Lecture 3 – Syntax and Semantics (2)

COSE212: Programming Languages

Jihyeok Park



2024 Fall





We learned how to define **syntax** and **semantics** of a programming language with (AE) as an example.

- Syntax
 - Concrete Syntax
 - Abstract Syntax
 - Concrete vs. Abstract Syntax
- Semantics
 - Inference Rules
 - Big-Step Operational (Natural) Semantics
 - Small-Step Operational (Reduction) Semantics

In this lecture, we will learn how to implement the interpreter for AE.

- Parser: from strings to abstract syntax trees (ASTs)
- Interpreter: from ASTs to values

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ADTs for Abstract Syntax



Let's define a Scala **ADT** to represent the **abstract syntax** of AE.

```
// expressions
enum Expr:
   // numbers
   case Num(number: BigInt) // `BigInt` rather than `Int` for integers
   // additions
   case Add(left: Expr, right: Expr)
   // multiplications
   case Mul(left: Expr, right: Expr)
```

For example, an AE expression 1 + (2 * 3) is represented as follows:

```
Add(Num(1), Mul(Num(2), Num(3)))
```

Parsers for Concrete Syntax



We learned the **concrete syntax** of AE in the last lecture.

Then, how can we implement a **parser** for AE?

Let's use parser combinators in Scala!

I will explain basic ideas of parser combinators in this lecture. If you are interested in details, please refer to here¹, and **parsing expression grammars (PEGs)**.²

https://github.com/scala/scala-parser-combinators

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsing_expression_grammar



What can we do with **parser combinators** in Scala?

• regular expressions ("...".r) as parsers.

```
lazy val parser: Parser[String] = "-?[0-9]+".r // parsing integers
```

• **combine** them using sequence (~, <~, ~>) and alternative (|).

• transform the result of a parser using the operator (^^).

```
lazy val parser1: Parser[X] = ...
val f: X => Y = ...
parser1 ^ f // Parser[Y] (apply `f` to the result of `parser1`)
```



```
"[]" "[7]" "[-042, 4, 20]"
```

```
type P[+T] = PackratParser[T]
lazy val num : P[BigInt] = "-?[0-9]+".r ^^ { BigInt(_) }
```



```
"[]" "[7]" "[-042, 4, 20]"
```



```
"[]" "[7]" "[-042, 4, 20]"
```



```
"[]" "[7]" "[-042, 4, 20]"
```



For example, let's implement a parser for **list of integers**:

```
"[]" "[7]" "[-042, 4, 20]"
```

We can simplify it using rep1sep (repeat one or more times separated by ","). There are other helper functions that help us write parsers.





Let's implement a parser for AE using Scala parser combinators.

Parsers using Parser Combinators



You don't need to know the details of parser combinators.

We provide all parsers of programming languages in this course.

If you want to use the parser, please just call Expr as follows:

If you want to get the **string form** of the expression, please use str method as follows:

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$$\vdash e \Rightarrow n$$

$$\text{Num} \ \frac{}{\vdash n \Rightarrow n} \quad \text{ Add} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 + e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 + n_2} \quad \text{MuL} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

$$\text{MUL} \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = ???
```



$$\boxed{\vdash e \Rightarrow n}$$

$$\text{Num} \ \frac{}{\vdash n \Rightarrow n} \qquad \text{Add} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 + e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 + n_2} \qquad \text{MuL} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = expr match
  case Num(n) => ???
  case Add(1, r) => ???
  case Mul(1, r) => ???
```



$$\vdash e \Rightarrow n$$

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```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = expr match
  case Num(n) => n
  case Add(1, r) => ???
  case Mul(1, r) => ???
```



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$$\texttt{MUL} \; \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = expr match
  case Num(n) => n
  case Add(l, r) => interp(l) + interp(r)
  case Mul(1, r) \Rightarrow ???
```



$$\vdash e \Rightarrow n$$

$$\text{Num} \; \frac{}{\vdash n \Rightarrow n} \quad \text{Add} \; \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 + e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 + n_2} \quad \text{MuL} \; \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

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```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = expr match
  case Num(n) => n
  case Add(1, r) \Rightarrow interp(1) + interp(r)
  case Mul(1, r) => interp(1) * interp(r)
```



$$\vdash e \Rightarrow n$$

$$\text{Num} \ \frac{}{\vdash n \Rightarrow n} \quad \text{Add} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 + e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 + n_2} \quad \text{MuL} \ \frac{\vdash e_1 \Rightarrow n_1 \qquad \vdash e_2 \Rightarrow n_2}{\vdash e_1 * e_2 \Rightarrow n_1 \times n_2}$$

```
type Value = BigInt
def interp(expr: Expr): Value = expr match
  case Num(n) => n
  case Add(1, r) => interp(1) + interp(r)
  case Mul(1, r) => interp(1) * interp(r)
```

```
interp(Expr("42")) // interp(Num(42))
                                                            = 42
interp(Expr("-1+7")) // interp(Add(Num(-1), Num(7)))
interp(Expr("1+2*3")) // interp(Add(Num(1), Mul(Num(2), Num(3)))) = 7
```

Exercise #1



https://github.com/ku-plrg-classroom/docs/tree/main/cose212/ae

- Please see above document on GitHub:
 - Implement interp function.
 - Implement countNums function.
- It is just an exercise, and you don't need to submit anything.
- However, some exam questions might be related to this exercise.

Summary



1. Parsers

ADTs for Abstract Syntax Parsers for Concrete Syntax

2. Interpreters

Next Lecture



• Identifiers (1)

Jihyeok Park
 jihyeok_park@korea.ac.kr
https://plrg.korea.ac.kr