

Maxwell Language Design

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Contents

1	Miscellaneous	3
1.1	Array Literals	3
1.2	Iterators	3

Listing 1: Iterator interface definition

```

1 type Iterator interface {
2   next (iterator * @) -> nil;
3   get (iterator @) -> any;
4   end (iterator @) -> Bool;
5 }

```

Listings

1	Iterator interface definition	3
---	---	---

1 Miscellaneous

This section acts as a placeholder for random information.

1.1 Array Literals

An array literal is a constant, static array defined in source code. It is not intended to be modified and supports only a rather simplistic interface:

- `get (index Int) -> A`
- `length -> Int`

This corresponds to the *ConstArray* interface, which declares a function to access individual elements, and a function to obtain the overall length of the array.

1.2 Iterators

An iterator is a structure which walks through elements of a collection; i.e. an array, set, map or string. Walking through a linear collection such as a vector array is simple, as the elements may be accessed by a continuously increasing index. In case of more complex structures, such as sets or maps, stepping from one element to another is not as simple anymore. Iterators provide a way to abstract this operation, allowing each collection to implement their most efficient iteration technique.

The language shall define an *Iterator* interface as shown in listing 1. The *next* function advances the iterator to the next element, or does nothing if the iterator went past the last element of its collection. The *get* function provides access to the element the iterator is currently pointing at.