint (s/exercise (:args (s/get-spec `ranged-rand))))  
;; [(-1 0) {:start -1, :end 0}]  
;; [(-1 1) {:start -1, :end 1}]  
;; [(-6 -1) {:start -6, :end -1}]  
;; [(0 1) {:start 0, :end 1}]  
;; [(-3 0) {:start -3, :end 0}]  
;; [(-48 119) {:start -48, :end 119}]  
;; [(-26 -1) {:start -26, :end -1}]  
;; [(-20 -1) {:start -20, :end -1}]  
;; [(-4 -2) {:start -4, :end -2}]  
;; [(-87 69) {:start -87, :end 69}]
```

Exercise

```
(pprint (s/exercise (:ret (s/get-spec `ranged-rand))))  
;; [[-1 -1]  
;;  [0 0]  
;;  [-1 -1]  
;;  [1 1]  
;;  [0 0]  
;;  [0 0]  
;;  [0 0]  
;;  [-1 -1]  
;;  [-24 -24]  
;;  [212 212]])
```

Exercise a function

```
(pprint (s/exercise-fn `ranged-rand))  
;; [(-1 1) -1]  
;; [(0 2) 0]  
;; [(-2 -1) -2]  
;; [(-1 2) 1]  
;; [(-1 1) -1]  
;; [(-1 2) 0]  
;; [(-8 31) 6]  
;; [(-2 0) -2]  
;; [(-41 -8) -13]  
;; [(-94 -5) -46])
```

Test a function with test/check

```
(require '[clojure.spec.test :as stest])
(pprint (stest/check `ranged-rand))
;; ({:spec
;;   #object[clojure.spec$fspec_impl$reify__13789 0x670ac042 "clojure.spec$fspec_impl$reify__13789@670ac042"],
;;   :clojure.spec.test.check/ret
;;   {:result true, :num-tests 1000, :seed 1471391975232},
;;   :sym user/ranged-rand})
```

Instrument (and unstrument)

```
(defn fn-that-calls-ranged-rand-incorrectly []  
  (ranged-rand 1.2 3.4))  
  
(fn-that-calls-ranged-rand-incorrectly)  
;; 2.2  
(stest/instrument `ranged-rand)  
  
(fn-that-calls-ranged-rand-incorrectly)  
;; In: [0] val: 1.2 fails at: [:args :start] predicate: int?  
;; :clojure.spec/args (1.2 3.4)  
;; :clojure.spec/failure :instrument  
;; :clojure.spec.test/caller {:file "form-init9107063959735765068.clj",  
;;                           :line 155, :var-scope user/fn-that-calls-ranged-rand-incorrectly}  
  
(stest/unstrument `ranged-rand)  
  
(fn-that-calls-ranged-rand-incorrectly)  
;; 1.2
```

Documentation with s/describe

```
(s/describe ::name-or-id)
;; (or :name string? :id int?)
```

```
(s/describe `ranged-rand)
;; (fspec :args (and (cat :start int? :end int?)
;;                   (fn* [p1__9461#] (< (:start p1__9461#) (:end p1__9461#)))))
;;   :ret int?
;;   :fn (fn [{start :start, end :end} :args, ret :ret]
;;         (and (>= ret start) (< ret end))))
```


Documentation with doc

```
(doc ::name-or-id)
```

```
-----
```

```
:spec.examples.guide/name-or-id
```

```
Spec
```

```
  (or :name string? :id int?)
```

```
(doc ranged-rand)
```

```
-----
```

```
spec.examples.guide/ranged-rand
```

```
([start end])
```

```
  Returns random int in range start <= rand < end
```

```
Spec
```

```
  args: (and (cat :start int? :end int?) (< (:start %) (:end %)))
```

```
  ret: int?
```

```
  fn: (and (>= (:ret %) (-> % :args :start)) (< (:ret %) (-> % :args :end)))
```

Summary

Docstrings aren't enough. We want something executable that we can leverage in a number of contexts.

Summary

clojure.spec gives us all of this from a single predicate

- Documentation
- Validation and Error reporting
- Destructuring
- Instrumentation, test-data generation, and generative test generation

Learn more

- <https://clojure.org/about/spec>
- <https://clojure.org/guides/spec>