

Scala 3 Reference

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Contents

1	Overview	6
1.1	Goals	6
1.2	Essential Foundations	6
1.3	Simplifications	6
1.4	Restrictions	7
1.5	Dropped Constructs	7
1.6	Changes	8
1.7	New Constructs	8
1.8	Metaprogramming	9
1.9	See Also	9
2	New Types	10
2.1	Intersection types	10
2.2	Union types	11
2.3	Type lambdas	12
2.4	Match Types	12
2.5	Dependent Function Types	16
2.6	Polymorphic Function Types	17
3	Enums	19
3.1	Enumerations	19
3.2	Algebraic Data Types	23
3.3	Translation of Enums and ADTs	25
4	Contextual Abstractions	31
4.1	Critique of the Status Quo	31
4.2	The New Design	33
4.3	Given Instances	34
4.4	Using Clauses	38
4.5	Context Bounds	41
4.6	Importing Givens	42
4.7	Extension Methods	44
4.8	Right-Associative Extension Methods	49
4.9	Implementing Type classes	50
4.10	Type Class Derivation	55
4.11	How to write a type class <code>derived</code> method using macros	66
4.12	Multiversal Equality	69
4.13	Context Functions	74
4.14	Implicit Conversions	77
4.15	By-Name Context Parameters	79
4.16	Relationship with Scala 2 Implicits	80
5	Metaprogramming	84
5.1	Inline	84
5.2	Compile-time Operations	91

5.3	Macros	96
5.4	Runtime Multi-Stage Programming	110
5.5	Reflection	113
5.6	TASTy Inspection	115
5.7	The Meta-theory of Symmetric Metaprogramming	116
6	Other New Features	121
6.1	Trait Parameters	121
6.2	Transparent Traits	122
6.3	Universal Apply Methods	124
6.4	Export clauses	125
6.5	Opaque Type Aliases	130
6.6	Open Classes	134
6.7	Parameter Untupling	136
6.8	Kind Polymorphism	137
6.9	The Matchable Trait	138
6.10	@threadUnsafe Annotation	141
6.11	@targetName Annotations	141
6.12	New Control Syntax	143
6.13	Optional Braces	144
6.14	Fewer Braces	155
6.15	Safe Initialization	166
6.16	TypeTest	172
6.17	Experimental Definitions	175
7	Other Changed Features	182
7.1	Numeric Literals	182
7.2	Programmatic Structural Types	182
7.3	Rules for Operators	186
7.4	Wildcard Arguments in Types	189
7.5	Imports	190
7.6	Changes in Type Checking	191
7.7	Changes in Type Inference	191
7.8	Changes in Implicit Resolution	191
7.9	Implicit Conversions	195
7.10	Changes in Overload Resolution	196
7.11	Match Expressions	198
7.12	Vararg Splices	199
7.13	Pattern Bindings	199
7.14	Option-less pattern matching	201
7.15	Automatic Eta Expansion	206
7.16	Changes in Compiler Plugins	207
7.17	Lazy Vals Initialization	209
7.18	Main Methods	210
7.19	Escapes in interpolations	212
8	Dropped Features	213

8.1	Dropped: DelayedInit	213
8.2	Dropped: Scala 2 Macros	213
8.3	Dropped: Existential types	213
8.4	Dropped: General Type Projection	214
8.5	Dropped: Do-While	214
8.6	Dropped: Procedure Syntax	215
8.7	Dropped: Package Objects	215
8.8	Dropped: Early Initializers	216
8.9	Dropped: Class shadowing	217
8.10	Dropped: Limit 22	217
8.11	Dropped: XML Literals	217
8.12	Dropped: Symbol literals	218
8.13	Dropped: Auto-Application	219
8.14	Dropped: Weak conformance	220
8.15	Deprecated: Nonlocal Returns	221
8.16	Dropped: <code>private[this]</code> and <code>protected[this]</code>	221
8.17	Dropped: Wildcard Initializer	222
9	Experimental	223
9.1	CanThrow Capabilities	223
9.2	Erased Definitions	230
9.3	Named Type Arguments	235
9.4	Numeric Literals	235
9.5	Explicit Nulls	240
9.6	<code>MainAnnotation</code>	250
9.7	Capture Checking	252
9.8	Pure Functions	268
9.9	Tupled Function	269
10	Scala 3 Syntax Summary	272
11	Language Versions	282
11.1	Source Compatibility	282
11.2	Binary Compatibility	283
12	Soft Keywords	284
13	A Classification of Proposed Language Features	284
13.1	Essential Foundations	285
13.2	Simplifications	285
13.3	Restrictions	286
13.4	Dropped Constructs	287
13.5	Changes	288
13.6	New Constructs	288
13.7	Metaprogramming	289
13.8	Changes to Type Checking and Inference	290

14 Appendix	291
14.1 Context Functions - More Details	291
14.2 Opaque Type Aliases: More Details	292
14.3 Parameter Untupling - More Details	294
14.4 Dropped: Class Shadowing - More Details	295
14.5 Dropped: Weak Conformance - More Details	296
14.6 Automatic Eta Expansion - More Details	297
14.7 Implicit Conversions - More Details	298
14.8 Differences with Scala 2 implicit conversions	299
14.9 Programmatic Structural Types - More Details	300
14.10 Dependent Function Types - More Details	303
14.11 Intersection Types - More Details	306
14.12 Type Lambdas - More Details	308
14.13 Union Types - More Details	310
14.14 Macros Spec	313
14.15 Erased Definitions: More Details	318
14.16 Named Type Arguments - More Details	319
14.17 A Classification of Proposed Language Features	321

1 Overview

Scala 3 implements many language changes and improvements over Scala 2. In this reference, we discuss design decisions and present important differences compared to Scala 2.

1.1 Goals

The language redesign was guided by three main goals:

- Strengthen Scala’s foundations. Make the full programming language compatible with the foundational work on the [DOT calculus](#) and apply the lessons learned from that work.
- Make Scala easier and safer to use. Tame powerful constructs such as implicits to provide a gentler learning curve. Remove warts and puzzlers.
- Further improve the consistency and expressiveness of Scala’s language constructs.

Corresponding to these goals, the language changes fall into seven categories: (1) Core constructs to strengthen foundations, (2) simplifications and (3) **restrictions**, to make the language easier and safer to use, (4) **dropped constructs** to make the language smaller and more regular, (5) **changed constructs** to remove warts, and increase consistency and usability, (6) **new constructs** to fill gaps and increase expressiveness, (7) a new, principled approach to metaprogramming that replaces [Scala 2 experimental macros](#).

1.2 Essential Foundations

These new constructs directly model core features of DOT, higher-kinded types, and the [SI calculus for implicit resolution](#).

- **Intersection types**, replacing compound types,
- **Union types**,
- **Type lambdas**, replacing encodings using structural types and type projection.
- **Context functions**, offering abstraction over given parameters.

1.3 Simplifications

These constructs replace existing constructs with the aim of making the language safer and simpler to use, and to promote uniformity in code style.

- **Trait parameters** replace **early initializers** with a more generally useful construct.
- **Given instances** replace implicit objects and defs, focussing on intent over mechanism.
- **Using clauses** replace implicit parameters, avoiding their ambiguities.
- **Extension methods** replace implicit classes with a clearer and simpler mechanism.
- **Opaque type aliases** replace most uses of value classes while guaranteeing the absence of boxing.

- **Top-level definitions** replace package objects, dropping syntactic boilerplate.
- **Export clauses** provide a simple and general way to express aggregation, which can replace the previous facade pattern of package objects inheriting from classes.
- **Vararg splices** now use the form `xs*` in function arguments and patterns instead of `xs: _*` and `xs @ _*`,
- **Universal apply methods** allow using simple function call syntax instead of `new` expressions. `new` expressions stay around as a fallback for the cases where creator applications cannot be used.

With the exception of **early initializers** and old-style vararg patterns, all superseded constructs continue to be available in Scala 3.0. The plan is to deprecate and phase them out later.

Value classes (superseded by opaque type aliases) are a special case. There are currently no deprecation plans for value classes, since we might bring them back in a more general form if they are supported natively by the JVM as is planned by [project Valhalla](#).

1.4 Restrictions

These constructs are restricted to make the language safer.

- **Implicit Conversions**: there is only one way to define implicit conversions instead of many, and potentially surprising implicit conversions require a language import.
- **Given Imports**: implicits now require a special form of import, to make the import clearly visible.
- **Type Projection**: only classes can be used as prefix `C` of a type projection `C#A`. Type projection on abstract types is no longer supported since it is unsound.
- **Multiversal Equality**: implement an “opt-in” scheme to rule out nonsensical comparisons with `==` and `!=`.
- **infix**: make method application syntax uniform across code bases.

Unrestricted implicit conversions continue to be available in Scala 3.0, but will be deprecated and removed later. Unrestricted versions of the other constructs in the list above are available only under `-source 3.0-migration`.

1.5 Dropped Constructs

These constructs are proposed to be dropped without a new construct replacing them. The motivation for dropping these constructs is to simplify the language and its implementation.

- **DelayedInit**,
- **Existential types**,
- **Procedure syntax**,
- **Class shadowing**,
- **XML literals**,

- Symbol literals,
- Auto application,
- Weak conformance,
- Compound types (replaced by **Intersection types**),
- Auto tupling (implemented, but not merged).

The date when these constructs are dropped varies. The current status is:

- Not implemented at all:
 - DelayedInit, existential types, weak conformance.
- Supported under **-source 3.0-migration**:
 - procedure syntax, class shadowing, symbol literals, auto application, auto tupling in a restricted form.
- Supported in 3.0, to be deprecated and phased out later:
 - **XML literals**, compound types.

1.6 Changes

These constructs have undergone changes to make them more regular and useful.

- **Structural Types**: They now allow pluggable implementations, which greatly increases their usefulness. Some usage patterns are restricted compared to the status quo.
- **Name-based pattern matching**: The existing undocumented Scala 2 implementation has been codified in a slightly simplified form.
- **Automatic Eta expansion**: Eta expansion is now performed universally also in the absence of an expected type. The postfix `_` operator is thus made redundant. It will be deprecated and dropped after Scala 3.0.
- **Implicit Resolution**: The implicit resolution rules have been cleaned up to make them more useful and less surprising. Implicit scope is restricted to no longer include package prefixes.

Most aspects of old-style implicit resolution are still available under **-source 3.0-migration**. The other changes in this list are applied unconditionally.

1.7 New Constructs

These are additions to the language that make it more powerful or pleasant to use.

- **Enums** provide concise syntax for enumerations and **algebraic data types**.
- **Parameter untupling** avoids having to use **case** for tupled parameter destructuring.
- **Dependent function types** generalize dependent methods to dependent function values and types.
- **Polymorphic function types** generalize polymorphic methods to polymorphic function values and types. *Current status*: There is a proposal and a merged prototype implementation, but the implementation has not been finalized (it is notably missing type inference support).

- **Kind polymorphism** allows the definition of operators working equally on types and type constructors.
- **@targetName annotations** make it easier to interoperate with code written in other languages and give more flexibility for avoiding name clashes.

1.8 Metaprogramming

The following constructs together aim to put metaprogramming in Scala on a new basis. So far, metaprogramming was achieved by a combination of macros and libraries such as [Shapeless](#) that were in turn based on some key macros. Current Scala 2 macro mechanisms are a thin veneer on top of the current Scala 2 compiler, which makes them fragile and in many cases impossible to port to Scala 3.

It's worth noting that macros were never included in the [Scala 2 language specification](#) and were so far made available only under an `-experimental` flag. This has not prevented their widespread usage.

To enable porting most uses of macros, we are experimenting with the advanced language constructs listed below. These designs are more provisional than the rest of the proposed language constructs for Scala 3.0. There might still be some changes until the final release. Stabilizing the feature set needed for metaprogramming is our first priority.

- **Match Types** allow computation on types.
- **Inline** provides by itself a straightforward implementation of some simple macros and is at the same time an essential building block for the implementation of complex macros.
- **Quotes and Splices** provide a principled way to express macros and staging with a unified set of abstractions.
- **Type class derivation** provides an in-language implementation of the `Gen` macro in [Shapeless](#) and other foundational libraries. The new implementation is more robust, efficient and easier to use than the macro.
- **By-name context parameters** provide a more robust in-language implementation of the `Lazy` macro in [Shapeless](#).

1.9 See Also

A [classification of proposed language features](#) is an expanded version of this page that adds the status (i.e. relative importance to be a part of Scala 3, and relative urgency when to decide this) and expected migration cost of each language construct.

2 New Types [↗](#)

This chapter documents the new types introduced in Scala 3.

2.1 Intersection types [↗](#)

Used on types, the `&` operator creates an intersection type.

2.1.1 Type Checking

The type `S & T` represents values that are of the type `S` and `T` at the same time.

```
trait Resettable:
  def reset(): Unit

trait Growable[T]:
  def add(t: T): Unit

def f(x: Resettable & Growable[String]) =
  x.reset()
  x.add("first")
```

The parameter `x` is required to be *both* a `Resettable` and a `Growable[String]`.

The members of an intersection type `A & B` are all the members of `A` and all the members of `B`. For instance `Resettable & Growable[String]` has member methods `reset` and `add`.

`&` is *commutative*: `A & B` is the same type as `B & A`.

If a member appears in both `A` and `B`, its type in `A & B` is the intersection of its type in `A` and its type in `B`. For instance, assume the definitions:

```
trait A:
  def children: List[A]

trait B:
  def children: List[B]

val x: A & B = new C
val ys: List[A & B] = x.children
```

The type of `children` in `A & B` is the intersection of `children`'s type in `A` and its type in `B`, which is `List[A] & List[B]`. This can be further simplified to `List[A & B]` because `List` is covariant.

One might wonder how the compiler could come up with a definition for `children` of type `List[A & B]` since what is given are `children` definitions of type `List[A]` and `List[B]`. The answer is the compiler does not need to. `A & B` is just a type that represents a set of requirements for values of the type. At the point where a value is *constructed*, one must make sure that all inherited members are correctly defined.

So if one defines a class `C` that inherits `A` and `B`, one needs to give at that point a definition of a `children` method with the required type.

```
class C extends A, B:
  def children: List[A & B] = ???
```

More details

2.2 Union types [↗](#)

A union type `A | B` has as values all values of type `A` and also all values of type `B`.

```
trait ID
case class UserName(name: String) extends ID
case class Password(hash: Hash) extends ID

def help(id: UserName | Password) =
  val user = id match
    case UserName(name) => lookupName(name)
    case Password(hash) => lookupPassword(hash)
  ...
```

Union types are duals of intersection types. `|` is *commutative*: `A | B` is the same type as `B | A`.

The compiler will assign a union type to an expression only if such a type is explicitly given or if the common supertype of all alternatives is **transparent**.

This can be seen in the following **REPL** transcript:

```
scala> val password = Password(123)
val password: Password = Password(123)

scala> val name = UserName("Eve")
val name: UserName = UserName(Eve)

scala> if true then name else password
val res1: ID = UserName(Eve)

scala> val either: Password | UserName = if true then name else password
val either: UserName | Password = UserName(Eve)
```

The type of `res1` is `ID`, which is a supertype of `UserName` and `Password`, but not the least supertype `UserName | Password`. If we want the least supertype, we have to give it explicitly, as is done for the type of `either`.

The inference behavior changes if the common supertrait `ID` is declared **transparent**:

```
transparent trait ID
```

In that case the union type is not widened.

```
scala> if true then name else password
val res2: UserName | Password = UserName(Eve)
```

The more precise union type is also inferred if `UserName` and `Password` are declared without an explicit parent, since in that case their implied superclass is `Object`, which is among the classes that are assumed to be transparent. See [Transparent Traits and Classes](#) for a list of such classes.

```
case class UserName(name: String)
case class Password(hash: Hash)
```

```
scala> if true then UserName("Eve") else Password(123)
val res3: UserName | Password = UserName(Eve)
```

[More details](#)

2.3 Type lambdas [↗](#)

A *type lambda* lets one express a higher-kinded type directly, without a type definition.

```
[X, Y] =>> Map[Y, X]
```

For instance, the type above defines a binary type constructor, which maps arguments `X` and `Y` to `Map[Y, X]`. Type parameters of type lambdas can have bounds, but they cannot carry `+` or `-` variance annotations.

[More details](#)

2.4 Match Types [↗](#)

A match type reduces to one of its right-hand sides, depending on the type of its scrutinee. For example:

```
type Elem[X] = X match
  case String => Char
  case Array[t] => t
  case Iterable[t] => t
```

This defines a type that reduces as follows:

```
Elem[String]      ::= Char
Elem[Array[Int]]   ::= Int
Elem[List[Float]]  ::= Float
Elem[Nil.type]     ::= Nothing
```

Here `::=` is understood to mean that left and right-hand sides are mutually subtypes of each other.

In general, a match type is of the form

```
S match { P1 => T1 ... Pn => Tn }
```

where S, T_1, \dots, T_n are types and P_1, \dots, P_n are type patterns. Type variables in patterns start with a lower case letter, as usual.

Match types can form part of recursive type definitions. Example:

```
type LeafElem[X] = X match
  case String => Char
  case Array[t] => LeafElem[t]
  case Iterable[t] => LeafElem[t]
  case AnyVal => X
```

Recursive match type definitions can also be given an upper bound, like this:

```
type Concat[Xs <: Tuple, +Ys <: Tuple] <: Tuple = Xs match
  case EmptyTuple => Ys
  case x *: xs => x *: Concat[xs, Ys]
```

In this definition, every instance of `Concat[A, B]`, whether reducible or not, is known to be a subtype of `Tuple`. This is necessary to make the recursive invocation `x *: Concat[xs, Ys]` type check, since `*` demands a `Tuple` as its right operand.

2.4.1 Dependent Typing

Match types can be used to define dependently typed methods. For instance, here is the value level counterpart to the `LeafElem` type defined above (note the use of the match type as the return type):

```
def leafElem[X](x: X): LeafElem[X] = x match
  case x: String      => x.charAt(0)
  case x: Array[t]    => leafElem(x(0))
  case x: Iterable[t] => leafElem(x.head)
  case x: AnyVal      => x
```

This special mode of typing for match expressions is only used when the following conditions are met:

1. The match expression patterns do not have guards
2. The match expression scrutinee's type is a subtype of the match type scrutinee's type
3. The match expression and the match type have the same number of cases
4. The match expression patterns are all [Typed Patterns](#), and these types are `:=` to their corresponding type patterns in the match type

So you know, while the case body will be expected to have the type on the right-hand side of the corresponding match type case, that doesn't imply the match type argument is constrained. Using the example, the last case body must conform to `X`, but that doesn't constrain `X` to be `AnyVal`, and therefore a `LeafElem[X]` inside the body wouldn't reduce; it would remain stuck, and as such just an abstract type.

2.4.2 Representation of Match Types

The internal representation of a match type

`S match { P1 => T1 ... Pn => Tn }`

is `Match(S, C1, ..., Cn) <: B` where each case `Ci` is of the form

`[Xs] ==> P => T`

Here, `[Xs]` is a type parameter clause of the variables bound in pattern `Pi`. If there are no bound type variables in a case, the type parameter clause is omitted and only the function type `P => T` is kept. So each case is either a unary function type or a type lambda over a unary function type.

`B` is the declared upper bound of the match type, or `Any` if no such bound is given. We will leave it out in places where it does not matter for the discussion. The scrutinee, bound, and pattern types must all be first-order types.

2.4.3 Match Type Reduction

Match type reduction follows the semantics of match expressions, that is, a match type of the form `S match { P1 => T1 ... Pn => Tn }` reduces to `Ti` if and only if `s: S match { _: P1 => T1 ... _: Pn => Tn }` evaluates to a value of type `Ti` for all `s: S`.

The compiler implements the following reduction algorithm:

- If the scrutinee type `S` is an empty set of values (such as `Nothing` or `String & Int`), do not reduce.
- Sequentially consider each pattern `Pi`
 - If `S <: Pi` reduce to `Ti`.
 - Otherwise, try constructing a proof that `S` and `Pi` are disjoint, or, in other words, that no value `s` of type `S` is also of type `Pi`.
 - If such proof is found, proceed to the next case (`Pi+1`), otherwise, do not reduce.

Disjointness proofs rely on the following properties of Scala types:

1. Single inheritance of classes
2. Final classes cannot be extended
3. Constant types with distinct values are nonintersecting
4. Singleton paths to distinct values are nonintersecting, such as `object` definitions or singleton enum cases.

Type parameters in patterns are minimally instantiated when computing `S <: Pi`. An instantiation `Is` is *minimal* for `Xs` if all type variables in `Xs` that appear covariantly and nonvariantly in `Is` are as small as possible and all type variables in `Xs` that appear contravariantly in `Is` are as large as possible. Here, “small” and “large” are understood with respect to `<:`.

For simplicity, we have omitted constraint handling so far. The full formulation of subtyping tests describes them as a function from a constraint and a pair of types

to either *success* and a new constraint or *failure*. In the context of reduction, the subtyping test $S <: [Xs := Is] P$ is understood to leave the bounds of all variables in the input constraint unchanged, i.e. existing variables in the constraint cannot be instantiated by matching the scrutinee against the patterns.

2.4.4 Subtyping Rules for Match Types

The following rules apply to match types. For simplicity, we omit environments and constraints.

1. The first rule is a structural comparison between two match types:

$$S \text{ match } \{ P_1 \Rightarrow T_1 \dots P_m \Rightarrow T_m \} <: T \text{ match } \{ Q_1 \Rightarrow U_1 \dots Q_n \Rightarrow U_n \}$$

if

$$S ::= T, \quad m \geq n, \quad P_i ::= Q_i \text{ and } T_i <: U_i \text{ for } i \text{ in } 1..n$$

I.e. scrutinees and patterns must be equal and the corresponding bodies must be subtypes. No case re-ordering is allowed, but the subtype can have more cases than the supertype.

2. The second rule states that a match type and its redux are mutual subtypes.

$$S \text{ match } \{ P_1 \Rightarrow T_1 \dots P_n \Rightarrow T_n \} <: U$$

$$U <: S \text{ match } \{ P_1 \Rightarrow T_1 \dots P_n \Rightarrow T_n \}$$

if

$$S \text{ match } \{ P_1 \Rightarrow T_1 \dots P_n \Rightarrow T_n \} \text{ reduces to } U$$

3. The third rule states that a match type conforms to its upper bound:

$$(S \text{ match } \{ P_1 \Rightarrow T_1 \dots P_n \Rightarrow T_n \} <: B) <: B$$

2.4.5 Termination

Match type definitions can be recursive, which means that it's possible to run into an infinite loop while reducing match types.

Since reduction is linked to subtyping, we already have a cycle detection mechanism in place. As a result, the following will already give a reasonable error message:

```
type L[X] = X match
  case Int => L[X]
```

```
def g[X]: L[X] = ???
|   val x: Int = g[Int]
|   ^
|Recursion limit exceeded.
|Maybe there is an illegal cyclic reference?
|If that's not the case, you could also try to
|increase the stacksize using the -Xss JVM option.
```

```
| A recurring operation is (inner to outer):
|
|   subtype LazyRef(Test.L[Int]) <: Int
```

Internally, the Scala compiler detects these cycles by turning selected stack overflows into type errors. If there is a stack overflow during subtyping, the exception will be caught and turned into a compile-time error that indicates a trace of the subtyping tests that caused the overflow without showing a full stack trace.

2.4.6 Match Types Variance

All type positions in a match type (scrutinee, patterns, bodies) are considered invariant.

2.4.7 Related Work

Match types have similarities with [closed type families](#) in Haskell. Some differences are:

- Subtyping instead of type equalities.
- Match type reduction does not tighten the underlying constraint, whereas type family reduction does unify. This difference in approach mirrors the difference between local type inference in Scala and global type inference in Haskell.

Match types are also similar to Typescript's [conditional types](#). The main differences here are:

- Conditional types only reduce if both the scrutinee and pattern are ground, whereas match types also work for type parameters and abstract types.
- Match types support direct recursion.
- Conditional types distribute through union types.

2.5 Dependent Function Types

A dependent function type is a function type whose result depends on the function's parameters. For example:

```
trait Entry { type Key; val key: Key }

def extractKey(e: Entry): e.Key = e.key           // a dependent method

val extractor: (e: Entry) => e.Key = extractKey    // a dependent function value
//
//           ~~~~~
//           a dependent function type
```

Scala already has *dependent methods*, i.e. methods where the result type refers to some of the parameters of the method. Method `extractKey` is an example. Its result type, `e.Key` refers to its parameter `e` (we also say, `e.Key` *depends* on `e`). But so far it was not possible to turn such methods into function values, so that they can be passed as parameters to other functions, or returned as results. Dependent methods

could not be turned into functions simply because there was no type that could describe them.

In Scala 3 this is now possible. The type of the `extractor` value above is

```
(e: Entry) => e.Key
```

This type describes function values that take any argument `e` of type `Entry` and return a result of type `e.Key`.

Recall that a normal function type `A => B` is represented as an instance of the `Function1` trait (i.e. `Function1[A, B]`) and analogously for functions with more parameters. Dependent functions are also represented as instances of these traits, but they get an additional refinement. In fact, the dependent function type above is just syntactic sugar for

```
Function1[Entry, Entry#Key]:
  def apply(e: Entry): e.Key
```

[More details](#)

2.6 Polymorphic Function Types

A polymorphic function type is a function type which accepts type parameters. For example:

```
// A polymorphic method:
def foo[A](xs: List[A]): List[A] = xs.reverse

// A polymorphic function value:
val bar: [A] => List[A] => List[A]
//      ~~~~~
//      a polymorphic function type
= [A] => (xs: List[A]) => foo[A](xs)
```

Scala already has *polymorphic methods*, i.e. methods which accepts type parameters. Method `foo` above is an example, accepting a type parameter `A`. So far, it was not possible to turn such methods into polymorphic function values like `bar` above, which can be passed as parameters to other functions, or returned as results.

In Scala 3 this is now possible. The type of the `bar` value above is

```
[A] => List[A] => List[A]
```

This type describes function values which take a type `A` as a parameter, then take a list of type `List[A]`, and return a list of the same type `List[A]`.

[More details](#)

2.6.1 Example Usage

Polymorphic function type are particularly useful when callers of a method are required to provide a function which has to be polymorphic, meaning that it should

accept arbitrary types as part of its inputs.

For instance, consider the situation where we have a data type to represent the expressions of a simple language (consisting only of variables and function applications) in a strongly-typed way:

```
enum Expr[A]:
  case Var(name: String)
  case Apply[A, B](fun: Expr[B => A], arg: Expr[B]) extends Expr[A]
```

We would like to provide a way for users to map a function over all immediate subexpressions of a given `Expr`. This requires the given function to be polymorphic, since each subexpression may have a different type. Here is how to implement this using polymorphic function types:

```
def mapSubexpressions[A](e: Expr[A])(f: [B] => Expr[B] => Expr[B]): Expr[A] =
  e match
    case Apply(fun, arg) => Apply(f(fun), f(arg))
    case Var(n) => Var(n)
```

And here is how to use this function to *wrap* each subexpression in a given expression with a call to some `wrap` function, defined as a variable:

```
val e0 = Apply(Var("f"), Var("a"))
val e1 = mapSubexpressions(e0)(
  [B] => (se: Expr[B]) => Apply(Var[B => B]("wrap"), se))
println(e1) // Apply(Apply(Var(wrap), Var(f)), Apply(Var(wrap), Var(a)))
```

2.6.2 Relationship With Type Lambdas

Polymorphic function types are not to be confused with *type lambdas*. While the former describes the *type* of a polymorphic *value*, the latter is an actual function value *at the type level*.

A good way of understanding the difference is to notice that ***type lambdas are applied in types, whereas polymorphic functions are applied in terms***: One would call the function `bar` above by passing it a type argument `bar[Int]` *within a method body*. On the other hand, given a type lambda such as type `F = [A] =>> List[A]`, one would call `F` *within a type expression*, as in type `Bar = F[Int]`.

3 Enums

This chapter documents enums in Scala 3.

3.1 Enumerations

An enumeration is used to define a type consisting of a set of named values.

```
enum Color:
  case Red, Green, Blue
```

This defines a new sealed class, `Color`, with three values, `Color.Red`, `Color.Green`, `Color.Blue`. The color values are members of `Colors` companion object.

3.1.1 Parameterized enums

Enums can be parameterized.

```
enum Color(val rgb: Int):
  case Red extends Color(0xFF0000)
  case Green extends Color(0x00FF00)
  case Blue extends Color(0x0000FF)
```

As the example shows, you can define the parameter value by using an explicit `extends` clause.

3.1.2 Methods defined for enums

The values of an enum correspond to unique integers. The integer associated with an enum value is returned by its `ordinal` method:

```
scala> val red = Color.Red
val red: Color = Red
scala> red.ordinal
val res0: Int = 0
```

The companion object of an enum also defines three utility methods. The `valueOf` method obtains an enum value by its name. The `values` method returns all enum values defined in an enumeration in an `Array`. The `fromOrdinal` method obtains an enum value from its ordinal (`Int`) value.

```
scala> Color.valueOf("Blue")
val res0: Color = Blue
scala> Color.values
val res1: Array[Color] = Array(Red, Green, Blue)
scala> Color.fromOrdinal(0)
val res2: Color = Red
```

3.1.3 User-defined members of enums

It is possible to add your own definitions to an enum. Example:

```
enum Planet(mass: Double, radius: Double):
  private final val G = 6.67300E-11
  def surfaceGravity = G * mass / (radius * radius)
  def surfaceWeight(otherMass: Double) = otherMass * surfaceGravity

  case Mercury extends Planet(3.303e+23, 2.4397e6)
  case Venus    extends Planet(4.869e+24, 6.0518e6)
  case Earth    extends Planet(5.976e+24, 6.37814e6)
  case Mars     extends Planet(6.421e+23, 3.3972e6)
  case Jupiter  extends Planet(1.9e+27,   7.1492e7)
  case Saturn   extends Planet(5.688e+26, 6.0268e7)
  case Uranus   extends Planet(8.686e+25, 2.5559e7)
  case Neptune  extends Planet(1.024e+26, 2.4746e7)
end Planet
```

3.1.4 User-defined companion object of enums

It is also possible to define an explicit companion object for an enum:

```
object Planet:
  def main(args: Array[String]) =
    val earthWeight = args(0).toDouble
    val mass = earthWeight / Earth.surfaceGravity
    for p <- values do
      println(s"Your weight on $p is ${p.surfaceWeight(mass)}")
end Planet
```

3.1.5 Restrictions on Enum Cases

Enum case declarations are similar to secondary constructors: they are scoped outside of the enum template, despite being declared within it. This means that enum case declarations cannot access inner members of the enum class.

Similarly, enum case declarations may not directly reference members of the enum's companion object, even if they are imported (directly, or by renaming). For example:

```
import Planet.*
enum Planet(mass: Double, radius: Double):
  private final val (mercuryMass, mercuryRadius) = (3.303e+23, 2.4397e6)

  case Mercury extends Planet(mercuryMass, mercuryRadius)           // Not found
  case Venus    extends Planet(venusMass, venusRadius)               // illegal re
  case Earth    extends Planet(Planet.earthMass, Planet.earthRadius) // ok
object Planet:
  private final val (venusMass, venusRadius) = (4.869e+24, 6.0518e6)
  private final val (earthMass, earthRadius) = (5.976e+24, 6.37814e6)
end Planet
```

The fields referenced by Mercury are not visible, and the fields referenced by Venus

may not be referenced directly (using `import Planet.*`). You must use an indirect reference, such as demonstrated with `Earth`.

3.1.6 Deprecation of Enum Cases

As a library author, you may want to signal that an enum case is no longer intended for use. However you could still want to gracefully handle the removal of a case from your public API, such as special casing deprecated cases.

To illustrate, say that the `Planet` enum originally had an additional case:

```
enum Planet(mass: Double, radius: Double):
  ...
  case Neptune extends Planet(1.024e+26, 2.4746e7)
+ case Pluto extends Planet(1.309e+22, 1.1883e3)
end Planet
```

We now want to deprecate the `Pluto` case. First we add the `scala.deprecated` annotation to `Pluto`:

```
enum Planet(mass: Double, radius: Double):
  ...
  case Neptune extends Planet(1.024e+26, 2.4746e7)
- case Pluto extends Planet(1.309e+22, 1.1883e3)
+
+ @deprecated("refer to IAU definition of planet")
+ case Pluto extends Planet(1.309e+22, 1.1883e3)
end Planet
```

Outside the lexical scopes of `enum Planet` or `object Planet`, references to `Planet.Pluto` will produce a deprecation warning, but within those scopes we can still reference it to implement introspection over the deprecated cases:

```
trait Deprecations[T <: reflect.Enum] {
  extension (t: T) def isDeprecatedCase: Boolean
}

object Planet {
  given Deprecations[Planet] with {
    extension (p: Planet)
      def isDeprecatedCase = p == Pluto
  }
}
```

We could imagine that a library may use **type class derivation** to automatically provide an instance for `Deprecations`.

3.1.7 Compatibility with Java Enums

If you want to use the Scala-defined enums as [Java enums](#), you can do so by extending the class `java.lang.Enum`, which is imported by default, as follows:

```
enum Color extends Enum[Color] { case Red, Green, Blue }
```

The type parameter comes from the Java enum [definition](#) and should be the same as the type of the enum. There is no need to provide constructor arguments (as defined in the Java API docs) to `java.lang.Enum` when extending it – the compiler will generate them automatically.

After defining `Color` like that, you can use it like you would a Java enum:

```
scala> Color.Red.compareTo(Color.Green)
val res15: Int = -1
```

For a more in-depth example of using Scala 3 enums from Java, see [this test](#). In the test, the enums are defined in the `MainScala.scala` file and used from a Java source, `Test.java`.

3.1.8 Implementation

Enums are represented as `sealed` classes that extend the `scala.reflect.Enum` trait. This trait defines a single public method, `ordinal`:

```
package scala.reflect

/** A base trait of all Scala enum definitions */
transparent trait Enum extends Any, Product, Serializable:

  /** A number uniquely identifying a case of an enum */
  def ordinal: Int
```

Enum values with `extends` clauses get expanded to anonymous class instances. For instance, the `Venus` value above would be defined like this:

```
val Venus: Planet = new Planet(4.869E24, 6051800.0):
  def ordinal: Int = 1
  override def productPrefix: String = "Venus"
  override def toString: String = "Venus"
```

Enum values without `extends` clauses all share a single implementation that can be instantiated using a private method that takes a tag and a name as arguments. For instance, the first definition of value `Color.Red` above would expand to:

```
val Red: Color = $new(0, "Red")
```

3.1.9 Reference

For more information, see [Issue #1970](#) and [PR #4003](#).

3.2 Algebraic Data Types

The **enum concept** is general enough to also support algebraic data types (ADTs) and their generalized version (GADTs). Here is an example how an `Option` type can be represented as an ADT:

```
enum Option[+T]:
  case Some(x: T)
  case None
```

This example introduces an `Option` enum with a covariant type parameter `T` consisting of two cases, `Some` and `None`. `Some` is parameterized with a value parameter `x`. It is a shorthand for writing a case class that extends `Option`. Since `None` is not parameterized, it is treated as a normal enum value.

The `extends` clauses that were omitted in the example above can also be given explicitly:

```
enum Option[+T]:
  case Some(x: T) extends Option[T]
  case None extends Option[Nothing]
```

Note that the parent type of the `None` value is inferred as `Option[Nothing]`. Generally, all covariant type parameters of the enum class are minimized in a compiler-generated `extends` clause whereas all contravariant type parameters are maximized. If `Option` was non-variant, you would need to give the `extends` clause of `None` explicitly.

As for normal enum values, the cases of an `enum` are all defined in the `enums` companion object. So it's `Option.Some` and `Option.None` unless the definitions are “pulled out” with an import:

```
scala> Option.Some("hello")
val res1: t2.Option[String] = Some(hello)
```

```
scala> Option.None
val res2: t2.Option[Nothing] = None
```

Note that the type of the expressions above is always `Option`. Generally, the type of a enum case constructor application will be widened to the underlying enum type, unless a more specific type is expected. This is a subtle difference with respect to normal case classes. The classes making up the cases do exist, and can be unveiled, either by constructing them directly with a `new`, or by explicitly providing an expected type.

```
scala> new Option.Some(2)
val res3: Option.Some[Int] = Some(2)
scala> val x: Option.Some[Int] = Option.Some(3)
val res4: Option.Some[Int] = Some(3)
```

As all other enums, ADTs can define methods. For instance, here is `Option` again,

with an `isDefined` method and an `Option(...)` constructor in its companion object.

```
enum Option[+T]:
  case Some(x: T)
  case None

  def isDefined: Boolean = this match
    case None => false
    case _    => true

object Option:

  def apply[T >: Null](x: T): Option[T] =
    if x == null then None else Some(x)

end Option
```

Enumerations and ADTs have been presented as two different concepts. But since they share the same syntactic construct, they can be seen simply as two ends of a spectrum and it is perfectly possible to construct hybrids. For instance, the code below gives an implementation of `Color` either with three enum values or with a parameterized case that takes an RGB value.

```
enum Color(val rgb: Int):
  case Red    extends Color(0xFF0000)
  case Green  extends Color(0x00FF00)
  case Blue   extends Color(0x0000FF)
  case Mix(mix: Int) extends Color(mix)
```

3.2.1 Parameter Variance of Enums

By default, parameterized cases of enums with type parameters will copy the type parameters of their parent, along with any variance notations. As usual, it is important to use type parameters carefully when they are variant, as shown below:

The following `View` enum has a contravariant type parameter `T` and a single case `Refl`, representing a function mapping a type `T` to itself:

```
enum View[-T]:
  case Refl(f: T => T)
```

The definition of `Refl` is incorrect, as it uses contravariant type `T` in the covariant result position of a function type, leading to the following error:

```
-- Error: View.scala:2:12 -----
2 |   case Refl(f: T => T)
  |           ~~~~~
  |contravariant type T occurs in covariant position in type T => T of value f
  |enum case Refl requires explicit declaration of type T to resolve this issue.
```


Because `Refl` does not declare explicit parameters, it looks to the compiler like the following:

```
enum View[-T]:
  case Refl[/*synthetic*/-T1](f: T1 => T1) extends View[T1]
```

The compiler has inferred for `Refl` the contravariant type parameter `T1`, following `T` in `View`. We can now clearly see that `Refl` needs to declare its own non-variant type parameter to correctly type `f`, and can remedy the error by the following change to `Refl`:

```
enum View[-T]:
-  case Refl(f: T => T)
+  case Refl[R](f: R => R) extends View[R]
```

Above, type `R` is chosen as the parameter for `Refl` to highlight that it has a different meaning to type `T` in `View`, but any name will do.

After some further changes, a more complete implementation of `View` can be given as follows and be used as the function type `T => U`:

```
enum View[-T, +U] extends (T => U):
  case Refl[R](f: R => R) extends View[R, R]

  final def apply(t: T): U = this match
    case refl: Refl[r] => refl.f(t)
```

3.2.2 Syntax of Enums

Changes to the syntax fall in two categories: enum definitions and cases inside enums. The changes are specified below as deltas with respect to the Scala syntax given [here](#)

1. Enum definitions are defined as follows:

```
TmplDef ::= `enum' EnumDef
EnumDef ::= id ClassConstr [`extends' [ConstrApps]] EnumBody
EnumBody ::= [nl] '{' [SelfType] EnumStat {semi EnumStat} '}'
EnumStat ::= TemplateStat
           | {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} EnumCase
```

2. Cases of enums are defined as follows:

```
EnumCase ::= `case' (id ClassConstr [`extends' ConstrApps]) | ids)
```

3.2.3 Reference

For more information, see [Issue #1970](#).

3.3 Translation of Enums and ADTs

The compiler expands enums and their cases to code that only uses Scala's other language features. As such, enums in Scala are convenient *syntactic sugar*, but they

are not essential to understand Scala's core.

We now explain the expansion of enums in detail. First, some terminology and notational conventions:

- We use **E** as a name of an enum, and **C** as a name of a case that appears in **E**.
- We use `<...>` for syntactic constructs that in some circumstances might be empty. For instance, `<value-params>` represents one or more parameter lists `(...)` or nothing at all.
- Enum cases fall into three categories:
 - *Class cases* are those cases that are parameterized, either with a type parameter section `[...]` or with one or more (possibly empty) parameter sections `(...)`.
 - *Simple cases* are cases of a non-generic enum that have neither parameters nor an extends clause or body. That is, they consist of a name only.
 - *Value cases* are all cases that do not have a parameter section but that do have a (possibly generated) `extends` clause and/or a body.

Simple cases and value cases are collectively called *singleton cases*.

The desugaring rules imply that class cases are mapped to case classes, and singleton cases are mapped to `val` definitions.

There are nine desugaring rules. Rule (1) desugars enum definitions. Rules (2) and (3) desugar simple cases. Rules (4) to (6) define `extends` clauses for cases that are missing them. Rules (7) to (9) define how such cases with `extends` clauses map into `case classes` or `vals`.

1. An `enum` definition

```
enum E ... { <defs> <cases> }
```

expands to a `sealed abstract class` that extends the `scala.reflect.Enum` trait and an associated companion object that contains the defined cases, expanded according to rules (2 - 8). The enum class starts with a compiler-generated import that imports the names `<caseIds>` of all cases so that they can be used without prefix in the class.

```
sealed abstract class E ... extends <parents> with scala.reflect.Enum {
  import E.{ <caseIds> }
  <defs>
}
object E { <cases> }
```

2. A simple case consisting of a comma-separated list of enum names

```
case C_1, ..., C_n
```

expands to

```
case C_1; ...; case C_n
```

Any modifiers or annotations on the original case extend to all expanded cases.

3. A simple case

case C

of an enum E that does not take type parameters expands to

val C = **\$new**(n, "C")

Here, **\$new** is a private method that creates an instance of E (see below).

4. If E is an enum with type parameters

$V_1 T_1 >: L_1 <: U_1, \dots, V_n T_n >: L_n <: U_n \quad (n > 0)$

where each of the variances V_i is either '+' or '-', then a simple case

case C

expands to

case C **extends** E[B₁, ..., B_n]

where B_i is L_i if $V_i = '+'$ and U_i if $V_i = '-'$. This result is then further rewritten with rule (8). Simple cases of enums with non-variant type parameters are not permitted (however value cases with explicit **extends** clause are)

5. A class case without an extends clause

case C <type-params> <value-params>

of an enum E that does not take type parameters expands to

case C <type-params> <value-params> **extends** E

This result is then further rewritten with rule (9).

6. If E is an enum with type parameters Ts, a class case with neither type parameters nor an extends clause

case C <value-params>

expands to

case C[Ts] <value-params> **extends** E[Ts]

This result is then further rewritten with rule (9). For class cases that have type parameters themselves, an extends clause needs to be given explicitly.

7. If E is an enum with type parameters Ts, a class case without type parameters but with an extends clause

case C <value-params> **extends** <parents>

expands to

case C[Ts] <value-params> **extends** <parents>

provided at least one of the parameters `Ts` is mentioned in a parameter type in `<value-params>` or in a type argument in `<parents>`.

8. A value case

```
case C extends <parents>
```

expands to a value definition in `E`'s companion object:

```
val C = new <parents> { <body>; def ordinal = n }
```

where `n` is the ordinal number of the case in the companion object, starting from 0. The anonymous class also implements the abstract `Product` methods that it inherits from `Enum`.

It is an error if a value case refers to a type parameter of the enclosing `enum` in a type argument of `<parents>`.

9. A class case

```
case C <params> extends <parents>
```

expands analogous to a final case class in `E`'s companion object:

```
final case class C <params> extends <parents>
```

The enum case defines an `ordinal` method of the form

```
def ordinal = n
```

where `n` is the ordinal number of the case in the companion object, starting from 0.

It is an error if a value case refers to a type parameter of the enclosing `enum` in a parameter type in `<params>` or in a type argument of `<parents>`, unless that parameter is already a type parameter of the case, i.e. the parameter name is defined in `<params>`.

The compiler-generated `apply` and `copy` methods of an enum case

```
case C(ps) extends P1, ..., Pn
```

are treated specially. A call `C(ts)` of the `apply` method is ascribed the underlying type `P1 & ... & Pn` (dropping any `transparent traits`) as long as that type is still compatible with the expected type at the point of application. A call `t.copy(ts)` of `C`'s `copy` method is treated in the same way.

3.3.1 Translation of Enums with Singleton Cases

An enum `E` (possibly generic) that defines one or more singleton cases will define the following additional synthetic members in its companion object (where `E'` denotes `E` with any type parameters replaced by wildcards):

- A method `valueOf(name: String): E'`. It returns the singleton case value whose identifier is `name`.

- A method `values` which returns an `Array[E]` of all singleton case values defined by `E`, in the order of their definitions.

If `E` contains at least one simple case, its companion object will define in addition:

- A private method `$new` which defines a new simple case value with given ordinal number and name. This method can be thought as being defined as follows.

```
private def $new(_$ordinal: Int, $name: String) =
  new E with runtime.EnumValue:
    def ordinal = _$ordinal
    override def productPrefix = $name // if not overridden in `E`
    override def toString = $name      // if not overridden in `E`
```

The anonymous class also implements the abstract `Product` methods that it inherits from `Enum`. The `ordinal` method is only generated if the enum does not extend from `java.lang.Enum` (as Scala enums do not extend `java.lang.Enums` unless explicitly specified). In case it does, there is no need to generate `ordinal` as `java.lang.Enum` defines it. Similarly there is no need to override `toString` as that is defined in terms of `name` in `java.lang.Enum`. Finally, `productPrefix` will call `this.name` when `E` extends `java.lang.Enum`.

3.3.2 Scopes for Enum Cases

A case in an `enum` is treated similarly to a secondary constructor. It can access neither the enclosing `enum` using `this`, nor its value parameters or instance members using simple identifiers.

Even though translated enum cases are located in the enum's companion object, referencing this object or its members via `this` or a simple identifier is also illegal. The compiler typechecks enum cases in the scope of the enclosing companion object but flags any such illegal accesses as errors.

3.3.3 Translation of Java-compatible enums

A Java-compatible enum is an enum that extends `java.lang.Enum`. The translation rules are the same as above, with the reservations defined in this section.

It is a compile-time error for a Java-compatible enum to have class cases.

Cases such as `case C` expand to a `@static val` as opposed to a `val`. This allows them to be generated as static fields of the enum type, thus ensuring they are represented the same way as Java enums.

3.3.4 Other Rules

- A normal case class which is not produced from an enum case is not allowed to extend `scala.reflect.Enum`. This ensures that the only cases of an enum are the ones that are explicitly declared in it.

- If an enum case has an **extends** clause, the enum class must be one of the classes that's extended.

4 Contextual Abstractions

4.1 Critique of the Status Quo

Scala’s implicits are its most distinguished feature. They are *the* fundamental way to abstract over context. They represent a unified paradigm with a great variety of use cases, among them: implementing type classes, establishing context, dependency injection, expressing capabilities, computing new types and proving relationships between them.

Following Haskell, Scala was the second popular language to have some form of implicits. Other languages have followed suit. E.g [Rust’s traits](#) or [Swift’s protocol extensions](#). Design proposals are also on the table for Kotlin as [compile time dependency resolution](#), for C# as [Shapes and Extensions](#) or for F# as [Traits](#). Implicits are also a common feature of theorem provers such as [Coq](#) or [Agda](#).

Even though these designs use widely different terminology, they are all variants of the core idea of *term inference*. Given a type, the compiler synthesizes a “canonical” term that has that type. Scala embodies the idea in a purer form than most other languages: An implicit parameter directly leads to an inferred argument term that could also be written down explicitly. By contrast, type class based designs are less direct since they hide term inference behind some form of type classification and do not offer the option of writing the inferred quantities (typically, dictionaries) explicitly.

Given that term inference is where the industry is heading, and given that Scala has it in a very pure form, how come implicits are not more popular? In fact, it’s fair to say that implicits are at the same time Scala’s most distinguished and most controversial feature. I believe this is due to a number of aspects that together make implicits harder to learn than necessary and also make it harder to prevent abuses.

Particular criticisms are:

1. Being very powerful, implicits are easily over-used and mis-used. This observation holds in almost all cases when we talk about *implicit conversions*, which, even though conceptually different, share the same syntax with other implicit definitions. For instance, regarding the two definitions

```
implicit def i1(implicit x: T): C[T] = ...
implicit def i2(x: T): C[T] = ...
```

the first of these is a conditional implicit *value*, the second an implicit *conversion*. Conditional implicit values are a cornerstone for expressing type classes, whereas most applications of implicit conversions have turned out to be of dubious value. The problem is that many newcomers to the language start with defining implicit conversions since they are easy to understand and seem powerful and convenient. Scala 3 will put under a language flag both definitions and applications of “undisciplined” implicit conversions between types defined elsewhere. This is a useful step to push back against overuse of implicit conversions. But the problem remains that syntactically, conversions and values just look too similar

for comfort.

2. Another widespread abuse is over-reliance on implicit imports. This often leads to inscrutable type errors that go away with the right import incantation, leaving a feeling of frustration. Conversely, it is hard to see what implicits a program uses since implicits can hide anywhere in a long list of imports.
3. The syntax of implicit definitions is too minimal. It consists of a single modifier, `implicit`, that can be attached to a large number of language constructs. A problem with this for newcomers is that it conveys mechanism instead of intent. For instance, a type class instance is an implicit object or `val` if unconditional and an implicit `def` with implicit parameters referring to some class if conditional. This describes precisely what the implicit definitions translate to – just drop the `implicit` modifier, and that’s it! But the cues that define intent are rather indirect and can be easily misread, as demonstrated by the definitions of `i1` and `i2` above.
4. The syntax of implicit parameters also has shortcomings. While implicit *parameters* are designated specifically, arguments are not. Passing an argument to an implicit parameter looks like a regular application `f(arg)`. This is problematic because it means there can be confusion regarding what parameter gets instantiated in a call. For instance, in

```
def currentMap(implicit ctx: Context): Map[String, Int]
```

one cannot write `currentMap("abc")` since the string `"abc"` is taken as explicit argument to the implicit `ctx` parameter. One has to write `currentMap.apply("abc")` instead, which is awkward and irregular. For the same reason, a method definition can only have one implicit parameter section and it must always come last. This restriction not only reduces orthogonality, but also prevents some useful program constructs, such as a method with a regular parameter whose type depends on an implicit value. Finally, it’s also a bit annoying that implicit parameters must have a name, even though in many cases that name is never referenced.

5. Implicits pose challenges for tooling. The set of available implicits depends on context, so command completion has to take context into account. This is feasible in an IDE but tools like [Scaladoc](#) that are based on static web pages can only provide an approximation. Another problem is that failed implicit searches often give very unspecific error messages, in particular if some deeply recursive implicit search has failed. Note that the Scala 3 compiler has already made a lot of progress in the error diagnostics area. If a recursive search fails some levels down, it shows what was constructed and what is missing. Also, it suggests imports that can bring missing implicits in scope.

None of the shortcomings is fatal, after all implicits are very widely used, and many libraries and applications rely on them. But together, they make code using implicits a lot more cumbersome and less clear than it could be.

Historically, many of these shortcomings come from the way implicits were gradually

“discovered” in Scala. Scala originally had only implicit conversions with the intended use case of “extending” a class or trait after it was defined, i.e. what is expressed by implicit classes in later versions of Scala. Implicit parameters and instance definitions came later in 2006 and we picked similar syntax since it seemed convenient. For the same reason, no effort was made to distinguish implicit imports or arguments from normal ones.

Existing Scala programmers by and large have gotten used to the status quo and see little need for change. But for newcomers this status quo presents a big hurdle. I believe if we want to overcome that hurdle, we should take a step back and allow ourselves to consider a radically new design.

4.2 The New Design

The following pages introduce a redesign of contextual abstractions in Scala. They introduce four fundamental changes:

1. **Given Instances** are a new way to define basic terms that can be synthesized. They replace implicit definitions. The core principle of the proposal is that, rather than mixing the `implicit` modifier with a large number of features, we have a single way to define terms that can be synthesized for types.
2. **Using Clauses** are a new syntax for implicit *parameters* and their *arguments*. It unambiguously aligns parameters and arguments, solving a number of language warts. It also allows us to have several `using` clauses in a definition.
3. **“Given” Imports** are a new class of import selectors that specifically import givens and nothing else.
4. **Implicit Conversions** are now expressed as given instances of a standard `Conversion` class. All other forms of implicit conversions will be phased out.

This section also contains pages describing other language features that are related to context abstraction. These are:

- **Context Bounds**, which carry over unchanged.
- **Extension Methods** replace implicit classes in a way that integrates better with type classes.
- **Implementing Type Classes** demonstrates how some common type classes can be implemented using the new constructs.
- **Type Class Derivation** introduces constructs to automatically derive type class instances for ADTs.
- **Multiversal Equality** introduces a special type class to support type safe equality.
- **Context Functions** provide a way to abstract over context parameters.
- **By-Name Context Parameters** are an essential tool to define recursive synthesized values without looping.
- **Relationship with Scala 2 Implicits** discusses the relationship between old-style implicits and new-style givens and how to migrate from one to the other.

Overall, the new design achieves a better separation of term inference from the rest of the language: There is a single way to define givens instead of a multitude of forms all taking an `implicit` modifier. There is a single way to introduce implicit parameters and arguments instead of conflating implicit with normal arguments. There is a separate way to import givens that does not allow them to hide in a sea of normal imports. And there is a single way to define an implicit conversion which is clearly marked as such and does not require special syntax.

This design thus avoids feature interactions and makes the language more consistent and orthogonal. It will make implicits easier to learn and harder to abuse. It will greatly improve the clarity of the 95% of Scala programs that use implicits. It has thus the potential to fulfil the promise of term inference in a principled way that is also accessible and friendly.

Could we achieve the same goals by tweaking existing implicits? After having tried for a long time, I believe now that this is impossible.

- First, some of the problems are clearly syntactic and require different syntax to solve them.
- Second, there is the problem how to migrate. We cannot change the rules in mid-flight. At some stage of language evolution we need to accommodate both the new and the old rules. With a syntax change, this is easy: Introduce the new syntax with new rules, support the old syntax for a while to facilitate cross compilation, deprecate and phase out the old syntax at some later time. Keeping the same syntax does not offer this path, and in fact does not seem to offer any viable path for evolution
- Third, even if we would somehow succeed with migration, we still have the problem how to teach this. We cannot make existing tutorials go away. Almost all existing tutorials start with implicit conversions, which will go away; they use normal imports, which will go away, and they explain calls to methods with implicit parameters by expanding them to plain applications, which will also go away. This means that we'd have to add modifications and qualifications to all existing literature and courseware, likely causing more confusion with beginners instead of less. By contrast, with a new syntax there is a clear criterion: Any book or courseware that mentions `implicit` is outdated and should be updated.

4.3 Given Instances

Given instances (or, simply, “givens”) define “canonical” values of certain types that serve for synthesizing arguments to `context parameters`. Example:

```
trait Ord[T]:
  def compare(x: T, y: T): Int
  extension (x: T)
    def < (y: T) = compare(x, y) < 0
    def > (y: T) = compare(x, y) > 0
```

```

given intOrd: Ord[Int] with
  def compare(x: Int, y: Int) =
    if x < y then -1 else if x > y then +1 else 0

given listOrd[T] (using ord: Ord[T]): Ord[List[T]] with

  def compare(xs: List[T], ys: List[T]): Int = (xs, ys) match
    case (Nil, Nil) => 0
    case (Nil, _) => -1
    case (_, Nil) => +1
    case (x :: xs1, y :: ys1) =>
      val fst = ord.compare(x, y)
      if fst != 0 then fst else compare(xs1, ys1)

```

This code defines a trait `Ord` with two given instances. `intOrd` defines a given for the type `Ord[Int]` whereas `listOrd[T]` defines givens for `Ord[List[T]]` for all types `T` that come with a given instance for `Ord[T]` themselves. The `using` clause in `listOrd` defines a condition: There must be a given of type `Ord[T]` for a given of type `Ord[List[T]]` to exist. Such conditions are expanded by the compiler to *context parameters*.

4.3.1 Anonymous Givens

The name of a given can be left out. So the definitions of the last section can also be expressed like this:

```

given Ord[Int] with
  ...
given [T] (using Ord[T]): Ord[List[T]] with
  ...

```

If the name of a given is missing, the compiler will synthesize a name from the implemented type(s).

Note: The name synthesized by the compiler is chosen to be readable and reasonably concise. For instance, the two instances above would get the names:

```

given_Ord_Int
given_Ord_List

```

The precise rules for synthesizing names are found [here](#). These rules do not guarantee absence of name conflicts between given instances of types that are “too similar”. To avoid conflicts one can use named instances.

Note: To ensure robust binary compatibility, publicly available libraries should prefer named instances.

4.3.2 Alias Givens

An alias can be used to define a given instance that is equal to some expression. Example:

```
given global: ExecutionContext = ForkJoinPool()
```

This creates a given `global` of type `ExecutionContext` that resolves to the right hand side `ForkJoinPool()`. The first time `global` is accessed, a new `ForkJoinPool` is created, which is then returned for this and all subsequent accesses to `global`. This operation is thread-safe.

Alias givens can be anonymous as well, e.g.

```
given Position = enclosingTree.position
given (using config: Config): Factory = MemoizingFactory(config)
```

An alias given can have type parameters and context parameters just like any other given, but it can only implement a single type.

4.3.3 Given Macros

Given aliases can have the `inline` and `transparent` modifiers. Example:

```
transparent inline given mkAnnotations[A, T]: Annotations[A, T] = ${
  // code producing a value of a subtype of Annotations
}
```

Since `mkAnnotations` is `transparent`, the type of an application is the type of its right-hand side, which can be a proper subtype of the declared result type `Annotations[A, T]`.

Given instances can have the `inline` but not `transparent` modifiers as their type is already known from the signature. Example:

```
trait Show[T] {
  inline def show(x: T): String
}
```

```
inline given Show[Foo] with {
  /*transparent*/ inline def show(x: Foo): String = ${ ... }
}
```

```
def app =
  // inlines `show` method call and removes the call to `given Show[Foo]`
  summon[Show[Foo]].show(foo)
```

Note that the inline methods within the given instances may be `transparent`.

The inlining of given instances will not inline/duplicate the implementation of the given, it will just inline the instantiation of that instance. This is used to help dead code elimination of the given instances that are not used after inlining.

4.3.4 Pattern-Bound Given Instances

Given instances can also appear in patterns. Example:

```
for given Context <- applicationContexts do

pair match
  case (ctx @ given Context, y) => ...
```

In the first fragment above, anonymous given instances for class `Context` are established by enumerating over `applicationContexts`. In the second fragment, a given `Context` instance named `ctx` is established by matching against the first half of the `pair` selector.

In each case, a pattern-bound given instance consists of `given` and a type `T`. The pattern matches exactly the same selectors as the type ascription pattern `_ : T`.

4.3.5 Negated Givens

Scala 2’s somewhat puzzling behavior with respect to ambiguity has been exploited to implement the analogue of a “negated” search in implicit resolution, where a query `Q1` fails if some other query `Q2` succeeds and `Q1` succeeds if `Q2` fails. With the new cleaned up behavior these techniques no longer work. But the new special type `scala.util.NotGiven` now implements negation directly.

For any query type `Q`, `NotGiven[Q]` succeeds if and only if the implicit search for `Q` fails, for example:

```
import scala.util.NotGiven

trait Tagged[A]

case class Foo[A](value: Boolean)
object Foo:
  given fooTagged[A](using Tagged[A]): Foo[A] = Foo(true)
  given fooNotTagged[A](using NotGiven[Tagged[A]]): Foo[A] = Foo(false)

@main def test(): Unit =
  given Tagged[Int]()
  assert(summon[Foo[Int]].value) // fooTagged is found
  assert(!summon[Foo[String]].value) // fooNotTagged is found
```

4.3.6 Given Instance Initialization

A given instance without type or context parameters is initialized on-demand, the first time it is accessed. If a given has type or context parameters, a fresh instance is created for each reference.

4.3.7 Syntax

Here is the syntax for given instances:

```

TplDef      ::= ...
              | 'given' GivenDef
GivenDef     ::= [GivenSig] StructuralInstance
              | [GivenSig] AnnotType '=' Expr
              | [GivenSig] AnnotType
GivenSig     ::= [id] [DefTypeParamClause] {UsingParamClause} ':'
StructuralInstance ::= ConstrApp {'with' ConstrApp} 'with' TemplateBody

```

A given instance starts with the reserved word `given` and an optional *signature*. The signature defines a name and/or parameters for the instance. It is followed by `:`. There are three kinds of given instances:

- A *structural instance* contains one or more types or constructor applications, followed by `with` and a template body that contains member definitions of the instance.
- An *alias instance* contains a type, followed by `=` and a right-hand side expression.
- An *abstract instance* contains just the type, which is not followed by anything.

4.4 Using Clauses

Functional programming tends to express most dependencies as simple function parameterization. This is clean and powerful, but it sometimes leads to functions that take many parameters where the same value is passed over and over again in long call chains to many functions. Context parameters can help here since they enable the compiler to synthesize repetitive arguments instead of the programmer having to write them explicitly.

For example, with the `given instances` defined previously, a `max` function that works for any arguments for which an ordering exists can be defined as follows:

```

def max[T](x: T, y: T)(using ord: Ord[T]): T =
  if ord.compare(x, y) < 0 then y else x

```

Here, `ord` is a *context parameter* introduced with a `using` clause. The `max` function can be applied as follows:

```
max(2, 3)(using intOrd)
```

The `(using intOrd)` part passes `intOrd` as an argument for the `ord` parameter. But the point of context parameters is that this argument can also be left out (and it usually is). So the following applications are equally valid:

```

max(2, 3)
max(List(1, 2, 3), Nil)

```

4.4.1 Anonymous Context Parameters

In many situations, the name of a context parameter need not be mentioned explicitly at all, since it is used only in synthesized arguments for other context parameters. In that case one can avoid defining a parameter name and just provide its type. Example:

```
def maximum[T](xs: List[T])(using Ord[T]): T =
  xs.reduceLeft(max)
```

`maximum` takes a context parameter of type `Ord[T]` only to pass it on as an inferred argument to `max`. The name of the parameter is left out.

Generally, context parameters may be defined either as a full parameter list (`p_1: T_1, ..., p_n: T_n`) or just as a sequence of types `T_1, ..., T_n`. Vararg parameters are not supported in `using` clauses.

4.4.2 Class Context Parameters

To make a class context parameter visible from outside the class body, it can be made into a member by adding a `val` or `var` modifier.

```
class GivenIntBox(using val usingParameter: Int):
  def myInt = summon[Int]
```

```
val b = GivenIntBox(using 23)
import b.usingParameter
summon[Int] // 23
```

This is preferable to creating an explicit `given` member, as the latter creates ambiguity inside the class body:

```
class GivenIntBox2(using usingParameter: Int):
  given givenMember: Int = usingParameter
  def n = summon[Int] // ambiguous given instances: both usingParameter and givenMember
```

From the outside of `GivenIntBox`, `usingParameter` appears as if it were defined in the class as `given usingParameter: Int`, in particular it must be imported as described in the section on [importing givens](#).

```
val b = GivenIntBox(using 23)
// Works:
import b.given
summon[Int] // 23
usingParameter // 23
```

```
// Fails:
import b.*
summon[Int] // No given instance found
usingParameter // Not found
```

4.4.3 Inferring Complex Arguments

Here are two other methods that have a context parameter of type `Ord[T]`:

```
def descending[T](using asc: Ord[T]): Ord[T] = new Ord[T]:
  def compare(x: T, y: T) = asc.compare(y, x)

def minimum[T](xs: List[T])(using Ord[T]) =
  maximum(xs)(using descending)
```

The `minimum` method's right-hand side passes `descending` as an explicit argument to `maximum(xs)`. With this setup, the following calls are all well-formed, and they all normalize to the last one:

```
minimum(xs)
maximum(xs)(using descending)
maximum(xs)(using descending(using intOrd))
```

4.4.4 Multiple using Clauses

There can be several `using` clauses in a definition and `using` clauses can be freely mixed with normal parameter clauses. Example:

```
def f(u: Universe)(using ctx: u.Context)(using s: ctx.Symbol, k: ctx.Kind) = ...
```

Multiple `using` clauses are matched left-to-right in applications. Example:

```
object global extends Universe { type Context = ... }
given ctx : global.Context with { type Symbol = ...; type Kind = ... }
given sym : ctx.Symbol
given kind: ctx.Kind
```

Then the following calls are all valid (and normalize to the last one)

```
f(global)
f(global)(using ctx)
f(global)(using ctx)(using sym, kind)
```

But `f(global)(using sym, kind)` would give a type error.

4.4.5 Summoning Instances

The method `summon` in `Predef` returns the given of a specific type. For example, the given instance for `Ord[List[Int]]` is produced by

```
summon[Ord[List[Int]]] // reduces to listOrd(using intOrd)
```

The `summon` method is simply defined as the (non-widening) identity function over a context parameter.

```
def summon[T](using x: T): x.type = x
```


4.4.6 Syntax

Here is the new syntax of parameters and arguments seen as a delta from the **standard context free syntax of Scala 3**. **using** is a soft keyword, recognized only at the start of a parameter or argument list. It can be used as a normal identifier everywhere else.

```
ClsParamClause      ::= ... | UsingClsParamClause
DefParamClause      ::= ... | UsingParamClause
UsingClsParamClause ::= '(' 'using' (ClsParams | Types) ')'
UsingParamClause    ::= '(' 'using' (DefTermParams | Types) ')'
ParArgumentExprs    ::= ... | '(' 'using' ExprsInParens ')'
```

4.5 Context Bounds

A context bound is a shorthand for expressing the common pattern of a context parameter that depends on a type parameter. Using a context bound, the **maximum** function of the last section can be written like this:

```
def maximum[T: Ord](xs: List[T]): T = xs.reduceLeft(max)
```

A bound like `: Ord` on a type parameter `T` of a method or class indicates a context parameter `using Ord[T]`. The context parameter(s) generated from context bounds are added as follows:

- If the method parameters end in an implicit parameter list or using clause, context parameters are added in front of that list.
- Otherwise they are added as a separate parameter clause at the end.

Example:

```
def f[T: C1 : C2, U: C3](x: T)(using y: U, z: V): R
```

would expand to

```
def f[T, U](x: T)(using _: C1[T], _: C2[T], _: C3[U], y: U, z: V): R
```

Context bounds can be combined with subtype bounds. If both are present, subtype bounds come first, e.g.

```
def g[T <: B : C](x: T): R = ...
```

4.5.1 Migration

To ease migration, context bounds in Dotty map in Scala 3.0 to old-style implicit parameters for which arguments can be passed either with a `(using ...)` clause or with a normal application. From Scala 3.1 on, they will map to context parameters instead, as is described above.

If the source version is **future-migration**, any pairing of an evidence context parameter stemming from a context bound with a normal argument will give a migration warning. The warning indicates that a `(using ...)` clause is needed instead. The rewrite can be done automatically under `-rewrite`.

4.5.2 Syntax

```
TypeParamBounds ::= [SubtypeBounds] {ContextBound}
ContextBound    ::= ':' Type
```

4.6 Importing Givens

A special form of import wildcard selector is used to import given instances. Example:

```
object A:
  class TC
  given tc: TC = ???
  def f(using TC) = ???

object B:
  import A.*
  import A.given
  ...
```

In the code above, the `import A.*` clause in object B imports all members of A *except* the given instance `tc`. Conversely, the second import `import A.given` will import *only* that given instance. The two import clauses can also be merged into one:

```
object B:
  import A.{given, *}
  ...
```

Generally, a normal wildcard selector `*` brings all definitions other than givens or extensions into scope whereas a `given` selector brings all givens (including those resulting from extensions) into scope.

There are two main benefits arising from these rules:

- It is made clearer where givens in scope are coming from. In particular, it is not possible to hide imported givens in a long list of regular wildcard imports.
- It enables importing all givens without importing anything else. This is particularly important since givens can be anonymous, so the usual recourse of using named imports is not practical.

4.6.1 Importing By Type

Since givens can be anonymous it is not always practical to import them by their name, and wildcard imports are typically used instead. By-type imports provide a more specific alternative to wildcard imports, which makes it clearer what is imported. Example:

```
import A.given TC
```

This imports any given in A that has a type which conforms to TC. Importing givens of several types `T1, ..., Tn` is expressed by multiple `given` selectors.

```
import A.{given T1, ..., given Tn}
```

Importing all given instances of a parameterized type is expressed by wildcard arguments. For instance, assuming the object

```
object Instances:
  given intOrd: Ordering[Int] = ...
  given listOrd[T: Ordering]: Ordering[List[T]] = ...
  given ec: ExecutionContext = ...
  given im: Monoid[Int] = ...
```

the import clause

```
import Instances.{given Ordering[?], given ExecutionContext}
```

would import the `intOrd`, `listOrd`, and `ec` instances but leave out the `im` instance, since it fits none of the specified bounds.

By-type imports can be mixed with by-name imports. If both are present in an import clause, by-type imports come last. For instance, the import clause

```
import Instances.{im, given Ordering[?]}
```

would import `im`, `intOrd`, and `listOrd` but leave out `ec`.

4.6.2 Migration

The rules for imports stated above have the consequence that a library would have to migrate in lockstep with all its users from old style implicits and normal imports to givens and given imports.

The following modifications avoid this hurdle to migration.

1. A `given` import selector also brings old style implicits into scope. So, in Scala 3.0 an old-style implicit definition can be brought into scope either by a `*` or a `given` wildcard selector.
2. In Scala 3.1, old-style implicits accessed through a `*` wildcard import will give a deprecation warning.
3. In some version after 3.1, old-style implicits accessed through a `*` wildcard import will give a compiler error.

These rules mean that library users can use `given` selectors to access old-style implicits in Scala 3.0, and will be gently nudged and then forced to do so in later versions. Libraries can then switch to given instances once their user base has migrated.

4.6.3 Syntax

```
Import      ::= 'import' ImportExpr {',' ImportExpr}
Export      ::= 'export' ImportExpr {',' ImportExpr}
ImportExpr  ::= SimpleRef {'.' id} '.' ImportSpec
ImportSpec  ::= NamedSelector
              | WildcardSelector
```

```

      | '{' ImportSelectors '}'
NamedSelector ::= id ['as' (id | '_')]
WildcardSelector ::= '*' | 'given' [InfixType]
ImportSelectors ::= NamedSelector [',' ImportSelectors]
                  | WildCardSelector {' ',' WildCardSelector}

```

4.7 Extension Methods

Extension methods allow one to add methods to a type after the type is defined. Example:

```

case class Circle(x: Double, y: Double, radius: Double)

extension (c: Circle)
  def circumference: Double = c.radius * math.Pi * 2

```

Like regular methods, extension methods can be invoked with infix `::`

```

val circle = Circle(0, 0, 1)
circle.circumference

```

4.7.1 Translation of Extension Methods

An extension method translates to a specially labelled method that takes the leading parameter section as its first argument list. The label, expressed as `<extension>` here, is compiler-internal. So, the definition of `circumference` above translates to the following method, and can also be invoked as such:

```

<extension> def circumference(c: Circle): Double = c.radius * math.Pi * 2

assert(circle.circumference == circumference(circle))

```

4.7.2 Operators

The extension method syntax can also be used to define operators. Examples:

```

extension (x: String)
  def < (y: String): Boolean = ...
extension (x: Elem)
  def +: (xs: Seq[Elem]): Seq[Elem] = ...
extension (x: Number)
  infix def min (y: Number): Number = ...

"ab" < "c"
1 +: List(2, 3)
x min 3

```

The three definitions above translate to

```

<extension> def < (x: String)(y: String): Boolean = ...

```

```
<extension> def +: (xs: Seq[Elem])(x: Elem): Seq[Elem] = ...
<extension> infix def min(x: Number)(y: Number): Number = ...
```

Note the swap of the two parameters `x` and `xs` when translating the right-associative operator `+:` to an extension method. This is analogous to the implementation of right binding operators as normal methods. The Scala compiler preprocesses an infix operation `x +: xs` to `xs.+: (x)`, so the extension method ends up being applied to the sequence as first argument (in other words, the two swaps cancel each other out). See [here](#) for details.

4.7.3 Generic Extensions

It is also possible to extend generic types by adding type parameters to an extension. For instance:

```
extension [T] (xs: List[T])
  def second = xs.tail.head

extension [T: Numeric] (x: T)
  def + (y: T): T = summon[Numeric[T]].plus(x, y)
```

Type parameters on extensions can also be combined with type parameters on the methods themselves:

```
extension [T] (xs: List[T])
  def sumBy[U: Numeric] (f: T => U): U = ...
```

Type arguments matching method type parameters are passed as usual:

```
List("a", "bb", "ccc").sumBy[Int](_.length)
```

By contrast, type arguments matching type parameters following `extension` can be passed only if the method is referenced as a non-extension method:

```
sumBy[String](List("a", "bb", "ccc"))(_.length)
```

Or, when passing both type arguments:

```
sumBy[String](List("a", "bb", "ccc"))[Int](_.length)
```

Extensions can also take using clauses. For instance, the `+` extension above could equivalently be written with a using clause:

```
extension [T] (x: T) (using n: Numeric[T])
  def + (y: T): T = n.plus(x, y)
```

4.7.4 Collective Extensions

Sometimes, one wants to define several extension methods that share the same left-hand parameter type. In this case one can “pull out” the common parameters into a single extension and enclose all methods in braces or an indented region. Example:

```

extension (ss: Seq[String])

  def longestStrings: Seq[String] =
    val maxLength = ss.map(_.length).max
    ss.filter(_.length == maxLength)

  def longestString: String = longestStrings.head

```

The same can be written with braces as follows (note that indented regions can still be used inside braces):

```

extension (ss: Seq[String]) {

  def longestStrings: Seq[String] = {
    val maxLength = ss.map(_.length).max
    ss.filter(_.length == maxLength)
  }

  def longestString: String = longestStrings.head
}

```

Note the right-hand side of `longestString`: it calls `longestStrings` directly, implicitly assuming the common extended value `ss` as receiver.

Collective extensions like these are a shorthand for individual extensions where each method is defined separately. For instance, the first extension above expands to:

```

extension (ss: Seq[String])
  def longestStrings: Seq[String] =
    val maxLength = ss.map(_.length).max
    ss.filter(_.length == maxLength)

extension (ss: Seq[String])
  def longestString: String = ss.longestStrings.head

```

Collective extensions also can take type parameters and have using clauses. Example:

```

extension [T] (xs: List[T]) (using Ordering[T])
  def smallest(n: Int): List[T] = xs.sorted.take(n)
  def smallestIndices(n: Int): List[Int] =
    val limit = smallest(n).max
    xs.zipWithIndex.collect { case (x, i) if x <= limit => i }

```

4.7.5 Translation of Calls to Extension Methods

To convert a reference to an extension method, the compiler has to know about the extension method. We say in this case that the extension method is *applicable* at the point of reference. There are four possible ways for an extension method to be applicable:

1. The extension method is visible under a simple name, by being defined or inherited or imported in a scope enclosing the reference.
2. The extension method is a member of some given instance that is visible at the point of the reference.
3. The reference is of the form `r.m` and the extension method is defined in the implicit scope of the type of `r`.
4. The reference is of the form `r.m` and the extension method is defined in some given instance in the implicit scope of the type of `r`.

Here is an example for the first rule:

```
trait IntOps:
  extension (i: Int) def isZero: Boolean = i == 0

  extension (i: Int) def safeMod(x: Int): Option[Int] =
    // extension method defined in same scope IntOps
    if x.isZero then None
    else Some(i % x)

object IntOpsEx extends IntOps:
  extension (i: Int) def safeDiv(x: Int): Option[Int] =
    // extension method brought into scope via inheritance from IntOps
    if x.isZero then None
    else Some(i / x)

trait SafeDiv:
  import IntOpsEx.* // brings safeDiv and safeMod into scope

  extension (i: Int) def divide(d: Int): Option[(Int, Int)] =
    // extension methods imported and thus in scope
    (i.safeDiv(d), i.safeMod(d)) match
      case (Some(d), Some(r)) => Some((d, r))
      case _ => None
```

By the second rule, an extension method can be made available by defining a given instance containing it, like this:

```
given ops1: IntOps() // brings safeMod into scope

1.safeMod(2)
```

By the third and fourth rule, an extension method is available if it is in the implicit scope of the receiver type or in a given instance in that scope. Example:

```
class List[T]:
  ...
object List:
  ...
  extension [T] (xs: List[List[T]])
```

```

def flatten: List[T] = xs.foldLeft(List.empty[T])(_ ++ _)

given [T: Ordering]: Ordering[List[T]] with
  extension (xs: List[T])
    def < (ys: List[T]): Boolean = ...
end List

// extension method available since it is in the implicit scope
// of List[List[Int]]
List(List(1, 2), List(3, 4)).flatten

// extension method available since it is in the given Ordering[List[T]],
// which is itself in the implicit scope of List[Int]
List(1, 2) < List(3)

```

The precise rules for resolving a selection to an extension method are as follows.

Assume a selection $e.m[Ts]$ where m is not a member of e , where the type arguments $[Ts]$ are optional, and where T is the expected type. The following two rewritings are tried in order:

1. The selection is rewritten to $m[Ts](e)$.
2. If the first rewriting does not typecheck with expected type T , and there is an extension method m in some eligible object o , the selection is rewritten to $o.m[Ts](e)$. An object o is *eligible* if
 - o forms part of the implicit scope of T , or
 - o is a given instance that is visible at the point of the application, or
 - o is a given instance in the implicit scope of T .

This second rewriting is attempted at the time where the compiler also tries an implicit conversion from T to a type containing m . If there is more than one way of rewriting, an ambiguity error results.

An extension method can also be referenced using a simple identifier without a preceding expression. If an identifier g appears in the body of an extension method f and refers to an extension method g that is defined in the same collective extension

```

extension (x: T)
  def f ... = ... g ...
  def g ...

```

the identifier is rewritten to $x.g$. This is also the case if f and g are the same method. Example:

```

extension (s: String)
  def position(ch: Char, n: Int): Int =
    if n < s.length && s(n) != ch then position(ch, n + 1)
    else n

```


The recursive call `position(ch, n + 1)` expands to `s.position(ch, n + 1)` in this case. The whole extension method rewrites to

```
def position(s: String)(ch: Char, n: Int): Int =
  if n < s.length && s(n) != ch then position(s)(ch, n + 1)
  else n
```

4.7.6 Syntax

Here are the syntax changes for extension methods and collective extensions relative to the **current syntax**.

```
BlockStat      ::= ... | Extension
TemplateStat   ::= ... | Extension
TopStat        ::= ... | Extension
Extension      ::= 'extension' [DefTypeParamClause] {UsingParamClause}
                  '(' DefParam ')' {UsingParamClause} ExtMethods
ExtMethods     ::= ExtMethod | [nl] <<< ExtMethod {semi ExtMethod} >>>
ExtMethod      ::= {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} 'def' DefDef
```

In the above the notation `<<< ts >>>` in the production rule `ExtMethods` is defined as follows :

```
<<< ts >>>      ::= '{' ts '}' | indent ts outdent
```

extension is a soft keyword. It is recognized as a keyword only if it appears at the start of a statement and is followed by `[` or `(`. In all other cases it is treated as an identifier.

4.8 Right-Associative Extension Methods

The most general signature an extension method can have is as follows: - An optional type clause `leftTyParams` - A possibly empty list of using clauses `leadingUsing` - A single parameter `leftParam` (in an explicit term clause) - A possibly empty list of using clauses `trailingUsing` - A name (preceded by the `def` keyword) - An optional type clause `rightTyParams` - An optional single parameter `rightParam` (in an explicit term clause) - Any number of any clauses `rest`

For example:

```
extension [T]                                // <-- leftTyParams
  (using a: A, b: B)(using c: C)             // <-- leadingUsing
  (x: X)                                       // <-- leftParam
  (using d: D)                                // <-- trailingUsing
def +:: [U]                                   // <-- rightTyParams
  (y: Y)                                       // <-- rightParam
  (using e: E)(z: Z)                         // <-- rest
```

An extension method is treated as a right-associative operator (as in [SLS §6.12.3](#)) if it has a name ending in `:`, and is immediately followed by a single explicit term

parameter (in other words, `rightParam` is present). In the example above, that parameter is `(y: Y)`.

The Scala compiler pre-processes a right-associative infix operation such as `x +: xs` to `xs.+: (x)` if `x` is a pure expression or a call-by-name parameter and to `val y = x; xs.+: (y)` otherwise. This is necessary since a regular right-associative infix method is defined in the class of its right operand. To make up for this swap, the expansion of right-associative extension methods performs the inverse parameter swap. More precisely, if `rightParam` is present, the total parameter sequence of the extension method's expansion is:

`leftTyParams leadingUsing rightTyParams rightParam leftParam trailingUsing`

In other words, we swap `leftParams trailingUsing` with `rightTyParam rightParam`.

For instance, the `+::` method above would become

```
<extension> def +:: [T]
    (using a: A, b: B)(using c: C)
    [U]
    (y: Y)
    (x: X)
    (using d: D)
    (using e: E)(z: Z)
```

This expansion has to be kept in mind when writing right-associative extension methods with inter-parameter dependencies.

An overall simpler design could be obtained if right-associative operators could *only* be defined as extension methods, and would be disallowed as normal methods. In that case neither arguments nor parameters would have to be swapped. Future versions of Scala should strive to achieve this simplification.

4.9 Implementing Type classes

A *type class* is an abstract, parameterized type that lets you add new behavior to any closed data type without using sub-typing. This can be useful in multiple use-cases, for example:

- expressing how a type you don't own (from the standard or 3rd-party library) conforms to such behavior
- expressing such a behavior for multiple types without involving sub-typing relationships (one `extends` another) between those types (see: [ad hoc polymorphism](#) for instance)

Therefore in Scala 3, *type classes* are just *traits* with one or more parameters whose implementations are not defined through the `extends` keyword, but by **given instances**. Here are some examples of common type classes:

4.9.1 Semigroups and monoids

Here's the Monoid type class definition:

```
trait SemiGroup[T]:  
  extension (x: T) def combine (y: T): T  
  
trait Monoid[T] extends SemiGroup[T]:  
  def unit: T
```

An implementation of this Monoid type class for the type `String` can be the following:

```
given Monoid[String] with  
  extension (x: String) def combine (y: String): String = x.concat(y)  
  def unit: String = ""
```

Whereas for the type `Int` one could write the following:

```
given Monoid[Int] with  
  extension (x: Int) def combine (y: Int): Int = x + y  
  def unit: Int = 0
```

This monoid can now be used as *context bound* in the following `combineAll` method:

```
def combineAll[T: Monoid](xs: List[T]): T =  
  xs.foldLeft(summon[Monoid[T]].unit)(_._combine(_))
```

To get rid of the `summon[...]` we can define a Monoid object as follows:

```
object Monoid:  
  def apply[T](using m: Monoid[T]) = m
```

Which would allow to re-write the `combineAll` method this way:

```
def combineAll[T: Monoid](xs: List[T]): T =  
  xs.foldLeft(Monoid[T].unit)(_._combine(_))
```

4.9.2 Functors

A **Functor** for a type provides the ability for its values to be “mapped over”, i.e. apply a function that transforms inside a value while remembering its shape. For example, to modify every element of a collection without dropping or adding elements. We can represent all types that can be “mapped over” with `F`. It's a type constructor: the type of its values becomes concrete when provided a type argument. Therefore we write it `F[_]`, hinting that the type `F` takes another type as argument. The definition of a generic **Functor** would thus be written as:

```
trait Functor[F[_]]:  
  def map[A, B](x: F[A], f: A => B): F[B]
```

Which could read as follows: “A **Functor** for the type constructor `F[_]` represents the ability to transform `F[A]` to `F[B]` through the application of function `f` with type `A => B`”. We call the **Functor** definition here a *type class*. This way, we could define an instance of **Functor** for the `List` type:

```
given Functor[List] with
  def map[A, B](x: List[A], f: A => B): List[B] =
    x.map(f) // List already has a `map` method
```

With this `given` instance in scope, everywhere a type with a `Functor` context bound is expected, the compiler will accept a `List` to be used.

For instance, we may write such a testing method:

```
def assertTransformation[F[_]: Functor, A, B](expected: F[B], original: F[A], mapping: A => B) =
  assert(expected == summon[Functor[F]].map(original, mapping))
```

And use it this way, for example:

```
assertTransformation(List("a1", "b1"), List("a", "b"), elt => s"${elt}1")
```

That's a first step, but in practice we probably would like the `map` function to be a method directly accessible on the type `F`. So that we can call `map` directly on instances of `F`, and get rid of the `summon[Functor[F]]` part. As in the previous example of Monoids, `extension methods` help achieving that. Let's re-define the `Functor` type class with extension methods.

```
trait Functor[F[_]]:
  extension [A](x: F[A])
    def map[B](f: A => B): F[B]
```

The instance of `Functor` for `List` now becomes:

```
given Functor[List] with
  extension [A](xs: List[A])
    def map[B](f: A => B): List[B] =
      xs.map(f) // List already has a `map` method
```

It simplifies the `assertTransformation` method:

```
def assertTransformation[F[_]: Functor, A, B](expected: F[B], original: F[A], mapping: A => B) =
  assert(expected == original.map(mapping))
```

The `map` method is now directly used on `original`. It is available as an extension method since `original`'s type is `F[A]` and a given instance for `Functor[F[A]]` which defines `map` is in scope.

4.9.3 Monads

Applying `map` in `Functor[List]` to a mapping function of type `A => B` results in a `List[B]`. So applying it to a mapping function of type `A => List[B]` results in a `List[List[B]]`. To avoid managing lists of lists, we may want to “flatten” the values in a single list.

That's where `Monad` comes in. A `Monad` for type `F[_]` is a `Functor[F]` with two more operations:

- `flatMap`, which turns an `F[A]` into an `F[B]` when given a function of type `A => F[B]`,

- `pure`, which creates an `F[A]` from a single value `A`.

Here is the translation of this definition in Scala 3:

```
trait Monad[F[_]] extends Functor[F]:

  /** The unit value for a monad */
  def pure[A](x: A): F[A]

  extension [A](x: F[A])
    /** The fundamental composition operation */
    def flatMap[B](f: A => F[B]): F[B]

    /** The `map` operation can now be defined in terms of `flatMap` */
    def map[B](f: A => B) = x.flatMap(f.andThen(pure))

end Monad
```

4.9.3.1 List A `List` can be turned into a monad via this given instance:

```
given listMonad: Monad[List] with
  def pure[A](x: A): List[A] =
    List(x)
  extension [A](xs: List[A])
    def flatMap[B](f: A => List[B]): List[B] =
      xs.flatMap(f) // rely on the existing `flatMap` method of `List`
```

Since `Monad` is a subtype of `Functor`, `List` is also a functor. The `Functor`'s `map` operation is already provided by the `Monad` trait, so the instance does not need to define it explicitly.

4.9.3.2 Option `Option` is an other type having the same kind of behaviour:

```
given optionMonad: Monad[Option] with
  def pure[A](x: A): Option[A] =
    Option(x)
  extension [A](xo: Option[A])
    def flatMap[B](f: A => Option[B]): Option[B] = xo match
      case Some(x) => f(x)
      case None => None
```

4.9.3.3 Reader Another example of a `Monad` is the *Reader* Monad, which acts on functions instead of data types like `List` or `Option`. It can be used to combine multiple functions that all need the same parameter. For instance multiple functions needing access to some configuration, context, environment variables, etc.

Let's define a `Config` type, and two functions using it:

```

trait Config
// ...
def compute(i: Int)(config: Config): String = ???
def show(str: String)(config: Config): Unit = ???

```

We may want to combine `compute` and `show` into a single function, accepting a `Config` as parameter, and showing the result of the computation, and we'd like to use a monad to avoid passing the parameter explicitly multiple times. So postulating the right `flatMap` operation, we could write:

```

def computeAndShow(i: Int): Config => Unit = compute(i).flatMap(show)

```

instead of

```

show(compute(i)(config))(config)

```

Let's define this `flatMap` then. First, we are going to define a type named `ConfigDependent` representing a function that when passed a `Config` produces a `Result`.

```

type ConfigDependent[Result] = Config => Result

```

The monad instance will look like this:

```

given configDependentMonad: Monad[ConfigDependent] with

  def pure[A](x: A): ConfigDependent[A] =
    config => x

  extension [A](x: ConfigDependent[A])
    def flatMap[B](f: A => ConfigDependent[B]): ConfigDependent[B] =
      config => f(x(config))(config)

end configDependentMonad

```

The type `ConfigDependent` can be written using `type lambdas`:

```

type ConfigDependent = [Result] =>> Config => Result

```

Using this syntax would turn the previous `configDependentMonad` into:

```

given configDependentMonad: Monad[[Result] =>> Config => Result] with

  def pure[A](x: A): Config => A =
    config => x

  extension [A](x: Config => A)
    def flatMap[B](f: A => Config => B): Config => B =
      config => f(x(config))(config)

end configDependentMonad

```

It is likely that we would like to use this pattern with other kinds of environments than our `Config` trait. The Reader monad allows us to abstract away `Config` as a type *parameter*, named `Ctx` in the following definition:

```
given readerMonad[Ctx]: Monad[[X] =>> Ctx => X] with

  def pure[A](x: A): Ctx => A =
    ctx => x

  extension [A](x: Ctx => A)
    def flatMap[B](f: A => Ctx => B): Ctx => B =
      ctx => f(x(ctx))(ctx)

end readerMonad
```

4.9.4 Summary

The definition of a *type class* is expressed with a parameterised type with abstract members, such as a `trait`. The main difference between subtype polymorphism and ad-hoc polymorphism with *type classes* is how the definition of the *type class* is implemented, in relation to the type it acts upon. In the case of a *type class*, its implementation for a concrete type is expressed through a `given` instance definition, which is supplied as an implicit argument alongside the value it acts upon. With subtype polymorphism, the implementation is mixed into the parents of a class, and only a single term is required to perform a polymorphic operation. The type class solution takes more effort to set up, but is more extensible: Adding a new interface to a class requires changing the source code of that class. But contrast, instances for type classes can be defined anywhere.

To conclude, we have seen that traits and given instances, combined with other constructs like extension methods, context bounds and type lambdas allow a concise and natural expression of *type classes*.

4.10 Type Class Derivation

Type class derivation is a way to automatically generate given instances for type classes which satisfy some simple conditions. A type class in this sense is any trait or class with a single type parameter determining the type being operated on, and the special case `CanEqual`. Common examples are `Eq`, `Ordering`, or `Show`. For example, given the following `Tree` algebraic data type (ADT):

```
enum Tree[T] derives Eq, Ordering, Show:
  case Branch(left: Tree[T], right: Tree[T])
  case Leaf(elem: T)
```

The `derives` clause generates the following given instances for the `Eq`, `Ordering` and `Show` type classes in the companion object of `Tree`:

```
given [T: Eq] : Eq[Tree[T]] = Eq.derived
```

```
given [T: Ordering] : Ordering[Tree[T]] = Ordering.derived
given [T: Show]      : Show[Tree[T]]    = Show.derived
```

We say that `Tree` is the *deriving type* and that the `Eq`, `Ordering` and `Show` instances are *derived instances*.

Note: `derived` can be used manually, this is useful when you do not have control over the definition. For example we can implement `Ordering` for `Options` like so:

```
given [T: Ordering]: Ordering[Option[T]] = Ordering.derived
```

It is discouraged to directly refer to the `derived` member if you can use a `derives` clause instead.

All data types can have a `derives` clause. This document focuses primarily on data types which also have a given instance of the `Mirror` type class available.

4.10.1 Exact mechanism

In the following, when type arguments are enumerated and the first index evaluates to a larger value than the last, then there are actually no arguments, for example: `A[T_2, ..., T_1]` means `A`.

For a class/trait/object/enum `DerivingType[T_1, ..., T_N]` `derives TC`, a derived instance is created in `DerivingType`'s companion object (or `DerivingType` itself if it is an object).

The general “shape” of the derived instance is as follows:

```
given [...](using ...): TC[ ... DerivingType[...] ... ] = TC.derived
```

`TC.derived` should be an expression that conforms to the expected type on the left, potentially elaborated using term and/or type inference.

Note: `TC.derived` is a normal access, therefore if there are multiple definitions of `TC.derived`, overloading resolution applies.

What the derived instance precisely looks like depends on the specifics of `DerivingType` and `TC`, we first examine `TC`:

4.10.1.1 TC takes 1 parameter F Therefore `TC` is defined as `TC[F[A_1, ..., A_K]]` (`TC[F]` if `K == 0`) for some `F`. There are two further cases depending on the kinds of arguments:

4.10.1.1.1 F and all arguments of DerivingType have kind * **Note:** `K == 0` in this case.

The generated instance is then:

```
given [T_1: TC, ..., T_N: TC]: TC[DerivingType[T_1, ..., T_N]] = TC.derived
```

This is the most common case, and is the one that was highlighted in the introduction.

Note: The `[T_i: TC, ...]` introduces a (using `TC[T_i], ...`), more information in **Context Bounds**. This allows the `derived` member to access these evidences.

Note: If `N == 0` the above means:

```
given TC[DerivingType] = TC.derived
```

For example, the class

```
case class Point(x: Int, y: Int) derives Ordering
```

generates the instance

```
object Point:
  ...
  given Ordering[Point] = Ordering.derived
```

4.10.1.1.2 F and DerivingType have parameters of matching kind on the right This section covers cases where you can pair arguments of `F` and `DerivingType` starting from the right such that they have the same kinds pairwise, and all arguments of `F` or `DerivingType` (or both) are used up. `F` must also have at least one parameter.

The general shape will then be:

```
given [...]: TC[ [...] ==> DerivingType[...] ] = TC.derived
```

Where of course `TC` and `DerivingType` are applied to types of the correct kind.

To make this work, we split it into 3 cases:

If `F` and `DerivingType` take the same number of arguments (`N == K`):

```
given TC[DerivingType] = TC.derived
// simplified form of:
given TC[ [A_1, ..., A_K] ==> DerivingType[A_1, ..., A_K] ] = TC.derived
```

If `DerivingType` takes less arguments than `F` (`N < K`), we use only the rightmost parameters from the type lambda:

```
given TC[ [A_1, ..., A_K] ==> DerivingType[A_(K-N+1), ..., A_K] ] = TC.derived
```

// if DerivingType takes no arguments (N == 0), the above simplifies to:

```
given TC[ [A_1, ..., A_K] ==> DerivingType ] = TC.derived
```

If `F` takes less arguments than `DerivingType` (`K < N`), we fill in the remaining leftmost slots with type parameters of the given:

```
given [T_1, ... T_(N-K)]: TC[[A_1, ..., A_K] ==> DerivingType[T_1, ... T_(N-K), A_1, ... A_K]] = TC.derived
```

4.10.1.2 TC is the CanEqual type class We have therefore: `DerivingType[T_1, ..., T_N]` derives `CanEqual`.

Let U_1, \dots, U_M be the parameters of `DerivingType` of kind `*`. (These are a subset of the `T_is`)

The generated instance is then:

```
given [T_1L, T_1R, ..., T_NL, T_NR] // every parameter of T_is
  (using CanEqual[U_1L, U_1R], ..., CanEqual[U_ML, U_MR]): // only parameters of T_is
    CanEqual[DerivingType[T_1L, ..., T_NL], DerivingType[T_1R, ..., T_NR]] = //
      CanEqual.derived
```

The bounds of `T_is` are handled correctly, for example: `T_2 <: T_1` becomes `T_2L <: T_1L`.

For example, the class

```
class MyClass[A, G[_]](a: A, b: G[B]) derives CanEqual
```

generates the following given instance:

```
object MyClass:
  ...
  given [A_L, A_R, G_L[_], G_R[_]](using CanEqual[A_L, A_R]): CanEqual[MyClass[A_L, G_L[_]], MyClass[A_R, G_R[_]]] = CanEqual.derived
```

4.10.1.3 TC is not valid for automatic derivation Throw an error.

The exact error depends on which of the above conditions failed. As an example, if TC takes more than 1 parameter and is not `CanEqual`, the error is `DerivingType cannot be unified with the type argument of TC`.

All data types can have a `derives` clause. The rest of this document focuses primarily on data types which also have a given instance of the `Mirror` type class available.

4.10.2 Mirror

`scala.deriving.Mirror` type class instances provide information at the type level about the components and labelling of the type. They also provide minimal term level infrastructure to allow higher level libraries to provide comprehensive derivation support.

Instances of the `Mirror` type class are generated automatically by the compiler unconditionally for: - enums and enum cases, - case objects.

Instances for `Mirror` are also generated conditionally for: - case classes where the constructor is visible at the callsite (always true if the companion is not a case object) - sealed classes and sealed traits where: - there exists at least one child case, - each child case is reachable from the parent's definition, - if the sealed trait/class has no companion, then each child case is reachable from the callsite through the prefix of the type being mirrored, - and where the compiler can generate a `Mirror` type class instance for each child case.

The `scala.deriving.Mirror` type class definition is as follows:

```

sealed trait Mirror:

  /** the type being mirrored */
  type MirroredType

  /** the type of the elements of the mirrored type */
  type MirroredElemTypes

  /** The mirrored *-type */
  type MirroredMonoType

  /** The name of the type */
  type MirroredLabel <: String

  /** The names of the elements of the type */
  type MirroredElemLabels <: Tuple

object Mirror:

  /** The Mirror for a product type */
  trait Product extends Mirror:

    /** Create a new instance of type `T` with elements
     *  taken from product `p`.
     */
    def fromProduct(p: scala.Product): MirroredMonoType

  trait Sum extends Mirror:

    /** The ordinal number of the case class of `x`.
     *  For enums, `ordinal(x) == x.ordinal`
     */
    def ordinal(x: MirroredMonoType): Int

end Mirror

```

Product types (i.e. case classes and objects, and enum cases) have mirrors which are subtypes of `Mirror.Product`. Sum types (i.e. sealed class or traits with product children, and enums) have mirrors which are subtypes of `Mirror.Sum`.

For the `Tree` ADT from above the following `Mirror` instances will be automatically provided by the compiler,

```

// Mirror for Tree
new Mirror.Sum:
  type MirroredType = Tree
  type MirroredElemTypes[T] = (Branch[T], Leaf[T])
  type MirroredMonoType = Tree[_]

```

```

type MirroredLabel = "Tree"
type MirroredElemLabels = ("Branch", "Leaf")

def ordinal(x: MirroredMonoType): Int = x match
  case _: Branch[_] => 0
  case _: Leaf[_] => 1

// Mirror for Branch
new Mirror.Product:
  type MirroredType = Branch
  type MirroredElemTypes[T] = (Tree[T], Tree[T])
  type MirroredMonoType = Branch[_]
  type MirroredLabel = "Branch"
  type MirroredElemLabels = ("left", "right")

  def fromProduct(p: Product): MirroredMonoType =
    new Branch(...)

// Mirror for Leaf
new Mirror.Product:
  type MirroredType = Leaf
  type MirroredElemTypes[T] = Tuple1[T]
  type MirroredMonoType = Leaf[_]
  type MirroredLabel = "Leaf"
  type MirroredElemLabels = Tuple1["elem"]

  def fromProduct(p: Product): MirroredMonoType =
    new Leaf(...)

```

If a Mirror cannot be generated automatically for a given type, an error will appear explaining why it is neither a supported sum type nor a product type. For example, if A is a trait that is not sealed,

```

No given instance of type deriving.Mirror.Of[A] was found for parameter x of method
  * trait A is not a generic product because it is not a case class
  * trait A is not a generic sum because it is not a sealed trait

```

Note the following properties of Mirror types,

- Properties are encoded using types rather than terms. This means that they have no runtime footprint unless used and also that they are a compile time feature for use with Scala 3's metaprogramming facilities.
- There is no restriction against the mirrored type being a local or inner class.
- The kinds of `MirroredType` and `MirroredElemTypes` match the kind of the data type the mirror is an instance for. This allows `Mirrors` to support ADTs of all kinds.
- There is no distinct representation type for sums or products (ie. there is no `HList` or `Coproduct` type as in Scala 2 versions of Shapeless). Instead the

collection of child types of a data type is represented by an ordinary, possibly parameterized, tuple type. Scala 3’s metaprogramming facilities can be used to work with these tuple types as-is, and higher level libraries can be built on top of them.

- For both product and sum types, the elements of `MirroredElemTypes` are arranged in definition order (i.e. `Branch[T]` precedes `Leaf[T]` in `MirroredElemTypes` for `Tree` because `Branch` is defined before `Leaf` in the source file). This means that `Mirror.Sum` differs in this respect from Shapeless’s generic representation for ADTs in Scala 2, where the constructors are ordered alphabetically by name.
- The methods `ordinal` and `fromProduct` are defined in terms of `MirroredMonoType` which is the type of kind-`*` which is obtained from `MirroredType` by wildcarding its type parameters.

4.10.3 Implementing derived with Mirror

As seen before, the signature and implementation of a `derived` method for a type class `TC[_]` are arbitrary, but we expect it to typically be of the following form:

```
import scala.deriving.Mirror

inline def derived[T](using Mirror.Of[T]): TC[T] = ...
```

That is, the `derived` method takes a context parameter of (some subtype of) type `Mirror` which defines the shape of the deriving type `T`, and computes the type class implementation according to that shape. This is all that the provider of an ADT with a `derives` clause has to know about the derivation of a type class instance.

Note that `derived` methods may have context `Mirror` parameters indirectly (e.g. by having a context argument which in turn has a context `Mirror` parameter, or not at all (e.g. they might use some completely different user-provided mechanism, for instance using Scala 3 macros or runtime reflection). We expect that (direct or indirect) `Mirror` based implementations will be the most common and that is what this document emphasises.

Type class authors will most likely use higher level derivation or generic programming libraries to implement `derived` methods. An example of how a `derived` method might be implemented using *only* the low level facilities described above and Scala 3’s general metaprogramming features is provided below. It is not anticipated that type class authors would normally implement a `derived` method in this way, however this walkthrough can be taken as a guide for authors of the higher level derivation libraries that we expect typical type class authors will use (for a fully worked out example of such a library, see [Shapeless 3](#)).

4.10.4 How to write a type class derived method using low level mechanisms

The low-level method we will use to implement a type class `derived` method in this example exploits three new type-level constructs in Scala 3: inline methods,

inline matches, and implicit searches via `summonInline` or `summonFrom`. Given this definition of the `Eq` type class,

```
trait Eq[T]:
  def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean
```

we need to implement a method `Eq.derived` on the companion object of `Eq` that produces a given instance for `Eq[T]` given a `Mirror[T]`. Here is a possible implementation,

```
import scala.deriving.Mirror

inline given derived[T](using m: Mirror.Of[T]): Eq[T] =
  val elemInstances = summonAll[m.MirroredElemTypes]           // (1)
  inline m match                                              // (2)
    case s: Mirror.SumOf[T] => eqSum(s, elemInstances)
    case p: Mirror.ProductOf[T] => eqProduct(p, elemInstances)
```

Note that `derived` is defined as an `inline given`. This means that the method will be expanded at call sites (for instance the compiler generated instance definitions in the companion objects of ADTs which have a `derived Eq` clause), and also that it can be used recursively if necessary, to compute instances for children.

The body of this method (1) first materializes the `Eq` instances for all the child types of type the instance is being derived for. This is either all the branches of a sum type or all the fields of a product type. The implementation of `summonAll` is `inline` and uses Scala 3's `summonInline` construct to collect the instances as a `List`,

```
inline def summonAll[T <: Tuple]: List[Eq[_]] =
  inline erasedValue[T] match
    case _: EmptyTuple => Nil
    case _: (t *: ts) => summonInline[Eq[t]] :: summonAll[ts]
```

with the instances for children in hand the `derived` method uses an `inline match` to dispatch to methods which can construct instances for either sums or products (2). Note that because `derived` is `inline` the match will be resolved at compile-time and only the left-hand side of the matching case will be inlined into the generated code with types refined as revealed by the match.

In the sum case, `eqSum`, we use the runtime `ordinal` values of the arguments to `eqv` to first check if the two values are of the same subtype of the ADT (3) and then, if they are, to further test for equality based on the `Eq` instance for the appropriate ADT subtype using the auxiliary method `check` (4).

```
import scala.deriving.Mirror

def eqSum[T](s: Mirror.SumOf[T], elems: List[Eq[_]]): Eq[T] =
  new Eq[T]:
    def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean =
      val ordx = s.ordinal(x)           // (3)
      (s.ordinal(y) == ordx) && check(elems(ordx))(x, y) // (4)
```

In the product case, `eqProduct` we test the runtime values of the arguments to `eqv` for equality as products based on the `Eq` instances for the fields of the data type (5),

```
import scala.deriving.Mirror

def eqProduct[T](p: Mirror.ProductOf[T], elems: List[Eq[_]]): Eq[T] =
  new Eq[T]:
    def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean =
      iterator(x).zip(iterator(y)).zip(elems.iterator).forall { // (5)
        case ((x, y), elem) => check(elem)(x, y)
      }
```

Pulling this all together we have the following complete implementation,

```
import scala.deriving.*
import scala.compiletime.{erasedValue, summonInline}

inline def summonAll[T <: Tuple]: List[Eq[_]] =
  inline erasedValue[T] match
    case _: EmptyTuple => Nil
    case _: (t *: ts) => summonInline[Eq[t]] :: summonAll[ts]

trait Eq[T]:
  def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean

object Eq:
  given Eq[Int] with
    def eqv(x: Int, y: Int) = x == y

  def check(elem: Eq[_])(x: Any, y: Any): Boolean =
    elem.asInstanceOf[Eq[Any]].eqv(x, y)

  def iterator[T](p: T) = p.asInstanceOf[Product].productIterator

  def eqSum[T](s: Mirror.SumOf[T], elems: => List[Eq[_]]): Eq[T] =
    new Eq[T]:
      def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean =
        val ordx = s.ordinal(x)
        (s.ordinal(y) == ordx) && check(elems(ordx))(x, y)

  def eqProduct[T](p: Mirror.ProductOf[T], elems: => List[Eq[_]]): Eq[T] =
    new Eq[T]:
      def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean =
        iterator(x).zip(iterator(y)).zip(elems.iterator).forall {
          case ((x, y), elem) => check(elem)(x, y)
        }

  inline given derived[T](using m: Mirror.Of[T]): Eq[T] =
```

```

    lazy val elemInstances = summonAll[m.MirroredElemTypes]
    inline m match
      case s: Mirror.SumOf[T]      => eqSum(s, elemInstances)
      case p: Mirror.ProductOf[T] => eqProduct(p, elemInstances)
  end Eq

```

we can test this relative to a simple ADT like so,

```

enum Opt[+T] derives Eq:
  case Sm(t: T)
  case Nn

@main def test(): Unit =
  import Opt.*
  val eqoi = summon[Eq[Opt[Int]]]
  assert(eqoi.eqv(Sm(23), Sm(23)))
  assert(!eqoi.eqv(Sm(23), Sm(13)))
  assert(!eqoi.eqv(Sm(23), Nn))

```

In this case the code that is generated by the inline expansion for the derived Eq instance for Opt looks like the following, after a little polishing,

```

given derived$Eq[T] (using eqT: Eq[T]): Eq[Opt[T]] =
  eqSum(
    summon[Mirror[Opt[T]]],
    List(
      eqProduct(summon[Mirror[Sm[T]]], List(summon[Eq[T]])),
      eqProduct(summon[Mirror[Nn.type]], Nil)
    )
  )

```

Alternative approaches can be taken to the way that `derived` methods can be defined. For example, more aggressively inlined variants using Scala 3 macros, whilst being more involved for type class authors to write than the example above, can produce code for type classes like Eq which eliminate all the abstraction artefacts (eg. the Lists of child instances in the above) and generate code which is indistinguishable from what a programmer might write by hand. As a third example, using a higher level library such as Shapeless the type class author could define an equivalent derived method as,

```

given eqSum[A] (using inst: => K0.CoproductInstances[Eq, A]): Eq[A] with
  def eqv(x: A, y: A): Boolean = inst.fold2(x, y)(false)(
    [t] => (eqt: Eq[t], t0: t, t1: t) => eqt.eqv(t0, t1)
  )

given eqProduct[A] (using inst: K0.ProductInstances[Eq, A]): Eq[A] with
  def eqv(x: A, y: A): Boolean = inst.foldLeft2(x, y)(true: Boolean)(
    [t] => (acc: Boolean, eqt: Eq[t], t0: t, t1: t) =>
      Complete(!eqt.eqv(t0, t1))(false)(true)
  )

```


)

```
inline def derived[A](using gen: K0.Generic[A]): Eq[A] =
  gen.derive(eqProduct, eqSum)
```

The framework described here enables all three of these approaches without mandating any of them.

For a brief discussion on how to use macros to write a type class `derived` method please read more at [How to write a type class `derived` method using macros](#).

4.10.5 Syntax

```
Template      ::= InheritClauses [TemplateBody]
EnumDef       ::= id ClassConstr InheritClauses EnumBody
InheritClauses ::= ['extends' ConstrApps] ['derives' QualId {',' QualId}]
ConstrApps    ::= ConstrApp {'with' ConstrApp}
               | ConstrApp {',' ConstrApp}
```

Note: To align `extends` clauses and `derives` clauses, Scala 3 also allows multiple extended types to be separated by commas. So the following is now legal:

```
class A extends B, C { ... }
```

It is equivalent to the old form

```
class A extends B with C { ... }
```

4.10.6 Discussion

This type class derivation framework is intentionally very small and low-level. There are essentially two pieces of infrastructure in compiler-generated `Mirror` instances,

- type members encoding properties of the mirrored types.
- a minimal value level mechanism for working generically with terms of the mirrored types.

The `Mirror` infrastructure can be seen as an extension of the existing `Product` infrastructure for case classes: typically `Mirror` types will be implemented by the ADTs companion object, hence the type members and the `ordinal` or `fromProduct` methods will be members of that object. The primary motivation for this design decision, and the decision to encode properties via types rather than terms was to keep the bytecode and runtime footprint of the feature small enough to make it possible to provide `Mirror` instances *unconditionally*.

Whilst `Mirrors` encode properties precisely via type members, the value level `ordinal` and `fromProduct` are somewhat weakly typed (because they are defined in terms of `MirroredMonoType`) just like the members of `Product`. This means that code for generic type classes has to ensure that type exploration and value selection proceed in lockstep and it has to assert this conformance in some places using casts. If generic type classes are correctly written these casts will never fail.

As mentioned, however, the compiler-provided mechanism is intentionally very low level and it is anticipated that higher level type class derivation and generic programming libraries will build on this and Scala 3's other metaprogramming facilities to hide these low-level details from type class authors and general users. Type class derivation in the style of both Shapeless and Magnolia are possible (a prototype of Shapeless 3, which combines aspects of both Shapeless 2 and Magnolia has been developed alongside this language feature) as is a more aggressively inlined style, supported by Scala 3's new quote/splice macro and inlining facilities.

4.11 How to write a type class derived method using macros

In the main [derivation](#) documentation page, we explained the details behind `Mirrors` and type class derivation. Here we demonstrate how to implement a type class `derived` method using macros only. We follow the same example of deriving `Eq` instances and for simplicity we support a `Product` type e.g., a case class `Person`. The low-level method we will use to implement the `derived` method exploits quotes, splices of both expressions and types and the `scala.quoted.Expr.summon` method which is the equivalent of `summonFrom`. The former is suitable for use in a quote context, used within macros.

As in the original code, the type class definition is the same:

```
trait Eq[T]:
  def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean
```

we need to implement a method `Eq.derived` on the companion object of `Eq` that produces a quoted instance for `Eq[T]`. Here is a possible signature,

```
given derived[T: Type](using Quotes): Expr[Eq[T]]
```

and for comparison reasons we give the same signature we had with `inline`:

```
inline given derived[T](using Mirror.Of[T]): Eq[T] = ???
```

Note, that since a type is used in a subsequent stage it will need to be lifted to a `Type` by using the corresponding context bound. Also, note that we can summon the quoted `Mirror` inside the body of the `derived` thus we can omit it from the signature. The body of the `derived` method is shown below:

```
given derived[T: Type](using Quotes): Expr[Eq[T]] =
  import quotes.reflect.*

  val ev: Expr[Mirror.Of[T]] = Expr.summon[Mirror.Of[T]].get

  ev match
    case '{ $m: Mirror.ProductOf[T] { type MirroredElemTypes = elementTypes }} =>
      val elemInstances = summonAll[elementTypes]
      def eqProductBody(x: Expr[Product], y: Expr[Product])(using Quotes): Expr[Boolean] =
        elemInstances.zipWithIndex.foldLeft(Expr(true)) {
```

```

    case (acc, ('{ $elem: Eq[t] }, index)) =>
      val indexExpr = Expr(index)
      val e1 = '{ $x.productElement($indexExpr).asInstanceOf[t] }
      val e2 = '{ $y.productElement($indexExpr).asInstanceOf[t] }
      '{ $acc && $elem.eqv($e1, $e2) }
  }
}
' { eqProduct((x: T, y: T) => ${eqProductBody('x.asExprOf[Product], 'y.asExprOf[Product])})

// case for Mirror.ProductOf[T]
// ...

```

Note, that in the `inline` case we can merely write `summonAll[m.MirroredElemTypes]` inside the inline method but here, since `Expr.summon` is required, we can extract the element types in a macro fashion. Being inside a macro, our first reaction would be to write the code below. Since the path inside the type argument is not stable this cannot be used:

```

' {
  summonAll[$m.MirroredElemTypes]
}

```

Instead we extract the tuple-type for element types using pattern matching over quotes and more specifically of the refined type:

```

case '{ $m: Mirror.ProductOf[T] { type MirroredElemTypes = elementTypes }} => ..

```

Shown below is the implementation of `summonAll` as a macro. We assume that given instances for our primitive types exist.

```

def summonAll[T: Type](using Quotes): List[Expr[Eq[_]]] =
  Type.of[T] match
    case '[String *: tpes] => '{ summon[Eq[String]] } :: summonAll[tpes]
    case '[Int *: tpes]    => '{ summon[Eq[Int]] }      :: summonAll[tpes]
    case '[tpe *: tpes]    => derived[tpe] :: summonAll[tpes]
    case '[EmptyTuple]    => Nil

```

One additional difference with the body of `derived` here as opposed to the one with `inline` is that with macros we need to synthesize the body of the code during the macro-expansion time. That is the rationale behind the `eqProductBody` function. Assuming that we calculate the equality of two `Persons` defined with a case class that holds a name of type `String` and an age of type `Int`, the equality check we want to generate is the following:

```

true
&& Eq[String].eqv(x.productElement(0), y.productElement(0))
&& Eq[Int].eqv(x.productElement(1), y.productElement(1))

```

4.11.1 Calling the derived method inside the macro

Following the rules in [Macros](#) we create two methods. One that hosts the top-level splice `eqv` and one that is the implementation. Alternatively and what is shown below is that we can call the `eqv` method directly. The `eqGen` can trigger the derivation.

```
extension [T] (inline x: T)
  inline def === (inline y: T) (using eq: Eq[T]): Boolean = eq.eqv(x, y)

inline given eqGen[T]: Eq[T] = ${ Eq.derived[T] }
```

Note, that we use inline method syntax and we can compare instance such as `Sm(Person("Test", 23)) === Sm(Person("Test", 24))` for e.g., the following two types:

```
case class Person(name: String, age: Int)

enum Opt[+T]:
  case Sm(t: T)
  case Nn
```

The full code is shown below:

```
import scala.deriving.*
import scala.quoted.*

trait Eq[T]:
  def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean

object Eq:
  given Eq[String] with
    def eqv(x: String, y: String) = x == y

  given Eq[Int] with
    def eqv(x: Int, y: Int) = x == y

  def eqProduct[T] (body: (T, T) => Boolean): Eq[T] =
    new Eq[T]:
      def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean = body(x, y)

  def eqSum[T] (body: (T, T) => Boolean): Eq[T] =
    new Eq[T]:
      def eqv(x: T, y: T): Boolean = body(x, y)

  def summonAll[T: Type] (using Quotes): List[Expr[Eq[_]]] =
    Type.of[T] match
      case '[String *: tpes] => '{ summon[Eq[String]] } :: summonAll[tpes]
      case '[Int *: tpes]    => '{ summon[Eq[Int]] }      :: summonAll[tpes]
```

```

    case '[tpe *: tpes]    => derived[tpe] :: summonAll[tpes]
    case '[EmptyTuple]    => Nil

given derived[T: Type](using q: Quotes): Expr[Eq[T]] =
  import quotes.reflect.*

  val ev: Expr[Mirror.Of[T]] = Expr.summon[Mirror.Of[T]].get

  ev match
    case '{ $m: Mirror.ProductOf[T] { type MirroredElemTypes = elementTypes }}
      val elemInstances = summonAll[elementTypes]
      val eqProductBody: (Expr[T], Expr[T]) => Expr[Boolean] = (x, y) =>
        elemInstances.zipWithIndex.foldLeft(Expr(true: Boolean)) {
          case (acc, (elem, index)) =>
            val e1 = '{$x.asInstanceOf[Product].productElement({Expr(index)})}
            val e2 = '{$y.asInstanceOf[Product].productElement({Expr(index)})}

            '{$acc && $elem.asInstanceOf[Eq[Any]].eqv($e1, $e2) }
        }
      '{ eqProduct((x: T, y: T) => ${eqProductBody('x, 'y)}) }

    case '{ $m: Mirror.SumOf[T] { type MirroredElemTypes = elementTypes }} =>
      val elemInstances = summonAll[elementTypes]
      val eqSumBody: (Expr[T], Expr[T]) => Expr[Boolean] = (x, y) =>
        val ordx = '{$m.ordinal($x) }
        val ordy = '{$m.ordinal($y) }

        val elements = Expr.ofList(elemInstances)
        '{$ordx == $ordy && $elements($ordx).asInstanceOf[Eq[Any]].eqv($x,
          '{$eqSum((x: T, y: T) => ${eqSumBody('x, 'y)}) }
      end derived
  end Eq

object Macro3:
  extension [T](inline x: T)
    inline def === (inline y: T)(using eq: Eq[T]): Boolean = eq.eqv(x, y)

  inline given eqGen[T]: Eq[T] = ${ Eq.derived[T] }

```

4.12 Multiversal Equality

Previously, Scala had universal equality: Two values of any types could be compared with each other with `==` and `!=`. This came from the fact that `==` and `!=` are implemented in terms of Java's `equals` method, which can also compare values of any two reference types.

Universal equality is convenient. But it is also dangerous since it undermines type safety. For instance, let's assume one is left after some refactoring with an erroneous program where a value `y` has type `S` instead of the correct type `T`.

```
val x = ... // of type T
val y = ... // of type S, but should be T
x == y      // typechecks, will always yield false
```

If `y` gets compared to other values of type `T`, the program will still typecheck, since values of all types can be compared with each other. But it will probably give unexpected results and fail at runtime.

Multiversal equality is an opt-in way to make universal equality safer. It uses a binary type class `scala.CanEqual` to indicate that values of two given types can be compared with each other. The example above would not typecheck if `S` or `T` was a class that derives `CanEqual`, e.g.

```
class T derives CanEqual
```

Normally a `derives clause` accepts only type classes with one parameter, however there is a special case for `CanEqual`.

Alternatively, one can also provide a `CanEqual` given instance directly, like this:

```
given CanEqual[T, T] = CanEqual.derived
```

This definition effectively says that values of type `T` can (only) be compared to other values of type `T` when using `==` or `!=`. The definition affects type checking but it has no significance for runtime behavior, since `==` always maps to `equals` and `!=` always maps to the negation of `equals`. The right-hand side `CanEqual.derived` of the definition is a value that has any `CanEqual` instance as its type. Here is the definition of class `CanEqual` and its companion object:

```
package scala
import annotation.implicitNotFound

@implicitNotFound("Values of types ${L} and ${R} cannot be compared with == or !=")
sealed trait CanEqual[-L, -R]

object CanEqual:
  object derived extends CanEqual[Any, Any]
```

One can have several `CanEqual` given instances for a type. For example, the four definitions below make values of type `A` and type `B` comparable with each other, but not comparable to anything else:

```
given CanEqual[A, A] = CanEqual.derived
given CanEqual[B, B] = CanEqual.derived
given CanEqual[A, B] = CanEqual.derived
given CanEqual[B, A] = CanEqual.derived
```

The `scala.CanEqual` object defines a number of `CanEqual` given instances that

together define a rule book for what standard types can be compared (more details below).

There is also a “fallback” instance named `canEqualAny` that allows comparisons over all types that do not themselves have a `CanEqual` given. `canEqualAny` is defined as follows:

```
def canEqualAny[L, R]: CanEqual[L, R] = CanEqual.derived
```

Even though `canEqualAny` is not declared as `given`, the compiler will still construct a `canEqualAny` instance as answer to an implicit search for the type `CanEqual[L, R]`, unless `L` or `R` have `CanEqual` instances defined on them, or the language feature `strictEquality` is enabled.

The primary motivation for having `canEqualAny` is backwards compatibility. If this is of no concern, one can disable `canEqualAny` by enabling the language feature `strictEquality`. As for all language features this can be either done with an import

```
import scala.language.strictEquality
```

or with a command line option `-language:strictEquality`.

4.12.1 Deriving CanEqual Instances

Instead of defining `CanEqual` instances directly, it is often more convenient to derive them. Example:

```
class Box[T](x: T) derives CanEqual
```

By the usual rules of `type class derivation`, this generates the following `CanEqual` instance in the companion object of `Box`:

```
given [T, U](using CanEqual[T, U]): CanEqual[Box[T], Box[U]] =  
  CanEqual.derived
```

That is, two boxes are comparable with `==` or `!=` if their elements are. Examples:

```
new Box(1) == new Box(1L)    // ok since there is an instance for `CanEqual[Int, Long]`  
new Box(1) == new Box("a")  // error: can't compare  
new Box(1) == 1              // error: can't compare
```

4.12.2 Precise Rules for Equality Checking

The precise rules for equality checking are as follows.

If the `strictEquality` feature is enabled then a comparison using `x == y` or `x != y` between values `x: T` and `y: U` is legal if there is a `given` of type `CanEqual[T, U]`.

In the default case where the `strictEquality` feature is not enabled the comparison is also legal if

1. `T` and `U` are the same, or
2. one of `T`, `U` is a subtype of the *lifted* version of the other type, or
3. neither `T` nor `U` have a *reflexive* `CanEqual` instance.

Explanations:

- *lifting* a type `S` means replacing all references to abstract types in covariant positions of `S` by their upper bound, and replacing all refinement types in covariant positions of `S` by their parent.
- a type `T` has a *reflexive* `CanEqual` instance if the implicit search for `CanEqual[T, T]` succeeds.

4.12.3 Predefined CanEqual Instances

The `CanEqual` object defines instances for comparing - the primitive types `Byte`, `Short`, `Char`, `Int`, `Long`, `Float`, `Double`, `Boolean`, and `Unit`, - `java.lang.Number`, `java.lang.Boolean`, and `java.lang.Character`, - `scala.collection.Seq`, and `scala.collection.Set`.

Instances are defined so that every one of these types has a *reflexive* `CanEqual` instance, and the following holds:

- Primitive numeric types can be compared with each other.
- Primitive numeric types can be compared with subtypes of `java.lang.Number` (and *vice versa*).
- `Boolean` can be compared with `java.lang.Boolean` (and *vice versa*).
- `Char` can be compared with `java.lang.Character` (and *vice versa*).
- Two sequences (arbitrary subtypes of `scala.collection.Seq`) can be compared with each other if their element types can be compared. The two sequence types need not be the same.
- Two sets (arbitrary subtypes of `scala.collection.Set`) can be compared with each other if their element types can be compared. The two set types need not be the same.
- Any subtype of `AnyRef` can be compared with `Null` (and *vice versa*).

4.12.4 Why Two Type Parameters?

One particular feature of the `CanEqual` type is that it takes *two* type parameters, representing the types of the two items to be compared. By contrast, conventional implementations of an equality type class take only a single type parameter which represents the common type of *both* operands. One type parameter is simpler than two, so why go through the additional complication? The reason has to do with the fact that, rather than coming up with a type class where no operation existed before, we are dealing with a refinement of pre-existing, universal equality. It is best illustrated through an example.

Say you want to come up with a safe version of the `contains` method on `List[T]`. The original definition of `contains` in the standard library was:

```
class List[+T]:
  ...
  def contains(x: Any): Boolean
```


That uses universal equality in an unsafe way since it permits arguments of any type to be compared with the list's elements. The “obvious” alternative definition

```
def contains(x: T): Boolean
```

does not work, since it refers to the covariant parameter `T` in a nonvariant context. The only variance-correct way to use the type parameter `T` in `contains` is as a lower bound:

```
def contains[U >: T](x: U): Boolean
```

This generic version of `contains` is the one used in the current (Scala 2.13) version of `List`. It looks different but it admits exactly the same applications as the `contains(x: Any)` definition we started with. However, we can make it more useful (i.e. restrictive) by adding a `CanEqual` parameter:

```
def contains[U >: T](x: U)(using CanEqual[T, U]): Boolean // (1)
```

This version of `contains` is equality-safe! More precisely, given `x: T`, `xs: List[T]` and `y: U`, then `xs.contains(y)` is type-correct if and only if `x == y` is type-correct.

Unfortunately, the crucial ability to “lift” equality type checking from simple equality and pattern matching to arbitrary user-defined operations gets lost if we restrict ourselves to an equality class with a single type parameter. Consider the following signature of `contains` with a hypothetical `CanEqual1[T]` type class:

```
def contains[U >: T](x: U)(using CanEqual1[U]): Boolean // (2)
```

This version could be applied just as widely as the original `contains(x: Any)` method, since the `CanEqual1[Any]` fallback is always available! So we have gained nothing. What got lost in the transition to a single parameter type class was the original rule that `CanEqual[A, B]` is available only if neither `A` nor `B` have a reflexive `CanEqual` instance. That rule simply cannot be expressed if there is a single type parameter for `CanEqual`.

The situation is different under `-language:strictEquality`. In that case, the `CanEqual[Any, Any]` or `CanEqual1[Any]` instances would never be available, and the single and two-parameter versions would indeed coincide for most practical purposes.

But assuming `-language:strictEquality` immediately and everywhere poses migration problems which might well be unsurmountable. Consider again `contains`, which is in the standard library. Parameterizing it with the `CanEqual` type class as in (1) is an immediate win since it rules out non-sensical applications while still allowing all sensible ones. So it can be done almost at any time, modulo binary compatibility concerns. On the other hand, parameterizing `contains` with `CanEqual1` as in (2) would make `contains` unusable for all types that have not yet declared a `CanEqual1` instance, including all types coming from Java. This is clearly unacceptable. It would lead to a situation where, rather than migrating existing libraries to use safe equality, the only upgrade path is to have parallel libraries, with the new version only catering to types deriving `CanEqual1` and the old version dealing with everything

else. Such a split of the ecosystem would be very problematic, which means the cure is likely to be worse than the disease.

For these reasons, it looks like a two-parameter type class is the only way forward because it can take the existing ecosystem where it is and migrate it towards a future where more and more code uses safe equality.

In applications where `-language:strictEquality` is the default one could also introduce a one-parameter type alias such as

```
type Eq[-T] = CanEqual[T, T]
```

Operations needing safe equality could then use this alias instead of the two-parameter `CanEqual` class. But it would only work under `-language:strictEquality`, since otherwise the universal `Eq[Any]` instance would be available everywhere.

More on multiversal equality is found in a [blog post](#) and a [GitHub issue](#).

4.13 Context Functions

Context functions are functions with (only) context parameters. Their types are *context function types*. Here is an example of a context function type:

```
type Executable[T] = ExecutionContext ?=> T
```

Context functions are written using `?=>` as the “arrow” sign. They are applied to synthesized arguments, in the same way methods with context parameters are applied. For instance:

```
given ec: ExecutionContext = ...

def f(x: Int): ExecutionContext ?=> Int = ...

// could be written as follows with the type alias from above
// def f(x: Int): Executable[Int] = ...

f(2)(using ec)    // explicit argument
f(2)              // argument is inferred
```

Conversely, if the expected type of an expression `E` is a context function type `(T1, ..., Tn) ?=> U` and `E` is not already an context function literal, `E` is converted to a context function literal by rewriting it to

```
(x1: T1, ..., xn: Tn) ?=> E
```

where the names `x1`, ..., `xn` are arbitrary. This expansion is performed before the expression `E` is typechecked, which means that `x1`, ..., `xn` are available as givens in `E`.

Like their types, context function literals are written using `?=>` as the arrow between parameters and results. They differ from normal function literals in that their types are context function types.

For example, continuing with the previous definitions,

```
def g(arg: Executable[Int]) = ...

g(22)      // is expanded to g((ev: ExecutionContext) => 22)

g(f(2))    // is expanded to g((ev: ExecutionContext) => f(2)(using ev))

g((ctx: ExecutionContext) => f(3)) // is expanded to g((ctx: ExecutionContext)
g((ctx: ExecutionContext) => f(3)(using ctx)) // is left as it is
```

4.13.1 Example: Builder Pattern

Context function types have considerable expressive power. For instance, here is how they can support the “builder pattern”, where the aim is to construct tables like this:

```
table {
  row {
    cell("top left")
    cell("top right")
  }
  row {
    cell("bottom left")
    cell("bottom right")
  }
}
```

The idea is to define classes for `Table` and `Row` that allow the addition of elements via `add`:

```
class Table:
  val rows = new ArrayBuffer[Row]
  def add(r: Row): Unit = rows += r
  override def toString = rows.mkString("Table(", ", ", ", ")")

class Row:
  val cells = new ArrayBuffer[Cell]
  def add(c: Cell): Unit = cells += c
  override def toString = cells.mkString("Row(", ", ", ", ")")

case class Cell(elem: String)
```

Then, the `table`, `row` and `cell` constructor methods can be defined with context function types as parameters to avoid the plumbing boilerplate that would otherwise be necessary.

```
def table(init: Table => Unit) =
  given t: Table = Table()
  init
  t
```

```

def row(init: Row => Unit)(using t: Table) =
  given r: Row = Row()
  init
  t.add(r)

def cell(str: String)(using r: Row) =
  r.add(new Cell(str))

```

With that setup, the table construction code above compiles and expands to:

```

table { ($t: Table) =>

  row { ($r: Row) =>
    cell("top left")(using $r)
    cell("top right")(using $r)
  }(using $t)

  row { ($r: Row) =>
    cell("bottom left")(using $r)
    cell("bottom right")(using $r)
  }(using $t)
}

```

4.13.2 Example: Postconditions

As a larger example, here is a way to define constructs for checking arbitrary postconditions using an extension method `ensuring` so that the checked result can be referred to simply by `result`. The example combines opaque type aliases, context function types, and extension methods to provide a zero-overhead abstraction.

```

object PostConditions:
  opaque type WrappedResult[T] = T

  def result[T](using r: WrappedResult[T]): T = r

  extension [T](x: T)
    def ensuring(condition: WrappedResult[T] => Boolean): T =
      assert(condition(using x))
      x
  end PostConditions
import PostConditions.{ensuring, result}

val s = List(1, 2, 3).sum.ensuring(result == 6)

```

Explanations: We use a context function type `WrappedResult[T] => Boolean` as the type of the condition of `ensuring`. An argument to `ensuring` such as `(result == 6)` will therefore have a given of type `WrappedResult[T]` in scope to pass along to the `result` method. `WrappedResult` is a fresh type, to make sure that we do not get

unwanted givens in scope (this is good practice in all cases where context parameters are involved). Since `WrappedResult` is an opaque type alias, its values need not be boxed, and since `ensuring` is added as an extension method, its argument does not need boxing either. Hence, the implementation of `ensuring` is close in efficiency to the best possible code one could write by hand:

```
val s =
  val result = List(1, 2, 3).sum
  assert(result == 6)
  result
```

4.13.3 Reference

For more information, see the [blog article](#), (which uses a different syntax that has been superseded).

[More details](#)

4.14 Implicit Conversions

Implicit conversions are defined by given instances of the `scala.Conversion` class. This class is defined in package `scala` as follows:

```
abstract class Conversion[-T, +U] extends (T => U):
  def apply (x: T): U
```

For example, here is an implicit conversion from `String` to `Token`:

```
given Conversion[String, Token] with
  def apply(str: String): Token = new Keyword(str)
```

Using an alias this can be expressed more concisely as:

```
given Conversion[String, Token] = new Keyword(_)
```

An implicit conversion is applied automatically by the compiler in three situations:

1. If an expression `e` has type `T`, and `T` does not conform to the expression's expected type `S`.
2. In a selection `e.m` with `e` of type `T`, but `T` defines no member `m`.
3. In an application `e.m(args)` with `e` of type `T`, if `T` does define some member(s) named `m`, but none of these members can be applied to the arguments `args`.

In the first case, the compiler looks for a given `scala.Conversion` instance that maps an argument of type `T` to type `S`. In the second and third case, it looks for a given `scala.Conversion` instance that maps an argument of type `T` to a type that defines a member `m` which can be applied to `args` if present. If such an instance `C` is found, the expression `e` is replaced by `C.apply(e)`.

4.14.1 Examples

1. The `Predef` package contains “auto-boxing” conversions that map primitive number types to subclasses of `java.lang.Number`. For instance, the conversion from `Int` to `java.lang.Integer` can be defined as follows:

```
given int2Integer: Conversion[Int, java.lang.Integer] =
  java.lang.Integer.valueOf(_)
```

2. The “magnet” pattern is sometimes used to express many variants of a method. Instead of defining overloaded versions of the method, one can also let the method take one or more arguments of specially defined “magnet” types, into which various argument types can be converted. Example:

object Completions:

```
// The argument "magnet" type
enum CompletionArg:
  case Error(s: String)
  case Response(f: Future[HttpResponse])
  case Status(code: Future[StatusCode])

object CompletionArg:

  // conversions defining the possible arguments to pass to `complete`
  // these always come with CompletionArg
  // They can be invoked explicitly, e.g.
  //
  // CompletionArg.fromStatusCode(statusCode)

  given fromString      : Conversion[String, CompletionArg]           = Er
  given fromFuture      : Conversion[Future[HttpResponse], CompletionArg] = Re
  given fromStatusCode: Conversion[Future[StatusCode], CompletionArg] = St
end CompletionArg
import CompletionArg.*

def complete[T](arg: CompletionArg) = arg match
  case Error(s) => ...
  case Response(f) => ...
  case Status(code) => ...
```

end Completions

This setup is more complicated than simple overloading of `complete`, but it can still be useful if normal overloading is not available (as in the case above, since we cannot have two overloaded methods that take `Future[...]` arguments), or if normal overloading would lead to a combinatorial explosion of variants.

4.15 By-Name Context Parameters

Context parameters can be declared by-name to avoid a divergent inferred expansion. Example:

```
trait Codec[T]:
  def write(x: T): Unit

given intCodec: Codec[Int] = ???

given optionCodec[T](using ev: => Codec[T]): Codec[Option[T]] with
  def write(xo: Option[T]) = xo match
    case Some(x) => ev.write(x)
    case None =>

val s = summon[Codec[Option[Int]]]

s.write(Some(33))
s.write(None)
```

As is the case for a normal by-name parameter, the argument for the context parameter `ev` is evaluated on demand. In the example above, if the option value `x` is `None`, it is not evaluated at all.

The synthesized argument for a context parameter is backed by a local `val` if this is necessary to prevent an otherwise diverging expansion.

The precise steps for synthesizing an argument for a by-name context parameter of type `=> T` are as follows.

1. Create a new `given` of type `T`:

```
given lv: T = ???
```

where `lv` is an arbitrary fresh name.

2. This `given` is not immediately available as candidate for argument inference (making it immediately available could result in a loop in the synthesized computation). But it becomes available in all nested contexts that look again for an argument to a by-name context parameter.
3. If this search succeeds with expression `E`, and `E` contains references to `lv`, replace `E` by

```
{ given lv: T = E; lv }
```

Otherwise, return `E` unchanged.

In the example above, the definition of `s` would be expanded as follows.

```
val s = summon[Test.Codec[Option[Int]]](
  using optionCodec[Int](using intCodec)
)
```

No local given instance was generated because the synthesized argument is not recursive.

4.15.1 Reference

For more information, see [Issue #1998](#) and the associated [Scala SIP](#).

4.16 Relationship with Scala 2 Implicits

Many, but not all, of the new contextual abstraction features in Scala 3 can be mapped to Scala 2's implicits. This page gives a rundown on the relationships between new and old features.

4.16.1 Simulating Scala 3 Contextual Abstraction Concepts with Scala 2 Implicits

4.16.1.1 Given Instances Given instances can be mapped to combinations of implicit objects, classes and implicit methods.

1. Given instances without parameters are mapped to implicit objects. For instance,

```
given intOrd: Ord[Int] with { ... }
```

maps to

```
implicit object intOrd extends Ord[Int] { ... }
```

2. Parameterized givens are mapped to combinations of classes and implicit methods. For instance,

```
given listOrd[T](using ord: Ord[T]): Ord[List[T]] with { ... }
```

maps to

```
class listOrd[T](implicit ord: Ord[T]) extends Ord[List[T]] { ... }
final implicit def listOrd[T](implicit ord: Ord[T]): listOrd[T] =
  new listOrd[T]
```

3. Alias givens map to implicit methods or implicit lazy vals. If an alias has neither type nor context parameters, it is treated as a lazy val, unless the right-hand side is a simple reference, in which case we can use a forwarder to that reference without caching it.

Examples:

```
given global: ExecutionContext = new ForkJoinContext()
```

```
val ctx: Context
given Context = ctx
```

would map to


```
final implicit lazy val global: ExecutionContext = new ForkJoinContext()
final implicit def given_Context = ctx
```

4.16.1.2 Anonymous Given Instances Anonymous given instances get compiler synthesized names, which are generated in a reproducible way from the implemented type(s). For example, if the names of the `IntOrd` and `ListOrd` givens above were left out, the following names would be synthesized instead:

```
given given_Ord_Int: Ord[Int] with { ... }
given given_Ord_List[T](using ord: Ord[T]): Ord[List[T]] with { ... }
```

The synthesized type names are formed from

1. the prefix `given_`,
2. the simple name(s) of the implemented type(s), leaving out any prefixes,
3. the simple name(s) of the top-level argument type constructors to these types.

Tuples are treated as transparent, i.e. a type `F[(X, Y)]` would get the synthesized name `F_X_Y`. Directly implemented function types `A => B` are represented as `A_to_B`. Function types used as arguments to other type constructors are represented as `Function`.

4.16.1.3 Using Clauses Using clauses correspond largely to Scala 2’s implicit parameter clauses. E.g.

```
def max[T](x: T, y: T)(using ord: Ord[T]): T
```

would be written

```
def max[T](x: T, y: T)(implicit ord: Ord[T]): T
```

in Scala 2. The main difference concerns applications of such parameters. Explicit arguments to parameters of using clauses *must* be written using `(using ...)`, mirroring the definition syntax. E.g, `max(2, 3)(using IntOrd)`. Scala 2 uses normal applications `max(2, 3)(IntOrd)` instead. The Scala 2 syntax has some inherent ambiguities and restrictions which are overcome by the new syntax. For instance, multiple implicit parameter lists are not available in the old syntax, even though they can be simulated using auxiliary objects in the “Aux” pattern.

The `summon` method corresponds to `implicitly` in Scala 2. It is precisely the same as the `the` method in [Shapeless](#). The difference between `summon` (or `the`) and `implicitly` is that `summon` can return a more precise type than the type that was asked for.

4.16.1.4 Context Bounds Context bounds are the same in both language versions. They expand to the respective forms of implicit parameters.

Note: To ease migration, context bounds in Scala 3 map for a limited time to old-style implicit parameters for which arguments can be passed either in a using clause or in a normal argument list. Once old-style implicits are deprecated, context bounds will map to using clauses instead.

4.16.1.5 Extension Methods Extension methods have no direct counterpart in Scala 2, but they can be simulated with implicit classes. For instance, the extension method

```
extension (c: Circle)
  def circumference: Double = c.radius * math.Pi * 2
```

could be simulated to some degree by

```
implicit class CircleDecorator(c: Circle) extends AnyVal {
  def circumference: Double = c.radius * math.Pi * 2
}
```

Abstract extension methods in traits that are implemented in given instances have no direct counterpart in Scala 2. The only way to simulate these is to make implicit classes available through imports. The Simulacrum macro library can automate this process in some cases.

4.16.1.6 Type Class Derivation Type class derivation has no direct counterpart in the Scala 2 language. Comparable functionality can be achieved by macro-based libraries such as [Shapeless](#), [Magnolia](#), or [scalaz-deriving](#).

4.16.1.7 Context Function Types Context function types have no analogue in Scala 2.

4.16.1.8 Implicit By-Name Parameters Implicit by-name parameters are not supported in Scala 2, but can be emulated to some degree by the `Lazy` type in [Shapeless](#).

4.16.2 Simulating Scala 2 Implicits in Scala 3

4.16.2.1 Implicit Conversions Implicit conversion methods in Scala 2 can be expressed as given instances of the `scala.Conversion` class in Scala 3. For instance, instead of

```
implicit def stringToToken(str: String): Token = new Keyword(str)
```

one can write

```
given stringToToken: Conversion[String, Token] with
  def apply(str: String): Token = Keyword(str)
```

or

```
given stringToToken: Conversion[String, Token] = Keyword(_)
```

4.16.2.2 Implicit Classes Implicit classes in Scala 2 are often used to define extension methods, which are directly supported in Scala 3. Other uses of implicit classes can be simulated by a pair of a regular class and a given `Conversion` instance.

4.16.2.3 Implicit Values Implicit `val` definitions in Scala 2 can be expressed in Scala 3 using a regular `val` definition and an alias `given`. For instance, Scala 2's

```
lazy implicit val pos: Position = tree.sourcePos
```

can be expressed in Scala 3 as

```
lazy val pos: Position = tree.sourcePos
given Position = pos
```

4.16.2.4 Abstract Implicits An abstract implicit `val` or `def` in Scala 2 can be expressed in Scala 3 using a regular abstract definition and an alias `given`. For instance, Scala 2's

```
implicit def symDecorator: SymDecorator
```

can be expressed in Scala 3 as

```
def symDecorator: SymDecorator
given SymDecorator = symDecorator
```

4.16.3 Implementation Status and Timeline

The Scala 3 implementation implements both Scala 2's implicits and the new abstractions. In fact, support for Scala 2's implicits is an essential part of the common language subset between 2.13 and Scala 3. Migration to the new abstractions will be supported by making automatic rewritings available.

Depending on adoption patterns, old style implicits might start to be deprecated in a version following Scala 3.0.

5 Metaprogramming

The following pages introduce the redesign of metaprogramming in Scala. They introduce the following fundamental facilities:

1. **inline** is a new modifier that guarantees that a definition will be inlined at the point of use. The primary motivation behind inline is to reduce the overhead behind function calls and access to values. The expansion will be performed by the Scala compiler during the **Typer** compiler phase. As opposed to inlining in some other ecosystems, inlining in Scala is not merely a request to the compiler but is a *command*. The reason is that inlining in Scala can drive other compile-time operations, like inline pattern matching (enabling type-level programming), macros (enabling compile-time, generative, metaprogramming) and runtime code generation (multi-stage programming).
2. **Compile-time ops** are helper definitions in the standard library that provide support for compile-time operations over values and types.
3. **Macros** are built on two well-known fundamental operations: quotation and splicing. Quotation converts program code to data, specifically, a (tree-like) representation of this code. It is expressed as `'{...}` for expressions and as `'[...]` for types. Splicing, expressed as ``${...}``, goes the other way: it converts a program's representation to program code. Together with **inline**, these two abstractions allow to construct program code programmatically.
4. **Runtime Staging** Where macros construct code at *compile-time*, staging lets programs construct new code at *runtime*. That way, code generation can depend not only on static data but also on data available at runtime. This splits the evaluation of the program in two or more phases or ... stages. Consequently, this method of generative programming is called “Multi-Stage Programming”. Staging is built on the same foundations as macros. It uses quotes and splices, but leaves out **inline**.
5. **Reflection** Quotations are a “black-box” representation of code. They can be parameterized and composed using splices, but their structure cannot be analyzed from the outside. TASTy reflection gives a way to analyze code structure by partly revealing the representation type of a piece of code in a standard API. The representation type is a form of typed abstract syntax tree, which gives rise to the TASTy moniker.
6. **TASTy Inspection** Typed abstract syntax trees are serialized in a custom compressed binary format stored in `.tasty` files. TASTy inspection allows to load these files and analyze their content's tree structure.

5.1 Inline

5.1.1 Inline Definitions

inline is a new **soft modifier** that guarantees that a definition will be inlined at the point of use. Example:

```

object Config:
  inline val logging = false

object Logger:

  private var indent = 0

  inline def log[T](msg: String, indentMargin: =>Int)(op: => T): T =
    if Config.logging then
      println(s"${" " * indent}start $msg")
      indent += indentMargin
      val result = op
      indent -= indentMargin
      println(s"${" " * indent}$msg = $result")
      result
    else op
end Logger

```

The Config object contains a definition of the **inline value** logging. This means that logging is treated as a *constant value*, equivalent to its right-hand side `false`. The right-hand side of such an `inline val` must itself be a *constant expression*. Used in this way, `inline` is equivalent to Java and Scala 2's `final`. Note that `final`, meaning *inlined constant*, is still supported in Scala 3, but will be phased out.

The Logger object contains a definition of the **inline method** log. This method will always be inlined at the point of call.

In the inlined code, an `if-then-else` with a constant condition will be rewritten to its `then-` or `else-` part. Consequently, in the `log` method above the `if Config.logging` with `Config.logging == true` will get rewritten into its `then-` part.

Here's an example:

```

var indentSetting = 2

def factorial(n: BigInt): BigInt =
  log(s"factorial($n)", indentSetting) {
    if n == 0 then 1
    else n * factorial(n - 1)
  }

```

If `Config.logging == false`, this will be rewritten (simplified) to:

```

def factorial(n: BigInt): BigInt =
  if n == 0 then 1
  else n * factorial(n - 1)

```

As you notice, since neither `msg` or `indentMargin` were used, they do not appear in the generated code for `factorial`. Also note the body of our `log` method: the `else-` part reduces to just an `op`. In the generated code we do not generate any

closures because we only refer to a by-name parameter *once*. Consequently, the code was inlined directly and the call was beta-reduced.

In the `true` case the code will be rewritten to:

```
def factorial(n: BigInt): BigInt =
  val msg = s"factorial($n)"
  println(s"${" " * indent}start $msg")
  Logger.inline$indent_=(indent.+(indentSetting))
  val result =
    if n == 0 then 1
    else n * factorial(n - 1)
  Logger.inline$indent_=(indent.-(indentSetting))
  println(s"${" " * indent}$msg = $result")
  result
```

Note that the by-value parameter `msg` is evaluated only once, per the usual Scala semantics, by binding the value and reusing the `msg` through the body of `factorial`. Also, note the special handling of the assignment to the private var `indent`. It is achieved by generating a setter method `def inline$indent_=` and calling it instead.

Inline methods always have to be fully applied. For instance, a call to

```
Logger.log[String]("some op", indentSetting)
```

would be ill-formed and the compiler would complain that arguments are missing. However, it is possible to pass wildcard arguments instead. For instance,

```
Logger.log[String]("some op", indentSetting)(_)
```

would typecheck.

5.1.1.1 Recursive Inline Methods Inline methods can be recursive. For instance, when called with a constant exponent `n`, the following method for `power` will be implemented by straight inline code without any loop or recursion.

```
inline def power(x: Double, n: Int): Double =
  if n == 0 then 1.0
  else if n == 1 then x
  else
    val y = power(x, n / 2)
    if n % 2 == 0 then y * y else y * y * x
```

```
power(expr, 10)
// translates to
//
//   val x = expr
//   val y1 = x * x    // ~2
//   val y2 = y1 * y1  // ~4
//   val y3 = y2 * x   // ~5
//   y3 * y3           // ~10
```

Parameters of inline methods can have an `inline` modifier as well. This means that actual arguments to these parameters will be inlined in the body of the `inline def`. `inline` parameters have call semantics equivalent to by-name parameters but allow for duplication of the code in the argument. It is usually useful when constant values need to be propagated to allow further optimizations/reductions.

The following example shows the difference in translation between by-value, by-name and `inline` parameters:

```
inline def funkyAssertEquals(actual: Double, expected: =>Double, inline delta: Double) {
  if (actual - expected).abs > delta then
    throw new AssertionError(s"difference between ${expected} and ${actual} was larger than $delta")
}

funkyAssertEquals(computeActual(), computeExpected(), computeDelta())
// translates to
//
//   val actual = computeActual()
//   def expected = computeExpected()
//   if (actual - expected).abs > computeDelta() then
//     throw new AssertionError(s"difference between ${expected} and ${actual} was larger than $delta")
```

5.1.1.2 Rules for Overriding Inline methods can override other non-inline methods. The rules are as follows:

1. If an inline method `f` implements or overrides another, non-inline method, the inline method can also be invoked at runtime. For instance, consider the scenario:

```
abstract class A:
  def f: Int
  def g: Int = f

class B extends A:
  inline def f = 22
  override inline def g = f + 11

val b = new B
val a: A = b
// inlined invocations
assert(b.f == 22)
assert(b.g == 33)
// dynamic invocations
assert(a.f == 22)
assert(a.g == 33)
```

The inlined invocations and the dynamically dispatched invocations give the same results.

2. Inline methods are effectively final.

3. Inline methods can also be abstract. An abstract inline method can be implemented only by other inline methods. It cannot be invoked directly:

```
abstract class A:
  inline def f: Int

object B extends A:
  inline def f: Int = 22

B.f           // OK
val a: A = B
a.f           // error: cannot inline f in A.
```

5.1.1.3 Relationship to @inline Scala 2 also defines a `@inline` annotation which is used as a hint for the backend to inline code. The `inline` modifier is a more powerful option:

- expansion is guaranteed instead of best effort,
- expansion happens in the frontend instead of in the backend and
- expansion also applies to recursive methods.

5.1.1.4 The definition of constant expression Right-hand sides of inline values and of arguments for inline parameters must be constant expressions in the sense defined by the [SLS §6.24](#), including *platform-specific* extensions such as constant folding of pure numeric computations.

An inline value must have a literal type such as `1` or `true`.

```
inline val four = 4
// equivalent to
inline val four: 4 = 4
```

It is also possible to have inline vals of types that do not have a syntax, such as `Short(4)`.

```
trait InlineConstants:
  inline val myShort: Short

object Constants extends InlineConstants:
  inline val myShort/*: Short(4)*/ = 4
```

5.1.2 Transparent Inline Methods

Inline methods can additionally be declared **transparent**. This means that the return type of the inline method can be specialized to a more precise type upon expansion. Example:

```
class A
class B extends A:
  def m = true
```



```
transparent inline def choose(b: Boolean): A =
  if b then new A else new B

val obj1 = choose(true)  // static type is A
val obj2 = choose(false) // static type is B

// obj1.m // compile-time error: `m` is not defined on `A`
obj2.m     // OK
```

Here, the inline method `choose` returns an instance of either of the two types `A` or `B`. If `choose` had not been declared to be `transparent`, the result of its expansion would always be of type `A`, even though the computed value might be of the subtype `B`. The inline method is a “blackbox” in the sense that details of its implementation do not leak out. But if a `transparent` modifier is given, the expansion is the type of the expanded body. If the argument `b` is `true`, that type is `A`, otherwise it is `B`. Consequently, calling `m` on `obj2` type-checks since `obj2` has the same type as the expansion of `choose(false)`, which is `B`. Transparent inline methods are “whitebox” in the sense that the type of an application of such a method can be more specialized than its declared return type, depending on how the method expands.

In the following example, we see how the return type of `zero` is specialized to the singleton type `0` permitting the addition to be ascribed with the correct type `1`.

```
transparent inline def zero: Int = 0

val one: 1 = zero + 1
```

5.1.2.1 Transparent vs. non-transparent inline As we already discussed, transparent inline methods may influence type checking at call site. Technically this implies that transparent inline methods must be expanded during type checking of the program. Other inline methods are inlined later after the program is fully typed.

For example, the following two functions will be typed the same way but will be inlined at different times.

```
inline def f1: T = ...
transparent inline def f2: T = (...): T
```

A noteworthy difference is the behavior of `transparent inline given`. If there is an error reported when inlining that definition, it will be considered as an implicit search mismatch and the search will continue. A `transparent inline given` can add a type ascription in its RHS (as in `f2` from the previous example) to avoid the precise type but keep the search behavior. On the other hand, an `inline given` is taken as an implicit and then inlined after typing. Any error will be emitted as usual.

5.1.3 Inline Conditionals

An if-then-else expression whose condition is a constant expression can be simplified to the selected branch. Prefixing an if-then-else expression with `inline` enforces that the condition has to be a constant expression, and thus guarantees that the conditional will always simplify.

Example:

```
inline def update(delta: Int) =
  inline if delta >= 0 then increaseBy(delta)
  else decreaseBy(-delta)
```

A call `update(22)` would rewrite to `increaseBy(22)`. But if `update` was called with a value that was not a compile-time constant, we would get a compile time error like the one below:

```
| inline if delta >= 0 then ???
| ^
| cannot reduce inline if
|   its condition
|     delta >= 0
|   is not a constant value
| This location is in code that was inlined at ...
```

In a transparent inline, an `inline if` will force the inlining of any inline definition in its condition during type checking.

5.1.4 Inline Matches

A `match` expression in the body of an inline method definition may be prefixed by the `inline` modifier. If there is enough type information at compile time to select a branch, the expression is reduced to that branch and the type of the expression is the type of the right-hand side of that result. If not, a compile-time error is raised that reports that the match cannot be reduced.

The example below defines an inline method with a single inline match expression that picks a case based on its static type:

```
transparent inline def g(x: Any): Any =
  inline x match
    case x: String => (x, x) // Tuple2[String, String](x, x)
    case x: Double => x
```

```
g(1.0d) // Has type 1.0d which is a subtype of Double
g("test") // Has type (String, String)
```

The scrutinee `x` is examined statically and the inline match is reduced accordingly returning the corresponding value (with the type specialized because `g` is declared transparent). This example performs a simple type test over the scrutinee. The

type can have a richer structure like the simple ADT below. `toInt` matches the structure of a number in [Church-encoding](#) and *computes* the corresponding integer.

```
trait Nat
case object Zero extends Nat
case class Succ[N <: Nat](n: N) extends Nat

transparent inline def toInt(n: Nat): Int =
  inline n match
    case Zero      => 0
    case Succ(n1) => toInt(n1) + 1

inline val natTwo = toInt(Succ(Succ(Zero)))
val intTwo: 2 = natTwo
```

`natTwo` is inferred to have the singleton type `2`.

5.1.5 Reference

For more information about the semantics of `inline`, see the [Scala 2020: Semantics-preserving inlining for metaprogramming](#) paper.

5.2 Compile-time Operations

5.2.1 The `scala.compiletime` Package

The `scala.compiletime` package contains helper definitions that provide support for compile-time operations over values. They are described in the following.

5.2.1.1 `constValue` and `constValueOpt` `constValue` is a function that produces the constant value represented by a type, or a compile time error if the type is not a constant type.

```
import scala.compiletime.constValue
import scala.compiletime.ops.int.S

transparent inline def toIntC[N]: Int =
  inline constValue[N] match
    case 0      => 0
    case _: S[n1] => 1 + toIntC[n1]

inline val ctwo = toIntC[2]
```

`constValueOpt` is the same as `constValue`, however returning an `Option[T]` enabling us to handle situations where a value is not present. Note that `S` is the type of the successor of some singleton type. For example the type `S[1]` is the singleton type `2`.

Since tuples are not constant types, even if their constituents are, there is

`constValueTuple`, which given a tuple type (X_1, \dots, X_n) , returns a tuple value $(\text{constValue}[X_1], \dots, \text{constValue}[X_n])$.

5.2.1.2 `erasedValue` So far we have seen inline methods that take terms (tuples and integers) as parameters. What if we want to base case distinctions on types instead? For instance, one would like to be able to write a function `defaultValue`, that, given a type `T`, returns optionally the default value of `T`, if it exists. We can already express this using rewrite match expressions and a simple helper function, `scala.compiletime.erasedValue`, which is defined as follows:

```
def erasedValue[T]: T
```

The `erasedValue` function *pretends* to return a value of its type argument `T`. Calling this function will always result in a compile-time error unless the call is removed from the code while inlining.

Using `erasedValue`, we can then define `defaultValue` as follows:

```
import scala.compiletime.erasedValue

transparent inline def defaultValue[T] =
  inline erasedValue[T] match
    case _: Byte    => Some(0: Byte)
    case _: Char    => Some(0: Char)
    case _: Short   => Some(0: Short)
    case _: Int     => Some(0)
    case _: Long    => Some(0L)
    case _: Float   => Some(0.0f)
    case _: Double  => Some(0.0d)
    case _: Boolean => Some(false)
    case _: Unit    => Some(())
    case _         => None
```

Then:

```
val dInt: Some[Int] = defaultValue[Int]
val dDouble: Some[Double] = defaultValue[Double]
val dBoolean: Some[Boolean] = defaultValue[Boolean]
val dAny: None.type = defaultValue[Any]
```

As another example, consider the type-level version of `toInt` below: given a *type* representing a Peano number, return the integer *value* corresponding to it. Consider the definitions of numbers as in the *Inline Match* section above. Here is how `toIntT` can be defined:

```
transparent inline def toIntT[N <: Nat]: Int =
  inline scala.compiletime.erasedValue[N] match
    case _: Zero.type => 0
    case _: Succ[n] => toIntT[n] + 1
```

```
inline val two = toIntT[Succ[Succ[Zero.type]]]
```

`erasedValue` is an `erased` method so it cannot be used and has no runtime behavior. Since `toIntT` performs static checks over the static type of `N` we can safely use it to scrutinize its return type (`S[S[Z]]` in this case).

5.2.1.3 error The `error` method is used to produce user-defined compile errors during inline expansion. It has the following signature:

```
inline def error(inline msg: String): Nothing
```

If an inline expansion results in a call `error(msgStr)` the compiler produces an error message containing the given `msgStr`.

```
import scala.compiletime.{error, codeOf}
```

```
inline def fail() =
  error("failed for a reason")
```

```
fail() // error: failed for a reason
```

or

```
inline def fail(inline p1: Any) =
  error("failed on: " + codeOf(p1))
```

```
fail(identity("foo")) // error: failed on: identity[String]("foo")
```

5.2.1.4 The `scala.compiletime.ops` package The `scala.compiletime.ops` package contains types that provide support for primitive operations on singleton types. For example, `scala.compiletime.ops.int.*` provides support for multiplying two singleton `Int` types, and `scala.compiletime.ops.boolean.&&` for the conjunction of two `Boolean` types. When all arguments to a type in `scala.compiletime.ops` are singleton types, the compiler can evaluate the result of the operation.

```
import scala.compiletime.ops.int.*
import scala.compiletime.ops.boolean.*
```

```
val conjunction: true && true = true
val multiplication: 3 * 5 = 15
```

Many of these singleton operation types are meant to be used infix (as in [SLS §3.2.10](#)).

Since type aliases have the same precedence rules as their term-level equivalents, the operations compose with the expected precedence rules:

```
import scala.compiletime.ops.int.*
val x: 1 + 2 * 3 = 7
```

The operation types are located in packages named after the type of the left-hand side parameter: for instance, `scala.compiletime.ops.int.+` represents addition of two numbers, while `scala.compiletime.ops.string.+` represents string concatenation. To use both and distinguish the two types from each other, a match type can dispatch to the correct implementation:

```
import scala.compiletime.ops.*

import scala.annotation.infix

type +[X <: Int | String, Y <: Int | String] = (X, Y) match
  case (Int, Int) => int.+[X, Y]
  case (String, String) => string.+[X, Y]

val concat: "a" + "b" = "ab"
val addition: 1 + 1 = 2
```

5.2.2 Summoning Givens Selectively

The new `summonFrom` construct makes implicit search available in a functional context. To solve the problem of creating the right set, one would use it as follows:

```
import scala.compiletime.summonFrom

inline def setFor[T]: Set[T] = summonFrom {
  case ord: Ordering[T] => new TreeSet[T]() (using ord)
  case _                => new HashSet[T]
}
```

A `summonFrom` call takes a pattern matching closure as argument. All patterns in the closure are type ascriptions of the form `identifier : Type`.

Patterns are tried in sequence. The first case with a pattern `x: T` such that a contextual value of type `T` can be summoned is chosen.

Alternatively, one can also use a pattern-bound given instance, which avoids the explicit using clause. For instance, `setFor` could also be formulated as follows:

```
import scala.compiletime.summonFrom

inline def setFor[T]: Set[T] = summonFrom {
  case given Ordering[T] => new TreeSet[T]
  case _                => new HashSet[T]
}
```

`summonFrom` applications must be reduced at compile time.

Consequently, if a given instance of `Ordering[String]` is in the implicit scope, the code above will return a new instance of `TreeSet[String]`. Such an instance is defined in `Ordering`'s companion object, so there will always be one.

```
summon[Ordering[String]] // Proves that an Ordering[String] is in scope
```

```
println(setFor[String].getClass) // prints class scala.collection.immutable.TreeSe
```

Note: `summonFrom` applications can raise ambiguity errors. Consider the following code with two `givens` in scope of type `A`. The pattern match in `f` will raise an ambiguity error if `f` is applied.

```
class A
given a1: A = new A
given a2: A = new A

inline def f: Any = summonFrom {
  case given _: A => ??? // error: ambiguous givens
}
```

5.2.3 `summonInline`

The shorthand `summonInline` provides a simple way to write a `summon` that is delayed until the call is inlined. Unlike `summonFrom`, `summonInline` also yields the implicit-not-found error, if a given instance of the summoned type is not found.

```
import scala.compiletime.summonInline
import scala.annotation.implicitNotFound

@implicitNotFound("Missing One")
trait Missing1

@implicitNotFound("Missing Two")
trait Missing2

trait NotMissing
given NotMissing = ???

transparent inline def summonInlineCheck[T <: Int](inline t : T) : Any =
  inline t match
    case 1 => summonInline[Missing1]
    case 2 => summonInline[Missing2]
    case _ => summonInline[NotMissing]

val missing1 = summonInlineCheck(1) // error: Missing One
val missing2 = summonInlineCheck(2) // error: Missing Two
val notMissing : NotMissing = summonInlineCheck(3)
```

5.2.4 Reference

For more information about compile-time operations, see [PR #4768](#), which explains how `summonFrom`'s predecessor (implicit matches) can be used for typelevel program-

ming and code specialization and [PR #7201](#) which explains the new `summonFrom` syntax.

5.3 Macros

When developing macros enable `-Xcheck-macros` scalac option flag to have extra runtime checks.

5.3.1 Macros: Quotes and Splices

Macros are built on two well-known fundamental operations: quotation and splicing. Quotation is expressed as `'{...}` for expressions and splicing is expressed as `${ ... }`. Additionally, within a quote or a splice we can quote or splice identifiers directly (i.e. `'e` and `$e`). Readers may notice the resemblance of the two aforementioned syntactic schemes with the familiar string interpolation syntax.

```
println(s"Hello, $name, here is the result of 1 + 1 = ${1 + 1}")
```

In string interpolation we *quoted* a string and then we *spliced* into it, two others. The first, `name`, is a reference to a value of type `String`, and the second is an arithmetic expression that will be *evaluated* followed by the splicing of its string representation.

Quotes and splices in this section allow us to treat code in a similar way, effectively supporting macros. The entry point for macros is an inline method with a top-level splice. We call it a top-level because it is the only occasion where we encounter a splice outside a quote (consider as a quote the compilation-unit at the call-site). For example, the code below presents an inline method `assert` which calls at compile-time a method `assertImpl` with a boolean expression tree as argument. `assertImpl` evaluates the expression and prints it again in an error message if it evaluates to `false`.

```
import scala.quoted.*

inline def assert(inline expr: Boolean): Unit =
  ${ assertImpl('expr) }

def assertImpl(expr: Expr[Boolean])(using Quotes) = '{
  if !$expr then
    throw AssertionError(s"failed assertion: ${${ showExpr(expr) }}")
}

def showExpr(expr: Expr[Boolean])(using Quotes): Expr[String] =
  '{ [actual implementation later in this document] }
```

If `e` is an expression, then `'{e}` represents the typed abstract syntax tree representing `e`. If `T` is a type, then `Type.of[T]` represents the type structure representing `T`. The precise definitions of “typed abstract syntax tree” or “type-structure” do not matter for now, the terms are used only to give some intuition. Conversely, `${e}` evaluates

the expression `e`, which must yield a typed abstract syntax tree or type structure, and embeds the result as an expression (respectively, type) in the enclosing program.

Quotations can have spliced parts in them; in this case the embedded splices are evaluated and embedded as part of the formation of the quotation.

Quotes and splices can also be applied directly to identifiers. An identifier `$x` starting with a `$` that appears inside a quoted expression or type is treated as a splice ``${x}``. Analogously, an quoted identifier `'x` that appears inside a splice is treated as a quote `'${x}``. See the Syntax section below for details.

Quotes and splices are duals of each other. For arbitrary expressions `e` we have:

```
`${'${e}}` = e
'`${e}` = e
```

5.3.2 Types for Quotations

The type signatures of quotes and splices can be described using two fundamental types:

- `Expr[T]`: abstract syntax trees representing expressions of type `T`
- `Type[T]`: non erased representation of type `T`.

Quoting takes expressions of type `T` to expressions of type `Expr[T]` and it takes types `T` to expressions of type `Type[T]`. Splicing takes expressions of type `Expr[T]` to expressions of type `T` and it takes expressions of type `Type[T]` to types `T`.

The two types can be defined in package `scala.quoted` as follows:

```
package scala.quoted
```

```
sealed trait Expr[+T]
sealed trait Type[T]
```

Both `Expr` and `Type` are abstract and sealed, so all constructors for these types are provided by the system. One way to construct values of these types is by quoting, the other is by type-specific lifting operations that will be discussed later on.

5.3.3 The Phase Consistency Principle

A fundamental *phase consistency principle* (PCP) regulates accesses to free variables in quoted and spliced code:

- *For any free variable reference `x`, the number of quoted scopes and the number of spliced scopes between the reference to `x` and the definition of `x` must be equal.*

Here, `this`-references count as free variables. On the other hand, we assume that all imports are fully expanded and that `_root_` is not a free variable. So references to global definitions are allowed everywhere.

The phase consistency principle can be motivated as follows: First, suppose the result of a program P is some quoted text `'{ ... x ... }` that refers to a free variable x in P . This can be represented only by referring to the original variable x . Hence, the result of the program will need to persist the program state itself as one of its parts. We don't want to do this, hence this situation should be made illegal. Dually, suppose a top-level part of a program is a spliced text `#{ ... x ... }` that refers to a free variable x in P . This would mean that we refer during *construction* of P to a value that is available only during *execution* of P . This is of course impossible and therefore needs to be ruled out. Now, the small-step evaluation of a program will reduce quotes and splices in equal measure using the cancellation rules above. But it will neither create nor remove quotes or splices individually. So the PCP ensures that program elaboration will lead to neither of the two unwanted situations described above.

In what concerns the range of features it covers, this form of macros introduces a principled metaprogramming framework that is quite close to the MetaML family of languages. One difference is that MetaML does not have an equivalent of the PCP - quoted code in MetaML *can* access variables in its immediately enclosing environment, with some restrictions and caveats since such accesses involve serialization. However, this does not constitute a fundamental gain in expressiveness.

5.3.4 From Exprs to Functions and Back

It is possible to convert any `Expr[T => R]` into `Expr[T] => Expr[R]` and back. These conversions can be implemented as follows:

```
def to[T: Type, R: Type](f: Expr[T] => Expr[R])(using Quotes): Expr[T => R] =
  '{ (x: T) => ${ f('x) } }

def from[T: Type, R: Type](f: Expr[T => R])(using Quotes): Expr[T] => Expr[R] =
  (x: Expr[T]) => '{ $f($x) }
```

Note how the fundamental phase consistency principle works in two different directions here for f and x . In the method `to`, the reference to f is legal because it is quoted, then spliced, whereas the reference to x is legal because it is spliced, then quoted.

They can be used as follows:

```
val f1: Expr[Int] => String =
  to((x: Expr[Int]) => '{ $x.toString }) // '{ (x: Int) => x.toString }

val f2: Expr[Int] => Expr[String] =
  from('{ (x: Int) => x.toString }) // (x: Expr[Int]) => '{ ((x: Int) => x.toString)
f2('{2}) // '{ ((x: Int) => x.toString)(2) }
```

One limitation of `from` is that it does not `-reduce` when a lambda is called immediately, as evidenced in the code `{ ((x: Int) => x.toString)(2) }`. In some cases we want to remove the lambda from the code, for this we provide the method `Expr.betaReduce` that turns a tree describing a function into a function mapping trees to trees.

```
object Expr:
```

```
...
```

```
def betaReduce[T](expr: Expr[T])(using Quotes): Expr[T]
```

`Expr.betaReduce` returns an expression that is functionally equivalent to `e`, however if `e` is of the form `((y1, ..., yn) => e2)(e1, ..., en)` then it optimizes the top most call by returning the result of beta-reducing the application. Otherwise returns `expr`.

5.3.5 Lifting Types

Types are not directly affected by the phase consistency principle. It is possible to use types defined at any level in any other level. But, if a type is used in a subsequent stage it will need to be lifted to a `Type`. Indeed, the definition of `to` above uses `T` in the next stage, there is a quote but no splice between the parameter binding of `T` and its usage. But the code can be rewritten by adding an explicit binding of a `Type[T]`:

```
def to[T, R](f: Expr[T] => Expr[R])(using t: Type[T], r: Type[R])(using Quotes): Expr[
  '{ (x: t.Underlying) => ${ f('x) } }
```

In this version of `to`, the type of `x` is now the result of inserting the type `Type[T]` and selecting its `Underlying`.

To avoid clutter, the compiler converts any type reference to a type `T` in subsequent phases to `summon[Type[T]].Underlying`.

And to avoid duplication it does it once per type, and creates an alias for that type at the start of the quote.

For instance, the user-level definition of `to`:

```
def to[T, R](f: Expr[T] => Expr[R])(using t: Type[T], r: Type[R])(using Quotes): Expr[
  '{ (x: T) => ${ f('x) } }
```

would be rewritten to

```
def to[T, R](f: Expr[T] => Expr[R])(using t: Type[T], r: Type[R])(using Quotes): Expr[
  '{
    type T = summon[Type[T]].Underlying
    (x: T) => ${ f('x) }
  }
```

The `summon` query succeeds because there is a `using` parameter of type `Type[T]`, and the reference to that value is phase-correct. If that was not the case, the phase inconsistency for `T` would be reported as an error.

5.3.6 Lifting Expressions

Consider the following implementation of a staged interpreter that implements a compiler through staging.

```
import scala.quoted.*

enum Exp:
  case Num(n: Int)
  case Plus(e1: Exp, e2: Exp)
  case Var(x: String)
  case Let(x: String, e: Exp, in: Exp)

import Exp.*
```

The interpreted language consists of numbers `Num`, addition `Plus`, and variables `Var` which are bound by `Let`. Here are two sample expressions in the language:

```
val exp = Plus(Plus(Num(2), Var("x")), Num(4))
val letExp = Let("x", Num(3), exp)
```

Here's a compiler that maps an expression given in the interpreted language to quoted Scala code of type `Expr[Int]`. The compiler takes an environment that maps variable names to Scala `Expr`s.

```
import scala.quoted.*

def compile(e: Exp, env: Map[String, Expr[Int]])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
  e match
    case Num(n) =>
      Expr(n)
    case Plus(e1, e2) =>
      '{ ${ compile(e1, env) } + ${ compile(e2, env) } }
    case Var(x) =>
      env(x)
    case Let(x, e, body) =>
      '{ val y = ${ compile(e, env) }; ${ compile(body, env + (x -> 'y)) } }
```

Running `compile(letExp, Map())` would yield the following Scala code:

```
'{ val y = 3; (2 + y) + 4 }
```

The body of the first clause, `case Num(n) => Expr(n)`, looks suspicious. `n` is declared as an `Int`, yet it is converted to an `Expr[Int]` with `Expr()`. Shouldn't `n` be quoted? In fact this would not work since replacing `n` by `'n` in the clause would not be phase correct.

The `Expr.apply` method is defined in package `quoted`:

```
package quoted

object Expr:
  ...
  def apply[T: ToExpr](x: T)(using Quotes): Expr[T] =
    summon[ToExpr[T]].toExpr(x)
```

This method says that values of types implementing the `ToExpr` type class can be converted to `Expr` values using `Expr.apply`.

Scala 3 comes with given instances of `ToExpr` for several types including `Boolean`, `String`, and all primitive number types. For example, `Int` values can be converted to `Expr[Int]` values by wrapping the value in a `Literal` tree node. This makes use of the underlying tree representation in the compiler for efficiency. But the `ToExpr` instances are nevertheless not *magic* in the sense that they could all be defined in a user program without knowing anything about the representation of `Expr` trees. For instance, here is a possible instance of `ToExpr[Boolean]`:

```
given ToExpr[Boolean] with
  def toExpr(b: Boolean) =
    if b then '{ true } else '{ false }
```

Once we can lift bits, we can work our way up. For instance, here is a possible implementation of `ToExpr[Int]` that does not use the underlying tree machinery:

```
given ToExpr[Int] with
  def toExpr(n: Int) = n match
    case Int.MinValue => '{ Int.MinValue }
    case _ if n < 0   => '{ - ${ toExpr(-n) } }
    case 0            => '{ 0 }
    case _ if n % 2 == 0 => '{ ${ toExpr(n / 2) } * 2 }
    case _            => '{ ${ toExpr(n / 2) } * 2 + 1 }
```

Since `ToExpr` is a type class, its instances can be conditional. For example, a `List` is liftable if its element type is:

```
given [T: ToExpr : Type]: ToExpr[List[T]] with
  def toExpr(xs: List[T]) = xs match
    case head :: tail => '{ ${ Expr(head) } :: ${ toExpr(tail) } }
    case Nil           => '{ Nil: List[T] }
```

In the end, `ToExpr` resembles very much a serialization framework. Like the latter it can be derived systematically for all collections, case classes and enums. Note also that the synthesis of *type-tag* values of type `Type[T]` is essentially the type-level analogue of lifting.

Using lifting, we can now give the missing definition of `showExpr` in the introductory example:

```
def showExpr[T](expr: Expr[T])(using Quotes): Expr[String] =
  val code: String = expr.show
  Expr(code)
```

That is, the `showExpr` method converts its `Expr` argument to a string (`code`), and lifts the result back to an `Expr[String]` using `Expr.apply`.

5.3.7 Lifting Types

The previous section has shown that the metaprogramming framework has to be able to take a type `T` and convert it to a type tree of type `Type[T]` that can be reified. This means that all free variables of the type tree refer to types and values defined in the current stage.

For a reference to a global class, this is easy: Just issue the fully qualified name of the class. Members of reifiable types are handled by just reifying the containing type together with the member name. But what to do for references to type parameters or local type definitions that are not defined in the current stage? Here, we cannot construct the `Type[T]` tree directly, so we need to get it from a recursive implicit search. For instance, to implement

```
summon[Type[List[T]]]
```

where `T` is not defined in the current stage, we construct the type constructor of `List` applied to the splice of the result of searching for a given instance for `Type[T]`:

```
Type.of[ List[ summon[Type[T]].Underlying ] ]
```

This is exactly the algorithm that Scala 2 uses to search for type tags. In fact Scala 2's type tag feature can be understood as a more ad-hoc version of `quoted.Type`. As was the case for type tags, the implicit search for a `quoted.Type` is handled by the compiler, using the algorithm sketched above.

5.3.8 Relationship with inline

Seen by itself, principled metaprogramming looks more like a framework for runtime metaprogramming than one for compile-time metaprogramming with macros. But combined with Scala 3's `inline` feature it can be turned into a compile-time system. The idea is that macro elaboration can be understood as a combination of a macro library and a quoted program. For instance, here's the `assert` macro again together with a program that calls `assert`.

object Macros:

```
inline def assert(inline expr: Boolean): Unit =
  ${ assertImpl('expr) }

def assertImpl(expr: Expr[Boolean])(using Quotes) =
  val failMsg: Expr[String] = Expr("failed assertion: " + expr.show)
  '{ if !($expr) then throw new AssertionError($failMsg) }

@main def program =
  val x = 1
  Macros.assert(x != 0)
```

Inlining the `assert` function would give the following program:

```
@main def program =
```

```
val x = 1
${ Macros.assertImpl('{ x != 0}) }
```

The example is only phase correct because `Macros` is a global value and as such not subject to phase consistency checking. Conceptually that's a bit unsatisfactory. If the PCP is so fundamental, it should be applicable without the global value exception. But in the example as given this does not hold since both `assert` and `program` call `assertImpl` with a splice but no quote.

However, one could argue that the example is really missing an important aspect: The macro library has to be compiled in a phase prior to the program using it, but in the code above, macro and program are defined together. A more accurate view of macros would be to have the user program be in a phase after the macro definitions, reflecting the fact that macros have to be defined and compiled before they are used. Hence, conceptually the program part should be treated by the compiler as if it was quoted:

```
@main def program = '{
  val x = 1
  ${ Macros.assertImpl('{ x != 0 }) }
}
```

If `program` is treated as a quoted expression, the call to `Macro.assertImpl` becomes phase correct even if macro library and program are conceptualized as local definitions.

But what about the call from `assert` to `assertImpl`? Here, we need a tweak of the typing rules. An inline function such as `assert` that contains a splice operation outside an enclosing quote is called a *macro*. Macros are supposed to be expanded in a subsequent phase, i.e. in a quoted context. Therefore, they are also type checked as if they were in a quoted context. For instance, the definition of `assert` is typechecked as if it appeared inside quotes. This makes the call from `assert` to `assertImpl` phase-correct, even if we assume that both definitions are local.

The `inline` modifier is used to declare a `val` that is either a constant or is a parameter that will be a constant when instantiated. This aspect is also important for macro expansion.

To get values out of expressions containing constants `Expr` provides the method `value` (or `valueOrNull`). This will convert the `Expr[T]` into a `Some[T]` (or `T`) when the expression contains value. Otherwise it will return `None` (or emit an error). To avoid having incidental `val` bindings generated by the inlining of the `def` it is recommended to use an inline parameter. To illustrate this, consider an implementation of the `power` function that makes use of a statically known exponent:

```
inline def power(x: Double, inline n: Int) = ${ powerCode('x, 'n) }

private def powerCode(x: Expr[Double], n: Expr[Int])(using Quotes): Expr[Double] =
  n.value match
    case Some(m) => powerCode(x, m)
    case None => '{ Math.pow($x, $n.toDouble) }
```

```
private def powerCode(x: Expr[Double], n: Int)(using Quotes): Expr[Double] =
  if n == 0 then '{ 1.0 }
  else if n == 1 then x
  else if n % 2 == 0 then '{ val y = $x * $x; ${ powerCode('y, n / 2) } }
  else '{ $x * ${ powerCode(x, n - 1) } }
```

5.3.9 Scope Extrusion

Quotes and splices are duals as far as the PCP is concerned. But there is an additional restriction that needs to be imposed on splices to guarantee soundness: code in splices must be free of side effects. The restriction prevents code like this:

```
var x: Expr[T] = ...
'{ (y: T) => ${ x = 'y; 1 } }
```

This code, if it was accepted, would *extrude* a reference to a quoted variable `y` from its scope. This would subsequently allow access to a variable outside the scope where it is defined, which is likely problematic. The code is clearly phase consistent, so we cannot use PCP to rule it out. Instead, we postulate a future effect system that can guarantee that splices are pure. In the absence of such a system we simply demand that spliced expressions are pure by convention, and allow for undefined compiler behavior if they are not. This is analogous to the status of pattern guards in Scala, which are also required, but not verified, to be pure.

Multi-Stage Programming introduces one additional method where you can expand code at runtime with a method `run`. There is also a problem with that invocation of `run` in splices. Consider the following expression:

```
'{ (x: Int) => ${ run('x); 1 } }
```

This is again phase correct, but will lead us into trouble. Indeed, evaluating the splice will reduce the expression `run('x)` to `x`. But then the result

```
'{ (x: Int) => ${ x; 1 } }
```

is no longer phase correct. To prevent this soundness hole it seems easiest to classify `run` as a side-effecting operation. It would thus be prevented from appearing in splices. In a base language with side effects we would have to do this anyway: Since `run` runs arbitrary code it can always produce a side effect if the code it runs produces one.

5.3.10 Example Expansion

Assume we have two methods, `foreach` that takes an `Expr[Array[T]]` and a consumer `f`, and `sum` that performs a sum by delegating to `foreach`.

object Macros:

```
def foreach[T](arr: Expr[Array[T]], f: Expr[T] => Expr[Unit])
  (using Type[T], Quotes): Expr[Unit] = '{
```



```

var i: Int = 0
while i < ($arr).length do
  val element: T = ($arr)(i)
  ${f('element')}
  i += 1
}

def sum(arr: Expr[Array[Int]])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] = '{
  var sum = 0
  ${ foreach(arr, x => '{sum += $x}) }
  sum
}

inline def sum_m(arr: Array[Int]): Int = ${sum('arr')}

```

end Macros

A call to `sum_m(Array(1, 2, 3))` will first inline `sum_m`:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)
${ _root_.Macros.sum('arr) }

```

then it will call `sum`:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)
${ '{
  var sum = 0
  ${ foreach('arr, x => '{sum += $x}) }
  sum
} }

```

and cancel the `${ '{...} }`:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)

var sum = 0
${ foreach('arr, x => '{sum += $x}) }
sum

```

then it will extract `x => '{sum += $x}` into `f`, to have a value:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)

var sum = 0
val f = x => '{sum += $x}
${ _root_.Macros.foreach('arr, 'f)(Type.of[Int]) }
sum

```

and then call `foreach`:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)

```

```

var sum = 0
val f = x => '{sum += $x}'
${ '{
  var i: Int = 0
  while i < arr.length do
    val element: Int = (arr)(i)
    sum += element
    i += 1
  sum
} }'

```

and cancel the ``${' {...} }`` again:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)

var sum = 0
val f = x => '{sum += $x}'
var i: Int = 0
while i < arr.length do
  val element: Int = (arr)(i)
  sum += element
  i += 1
sum

```

Finally cleanups and dead code elimination:

```

val arr: Array[Int] = Array.apply(1, 2, 3)
var sum = 0
var i: Int = 0
while i < arr.length do
  val element: Int = arr(i)
  sum += element
  i += 1
sum

```

5.3.11 Find implicits within a macro

Similarly to the `summonFrom` construct, it is possible to make implicit search available in a quote context. For this we simply provide `scala.quoted.Expr.summon`:

```

import scala.collection.immutable.{ TreeSet, HashSet }
inline def setFor[T]: Set[T] = ${ setForExpr[T] }

def setForExpr[T: Type](using Quotes): Expr[Set[T]] =
  Expr.summon[Ordering[T]] match
    case Some(ord) => '{ new TreeSet[T]()($ord) }
    case _ => '{ new HashSet[T] }

```

5.3.12 Relationship with Transparent Inline

`Inline` documents inlining. The code below introduces a transparent inline method that can calculate either a value of type `Int` or a value of type `String`.

```
transparent inline def defaultOf(inline str: String) =
  ${ defaultOfImpl('str) }

def defaultOfImpl(strExpr: Expr[String])(using Quotes): Expr[Any] =
  strExpr.valueOnError match
    case "int" => '{1}
    case "string" => '{"a"}

// in a separate file
val a: Int = defaultOf("int")
val b: String = defaultOf("string")
```

5.3.13 Defining a macro and using it in a single project

It is possible to define macros and use them in the same project as long as the implementation of the macros does not have run-time dependencies on code in the file where it is used. It might still have compile-time dependencies on types and quoted code that refers to the use-site file.

To provide this functionality Scala 3 provides a transparent compilation mode where files that try to expand a macro but fail because the macro has not been compiled yet are suspended. If there are any suspended files when the compilation ends, the compiler will automatically restart compilation of the suspended files using the output of the previous (partial) compilation as macro classpath. In case all files are suspended due to cyclic dependencies the compilation will fail with an error.

5.3.14 Pattern matching on quoted expressions

It is possible to deconstruct or extract values out of `Expr` using pattern matching.

`scala.quoted` contains objects that can help extracting values from `Expr`.

- `scala.quoted.Expr/scala.quoted.Exprs`: matches an expression of a value (resp. list of values) and returns the value (resp. list of values).
- `scala.quoted.Const/scala.quoted.Consts`: Same as `Expr/Exprs` but only works on primitive values.
- `scala.quoted.Varargs`: matches an explicit sequence of expressions and returns them. These sequences are useful to get individual `Expr[T]` out of a varargs expression of type `Expr[Seq[T]]`.

These could be used in the following way to optimize any call to `sum` that has statically known values.

```
inline def sum(inline args: Int*): Int = ${ sumExpr('args) }
private def sumExpr(argsExpr: Expr[Seq[Int]])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
```

```

argsExpr match
case Varargs(args @ Exprs(argValues)) =>
  // args is of type Seq[Expr[Int]]
  // argValues is of type Seq[Int]
  Expr(argValues.sum) // precompute result of sum
case Varargs(argExprs) => // argExprs is of type Seq[Expr[Int]]
  val staticSum: Int = argExprs.map(_.value.getOrElse(0)).sum
  val dynamicSum: Seq[Expr[Int]] = argExprs.filter(_.value.isEmpty)
  dynamicSum.foldLeft(Expr(staticSum))((acc, arg) => '{ $acc + $arg })
case _ =>
  '{ $argsExpr.sum }

sum(1, 2, 3) // gets matched by Varargs

val xs = List(1, 2, 3)
sum(xs*) // doesn't get matched by Varargs

```

5.3.14.1 Quoted patterns Quoted patterns allow deconstructing complex code that contains a precise structure, types or methods. Patterns '{ ... }' can be placed in any location where Scala expects a pattern.

For example

```

optimize {
  sum(sum(1, a, 2), 3, b)
} // should be optimized to 6 + a + b

```

```

def sum(args: Int*): Int = args.sum
inline def optimize(inline arg: Int): Int = ${ optimizeExpr('arg) }
private def optimizeExpr(body: Expr[Int])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
  body match
    // Match a call to sum without any arguments
    case '{ sum() } => Expr(0)
    // Match a call to sum with an argument $n of type Int.
    // n will be the Expr[Int] representing the argument.
    case '{ sum($n) } => n
    // Match a call to sum and extracts all its args in an `Expr[Seq[Int]]`
    case '{ sum(${Varargs(args)}: _*) } => sumExpr(args)
    case body => body

```

```

private def sumExpr(args1: Seq[Expr[Int]])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
  def flatSumArgs(arg: Expr[Int]): Seq[Expr[Int]] = arg match
    case '{ sum(${Varargs(subArgs)}: _*) } => subArgs.flatMap(flatSumArgs)
    case arg => Seq(arg)
  val args2 = args1.flatMap(flatSumArgs)
  val staticSum: Int = args2.map(_.value.getOrElse(0)).sum
  val dynamicSum: Seq[Expr[Int]] = args2.filter(_.value.isEmpty)
  dynamicSum.foldLeft(Expr(staticSum))((acc, arg) => '{ $acc + $arg })

```

5.3.14.2 Recovering precise types using patterns Sometimes it is necessary to get a more precise type for an expression. This can be achieved using the following pattern match.

```
def f(expr: Expr[Any])(using Quotes) = expr match
  case '{ $x: t } =>
    // If the pattern match succeeds, then there is
    // some type `t` such that
    // - `x` is bound to a variable of type `Expr[t]`
    // - `t` is bound to a new type `t` and a given
    //   instance `Type[t]` is provided for it
    // That is, we have `x: Expr[t]` and `given Type[t]`,
    // for some (unknown) type `t`.
```

This might be used to then perform an implicit search as in:

```
extension (inline sc: StringContext)
  inline def showMe(inline args: Any*): String = ${ showMeExpr('sc, 'args) }

private def showMeExpr(sc: Expr[StringContext], argsExpr: Expr[Seq[Any]])(using Quotes) =
  import quotes.reflect.report
  argsExpr match
    case Varargs(argExprs) =>
      val argShownExprs = argExprs.map {
        case '{ $arg: tp } =>
          Expr.summon[Show[tp]] match
            case Some(showExpr) =>
              '{ $showExpr.show($arg) }
            case None =>
              report.error(s"could not find implicit for ${Type.show[Show[tp]]}", a
            }
      val newArgsExpr = Varargs(argShownExprs)
      '{ $sc.s($newArgsExpr: _*) }
    case _ =>
      // `new StringContext(...).showMeExpr(args: _*)` not an explicit `showMeExpr`
      report.error(s"Args must be explicit", argsExpr)
      '{ ??? }

trait Show[-T]:
  def show(x: T): String

// in a different file
given Show[Boolean] with
  def show(b: Boolean) = "boolean!"

println(showMe"${true}")
```

5.3.14.3 Open code patterns Quoted pattern matching also provides higher-order patterns to match open terms. If a quoted term contains a definition, then the rest of the quote can refer to this definition.

```
'{
  val x: Int = 4
  x * x
}
```

To match such a term we need to match the definition and the rest of the code, but we need to explicitly state that the rest of the code may refer to this definition.

```
case '{ val y: Int = $x; $body(y): Int } =>
```

Here `$x` will match any closed expression while `$body(y)` will match an expression that is closed under `y`. Then the subexpression of type `Expr[Int]` is bound to `body` as an `Expr[Int => Int]`. The extra argument represents the references to `y`. Usually this expression is used in combination with `Expr.betaReduce` to replace the extra argument.

```
inline def eval(inline e: Int): Int = ${ evalExpr('e) }
```

```
private def evalExpr(e: Expr[Int])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] = e match
  case '{ val y: Int = $x; $body(y): Int } =>
    // body: Expr[Int => Int] where the argument represents
    // references to y
    evalExpr(Expr.betaReduce('${ $body(${evalExpr(x)}) })))
  case '{ ($x: Int) * ($y: Int) } =>
    (x.value, y.value) match
      case (Some(a), Some(b)) => Expr(a * b)
      case _ => e
  case _ => e

eval { // expands to the code: (16: Int)
  val x: Int = 4
  x * x
}
```

We can also close over several bindings using `$b(a1, a2, ..., an)`. To match an actual application we can use braces on the function part `${b}(a1, a2, ..., an)`.

5.3.15 More details

[More details](#)

5.4 Runtime Multi-Stage Programming

The framework expresses at the same time compile-time metaprogramming and multi-stage programming. We can think of compile-time metaprogramming as a two stage compilation process: one that we write the code in top-level splices, that will be

used for code generation (macros) and one that will perform all necessary evaluations at compile-time and an object program that we will run as usual. What if we could synthesize code at run-time and offer one extra stage to the programmer? Then we can have a value of type `Expr[T]` at run-time that we can essentially treat as a typed-syntax tree that we can either *show* as a string (pretty-print) or compile and run. If the number of quotes exceeds the number of splices by more than one (effectively handling at run-time values of type `Expr[Expr[T]]`, `Expr[Expr[Expr[T]]]`, ...) then we talk about Multi-Stage Programming.

The motivation behind this *paradigm* is to let runtime information affect or guide code-generation.

Intuition: The phase in which code is run is determined by the difference between the number of splice scopes and quote scopes in which it is embedded.

- If there are more splices than quotes, the code is run at compile-time i.e. as a macro. In the general case, this means running an interpreter that evaluates the code, which is represented as a typed abstract syntax tree. The interpreter can fall back to reflective calls when evaluating an application of a previously compiled method. If the splice excess is more than one, it would mean that a macro's implementation code (as opposed to the code it expands to) invokes other macros. If macros are realized by interpretation, this would lead to towers of interpreters, where the first interpreter would itself interpret an interpreter code that possibly interprets another interpreter and so on.
- If the number of splices equals the number of quotes, the code is compiled and run as usual.
- If the number of quotes exceeds the number of splices, the code is staged. That is, it produces a typed abstract syntax tree or type structure at run-time. A quote excess of more than one corresponds to multi-staged programming.

Providing an interpreter for the full language is quite difficult, and it is even more difficult to make that interpreter run efficiently. So we currently impose the following restrictions on the use of splices.

1. A top-level splice must appear in an inline method (turning that method into a macro)
2. The splice must call a previously compiled method passing quoted arguments, constant arguments or inline arguments.
3. Splices inside splices (but no intervening quotes) are not allowed.

5.4.1 API

The framework as discussed so far allows code to be staged, i.e. be prepared to be executed at a later stage. To run that code, there is another method in class `Expr` called `run`. Note that `$` and `run` both map from `Expr[T]` to `T` but only `$` is subject to the [PCP](#), whereas `run` is just a normal method. `scala.quoted.staging.run` provides a `Quotes` that can be used to show the expression in its scope. On the other

hand `scala.quoted.staging.withQuotes` provides a `Quotes` without evaluating the expression.

```
package scala.quoted.staging
```

```
def run[T](expr: Quotes => Expr[T])(using Compiler): T = ...
```

```
def withQuotes[T](thunk: Quotes => T)(using Compiler): T = ...
```

5.4.2 Create a new Scala 3 project with staging enabled

```
sbt new scala/scala3-staging.g8
```

From [scala/scala3-staging.g8](#).

It will create a project with the necessary dependencies and some examples.

In case you prefer to create the project on your own, make sure to define the following dependency in your `build.sbt` build definition

```
libraryDependencies += "org.scala-lang" %% "scala3-staging" % scalaVersion.value
```

and in case you use `scalac/scala` directly, then use the `-with-compiler` flag for both:

```
scalac -with-compiler -d out Test.scala
scala -with-compiler -classpath out Test
```

5.4.3 Example

Now take exactly the same example as in [Macros](#). Assume that we do not want to pass an array statically but generate code at run-time and pass the value, also at run-time. Note, how we make a future-stage function of type `Expr[Array[Int] => Int]` in line 6 below. Using `staging.run { ... }` we can evaluate an expression at runtime. Within the scope of `staging.run` we can also invoke `show` on an expression to get a source-like representation of the expression.

```
import scala.quoted.*

// make available the necessary compiler for runtime code generation
given staging.Compiler = staging.Compiler.make(getClass.getClassLoader)

val f: Array[Int] => Int = staging.run {
  val stagedSum: Expr[Array[Int] => Int] =
    '{ (arr: Array[Int]) => ${sum('arr)}}
  println(stagedSum.show) // Prints "(arr: Array[Int]) => { var sum = 0; ... }"
  stagedSum
}

f.apply(Array(1, 2, 3)) // Returns 6
```


5.5 Reflection

Reflection enables inspection and construction of Typed Abstract Syntax Trees (Typed-AST). It may be used on quoted expressions (`quoted.Expr`) and quoted types (`quoted.Type`) from `Macros` or on full TASTy files.

If you are writing macros, please first read `Macros`. You may find all you need without using quote reflection.

5.5.1 API: From quotes and splices to TASTy reflect trees and back

With `quoted.Expr` and `quoted.Type` we can compute code but also analyze code by inspecting the ASTs. `Macros` provide the guarantee that the generation of code will be type-correct. Using quote reflection will break these guarantees and may fail at macro expansion time, hence additional explicit checks must be done.

To provide reflection capabilities in macros we need to add an implicit parameter of type `scala.quoted.Quotes` and import `quotes.reflect.*` from it in the scope where it is used.

```
import scala.quoted.*

inline def natConst(inline x: Int): Int = ${natConstImpl('{x})}

def natConstImpl(x: Expr[Int])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
  import quotes.reflect.*
  ...
```

5.5.1.1 Extractors `import quotes.reflect.*` will provide all extractors and methods on `quotes.reflect.Trees`. For example the `Literal(_)` extractor used below.

```
def natConstImpl(x: Expr[Int])(using Quotes): Expr[Int] =
  import quotes.reflect.*
  val tree: Term = x.asTerm
  tree match
    case Inlined(_, _, Literal(IntConstant(n))) =>
      if n <= 0 then
        report.error("Parameter must be natural number")
        '{0}
      else
        tree.asExprOf[Int]
    case _ =>
      report.error("Parameter must be a known constant")
      '{0}
```

We can easily know which extractors are needed using `Printer.TreeStructure.show`, which returns the string representation the structure of the tree. Other printers can also be found in the `Printer` module.

```
tree.show(using Printer.TreeStructure)
// or
Printer.TreeStructure.show(tree)
```

The methods `quotes.reflect.Term.{asExpr, asExprOf}` provide a way to go back to a `quoted.Expr`. Note that `asExpr` returns a `Expr[Any]`. On the other hand `asExprOf[T]` returns a `Expr[T]`, if the type does not conform to it an exception will be thrown at runtime.

5.5.1.2 Positions The `Position` in the context provides an `ofMacroExpansion` value. It corresponds to the expansion site for macros. The macro authors can obtain various information about that expansion site. The example below shows how we can obtain position information such as the start line, the end line or even the source code at the expansion point.

```
def macroImpl()(quotes: Quotes): Expr[Unit] =
  import quotes.reflect.*
  val pos = Position.ofMacroExpansion

  val path = pos.sourceFile.jpath.toString
  val start = pos.start
  val end = pos.end
  val startLine = pos.startLine
  val endLine = pos.endLine
  val startColumn = pos.startColumn
  val endColumn = pos.endColumn
  val sourceCode = pos.sourceCode
  ...
```

5.5.1.3 Tree Utilities `quotes.reflect` contains three facilities for tree traversal and transformation.

`TreeAccumulator[X]` allows you to traverse the tree and aggregate data of type `X` along the way, by overriding its method `foldTree(x: X, tree: Tree)(owner: Symbol): X`.

`foldOverTree(x: X, tree: Tree)(owner: Symbol): X` calls `foldTree` on each children of `tree` (using `fold` to give each call the value of the previous one).

The code below, for example, collects the `val` definitions in the tree.

```
def collectPatternVariables(tree: Tree)(using ctx: Context): List[Symbol] =
  val acc = new TreeAccumulator[List[Symbol]]:
    def foldTree(syms: List[Symbol], tree: Tree)(owner: Symbol): List[Symbol] = tree
      case ValDef(_, _, rhs) =>
        val newSyms = tree.symbol :: syms
        foldTree(newSyms, body)(tree.symbol)
      case _ =>
```

```

    foldOverTree(syms, tree)(owner)
  acc(Nil, tree)

```

A `TreeTraverser` extends a `TreeAccumulator[Unit]` and performs the same traversal but without returning any value.

`TreeMap` transforms trees along the traversal, through overloading its methods it is possible to transform only trees of specific types, for example `transformStatement` only transforms `Statements`.

5.5.1.3.1 ValDef.let The object `quotes.reflect.ValDef` also offers a method `let` that allows us to bind the `rhs` (right-hand side) to a `val` and use it in `body`. Additionally, `lets` binds the given `terms` to names and allows to use them in the `body`. Their type definitions are shown below:

```

def let(rhs: Term)(body: Ident => Term): Term = ...

def lets(terms: List[Term])(body: List[Term] => Term): Term = ...

```

5.6 TASTy Inspection

```
libraryDependencies += "org.scala-lang" %% "scala3-tasty-inspector" % scalaVersion.
```

TASTy files contain the full typed tree of a class including source positions and documentation. This is ideal for tools that analyze or extract semantic information from the code. To avoid the hassle of working directly with the TASTy file we provide the `Inspector` which loads the contents and exposes it through the TASTy reflect API.

5.6.1 Inspecting TASTy files

To inspect the trees of a TASTy file a consumer can be defined in the following way.

```

import scala.quoted.*
import scala.tasty.inspector.*

class MyInspector extends Inspector:
  def inspect(using Quotes)(tastys: List[Tasty[Quotes.type]]): Unit =
    import quotes.reflect.*
    for tasty <- tastys do
      val tree = tasty.ast
      // Do something with the tree

```

Then the consumer can be instantiated with the following code to get the tree of the `foo/Bar.tasty` file.

```

object Test:
  def main(args: Array[String]): Unit =
    val tastyFiles = List("foo/Bar.tasty")
    TastyInspector.inspectTastyFiles(tastyFiles)(new MyInspector)

```

Note that if we need to run the main (in the example below defined in an object called `Test`) after compilation we need to make the compiler available to the runtime:

```
scalac -d out Test.scala
scala -with-compiler -classpath out Test
```

5.6.2 Template project

Using sbt version 1.1.5+, do:

```
sbt new scala/scala3-tasty-inspector.g8
```

in the folder where you want to clone the template.

5.7 The Meta-theory of Symmetric Metaprogramming

This note presents a simplified variant of [principled metaprogramming](#) and sketches its soundness proof. The variant treats only dialogues between two stages. A program can have quotes which can contain splices (which can contain quotes, which can contain splices, and so on). Or the program could start with a splice with embedded quotes. The essential restriction is that (1) a term can contain top-level quotes or top-level splices, but not both, and (2) quotes cannot appear directly inside quotes and splices cannot appear directly inside splices. In other words, the universe is restricted to two phases only.

Under this restriction we can simplify the typing rules so that there are always exactly two environments instead of having a stack of environments. The variant presented here differs from the full calculus also in that we replace evaluation contexts with contextual typing rules. While this is more verbose, it makes it easier to set up the meta theory.

5.7.1 Syntax

Terms	$t ::=$	x	variable
		$(x: T) \Rightarrow t$	lambda
		$t \ t$	application
		$'t$	quote
		$\sim t$	splice
Simple terms	$u ::=$	$x \mid (x: T) \Rightarrow u \mid u \ u$	
Values	$v ::=$	$(x: T) \Rightarrow t$	lambda
		$'u$	quoted value
Types	$T ::=$	A	base type
		$T \rightarrow T$	function type
		$'T$	quoted type

5.7.2 Operational semantics

5.7.2.1 Evaluation

$$((x: T) \Rightarrow t) \ v \ \twoheadrightarrow \ [x := v]t$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \twoheadrightarrow \ t2}{t1 \ t \ \twoheadrightarrow \ t2 \ t}$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \twoheadrightarrow \ t2}{v \ t1 \ \twoheadrightarrow \ v \ t2}$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \Rightarrow \ t2}{\text{'}t1 \ \twoheadrightarrow \ \text{'}t2}$$

5.7.2.2 Splicing

$$\sim \text{'}u \ \Rightarrow \ u$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \Rightarrow \ t2}{(x: T) \Rightarrow t1 \ \Rightarrow \ (x: T) \Rightarrow t2}$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \Rightarrow \ t2}{t1 \ t \ \Rightarrow \ t2 \ t}$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \Rightarrow \ t2}{u \ t1 \ \Rightarrow \ u \ t2}$$

$$\frac{t1 \ \twoheadrightarrow \ t2}{\sim t1 \ \Rightarrow \ \sim t2}$$

5.7.3 Typing Rules

Typing judgments are of the form $E1 \ * \ E2 \ \vdash \ t: T$ where $E1, E2$ are environments and $*$ is one of \sim and ' .

$$\frac{x: T \text{ in } E2}{E1 \ * \ E2 \ \vdash \ x: T}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{E1} * \text{E2}, \text{x}: \text{T1} \mid\text{-} \text{t}: \text{T2} \\
\hline
\text{E1} * \text{E2} \mid\text{-} (\text{x}: \text{T1}) \Rightarrow \text{t}: \text{T} \rightarrow \text{T2}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{E1} * \text{E2} \mid\text{-} \text{t1}: \text{T2} \rightarrow \text{T} \quad \text{E1} * \text{E2} \mid\text{-} \text{t2}: \text{T2} \\
\hline
\text{E1} * \text{E2} \mid\text{-} \text{t1} \text{ t2}: \text{T}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{E2} \text{ ' } \text{E1} \mid\text{-} \text{t}: \text{T} \\
\hline
\text{E1} \sim \text{E2} \mid\text{-} \text{'t}: \text{'T}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{E2} \sim \text{E1} \mid\text{-} \text{t}: \text{'T} \\
\hline
\text{E1} \text{ ' } \text{E2} \mid\text{-} \sim\text{t}: \text{T}
\end{array}$$

(Curiously, this looks a bit like a Christmas tree).

5.7.4 Soundness

The meta-theory typically requires mutual inductions over two judgments.

5.7.4.1 Progress Theorem

1. If $\text{E1} \sim \mid\text{-} \text{t}: \text{T}$ then either $\text{t} = \text{v}$ for some value v or $\text{t} \dashrightarrow \text{t2}$ for some term t2 .
2. If $\text{'E2} \mid\text{-} \text{t}: \text{T}$ then either $\text{t} = \text{u}$ for some simple term u or $\text{t} \Rightarrow \text{t2}$ for some term t2 .

Proof by structural induction over terms.

To prove (1):

- the cases for variables, lambdas and applications are as in [STLC](#).
- If $\text{t} = \text{'t2}$, then by inversion we have $\text{'E1} \mid\text{-} \text{t2}: \text{T2}$ for some type T2 . By the second [induction hypothesis](#) (I.H.), we have one of:
 - $\text{t2} = \text{u}$, hence 't2 is a value,
 - $\text{t2} \Rightarrow \text{t3}$, hence $\text{'t2} \dashrightarrow \text{'t3}$.
- The case $\text{t} = \sim\text{t2}$ is not typable.

To prove (2):

- If $\text{t} = \text{x}$ then t is a simple term.
- If $\text{t} = (\text{x}: \text{T}) \Rightarrow \text{t2}$, then either t2 is a simple term, in which case t is as well. Or by the second I.H. $\text{t2} \Rightarrow \text{t3}$, in which case $\text{t} \Rightarrow (\text{x}: \text{T}) \Rightarrow \text{t3}$.
- If $\text{t} = \text{t1} \text{ t2}$ then one of three cases applies:

- t_1 and t_2 are a simple term, then t is as well a simple term.
- t_1 is not a simple term. Then by the second I.H., $t_1 \Rightarrow t_{12}$, hence $t \Rightarrow t_{12} t_2$.
- t_1 is a simple term but t_2 is not. Then by the second I.H. $t_2 \Rightarrow t_{22}$, hence $t \Rightarrow t_1 t_{22}$.
- The case $t = \lambda t_2$ is not typable.
- If $t = \sim t_2$ then by inversion we have $E_2 \sim \vdash t_2 : \lambda T_2$, for some type T_2 . By the first I.H., we have one of
 - $t_2 = v$. Since $t_2 : \lambda T_2$, we must have $v = \lambda u$, for some simple term u , hence $t = \sim \lambda u$. By quote-splice reduction, $t \Rightarrow u$.
 - $t_2 \rightarrow t_3$. Then by the context rule for λt , $t \Rightarrow \lambda t_3$.

5.7.4.2 Substitution Lemma

1. If $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash s : S$ and $E_1 \sim E_2, x : S \vdash t : T$ then $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash [x := s]t : T$.
2. If $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash s : S$ and $E_2, x : S \vdash E_1 \vdash t : T$ then $E_2 \vdash E_1 \vdash [x := s]t : T$.

The proofs are by induction on typing derivations for t , analogous to the proof for STL (with (2) a bit simpler than (1) since we do not need to swap lambda bindings with the bound variable x). The arguments that link the two hypotheses are as follows.

To prove (1), let $t = \lambda t_1$. Then $T = \lambda T_1$ for some type T_1 and the last typing rule is

$$\frac{E_2, x : S \vdash E_1 \vdash t_1 : T_1}{E_1 \sim E_2, x : S \vdash \lambda t_1 : \lambda T_1}$$

By the second I.H. $E_2 \vdash E_1 \vdash [x := s]t_1 : T_1$. By typing, $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash \lambda [x := s]t_1 : \lambda T_1$. Since $[x := s]t = [x := s](\lambda t_1) = \lambda [x := s]t_1$ we get $[x := s]t : \lambda T_1$.

To prove (2), let $t = \sim t_1$. Then the last typing rule is

$$\frac{E_1 \sim E_2, x : S \vdash t_1 : \lambda T}{E_2, x : S \vdash E_1 \vdash \sim t_1 : T}$$

By the first I.H., $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash [x := s]t_1 : \lambda T$. By typing, $E_2 \vdash E_1 \vdash \sim [x := s]t_1 : T$. Since $[x := s]t = [x := s](\sim t_1) = \sim [x := s]t_1$ we get $[x := s]t : T$.

5.7.4.3 Preservation Theorem

1. If $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash t_1 : T$ and $t_1 \rightarrow t_2$ then $E_1 \sim E_2 \vdash t_2 : T$.
2. If $E_1 \vdash E_2 \vdash t_1 : T$ and $t_1 \Rightarrow t_2$ then $E_1 \vdash E_2 \vdash t_2 : T$.

The proof is by structural induction on evaluation derivations. The proof of (1) is analogous to the proof for STL, using the substitution lemma for the beta reduction case, with the addition of reduction of quoted terms, which goes as follows:

- Assume the last rule was

$$\frac{t1 ==> t2}{'t1 --> 't2}$$

By inversion of typing rules, we must have $T = 'T1$ for some type $T1$ such that $t1: T1$. By the second I.H., $t2: T1$, hence $'t2:T1$.

To prove (2):

- Assume the last rule was $\sim'u ==> u$. The typing proof of $\sim'u$ must have the form

$$\frac{\frac{E1 \text{ ' } E2 \mid - u: T}{E1 \sim E2 \mid - 'u: 'T}}{E1 \text{ ' } E2 \mid - \sim'u: T}$$

Hence, $E1 \text{ ' } E2 \mid - u: T$.

- Assume the last rule was

$$\frac{t1 ==> t2}{(x: S) => t1 ==> (x: T) => t2}$$

By typing inversion, $E1 \text{ ' } E2, x: S \mid - t1: T1$ for some type $T1$ such that $T = S \rightarrow T1$. By the I.H., $t2: T1$. By the typing rule for lambdas the result follows.

- The context rules for applications are equally straightforward.
- Assume the last rule was

$$\frac{t1 ==> t2}{\sim t1 ==> \sim t2}$$

By inversion of typing rules, we must have $t1: 'T$. By the first I.H., $t2: 'T$, hence $\sim t2: T$.

6 Other New Features

The following pages document new features of Scala 3.

6.1 Trait Parameters

Scala 3 allows traits to have parameters, just like classes have parameters.

```
trait Greeting(val name: String):
  def msg = s"How are you, $name"

class C extends Greeting("Bob"):
  println(msg)
```

Arguments to a trait are evaluated immediately before the trait is initialized.

One potential issue with trait parameters is how to prevent ambiguities. For instance, you might try to extend `Greeting` twice, with different parameters.

```
class D extends C, Greeting("Bill") // error: parameter passed twice
```

Should this print “Bob” or “Bill”? In fact this program is illegal, because it violates the second rule of the following for trait parameters:

1. If a class `C` extends a parameterized trait `T`, and its superclass does not, `C` *must* pass arguments to `T`.
2. If a class `C` extends a parameterized trait `T`, and its superclass does as well, `C` *must not* pass arguments to `T`.
3. Traits must never pass arguments to parent traits.

Here’s a trait extending the parameterized trait `Greeting`.

```
trait FormalGreeting extends Greeting:
  override def msg = s"How do you do, $name"
```

As is required, no arguments are passed to `Greeting`. However, this poses an issue when defining a class that extends `FormalGreeting`:

```
class E extends FormalGreeting // error: missing arguments for `Greeting`.
```

The correct way to write `E` is to extend both `Greeting` and `FormalGreeting` (in either order):

```
class E extends Greeting("Bob"), FormalGreeting
```

6.1.1 Traits With Context Parameters

This “explicit extension required” rule is relaxed if the missing trait contains only **context parameters**. In that case the trait reference is implicitly inserted as an additional parent with inferred arguments. For instance, here’s a variant of greetings where the addressee is a context parameter of type `ImpliedName`:

```

case class ImpliedName(name: String):
  override def toString = name

trait ImpliedGreeting(using val iname: ImpliedName):
  def msg = s"How are you, $iname"

trait ImpliedFormalGreeting extends ImpliedGreeting:
  override def msg = s"How do you do, $iname"

class F(using iname: ImpliedName) extends ImpliedFormalGreeting

```

The definition of `F` in the last line is implicitly expanded to

```

class F(using iname: ImpliedName) extends
  Object,
  ImpliedGreeting(using iname),
  ImpliedFormalGreeting

```

Note the inserted reference to the super trait `ImpliedGreeting`, which was not mentioned explicitly.

6.1.2 Reference

For more information, see [Scala SIP 25](#).

6.2 Transparent Traits

Traits are used in two roles:

1. As mixins for other classes and traits
2. As types of vals, defs, or parameters

Some traits are used primarily in the first role, and we usually do not want to see them in inferred types. An example is the `Product` trait that the compiler adds as a mixin trait to every case class or case object. In Scala 2, this parent trait sometimes makes inferred types more complicated than they should be. Example:

```

trait Kind
case object Var extends Kind
case object Val extends Kind
val x = Set(if condition then Val else Var)

```

Here, the inferred type of `x` is `Set[Kind & Product & Serializable]` whereas one would have hoped it to be `Set[Kind]`. The reasoning for this particular type to be inferred is as follows:

- The type of the conditional above is the **union type** `Val | Var`. This union type is treated as “soft”, which means it was not explicitly written in the source program, but came from forming an upper bound of the types of some alternatives.

- A soft union type is widened in type inference to the least product of class or trait types that is a supertype of the union type. In the example, this type is `Kind & Product & Serializable` since all three traits are super-traits of both `Val` and `Var`. So that type becomes the inferred element type of the set.

Scala 3 allows one to mark a trait or class as `transparent`, which means that it can be suppressed in type inference. Here's an example that follows the lines of the code above, but now with a new transparent trait `S` instead of `Product`:

```
transparent trait S
trait Kind
object Var extends Kind, S
object Val extends Kind, S
val x = Set(if condition then Val else Var)
```

Now `x` has inferred type `Set[Kind]`. The common transparent trait `S` does not appear in the inferred type.

In the previous example, one could also declare `Kind` as `transparent`:

```
transparent trait Kind
```

The widened union type of `if condition then Val else Var` would then *only* contain the transparent traits `Kind` and `S`. In this case, the widening is not performed at all, so `x` would have type `Set[Val | Var]`.

The root classes and traits `Any`, `AnyVal`, `Object`, and `Matchable` are considered to be transparent. This means that an expression such as

```
if condition then 1 else "hello"
```

will have type `Int | String` instead of the widened type `Any`.

6.2.1 Which Traits and Classes Are Transparent?

Traits and classes are declared transparent by adding the modifier `transparent`. Scala 2 traits and classes can also be declared transparent by adding a `@transparentTrait` annotation. This annotation is defined in [scala.annotation](#). It will be deprecated and phased out once Scala 2/3 interoperability is no longer needed.

The following classes and traits are automatically treated as transparent:

```
scala.Any
scala.AnyVal
scala.Matchable
scala.Product
java.lang.Object
java.lang.Comparable
java.io.Serializable
```

Typically, transparent types other than the root classes are traits that influence the implementation of inheriting classes and traits that are not usually used as types by

themselves. Two examples from the standard collection library are:

- `IterableOps`, which provides method implementations for an `Iterable`.
- `StrictOptimizedSeqOps`, which optimises some of these implementations for sequences with efficient indexing.

Generally, any trait that is extended recursively is a good candidate to be declared transparent.

6.2.2 Rules for Inference

Transparent traits and classes can be given as explicit types as usual. But they are often elided when types are inferred. Roughly, the rules for type inference imply the following.

- Transparent traits are dropped from intersections where possible.
- Union types are not widened if widening would result in only transparent supertypes.

The precise rules are as follows:

- When inferring a type of a type variable, or the type of a `val`, or the return type of a `def`,
- where that type is not higher-kinded,
- and where `B` is its known upper bound or `Any` if none exists:
- If the type inferred so far is of the form `T1 & ... & Tn` where $n \geq 1$, replace the maximal number of transparent traits `Ti` by `Any`, while ensuring that the resulting type is still a subtype of the bound `B`.
- However, do not perform this widening if all types `Ti` can get replaced in that way. This clause ensures that a single transparent trait instance such as `Product` is not widened to `Any`. Transparent trait instances are only dropped when they appear in conjunction with some other type.
- If the original type was a union type that got widened in a previous step to a product consisting only of transparent traits and classes, keep the original union type instead of its widened form.

6.3 Universal Apply Methods

Scala case classes generate apply methods, so that values of case classes can be created using simple function application, without needing to write `new`.

Scala 3 generalizes this scheme to all concrete classes. Example:

```
class StringBuilder(s: String):
  def this() = this("")
```

```
StringBuilder("abc") // old: new StringBuilder("abc")
StringBuilder()      // old: new StringBuilder()
```

This works since a companion object with two `apply` methods is generated together with the class. The object looks like this:

```
object StringBuilder:
  inline def apply(s: String): StringBuilder = new StringBuilder(s)
  inline def apply(): StringBuilder = new StringBuilder()
```

The synthetic object `StringBuilder` and its `apply` methods are called *constructor proxies*. Constructor proxies are generated even for Java classes and classes coming from Scala 2. The precise rules are as follows:

1. A constructor proxy companion object `object C` is created for a concrete class `C`, provided the class does not have already a companion, and there is also no other value or method named `C` defined or inherited in the scope where `C` is defined.
2. Constructor proxy `apply` methods are generated for a concrete class provided
 - the class has a companion object (which might have been generated in step 1), and
 - that companion object does not already define a member named `apply`.

Each generated `apply` method forwards to one constructor of the class. It has the same type and value parameters as the constructor.

Constructor proxy companions cannot be used as values by themselves. A proxy companion object must be selected with `apply` (or be applied to arguments, in which case the `apply` is implicitly inserted).

Constructor proxies are also not allowed to shadow normal definitions. That is, if an identifier resolves to a constructor proxy, and the same identifier is also defined or imported in some other scope, an ambiguity is reported.

6.3.1 Motivation

Leaving out `new` hides an implementation detail and makes code more pleasant to read. Even though it requires a new rule, it will likely increase the perceived regularity of the language, since case classes already provide function call creation syntax (and are often defined for this reason alone).

6.4 Export clauses

An export clause defines aliases for selected members of an object. Example:

```
class BitMap
class InkJet

class Printer:
  type PrinterType
  def print(bits: BitMap): Unit = ???
  def status: List[String] = ???
```

```

class Scanner:
  def scan(): BitMap = ???
  def status: List[String] = ???

class Copier:
  private val printUnit = new Printer { type PrinterType = InkJet }
  private val scanUnit = new Scanner

  export scanUnit.scan
  export printUnit.{status as _, *}

  def status: List[String] = printUnit.status ++ scanUnit.status

```

The two `export` clauses define the following *export aliases* in class `Copier`:

```

final def scan(): BitMap          = scanUnit.scan()
final def print(bits: BitMap): Unit = printUnit.print(bits)
final type PrinterType            = printUnit.PrinterType

```

They can be accessed inside `Copier` as well as from outside:

```

val copier = new Copier
copier.print(copier.scan())

```

An `export` clause has the same format as an `import` clause. Its general form is:

```

export path . { sel_1, ..., sel_n }

```

It consists of a qualifier expression `path`, which must be a stable identifier, followed by one or more selectors `sel_i` that identify what gets an alias. Selectors can be of one of the following forms:

- A *simple selector* `x` creates aliases for all eligible members of `path` that are named `x`.
- A *renaming selector* `x as y` creates aliases for all eligible members of `path` that are named `x`, but the alias is named `y` instead of `x`.
- An *omitting selector* `x as _` prevents `x` from being aliased by a subsequent wildcard selector.
- A *given selector* `given x` has an optional type bound `x`. It creates aliases for all eligible given instances that conform to either `x`, or `Any` if `x` is omitted, except for members that are named by a previous simple, renaming, or omitting selector.
- A *wildcard selector* `*` creates aliases for all eligible members of `path` except for given instances, synthetic members generated by the compiler and those members that are named by a previous simple, renaming, or omitting selector.

Notes:

- eligible constructor proxies are also included, even though they are synthetic members.

- members created by an export are also included. They are created by the compiler, but are not considered synthetic.

A member is *eligible* if all of the following holds:

- its owner is not a base class of the class(*) containing the export clause,
- the member does not override a concrete definition that has as owner a base class of the class containing the export clause.
- it is accessible at the export clause,
- it is not a constructor, nor the (synthetic) class part of an object,
- it is a given instance (declared with **given**) if and only if the export is from a *given selector*.

It is a compile-time error if a simple or renaming selector does not identify any eligible members.

It is a compile-time error if a simple or renaming selector does not identify any eligible members.

Type members are aliased by type definitions, and term members are aliased by method definitions. For instance:

```
object O:
  class C(val x: Int)
  def m(c: C): Int = c.x + 1
export O.*
  // generates
  //   type C = O.C
  //   def m(c: O.C): Int = O.m(c)
```

Export aliases copy the type and value parameters of the members they refer to. Export aliases are always **final**. Aliases of given instances are again defined as givens (and aliases of old-style implicits are **implicit**). Aliases of extensions are again defined as extensions. Aliases of inline methods or values are again defined **inline**. There are no other modifiers that can be given to an alias. This has the following consequences for overriding:

- Export aliases cannot be overridden, since they are final.
- Export aliases cannot override concrete members in base classes, since they are not marked **override**.
- However, export aliases can implement deferred members of base classes.

Export aliases for public value definitions that are accessed without referring to private values in the qualifier path are marked by the compiler as “stable” and their result types are the singleton types of the aliased definitions. This means that they can be used as parts of stable identifier paths, even though they are technically methods. For instance, the following is OK:

```
class C { type T }
object O { val c: C = ... }
export O.c
```

```
def f: c.T = ...
```

Restrictions:

1. Export clauses can appear in classes or they can appear at the top-level. An export clause cannot appear as a statement in a block.
2. If an export clause contains a wildcard or given selector, it is forbidden for its qualifier path to refer to a package. This is because it is not yet known how to safely track wildcard dependencies to a package for the purposes of incremental compilation.
3. An export renaming hides un-renamed exports matching the target name. For instance, the following clause would be invalid since `B` is hidden by the renaming `A as B`.

```
scala      export {A as B, B}           // error: B is hidden
```
4. Renamings in an export clause must have pairwise different target names. For instance, the following clause would be invalid: `“scala export {A as C, B as C} // error: duplicate renaming`
5. Simple renaming exports like `scala export status as stat` are not supported yet. They would run afoul of the restriction that the exported `a` cannot be already a member of the object containing the export. This restriction might be lifted in the future.

(*) **Note:** Unless otherwise stated, the term “class” in this discussion also includes object and trait definitions.

6.4.1 Motivation

It is a standard recommendation to prefer composition over inheritance. This is really an application of the principle of least power: Composition treats components as blackboxes whereas inheritance can affect the internal workings of components through overriding. Sometimes the close coupling implied by inheritance is the best solution for a problem, but where this is not necessary the looser coupling of composition is better.

So far, object-oriented languages including Scala made it much easier to use inheritance than composition. Inheritance only requires an `extends` clause whereas composition required a verbose elaboration of a sequence of forwarders. So in that sense, object-oriented languages are pushing programmers to a solution that is often too powerful. Export clauses redress the balance. They make composition relationships as concise and easy to express as inheritance relationships. Export clauses also offer more flexibility than `extends` clauses since members can be renamed or omitted.

Export clauses also fill a gap opened by the shift from package objects to top-level definitions. One occasionally useful idiom that gets lost in this shift is a package object inheriting from some class. The idiom is often used in a facade like pattern, to make members of internal compositions available to users of a package. Top-level definitions are not wrapped in a user-defined object, so they can’t inherit anything.

However, top-level definitions can be export clauses, which supports the facade design pattern in a safer and more flexible way.

6.4.2 Export Clauses in Extensions

An export clause may also appear in an extension.

Example:

```
class StringOps(x: String):
  def *(n: Int): String = ...
  def capitalize: String = ...

extension (x: String)
  def take(n: Int): String = x.substring(0, n)
  def drop(n: Int): String = x.substring(n)
  private def moreOps = new StringOps(x)
  export moreOps.*
```

In this case the qualifier expression must be an identifier that refers to a unique parameterless extension method in the same extension clause. The export will create extension methods for all accessible term members in the result of the qualifier path. For instance, the extension above would be expanded to

```
extension (x: String)
  def take(n: Int): String = x.substring(0, n)
  def drop(n: Int): String = x.substring(n)
  private def moreOps = StringOps(x)
  def *(n: Int): String = moreOps.*(n)
  def capitalize: String = moreOps.capitalize
```

6.4.3 Syntax changes:

```
TemplateStat ::= ...
              | Export
TopStat      ::= ...
              | Export
ExtMethod    ::= ...
              | Export
Export       ::= 'export' ImportExpr {',' ImportExpr}
ImportExpr   ::= SimpleRef {'.' id} '.' ImportSpec
ImportSpec   ::= NamedSelector
              | WildcardSelector
              | '{' ImportSelectors '}'
NamedSelector ::= id ['as' (id | '_')]
WildcardSelector ::= '*' | 'given' [InfixType]
ImportSelectors ::= NamedSelector [',' ImportSelectors]
                | WildCardSelector {',' WildCardSelector}
```

6.4.4 Elaboration of Export Clauses

Export clauses raise questions about the order of elaboration during type checking. Consider the following example:

```
class B { val c: Int }
object A { val b = new B }
export A.*
export b.*
```

Is the `export b.*` clause legal? If yes, what does it export? Is it equivalent to `export A.b.*`? What about if we swap the last two clauses?

```
export b.*
export A.*
```

To avoid tricky questions like these, we fix the elaboration order of exports as follows.

Export clauses are processed when the type information of the enclosing object or class is completed. Completion so far consisted of the following steps:

1. Elaborate any annotations of the class.
2. Elaborate the parameters of the class.
3. Elaborate the self type of the class, if one is given.
4. Enter all definitions of the class as class members, with types to be completed on demand.
5. Determine the types of all parents of the class.

With export clauses, the following steps are added:

6. Compute the types of all paths in export clauses.
7. Enter export aliases for the eligible members of all paths in export clauses.

It is important that steps 6 and 7 are done in sequence: We first compute the types of *all* paths in export clauses and only after this is done we enter any export aliases as class members. This means that a path of an export clause cannot refer to an alias made available by another export clause of the same class.

6.5 Opaque Type Aliases

Opaque types aliases provide type abstraction without any overhead. Example:

```
object MyMath:

  opaque type Logarithm = Double

  object Logarithm:

    // These are the two ways to lift to the Logarithm type
```

```

def apply(d: Double): Logarithm = math.log(d)

def safe(d: Double): Option[Logarithm] =
  if d > 0.0 then Some(math.log(d)) else None

end Logarithm

// Extension methods define opaque types' public APIs
extension (x: Logarithm)
  def toDouble: Double = math.exp(x)
  def + (y: Logarithm): Logarithm = Logarithm(math.exp(x) + math.exp(y))
  def * (y: Logarithm): Logarithm = x + y

end MyMath

```

This introduces `Logarithm` as a new abstract type, which is implemented as `Double`. The fact that `Logarithm` is the same as `Double` is only known in the scope where `Logarithm` is defined, which in the above example corresponds to the object `MyMath`. Or in other words, within the scope, it is treated as a type alias, but this is opaque to the outside world where, in consequence, `Logarithm` is seen as an abstract type that has nothing to do with `Double`.

The public API of `Logarithm` consists of the `apply` and `safe` methods defined in the companion object. They convert from `Doubles` to `Logarithm` values. Moreover, an operation `toDouble` that converts the other way, and operations `+` and `*` are defined as extension methods on `Logarithm` values. The following operations would be valid because they use functionality implemented in the `MyMath` object.

```

import MyMath.Logarithm

val l = Logarithm(1.0)
val l2 = Logarithm(2.0)
val l3 = l * l2
val l4 = l + l2

```

But the following operations would lead to type errors:

```

val d: Double = 1           // error: found: Logarithm, required: Double
val l2: Logarithm = 1.0     // error: found: Double, required: Logarithm
l * 2                       // error: found: Int(2), required: Logarithm
l / l2                      // error: `/` is not a member of Logarithm

```

6.5.1 Bounds For Opaque Type Aliases

Opaque type aliases can also come with bounds. Example:

```
object Access:
```

```
  opaque type Permissions = Int
```

```

opaque type PermissionChoice = Int
opaque type Permission <: Permissions & PermissionChoice = Int

extension (x: PermissionChoice)
  def | (y: PermissionChoice): PermissionChoice = x | y
extension (x: Permissions)
  def & (y: Permissions): Permissions = x | y
extension (granted: Permissions)
  def is(required: Permissions) = (granted & required) == required
  def isOneOf(required: PermissionChoice) = (granted & required) != 0

val NoPermission: Permission = 0
val Read: Permission = 1
val Write: Permission = 2
val ReadWrite: Permissions = Read | Write
val ReadOrWrite: PermissionChoice = Read | Write

```

end Access

The `Access` object defines three opaque type aliases:

- `Permission`, representing a single permission,
- `Permissions`, representing a set of permissions with the meaning “all of these permissions granted”,
- `PermissionChoice`, representing a set of permissions with the meaning “at least one of these permissions granted”.

Outside the `Access` object, values of type `Permissions` may be combined using the `&` operator, where `x & y` means “all permissions in `x` *and* in `y` granted”. Values of type `PermissionChoice` may be combined using the `|` operator, where `x | y` means “a permission in `x` *or* in `y` granted”.

Note that inside the `Access` object, the `&` and `|` operators always resolve to the corresponding methods of `Int`, because members always take precedence over extension methods. For that reason, the `|` extension method in `Access` does not cause infinite recursion.

In particular, the definition of `ReadWrite` must use `|`, the bitwise operator for `Int`, even though client code outside `Access` would use `&`, the extension method on `Permissions`. The internal representations of `ReadWrite` and `ReadOrWrite` are identical, but this is not visible to the client, which is interested only in the semantics of `Permissions`, as in the example below.

All three opaque type aliases have the same underlying representation type `Int`. The `Permission` type has an upper bound `Permissions & PermissionChoice`. This makes it known outside the `Access` object that `Permission` is a subtype of the other two types. Hence, the following usage scenario type-checks.

```

object User:
  import Access.*

```

```

case class Item(rights: Permissions)
extension (item: Item)
  def +(other: Item): Item = Item(item.rights & other.rights)

val roItem = Item(Read) // OK, since Permission <: Permissions
val woItem = Item(Write)
val rwItem = Item(ReadWrite)
val noItem = Item(NoPermission)

assert(!roItem.rights.is(ReadWrite))
assert(roItem.rights.isOneOf(ReadOrWrite))

assert(rwItem.rights.is(ReadWrite))
assert(rwItem.rights.isOneOf(ReadOrWrite))

assert(!noItem.rights.is(ReadWrite))
assert(!noItem.rights.isOneOf(ReadOrWrite))

assert((roItem + woItem).rights.is(ReadWrite))
end User

```

On the other hand, the call `roItem.rights.isOneOf(ReadWrite)` would give a type error:

```

assert(roItem.rights.isOneOf(ReadWrite))
                          ~~~~~
                          Found:      (Access.ReadWrite : Access.Permissions)
                          Required: Access.PermissionChoice

```

Permissions and PermissionChoice are different, unrelated types outside Access.

6.5.2 Opaque Type Members on Classes

While typically, opaque types are used together with objects to hide implementation details of a module, they can also be used with classes.

For example, we can redefine the above example of Logarithms as a class.

```

class Logarithms:

  opaque type Logarithm = Double

  def apply(d: Double): Logarithm = math.log(d)

  def safe(d: Double): Option[Logarithm] =
    if d > 0.0 then Some(math.log(d)) else None

  def mul(x: Logarithm, y: Logarithm) = x + y

```

Opaque type members of different instances are treated as different:

```
val l1 = new Logarithms
val l2 = new Logarithms
val x = l1(1.5)
val y = l1(2.6)
val z = l2(3.1)
l1.mul(x, y) // type checks
l1.mul(x, z) // error: found l2.Logarithm, required l1.Logarithm
```

In general, one can think of an opaque type as being only transparent in the scope of `private[this]` (unless the type is a top level definition - in this case, it's transparent only within the file it's defined in).

More details

6.6 Open Classes

An `open` modifier on a class signals that the class is planned for extensions. Example:

```
// File Writer.scala
package p

open class Writer[T]:

  /** Sends to stdout, can be overridden */
  def send(x: T) = println(x)

  /** Sends all arguments using `send` */
  def sendAll(xs: T*) = xs.foreach(send)
end Writer

// File EncryptedWriter.scala
package p

class EncryptedWriter[T: Encryptable] extends Writer[T]:
  override def send(x: T) = super.send(encrypt(x))
```

An open class typically comes with some documentation that describes the internal calling patterns between methods of the class as well as hooks that can be overridden. We call this the *extension contract* of the class. It is different from the *external contract* between a class and its users.

Classes that are not open can still be extended, but only if at least one of two alternative conditions is met:

- The extending class is in the same source file as the extended class. In this case, the extension is usually an internal implementation matter.
- The language feature `ad hoc Extensions` is enabled for the extending class.

This is typically enabled by an import clause in the source file of the extension:

```
import scala.language.adhocExtensions
```

Alternatively, the feature can be enabled by the compiler option `-language:adhocExtensions`. If the feature is not enabled, the compiler will issue a “feature” warning. For instance, if the `open` modifier on class `Writer` is dropped, compiling `EncryptedWriter` would produce a warning:

```
-- Feature Warning: EncryptedWriter.scala:6:14 ----
|class EncryptedWriter[T: Encryptable] extends Writer[T]
|
|Unless class Writer is declared 'open', its extension
| in a separate file should be enabled
|by adding the import clause 'import scala.language.adhocExtensions'
|or by setting the compiler option -language:adhocExtensions.
```

6.6.1 Motivation

When writing a class, there are three possible expectations of extensibility:

1. The class is intended to allow extensions. This means one should expect a carefully worked out and documented extension contract for the class.
2. Extensions of the class are forbidden, for instance to make correctness or security guarantees.
3. There is no firm decision either way. The class is not *a priori* intended for extensions, but if others find it useful to extend on an *ad-hoc* basis, let them go ahead. However, they are on their own in this case. There is no documented extension contract, and future versions of the class might break the extensions (by rearranging internal call patterns, for instance).

The three cases are clearly distinguished by using `open` for (1), `final` for (2) and no modifier for (3).

It is good practice to avoid *ad-hoc* extensions in a code base, since they tend to lead to fragile systems that are hard to evolve. But there are still some situations where these extensions are useful: for instance, to mock classes in tests, or to apply temporary patches that add features or fix bugs in library classes. That’s why *ad-hoc* extensions are permitted, but only if there is an explicit opt-in via a language feature import.

6.6.2 Details

- `open` is a soft modifier. It is treated as a normal identifier unless it is in modifier position.
- An `open` class cannot be `final` or `sealed`.
- Traits or `abstract` classes are always `open`, so `open` is redundant for them.

6.6.3 Relationship with `sealed`

A class that is neither `abstract` nor `open` is similar to a `sealed` class: it can still be extended, but only in the same source file. The difference is what happens if an extension of the class is attempted in another source file. For a `sealed` class, this is an error, whereas for a simple non-open class, this is still permitted provided the `adhocExtensions` feature is enabled, and it gives a warning otherwise.

6.6.4 Migration

`open` is a new modifier in Scala 3. To allow cross compilation between Scala 2.13 and Scala 3.0 without warnings, the feature warning for ad-hoc extensions is produced only under `-source future`. It will be produced by default from Scala 3.1 on.

6.7 Parameter Untupling

Say you have a list of pairs

```
val xs: List[(Int, Int)]
```

and you want to map `xs` to a list of `Ints` so that each pair of numbers is mapped to their sum. Previously, the best way to do this was with a pattern-matching decomposition:

```
xs map {
  case (x, y) => x + y
}
```

While correct, this is also inconvenient and confusing, since the `case` suggests that the pattern match could fail. As a shorter and clearer alternative Scala 3 now allows

```
xs.map {
  (x, y) => x + y
}
```

or, equivalently:

```
xs.map(_ + _)
```

and

```
def combine(i: Int, j: Int) = i + j
xs.map(combine)
```

Generally, a function value with $n > 1$ parameters is wrapped in a function type of the form $((T_1, \dots, T_n)) \Rightarrow U$ if that is the expected type. The tuple parameter is decomposed and its elements are passed directly to the underlying function.

More specifically, the adaptation is applied to the mismatching formal parameter list. In particular, the adaptation is not a conversion between function types. That is why the following is not accepted:


```
val combiner: (Int, Int) => Int = _ + _
xs.map(combiner)           // Type Mismatch
```

The function value must be explicitly tupled, rather than the parameters untupled:

```
xs.map(combiner.tupled)
```

Though strongly discouraged, to have the same effect, an implicit conversion may be provided in user code:

```
import scala.language.implicitConversions
```

```
transparent inline given `fallback untupling`: Conversion[(Int, Int) => Int, ((Int,
```

```
xs.map(combiner)
```

Parameter untupling is attempted before conversions are applied, so that a conversion in scope cannot subvert untupling.

6.7.1 Reference

For more information see:

- [More details](#)
- [Issue #897](#).

6.8 Kind Polymorphism

Normally type parameters in Scala are partitioned into *kinds*. First-level types are types of values. Higher-kinded types are type constructors such as `List` or `Map`. The kind of a type is indicated by the top type of which it is a subtype. Normal types are subtypes of `Any`, covariant single argument type constructors such as `List` are subtypes of `[+X] =>> Any`, and the `Map` type constructor is a subtype of `[X, +Y] =>> Any`.

A type can be used only as prescribed by its kind. Subtypes of `Any` cannot be applied to type arguments whereas subtypes of `[X] =>> Any` *must* be applied to a type argument, unless they are passed to type parameters of the same kind.

Sometimes we would like to have type parameters that can have more than one kind, for instance to define an implicit value that works for parameters of any kind. This is now possible through a form of (*subtype*) kind polymorphism. Kind polymorphism relies on the special type `scala.AnyKind` that can be used as an upper bound of a type.

```
def f[T <: AnyKind] = ...
```

The actual type arguments of `f` can then be types of arbitrary kinds. So the following would all be legal:

```
f[Int]
f[List]
```

```
f[Map]
f[[X] =>> String]
```

We call type parameters and abstract types with an `AnyKind` upper bound *any-kinded types*. Since the actual kind of an any-kinded type is unknown, its usage must be heavily restricted: An any-kinded type can be neither the type of a value, nor can it be instantiated with type parameters. So about the only thing one can do with an any-kinded type is to pass it to another any-kinded type argument. Nevertheless, this is enough to achieve some interesting generalizations that work across kinds, typically through advanced uses of implicits.

(todo: insert good concise example)

Some technical details: `AnyKind` is a synthesized class just like `Any`, but without any members. It extends no other class. It is declared `abstract` and `final`, so it can be neither instantiated nor extended.

`AnyKind` plays a special role in Scala's subtype system: It is a supertype of all other types no matter what their kind is. It is also assumed to be kind-compatible with all other types. Furthermore, `AnyKind` is treated as a higher-kinded type (so it cannot be used as a type of values), but at the same time it has no type parameters (so it cannot be instantiated).

Note: This feature is considered experimental but stable and it can be disabled under compiler flag (i.e. `-Yno-kind-polymorphism`).

6.9 The Matchable Trait

A new trait `Matchable` controls the ability to pattern match.

6.9.1 The Problem

The Scala 3 standard library has a type `IArray` for immutable arrays that is defined like this:

```
opaque type IArray[+T] = Array[_ <: T]
```

The `IArray` type offers extension methods for `length` and `apply`, but not for `update`; hence it seems values of type `IArray` cannot be updated.

However, there is a potential hole due to pattern matching. Consider:

```
val imm: IArray[Int] = ...
imm match
  case a: Array[Int] => a(0) = 1
```

The test will succeed at runtime since `IArrays` are represented as `Arrays` at runtime. But if we allowed it, it would break the fundamental abstraction of immutable arrays.

Aside: One could also achieve the same by casting:

```
imm.asInstanceOf[Array[Int]](0) = 1
```

But that is not as much of a problem since in Scala `asInstanceOf` is understood to be low-level and unsafe. By contrast, a pattern match that compiles without warning or error should not break abstractions.

Note also that the problem is not tied to `opaque types` as match selectors. The following slight variant with a value of parametric type `T` as match selector leads to the same problem:

```
def f[T](x: T) = x match
  case a: Array[Int] => a(0) = 0
f(imm)
```

Finally, note that the problem is not linked to just `opaque types`. No unbounded type parameter or abstract type should be decomposable with a pattern match.

6.9.2 The Solution

There is a new type `scala.Matchable` that controls pattern matching. When typing a pattern match of a constructor pattern `C(...)` or a type pattern `_: C` it is required that the selector type conforms to `Matchable`. If that's not the case a warning is issued. For instance when compiling the example at the start of this section we get:

```
> sc ../new/test.scala -source future
-- Warning: ../new/test.scala:4:12 -----
4 |     case a: Array[Int] => a(0) = 0
  |           ~~~~~
  |           pattern selector should be an instance of Matchable,
  |           but it has unmatchable type IArray[Int] instead
```

To allow migration from Scala 2 and cross-compiling between Scala 2 and 3 the warning is turned on only for `-source future-migration` or higher.

`Matchable` is a universal trait with `Any` as its parent class. It is extended by both `AnyVal` and `AnyRef`. Since `Matchable` is a supertype of every concrete value or reference class it means that instances of such classes can be matched as before. However, match selectors of the following types will produce a warning:

- Type `Any`: if pattern matching is required one should use `Matchable` instead.
- Unbounded type parameters and abstract types: If pattern matching is required they should have an upper bound `Matchable`.
- Type parameters and abstract types that are only bounded by some universal trait: Again, `Matchable` should be added as a bound.

Here is the hierarchy of top-level classes and traits with their defined methods:

```
abstract class Any:
  def getClass
  def isInstanceOf
  def asInstanceOf
  def ==
  def !=
```

```

def ##
def equals
def hashCode
def toString

trait Matchable extends Any

class AnyVal extends Any, Matchable
class Object extends Any, Matchable

```

`Matchable` is currently a marker trait without any methods. Over time we might migrate methods `getClass` and `isInstanceOf` to it, since these are closely related to pattern-matching.

6.9.3 Matchable and Universal Equality

Methods that pattern-match on selectors of type `Any` will need a cast once the `Matchable` warning is turned on. The most common such method is the universal `equals` method. It will have to be written as in the following example:

```

class C(val x: String):

  override def equals(that: Any): Boolean =
    that.asInstanceOf[Matchable] match
      case that: C => this.x == that.x
      case _ => false

```

The cast of `that` to `Matchable` serves as an indication that universal equality is unsafe in the presence of abstract types and opaque types since it cannot properly distinguish the meaning of a type from its representation. The cast is guaranteed to succeed at run-time since `Any` and `Matchable` both erase to `Object`.

For instance, consider the definitions

```

opaque type Meter = Double
def Meter(x: Double): Meter = x

opaque type Second = Double
def Second(x: Double): Second = x

```

Here, universal `equals` will return true for

```
Meter(10).equals(Second(10))
```

even though this is clearly false mathematically. With `multiversal equality` one can mitigate that problem somewhat by turning

```

import scala.language.strictEquality
Meter(10) == Second(10)

```

into a type error.

6.10 @threadUnsafe Annotation

A new annotation `@threadUnsafe` can be used on a field which defines a `lazy val`. When this annotation is used, the initialization of the `lazy val` will use a faster mechanism which is not thread-safe.

6.10.1 Example

```
import scala.annotation.threadUnsafe

class Hello:
  @threadUnsafe lazy val x: Int = 1
```

6.11 @targetName Annotations

A `@targetName` annotation on a definition defines an alternate name for the implementation of that definition. Example:

```
import scala.annotation.targetName

object VecOps:
  extension [T] (xs: Vec[T])
    @targetName("append")
    def ++= [T] (ys: Vec[T]): Vec[T] = ...
```

Here, the `++=` operation is implemented (in Byte code or native code) under the name `append`. The implementation name affects the code that is generated, and is the name under which code from other languages can call the method. For instance, `++=` could be invoked from Java like this:

```
VecOps.append(vec1, vec2)
```

The `@targetName` annotation has no bearing on Scala usages. Any application of that method in Scala has to use `++=`, not `append`.

6.11.1 Details

1. `@targetName` is defined in package `scala.annotation`. It takes a single argument of type `String`. That string is called the *external name* of the definition that's annotated.
2. A `@targetName` annotation can be given for all kinds of definitions except a top-level `class`, `trait`, or `object`.
3. The name given in a `@targetName` annotation must be a legal name for the defined entities on the host platform.
4. It is recommended that definitions with symbolic names have a `@targetName` annotation. This will establish an alternate name that is easier to search for and will avoid cryptic encodings in runtime diagnostics.

- Definitions with names in backticks that are not legal host platform names should also have a `@targetName` annotation.

6.11.2 Relationship with Overriding

`@targetName` annotations are significant for matching two method definitions to decide whether they conflict or override each other. Two method definitions match if they have the same name, signature, and erased name. Here,

- The *signature* of a definition consists of the names of the erased types of all (value-) parameters and the method's result type.
- The *erased name* of a method definition is its target name if a `@targetName` annotation is given and its defined name otherwise.

This means that `@targetName` annotations can be used to disambiguate two method definitions that would otherwise clash. For instance.

```
def f(x: => String): Int = x.length
def f(x: => Int): Int = x + 1 // error: double definition
```

The two definitions above clash since their erased parameter types are both `Function0`, which is the type of the translation of a by-name-parameter. Hence they have the same names and signatures. But we can avoid the clash by adding a `@targetName` annotation to either method or to both of them. Example:

```
@targetName("f_string")
def f(x: => String): Int = x.length
def f(x: => Int): Int = x + 1 // OK
```

This will produce methods `f_string` and `f` in the generated code.

However, `@targetName` annotations are not allowed to break overriding relationships between two definitions that have otherwise the same names and types. So the following would be in error:

```
import annotation.targetName
class A:
  def f(): Int = 1
class B extends A:
  @targetName("g") def f(): Int = 2
```

The compiler reports here:

```
-- Error: test.scala:6:23 -----
6 |  @targetName("g") def f(): Int = 2
  |                      ^
  |error overriding method f in class A of type (): Int;
  | method f of type (): Int should not have a @targetName
  | annotation since the overridden member hasn't one either
```

The relevant overriding rules can be summarized as follows:

- Two members can override each other if their names and signatures are the same, and they either have the same erased names or the same types.
- If two members override, then both their erased names and their types must be the same.

As usual, any overriding relationship in the generated code must also be present in the original code. So the following example would also be an error:

```
import annotation.targetName
class A:
  def f(): Int = 1
class B extends A:
  @targetName("f") def g(): Int = 2
```

Here, the original methods `g` and `f` do not override each other since they have different names. But once we switch to target names, there is a clash that is reported by the compiler:

```
-- [E120] Naming Error: test.scala:4:6 -----
4 |class B extends A:
  |      ^
  |      Name clash between defined and inherited member:
  |      def f(): Int in class A at line 3 and
  |      def g(): Int in class B at line 5
  |      have the same name and type after erasure.
1 error found
```

6.12 New Control Syntax [↗](#)

Scala 3 has a new “quiet” syntax for control expressions that does not rely on enclosing the condition in parentheses, and also allows to drop parentheses or braces around the generators of a `for`-expression. Examples:

```
if x < 0 then
  "negative"
else if x == 0 then
  "zero"
else
  "positive"

if x < 0 then -x else x

while x >= 0 do x = f(x)

for x <- xs if x > 0
yield x * x

for
  x <- xs
```

```

    y <- ys
do
    println(x + y)

try body
catch case ex: IOException => handle

```

The rules in detail are:

- The condition of an **if**-expression can be written without enclosing parentheses if it is followed by a **then**.
- The condition of a **while**-loop can be written without enclosing parentheses if it is followed by a **do**.
- The enumerators of a **for**-expression can be written without enclosing parentheses or braces if they are followed by a **yield** or **do**.
- A **do** in a **for**-expression expresses a **for**-loop.
- A **catch** can be followed by a single case on the same line. If there are multiple cases, these have to appear within braces (just like in Scala 2) or an indented block. `## Rewrites`

The Scala 3 compiler can rewrite source code from old syntax to new syntax and back. When invoked with options `-rewrite -new-syntax` it will rewrite from old to new syntax, dropping parentheses and braces in conditions and enumerators. When invoked with options `-rewrite -old-syntax` it will rewrite in the reverse direction, inserting parentheses and braces as needed.

6.13 Optional Braces

Scala 3 enforces some rules on indentation and allows some occurrences of braces `{...}` to be optional:

- First, some badly indented programs are flagged with warnings.
- Second, some occurrences of braces `{...}` are made optional. Generally, the rule is that adding a pair of optional braces will not change the meaning of a well-indented program.

These changes can be turned off with the compiler flag `-no-indent`.

6.13.1 Indentation Rules

The compiler enforces two rules for well-indented programs, flagging violations as warnings.

1. In a brace-delimited region, no statement is allowed to start to the left of the first statement after the opening brace that starts a new line.

This rule is helpful for finding missing closing braces. It prevents errors like:

```

if (x < 0) {
    println(1)
    println(2)

```



```
println("done") // error: indented too far to the left
```

2. If significant indentation is turned off (i.e. under Scala 2 mode or under `-no-indent`) and we are at the start of an indented sub-part of an expression, and the indented part ends in a newline, the next statement must start at an indentation width less than the sub-part. This prevents errors where an opening brace was forgotten, as in

```
if (x < 0)
  println(1)
  println(2) // error: missing `{`
```

These rules still leave a lot of leeway how programs should be indented. For instance, they do not impose any restrictions on indentation within expressions, nor do they require that all statements of an indentation block line up exactly.

The rules are generally helpful in pinpointing the root cause of errors related to missing opening or closing braces. These errors are often quite hard to diagnose, in particular in large programs.

6.13.2 Optional Braces

The compiler will insert `<indent>` or `<outdent>` tokens at certain line breaks. Grammatically, pairs of `<indent>` and `<outdent>` tokens have the same effect as pairs of braces `{` and `}`.

The algorithm makes use of a stack `IW` of previously encountered indentation widths. The stack initially holds a single element with a zero indentation width. The *current indentation width* is the indentation width of the top of the stack.

There are two rules:

1. An `<indent>` is inserted at a line break, if
 - An indentation region can start at the current position in the source, and
 - the first token on the next line has an indentation width strictly greater than the current indentation width

An indentation region can start

- after the leading parameters of an `extension`, or
- after a `with` in a given instance, or
- after a `:` at the start of a template body (see discussion of `<colon>` below), or
- after one of the following tokens:


```
= => ?=> <- catch do else finally for
if match return then throw try while yield
```
- after the closing `)` of a condition in an old-style `if` or `while`.

- after the closing `)` or `}` of the enumerations of an old-style `for` loop without a `do`.

If an `<indent>` is inserted, the indentation width of the token on the next line is pushed onto `IW`, which makes it the new current indentation width.

2. An `<outdent>` is inserted at a line break, if

- the first token on the next line has an indentation width strictly less than the current indentation width, and
- the last token on the previous line is not one of the following tokens which indicate that the previous statement continues:

`then else do catch finally yield match`

- if the first token on the next line is a **leading infix operator**. then its indentation width is less then the current indentation width, and it either matches a previous indentation width or is also less than the enclosing indentation width.

If an `<outdent>` is inserted, the top element is popped from `IW`. If the indentation width of the token on the next line is still less than the new current indentation width, step (2) repeats. Therefore, several `<outdent>` tokens may be inserted in a row.

The following two additional rules support parsing of legacy code with ad-hoc layout. They might be withdrawn in future language versions:

- An `<outdent>` is also inserted if the next token following a statement sequence starting with an `<indent>` closes an indentation region, i.e. is one of `then`, `else`, `do`, `catch`, `finally`, `yield`, `}`, `)`, `]` or `case`.
- An `<outdent>` is finally inserted in front of a comma that follows a statement sequence starting with an `<indent>` if the indented region is itself enclosed in parentheses.

It is an error if the indentation width of the token following an `<outdent>` does not match the indentation of some previous line in the enclosing indentation region. For instance, the following would be rejected.

```
if x < 0 then
  -x
else // error: `else` does not align correctly
  x
```

Indentation tokens are only inserted in regions where newline statement separators are also inferred: at the top-level, inside braces `{...}`, but not inside parentheses `(...)`, patterns or types.

Note: The rules for leading infix operators above are there to make sure that

```
one
+ two.match
```

```
    case 1 => b
    case 2 => c
+ three
```

is parsed as `one + (two.match ...) + three`. Also, that

```
if x then
  a
+ b
+ c
else d
```

is parsed as `if x then a + b + c else d`.

6.13.3 Optional Braces Around Template Bodies

The Scala grammar uses the term *template body* for the definitions of a class, trait, or object that are normally enclosed in braces. The braces around a template body can also be omitted by means of the following rule.

A template body can alternatively consist of a colon followed by one or more indented statements. To this purpose we introduce a new `<colon>` token that reads as the standard colon “:” but is generated instead of it where `<colon>` is legal according to the context free syntax, but only if the previous token is an alphanumeric identifier, a backticked identifier, or one of the tokens `this`, `super`, “)”, and “]”.

An indentation region can start after a `<colon>`. A template body may be either enclosed in braces, or it may start with `<colon>` `<indent>` and end with `<outdent>`. Analogous rules apply for enum bodies, type refinements, and local packages containing nested definitions.

With these new rules, the following constructs are all valid:

```
trait A:
  def f: Int

class C(x: Int) extends A:
  def f = x

object O:
  def f = 3

enum Color:
  case Red, Green, Blue

new A:
  def f = 3

package p:
  def a = 1
```

```
package q:
  def b = 2
```

In each case, the `:` at the end of line can be replaced without change of meaning by a pair of braces that enclose the following indented definition(s).

The syntax changes allowing this are as follows:

Define for an arbitrary sequence of tokens or non-terminals TS:

```
:<<< TS >>> ::= '{' TS '}'
               | <colon> <indent" TS <outdent>
```

Then the grammar changes as follows:

```
TemplateBody ::= :<<< [SelfType] TemplateStat {semi TemplateStat} >>>
EnumBody     ::= :<<< [SelfType] EnumStat {semi EnumStat} >>>
Refinement   ::= :<<< [RefineDcl] {semi [RefineDcl]} >>>
Packaging    ::= 'package' QualId :<<< TopStats >>>
```

6.13.4 Optional Braces for Method Arguments

Starting with Scala 3.3, a `<colon>` token is also recognized where a function argument would be expected. Examples:

```
times(10):
  println("ah")
  println("ha")
```

or

```
credentials `++`:
  val file = Path.userHome / ".credentials"
  if file.exists
  then Seq(Credentials(file))
  else Seq()
```

or

```
xs.map:
  x =>
    val y = x - 1
    y * y
```

What's more, a `:` in these settings can also be followed on the same line by the parameter part and arrow of a lambda. So the last example could be compressed to this:

```
xs.map: x =>
  val y = x - 1
  y * y
```

and the following would also be legal:

```
xs.foldLeft(0): (x, y) =>
  x + y
```

The grammar changes for optional braces around arguments are as follows.

```
SimpleExpr      ::=  ...
                  |  SimpleExpr ColonArgument
InfixExpr       ::=  ...
                  |  InfixExpr id ColonArgument
ColonArgument   ::=  colon [LambdaStart]
                   indent (CaseClauses | Block) outdent
LambdaStart     ::=  FunParams ('=>' | '?=>')
                   |  HkTypeParamClause '=>'
```

6.13.5 Spaces vs Tabs

Indentation prefixes can consist of spaces and/or tabs. Indentation widths are the indentation prefixes themselves, ordered by the string prefix relation. So, for instance “2 tabs, followed by 4 spaces” is strictly less than “2 tabs, followed by 5 spaces”, but “2 tabs, followed by 4 spaces” is incomparable to “6 tabs” or to “4 spaces, followed by 2 tabs”. It is an error if the indentation width of some line is incomparable with the indentation width of the region that’s current at that point. To avoid such errors, it is a good idea not to mix spaces and tabs in the same source file.

6.13.6 Indentation and Braces

Indentation can be mixed freely with braces `{...}`, as well as brackets `[...]` and parentheses `(...)`. For interpreting indentation inside such regions, the following rules apply.

1. The assumed indentation width of a multiline region enclosed in braces is the indentation width of the first token that starts a new line after the opening brace.
2. The assumed indentation width of a multiline region inside brackets or parentheses is:
 - if the opening bracket or parenthesis is at the end of a line, the indentation width of token following it,
 - otherwise, the indentation width of the enclosing region.
3. On encountering a closing brace `}`, bracket `]` or parenthesis `)`, as many `<outdent>` tokens as necessary are inserted to close all open nested indentation regions.

For instance, consider:

```
{
  val x = f(x: Int, y =>
    x * (
```

```

    y + 1
  ) +
  (x +
  x)
)
}

```

- Here, the indentation width of the region enclosed by the braces is 3 (i.e. the indentation width of the statement starting with `val`).
- The indentation width of the region in parentheses that follows `f` is also 3, since the opening parenthesis is not at the end of a line.
- The indentation width of the region in parentheses around `y + 1` is 9 (i.e. the indentation width of `y + 1`).
- Finally, the indentation width of the last region in parentheses starting with `(x` is 6 (i.e. the indentation width of the indented region following the `=>`).

6.13.7 Special Treatment of Case Clauses

The indentation rules for `match` expressions and `catch` clauses are refined as follows:

- An indentation region is opened after a `match` or `catch` also if the following `case` appears at the indentation width that's current for the `match` itself.
- In that case, the indentation region closes at the first token at that same indentation width that is not a `case`, or at any token with a smaller indentation width, whichever comes first.

The rules allow to write `match` expressions where cases are not indented themselves, as in the example below:

```

x match
case 1 => print("I")
case 2 => print("II")
case 3 => print("III")
case 4 => print("IV")
case 5 => print("V")

println(".")

```

6.13.8 Using Indentation to Signal Statement Continuation

Indentation is used in some situations to decide whether to insert a virtual semicolon between two consecutive lines or to treat them as one statement. Virtual semicolon insertion is suppressed if the second line is indented more relative to the first one, and either the second line starts with `(`, `[`, or `{` or the first line ends with `return`. Examples:

```

f(x + 1)
  (2, 3)           // equivalent to `f(x + 1)(2, 3)`

```

```

g(x + 1)
(2, 3)           // equivalent to `g(x + 1); (2, 3)`

h(x + 1)
  {}             // equivalent to `h(x + 1){}`

i(x + 1)
  {}             // equivalent to `i(x + 1); {}`

if x < 0 then return
  a + b          // equivalent to `if x < 0 then return a + b`

if x < 0 then return
println(a + b)   // equivalent to `if x < 0 then return; println(a + b)`

```

In Scala 2, a line starting with “{” always continues the function call on the preceding line, irrespective of indentation, whereas a virtual semicolon is inserted in all other cases. The Scala-2 behavior is retained under source `-no-indent` or `-source 3.0-migration`.

6.13.9 The End Marker

Indentation-based syntax has many advantages over other conventions. But one possible problem is that it makes it hard to discern when a large indentation region ends, since there is no specific token that delineates the end. Braces are not much better since a brace by itself also contains no information about what region is closed.

To solve this problem, Scala 3 offers an optional **end** marker. Example:

```

def largeMethod(...) =
  ...
  if ... then ...
  else
    ... // a large block
  end if
  ... // more code
end largeMethod

```

An **end** marker consists of the identifier **end** and a follow-on specifier token that together constitute all the tokens of a line. Possible specifier tokens are identifiers or one of the following keywords

```

if   while   for   match   try   new   this   val   given

```

End markers are allowed in statement sequences. The specifier token **s** of an end marker must correspond to the statement that precedes it. This means:

- If the statement defines a member **x** then **s** must be the same identifier **x**.
- If the statement defines a constructor then **s** must be **this**.
- If the statement defines an anonymous given, then **s** must be **given**.

- If the statement defines an anonymous extension, then **s** must be **extension**.
- If the statement defines an anonymous class, then **s** must be **new**.
- If the statement is a **val** definition binding a pattern, then **s** must be **val**.
- If the statement is a package clause that refers to package **p**, then **s** must be the same identifier **p**.
- If the statement is an **if**, **while**, **for**, **try**, or **match** statement, then **s** must be that same token.

For instance, the following end markers are all legal:

```
package p1.p2:
```

```
abstract class C():
```

```
  def this(x: Int) =
    this()
    if x > 0 then
      val a :: b =
        x :: Nil
      end val
      var y =
        x
      end y
      while y > 0 do
        println(y)
        y -= 1
      end while
      try
        x match
          case 0 => println("0")
          case _ =>
        end match
      finally
        println("done")
      end try
    end if
  end this
```

```
  def f: String
end C
```

```
object C:
  given C =
    new C:
      def f = "!"
      end f
    end new
```



```

    end given
  end C

  extension (x: C)
    def ff: String = x.f ++ x.f
  end extension

end p2

```

6.13.9.1 When to Use End Markers It is recommended that `end` markers are used for code where the extent of an indentation region is not immediately apparent “at a glance”. People will have different preferences what this means, but one can nevertheless give some guidelines that stem from experience. An end marker makes sense if

- the construct contains blank lines, or
- the construct is long, say 15-20 lines or more,
- the construct ends heavily indented, say 4 indentation levels or more.

If none of these criteria apply, it’s often better to not use an end marker since the code will be just as clear and more concise. If there are several ending regions that satisfy one of the criteria above, we usually need an end marker only for the outermost closed region. So cascades of end markers as in the example above are usually better avoided.

6.13.9.2 Syntax

```

EndMarker      ::= 'end' EndMarkerTag    -- when followed by EOL
EndMarkerTag   ::= id | 'if' | 'while' | 'for' | 'match' | 'try'
                  | 'new' | 'this' | 'given' | 'extension' | 'val'
BlockStat      ::= ... | EndMarker
TemplateStat   ::= ... | EndMarker
TopStat        ::= ... | EndMarker

```

6.13.10 Example

Here is a (somewhat meta-circular) example of code using indentation. It provides a concrete representation of indentation widths as defined above together with efficient operations for constructing and comparing indentation widths.

```

enum IndentWidth:
  case Run(ch: Char, n: Int)
  case Conc(l: IndentWidth, r: Run)

def <= (that: IndentWidth): Boolean = this match
  case Run(ch1, n1) =>
    that match
      case Run(ch2, n2) => n1 <= n2 && (ch1 == ch2 || n1 == 0)

```

```

    case Conc(l, r)    => this <= 1
  case Conc(l1, r1) =>
    that match
      case Conc(l2, r2) => l1 == l2 && r1 <= r2
      case _             => false

  def < (that: IndentWidth): Boolean =
    this <= that && !(that <= this)

  override def toString: String =
    this match
      case Run(ch, n) =>
        val kind = ch match
          case ' ' => "space"
          case '\t' => "tab"
          case _   => s"$ch'-character"
        val suffix = if n == 1 then "" else "s"
        s"$n $kind$suffix"
      case Conc(l, r) =>
        s"$l, $r"

object IndentWidth:
  private inline val MaxCached = 40

  private val spaces = IArray.tabulate(MaxCached + 1)(new Run(' ', _))
  private val tabs   = IArray.tabulate(MaxCached + 1)(new Run('\t', _))

  def Run(ch: Char, n: Int): Run =
    if n <= MaxCached && ch == ' ' then
      spaces(n)
    else if n <= MaxCached && ch == '\t' then
      tabs(n)
    else
      new Run(ch, n)
  end Run

  val Zero = Run(' ', 0)
end IndentWidth

```

6.13.11 Settings and Rewrites

Significant indentation is enabled by default. It can be turned off by giving any of the options `-no-indent`, `-old-syntax` and `-source 3.0-migration`. If indentation is turned off, it is nevertheless checked that indentation conforms to the logical program structure as defined by braces. If that is not the case, the compiler issues a warning.

The Scala 3 compiler can rewrite source code to indented code and back. When

invoked with options `-rewrite -indent` it will rewrite braces to indented regions where possible. When invoked with options `-rewrite -no-indent` it will rewrite in the reverse direction, inserting braces for indentation regions. The `-indent` option only works on **new-style syntax**. So to go from old-style syntax to new-style indented code one has to invoke the compiler twice, first with options `-rewrite -new-syntax`, then again with options `-rewrite -indent`. To go in the opposite direction, from indented code to old-style syntax, it's `-rewrite -no-indent`, followed by `-rewrite -old-syntax`.

6.14 Fewer Braces

Scala 3 enforces some rules on indentation and allows some occurrences of braces `{...}` to be optional:

- First, some badly indented programs are flagged with warnings.
- Second, some occurrences of braces `{...}` are made optional. Generally, the rule is that adding a pair of optional braces will not change the meaning of a well-indented program.

These changes can be turned off with the compiler flag `-no-indent`.

6.14.1 Indentation Rules

The compiler enforces two rules for well-indented programs, flagging violations as warnings.

1. In a brace-delimited region, no statement is allowed to start to the left of the first statement after the opening brace that starts a new line.

This rule is helpful for finding missing closing braces. It prevents errors like:

```
if (x < 0) {
  println(1)
  println(2)

println("done") // error: indented too far to the left
```

2. If significant indentation is turned off (i.e. under Scala 2 mode or under `-no-indent`) and we are at the start of an indented sub-part of an expression, and the indented part ends in a newline, the next statement must start at an indentation width less than the sub-part. This prevents errors where an opening brace was forgotten, as in

```
if (x < 0)
  println(1)
  println(2) // error: missing `{`
```

These rules still leave a lot of leeway how programs should be indented. For instance, they do not impose any restrictions on indentation within expressions, nor do they require that all statements of an indentation block line up exactly.

The rules are generally helpful in pinpointing the root cause of errors related to missing opening or closing braces. These errors are often quite hard to diagnose, in particular in large programs.

6.14.2 Optional Braces

The compiler will insert `<indent>` or `<outdent>` tokens at certain line breaks. Grammatically, pairs of `<indent>` and `<outdent>` tokens have the same effect as pairs of braces `{` and `}`.

The algorithm makes use of a stack `IW` of previously encountered indentation widths. The stack initially holds a single element with a zero indentation width. The *current indentation width* is the indentation width of the top of the stack.

There are two rules:

1. An `<indent>` is inserted at a line break, if
 - An indentation region can start at the current position in the source, and
 - the first token on the next line has an indentation width strictly greater than the current indentation width

An indentation region can start

- after the leading parameters of an `extension`, or
- after a `with` in a given instance, or
- after a `:` at the start of a template body (see discussion of `<colon>` below), or
- after one of the following tokens:

```
= => ?=> <- catch do else finally for
if match return then throw try while yield
```
- after the closing `)` of a condition in an old-style `if` or `while`.
- after the closing `)` or `}` of the enumerations of an old-style `for` loop without a `do`.

If an `<indent>` is inserted, the indentation width of the token on the next line is pushed onto `IW`, which makes it the new current indentation width.

2. An `<outdent>` is inserted at a line break, if
 - the first token on the next line has an indentation width strictly less than the current indentation width, and
 - the last token on the previous line is not one of the following tokens which indicate that the previous statement continues:

```
then else do catch finally yield match
```
 - if the first token on the next line is a **leading infix operator**, then its indentation width is less than the current indentation width, and it either

matches a previous indentation width or is also less than the enclosing indentation width.

If an `<outdent>` is inserted, the top element is popped from `IW`. If the indentation width of the token on the next line is still less than the new current indentation width, step (2) repeats. Therefore, several `<outdent>` tokens may be inserted in a row.

The following two additional rules support parsing of legacy code with ad-hoc layout. They might be withdrawn in future language versions:

- An `<outdent>` is also inserted if the next token following a statement sequence starting with an `<indent>` closes an indentation region, i.e. is one of `then`, `else`, `do`, `catch`, `finally`, `yield`, `}`, `)`, `]` or `case`.
- An `<outdent>` is finally inserted in front of a comma that follows a statement sequence starting with an `<indent>` if the indented region is itself enclosed in parentheses.

It is an error if the indentation width of the token following an `<outdent>` does not match the indentation of some previous line in the enclosing indentation region. For instance, the following would be rejected.

```
if x < 0 then
  -x
else    // error: `else` does not align correctly
  x
```

Indentation tokens are only inserted in regions where newline statement separators are also inferred: at the top-level, inside braces `{...}`, but not inside parentheses `(...)`, patterns or types.

Note: The rules for leading infix operators above are there to make sure that

```
one
+ two.match
    case 1 => b
    case 2 => c
+ three
```

is parsed as `one + (two.match ...) + three`. Also, that

```
if x then
  a
  + b
  + c
else d
```

is parsed as `if x then a + b + c else d`.

6.14.3 Optional Braces Around Template Bodies

The Scala grammar uses the term *template body* for the definitions of a class, trait, or object that are normally enclosed in braces. The braces around a template body can also be omitted by means of the following rule.

A template body can alternatively consist of a colon followed by one or more indented statements. To this purpose we introduce a new `<colon>` token that reads as the standard colon “:” but is generated instead of it where `<colon>` is legal according to the context free syntax, but only if the previous token is an alphanumeric identifier, a backticked identifier, or one of the tokens `this`, `super`, “)”, and “]”.

An indentation region can start after a `<colon>`. A template body may be either enclosed in braces, or it may start with `<colon>` `<indent>` and end with `<outdent>`. Analogous rules apply for enum bodies, type refinements, and local packages containing nested definitions.

With these new rules, the following constructs are all valid:

```
trait A:
  def f: Int

class C(x: Int) extends A:
  def f = x

object O:
  def f = 3

enum Color:
  case Red, Green, Blue

new A:
  def f = 3

package p:
  def a = 1

package q:
  def b = 2
```

In each case, the `:` at the end of line can be replaced without change of meaning by a pair of braces that enclose the following indented definition(s).

The syntax changes allowing this are as follows:

Define for an arbitrary sequence of tokens or non-terminals TS:

```
:<<< TS >>> ::= '{' TS '}'
               | <colon> <indent> TS <outdent>
```

Then the grammar changes as follows:

```

TemplateBody      ::= :<<< [SelfType] TemplateStat {semi TemplateStat} >>>
EnumBody          ::= :<<< [SelfType] EnumStat {semi EnumStat} >>>
Refinement        ::= :<<< [RefineDcl] {semi [RefineDcl]} >>>
Packaging         ::= 'package' QualId :<<< TopStats >>>

```

6.14.4 Optional Braces for Method Arguments

Starting with Scala 3.3, a `<colon>` token is also recognized where a function argument would be expected. Examples:

```

times(10):
  println("ah")
  println("ha")

```

or

```

credentials `++`:
  val file = Path.userHome / ".credentials"
  if file.exists
  then Seq(Credentials(file))
  else Seq()

```

or

```

xs.map:
  x =>
    val y = x - 1
    y * y

```

What's more, a `:` in these settings can also be followed on the same line by the parameter part and arrow of a lambda. So the last example could be compressed to this:

```

xs.map: x =>
  val y = x - 1
  y * y

```

and the following would also be legal:

```

xs.foldLeft(0): (x, y) =>
  x + y

```

The grammar changes for optional braces around arguments are as follows.

```

SimpleExpr        ::= ...
                  | SimpleExpr ColonArgument
InfixExpr          ::= ...
                  | InfixExpr id ColonArgument
ColonArgument      ::= colon [LambdaStart]
                   indent (CaseClauses | Block) outdent
LambdaStart        ::= FunParams ('=>' | '?=>')
                  | HkTypeParamClause '=>'

```

6.14.5 Spaces vs Tabs

Indentation prefixes can consist of spaces and/or tabs. Indentation widths are the indentation prefixes themselves, ordered by the string prefix relation. So, for instance “2 tabs, followed by 4 spaces” is strictly less than “2 tabs, followed by 5 spaces”, but “2 tabs, followed by 4 spaces” is incomparable to “6 tabs” or to “4 spaces, followed by 2 tabs”. It is an error if the indentation width of some line is incomparable with the indentation width of the region that’s current at that point. To avoid such errors, it is a good idea not to mix spaces and tabs in the same source file.

6.14.6 Indentation and Braces

Indentation can be mixed freely with braces `{...}`, as well as brackets `[...]` and parentheses `(...)`. For interpreting indentation inside such regions, the following rules apply.

1. The assumed indentation width of a multiline region enclosed in braces is the indentation width of the first token that starts a new line after the opening brace.
2. The assumed indentation width of a multiline region inside brackets or parentheses is:
 - if the opening bracket or parenthesis is at the end of a line, the indentation width of token following it,
 - otherwise, the indentation width of the enclosing region.
3. On encountering a closing brace `}`, bracket `]` or parenthesis `)`, as many `<outdent>` tokens as necessary are inserted to close all open nested indentation regions.

For instance, consider:

```
{
  val x = f(x: Int, y =>
    x * (
      y + 1
    ) +
    (x +
     x)
  )
}
```

- Here, the indentation width of the region enclosed by the braces is 3 (i.e. the indentation width of the statement starting with `val`).
- The indentation width of the region in parentheses that follows `f` is also 3, since the opening parenthesis is not at the end of a line.
- The indentation width of the region in parentheses around `y + 1` is 9 (i.e. the indentation width of `y + 1`).

- Finally, the indentation width of the last region in parentheses starting with `(x` is 6 (i.e. the indentation width of the indented region following the `=>`).

6.14.7 Special Treatment of Case Clauses

The indentation rules for `match` expressions and `catch` clauses are refined as follows:

- An indentation region is opened after a `match` or `catch` also if the following `case` appears at the indentation width that's current for the `match` itself.
- In that case, the indentation region closes at the first token at that same indentation width that is not a `case`, or at any token with a smaller indentation width, whichever comes first.

The rules allow to write `match` expressions where cases are not indented themselves, as in the example below:

```
x match
case 1 => print("I")
case 2 => print("II")
case 3 => print("III")
case 4 => print("IV")
case 5 => print("V")
```

```
println(". ")
```

6.14.8 Using Indentation to Signal Statement Continuation

Indentation is used in some situations to decide whether to insert a virtual semicolon between two consecutive lines or to treat them as one statement. Virtual semicolon insertion is suppressed if the second line is indented more relative to the first one, and either the second line starts with “(”, “[”, or “{” or the first line ends with `return`. Examples:

```
f(x + 1)
  (2, 3)           // equivalent to `f(x + 1)(2, 3)`

g(x + 1)
  (2, 3)           // equivalent to `g(x + 1); (2, 3)`

h(x + 1)
  {}              // equivalent to `h(x + 1){}`

i(x + 1)
  {}              // equivalent to `i(x + 1); {}`

if x < 0 then return
  a + b           // equivalent to `if x < 0 then return a + b`
```

```
if x < 0 then return
println(a + b) // equivalent to `if x < 0 then return; println(a + b)`
```

In Scala 2, a line starting with “{” always continues the function call on the preceding line, irrespective of indentation, whereas a virtual semicolon is inserted in all other cases. The Scala-2 behavior is retained under source `-no-indent` or `-source 3.0-migration`.

6.14.9 The End Marker

Indentation-based syntax has many advantages over other conventions. But one possible problem is that it makes it hard to discern when a large indentation region ends, since there is no specific token that delineates the end. Braces are not much better since a brace by itself also contains no information about what region is closed.

To solve this problem, Scala 3 offers an optional end marker. Example:

```
def largeMethod(...) =
  ...
  if ... then ...
  else
    ... // a large block
  end if
  ... // more code
end largeMethod
```

An end marker consists of the identifier `end` and a follow-on specifier token that together constitute all the tokens of a line. Possible specifier tokens are identifiers or one of the following keywords

```
if   while   for   match   try   new   this   val   given
```

End markers are allowed in statement sequences. The specifier token `s` of an end marker must correspond to the statement that precedes it. This means:

- If the statement defines a member `x` then `s` must be the same identifier `x`.
- If the statement defines a constructor then `s` must be `this`.
- If the statement defines an anonymous given, then `s` must be `given`.
- If the statement defines an anonymous extension, then `s` must be `extension`.
- If the statement defines an anonymous class, then `s` must be `new`.
- If the statement is a `val` definition binding a pattern, then `s` must be `val`.
- If the statement is a package clause that refers to package `p`, then `s` must be the same identifier `p`.
- If the statement is an `if`, `while`, `for`, `try`, or `match` statement, then `s` must be that same token.

For instance, the following end markers are all legal:

```
package p1.p2:

  abstract class C():
```

```
def this(x: Int) =
  this()
  if x > 0 then
    val a :: b =
      x :: Nil
    end val
    var y =
      x
    end y
    while y > 0 do
      println(y)
      y -= 1
    end while
    try
      x match
        case 0 => println("0")
        case _ =>
        end match
      finally
        println("done")
      end try
    end if
  end this

def f: String
end C

object C:
  given C =
    new C:
      def f = "!"
      end f
    end new
  end given
end C

extension (x: C)
  def ff: String = x.f ++ x.f
end extension

end p2
```

6.14.9.1 When to Use End Markers It is recommended that `end` markers are used for code where the extent of an indentation region is not immediately apparent “at a glance”. People will have different preferences what this means, but one can

nevertheless give some guidelines that stem from experience. An end marker makes sense if

- the construct contains blank lines, or
- the construct is long, say 15-20 lines or more,
- the construct ends heavily indented, say 4 indentation levels or more.

If none of these criteria apply, it's often better to not use an end marker since the code will be just as clear and more concise. If there are several ending regions that satisfy one of the criteria above, we usually need an end marker only for the outermost closed region. So cascades of end markers as in the example above are usually better avoided.

6.14.9.2 Syntax

```
EndMarker      ::= 'end' EndMarkerTag      -- when followed by EOL
EndMarkerTag   ::= id | 'if' | 'while' | 'for' | 'match' | 'try'
                  | 'new' | 'this' | 'given' | 'extension' | 'val'
BlockStat      ::= ... | EndMarker
TemplateStat   ::= ... | EndMarker
TopStat        ::= ... | EndMarker
```

6.14.10 Example

Here is a (somewhat meta-circular) example of code using indentation. It provides a concrete representation of indentation widths as defined above together with efficient operations for constructing and comparing indentation widths.

```
enum IndentWidth:
  case Run(ch: Char, n: Int)
  case Conc(l: IndentWidth, r: Run)

def <= (that: IndentWidth): Boolean = this match
  case Run(ch1, n1) =>
    that match
      case Run(ch2, n2) => n1 <= n2 && (ch1 == ch2 || n1 == 0)
      case Conc(l, r)   => this <= l
  case Conc(l1, r1) =>
    that match
      case Conc(l2, r2) => l1 == l2 && r1 <= r2
      case _            => false

def < (that: IndentWidth): Boolean =
  this <= that && !(that <= this)

override def toString: String =
  this match
    case Run(ch, n) =>
```

```

    val kind = ch match
      case ' ' => "space"
      case '\t' => "tab"
      case _ => s"'$ch'-character"
    val suffix = if n == 1 then "" else "s"
    s"$n $kind$suffix"
  case Conc(l, r) =>
    s"$l, $r"

object IndentWidth:
  private inline val MaxCached = 40

  private val spaces = IArray.tabulate(MaxCached + 1)(new Run(' ', _))
  private val tabs = IArray.tabulate(MaxCached + 1)(new Run('\t', _))

  def Run(ch: Char, n: Int): Run =
    if n <= MaxCached && ch == ' ' then
      spaces(n)
    else if n <= MaxCached && ch == '\t' then
      tabs(n)
    else
      new Run(ch, n)
  end Run

  val Zero = Run(' ', 0)
end IndentWidth

```

6.14.11 Settings and Rewrites

Significant indentation is enabled by default. It can be turned off by giving any of the options `-no-indent`, `-old-syntax` and `-source 3.0-migration`. If indentation is turned off, it is nevertheless checked that indentation conforms to the logical program structure as defined by braces. If that is not the case, the compiler issues a warning.

The Scala 3 compiler can rewrite source code to indented code and back. When invoked with options `-rewrite -indent` it will rewrite braces to indented regions where possible. When invoked with options `-rewrite -no-indent` it will rewrite in the reverse direction, inserting braces for indentation regions. The `-indent` option only works on **new-style syntax**. So to go from old-style syntax to new-style indented code one has to invoke the compiler twice, first with options `-rewrite -new-syntax`, then again with options `-rewrite -indent`. To go in the opposite direction, from indented code to old-style syntax, it's `-rewrite -no-indent`, followed by `-rewrite -old-syntax`.

6.15 Safe Initialization

Scala 3 implements experimental safe initialization check, which can be enabled by the compiler option `-Ysafe-init`.

The design and implementation of the initialization checker is described in the paper *Safe object initialization, abstractly* [3].

6.15.1 A Quick Glance

To get a feel of how it works, we first show several examples below.

6.15.1.1 Parent-Child Interaction

Given the following code snippet:

```
abstract class AbstractFile:
  def name: String
  val extension: String = name.substring(4)

class RemoteFile(url: String) extends AbstractFile:
  val localFile: String = s"${url.##}.tmp" // error: usage of `localFile` before
  def name: String = localFile
```

The checker will report:

```
-- Warning: tests/init/neg/AbstractFile.scala:7:4 -----
7 |       val localFile: String = s"${url.##}.tmp" // error: usage of `localFile` before
  |       ^
  |       Access non-initialized field value localFile. Calling trace:
  |         -> val extension: String = name.substring(4)      [ AbstractFile.scala:3
  |         -> def name: String = localFile                  [ AbstractFile.scala:8
```

6.15.1.2 Inner-Outer Interaction

Given the code below:

```
object Trees:
  class ValDef { counter += 1 }
  class EmptyValDef extends ValDef
  val theEmptyValDef = new EmptyValDef
  private var counter = 0 // error
```

The checker will report:

```
-- Warning: tests/init/neg/trees.scala:5:14 -----
5 |   private var counter = 0 // error
  |   ^
  |   Access non-initialized field variable counter. Calling trace:
  |     -> val theEmptyValDef = new EmptyValDef      [ trees.scala:4 ]
  |     -> class EmptyValDef extends ValDef         [ trees.scala:3 ]
  |     -> class ValDef { counter += 1 }            [ trees.scala:2 ]
```

6.15.1.3 Functions Given the code below:

```
abstract class Parent:
  val f: () => String = () => this.message
  def message: String

class Child extends Parent:
  val a = f()
  val b = "hello"           // error
  def message: String = b
```

The checker reports:

```
-- Warning: tests/init/neg/features-high-order.scala:7:6 -----
7 |   val b = "hello"           // error
  |   ^
  | Access non-initialized field value b. Calling trace:
  | -> val a = f()                [ features-high-order.scala
  |   -> val f: () => String = () => this.message    [ features-high-order.scal
  |     -> def message: String = b                [ features-high-order.scal
```

6.15.2 Design Goals

We establish the following design goals:

- **Sound:** checking always terminates, and is sound for common and reasonable usage (over-approximation)
- **Expressive:** support common and reasonable initialization patterns
- **Friendly:** simple rules, minimal syntactic overhead, informative error messages
- **Modular:** modular checking, no analysis beyond project boundary
- **Fast:** instant feedback
- **Simple:** no changes to core type system, explainable by a simple theory

By *reasonable usage*, we include the following use cases (but not restricted to them):

- Access fields on `this` and outer `this` during initialization
- Call methods on `this` and outer `this` during initialization
- Instantiate inner class and call methods on such instances during initialization
- Capture fields in functions

6.15.3 Principles

To achieve the goals, we uphold the following fundamental principles: *stackability*, *monotonicity*, *scopability* and *authority*.

Stackability means that all fields of a class are initialized at the end of the class body. Scala enforces this property in syntax by demanding that all fields are initialized at the end of the primary constructor, except for the language feature below:

```
var x: T = _
```

Control effects such as exceptions may break this property, as the following example shows:

```
class MyException(val b: B) extends Exception("")
class A:
  val b = try { new B } catch { case myEx: MyException => myEx.b }
  println(b.a)

class B:
  throw new MyException(this)
  val a: Int = 1
```

In the code above, the control effect teleport the uninitialized value wrapped in an exception. In the implementation, we avoid the problem by ensuring that the values that are thrown must be transitively initialized.

Monotonicity means that the initialization status of an object should not go backward: initialized fields continue to be initialized, a field points to an initialized object may not later point to an object under initialization. As an example, the following code will be rejected:

```
trait Reporter:
  def report(msg: String): Unit

class FileReporter(ctx: Context) extends Reporter:
  ctx typer.reporter = this // ctx now reaches an uninitialized obj
  val file: File = new File("report.txt")
  def report(msg: String) = file.write(msg)
```

In the code above, suppose `ctx` points to a transitively initialized object. Now the assignment at line 3 makes `this`, which is not fully initialized, reachable from `ctx`. This makes field usage dangerous, as it may indirectly reach uninitialized fields.

Monotonicity is based on a well-known technique called *heap monotonic typestate* to ensure soundness in the presence of aliasing [1]. Roughly speaking, it means initialization state should not go backwards.

Scopability means that there are no side channels to access to partially constructed objects. Control effects like coroutines, delimited control, resumable exceptions may break the property, as they can transport a value upper in the stack (not in scope) to be reachable from the current scope. Static fields can also serve as a teleport thus breaks this property. In the implementation, we need to enforce that teleported values are transitively initialized.

The three principles above contribute to *local reasoning about initialization*, which means:

An initialized environment can only produce initialized values.

For example, if the arguments to an `new`-expression are transitively initialized, so is the result. If the receiver and arguments in a method call are transitively initialized,

so is the result.

Local reasoning about initialization gives rise to a fast initialization checker, as it avoids whole-program analysis.

The principle of authority goes hand-in-hand with monotonicity: the principle of monotonicity stipulates that initialization states cannot go backwards, while the principle of authority stipulates that the initialization states may not go forward at arbitrary locations due to aliasing. In Scala, we may only advance initialization states of objects in the class body when a field is defined with a mandatory initializer or at local reasoning points when the object becomes transitively initialized.

6.15.4 Abstract Values

There are three fundamental abstractions for initialization states of objects:

- **Cold**: A cold object may have uninitialized fields.
- **Warm**: A warm object has all its fields initialized but may reach *cold* objects.
- **Hot**: A hot object is transitively initialized, i.e., it only reaches warm objects.

In the initialization checker, the abstraction **Warm** is refined to handle inner classes and multiple constructors:

- **Warm[C] { outer = V, ctor, args = Vs }**: A warm object of class **C**, where the immediate outer of **C** is **V**, the constructor is **ctor** and constructor arguments are **Vs**.

The initialization checker checks each concrete class separately. The abstraction **ThisRef** represents the current object under initialization:

- **ThisRef[C]**: The current object of class **C** under initialization.

The initialization state of the current object is stored in the abstract heap as an abstract object. The abstract heap also serves as a cache for the field values of warm objects. **Warm** and **ThisRef** are “addresses” of the abstract objects stored in the abstract heap.

Two more abstractions are introduced to support functions and conditional expressions:

- **Fun(e, V, C)**: An abstract function value where **e** is the code, **V** is the abstract value for **this** inside the function body and the function is located inside the class **C**.
- **Refset(Vs)**: A set of abstract values **Vs**.

A value **v** is *effectively hot* if any of the following is true:

- **v** is **Hot**.
- **v** is **ThisRef** and all fields of the underlying object are assigned.
- **v** is **Warm[C] { ... }** and
 1. **C** does not contain inner classes; and

2. Calling any method on v encounters no initialization errors and the method return value is *effectively hot*; and
 3. Each field of v is *effectively hot*.
- v is $\text{Fun}(e, V, C)$ and calling the function encounters no errors and the function return value is *effectively hot*.
 - The root object (referred by **ThisRef**) is *effectively hot*.

An effectively hot value can be regarded as transitively initialized thus can be safely leaked via method arguments or as RHS of reassignment. The initialization checker tries to promote non-hot values to effectively hot whenever possible.

6.15.5 Rules

With the established principles and design goals, the following rules are imposed:

1. The field access $e.f$ or method call $e.m()$ is illegal if e is *cold*.
A cold value should not be used.
2. The field access $e.f$ is invalid if e has the value **ThisRef** and f is not initialized.
3. In an assignment $o.x = e$, the expression e must be *effectively hot*.

This is how monotonicity is enforced in the system. Note that in an initialization $\text{val } f: T = e$, the expression e may point to a non-hot value.

4. Arguments to method calls must be *effectively hot*.

Escape of **this** in the constructor is commonly regarded as an anti-pattern.

However, passing non-hot values as argument to another constructor is allowed, to support creation of cyclic data structures. The checker will ensure that the escaped non-initialized object is not used, i.e. calling methods or accessing fields on the escaped object is not allowed.

An exception is for calling synthetic **applies** of case classes. For example, the method call **Some.apply(e)** will be interpreted as **new Some(e)**, thus is valid even if e is not hot.

Another exception to this rule is parametric method calls. For example, in **List.apply(e)**, the argument e may be non-hot. If that is the case, the result value of the parametric method call is taken as *cold*.

5. Method calls on hot values with effectively hot arguments produce hot results.
This rule is assured by local reasoning about initialization.
6. Method calls on **ThisRef** and warm values will be resolved statically and the corresponding method bodies are checked.
7. In a new expression **new p.C(args)**, if the values of p and **args** are effectively hot, then the result value is also hot.

This is assured by local reasoning about initialization.

8. In a new expression `new p.C(args)`, if any value of `p` and `args` is not effectively hot, then the result value takes the form `Warm[C] { outer = Vp, args = Vargs }`. The initialization code for the class `C` is checked again to make sure the non-hot values are used properly.

In the above, `Vp` is the widened value of `p` — the widening happens if `p` is a warm value `Warm[D] { outer = V, args }` and we widen it to `Warm[D] { outer = Cold, args }`.

The variable `Vargs` represents values of `args` with non-hot values widened to `Cold`.

The motivation for the widening is to finitize the abstract domain and ensure termination of the initialization check.

9. The scrutinee in a pattern match and the values in return and throw statements must be *effectively hot*.

6.15.6 Modularity

The analysis takes the primary constructor of concrete classes as entry points. It follows the constructors of super classes, which might be defined in another project. The analysis takes advantage of TASTy for analyzing super classes defined in another project.

The crossing of project boundary raises a concern about modularity. It is well-known in object-oriented programming that superclass and subclass are tightly coupled. For example, adding a method in the superclass requires recompiling the child class for checking safe overriding.

Initialization is no exception in this respect. The initialization of an object essentially involves close interaction between subclass and superclass. If the superclass is defined in another project, the crossing of project boundary cannot be avoided for soundness of the analysis.

Meanwhile, inheritance across project boundary has been under scrutiny and the introduction of `open classes` mitigate the concern here. For example, the initialization check could enforce that the constructors of open classes may not contain method calls on `this` or introduce annotations as a contract.

The feedback from the community on the topic is welcome.

6.15.7 Back Doors

Occasionally you may want to suppress warnings reported by the checker. You can either write `e: @unchecked` to tell the checker to skip checking for the expression `e`, or you may use the old trick: mark some fields as lazy.

6.15.8 Caveats

- The system cannot provide safety guarantee when extending Java or Scala 2 classes.
- Safe initialization of global objects is only partially checked.

6.15.9 References

1. Fähndrich, M. and Leino, K.R.M., 2003, July. *Heap monotonic typestates*. In International Workshop on Aliasing, Confinement and Ownership in object-oriented programming (IWACO).
2. Fengyun Liu, Ondřej Lhoták, Aggelos Biboudis, Paolo G. Giarrusso, and Martin Odersky. *A type-and-effect system for object initialization*. OOPSLA, 2020.
3. Fengyun Liu, Ondřej Lhoták, Enze Xing, Nguyen Cao Pham. *Safe object initialization, abstractly*. Scala 2021.

6.16 TypeTest

6.16.1 TypeTest

When pattern matching there are two situations where a runtime type test must be performed. The first case is an explicit type test using the ascription pattern notation.

```
(x: X) match
  case y: Y =>
```

The second case is when an extractor takes an argument that is not a subtype of the scrutinee type.

```
(x: X) match
  case y @ Y(n) =>
```

```
object Y:
  def unapply(x: Y): Some[Int] = ...
```

In both cases, a class test will be performed at runtime. But when the type test is on an abstract type (type parameter or type member), the test cannot be performed because the type is erased at runtime.

A [TypeTest](#) can be provided to make this test possible.

```
package scala.reflect

trait TypeTest[-S, T]:
  def unapply(s: S): Option[s.type & T]
```

It provides an extractor that returns its argument typed as a T if the argument is a T. It can be used to encode a type test.

```
def f[X, Y](x: X)(using tt: TypeTest[X, Y]): Option[Y] = x match
  case tt(x @ Y(1)) => Some(x)
  case tt(x) => Some(x)
  case _ => None
```

To avoid the syntactic overhead the compiler will look for a type test automatically if it detects that the type test is on abstract types. This means that `x: Y` is transformed to `tt(x)` and `x @ Y(_)` to `tt(x @ Y(_))` if there is a contextual `TypeTest[X, Y]` in scope. The previous code is equivalent to

```
def f[X, Y](x: X)(using TypeTest[X, Y]): Option[Y] = x match
  case x @ Y(1) => Some(x)
  case x: Y => Some(x)
  case _ => None
```

We could create a type test at call site where the type test can be performed with runtime class tests directly as follows

```
val tt: TypeTest[Any, String] =
  new TypeTest[Any, String]:
    def unapply(s: Any): Option[s.type & String] = s match
      case s: String => Some(s)
      case _ => None
```

```
f[AnyRef, String]("acb")(using tt)
```

The compiler will synthesize a new instance of a type test if none is found in scope as:

```
new TypeTest[A, B]:
  def unapply(s: A): Option[s.type & B] = s match
    case s: B => Some(s)
    case _ => None
```

If the type tests cannot be done there will be an unchecked warning that will be raised on the `case s: B => test`.

The most common `TypeTest` instances are the ones that take any parameters (i.e. `TypeTest[Any, T]`). To make it possible to use such instances directly in context bounds we provide the alias

```
package scala.reflect
```

```
type Typeable[T] = TypeTest[Any, T]
```

This alias can be used as

```
def f[T: Typeable]: Boolean =
  "abc" match
    case x: T => true
    case _ => false
```

```
f[String] // true
f[Int]    // false
```

6.16.2 TypeTest and ClassTag

`TypeTest` is a replacement for functionality provided previously by `ClassTag.unapply`. Using `ClassTag` instances was unsound since classtags can check only the class component of a type. `TypeTest` fixes that unsoundness. `ClassTag` type tests are still supported but a warning will be emitted after 3.0.

6.16.3 Example

Given the following abstract definition of Peano numbers that provides two given instances of types `TypeTest[Nat, Zero]` and `TypeTest[Nat, Succ]`

```
import scala.reflect.*

trait Peano:
  type Nat
  type Zero <: Nat
  type Succ <: Nat

  def safeDiv(m: Nat, n: Succ): (Nat, Nat)

  val Zero: Zero

  val Succ: SuccExtractor
  trait SuccExtractor:
    def apply(nat: Nat): Succ
    def unapply(succ: Succ): Some[Nat]

  given typeTestOfZero: TypeTest[Nat, Zero]
  given typeTestOfSucc: TypeTest[Nat, Succ]
```

together with an implementation of Peano numbers based on type `Int`

```
object PeanoInt extends Peano:
  type Nat = Int
  type Zero = Int
  type Succ = Int

  def safeDiv(m: Nat, n: Succ): (Nat, Nat) = (m / n, m % n)

  val Zero: Zero = 0

  val Succ: SuccExtractor = new:
    def apply(nat: Nat): Succ = nat + 1
    def unapply(succ: Succ) = Some(succ - 1)
```

```
def typeTestOfZero: TypeTest[Nat, Zero] = new:
  def unapply(x: Nat): Option[x.type & Zero] =
    if x == 0 then Some(x) else None

def typeTestOfSucc: TypeTest[Nat, Succ] = new:
  def unapply(x: Nat): Option[x.type & Succ] =
    if x > 0 then Some(x) else None
```

it is possible to write the following program

```
@main def test =
  import PeanoInt.*

  def divOpt(m: Nat, n: Nat): Option[(Nat, Nat)] =
    n match
      case Zero => None
      case s @ Succ(_) => Some(safeDiv(m, s))

  val two = Succ(Succ(Zero))
  val five = Succ(Succ(Succ(two)))

  println(divOpt(five, two)) // prints "Some((2,1))"
  println(divOpt(two, five)) // prints "Some((0,2))"
  println(divOpt(two, Zero)) // prints "None"
```

Note that without the `TypeTest[Nat, Succ]` the pattern `Succ.unapply(nat: Succ)` would be unchecked.

6.17 Experimental Definitions

The `@experimental` annotation allows the definition of an API that is not guaranteed backward binary or source compatibility. This annotation can be placed on term or type definitions.

6.17.1 References to experimental definitions

Experimental definitions can only be referenced in an experimental scope. Experimental scopes are defined as follows:

1. The RHS of an experimental `def`, `val`, `var`, `given` or `type` is an experimental scope. Examples:

Example 1

```
import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental
def x = ()
```

```
def d1 = x // error: value x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
@experimental def d2 = x

val v1 = x // error: value x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
@experimental val v2 = x

var vr1 = x // error: value x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
@experimental var vr2 = x

lazy val lv1 = x // error: value x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
@experimental lazy val lv2 = x
```

Example 2

```
import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental
val x = ()

@experimental
def f() = ()

@experimental
object X:
  def fx() = 1

def test1: Unit =
  f() // error: def f is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  x // error: value x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  X.fx() // error: object X is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  import X.fx
  fx() // error: object X is marked @experimental and therefore ...

@experimental
def test2: Unit =
  // references to f, x and X are ok because `test2` is experimental
  f()
  x
  X.fx()
  import X.fx
  fx()
```

Example 3

```
import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental type E
```



```

type A = E // error type E is marked @experimental and therefore ...
@experimental type B = E

```

Example 4

```

import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental class A
@experimental type X
@experimental type Y = Int
@experimental opaque type Z = Int

def test: Unit =
  new A // error: class A is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  val i0: A = ??? // error: class A is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  val i1: X = ??? // error: type X is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  val i2: Y = ??? // error: type Y is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  val i2: Z = ??? // error: type Y is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  ()

```

Example 5

```

@experimental
trait ExpSAM {
  def foo(x: Int): Int
}

def bar(f: ExpSAM): Unit = {} // error: error form rule 2

def test: Unit =
  bar(x => x) // error: reference to experimental SAM
  ()

```

2. The signatures of an experimental `def`, `val`, `var`, `given` and `type`, or constructors of `class` and `trait` are experimental scopes. Examples:

Example 1

```

import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental def x = 2
@experimental class A
@experimental type X
@experimental type Y = Int
@experimental opaque type Z = Int

def test1(
  p1: A, // error: class A is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  p2: List[A], // error: class A is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  p3: X, // error: type X is marked @experimental and therefore ...
  p4: Y, // error: type Y is marked @experimental and therefore ...

```

```

    p5: Z, // error: type Z is marked @experimental and therefore ...
    p6: Any = x // error: def x is marked @experimental and therefore ...
): A = ??? // error: class A is marked @experimental and therefore ...

```

```

@experimental def test2(
  p1: A,
  p2: List[A],
  p3: X,
  p4: Y,
  p5: Z,
  p6: Any = x
): A = ???

```

```

class Test1(
  p1: A, // error
  p2: List[A], // error
  p3: X, // error
  p4: Y, // error
  p5: Z, // error
  p6: Any = x // error
) {}

```

```

@experimental class Test2(
  p1: A,
  p2: List[A],
  p3: X,
  p4: Y,
  p5: Z,
  p6: Any = x
) {}

```

```

trait Test1(
  p1: A, // error
  p2: List[A], // error
  p3: X, // error
  p4: Y, // error
  p5: Z, // error
  p6: Any = x // error
) {}

```

```

@experimental trait Test2(
  p1: A,
  p2: List[A],
  p3: X,
  p4: Y,
  p5: Z,

```

```
    p6: Any = x
  ) {}
```

3. The `extends` clause of an experimental class, trait or object is an experimental scope. Examples:

Example 1

```
import scala.annotation.experimental
```

```
@experimental def x = 2
```

```
@experimental class A1(x: Any)
class A2(x: Any)
```

```
@experimental class B1 extends A1(1)
```

```
class B2 extends A1(1) // error: class A1 is marked @experimental and therefore
```

```
@experimental class C1 extends A2(x)
```

```
class C2 extends A2(x) // error def x is marked @experimental and therefore
```

4. The body of an experimental class, trait or object is an experimental scope. Examples:

Example 1

```
import scala.annotation.experimental
```

```
@experimental def x = 2
```

```
@experimental class A {
  def f = x // ok because A is experimental
}
```

```
@experimental class B {
  def f = x // ok because A is experimental
}
```

```
@experimental object C {
  def f = x // ok because A is experimental
}
```

```
@experimental class D {
  def f = {
    object B {
      x // ok because A is experimental
    }
  }
}
```

```
}

```

- Annotations of an experimental definition are in experimental scopes. Examples:

Example 1

```
import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental class myExperimentalAnnot extends scala.annotation.Annotation

@myExperimentalAnnot // error
def test: Unit = ()

@experimental
@myExperimentalAnnot
def test: Unit = ()

```

- Any code compiled using a *Nightly* or *Snapshot* version of the compiler is considered to be in an experimental scope. Can use the `-Yno-experimental` compiler flag to disable it and run as a proper release.

In any other situation, a reference to an experimental definition will cause a compilation error.

6.17.2 Experimental overriding

For an overriding member `M` and overridden member `O`, if `O` is non-experimental then `M` must be non-experimental.

This makes sure that we cannot have accidental binary incompatibilities such as the following change.

```
class A:
  def f: Any = 1
class B extends A:
-   @experimental def f: Int = 2

```

6.17.3 Test frameworks

Tests can be defined as experimental. Tests frameworks can execute tests using reflection even if they are in an experimental class, object or method. Examples:

Example 1

Test that touch experimental APIs can be written as follows

```
import scala.annotation.experimental

@experimental def x = 2

class MyTests {

```

```
/*@Test*/ def test1 = x // error
@experimental /*@Test*/ def test2 = x
}

@experimental
class MyExperimentalTests {
  /*@Test*/ def test1 = x
  /*@Test*/ def test2 = x
}
```

7 Other Changed Features

7.1 Numeric Literals

Document was moved

7.2 Programmatic Structural Types

7.2.1 Motivation

Some usecases, such as modelling database access, are more awkward in statically typed languages than in dynamically typed languages: With dynamically typed languages, it's quite natural to model a row as a record or object, and to select entries with simple dot notation (e.g. `row.columnName`).

Achieving the same experience in statically typed language requires defining a class for every possible row arising from database manipulation (including rows arising from joins and projections) and setting up a scheme to map between a row and the class representing it.

This requires a large amount of boilerplate, which leads developers to trade the advantages of static typing for simpler schemes where column names are represented as strings and passed to other operators (e.g. `row.select("columnName")`). This approach forgoes the advantages of static typing, and is still not as natural as the dynamically typed version.

Structural types help in situations where we would like to support simple dot notation in dynamic contexts without losing the advantages of static typing. They allow developers to use dot notation and configure how fields and methods should be resolved.

7.2.2 Example

Here's an example of a structural type `Person`:

```
type Person = Record { val name: String; val age: Int }
```

The type `Person` adds a *refinement* to its parent type `Record` that defines the two fields `name` and `age`. We say the refinement is *structural* since `name` and `age` are not defined in the parent type. But they exist nevertheless as members of type `Person`.

This allows us to check at compiletime if accesses are valid:

```
val person: Person = ???
println(s"${person.name} is ${person.age} years old.") // works
println(person.email) // error: value email is not a member of Person
```

How is `Record` defined, and how does `person.name` resolve ?

`Record` is a class that extends the marker trait `scala.Selectable` and defines a method `selectDynamic`, which maps a field name to its value. Selecting a member

of a structural type is syntactic sugar for a call to this method. The selections `person.name` and `person.age` are translated by the Scala compiler to:

```
person.selectDynamic("name").asInstanceOf[String]
person.selectDynamic("age").asInstanceOf[Int]
```

For example, `Record` could be defined as follows:

```
class Record(elems: (String, Any)*) extends Selectable:
  private val fields = elems.toMap
  def selectDynamic(name: String): Any = fields(name)
```

Which allows us to create instances of `Person` like so:

```
val person = Record("name" -> "Emma", "age" -> 42).asInstanceOf[Person]
```

The parent type `Record` in this example is a generic class that can represent arbitrary records in its `elems` argument. This argument is a sequence of pairs of labels of type `String` and values of type `Any`. When we create a `Person` as a `Record` we have to assert with a typecast that the record defines the right fields of the right types. `Record` itself is too weakly typed so the compiler cannot know this without help from the user. In practice, the connection between a structural type and its underlying generic representation would most likely be done by a database layer, and therefore would not be a concern of the end user.

Besides `selectDynamic`, a `Selectable` class sometimes also defines a method `applyDynamic`. This can then be used to translate function calls of structural members. So, if `a` is an instance of `Selectable`, a structural call like `a.f(b, c)` would translate to

```
a.applyDynamic("f")(b, c)
```

7.2.3 Using Java Reflection

Using `Selectable` and [Java reflection](#), we can select a member from unrelated classes.

Before resorting to structural calls with Java reflection one should consider alternatives. For instance, sometimes a more a modular *and* efficient architecture can be obtained using [type classes](#).

For example, we would like to provide behavior for both `FileInputStream` and `Channel` classes by calling their `close` method, however, these classes are unrelated, i.e. have no common supertype with a `close` method. Therefore, below we define a structural type `Closeable` that defines a `close` method.

```
type Closeable = { def close(): Unit }

class FileInputStream:
  def close(): Unit
```

```
class Channel:
  def close(): Unit
```

Ideally we would add a common interface to both these classes to define the `close` method, however they are defined in libraries outside of our control. As a compromise we can use the structural type to define a single implementation for an `autoClose` method:

```
import scala.reflect.Selectable.reflectiveSelectable

def autoClose(f: Closeable)(op: Closeable => Unit): Unit =
  try op(f) finally f.close()
```

The call `f.close()` requires `Closeable` to extend `Selectable` to identify and call the `close` method in the receiver `f`. A universal implicit conversion to `Selectable` is enabled by an import of `reflectiveSelectable` shown above, based on [Java reflection](#). What happens “under the hood” is then the following:

- The implicit conversion wraps `f` in an instance of `scala.reflect.Selectable` (which is a subtype of `Selectable`).
- The compiler then transforms the `close` call on the wrapped `f` to an `applyDynamic` call. The end result is:

```
reflectiveSelectable(f).applyDynamic("close")()
```

- The implementation of `applyDynamic` in `reflectiveSelectable`’s result uses [Java reflection](#) to find and call a method `close` with zero parameters in the value referenced by `f` at runtime.

Structural calls like this tend to be much slower than normal method calls. The mandatory import of `reflectiveSelectable` serves as a signpost that something inefficient is going on.

Note: In Scala 2, Java reflection is the only mechanism available for structural types and it is automatically enabled without needing the `reflectiveSelectable` conversion. However, to warn against inefficient dispatch, Scala 2 requires a language import `import scala.language.reflectiveCalls`.

7.2.4 Extensibility

New instances of `Selectable` can be defined to support means of access other than Java reflection, which would enable usages such as the database access example given at the beginning of this document.

7.2.5 Local Selectable Instances

Local and anonymous classes that extend `Selectable` get more refined types than other classes. Here is an example:

```
trait Vehicle extends reflect.Selectable:
  val wheels: Int
```



```
val i3 = new Vehicle: // i3: Vehicle { val range: Int }
  val wheels = 4
  val range = 240
```

`i3.range`

The type of `i3` in this example is `Vehicle { val range: Int }`. Hence, `i3.range` is well-formed. Since the base class `Vehicle` does not define a `range` field or method, we need structural dispatch to access the `range` field of the anonymous class that initializes `i3`. Structural dispatch is implemented by the base trait `reflect.Selectable` of `Vehicle`, which defines the necessary `selectDynamic` member.

`Vehicle` could also extend some other subclass of `scala.Selectable` that implements `selectDynamic` and `applyDynamic` differently. But if it does not extend a `Selectable` at all, the code would no longer typecheck:

```
trait Vehicle:
  val wheels: Int

val i3 = new Vehicle: // i3: Vehicle
  val wheels = 4
  val range = 240
```

`i3.range` *// error: range is not a member of `Vehicle`*

The difference is that the type of an anonymous class that does not extend `Selectable` is just formed from the parent type(s) of the class, without adding any refinements. Hence, `i3` now has just type `Vehicle` and the selection `i3.range` gives a “member not found” error.

Note that in Scala 2 all local and anonymous classes could produce values with refined types. But members defined by such refinements could be selected only with the language import `reflectiveCalls`.

7.2.6 Relation with `scala.Dynamic`

There are clearly some connections with `scala.Dynamic` here, since both select members programmatically. But there are also some differences.

- Fully dynamic selection is not typesafe, but structural selection is, as long as the correspondence of the structural type with the underlying value is as stated.
- Two access operations, `selectDynamic` and `applyDynamic` are shared between both approaches. In `Selectable`, `applyDynamic` also may also take `java.lang.Class` arguments indicating the method’s formal parameter types.
- `updateDynamic` is unique to `Dynamic` but as mentionned before, this fact is subject to change, and shouldn’t be used as an assumption.

[More details](#)

7.3 Rules for Operators

The rules for infix operators have changed in some parts:

First, an alphanumeric method can be used as an infix operator only if its definition carries an `infix` modifier.

Second, it is recommended (but not enforced) to augment definitions of symbolic operators with `@targetName` annotations.

Finally, a syntax change allows infix operators to be written on the left in a multi-line expression.

7.3.1 The `infix` Modifier

An `infix` modifier on a method definition allows using the method as an infix operation. Example:

```
import scala.annotation.targetName

trait MultiSet[T]:

  infix def union(other: MultiSet[T]): MultiSet[T]

  def difference(other: MultiSet[T]): MultiSet[T]

  @targetName("intersection")
  def *(other: MultiSet[T]): MultiSet[T]

end MultiSet

val s1, s2: MultiSet[Int]

s1 union s2           // OK
s1 `union` s2         // also OK but unusual
s1.union(s2)          // also OK

s1.difference(s2)     // OK
s1 `difference` s2    // OK
s1 difference s2      // gives a deprecation warning

s1 * s2               // OK
s1 `*` s2              // also OK, but unusual
s1.*(s2)               // also OK, but unusual
```

Infix operations involving alphanumeric operators are deprecated, unless one of the following conditions holds:

- the operator definition carries an `infix` modifier, or
- the operator was compiled with Scala 2, or
- the operator is followed by an opening brace.

An alphanumeric operator is an operator consisting entirely of letters, digits, the `$` and `_` characters, or any Unicode character `c` for which `java.lang.Character.isIdentifierPart(c)` returns `true`.

Infix operations involving symbolic operators are always allowed, so `infix` is redundant for methods with symbolic names.

The `infix` modifier can also be given to a type:

```
infix type or[X, Y]
val x: String or Int = ...
```

7.3.1.1 Motivation The purpose of the `infix` modifier is to achieve consistency across a code base in how a method or type is applied. The idea is that the author of a method decides whether that method should be applied as an infix operator or in a regular application. Use sites then implement that decision consistently.

7.3.1.2 Details

1. `infix` is a soft modifier. It is treated as a normal identifier except when in modifier position.
2. If a method overrides another, their infix annotations must agree. Either both are annotated with `infix`, or none of them are.
3. `infix` modifiers can be given to method definitions. The first non-receiver parameter list of an `infix` method must define exactly one parameter. Examples:

```
infix def op1(x: S): R           // ok
infix def op2[T](x: T)(y: S): R  // ok
infix def op3[T](x: T, y: S): R  // error: two parameters

extension (x: A)
  infix def op4(y: B): R         // ok
  infix def op5(y1: B, y2: B): R // error: two parameters
```

4. `infix` modifiers can also be given to type, trait or class definitions that have exactly two type parameters. An infix type like

```
infix type op[X, Y]
```

can be applied using infix syntax, i.e. `A op B`.

5. To smooth migration to Scala 3.0, alphanumeric operators will only be deprecated from Scala 3.1 onwards, or if the `-source future` option is given in Dotty/Scala 3.

7.3.2 The @targetName Annotation

It is recommended that definitions of symbolic operators carry a `@targetName` annotation that provides an encoding of the operator with an alphanumeric name. This has several benefits:

- It helps interoperability between Scala and other languages. One can call a Scala-defined symbolic operator from another language using its target name, which avoids having to remember the low-level encoding of the symbolic name.
- It helps legibility of stacktraces and other runtime diagnostics, where the user-defined alphanumeric name will be shown instead of the low-level encoding.
- It serves as a documentation tool by providing an alternative regular name as an alias of a symbolic operator. This makes the definition also easier to find in a search.

7.3.3 Syntax Change

Infix operators can now appear at the start of lines in a multi-line expression. Examples:

```
val str = "hello"
  ++ " world"
  ++ "!"
```

```
def condition =
  x > 0
  ||
  xs.exists(_ > 0)
  || xs.isEmpty
```

Previously, those expressions would have been rejected, since the compiler's semicolon inference would have treated the continuations `++ " world"` or `|| xs.isEmpty` as separate statements.

To make this syntax work, the rules are modified to not infer semicolons in front of leading infix operators. A *leading infix operator* is - a symbolic identifier such as `+`, or `approx_==`, or an identifier in backticks that - starts a new line, and - is not following a blank line, and - is followed by at least one whitespace character and a token that can start an expression. - Furthermore, if the operator appears on its own line, the next line must have at least the same indentation width as the operator.

Example:

```
    freezing
  | boiling
```

This is recognized as a single infix operation. Compare with:

```
    freezing
!boiling
```

This is seen as two statements, `freezing` and `!boiling`. The difference is that only the operator in the first example is followed by a space.

Another example:

```
println("hello")
???
??? match { case 0 => 1 }
```

This code is recognized as three different statements. `???` is syntactically a symbolic identifier, but neither of its occurrences is followed by a space and a token that can start an expression.

7.3.4 Unary operators

A unary operator must not have explicit parameter lists even if they are empty. A unary operator is a method named “`unary_op`” where `op` is one of `+`, `-`, `!`, or `~`.

7.4 Wildcard Arguments in Types

The syntax of wildcard arguments in types has changed from `_` to `?`. Example:

```
List[?]
Map[? <: AnyRef, ? >: Null]
```

7.4.1 Motivation

We would like to use the underscore syntax `_` to stand for an anonymous type parameter, aligning it with its meaning in value parameter lists. So, just as `f(_)` is a shorthand for the lambda `x => f(x)`, in the future `C[_]` will be a shorthand for the type lambda `[X] =>> C[X]`. This makes higher-kinded types easier to use. It also removes the wart that, used as a type parameter, `F[_]` means `F` is a type constructor whereas used as a type, `F[_]` means it is a wildcard (i.e. existential) type. In the future, `F[_]` will mean the same thing, no matter where it is used.

We pick `?` as a replacement syntax for wildcard types, since it aligns with [Java’s syntax](#).

7.4.2 Migration Strategy

The migration to the new scheme is complicated, in particular since the [kind projector](#) compiler plugin still uses the reverse convention, with `?` meaning parameter placeholder instead of wildcard. Fortunately, kind projector has added `*` as an alternative syntax for `?`.

A step-by-step migration is made possible with the following measures:

1. In Scala 3.0, both `_` and `?` are legal names for wildcards.
2. In Scala 3.1, `_` is deprecated in favor of `?` as a name for a wildcard. A `-rewrite` option is available to rewrite one to the other.

3. In Scala 3.2, the meaning of `_` changes from wildcard to placeholder for type parameter.
4. The Scala 3.1 behavior is already available today under the `-source future` setting.

To smooth the transition for codebases that use kind-projector, we adopt the following measures under the command line option `-Ykind-projector`:

1. In Scala 3.0, `*` is available as a type parameter placeholder.
2. In Scala 3.2, `*` is deprecated in favor of `_`. A `-rewrite` option is available to rewrite one to the other.
3. In Scala 3.3, `*` is removed again, and all type parameter placeholders will be expressed with `_`.

These rules make it possible to cross build between Scala 2 using the kind projector plugin and Scala 3.0 - 3.2 using the compiler option `-Ykind-projector`.

There is also a migration path for users that want a one-time transition to syntax with `_` as a type parameter placeholder. With option `-Ykind-projector:underscores` Scala 3 will regard `_` as a type parameter placeholder, leaving `?` as the only syntax for wildcards.

To cross-compile with old Scala 2 sources, while using `_` a placeholder, you must use options `-Xsource:3 -P:kind-projector:underscore-placeholders` together with a recent version of kind-projector (0.13 and higher) and most recent versions of Scala 2 (2.13.5 and higher and 2.12.14 and higher)

7.5 Imports

The syntax of wildcard and renaming imports (and exports) has changed.

7.5.1 Wildcard Imports

Wildcard imports are now expressed with `*` instead of underscore. Example:

```
import scala.annotation.* // imports everything in the annotation package
```

If you want to import a member named `*` specifically, you can use backticks around it.

```
object A:
  def * = ...
  def min = ...
```

```
object B:
  import A.`*` // imports just `*`
```

```
object C:
  import A.* // imports everything in A
```

7.5.2 Renaming Imports

To rename or exclude an import, we now use `as` instead of `=>`. A single renaming import no longer needs to be enclosed in braces. Examples:

```
import A.{min as minimum, `*` as multiply}
import Predef.{augmentString as _, *}      // imports everything except augmentStri
import scala.annotation as ann
import java as j
```

7.5.3 Migration

To support cross-building, Scala 3.0 supports the old import syntax with `_` for wildcards and `=>` for renamings in addition to the new one. The old syntax will be dropped in a future versions. Automatic rewritings from old to new syntax are offered under settings `-source 3.1-migration -rewrite`.

7.5.4 Syntax

```
Import      ::= 'import' ImportExpr {' ',' ImportExpr}
ImportExpr  ::= SimpleRef {'.' id} '.' ImportSpec
              | SimpleRef `as` id
ImportSpec  ::= NamedSelector
              | WildcardSelector
              | '{' ImportSelectors '}'
NamedSelector ::= id ['as' (id | '_')]
WildcardSelector ::= '*' | 'given' [InfixType]
ImportSelectors ::= NamedSelector [' ',' ImportSelectors]
                 | WildCardSelector {' ',' WildCardSelector}
```

7.6 Changes in Type Checking

*** TO BE FILLED IN ***

7.7 Changes in Type Inference

For more information, see the two presentations

- [Scala 3, Type inference and You!](#) by Guillaume Martres (September 2019)
- [GADTs in Dotty](#) by Aleksander Boruch-Gruszecki (July 2019).

7.8 Changes in Implicit Resolution

This section describes changes to the implicit resolution that apply both to the new `givens` and to the old-style `implicit`s in Scala 3. Implicit resolution uses a new algorithm which caches implicit results more aggressively for performance. There are also some changes that affect `implicit`s on the language level.

1. Types of implicit values and result types of implicit methods must be explicitly declared. Excepted are only values in local blocks where the type may still be inferred:

```
class C {

  val ctx: Context = ...           // ok

  /**/ implicit val x = ...        // error: type must be given explicitly

  /**/ implicit def y = ...        // error: type must be given explicitly
}
val y = {
  implicit val ctx = this.ctx // ok
  ...
}
```

2. Nesting is now taken into account for selecting an implicit. Consider for instance the following scenario:

```
def f(implicit i: C) = {
  def g(implicit j: C) = {
    implicitly[C]
  }
}
```

This will now resolve the `implicitly` call to `j`, because `j` is nested more deeply than `i`. Previously, this would have resulted in an ambiguity error. The previous possibility of an implicit search failure due to *shadowing* (where an implicit is hidden by a nested definition) no longer applies.

3. Package prefixes no longer contribute to the implicit search scope of a type. Example:

```
package p

given a: A = A()

object o:
  given b: B = B()
  type C
```

Both `a` and `b` are visible as implicits at the point of the definition of `type C`. However, a reference to `p.o.C` outside of package `p` will have only `b` in its implicit search scope but not `a`.

In more detail, here are the rules for what constitutes the implicit scope of a type:

Definition: A reference is an *anchor* if it refers to an object, a class, a trait, an abstract type, an opaque type alias, or a match type alias. References to packages

and package objects are anchors only under `-source:3.0-migration`. Opaque type aliases count as anchors only outside the scope where their alias is visible.

Definition: The *anchors* of a type T is a set of references defined as follows:

1. If T is a reference to an anchor, T itself plus, if T is of the form $P\#A$, the anchors of P .
2. If T is an alias of U , the anchors of U .
3. If T is a reference to a type parameter, the union of the anchors of both of its bounds.
4. If T is a singleton reference, the anchors of its underlying type, plus, if T is of the form $(P\#x).type$, the anchors of P .
5. If T is the this-type $o.this$ of a static object o , the anchors of a term reference $o.type$ to that object.
6. If T is some other type, the union of the anchors of each constituent type of T .

Definition: The *implicit scope* of a type T is the smallest set S of term references such that

1. If T is a reference to a class, S includes a reference to the companion object of the class, if it exists, as well as the implicit scopes of all of T 's parent classes.
 2. If T is a reference to an object, S includes T itself as well as the implicit scopes of all of T 's parent classes.
 3. If T is a reference to an opaque type alias named A , S includes a reference to an object A defined in the same scope as the type, if it exists, as well as the implicit scope of T 's underlying type or bounds.
 4. If T is a reference to an abstract type or match type alias named A , S includes a reference to an object A defined in the same scope as the type, if it exists, as well as the implicit scopes of T 's given bounds.
 5. If T is a reference to an anchor of the form $p.A$ then S also includes all term references on the path p .
 6. If T is some other type, S includes the implicit scopes of all anchors of T .
4. The treatment of ambiguity errors has changed. If an ambiguity is encountered in some recursive step of an implicit search, the ambiguity is propagated to the caller.

Example: Say you have the following definitions:

```
class A
class B extends C
class C
implicit def a1: A
implicit def a2: A
implicit def b(implicit a: A): B
implicit def c: C
```

and the query `implicitly[C]`.

This query would now be classified as ambiguous. This makes sense, after all there are two possible solutions, `b(a1)` and `b(a2)`, neither of which is better than the other and both of which are better than the third solution, `c`. By contrast, Scala 2

would have rejected the search for `A` as ambiguous, and subsequently have classified the query `b(implicitly[A])` as a normal fail, which means that the alternative `c` would be chosen as solution!

Scala 2's somewhat puzzling behavior with respect to ambiguity has been exploited to implement the analogue of a "negated" search in implicit resolution, where a query `Q1` fails if some other query `Q2` succeeds and `Q1` succeeds if `Q2` fails. With the new cleaned up behavior these techniques no longer work. But there is now a new special type `scala.util.NotGiven` which implements negation directly. For any query type `Q`, `NotGiven[Q]` succeeds if and only if the implicit search for `Q` fails.

5. The treatment of divergence errors has also changed. A divergent implicit is treated as a normal failure, after which alternatives are still tried. This also makes sense: Encountering a divergent implicit means that we assume that no finite solution can be found on the corresponding path, but another path can still be tried. By contrast, most (but not all) divergence errors in Scala 2 would terminate the implicit search as a whole.

6. Scala 2 gives a lower level of priority to implicit conversions with call-by-name parameters relative to implicit conversions with call-by-value parameters. Scala 3 drops this distinction. So the following code snippet would be ambiguous in Scala 3:

```
implicit def conv1(x: Int): A = new A(x)
implicit def conv2(x: => Int): A = new A(x)
def buzz(y: A) = ???
buzz(1)      // error: ambiguous
```

7. The rule for picking a *most specific* alternative among a set of overloaded or implicit alternatives is refined to take context parameters into account. All else being equal, an alternative that takes some context parameters is taken to be less specific than an alternative that takes none. If both alternatives take context parameters, we try to choose between them as if they were methods with regular parameters. The following paragraph in the [SLS §6.26.3](#) is affected by this change:

Original version:

An alternative `A` is *more specific* than an alternative `B` if the relative weight of `A` over `B` is greater than the relative weight of `B` over `A`.

Modified version:

An alternative `A` is *more specific* than an alternative `B` if

- the relative weight of `A` over `B` is greater than the relative weight of `B` over `A`, or
- the relative weights are the same, and `A` takes no implicit parameters but `B` does, or
- the relative weights are the same, both `A` and `B` take implicit parameters, and `A` is more specific than `B` if all implicit parameters in either alternative are replaced by regular parameters.

8. The previous disambiguation of implicits based on inheritance depth is refined to make it transitive. Transitivity is important to guarantee that search outcomes are compilation-order independent. Here's a scenario where the previous rules violated transitivity:

```
class A extends B
object A { given a ... }
class B
object B extends C { given b ... }
class C { given c }
```

Here `a` is more specific than `b` since the companion class `A` is a subclass of the companion class `B`. Also, `b` is more specific than `c` since `object B` extends class `C`. But `a` is not more specific than `c`. This means if `a`, `b`, `c` are all applicable implicits, it makes a difference in what order they are compared. If we compare `b` and `c` first, we keep `b` and drop `c`. Then, comparing `a` with `b` we keep `a`. But if we compare `a` with `c` first, we fail with an ambiguity error.

The new rules are as follows: An implicit `a` defined in `A` is more specific than an implicit `b` defined in `B` if

- `A` extends `B`, or
- `A` is an object and the companion class of `A` extends `B`, or
- `A` and `B` are objects, `B` does not inherit any implicit members from base classes (*), and the companion class of `A` extends the companion class of `B`.

Condition (*) is new. It is necessary to ensure that the defined relation is transitive.

7.9 Implicit Conversions

An *implicit conversion*, also called *view*, is a conversion that is applied by the compiler in several situations:

1. When an expression `e` of type `T` is encountered, but the compiler needs an expression of type `S`.
2. When an expression `e.m` where `e` has type `T` but `T` defines no member `m` is encountered.

In those cases, the compiler looks in the implicit scope for a conversion that can convert an expression of type `T` to an expression of type `S` (or to a type that defines a member `m` in the second case).

This conversion can be either:

1. An `implicit def` of type `T => S` or `(=> T) => S`
2. An implicit value of type `scala.Conversion[T, S]`

Defining an implicit conversion will emit a warning unless the import `scala.language.implicitConversions` is in scope, or the flag `-language:implicitConversions` is given to the compiler.

7.9.1 Examples

The first example is taken from `scala.Predef`. Thanks to this implicit conversion, it is possible to pass a `scala.Int` to a Java method that expects a `java.lang.Integer`

```
import scala.language.implicitConversions
implicit def int2Integer(x: Int): java.lang.Integer =
  x.asInstanceOf[java.lang.Integer]
```

The second example shows how to use `Conversion` to define an `Ordering` for an arbitrary type, given existing `Orderings` for other types:

```
import scala.language.implicitConversions
implicit def ordT[T, S](
  implicit conv: Conversion[T, S],
  ordS: Ordering[S]
): Ordering[T] =
  // `ordS` compares values of type `S`, but we can convert from `T` to `S`
  (x: T, y: T) => ordS.compare(x, y)

class A(val x: Int) // The type for which we want an `Ordering`

// Convert `A` to a type for which an `Ordering` is available:
implicit val AToInt: Conversion[A, Int] = _.x

implicitly[Ordering[Int]] // Ok, exists in the standard library
implicitly[Ordering[A]]   // Ok, will use the implicit conversion from
                          // `A` to `Int` and the `Ordering` for `Int`.
```

More details

7.10 Changes in Overload Resolution

Overload resolution in Scala 3 improves on Scala 2 in three ways. First, it takes all argument lists into account instead of just the first argument list. Second, it can infer parameter types of function values even if they are in the first argument list. Third, default arguments are no longer relevant for prioritization.

7.10.1 Looking Beyond the First Argument List

Overloading resolution now can take argument lists into account when choosing among a set of overloaded alternatives. For example, the following code compiles in Scala 3, while it results in an ambiguous overload error in Scala 2:

```
def f(x: Int)(y: String): Int = 0
def f(x: Int)(y: Int): Int = 0

f(3)("") // ok
```

The following code compiles as well:

```
def g(x: Int)(y: Int)(z: Int): Int = 0
def g(x: Int)(y: Int)(z: String): Int = 0
```

```
g(2)(3)(4)      // ok
g(2)(3)("")     // ok
```

To make this work, the rules for overloading resolution in [SLS §6.26.3](#) are augmented as follows:

In a situation where a function is applied to more than one argument list, if overloading resolution yields several competing alternatives when $n \geq 1$ parameter lists are taken into account, then resolution re-tried using $n + 1$ argument lists.

This change is motivated by the new language feature **extension methods**, where emerges the need to do overload resolution based on additional argument blocks.

7.10.2 Parameter Types of Function Values

The handling of function values with missing parameter types has been improved. We can now pass such values in the first argument list of an overloaded application, provided that the remaining parameters suffice for picking a variant of the overloaded function. For example, the following code compiles in Scala 3, while it results in a missing parameter type error in Scala2:

```
def f(x: Int, f2: Int => Int) = f2(x)
def f(x: String, f2: String => String) = f2(x)
f("a", _.toUpperCase)
f(2, _ * 2)
```

To make this work, the rules for overloading resolution in [SLS §6.26.3](#) are modified as follows:

Replace the sentence

Otherwise, let S_1, \dots, S_m be the vector of types obtained by typing each argument with an undefined expected type.

with the following paragraph:

Otherwise, let S_1, \dots, S_m be the vector of known types of all argument types, where the *known type* of an argument E is determined as followed:

- If E is a function value $(p_1, \dots, p_n) \Rightarrow B$ that misses some parameter types, the known type of E is $(S_1, \dots, S_n) \Rightarrow ?$, where each S_i is the type of parameter p_i if it is given, or $?$ otherwise. Here $?$ stands for a *wildcard type* that is compatible with every other type.
- Otherwise the known type of E is the result of typing E with an undefined expected type.

A pattern matching closure

```
{ case P1 => B1 ... case P_n => B_n }
```

is treated as if it was expanded to the function value

```
x => x match { case P1 => B1 ... case P_n => B_n }
```

and is therefore also approximated with a `? => ?` type.

7.10.3 Default Arguments Are No longer Relevant for Prioritization

In Scala 2 if among several applicative alternatives one alternative had default arguments, that alternative was dropped from consideration. This has the unfortunate side effect that adding a default to a parameter of a method can render this method invisible in overloaded calls.

Scala 3 drops this distinction. Methods with default parameters are not treated to have lower priority than other methods.

7.11 Match Expressions

The syntactical precedence of match expressions has been changed. `match` is still a keyword, but it is used like an alphabetical operator. This has several consequences:

1. `match` expressions can be chained:

```
xs match {
  case Nil => "empty"
  case _   => "nonempty"
} match {
  case "empty"    => 0
  case "nonempty" => 1
}
```

(or, dropping the optional braces)

```
xs match
  case Nil => "empty"
  case _   => "nonempty"
match
  case "empty"    => 0
  case "nonempty" => 1
```

2. `match` may follow a period:

```
if xs.match
  case Nil => false
  case _   => true
then "nonempty"
else "empty"
```

3. The scrutinee of a match expression must be an `InfixExpr`. Previously the scrutinee could be followed by a type ascription `: T`, but this is no longer supported. So `x : T match { ... }` now has to be written `(x: T) match { ... }`.

7.11.1 Syntax

The new syntax of match expressions is as follows.

```
InfixExpr    ::= ...
                | InfixExpr MatchClause
SimpleExpr   ::= ...
                | SimpleExpr '.' MatchClause
MatchClause  ::= 'match' '{' CaseClauses '}'
```

7.12 Vararg Splices

The syntax of vararg splices in patterns and function arguments has changed. The new syntax uses a postfix `*`, analogously to how a vararg parameter is declared.

```
val arr = Array(0, 1, 2, 3)
val lst = List(arr*)           // vararg splice argument
lst match
  case List(0, 1, xs*) => println(xs) // binds xs to Seq(2, 3)
  case List(1, _) =>           // wildcard pattern
```

The old syntax for splice arguments will be phased out.

```
/*!*/ val lst = List(arr: _) // syntax error
lst match
  case List(0, 1, xs @ _) // ok, equivalent to `xs*`
```

7.12.1 Syntax

```
ArgumentPatterns ::= '(' [Patterns] ')'
                  | '(' [Patterns ',' Pattern2 '*' ] ')'

ParArgumentExprs ::= '(' ['using'] ExprsInParens ')'
                  | '(' [ExprsInParens ',' PostfixExpr '*' ] ')'
```

7.12.2 Compatibility considerations

To enable cross compilation between Scala 2 and Scala 3, the compiler will accept both the old and the new syntax. Under the `-source future` setting, an error will be emitted when the old syntax is encountered. An automatic rewrite from old to new syntax is offered under `-source future-migration`.

7.13 Pattern Bindings

In Scala 2, pattern bindings in `val` definitions and `for` expressions are loosely typed. Potentially failing matches are still accepted at compile-time, but may influence the program's runtime behavior. From Scala 3.2 on, type checking rules will be tightened so that warnings are reported at compile-time instead.

7.13.1 Bindings in Pattern Definitions

```
val xs: List[Any] = List(1, 2, 3)
val (x: String) :: _ = xs // error: pattern's type String is more specialized
                        // than the right-hand side expression's type Any
```

This code gives a compile-time warning in Scala 3.2 (and also earlier Scala 3.x under the `-source future` setting) whereas it will fail at runtime with a `ClassCastException` in Scala 2. In Scala 3.2, a pattern binding is only allowed if the pattern is *irrefutable*, that is, if the right-hand side's type conforms to the pattern's type. For instance, the following is OK:

```
val pair = (1, true)
val (x, y) = pair
```

Sometimes one wants to decompose data anyway, even though the pattern is refutable. For instance, if at some point one knows that a list `elems` is non-empty one might want to decompose it like this:

```
val first :: rest = elems // error
```

This works in Scala 2. In fact it is a typical use case for Scala 2's rules. But in Scala 3.2 it will give a warning. One can avoid the warning by marking the right-hand side with an `@unchecked` annotation:

```
val first :: rest = elems: @unchecked // OK
```

This will make the compiler accept the pattern binding. It might give an error at runtime instead, if the underlying assumption that `elems` can never be empty is wrong.

7.13.2 Pattern Bindings in for Expressions

Analogous changes apply to patterns in `for` expressions. For instance:

```
val elems: List[Any] = List((1, 2), "hello", (3, 4))
for (x, y) <- elems yield (y, x) // error: pattern's type (Any, Any) is more speci
                                // than the right-hand side expression's type Any
```

This code gives a compile-time warning in Scala 3.2 whereas in Scala 2 the list `elems` is filtered to retain only the elements of tuple type that match the pattern `(x, y)`. The filtering functionality can be obtained in Scala 3 by prefixing the pattern with `case`:

```
for case (x, y) <- elems yield (y, x) // returns List((2, 1), (4, 3))
```

7.13.3 Syntax Changes

Generators in `for` expressions may be prefixed with `case`.

```
Generator ::= ['case'] Pattern1 '<-' Expr
```


7.13.4 Migration

The new syntax is supported in Scala 3.0. However, to enable smooth cross compilation between Scala 2 and Scala 3, the changed behavior and additional type checks are only enabled under the `-source future` setting. They will be enabled by default in version 3.2 of the language.

7.14 Option-less pattern matching

The implementation of pattern matching in Scala 3 was greatly simplified compared to Scala 2. From a user perspective, this means that Scala 3 generated patterns are a *lot* easier to debug, as variables all show up in debug modes and positions are correctly preserved.

Scala 3 supports a superset of Scala 2 [extractors](#).

7.14.1 Extractors

Extractors are objects that expose a method `unapply` or `unapplySeq`:

```
def unapply(x: T): U
def unapplySeq(x: T): U
```

Where `T` is an arbitrary type, if it is a subtype of the scrutinee's type `Scrut`, a [type test](#) is performed before calling the method. `U` follows rules described in [Fixed Arity Extractors](#) and [Variadic Extractors](#).

Note: `U` can be the type of the extractor object.

`unapply` and `unapplySeq` can actually have a more general signature, allowing for a leading type clause, as well as arbitrarily many `using` clauses, both before and after the regular term clause, and at most one implicit clause at the end, for example:

```
def unapply[A, B](using C)(using D)(x: T)(using E)(using F)(implicit y: G): U = ??
```

Extractors that expose the method `unapply` are called fixed-arity extractors, which work with patterns of fixed arity. Extractors that expose the method `unapplySeq` are called variadic extractors, which enables variadic patterns.

7.14.2 Fixed-Arity Extractors

Fixed-arity extractors expose the following signature (with potential type, `using` and implicit clauses):

```
def unapply(x: T): U
```

The type `U` conforms to one of the following matches:

- [Boolean match](#)
- [Product match](#)

Or `U` conforms to the type `R`:

```
type R = {  
  def isEmpty: Boolean  
  def get: S  
}
```

and *S* conforms to one of the following matches:

- *single match*
- *name-based match*

The former form of `unapply` has higher precedence, and *single match* has higher precedence over *name-based match*.

Note: the *S* in *R* can be *U*.

A usage of a fixed-arity extractor is irrefutable if one of the following condition holds:

- `U = true`
- the extractor is used as a product match
- `U <: R` and `U <: { def isEmpty: false }`
- `U = Some[T]`

Note: The last rule is necessary because, for compatibility reasons, `isEmpty` on `Some` has return type `Boolean` rather than `false`, even though it always returns `false`.

7.14.2.1 Boolean Match

- `U := Boolean`
- Pattern-matching on exactly 0 patterns

For example:

```
object Even:  
  def unapply(s: String): Boolean = s.size % 2 == 0  
  
"even" match  
  case s @ Even() => println(s"$s has an even number of characters")  
  case s          => println(s"$s has an odd number of characters")  
  
// even has an even number of characters
```

7.14.2.2 Product Match

- `U <: Product`
- `N > 0` is the maximum number of consecutive (`val` or parameterless `def`) `_1: P1 ... _N: PN` members in *U*
- Pattern-matching on exactly *N* patterns with types *P1*, *P2*, ..., *PN*

For example:

```

class FirstChars(s: String) extends Product:
  def _1 = s.charAt(0)
  def _2 = s.charAt(1)

  // Not used by pattern matching: Product is only used as a marker trait.
  def canEqual(that: Any): Boolean = ???
  def productArity: Int = ???
  def productElement(n: Int): Any = ???

object FirstChars:
  def unapply(s: String): FirstChars = new FirstChars(s)

"Hi!" match
  case FirstChars(char1, char2) =>
    println(s"First: $char1; Second: $char2")

// First: H; Second: i

```

7.14.2.3 Single Match

- Pattern-matching on 1 pattern with type S

For example, where `Nat <: R, S = Int`:

```

class Nat(val x: Int):
  def get: Int = x
  def isEmpty = x < 0

object Nat:
  def unapply(x: Int): Nat = new Nat(x)

5 match
  case Nat(n) => println(s"$n is a natural number")
  case _      => ()

// 5 is a natural number

```

7.14.2.4 Name-based Match

- S has $N > 1$ members such that they are each `vals` or parameterless `defs`, and named from `_1` with type `P1` to `_N` with type `PN`
- S doesn't have $N+1$ members satisfying the previous point, i.e. N is maximal
- Pattern-matching on exactly N patterns with types `P1`, `P2`, ..., `PN`

For example, where `U = AlwaysEmpty.type <: R, S = NameBased`:

```

object MyPatternMatcher:
  def unapply(s: String) = AlwaysEmpty

```

```

object AlwaysEmpty:
  def isEmpty = true
  def get = NameBased

object NameBased:
  def _1: Int = ???
  def _2: String = ???

""" match
  case MyPatternMatcher(_, _) => ???
  case _ => ()

```

7.14.3 Variadic Extractors

Variadic extractors expose the following signature (with potential type, using and implicit clauses):

```
def unapplySeq(x: T): U
```

Where U has to fulfill the following:

1. Set $V := U$
2. V is valid if V conforms to one of the following matches:
 - *sequence match*
 - *product-sequence match*
3. Otherwise U has to conform to the type R:

```

type R = {
  def isEmpty: Boolean
  def get: S
}

```

4. Set $V := S$, and reattempt 2., if it fails U is not valid.

The $V := U$ form of `unapplySeq` has higher priority, and *sequence match* has higher precedence over *product-sequence match*.

Note: This means `isEmpty` is disregarded if the $V := U$ form is valid

A usage of a variadic extractor is irrefutable if one of the following conditions holds:

- the extractor is used directly as a sequence match or product-sequence match
- $U <: R$ and $U <: \{ \text{def isEmpty: false} \}$
- $U = \text{Some}[T]$

Note: The last rule is necessary because, for compatibility reasons, `isEmpty` on `Some` has return type `Boolean` rather than `false`, even though it always returns `false`.

Note: Be careful, by the first condition and the note above, it is possible to define an irrefutable extractor with a `def isEmpty: true`. This is strongly discouraged

and, if found in the wild, is almost certainly a bug.

7.14.3.1 Sequence Match

- $V <: X$

```
type X = {
  def lengthCompare(len: Int): Int // or, `def length: Int`
  def apply(i: Int): T1
  def drop(n: Int): scala.Seq[T2]
  def toSeq: scala.Seq[T3]
}
```

- T2 and T3 conform to T1
- Pattern-matching on *exactly* N simple patterns with types T1, T1, ..., T1, where N is the runtime size of the sequence, or
- Pattern-matching on \geq N simple patterns and a *vararg pattern* (e.g., `xs: _*`) with types T1, T1, ..., T1, Seq[T1], where N is the minimum size of the sequence.

For example, where $V = S$, $U = \text{Option}[S] <: R$, $S = \text{Seq}[\text{Char}]$

```
object CharList:
  def unapplySeq(s: String): Option[Seq[Char]] = Some(s.toList)

"example" match
  case CharList(c1, c2, c3, c4, _, _, _) =>
    println(s"$c1,$c2,$c3,$c4")
  case _ =>
    println("Expected *exactly* 7 characters!")

// e,x,a,m
```

7.14.3.2 Product-Sequence Match

- $V <: \text{Product}$
- $N > 0$ is the maximum number of consecutive (val or parameterless def) $_1: P_1 \dots _N: P_N$ members in V
- PN conforms to the signature X defined in Seq Pattern
- Pattern-matching on exactly \geq N patterns, the first $N - 1$ patterns have types $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_{(N-1)}$, the type of the remaining patterns are determined as in Seq Pattern.

For example, where $V = S$, $U = \text{Option}[S] <: R$, $S = (\text{String}, \text{PN}) <: \text{Product}$, $\text{PN} = \text{Seq}[\text{Int}]$

```
class Foo(val name: String, val children: Int*)
object Foo:
  def unapplySeq(f: Foo): Option[(String, Seq[Int])] =
    Some((f.name, f.children))
```

```
def foo(f: Foo) = f match
  case Foo(name, x, y, ns*) => ">= two children."
  case Foo(name, ns*)      => "< two children."
```

There are plans for further simplification, in particular to factor out *product match* and *name-based match* into a single type of extractor.

7.14.4 Type testing

Abstract type testing with `ClassTag` is replaced with `TypeTest` or the alias `Typeable`.

- pattern `_ : X` for an abstract type requires a `TypeTest` in scope
- pattern `x @ X()` for an unapply that takes an abstract type requires a `TypeTest` in scope

[More details on `TypeTest`](#)

7.15 Automatic Eta Expansion

The conversion of *methods* into *functions* has been improved and happens automatically for methods with one or more parameters.

```
def m(x: Boolean, y: String)(z: Int): List[Int]
val f1 = m
val f2 = m(true, "abc")
```

This creates two function values:

```
f1: (Boolean, String) => Int => List[Int]
f2: Int => List[Int]
```

The syntax `m _` is no longer needed and will be deprecated in the future.

7.15.1 Automatic eta-expansion and nullary methods

Automatic eta expansion does not apply to “nullary” methods that take an empty parameter list.

```
def next(): T
```

Given a simple reference to `next` does not auto-convert to a function. One has to write explicitly `() => next()` to achieve that. Once again since the `_` is going to be deprecated it's better to write it this way rather than `next _`.

The reason for excluding nullary methods from automatic eta expansion is that Scala implicitly inserts the `()` argument, which would conflict with eta expansion. Automatic `()` insertion is **limited** in Scala 3, but the fundamental ambiguity remains.

[More details](#)

7.16 Changes in Compiler Plugins

Compiler plugins are supported in Scala 3 since Dotty 0.9. There are two notable changes compared to Scala 2:

- No support for analyzer plugins
- Added support for research plugins

[Analyzer plugins](#) run in Scala 2 during type checking and may influence normal type checking. This is a very powerful feature but for production usages, a predictable and consistent type checker is more important.

For experimentation and research, Scala 3 introduces *research plugin*. Research plugins are more powerful than Scala 2 analyzer plugins as they let plugin authors customize the whole compiler pipeline. One can easily replace the standard typer by a custom one or create a parser for a domain-specific language. However, research plugins are only enabled for nightly or snapshot releases of Scala 3.

Common plugins that add new phases to the compiler pipeline are called *standard plugins* in Scala 3. In terms of features, they are similar to `scalac` plugins, despite minor changes in the API.

7.16.1 Using Compiler Plugins

In Scala 3, both standard and research plugins can be used with `scalac` by adding the `-Xplugin:` option:

```
scalac -Xplugin:pluginA.jar -Xplugin:pluginB.jar Test.scala
```

The compiler will examine the jar provided, and look for a property file named `plugin.properties` in the root directory of the jar. The property file specifies the fully qualified plugin class name. The format of a property file is as follows:

```
pluginClass=dividezero.DivideZero
```

This is different from Scala 2 plugins that require a `scalac-plugin.xml` file.

Starting from 1.1.5, `sbt` also supports Scala 3 compiler plugins. Please refer to the [sbt documentation](#) for more information.

7.16.2 Writing a Standard Compiler Plugin

Here is the source code for a simple compiler plugin that reports integer divisions by zero as errors.

```
package dividezero

import dotty.tools.dotc.ast.Trees.*
import dotty.tools.dotc.ast.tpd
import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Constants.Constant
import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Contexts.Context
import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Decorators.*
```

```

import dotty.tools.dotc.core.StdNames.*
import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Symbols.*
import dotty.tools.dotc.plugins.{PluginPhase, StandardPlugin}
import dotty.tools.dotc.transform.{Pickler, Staging}

class DivideZero extends StandardPlugin:
  val name: String = "divideZero"
  override val description: String = "divide zero check"

  def init(options: List[String]): List[PluginPhase] =
    (new DivideZeroPhase) :: Nil

class DivideZeroPhase extends PluginPhase:
  import tpd.*

  val phaseName = "divideZero"

  override val runsAfter = Set(Pickler.name)
  override val runsBefore = Set(Staging.name)

  override def transformApply(tree: Apply)(implicit ctx: Context): Tree =
    tree match
      case Apply(Select(rcvr, nme.DIV), List(Literal(Constant(0))))
        if rcvr.tpe <: defn.IntType =>
          report.error("dividing by zero", tree.pos)
      case _ =>
        ()
    tree
end DivideZeroPhase

```

The plugin main class (`DivideZero`) must extend the trait `StandardPlugin` and implement the method `init` that takes the plugin's options as argument and returns a list of `PluginPhases` to be inserted into the compilation pipeline.

Our plugin adds one compiler phase to the pipeline. A compiler phase must extend the `PluginPhase` trait. In order to specify when the phase is executed, we also need to specify a `runsBefore` and `runsAfter` constraints that are list of phase names.

We can now transform trees by overriding methods like `transformXXX`.

7.16.3 Writing a Research Compiler Plugin

Here is a template for research plugins.

```

import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Contexts.Context
import dotty.tools.dotc.core.Phases.Phase
import dotty.tools.dotc.plugins.ResearchPlugin

class DummyResearchPlugin extends ResearchPlugin:

```



```

val name: String = "dummy"
override val description: String = "dummy research plugin"

def init(options: List[String], phases: List[List[Phase]])(implicit ctx: Context)
  phases
end DummyResearchPlugin

```

A research plugin must extend the trait `ResearchPlugin` and implement the method `init` that takes the plugin's options as argument as well as the compiler pipeline in the form of a list of compiler phases. The method can replace, remove or add any phases to the pipeline and return the updated pipeline.

7.17 Lazy Vals Initialization

Scala 3 implements [Version 6](#) of the [SIP-20](#) improved lazy vals initialization proposal.

7.17.1 Motivation

The newly proposed lazy val initialization mechanism aims to eliminate the acquisition of resources during the execution of the lazy val initializer block, thus reducing the possibility of a deadlock. The concrete deadlock scenarios that the new lazy val initialization scheme eliminates are summarized in the [SIP-20](#) document.

7.17.2 Implementation

Given a lazy field of the form:

```

class Foo {
  lazy val bar = <RHS>
}

```

The Scala 3 compiler will generate code equivalent to:

```

class Foo {
  import scala.runtime.LazyVals
  var value_0: Int = _
  var bitmap: Long = 0L
  val bitmap_offset: Long = LazyVals.getOffset(classOf[LazyCell], "bitmap")

  def bar(): Int = {
    while (true) {
      val flag = LazyVals.get(this, bitmap_offset)
      val state = LazyVals.STATE(flag, <field-id>)

      if (state == <state-3>) {
        return value_0
      } else if (state == <state-0>) {
        if (LazyVals.CAS(this, bitmap_offset, flag, <state-1>, <field-id>)) {
          try {

```

```

    val result = <RHS>
    value_0 = result
    LazyVals.setFlag(this, bitmap_offset, <state-3>, <field-id>)
    return result
  }
  catch {
    case ex =>
      LazyVals.setFlag(this, bitmap_offset, <state-0>, <field-id>)
      throw ex
  }
}
} else /* if (state == <state-1> || state == <state-2>) */ {
  LazyVals.wait4Notification(this, bitmap_offset, flag, <field-id>)
}
}
}
}

```

The state of the lazy val `<state-i>` is represented with 4 values: 0, 1, 2 and 3. The state 0 represents a non-initialized lazy val. The state 1 represents a lazy val that is currently being initialized by some thread. The state 2 denotes that there are concurrent readers of the lazy val. The state 3 represents a lazy val that has been initialized. `<field-id>` is the id of the lazy val. This id grows with the number of volatile lazy vals defined in the class.

7.17.3 Note on recursive lazy vals

Ideally recursive lazy vals should be flagged as an error. The current behavior for recursive lazy vals is undefined (initialization may result in a deadlock).

7.17.4 Reference

- [SIP-20](#)

7.18 Main Methods

Scala 3 offers a new way to define programs that can be invoked from the command line: A `@main` annotation on a method turns this method into an executable program. Example:

```

@main def happyBirthday(age: Int, name: String, others: String*) =
  val suffix =
    age % 100 match
    case 11 | 12 | 13 => "th"
    case _ =>
      age % 10 match
      case 1 => "st"
      case 2 => "nd"

```

```

    case 3 => "rd"
    case _ => "th"
val bldr = new StringBuilder(s"Happy $age$suffix birthday, $name")
for other <- others do bldr.append(" and ").append(other)
bldr.toString

```

This would generate a main program `happyBirthday` that could be called like this

```

> scala happyBirthday 23 Lisa Peter
Happy 23rd birthday, Lisa and Peter

```

A `@main` annotated method can be written either at the top-level or in a statically accessible object. The name of the program is in each case the name of the method, without any object prefixes. The `@main` method can have an arbitrary number of parameters. For each parameter type there must be an instance of the `scala.util.CommandLineParser.FromString[T]` type class that is used to convert an argument string to the required parameter type `T`. The parameter list of a main method can end in a repeated parameter that then takes all remaining arguments given on the command line.

The program implemented from a `@main` method checks that there are enough arguments on the command line to fill in all parameters, and that argument strings are convertible to the required types. If a check fails, the program is terminated with an error message.

Examples:

```

> scala happyBirthday 22
Illegal command line after first argument: more arguments expected

> scala happyBirthday sixty Fred
Illegal command line: java.lang.NumberFormatException: For input string: "sixty"

```

The Scala compiler generates a program from a `@main` method `f` as follows:

- It creates a class named `f` in the package where the `@main` method was found
- The class has a static method `main` with the usual signature. It takes an `Array[String]` as argument and returns `Unit`.
- The generated `main` method calls method `f` with arguments converted using methods in the `scala.util.CommandLineParser` object.

For instance, the `happyBirthday` method above would generate additional code equivalent to the following class:

```

final class happyBirthday:
  import scala.util.CommandLineParser as CLP
  <static> def main(args: Array[String]): Unit =
    try
      happyBirthday(
        CLP.parseArgument[Int](args, 0),
        CLP.parseArgument[String](args, 1),

```

```

    CLP.parseRemainingArguments[String](args, 2))
  catch
    case error: CLP.ParseError => CLP.showError(error)

```

Note: The `<static>` modifier above expresses that the `main` method is generated as a static method of class `happyBirthday`. It is not available for user programs in Scala. Regular “static” members are generated in Scala using objects instead.

`@main` methods are the recommended scheme to generate programs that can be invoked from the command line in Scala 3. They replace the previous scheme to write program as objects with a special `App` parent class. In Scala 2, `happyBirthday` could be written also like this:

```

object happyBirthday extends App:
  // needs by-hand parsing of arguments vector
  ...

```

The previous functionality of `App`, which relied on the “magic” `DelayedInit` trait, is no longer available. `App` still exists in limited form for now, but it does not support command line arguments and will be deprecated in the future. If programs need to cross-build between Scala 2 and Scala 3, it is recommended to use an explicit `main` method with an `Array[String]` argument instead.

7.19 Escapes in interpolations

In Scala 2 there is no straightforward way to represent a double-quote character `"` in a quoted interpolation (except in triple-quote interpolation). A `\` character can’t be used for that because interpolators themselves decide how to handle escaping, so the parser doesn’t know whether the `"` character should be escaped or used as a terminator.

In Scala 3, we can use the `$` meta character of interpolations to escape a `"` character. Example:

```

val inventor = "Thomas Edison"
val interpolation = s"as $inventor said: $"The three great essentials to achieve

```

8 Dropped Features

8.1 Dropped: DelayedInit

The special handling of the `DelayedInit` trait is no longer supported.

One consequence is that the `App` class, which used `DelayedInit` is now partially broken. You can still use `App` as a simple way to set up a main program. Example:

```
object HelloWorld extends App {
  println("Hello, world!")
}
```

However, the code is now run in the initializer of the object, which on some JVMs means that it will only be interpreted. So, better not use it for benchmarking! Also, if you want to access the command line arguments, you need to use an explicit `main` method for that.

```
object Hello:
  def main(args: Array[String]) =
    println(s"Hello, ${args(0)}")
```

On the other hand, Scala 3 offers a convenient alternative to such “program” objects with `@main methods`.

8.2 Dropped: Scala 2 Macros

The previous, experimental macro system has been dropped.

Instead, there is a cleaner, more restricted system based on two complementary concepts: `inline` and `'{ ... }/${ ... }` code generation. `'{ ... }` delays the compilation of the code and produces an object containing the code, dually `${ ... }` evaluates an expression which produces code and inserts it in the surrounding `${ ... }`. In this setting, a definition marked as inlined containing a `${ ... }` is a macro, the code inside the `${ ... }` is executed at compile-time and produces code in the form of `'{ ... }`. Additionally, the contents of code can be inspected and created with a more complex reflection API as an extension of `'{ ... }/${ ... }` framework.

- `inline` has been **implemented** in Scala 3.
- Quotes `'{ ... }` and splices `${ ... }` has been **implemented** in Scala 3.
- **TASTy reflect** provides more complex tree based APIs to inspect or create quoted code.

8.3 Dropped: Existential types

Existential types using `forSome` (as in [SLS §3.2.12](#)) have been dropped. The reasons for dropping them are:

- Existential types violate a type soundness principle on which DOT and Scala 3 are constructed. That principle says that every prefix (**p**, respectively **S**) of a type selection **p.T** or **S#T** must either come from a value constructed at runtime or refer to a type that is known to have only good bounds.
- Existential types create many difficult feature interactions with other Scala constructs.
- Existential types largely overlap with path-dependent types, so the gain of having them is relatively minor.

Existential types that can be expressed using only wildcards (but not **forSome**) are still supported, but are treated as refined types. For instance, the type

```
Map[_ <: AnyRef, Int]
```

is treated as the type **Map**, where the first type parameter is upper-bounded by **AnyRef** and the second type parameter is an alias of **Int**.

When reading class files compiled with Scala 2, Scala 3 will do a best effort to approximate existential types with its own types. It will issue a warning that a precise emulation is not possible.

8.4 Dropped: General Type Projection

Scala so far allowed general type projection **T#A** where **T** is an arbitrary type and **A** names a type member of **T**.

Scala 3 disallows this if **T** is an abstract type (class types and type aliases are fine). This change was made because unrestricted type projection is [unsound](#).

This restriction rules out the [type-level encoding of a combinator calculus](#).

To rewrite code using type projections on abstract types, consider using path-dependent types or implicit parameters.

8.5 Dropped: Do-While

The syntax construct

```
do <body> while <cond>
```

is no longer supported. Instead, it is recommended to use the equivalent **while** loop below:

```
while ({ <body> ; <cond> }) ()
```

For instance, instead of

```
do
  i += 1
while (f(i) == 0)
```

one writes

```
while
  i += 1
  f(i) == 0
do ()
```

The idea to use a block as the condition of a `while` also gives a solution to the “loop-and-a-half” problem. Here is another example:

```
while
  val x: Int = iterator.next
  x >= 0
do print(". ")
```

8.5.1 Why Drop The Construct?

- `do-while` is used relatively rarely and it can be expressed faithfully using just `while`. So there seems to be little point in having it as a separate syntax construct.
- Under the [new syntax rules](#) `do` is used as a statement continuation, which would clash with its meaning as a statement introduction.

8.6 Dropped: Procedure Syntax

Procedure syntax

```
def f() { ... }
```

has been dropped. You need to write one of the following instead:

```
def f() = { ... }
def f(): Unit = { ... }
```

Scala 3 accepts the old syntax under the `-source:3.0-migration` option. If the `-migration` option is set, it can even rewrite old syntax to new. The [Scalafix](#) tool also can rewrite procedure syntax to make it Scala 3 compatible.

8.7 Dropped: Package Objects

Package objects

```
package object p {
  val a = ...
  def b = ...
}
```

will be dropped. They are still available in Scala 3.0 and 3.1, but will be deprecated and removed afterwards.

Package objects are no longer needed since all kinds of definitions can now be written at the top-level. Example:

```

package p
type Labelled[T] = (String, T)
val a: Labelled[Int] = ("count", 1)
def b = a._2

case class C()

extension (x: C) def pair(y: C) = (x, y)

```

There may be several source files in a package containing such top-level definitions, and source files can freely mix top-level value, method, and type definitions with classes and objects.

The compiler generates synthetic objects that wrap top-level definitions falling into one of the following categories:

- all pattern, value, method, and type definitions,
- implicit classes and objects,
- companion objects of opaque type aliases.

If a source file `src.scala` contains such top-level definitions, they will be put in a synthetic object named `src$package`. The wrapping is transparent, however. The definitions in `src` can still be accessed as members of the enclosing package. The synthetic object will be placed last in the file, after any other package clauses, imports, or object and class definitions.

Note: This means that 1. The name of a source file containing wrapped top-level definitions is relevant for binary compatibility. If the name changes, so does the name of the generated object and its class.

2. A top-level main method `def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = ...` is wrapped as any other method. If it appears in a source file `src.scala`, it could be invoked from the command line using a command like `scala src$package`. Since the “program name” is mangled it is recommended to always put `main` methods in explicitly named objects.
3. The notion of `private` is independent of whether a definition is wrapped or not. A `private` top-level definition is always visible from everywhere in the enclosing package.
4. If several top-level definitions are overloaded variants with the same name, they must all come from the same source file.

8.8 Dropped: Early Initializers

Early initializers of the form

```
class C extends { ... } with SuperClass ...
```

have been dropped. They were rarely used, and mostly to compensate for the lack of `trait parameters`, which are now directly supported in Scala 3.

For more information, see [SLS §5.1.6](#).

8.9 Dropped: Class shadowing

Scala 2 so far allowed patterns like this:

```
class Base {
  class Ops { ... }
}

class Sub extends Base {
  class Ops { ... }
}
```

Scala 3 rejects this with the error message:

```
6 |      class Ops {  }
  |      ^
  | class Ops cannot have the same name as class Ops in class Base
  | -- class definitions cannot be overridden
```

The issue is that the two `Ops` classes *look* like one overrides the other, but classes in Scala 2 cannot be overridden. To keep things clean (and its internal operations consistent) the Scala 3 compiler forces you to rename the inner classes so that their names are different.

[More details](#)

8.10 Dropped: Limit 22

The limits of 22 for the maximal number of parameters of function types and the maximal number of fields in tuple types have been dropped.

- Functions can now have an arbitrary number of parameters. Functions beyond [scala.Function22](#) are erased to a new trait [scala.runtime.FunctionXXL](#).
- Tuples can also have an arbitrary number of fields. Tuples beyond [scala.Tuple22](#) are erased to a new class [scala.runtime.TupleXXL](#) (which extends the trait [scala.Product](#)). Furthermore, they support generic operation such as concatenation and indexing.

Both of these are implemented using arrays.

8.11 Dropped: XML Literals

XML Literals are still supported, but will be dropped in the near future, to be replaced with [XML string interpolation](#):

```
import dotty.xml.interpolator.*

case class Person(name: String) { override def toString = name }
```

```

@main def test: Unit =
  val bill = Person("Bill")
  val john = Person("John")
  val mike = Person("Mike")
  val todoList = List(
    (bill, john, "Meeting", "Room 203, 11:00am"),
    (john, mike, "Holiday", "March 22-24")
  )
  // XML literals (to be dropped)
  val mails1 = for (from, to, heading, body) <- todoList yield
    <message>
      <from>{from}</from><to>{to}</to>
      <heading>{heading}</heading><body>{body}</body>
    </message>
  println(mails1)
  // XML string interpolation
  val mails2 = for (from, to, heading, body) <- todoList yield xml"""
    <message>
      <from>${from}</from><to>${to}</to>
      <heading>${heading}</heading><body>${body}</body>
    </message>"""
  println(mails2)

```

For more information, see the semester project [XML String Interpolator for Dotty](#) by Yassin Kammoun (2019).

8.12 Dropped: Symbol literals

Symbol literals are no longer supported.

The `scala.Symbol` class still exists, so a literal translation of the symbol literal `'xyz` is `Symbol("xyz")`. However, it is recommended to use a plain string literal `"xyz"` instead. (The `Symbol` class will be deprecated and removed in the future). Example:

```
scalac Test.scala
```

```

-- Error: Test.scala:1:25 -----
1 |@main def test = println('abc)
  |                           ^
  |                           symbol literal 'abc is no longer supported,
  |                           use a string literal "abc" or an application Symbol("ab
  |                           or enclose in braces '{abc}' if you want a quoted expres
  |                           For now, you can also `import language.deprecated.symbo
  |                           the idiom, but this possibility might no longer be avai
1 error found

```

8.13 Dropped: Auto-Application

Previously an empty argument list `()` was implicitly inserted when calling a nullary method without arguments. Example:

```
def next(): T = ...
next      // is expanded to next()
```

In Scala 3, this idiom is an error.

```
next
^
missing arguments for method next
```

In Scala 3, the application syntax has to follow exactly the parameter syntax. Excluded from this rule are methods that are defined in Java or that override methods defined in Java. The reason for being more lenient with such methods is that otherwise everyone would have to write

```
xs.toString().length()
```

instead of

```
xs.toString.length
```

The latter is idiomatic Scala because it conforms to the *uniform access principle*. This principle states that one should be able to change an object member from a field to a non-side-effecting method and back without affecting clients that access the member. Consequently, Scala encourages to define such “property” methods without a `()` parameter list whereas side-effecting methods should be defined with it. Methods defined in Java cannot make this distinction; for them a `()` is always mandatory. So Scala fixes the problem on the client side, by allowing the parameterless references. But where Scala allows that freedom for all method references, Scala 3 restricts it to references of external methods that are not defined themselves in Scala 3.

For reasons of backwards compatibility, Scala 3 for the moment also auto-inserts `()` for nullary methods that are defined in Scala 2, or that override a method defined in Scala 2. It turns out that, because the correspondence between definition and call was not enforced in Scala so far, there are quite a few method definitions in Scala 2 libraries that use `()` in an inconsistent way. For instance, we find in `scala.math.Numeric`

```
def toInt(): Int
```

whereas `toInt` is written without parameters everywhere else. Enforcing strict parameter correspondence for references to such methods would project the inconsistencies to client code, which is undesirable. So Scala 3 opts for more leniency when type-checking references to such methods until most core libraries in Scala 2 have been cleaned up.

Stricter conformance rules also apply to overriding of nullary methods. It is no longer allowed to override a parameterless method by a nullary method or *vice versa*.

Instead, both methods must agree exactly in their parameter lists.

```
class A:
  def next(): Int

class B extends A:
  def next: Int // overriding error: incompatible type
```

Methods overriding Java or Scala 2 methods are again exempted from this requirement.

8.13.1 Migrating code

Existing Scala code with inconsistent parameters can still be compiled in Scala 3 under `-source 3.0-migration`. When paired with the `-rewrite` option, the code will be automatically rewritten to conform to Scala 3’s stricter checking.

8.13.2 Reference

For more information, see [Issue #2570](#) and [PR #2716](#).

8.14 Dropped: Weak conformance

In some situations, Scala used a *weak conformance* relation when testing type compatibility or computing the least upper bound of a set of types. The principal motivation behind weak conformance was to make an expression like this have type `List[Double]`:

```
List(1.0, math.sqrt(3.0), 0, -3.3) // : List[Double]
```

It’s “obvious” that this should be a `List[Double]`. However, without some special provision, the least upper bound of the lists’s element types (`Double`, `Double`, `Int`, `Double`) would be `AnyVal`, hence the list expression would be given type `List[AnyVal]`.

A less obvious example is the following one, which was also typed as a `List[Double]`, using the weak conformance relation.

```
val n: Int = 3
val c: Char = 'X'
val d: Double = math.sqrt(3.0)
List(n, c, d) // used to be: List[Double], now: List[AnyVal]
```

Here, it is less clear why the type should be widened to `List[Double]`, a `List[AnyVal]` seems to be an equally valid – and more principled – choice.

Weak conformance applies to all “numeric” types (including `Char`), and independently of whether the expressions are literals or not. However, in hindsight, the only intended use case is for *integer literals* to be adapted to the type of the other expressions. Other types of numerics have an explicit type annotation embedded in their syntax

(f, d, ., L or ' for Chars) which ensures that their author really meant them to have that specific type).

Therefore, Scala 3 drops the general notion of weak conformance, and instead keeps one rule: `Int` literals are adapted to other numeric types if necessary.

[More details](#)

8.15 Deprecated: Nonlocal Returns

Returning from nested anonymous functions has been deprecated, and will produce a warning from version 3.2.

Nonlocal returns are implemented by throwing and catching `scala.runtime.NonLocalReturnException`s. This is rarely what is intended by the programmer. It can be problematic because of the hidden performance cost of throwing and catching exceptions. Furthermore, it is a leaky implementation: a catch-all exception handler can intercept a `NonLocalReturnException`.

A drop-in library replacement is provided in `scala.util.control.NonLocalReturns`. Example:

```
import scala.util.control.NonLocalReturns.*

extension [T](xs: List[T])
  def has(elem: T): Boolean = returning {
    for x <- xs do
      if x == elem then throwReturn(true)
    false
  }

@main def test(): Unit =
  val xs = List(1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
  assert(xs.has(2) == xs.contains(2))
```

Note: compiler produces deprecation error on nonlocal returns only with `-source:future` option.

8.16 Dropped: `private[this]` and `protected[this]`

The `private[this]` and `protected[this]` access modifiers are deprecated and will be phased out.

Previously, these modifiers were needed for

- avoiding the generation of getters and setters
- excluding code under a `private[this]` from variance checks. (Scala 2 also excludes `protected[this]` but this was found to be unsound and was therefore removed).

- avoiding the generation of fields, if a `private[this] val` is not accessed by a class method.

The compiler now infers for `private` members the fact that they are only accessed via `this`. Such members are treated as if they had been declared `private[this].protected[this]` is dropped without a replacement.

This change can in some cases change the semantics of a Scala program, since a `private val` is no longer guaranteed to generate a field. The field is omitted if

- the `val` is only accessed via `this`, and
- the `val` is not accessed from a method in the current class.

This can cause problems if a program tries to access the missing private field via reflection. The recommended fix is to declare the field instead to be qualified private with the enclosing class as qualifier. Example:

```
class C(x: Int):
  private[C] val field = x + 1
  // [C] needed if `field` is to be accessed through reflection
  val retained = field * field
```

8.17 Dropped: Wildcard Initializer

The syntax

```
var x: A = _
```

that was used to indicate an uninitialized field, has been dropped. At its place there is a special value `uninitialized` in the `scala.compiletime` package. To get an uninitialized field, you now write

```
import scala.compiletime.uninitialized

var x: A = uninitialized
```

To enable cross-compilation, `_` is still supported, but it will be dropped in a future 3.x version.

9 Experimental

9.1 CanThrow Capabilities

This page describes experimental support for exception checking in Scala 3. It is enabled by the language import

```
import language.experimental.saferExceptions
```

The reason for publishing this extension now is to get feedback on its usability. We are working on more advanced type systems that build on the general ideas put forward in the extension. Those type systems have application areas beyond checked exceptions. Exception checking is a useful starting point since exceptions are familiar to all Scala programmers and their current treatment leaves room for improvement.

9.1.1 Why Exceptions?

Exceptions are an ideal mechanism for error handling in many situations. They serve the intended purpose of propagating error conditions with a minimum of boilerplate. They cause zero overhead for the “happy path”, which means they are very efficient as long as errors arise infrequently. Exceptions are also debug friendly, since they produce stack traces that can be inspected at the handler site. So one never has to guess where an erroneous condition originated.

9.1.2 Why Not Exceptions?

However, exceptions in current Scala and many other languages are not reflected in the type system. This means that an essential part of the contract of a function - i.e. what exceptions can it produce? - is not statically checked. Most people acknowledge that this is a problem, but that so far the alternative of checked exceptions was just too painful to be considered. A good example are Java checked exceptions, which do the right thing in principle, but are widely regarded as a mistake since they are so difficult to deal with. So far, none of the successor languages that are modeled after Java or that build on the JVM has copied this feature. See for example Anders Hejlsberg’s [statement on why C# does not have checked exceptions](#).

9.1.3 The Problem With Java’s Checked Exceptions

The main problem with [Java’s checked exception model](#) is its inflexibility, which is due to lack of polymorphism. Consider for instance the `map` function which is declared on `List[A]` like this:

```
def map[B](f: A => B): List[B]
```

In the Java model, function `f` is not allowed to throw a checked exception. So the following call would be invalid:

```
xs.map(x => if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded())
```

The only way around this would be to wrap the checked exception `LimitExceeded` in an unchecked `java.lang.RuntimeException` that is caught at the callsite and unwrapped again. Something like this:

```
try
  xs.map(x => if x < limit then x * x else throw Wrapper(LimitExceeded()))
catch case Wrapper(ex) => throw ex
```

Ugh! No wonder checked exceptions in Java are not very popular.

9.1.4 Monadic Effects

So the dilemma is that exceptions are easy to use only as long as we forget static type checking. This has caused many people working with Scala to abandon exceptions altogether and to use an error monad like `Either` instead. This can work in many situations but is not without its downsides either. It makes code a lot more complicated and harder to refactor. It means one is quickly confronted with the problem how to work with several monads. In general, dealing with one monad at a time in Scala is straightforward but dealing with several monads together is much less pleasant since monads don't compose. A great number of techniques have been proposed, implemented, and promoted to deal with this, from monad transformers, to free monads, to tagless final. But none of these techniques is universally liked; each introduces a complicated DSL that's hard to understand for non-experts, introduces runtime overheads, and makes debugging difficult. In the end, quite a few developers prefer to work instead with a single "super-monad" like `ZIO` that has error propagation built in alongside other aspects. This one-size fits all approach can work very nicely, even though (or is it because?) it represents an all-encompassing framework.

However, a programming language is not a framework; it has to cater also for those applications that do not fit the framework's use cases. So there's still a strong motivation for getting exception checking right.

9.1.5 From Effects To Capabilities

Why does `map` work so poorly with Java's checked exception model? It's because `map`'s signature limits function arguments to not throw checked exceptions. We could try to come up with a more polymorphic formulation of `map`. For instance, it could look like this:

```
def map[B, E](f: A => B throws E): List[B] throws E
```

This assumes a type `A throws E` to indicate computations of type `A` that can throw an exception of type `E`. But in practice the overhead of the additional type parameters makes this approach unappealing as well. Note in particular that we'd have to parameterize *every method* that takes a function argument that way, so the added overhead of declaring all these exception types looks just like a sort of ceremony we would like to avoid.

But there is a way to avoid the ceremony. Instead of concentrating on possible

effects such as “this code might throw an exception”, concentrate on *capabilities* such as “this code needs the capability to throw an exception”. From a standpoint of expressiveness this is quite similar. But capabilities can be expressed as parameters whereas traditionally effects are expressed as some addition to result values. It turns out that this can make a big difference!

9.1.6 The CanThrow Capability

In the *effects as capabilities* model, an effect is expressed as an (implicit) parameter of a certain type. For exceptions we would expect parameters of type `CanThrow[E]` where `E` stands for the exception that can be thrown. Here is the definition of `CanThrow`:

```
erased class CanThrow[-E <: Exception]
```

This shows another experimental Scala feature: *erased definitions*. Roughly speaking, values of an erased class do not generate runtime code; they are erased before code generation. This means that all `CanThrow` capabilities are compile-time only artifacts; they do not have a runtime footprint.

Now, if the compiler sees a `throw Exc()` construct where `Exc` is a checked exception, it will check that there is a capability of type `CanThrow[Exc]` that can be summoned as a given. It’s a compile-time error if that’s not the case.

How can the capability be produced? There are several possibilities:

Most often, the capability is produced by having a `using` clause (`using CanThrow[Exc]`) in some enclosing scope. This roughly corresponds to a `throws` clause in Java. The analogy is even stronger since alongside `CanThrow` there is also the following type alias defined in the `scala` package:

```
infix type A = Int
```

```
infix type $throws[R, +E <: Exception] = CanThrow[E] ?=> R
```

That is, `R $throws E` is a context function type that takes an implicit `CanThrow[E]` parameter and that returns a value of type `R`. What’s more, the compiler will translate an infix types with `throws` as the operator to `$throws` applications according to the rules

$$\begin{array}{lcl} A \text{ throws } E & \text{-->} & A \text{ \$throws } E \\ A \text{ throws } E \mid \dots \mid E & \text{-->} & A \text{ \$throws } E \dots \text{ \$throws } E \end{array}$$

Therefore, a method written like this:

```
def m(x: T)(using CanThrow[E]): U
```

can alternatively be expressed like this:

```
def m(x: T): U throws E
```

Also the capability to throw multiple types of exceptions can be expressed in a few ways as shown in the examples below:

```

def m(x: T): U throws E1 | E2
def m(x: T): U throws E1 throws E2
def m(x: T)(using CanThrow[E1], CanThrow[E2]): U
def m(x: T)(using CanThrow[E1])(using CanThrow[E2]): U
def m(x: T)(using CanThrow[E1]): U throws E2

```

Note 1: A signature like

```
def m(x: T)(using CanThrow[E1 | E2]): U
```

would also allow throwing `E1` or `E2` inside the method's body but might cause problems when someone tried to call this method from another method declaring its `CanThrow` capabilities like in the earlier examples. This is because `CanThrow` has a contravariant type parameter so `CanThrow[E1 | E2]` is a subtype of both `CanThrow[E1]` and `CanThrow[E2]`. Hence the presence of a given instance of `CanThrow[E1 | E2]` in scope satisfies the requirement for `CanThrow[E1]` and `CanThrow[E2]` but given instances of `CanThrow[E1]` and `CanThrow[E2]` cannot be combined to provide an instance of `CanThrow[E1 | E2]`.

Note 2: One should keep in mind that `|` binds its left and right arguments more tightly than `throws` so `A | B throws E1 | E2` means `(A | B) throws (Ex1 | Ex2)`, not `A | (B throws E1) | E2`.

The `CanThrow/throws` combo essentially propagates the `CanThrow` requirement outwards. But where are these capabilities created in the first place? That's in the `try` expression. Given a `try` like this:

```

try
  body
catch
  case ex1: Ex1 => handler1
  ...
  case exN: ExN => handlerN

```

the compiler generates an accumulated capability of type `CanThrow[Ex1 | ... | ExN]` that is available as a given in the scope of `body`. It does this by augmenting the `try` roughly as follows:

```

try
  erased given CanThrow[Ex1 | ... | ExN] = compiletime.erasedValue
  body
catch ...

```

Note that the right-hand side of the synthesized `given` is `compiletime.erasedValue`. This is OK since this `given` is erased; it will not be executed at runtime.

Note 1: The `saferExceptions` feature is designed to work only with checked exceptions. An exception type is *checked* if it is a subtype of `Exception` but not of `RuntimeException`. The signature of `CanThrow` still admits `RuntimeException`s since `RuntimeException` is a proper subtype of its bound, `Exception`. But no capabilities will be generated for `RuntimeException`s. Furthermore, `throws` clauses

also may not refer to `RuntimeExceptions`.

Note 2: To keep things simple, the compiler will currently only generate capabilities for catch clauses of the form

```
case ex: Ex =>
```

where `ex` is an arbitrary variable name (`_` is also allowed), and `Ex` is an arbitrary checked exception type. Constructor patterns such as `Ex(...)` or patterns with guards are not allowed. The compiler will issue an error if one of these is used to catch a checked exception and `saferExceptions` is enabled.

9.1.7 Example

That's it. Let's see it in action in an example. First, add an import

```
import language.experimental.saferExceptions
```

to enable exception checking. Now, define an exception `LimitExceeded` and a function `f` like this:

```
val limit = 10e9
class LimitExceeded extends Exception
def f(x: Double): Double =
  if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
```

You'll get this error message:

```
if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
                                ~~~~~
```

The capability to throw exception `LimitExceeded` is missing.

The capability can be provided by one of the following:

- Adding a using clause (`using CanThrow[LimitExceeded]`) to the definition of the enclosing method
- Adding `throws LimitExceeded` clause after the result type of the enclosing method
- Wrapping this piece of code with a `try` block that catches `LimitExceeded`

The following import might fix the problem:

```
import unsafeExceptions.canThrowAny
```

As the error message implies, you have to declare that `f` needs the capability to throw a `LimitExceeded` exception. The most concise way to do so is to add a `throws` clause:

```
def f(x: Double): Double throws LimitExceeded =
  if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
```

Now put a call to `f` in a `try` that catches `LimitExceeded`:

```
@main def test(xs: Double*) =
  try println(xs.map(f).sum)
  catch case ex: LimitExceeded => println("too large")
```

Run the program with some inputs:

```
> scala test 1 2 3
14.0
> scala test
0.0
> scala test 1 2 3 1000000000000
too large
```

Everything typechecks and works as expected. But wait - we have called `map` without any ceremony! How did that work? Here's how the compiler expands the `test` function:

```
// compiler-generated code
@main def test(xs: Double*) =
  try
    erased given ctl: CanThrow[LimitExceeded] = compiletime.erasedValue
    println(xs.map(x => f(x)(using ctl)).sum)
  catch case ex: LimitExceeded => println("too large")
```

The `CanThrow[LimitExceeded]` capability is passed in a synthesized `using` clause to `f`, since `f` requires it. Then the resulting closure is passed to `map`. The signature of `map` does not have to account for effects. It takes a closure as always, but that closure may refer to capabilities in its free variables. This means that `map` is already effect polymorphic even though we did not change its signature at all. So the takeaway is that the effects as capabilities model naturally provides for effect polymorphism whereas this is something that other approaches struggle with.

9.1.8 Gradual Typing Via Imports

Another advantage is that the model allows a gradual migration from current unchecked exceptions to safer exceptions. Imagine for a moment that `experimental.saferExceptions` is turned on everywhere. There would be lots of code that breaks since functions have not yet been properly annotated with `throws`. But it's easy to create an escape hatch that lets us ignore the breakages for a while: simply add the import

```
import scala.unsafeExceptions.canThrowAny
```

This will provide the `CanThrow` capability for any exception, and thereby allow all throws and all other calls, no matter what the current state of `throws` declarations is. Here's the definition of `canThrowAny`:

```
package scala
object unsafeExceptions:
  given canThrowAny: CanThrow[Exception] = ???
```

Of course, defining a global capability like this amounts to cheating. But the cheating is useful for gradual typing. The import could be used to migrate existing code, or to enable more fluid explorations of code without regard for complete exception safety. At the end of these migrations or explorations the import should be removed.

9.1.9 Scope Of the Extension

To summarize, the extension for safer exception checking consists of the following elements:

- It adds to the standard library the class `scala.CanThrow`, the type `scala.$throws`, and the `scala.unsafeExceptions` object, as they were described above.
- It adds some desugaring rules to rewrite `throws` types to cascaded `$throws` types.
- It augments the type checking of `throw` by *demanding* a `CanThrow` capability or the thrown exception.
- It augments the type checking of `try` by *providing* `CanThrow` capabilities for every caught exception.

That's all. It's quite remarkable that one can do exception checking in this way without any special additions to the type system. We just need regular givens and context functions. Any runtime overhead is eliminated using `erased`.

9.1.10 Caveats

Our capability model allows to declare and check the thrown exceptions of first-order code. But as it stands, it does not give us enough mechanism to enforce the *absence* of capabilities for arguments to higher-order functions. Consider a variant `pureMap` of `map` that should enforce that its argument does not throw exceptions or have any other effects (maybe because wants to reorder computations transparently). Right now we cannot enforce that since the function argument to `pureMap` can capture arbitrary capabilities in its free variables without them showing up in its type. One possible way to address this would be to introduce a pure function type (maybe written `A -> B`). Pure functions are not allowed to close over capabilities. Then `pureMap` could be written like this:

```
def pureMap(f: A -> B): List[B]
```

Another area where the lack of purity requirements shows up is when capabilities escape from bounded scopes. Consider the following function

```
def escaped(xs: Double*): () => Int =
  try () => xs.map(f).sum
  catch case ex: LimitExceeded => -1
```

With the system presented here, this function typechecks, with expansion

```
// compiler-generated code
def escaped(xs: Double*): () => Int =
```

```

try
  given ctl: CanThrow[LimitExceeded] = ???
  () => xs.map(x => f(x)(using ctl)).sum
catch case ex: LimitExceeded => -1

```

But if you try to call `escaped` like this

```

val g = escaped(1, 2, 1000000000)
g()

```

the result will be a `LimitExceeded` exception thrown at the second line where `g` is called. What's missing is that `try` should enforce that the capabilities it generates do not escape as free variables in the result of its body. It makes sense to describe such scoped effects as *ephemeral capabilities* - they have lifetimes that cannot be extended to delayed code in a lambda.

9.1.11 Outlook

We are working on a new class of type system that supports ephemeral capabilities by tracking the free variables of values. Once that research matures, it will hopefully be possible to augment the Scala language so that we can enforce the missing properties.

And it would have many other applications besides: Exceptions are a special case of *algebraic effects*, which has been a very active research area over the last 20 years and is finding its way into programming languages (e.g. [Koka](#), [Eff](#), [Multicore OCaml](#), [Unison](#)). In fact, algebraic effects have been characterized as being equivalent to exceptions with an additional *resume* operation. The techniques developed here for exceptions can probably be generalized to other classes of algebraic effects.

But even without these additional mechanisms, exception checking is already useful as it is. It gives a clear path forward to make code that uses exceptions safer, better documented, and easier to refactor. The only loophole arises for scoped capabilities - here we have to verify manually that these capabilities do not escape. Specifically, a `try` always has to be placed in the same computation stage as the throws that it enables.

Put another way: If the status quo is 0% static checking since 100% is too painful, then an alternative that gives you 95% static checking with great ergonomics looks like a win. And we might still get to 100% in the future.

For more info, see also our [paper at the ACM Scala Symposium 2021](#).

9.2 Erased Definitions

`erased` is a modifier that expresses that some definition or expression is erased by the compiler instead of being represented in the compiled output. It is not yet part of the Scala language standard. To enable `erased`, turn on the language feature [experimental.erasedDefinitions](#). This can be done with a language import

```
import scala.language.experimental.erasedDefinitions
```

or by setting the command line option `-language:experimental.erasedDefinitions`. Erased definitions must be in an experimental scope (see [Experimental definitions](#)).

9.2.1 Why erased terms?

Let's describe the motivation behind erased terms with an example. In the following we show a simple state machine which can be in a state `On` or `Off`. The machine can change state from `Off` to `On` with `turnedOn` only if it is currently `Off`. This last constraint is captured with the `IsOff[S]` contextual evidence which only exists for `IsOff[Off]`. For example, not allowing calling `turnedOn` on in an `On` state as we would require an evidence of type `IsOff[On]` that will not be found.

```
sealed trait State
final class On extends State
final class Off extends State

@implicitNotFound("State must be Off")
class IsOff[S <: State]
object IsOff:
  given isOff: IsOff[Off] = new IsOff[Off]

class Machine[S <: State]:
  def turnedOn(using IsOff[S]): Machine[On] = new Machine[On]

val m = new Machine[Off]
m.turnedOn
m.turnedOn.turnedOn // ERROR
//                ^
//                State must be Off
```

Note that in the code above the actual context arguments for `IsOff` are never used at runtime; they serve only to establish the right constraints at compile time. As these terms are never used at runtime there is not real need to have them around, but they still need to be present in some form in the generated code to be able to do separate compilation and retain binary compatibility. We introduce *erased terms* to overcome this limitation: we are able to enforce the right constraints on terms at compile time. These terms have no run time semantics and they are completely erased.

9.2.2 How to define erased terms?

Parameters of methods and functions can be declared as erased, placing `erased` in front of each erased parameter (like `inline`).

```
def methodWithErasedEv(erased ev: Ev, x: Int): Int = x + 2

val lambdaWithErasedEv: (erased Ev, Int) => Int =
  (erased ev, x) => x + 2
```

erased parameters will not be usable for computations, though they can be used as arguments to other `erased` parameters.

```
def methodWithErasedInt1(erased i: Int): Int =
  i + 42 // ERROR: can not use i

def methodWithErasedInt2(erased i: Int): Int =
  methodWithErasedInt1(i) // OK
```

Not only parameters can be marked as `erased`, `val` and `def` can also be marked with `erased`. These will also only be usable as arguments to `erased` parameters.

```
erased val erasedEvidence: Ev = ...
methodWithErasedEv(erasedEvidence, 40) // 42
```

9.2.3 What happens with erased values at runtime?

As `erased` are guaranteed not to be used in computations, they can and will be `erased`.

```
// becomes def methodWithErasedEv(x: Int): Int at runtime
def methodWithErasedEv(x: Int, erased ev: Ev): Int = ...

def evidence1: Ev = ...
erased def erasedEvidence2: Ev = ... // does not exist at runtime
erased val erasedEvidence3: Ev = ... // does not exist at runtime

// evidence1 is not evaluated and only `x` is passed to methodWithErasedEv
methodWithErasedEv(x, evidence1)
```

9.2.4 State machine with erased evidence example

The following example is an extended implementation of a simple state machine which can be in a state `On` or `Off`. The machine can change state from `Off` to `On` with `turnedOn` only if it is currently `Off`, conversely from `On` to `Off` with `turnedOff` only if it is currently `On`. These last constraint are captured with the `IsOff[S]` and `IsOn[S]` given evidence only exist for `IsOff[Off]` and `IsOn[On]`. For example, not allowing calling `turnedOff` on in an `Off` state as we would require an evidence `IsOn[Off]` that will not be found.

As the given evidences of `turnedOn` and `turnedOff` are not used in the bodies of those functions we can mark them as `erased`. This will remove the evidence parameters at runtime, but we would still evaluate the `isOn` and `isOff` givens that were found as arguments. As `isOn` and `isOff` are not used except as `erased` arguments, we can mark them as `erased`, hence removing the evaluation of the `isOn` and `isOff` evidences.

```
import scala.annotation.implicitNotFound

sealed trait State
```



```

final class On extends State
final class Off extends State

@implicitNotFound("State must be Off")
class IsOff[S <: State]
object IsOff:
  // will not be called at runtime for turnedOn, the
  // compiler will only require that this evidence exists
  given IsOff[Off] = new IsOff[Off]

@implicitNotFound("State must be On")
class IsOn[S <: State]
object IsOn:
  // will not exist at runtime, the compiler will only
  // require that this evidence exists at compile time
  erased given IsOn[On] = new IsOn[On]

class Machine[S <: State] private ():
  // ev will disappear from both functions
  def turnedOn(using erased ev: IsOff[S]): Machine[On] = new Machine[On]
  def turnedOff(using erased ev: IsOn[S]): Machine[Off] = new Machine[Off]

object Machine:
  def newMachine(): Machine[Off] = new Machine[Off]

@main def test =
  val m = Machine.newMachine()
  m.turnedOn
  m.turnedOn.turnedOff

  // m.turnedOff
  // ~
  //           State must be On

  // m.turnedOn.turnedOn
  // ~
  //           State must be Off

```

Note that in `Inline` we discussed `erasedValue` and inline matches. `erasedValue` is implemented with `erased`, so the state machine above can be encoded as follows:

```

import scala.compiletime.*

sealed trait State
final class On extends State
final class Off extends State

```

```

class Machine[S <: State]:
  transparent inline def turnOn(): Machine[On] =
    inline erasedValue[S] match
      case _: Off => new Machine[On]
      case _: On  => error("Turning on an already turned on machine")

  transparent inline def turnOff(): Machine[Off] =
    inline erasedValue[S] match
      case _: On  => new Machine[Off]
      case _: Off => error("Turning off an already turned off machine")

object Machine:
  def newMachine(): Machine[Off] =
    println("newMachine")
    new Machine[Off]
end Machine

@main def test =
  val m = Machine.newMachine()
  m.turnOn()
  m.turnOn().turnOff()
  m.turnOn().turnOn() // error: Turning on an already turned on machine

```

9.2.5 Erased Classes

`erased` can also be used as a modifier for a class. An erased class is intended to be used only in erased definitions. If the type of a `val` definition or parameter is a (possibly aliased, refined, or instantiated) erased class, the definition is assumed to be `erased` itself. Likewise, a method with an erased class return type is assumed to be `erased` itself. Since given instances expand to `vals` and `defs`, they are also assumed to be `erased` if the type they produce is an erased class. Finally function types with erased classes as arguments turn into erased function types.

Example:

```
erased class CanRead
```

```

val x: CanRead = ...           // `x` is turned into an erased val
val y: CanRead => Int = ...    // the function is turned into an erased function
def f(x: CanRead) = ...       // `f` takes an erased parameter
def g(): CanRead = ...        // `g` is turned into an erased def
given CanRead = ...           // the anonymous given is assumed to be erased

```

The code above expands to

```
erased class CanRead
```

```

erased val x: CanRead = ...
val y: (erased CanRead) => Int = ...

```

```
def f(erased x: CanRead) = ...
erased def g(): CanRead = ...
erased given CanRead = ...
```

After erasure, it is checked that no references to values of erased classes remain and that no instances of erased classes are created. So the following would be an error:

```
val err: Any = CanRead() // error: illegal reference to erased class CanRead
```

Here, the type of `err` is `Any`, so `err` is not considered erased. Yet its initializing value is a reference to the erased class `CanRead`.

[More Details](#)

9.3 Named Type Arguments [↗](#)

Note: This feature is implemented in Scala 3, but is not expected to be part of Scala 3.0.

Type arguments of methods can now be specified by name as well as by position. Example:

```
def construct[Elem, Coll[_]](xs: Elem*): Coll[Elem] = ???

val xs1 = construct[Coll = List, Elem = Int](1, 2, 3)
val xs2 = construct[Coll = List](1, 2, 3)
```

Similar to a named value argument (`x = e`), a named type argument [`X = T`] instantiates the type parameter `X` to the type `T`. Named type arguments do not have to be in order (see `xs1` above) and unspecified arguments are inferred by the compiler (see `xs2` above). Type arguments must be all named or un-named, mixtures of named and positional type arguments are not supported.

9.3.1 Motivation

The main benefit of named type arguments is that unlike positional arguments, you are allowed to omit passing arguments for some parameters, like in the definition of `xs2` above. A missing type argument is inferred as usual by local type inference. This is particularly useful in situations where some type arguments can be easily inferred from others.

[More details](#)

9.4 Numeric Literals [↗](#)

This feature is not yet part of the Scala 3 language definition. It can be made available by a language import:

```
import scala.language.experimental.genericNumberLiterals
```

In Scala 2, numeric literals were confined to the primitive numeric types `Int`, `Long`, `Float`, and `Double`. Scala 3 allows to write numeric literals also for user-defined types. Example:

```
val x: Long = -10_000_000_000
val y: BigInt = 0x123_abc_789_def_345_678_901
val z: BigDecimal = 110_222_799_799.99

(y: BigInt) match
  case 123_456_789_012_345_678_901 =>
```

The syntax of numeric literals is the same as before, except there are no pre-set limits how large they can be.

9.4.1 Meaning of Numeric Literals

The meaning of a numeric literal is determined as follows:

- If the literal ends with `l` or `L`, it is a `Long` integer (and must fit in its legal range).
- If the literal ends with `f` or `F`, it is a single precision floating point number of type `Float`.
- If the literal ends with `d` or `D`, it is a double precision floating point number of type `Double`.

In each of these cases the conversion to a number is exactly as in Scala 2 or in Java. If a numeric literal does *not* end in one of these suffixes, its meaning is determined by the expected type:

1. If the expected type is `Int`, `Long`, `Float`, or `Double`, the literal is treated as a standard literal of that type.
2. If the expected type is a fully defined type `T` that has a given instance of type `scala.util.FromDigits[T]`, the literal is converted to a value of type `T` by passing it as an argument to the `fromDigits` method of that instance (more details below).
3. Otherwise, the literal is treated as a `Double` literal (if it has a decimal point or an exponent), or as an `Int` literal (if not). (This last possibility is again as in Scala 2 or Java.)

With these rules, the definition

```
val x: Long = -10_000_000_000
```

is legal by rule (1), since the expected type is `Long`. The definitions

```
val y: BigInt = 0x123_abc_789_def_345_678_901
val z: BigDecimal = 111222333444.55
```

are legal by rule (2), since both `BigInt` and `BigDecimal` have `FromDigits` instances (which implement the `FromDigits` subclasses `FromDigits.WithRadix` and `FromDigits.Decimal`, respectively). On the other hand,

```
val x = -10_000_000_000
```

gives a type error, since without an expected type `-10_000_000_000` is treated by rule (3) as an `Int` literal, but it is too large for that type.

9.4.2 The `FromDigits` Trait

To allow numeric literals, a type simply has to define a `given` instance of the `scala.util.FromDigits` type class, or one of its subclasses. `FromDigits` is defined as follows:

```
trait FromDigits[T]:
  def fromDigits(digits: String): T
```

Implementations of `fromDigits` convert strings of digits to the values of the implementation type `T`. The `digits` string consists of digits between 0 and 9, possibly preceded by a sign (“+” or “-”). Number separator characters `_` are filtered out before the string is passed to `fromDigits`.

The companion object `FromDigits` also defines subclasses of `FromDigits` for whole numbers with a given radix, for numbers with a decimal point, and for numbers that can have both a decimal point and an exponent:

```
object FromDigits:

  /** A subclass of `FromDigits` that also allows to convert whole
   *   number literals with a radix other than 10
   */
  trait WithRadix[T] extends FromDigits[T]:
    def fromDigits(digits: String): T = fromDigits(digits, 10)
    def fromDigits(digits: String, radix: Int): T

  /** A subclass of `FromDigits` that also allows to convert number
   *   literals containing a decimal point ".".
   */
  trait Decimal[T] extends FromDigits[T]

  /** A subclass of `FromDigits` that allows also to convert number
   *   literals containing a decimal point "." or an
   *   exponent `('e' | 'E')[ '+' | '-' ]digit digit*`.
   */
  trait Floating[T] extends Decimal[T]
```

A user-defined number type can implement one of those, which signals to the compiler that hexadecimal numbers, decimal points, or exponents are also accepted in literals for this type.

9.4.3 Error Handling

FromDigits implementations can signal errors by throwing exceptions of some subtype of `FromDigitsException`. `FromDigitsException` is defined with three subclasses in the `FromDigits` object as follows:

```
abstract class FromDigitsException(msg: String) extends NumberFormatException(msg)

class NumberTooLarge (msg: String = "number too large")      extends FromDigitsException(msg)
class NumberTooSmall (msg: String = "number too small")      extends FromDigitsException(msg)
class MalformedNumber(msg: String = "malformed number literal") extends FromDigitsException(msg)
```

9.4.4 Example

As a fully worked out example, here is an implementation of a new numeric class, `BigFloat`, that accepts numeric literals. `BigFloat` is defined in terms of a `BigInt` mantissa and an `Int` exponent:

```
case class BigFloat(mantissa: BigInt, exponent: Int):
  override def toString = s"${mantissa}e${exponent}"
```

`BigFloat` literals can have a decimal point as well as an exponent. E.g. the following expression should produce the `BigFloat` number `BigFloat(-123, 997)`:

```
-0.123E+1000: BigFloat
```

The companion object of `BigFloat` defines an `apply` constructor method to construct a `BigFloat` from a digits string. Here is a possible implementation:

```
object BigFloat:
  import scala.util.FromDigits

  def apply(digits: String): BigFloat =
    val (mantissaDigits, givenExponent) =
      digits.toUpperCase.split('E') match
        case Array(mantissaDigits, edigits) =>
          val expo =
            try FromDigits.intFromDigits(edigits)
            catch case ex: FromDigits.NumberTooLarge =>
              throw FromDigits.NumberTooLarge(s"exponent too large: $edigits")
          (mantissaDigits, expo)
        case Array(mantissaDigits) =>
          (mantissaDigits, 0)
    val (intPart, exponent) =
      mantissaDigits.split('.') match
        case Array(intPart, decimalPart) =>
          (intPart ++ decimalPart, givenExponent - decimalPart.length)
        case Array(intPart) =>
          (intPart, givenExponent)
    BigFloat(BigInt(intPart), exponent)
```

To accept `BigFloat` literals, all that's needed in addition is a `given` instance of type `FromDigits.Floating[BigFloat]`:

```
given FromDigits: FromDigits.Floating[BigFloat] with
  def fromDigits(digits: String) = apply(digits)
end BigFloat
```

Note that the `apply` method does not check the format of the `digits` argument. It is assumed that only valid arguments are passed. For calls coming from the compiler that assumption is valid, since the compiler will first check whether a numeric literal has the correct format before it gets passed on to a conversion method.

9.4.5 Compile-Time Errors

With the setup of the previous section, a literal like

```
1e10_0000_000_000: BigFloat
```

would be expanded by the compiler to

```
BigFloat.FromDigits.fromDigits("1e1000000000000")
```

Evaluating this expression throws a `NumberTooLarge` exception at run time. We would like it to produce a compile-time error instead. We can achieve this by tweaking the `BigFloat` class with a small dose of metaprogramming. The idea is to turn the `fromDigits` method into a macro, i.e. make it an inline method with a splice as right-hand side. To do this, replace the `FromDigits` instance in the `BigFloat` object by the following two definitions:

```
object BigFloat:
  ...

  class FromDigits extends FromDigits.Floating[BigFloat]:
    def fromDigits(digits: String) = apply(digits)

  given FromDigits with
    override inline def fromDigits(digits: String) = ${
      fromDigitsImpl('digits)
    }
```

Note that an inline method cannot directly fill in for an abstract method, since it produces no code that can be executed at runtime. That is why we define an intermediary class `FromDigits` that contains a fallback implementation which is then overridden by the inline method in the `FromDigits` given instance. That method is defined in terms of a macro implementation method `fromDigitsImpl`. Here is its definition:

```
private def fromDigitsImpl(digits: Expr[String])(using ctx: Quotes): Expr[BigFloat] =
  digits.value match
    case Some(ds) =>
      try
```

```

    val BigFloat(m, e) = apply(ds)
    '{BigFloat(${Expr(m)}, ${Expr(e)})}'
  catch case ex: FromDigits.FromDigitsException =>
    ctx.error(ex.getMessage)
    '{BigFloat(0, 0)}'
  case None =>
    '{apply($digits)}'
end BigFloat

```

The macro implementation takes an argument of type `Expr[String]` and yields a result of type `Expr[BigFloat]`. It tests whether its argument is a constant string. If that is the case, it converts the string using the `apply` method and lifts the resulting `BigFloat` back to `Expr` level. For non-constant strings `fromDigitsImpl(digits)` is simply `apply(digits)`, i.e. everything is evaluated at runtime in this case.

The interesting part is the `catch` part of the case where `digits` is constant. If the `apply` method throws a `FromDigitsException`, the exception's message is issued as a compile time error in the `ctx.error(ex.getMessage)` call.

With this new implementation, a definition like

```
val x: BigFloat = 1234.45e3333333333
```

would give a compile time error message:

```

3 | val x: BigFloat = 1234.45e3333333333
  |                      ~~~~~
  |                      exponent too large: 3333333333

```

9.5 Explicit Nulls

Explicit nulls is an opt-in feature that modifies the Scala type system, which makes reference types (anything that extends [AnyRef](#)) *non-nullable*.

This means the following code will no longer typecheck:

```
val x: String = null // error: found `Null`, but required `String`
```

Instead, to mark a type as nullable we use a **union type**

```
val x: String | Null = null // ok
```

A nullable type could have null value during runtime; hence, it is not safe to select a member without checking its nullity.

```
x.trim // error: trim is not member of String | Null
```

Explicit nulls are enabled via a `-Yexplicit-nulls` flag.

Read on for details.

9.5.1 New Type Hierarchy

Originally, `Null` is a subtype of all reference types.

“Original Type Hierarchy”

Figure 1: “Original Type Hierarchy”

When explicit nulls is enabled, the type hierarchy changes so that `Null` is only a subtype of `Any` and `Matchable`, as opposed to every reference type, which means `null` is no longer a value of `AnyRef` and its subtypes.

This is the new type hierarchy:

“Type Hierarchy for Explicit Nulls”

Figure 2: “Type Hierarchy for Explicit Nulls”

After erasure, `Null` remains a subtype of all reference types (as forced by the JVM).

9.5.2 Working with Null

To make working with nullable values easier, we propose adding a few utilities to the standard library. So far, we have found the following useful:

- An extension method `.nn` to “cast away” nullability

```
extension [T] (x: T | Null)
  inline def nn: T =
    assert(x != null)
    x.asInstanceOf[T]
```

This means that given `x: String | Null`, `x.nn` has type `String`, so we can call all the usual methods on it. Of course, `x.nn` will throw a NPE if `x` is `null`.

Don’t use `.nn` on mutable variables directly, because it may introduce an unknown type into the type of the variable.

- An `unsafeNulls` language feature.

When imported, `T | Null` can be used as `T`, similar to regular Scala (without explicit nulls).

See `UnsafeNulls` section for more details.

9.5.3 Unsoundness

The new type system is unsound with respect to `null`. This means there are still instances where an expression has a non-nullable type like `String`, but its value is actually `null`.

The unsoundness happens because uninitialized fields in a class start out as `null`:

```
class C:
  val f: String = foo(f)
  def foo(f2: String): String = f2
```

```
val c = new C()
// c.f == "field is null"
```

The unsoundness above can be caught by the compiler with the option `-Ysafe-init`. More details can be found in [safe initialization](#).

9.5.4 Equality

We don't allow the double-equal (`==` and `!=`) and reference (`eq` and `ne`) comparison between `AnyRef` and `Null` anymore, since a variable with a non-nullable type cannot have `null` as value. `null` can only be compared with `Null`, nullable union (`T | Null`), or `Any` type.

For some reason, if we really want to compare `null` with non-null values, we have to provide a type hint (e.g. `: Any`).

```
val x: String = ???
val y: String | Null = ???
```

```
x == null           // error: Values of types String and Null cannot be compared with
x eq null           // error
"hello" == null     // error
```

```
y == null           // ok
y == x              // ok
```

```
(x: String | Null) == null // ok
(x: Any) == null           // ok
```

9.5.5 Java Interoperability

The Scala compiler can load Java classes in two ways: from source or from bytecode. In either case, when a Java class is loaded, we “patch” the type of its members to reflect that Java types remain implicitly nullable.

Specifically, we patch

- the type of fields
- the argument type and return type of methods

We illustrate the rules with following examples:

- The first two rules are easy: we nullify reference types but not value types.

```
class C {
  String s;
  int x;
}

==>
```

```
class C:
  val s: String | Null
  val x: Int
```

- We nullify type parameters because in Java a type parameter is always nullable, so the following code compiles.

```
class C<T> { T foo() { return null; } }

==>

class C[T] { def foo(): T | Null }
```

Notice this rule is sometimes too conservative, as witnessed by

```
class InScala:
  val c: C[Bool] = ??? // C as above
  val b: Bool = c.foo() // no longer typechecks, since foo now returns Bool |
```

- We can reduce the number of redundant nullable types we need to add. Consider

```
class Box<T> { T get(); }
class BoxFactory<T> { Box<T> makeBox(); }

==>
```

```
class Box[T] { def get(): T | Null }
class BoxFactory[T] { def makeBox(): Box[T] | Null }
```

Suppose we have a `BoxFactory[String]`. Notice that calling `makeBox()` on it returns a `Box[String] | Null`, not a `Box[String | Null] | Null`. This seems at first glance unsound (“What if the box itself has null inside?”), but is sound because calling `get()` on a `Box[String]` returns a `String | Null`.

Notice that we need to patch *all* Java-defined classes that transitively appear in the argument or return type of a field or method accessible from the Scala code being compiled. Absent crazy reflection magic, we think that all such Java classes *must* be visible to the Typer in the first place, so they will be patched.

- We will append `Null` to the type arguments if the generic class is defined in Scala.

```
class BoxFactory<T> {
  Box<T> makeBox(); // Box is Scala-defined
  List<Box<List<T>>> makeCrazyBoxes(); // List is Java-defined
}
```

==>

```
class BoxFactory[T]:
  def makeBox(): Box[T | Null] | Null
  def makeCrazyBoxes(): java.util.List[Box[java.util.List[T] | Null]] | Null
```

In this case, since `Box` is Scala-defined, we will get `Box[T | Null] | Null`. This is needed because our nullability function is only applied (modularly) to the Java classes, but not to the Scala ones, so we need a way to tell `Box` that it contains a nullable value.

The `List` is Java-defined, so we don't append `Null` to its type argument. But we still need to nullify its inside.

- We don't nullify *simple* literal constant (`final`) fields, since they are known to be non-null

```
class Constants {
  final String NAME = "name";
  final int AGE = 0;
  final char CHAR = 'a';

  final String NAME_GENERATED = getNewName();
}
```

==>

```
class Constants:
  val NAME: String("name") = "name"
  val AGE: Int(0) = 0
  val CHAR: Char('a') = 'a'

  val NAME_GENERATED: String | Null = getNewName()
```

- We don't append `Null` to a field nor to a return type of a method which is annotated with a `NotNull` annotation.

```
class C {
  @NotNull String name;
  @NotNull List<String> getNames(String prefix); // List is Java-defined
  @NotNull Box<String> getBoxedName(); // Box is Scala-defined
}
```

==>

```
class C:
  val name: String
  def getNames(prefix: String | Null): java.util.List[String] // we still need
  def getBoxedName(): Box[String | Null] // we don't append `Null` to the out
```

The annotation must be from the list below to be recognized as `NotNull` by the compiler. Check `Definitions.scala` for an updated list.

```
// A list of annotations that are commonly used to indicate
// that a field/method argument or return type is not null.
// These annotations are used by the nullification logic in
// JavaNullInterop to improve the precision of type nullification.
// We don't require that any of these annotations be present
```

```

// in the class path, but we want to create Symbols for the
// ones that are present, so they can be checked during nullification.
@tu lazy val NotNullAnnots: List[ClassSymbol] = ctx.getClassesIfDefined(
  "javax.annotation.Nonnull" ::
  "edu.umd.cs.findbugs.annotations.NonNull" ::
  "androidx.annotation.NonNull" ::
  "android.support.annotation.NonNull" ::
  "android.annotation.NonNull" ::
  "com.android.annotations.NonNull" ::
  "org.eclipse.jdt.annotation.NonNull" ::
  "org.checkerframework.checker.nullness.qual.NonNull" ::
  "org.checkerframework.checker.nullness.compatqual.NonNullDecl" ::
  "org.jetbrains.annotations.NotNull" ::
  "lombok.NonNull" ::
  "io.reactivex.annotations.NonNull" :: Nil map PreNamedString)

```

9.5.5.1 Override check When we check overriding between Scala classes and Java classes, the rules are relaxed for `Null` type with this feature, in order to help users to working with Java libraries.

Suppose we have Java method `String f(String x)`, we can override this method in Scala in any of the following forms:

```

def f(x: String | Null): String | Null

def f(x: String): String | Null

def f(x: String | Null): String

def f(x: String): String

```

Note that some of the definitions could cause unsoundness. For example, the return type is not nullable, but a `null` value is actually returned.

9.5.6 Flow Typing

We added a simple form of flow-sensitive type inference. The idea is that if `p` is a stable path or a trackable variable, then we can know that `p` is non-null if it's compared with `null`. This information can then be propagated to the `then` and `else` branches of an if-statement (among other places).

Example:

```

val s: String | Null = ???
if s != null then
  // s: String

// s: String | Null

```

```
assert(s != null)
// s: String
```

A similar inference can be made for the `else` case if the test is `p == null`

```
if s == null then
  // s: String | Null
else
  // s: String
```

`==` and `!=` is considered a comparison for the purposes of the flow inference.

9.5.6.1 Logical Operators We also support logical operators (`&&`, `||`, and `!`):

```
val s: String | Null = ???
val s2: String | Null = ???
if s != null && s2 != null then
  // s: String
  // s2: String

if s == null || s2 == null then
  // s: String | Null
  // s2: String | Null
else
  // s: String
  // s2: String
```

9.5.6.2 Inside Conditions We also support type specialization *within* the condition, taking into account that `&&` and `||` are short-circuiting:

```
val s: String | Null = ???

if s != null && s.length > 0 then // s: String in `s.length > 0`
  // s: String

if s == null || s.length > 0 then // s: String in `s.length > 0`
  // s: String | Null
else
  // s: String
```

9.5.6.3 Match Case The non-null cases can be detected in match statements.

```
val s: String | Null = ???

s match
  case _: String => // s: String
  case _ =>
```

9.5.6.4 Mutable Variable We are able to detect the nullability of some local mutable variables. A simple example is:

```
class C(val x: Int, val next: C | Null)

var xs: C | Null = C(1, C(2, null))
// xs is trackable, since all assignments are in the same method
while xs != null do
  // xs: C
  val xsx: Int = xs.x
  val xscopy: C = xs
  xs = xscopy // since xscopy is non-null, xs still has type C after this line
  // xs: C
  xs = xs.next // after this assignment, xs can be null again
  // xs: C | Null
```

When dealing with local mutable variables, there are two questions:

1. Whether to track a local mutable variable during flow typing. We track a local mutable variable if the variable is not assigned in a closure. For example, in the following code `x` is assigned to by the closure `y`, so we do not do flow typing on `x`.

```
var x: String | Null = ???
def y =
  x = null

if x != null then
  // y can be called here, which would break the fact
  val a: String = x // error: x is captured and mutated by the closure, not
```

2. Whether to generate and use flow typing on a specific *use* of a local mutable variable. We only want to do flow typing on a use that belongs to the same method as the definition of the local variable. For example, in the following code, even `x` is not assigned to by a closure, we can only use flow typing in one of the occurrences (because the other occurrence happens within a nested closure).

```
var x: String | Null = ???
def y =
  if x != null then
    // not safe to use the fact (x != null) here
    // since y can be executed at the same time as the outer block
    val _: String = x
if x != null then
  val a: String = x // ok to use the fact here
  x = null
```

See [more examples](#).

Currently, we are unable to track paths with a mutable variable prefix. For example, `x.a` if `x` is mutable.

9.5.6.5 Unsupported Idioms We don't support:

- flow facts not related to nullability (`if x == 0 then { // x: 0.type not inferred }`)
- tracking aliasing between non-nullable paths

```
val s: String | Null = ???
val s2: String | Null = ???
if s != null && s == s2 then
  // s: String inferred
  // s2: String not inferred
```

9.5.6.6 UnsafeNulls It is difficult to work with many nullable values, we introduce a language feature `unsafeNulls`. Inside this “unsafe” scope, all `T | Null` values can be used as `T`.

Users can import `scala.language.unsafeNulls` to create such scopes, or use `-language:unsafeNulls` to enable this feature globally (for migration purpose only).

Assume `T` is a reference type (a subtype of `AnyRef`), the following unsafe operation rules are applied in this unsafe-nulls scope:

1. the members of `T` can be found on `T | Null`
2. a value with type `T` can be compared with `T | Null` and `Null`
3. suppose `T1` is not a subtype of `T2` using explicit-nulls subtyping (where `Null` is a direct subtype of `Any`), extension methods and implicit conversions designed for `T2` can be used for `T1` if `T1` is a subtype of `T2` using regular subtyping rules (where `Null` is a subtype of every reference type)
4. suppose `T1` is not a subtype of `T2` using explicit-nulls subtyping, a value with type `T1` can be used as `T2` if `T1` is a subtype of `T2` using regular subtyping rules

Additionally, `null` can be used as `AnyRef` (`Object`), which means you can select `.eq` or `.toString` on it.

The program in `unsafeNulls` will have a **similar** semantic as regular Scala, but not **equivalent**.

For example, the following code cannot be compiled even using unsafe nulls. Because of the Java interoperation, the type of the `get` method becomes `T | Null`.

```
def head[T](xs: java.util.List[T]): T = xs.get(0) // error
```

Since the compiler doesn't know whether `T` is a reference type, it is unable to cast `T | Null` to `T`. A `.nn` need to be inserted after `xs.get(0)` by user manually to fix the error, which strips the `Null` from its type.

The intention of this `unsafeNulls` is to give users a better migration path for explicit nulls. Projects for Scala 2 or regular Scala 3 can try this by adding `-Yexplicit-nulls -language:unsafeNulls` to the compile options. A small number of manual modifications are expected. To migrate to the full explicit nulls feature in the future, `-language:unsafeNulls` can be dropped and add `import scala.language.unsafeNulls` only when needed.

```
def f(x: String): String = ???
def nullOf[T >: Null]: T = null

import scala.language.unsafeNulls

val s: String | Null = ???
val a: String = s // unsafely convert String | Null to String

val b1 = s.trim // call .trim on String | Null unsafely
val b2 = b1.length

f(s).trim // pass String | Null as an argument of type String unsafely

val c: String = null // Null to String

val d1: Array[String] = ???
val d2: Array[String | Null] = d1 // unsafely convert Array[String] to Array[String | Null]
val d3: Array[String] = Array(null) // unsafe

class C[T >: Null <: String] // define a type bound with unsafe conflict bound

val n = nullOf[String] // apply a type bound unsafely
```

Without the `unsafeNulls`, all these unsafe operations will not be type-checked.

`unsafeNulls` also works for extension methods and implicit search.

```
import scala.language.unsafeNulls

val x = "hello, world!".split(" ").map(_.length)

given Conversion[String, Array[String]] = _ => ???

val y: String | Null = ???
val z: Array[String | Null] = y
```

9.5.7 Binary Compatibility

Our strategy for binary compatibility with Scala binaries that predate explicit nulls and new libraries compiled without `-Yexplicit-nulls` is to leave the types unchanged and be compatible but unsound.

Implementation details

9.6 MainAnnotation

MainAnnotation provides a generic way to define main annotations such as @main.

When a users annotates a method with an annotation that extends MainAnnotation a class with a main method will be generated. The main method will contain the code needed to parse the command line arguments and run the application.

```
/** Sum all the numbers
 *
 * @param first First number to sum
 * @param rest The rest of the numbers to sum
 */
@myMain def sum(first: Int, second: Int = 0, rest: Int*): Int = first + second + rest

object foo {
  def main(args: Array[String]): Unit = {
    val mainAnnot = new myMain()
    val info = new Info(
      name = "foo.main",
      documentation = "Sum all the numbers",
      parameters = Seq(
        new Parameter("first", "scala.Int", hasDefault=false, isVarargs=false, "First number to sum"),
        new Parameter("second", "scala.Int", hasDefault=true, isVarargs=false, "Second number to sum"),
        new Parameter("rest", "scala.Int", hasDefault=false, isVarargs=true, "The rest of the numbers to sum")
      )
    )
    val mainArgsOpt = mainAnnot.command(info, args)
    if mainArgsOpt.isDefined then
      val mainArgs = mainArgsOpt.get
      val args0 = mainAnnot.argGetter[Int](info.parameters(0), mainArgs(0), None)
      val args1 = mainAnnot.argGetter[Int](info.parameters(1), mainArgs(1), Some(0))
      val args2 = mainAnnot.varargGetter[Int](info.parameters(2), mainArgs.drop(2))
      mainAnnot.run(() => sum(args0(), args1(), args2()*))
    }
  }
}
```

The implementation of the main method first instantiates the annotation and then call command. When calling the command, the arguments can be checked and preprocessed. Then it defines a series of argument getters calling argGetter for each parameter and varargGetter for the last one if it is a varargs. argGetter gets an optional lambda that computes the default argument. Finally, the run method is called to run the application. It receives a by-name argument that contains the call the annotated method with the instantiations arguments (using the lambdas from argGetter/varargGetter).

Example of implementation of myMain that takes all arguments positionally. It

used `util.CommandLineParser.FromString` and expects no default arguments. For simplicity, any errors in preprocessing or parsing results in crash.

```
// Parser used to parse command line arguments
import scala.util.CommandLineParser.FromString[T]

// Result type of the annotated method is Int and arguments are parsed using FromString
@experimental class myMain extends MainAnnotation[FromString, Int]:
  import MainAnnotation.{ Info, Parameter }

  def command(info: Info, args: Seq[String]): Option[Seq[String]] =
    if args.contains("--help") then
      println(info.documentation)
      None // do not parse or run the program
    else if info.parameters.exists(_.hasDefault) then
      println("Default arguments are not supported")
      None
    else if info.hasVarargs then
      val numPlainArgs = info.parameters.length - 1
      if numPlainArgs > args.length then
        println("Not enough arguments")
        None
      else
        Some(args)
    else
      if info.parameters.length > args.length then
        println("Not enough arguments")
        None
      else if info.parameters.length < args.length then
        println("Too many arguments")
        None
      else
        Some(args)

  def argGetter[T](param: Parameter, arg: String, defaultArgument: Option[() => T])
    () => parser.fromString(arg)

  def varargGetter[T](param: Parameter, args: Seq[String])(using parser: FromString[T])
    () => args.map(arg => parser.fromString(arg))

  def run(program: () => Int): Unit =
    println("executing program")

    val result = program()
    println("result: " + result)
    println("executed program")
```

```
end myMain
```

9.7 Capture Checking

Capture checking is a research project that modifies the Scala type system to track references to capabilities in values. It can be enabled by the language import

```
import language.experimental.captureChecking
```

At present, capture checking is still highly experimental and unstable.

To get an idea what capture checking can do, let's start with a small example:

```
def usingLogFile[T](op: FileOutputStream => T): T =
  val logFile = FileOutputStream("log")
  val result = op(logFile)
  logFile.close()
  result
```

The `usingLogFile` method invokes a given operation with a fresh log file as parameter. Once the operation has ended, the log file is closed and the operation's result is returned. This is a typical *try-with-resources* pattern, similar to many other such patterns which are often supported by special language constructs in other languages.

The problem is that `usingLogFile`'s implementation is not entirely safe. One can undermine it by passing an operation that performs the logging at some later point after it has terminated. For instance:

```
val later = usingLogFile { file => () => file.write(0) }
later() // crash
```

When `later` is executed it tries to write to a file that is already closed, which results in an uncaught `IOException`.

Capture checking gives us the mechanism to prevent such errors *statically*. To prevent unsafe usages of `usingLogFile`, we can declare it like this:

```
def usingLogFile[T](op: ({*} FileOutputStream) => T): T =
  // same body as before
```

The only thing that's changed is that the `FileOutputStream` parameter of `op` is now tagged with `{*}`. We'll see that this turns the parameter into a *capability* whose lifetime is tracked.

If we now try to define the problematic value `later`, we get a static error:

```
| val later = usingLogFile { f => () => f.write(0) }
| ~~~~~
| The expression's type {*} () -> Unit is not allowed to capture the root capability
| This usually means that a capability persists longer than its allowed lifetime.
```

In this case, it was easy to see that the `logFile` capability escapes in the closure passed to `usingLogFile`. But capture checking also works for more complex cases.

For instance, capture checking is able to distinguish between the following safe code:

```
val xs = usingLogFile { f =>
  List(1, 2, 3).map { x => f.write(x); x * x }
}
```

and the following unsafe one:

```
val xs = usingLogFile { f =>
  LazyList(1, 2, 3).map { x => f.write(x); x * x }
}
```

An error would be issued in the second case, but not the first one (this assumes a capture-aware formulation of `LazyList` which we will present later in this page).

It turns out that capture checking has very broad applications. Besides the various try-with-resources patterns, it can also be a key part to the solutions of many other long standing problems in programming languages. Among them:

- How to have a simple and flexible system for checked exceptions. We show later how capture checking enables a clean and fully safe system for checked exceptions in Scala.
- How to address the problem of effect polymorphism in general.
- How to solve the “what color is your function?” problem of mixing synchronous and asynchronous computations.
- How to do region-based allocation, safely,
- How to reason about capabilities associated with memory locations.

The following sections explain in detail how capture checking works in Scala 3.

9.7.1 Overview

The capture checker extension introduces a new kind of types and it enforces some rules for working with these types.

9.7.2 Capabilities and Capturing Types

Capture checking is done in terms of *capturing types* of the form $\{c, \dots, c\}$ T. Here T is a type, and $\{c, \dots, c\}$ is a *capture set* consisting of references to capabilities c, \dots, c .

A *capability* is syntactically a method- or class-parameter, a local variable, or the `this` of an enclosing class. The type of a capability must be a capturing type with a non-empty capture set. We also say that variables that are capabilities are *tracked*.

In a sense, every capability gets its authority from some other, more sweeping capability which it captures. The most sweeping capability, from which ultimately all others are derived is written `*`. We call it the *universal capability*.

Here is an example:

```

class FileSystem

class Logger(fs: {*} FileSystem):
  def log(s: String): Unit = ... // Write to a log file, using `fs`

def test(fs: {*} FileSystem) =
  val l: {fs} Logger = Logger(fs)
  l.log("hello world!")
  val xs: {l} LazyList[Int] =
    LazyList.from(1)
      .map { i =>
        l.log(s"computing elem # $i")
        i * i
      }
  xs

```

Here, the `test` method takes a `FileSystem` as a parameter. `fs` is a capability since its type has a non-empty capture set. The capability is passed to the `Logger` constructor and retained as a field in class `Logger`. Hence, the local variable `l` has type `{fs} Logger`: it is a `Logger` which retains the `fs` capability.

The second variable defined in `test` is `xs`, a lazy list that is obtained from `LazyList.from(1)` by logging and mapping consecutive numbers. Since the list is lazy, it needs to retain the reference to the logger `l` for its computations. Hence, the type of the list is `{l} LazyList[Int]`. On the other hand, since `xs` only logs but does not do other file operations, it retains the `fs` capability only indirectly. That's why `fs` does not show up in the capture set of `xs`.

Capturing types come with a subtype relation where types with “smaller” capture sets are subtypes of types with larger sets (the *subcapturing* relation is defined in more detail below). If a type `T` does not have a capture set, it is called *pure*, and is a subtype of any capturing type that adds a capture set to `T`.

9.7.3 Function Types

The usual function type `A => B` now stands for a function that can capture arbitrary capabilities. We call such functions *impure*. By contrast, the new single arrow function type `A -> B` stands for a function that cannot capture any capabilities, or otherwise said, is *pure*. One can add a capture set in front of an otherwise pure function. For instance, `{c, d} A -> B` would be a function that can capture capabilities `c` and `d`, but no others.

The impure function type `A => B` is treated as an alias for `{*} A -> B`. That is, impure functions are functions that can capture anything.

Function types and captures both associate to the right, so

```
{c} A -> {d} B -> C
```

is the same as

```
{c} (A -> {d} (B -> C))
```

Contrast with

```
({c} A) -> ({d} B) -> C
```

which is a curried pure function over argument types that can capture `c` and `d`, respectively.

Analogous conventions apply to context function types. $A \text{ ?} \Rightarrow B$ is an impure context function, with $A \text{ ?} \rightarrow B$ as its pure complement.

Note 1: The identifiers `->` and `?->` are now treated as soft keywords when used as infix type operators. They are still available as regular identifiers for terms. For instance, the mapping syntax `Map("x" -> 1, "y" -> 2)` is still supported since it only applies to terms.

Note 2: The distinctions between pure vs impure function types do not apply to methods. In fact, since methods are not values they never capture anything directly. References to capabilities in a method are instead counted in the capture set of the enclosing object.

9.7.4 By-Name Parameter Types

A convention analogous to function types also extends to by-name parameters. In

```
def f(x: => Int): Int
```

the actual argument can refer to arbitrary capabilities. So the following would be OK:

```
f(if p(y) then throw Ex() else 1)
```

On the other hand, if `f` was defined like this

```
def f(x: -> Int): Int
```

the actual argument to `f` could not refer to any capabilities, so the call above would be rejected. One can also allow specific capabilities like this:

```
def f(x: {c}-> Int): Int
```

Here, the actual argument to `f` is allowed to use the `c` capability but no others.

Note: It is strongly recommended to write the capability set and the arrow `->` without intervening spaces, as otherwise the notation would look confusingly like a function type.

9.7.5 Subtyping and Subcapturing

Capturing influences subtyping. As usual we write $T <: T$ to express that the type T is a subtype of the type T , or equivalently, that T conforms to T . An analogous *subcapturing* relation applies to capture sets. If C and C are capture sets, we write C

$<: C$ to express that C *is covered by* C , or, swapping the operands, that C *covers* C .

Subtyping extends as follows to capturing types:

- Pure types are subtypes of capturing types. That is, $T <: C\ T$, for any type T , capturing set C .
- For capturing types, smaller capturing sets produce subtypes: $C\ T <: C'\ T$ if $C <: C'$ and $T <: T$.

A subcapturing relation $C <: C'$ holds if C *accounts for* every element c in C' . This means one of the following three conditions must be true:

- $c = C$,
- c refers to a parameter of some class Cls and C contains $Cls.this$,
- c 's type has capturing set C and C accounts for every element of C' (that is, $C <: C'$).

Example 1. Given

```
fs: {*} FileSystem
ct: {*} CanThrow[Exception]
l : {fs} Logger
```

we have

```
{l} <: {fs}      <: {*}
{fs} <: {fs, ct} <: {*}
{ct} <: {fs, ct} <: {*}
```

The set consisting of the root capability $\{*\}$ covers every other capture set. This is a consequence of the fact that, ultimately, every capability is created from $*$.

Example 2. Consider again the `FileSystem/Logger` example from before. `LazyList[Int]` is a proper subtype of `{l} LazyList[Int]`. So if the `test` method in that example was declared with a result type `LazyList[Int]`, we'd get a type error. Here is the error message:

```
11 |def test(using fs: {*} FileSystem): LazyList[Int] = {
    |
    |                                     Found:    {fs} LazyList[Int]
    |                                     Required: LazyList[Int]
```

Why does it say `{fs} LazyList[Int]` and not `{l} LazyList[Int]`, which is, after all, the type of the returned value `xs`? The reason is that `l` is a local variable in the body of `test`, so it cannot be referred to in a type outside that body. What happens instead is that the type is *widened* to the smallest supertype that does not mention `l`. Since `l` has capture set `fs`, we have that `{fs}` covers `{l}`, and `{fs}` is acceptable in a result type of `test`, so `{fs}` is the result of that widening. This widening is called *avoidance*; it is not specific to capture checking but applies to all variable references in Scala types.

9.7.6 Capability Classes

Classes like `CanThrow` or `FileSystem` have the property that their values are always intended to be capabilities. We can make this intention explicit and save boilerplate by declaring these classes with a `@capability` annotation.

The capture set of a capability class type is always `{*}`. This means we could equivalently express the `FileSystem` and `Logger` classes as follows:

```
import annotation.capability

@capability class FileSystem

class Logger(using FileSystem):
  def log(s: String): Unit = ???

def test(using fs: FileSystem) =
  val l: {fs} Logger = Logger()
  ...
```

In this version, `FileSystem` is a capability class, which means that the `{*}` capture set is implied on the parameters of `Logger` and `test`. Writing the capture set explicitly produces a warning:

```
class Logger(using {*} FileSystem):
  ~~~~~~
      redundant capture: FileSystem already accounts for *
```

Another, unrelated change in the version of the last example here is that the `FileSystem` capability is now passed as an implicit parameter. It is quite natural to model capabilities with implicit parameters since it greatly reduces the wiring overhead once multiple capabilities are in play.

9.7.7 Capture Checking of Closures

If a closure refers to capabilities in its body, it captures these capabilities in its type. For instance, consider:

```
def test(fs: FileSystem): {fs} String -> Unit =
  (x: String) => Logger(fs).log(x)
```

Here, the body of `test` is a lambda that refers to the capability `fs`, which means that `fs` is retained in the lambda. Consequently, the type of the lambda is `{fs} String -> Unit`.

Note: Function values are always written with `=>` (or `?=>` for context functions). There is no syntactic distinction for pure *vs* impure function values. The distinction is only made in their types.

A closure also captures all capabilities that are captured by the functions it calls. For instance, in

```
def test(fs: FileSystem) =
  def f() = g()
  def g() = (x: String) => Logger(fs).log(x)
  f
```

the result of `test` has type `{fs} String -> Unit` even though function `f` itself does not refer to `fs`.

9.7.8 Capture Checking of Classes

The principles for capture checking closures also apply to classes. For instance, consider:

```
class Logger(using fs: FileSystem):
  def log(s: String): Unit = ... summon[FileSystem] ...

def test(xfs: FileSystem): {xfs} Logger =
  Logger(xfs)
```

Here, class `Logger` retains the capability `fs` as a (private) field. Hence, the result of `test` is of type `{xfs} Logger`

Sometimes, a tracked capability is meant to be used only in the constructor of a class, but is not intended to be retained as a field. This fact can be communicated to the capture checker by declaring the parameter as `@constructorOnly`. Example:

```
import annotation.constructorOnly

class NullLogger(using @constructorOnly fs: FileSystem):
  ...

def test2(using fs: FileSystem): NullLogger = NullLogger() // OK
```

The captured references of a class include *local capabilities* and *argument capabilities*. Local capabilities are capabilities defined outside the class and referenced from its body. Argument capabilities are passed as parameters to the primary constructor of the class. Local capabilities are inherited: the local capabilities of a superclass are also local capabilities of its subclasses. Example:

```
@capability class Cap

def test(a: Cap, b: Cap, c: Cap) =
  class Super(y: Cap):
    def f = a
  class Sub(x: Cap) extends Super(x)
    def g = b
  Sub(c)
```

Here class `Super` has local capability `a`, which gets inherited by class `Sub` and is combined with `Sub`'s own local capability `b`. Class `Sub` also has an argument capability corresponding to its parameter `x`. This capability gets instantiated to `c` in the final constructor call `Sub(c)`. Hence, the capture set of that call is `{a, b, c}`.

The capture set of the type of `this` of a class is inferred by the capture checker, unless the type is explicitly declared with a self type annotation like this one:

```
class C:
  self: {a, b} D => ...
```

The inference observes the following constraints:

- The type of `this` of a class `C` includes all captured references of `C`.
- The type of `this` of a class `C` is a subtype of the type of `this` of each parent class of `C`.
- The type of `this` must observe all constraints where `this` is used.

For instance, in

```
@capability class Cap
def test(c: Cap) =
  class A:
    val x: A = this
    def f = println(c) // error
```

we know that the type of `this` must be pure, since `this` is the right hand side of a `val` with type `A`. However, in the last line we find that the capture set of the class, and with it the capture set of `this`, would include `c`. This leads to a contradiction, and hence to a checking error:

```
16 |   def f = println(c) // error
    |           ^
    |(c : Cap) cannot be referenced here; it is not included in the allowed capture
```

9.7.9 Capture Tunnelling

Consider the following simple definition of a `Pair` class:

```
class Pair[+A, +B](x: A, y: B):
  def fst: A = x
  def snd: B = y
```

What happens if `Pair` is instantiated like this (assuming `ct` and `fs` are two capabilities in scope)?

```
def x: {ct} Int -> String
def y: {fs} Logger
def p = Pair(x, y)
```

The last line will be typed as follows:

```
def p: Pair[{ct} Int -> String, {fs} Logger] = Pair(x, y)
```

This might seem surprising. The `Pair(x, y)` value does capture capabilities `ct` and `fs`. Why don't they show up in its type at the outside?

The answer is capture tunnelling. Once a type variable is instantiated to a capturing type, the capture is not propagated beyond this point. On the other hand, if the

type variable is instantiated again on access, the capture information “pops out” again. For instance, even though `p` is technically pure because its capture set is empty, writing `p.fst` would record a reference to the captured capability `ct`. So if this access was put in a closure, the capability would again form part of the outer capture set. E.g.

```
() => p.fst : {ct} () -> {ct} Int -> String
```

In other words, references to capabilities “tunnel through” in generic instantiations from creation to access; they do not affect the capture set of the enclosing generic data constructor applications. This principle plays an important part in making capture checking concise and practical.

9.7.10 Escape Checking

The universal capability `*` should be conceptually available only as a parameter to the main program. Indeed, if it was available everywhere, capability checking would be undermined since one could mint new capabilities at will. In line with this reasoning, some capture sets are restricted so that they are not allowed to contain the universal capability.

Specifically, if a capturing type is an instance of a type variable, that capturing type is not allowed to carry the universal capability `{*}`. There’s a connection to tunnelling here. The capture set of a type has to be present in the environment when a type is instantiated from a type variable. But `*` is not itself available as a global entity in the environment. Hence, an error should result.

We can now reconstruct how this principle produced the error in the introductory example, where `usingLogFile` was declared like this:

```
def usingLogFile[T](op: ({*} FileOutputStream) => T): T = ...
```

The error message was:

```
| val later = usingLogFile { f => () => f.write(0) }
| ~~~~~
|The expression's type {*} () -> Unit is not allowed to capture the root capability
|This usually means that a capability persists longer than its allowed lifetime.
```

This error message was produced by the following logic:

- The `f` parameter has type `{*} FileOutputStream`, which makes it a capability.
- Therefore, the type of the expression `() => f.write(0)` is `{f} () -> Unit`.
- This makes the type of the whole closure passed to `usingLogFile` the dependent function type `(f: {*} FileOutputStream) -> {f} () -> Unit`.
- The expected type of the closure is a simple, parametric, impure function type `({*} FileOutputStream) => T`, for some instantiation of the type variable `T`.
- The smallest supertype of the closure’s dependent function type that is a parametric function type is `({*} FileOutputStream) => {*} () -> Unit`.
- Hence, the type variable `T` is instantiated to `* () -> Unit`, which causes the error.

An analogous restriction applies to the type of a mutable variable. Another way one could try to undermine capture checking would be to assign a closure with a local capability to a global variable. Maybe like this:

```
var loophole: {*} () -> Unit = () => ()
usingLogFile { f =>
  loophole = () => f.write(0)
}
loophole()
```

But this will not compile either, since mutable variables cannot have universal capture sets.

One also needs to prevent returning or assigning a closure with a local capability in an argument of a parametric type. For instance, here is a slightly more refined attack:

```
class Cell[+A](x: A)
val sneaky = usingLogFile { f => Cell(() => f.write(0)) }
sneaky.x()
```

At the point where the `Cell` is created, the capture set of the argument is `f`, which is OK. But at the point of use, it is `*` (because `f` is no longer in scope), which causes again an error:

```
| sneaky.x()
| ~~~~~~
|The expression's type {*} () -> Unit is not allowed to capture the root capability
|This usually means that a capability persists longer than its allowed lifetime.
```

Looking at object graphs, we observe a monotonicity property: The capture set of an object `x` covers the capture sets of all objects reachable through `x`. This property is reflected in the type system by the following *monotonicity rule*:

- In a class `C` with a field `f`, the capture set `{this}` covers the capture set `{this.f}` as well as the capture set of any application of `this.f` to pure arguments.

9.7.11 Checked Exceptions

Scala enables checked exceptions through a language import. Here is an example, taken from the [safer exceptions page](#), and also described in a [paper](#) presented at the 2021 Scala Symposium.

```
import language.experimental.saferExceptions

class LimitExceeded extends Exception

val limit = 10e+10
def f(x: Double): Double throws LimitExceeded =
  if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
```

The new `throws` clause expands into an implicit parameter that provides a `CanThrow` capability. Hence, function `f` could equivalently be written like this:

```
def f(x: Double)(using CanThrow[LimitExceeded]): Double = ...
```

If the implicit parameter is missing, an error is reported. For instance, the function definition

```
def g(x: Double): Double =
  if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
```

is rejected with this error message:

```
| if x < limit then x * x else throw LimitExceeded()
|                                     ~~~~~
|The capability to throw exception LimitExceeded is missing.
|The capability can be provided by one of the following:
| - Adding a using clause `(using CanThrow[LimitExceeded])` to the definition of
| - Adding `throws LimitExceeded` clause after the result type of the enclosing m
| - Wrapping this piece of code with a `try` block that catches LimitExceeded
```

`CanThrow` capabilities are required by `throw` expressions and are created by `try` expressions. For instance, the expression

```
try xs.map(f).sum
catch case ex: LimitExceeded => -1
```

would be expanded by the compiler to something like the following:

```
try
  erased given ctl: CanThrow[LimitExceeded] = compiletime.erasedValue
  xs.map(f).sum
catch case ex: LimitExceeded => -1
```

(The `ctl` capability is only used for type checking but need not show up in the generated code, so it can be declared as `erased`.)

As with other capability based schemes, one needs to guard against capabilities that are captured in results. For instance, here is a problematic use case:

```
def escaped(xs: Double*): (() => Double) throws LimitExceeded =
  try () => xs.map(f).sum
  catch case ex: LimitExceeded => () => -1
val crasher = escaped(1, 2, 10e+11)
crasher()
```

This code needs to be rejected since otherwise the call to `crasher()` would cause an unhandled `LimitExceeded` exception to be thrown.

Under the language import `language.experimental.captureChecking`, the code is indeed rejected

```
14 | try () => xs.map(f).sum
    | ^
```

```

    |The expression's type {*} () -> Double is not allowed to capture the root capab
    |This usually means that a capability persists longer than its allowed lifetime.
15 | catch case ex: LimitExceeded => () => -1

```

To integrate exception and capture checking, only two changes are needed:

- `CanThrow` is declared as a `@capability` class, so all references to `CanThrow` instances are tracked.
- Escape checking is extended to `try` expressions. The result type of a `try` is not allowed to capture the universal capability.

9.7.12 A Larger Example

As a larger example, we present an implementation of lazy lists and some use cases. For simplicity, our lists are lazy only in their tail part. This corresponds to what the Scala-2 type `Stream` did, whereas Scala 3's `LazyList` type computes strictly less since it is also lazy in the first argument.

Here is the base trait `LzyList` for our version of lazy lists:

```

trait LzyList[+A]:
  def isEmpty: Boolean
  def head: A
  def tail: {this} LzyList[A]

```

Note that `tail` carries a capture annotation. It says that the tail of a lazy list can potentially capture the same references as the lazy list as a whole.

The empty case of a `LzyList` is written as usual:

```

object LzyNil extends LzyList[Nothing]:
  def isEmpty = true
  def head = ???
  def tail = ???

```

Here is a formulation of the class for lazy cons nodes:

```

import scala.compiletime.uninitialized

final class LzyCons[+A](hd: A, tl: () => {*} LzyList[A]) extends LzyList[A]:
  private var forced = false
  private var cache: {this} LzyList[A] = uninitialized
  private def force =
    if !forced then { cache = tl(); forced = true }
    cache

  def isEmpty = false
  def head = hd
  def tail: {this} LzyList[A] = force
end LzyCons

```

The `LzyCons` class takes two parameters: A head `hd` and a tail `tl`, which is a function returning a `LzyList`. Both the function and its result can capture arbitrary capabilities. The result of applying the function is memoized after the first dereference of `tail` in the private mutable field `cache`. Note that the typing of the assignment `cache = tl()` relies on the monotonicity rule for `{this}` capture sets.

Here is an extension method to define an infix cons operator `#:` for lazy lists. It is analogous to `::` but instead of a strict list it produces a lazy list without evaluating its right operand.

```
extension [A] (x: A)
  def #:(xs1: => {*} LzyList[A]): {*} LzyList[A] =
    LzyCons(x, () => xs1)
```

Note that `#:` takes an impure call-by-name parameter `xs1` as its right argument. The result of `#:` is a lazy list that captures that argument.

As an example usage of `#:`, here is a method `tabulate` that creates a lazy list of given length with a generator function `gen`. The generator function is allowed to have side effects.

```
def tabulate[A] (n: Int) (gen: Int => A) =
  def recur(i: Int): {*} LzyList[A] =
    if i == n then LzyNil
    else gen(i) #: recur(i + 1)
  recur(0)
```

Here is a use of `tabulate`:

```
class LimitExceeded extends Exception
def squares(n: Int) (using ct: CanThrow[LimitExceeded]) =
  tabulate(10) { i =>
    if i > 9 then throw LimitExceeded()
    i * i
  }
```

The inferred result type of `squares` is `{ct} LzyList[Int]`, i.e it is a lazy list of Ints that can throw the `LimitExceeded` exception when it is elaborated by calling `tail` one or more times.

Here are some further extension methods for mapping, filtering, and concatenating lazy lists:

```
extension [A] (xs: {*} LzyList[A])
  def map[B] (f: A => B): {*} LzyList[B] =
    if xs.isEmpty then LzyNil
    else f(xs.head) #: xs.tail.map(f)

  def filter(p: A => Boolean): {*} LzyList[A] =
    if xs.isEmpty then LzyNil
    else if p(xs.head) then xs.head #: xs.tail.filter(p)
```



```

    else xs.tail.filter(p)

def concat(ys: {*} LzyList[A]): {xs, ys} LzyList[A] =
  if xs.isEmpty then ys
  else xs.head #: xs.tail.concat(ys)

def drop(n: Int): {xs} LzyList[A] =
  if n == 0 then xs else xs.tail.drop(n - 1)

```

Their capture annotations are all as one would expect:

- Mapping a lazy list produces a lazy list that captures the original list as well as the (possibly impure) mapping function.
- Filtering a lazy list produces a lazy list that captures the original list as well as the (possibly impure) filtering predicate.
- Concatenating two lazy lists produces a lazy list that captures both arguments.
- Dropping elements from a lazy list gives a safe approximation where the original list is captured in the result. In fact, it's only some suffix of the list that is retained at run time, but our modelling identifies lazy lists and their suffixes, so this additional knowledge would not be useful.

Of course the function passed to `map` or `filter` could also be pure. After all, $A \rightarrow B$ is a subtype of $\{*\} A \rightarrow B$ which is the same as $A \Rightarrow B$. In that case, the pure function argument will *not* show up in the result type of `map` or `filter`. For instance:

```

val xs = squares(10)
val ys: {xs} LzyList[Int] = xs.map(_ + 1)

```

The type of the mapped list `ys` has only `xs` in its capture set. The actual function argument does not show up since it is pure. Likewise, if the lazy list `xs` was pure, it would not show up in any of the method results. This demonstrates that capability-based effect systems with capture checking are naturally *effect polymorphic*.

This concludes our example. It's worth mentioning that an equivalent program defining and using standard, strict lists would require no capture annotations whatsoever. It would compile exactly as written now in standard Scala 3, yet one gets the capture checking for free. Essentially, \Rightarrow already means “can capture anything” and since in a strict list side effecting operations are not retained in the result, there are no additional captures to record. A strict list could of course capture side-effecting closures in its elements but then tunnelling applies, since these elements are represented by a type variable. This means we don't need to annotate anything there either.

Another possibility would be a variant of lazy lists that requires all functions passed to `map`, `filter` and other operations like it to be pure. E.g. `map` on such a list would be defined like this:

```

extension [A] (xs: LzyList[A])
  def map[B] (f: A -> B): LzyList[B] = ...

```

That variant would not require any capture annotations either.

To summarize, there are two “sweet spots” of data structure design: strict lists in side-effecting or resource-aware code and lazy lists in purely functional code. Both are already correctly capture-typed without requiring any explicit annotations. Capture annotations only come into play where the semantics gets more complicated because we deal with delayed effects such as in impure lazy lists or side-effecting iterators over strict lists. This property is probably one of the greatest plus points of our approach to capture checking compared to previous techniques which tend to be more noisy.

9.7.13 Function Type Shorthands

TBD

9.7.14 Compilation Options

The following options are relevant for capture checking.

- **-Xprint:cc** Prints the program with capturing types as inferred by capture checking.
- **-Ycc-debug** Gives more detailed, implementation-oriented information about capture checking, as described in the next section.

The implementation supporting capture checking with these options is currently in branch `cc-experiment` on `dotty.epfl.ch`.

9.7.15 Capture Checking Internals

The capture checker is architected as a propagation constraint solver, which runs as a separate phase after type-checking and some initial transformations.

Constraint variables stand for unknown capture sets. A constraint variable is introduced

- for every part of a previously inferred type,
- for the accessed references of every method, class, anonymous function, or by-name argument,
- for the parameters passed in a class constructor call.

Capture sets in explicitly written types are treated as constants (before capture checking, such sets are simply ignored).

The capture checker essentially rechecks the program with the usual typing rules. Every time a subtype requirement between capturing types is checked, this translates to a subcapturing test on capture sets. If the two sets are constant, this is simply a yes/no question, where a no will produce an error message.

If the lower set C of a comparison $C <: C$ is a variable, the set C is recorded as a *superset* of C . If the upper set C is a variable, the elements of C are *propagated* to C . Propagation of an element x to a set C means that x is included as an element

in C , and it is also propagated to all known supersets of C . If such a superset is a constant, it is checked that x is included in it. If that's not the case, the original comparison $C <: C$ has no solution and an error is reported.

The type checker also performs various maps on types, for instance when substituting actual argument types for formal parameter types in dependent functions, or mapping member types with “as-seen-from” in a selection. Maps keep track of the variance of positions in a type. The variance is initially covariant, it flips to contravariant in function parameter positions, and can be either covariant, contravariant, or nonvariant in type arguments, depending on the variance of the type parameter.

When capture checking, the same maps are also performed on capture sets. If a capture set is a constant, its elements (which are capabilities) are mapped as regular types. If the result of such a map is not a capability, the result is approximated according to the variance of the type. A covariant approximation replaces a type by its capture set. A contravariant approximation replaces it with the empty capture set. A nonvariant approximation replaces the enclosing capturing type with a range of possible types that gets propagated and resolved further out.

When a mapping m is performed on a capture set variable C , a new variable Cm is created that contains the mapped elements and that is linked with C . If C subsequently acquires further elements through propagation, these are also propagated to Cm after being transformed by the m mapping. Cm also gets the same supersets as C , mapped again using m .

One interesting aspect of the capture checker concerns the implementation of capture tunnelling. The [foundational theory](#) on which capture checking is based makes tunnelling explicit through so-called *box* and *unbox* operations. Boxing hides a capture set and unboxing recovers it. The capture checker inserts virtual box and unbox operations based on actual and expected types similar to the way the type checker inserts implicit conversions. When capture set variables are first introduced, any capture set in a capturing type that is an instance of a type parameter instance is marked as “boxed”. A boxing operation is inserted if the expected type of an expression is a capturing type with a boxed capture set variable. The effect of the insertion is that any references to capabilities in the boxed expression are forgotten, which means that capture propagation is stopped. Dually, if the actual type of an expression has a boxed variable as capture set, an unbox operation is inserted, which adds all elements of the capture set to the environment.

Boxing and unboxing has no runtime effect, so the insertion of these operations is only simulated; the only visible effect is the retraction and insertion of variables in the capture sets representing the environment of the currently checked expression.

The `-Ycc-debug` option provides some insight into the workings of the capture checker. When it is turned on, boxed sets are marked explicitly and capture set variables are printed with an ID and some information about their provenance. For instance, the string `{f, xs}33M5V` indicates a capture set variable that is known to hold elements `f` and `xs`. The variable's ID is `33`. The `M` indicates that the variable was created through a mapping from a variable with ID `5`. The latter is a regular

variable, as indicated by `V`.

Generally, the string following the capture set consists of alternating numbers and letters where each number gives a variable ID and each letter gives the provenance of the variable. Possible letters are

- `V` : a regular variable,
- `M` : a variable resulting from a *mapping* of the variable indicated by the string to the right,
- `B` : similar to `M` but where the mapping is a *bijection*,
- `F` : a variable resulting from *filtering* the elements of the variable indicated by the string to the right,
- `I` : a variable resulting from an *intersection* of two capture sets,
- `D` : a variable resulting from the set *difference* of two capture sets.

At the end of a compilation run, `-Ycc-debug` will print all variable dependencies of variables referred to in previous output. Here is an example:

Capture set dependencies:

```
{ }2V          ::
{ }3V          ::
{ }4V          ::
{f, xs}5V      :: {f, xs}31M5V, {f, xs}32M5V
{f, xs}31M5V   :: {xs, f}
{f, xs}32M5V   ::
```

This section lists all variables that appeared in previous diagnostics and their dependencies, recursively. For instance, we learn that

- variables 2, 3, 4 are empty and have no dependencies,
- variable 5 has two dependencies: variables 31 and 32 which both result from mapping variable 5,
- variable 31 has a constant fixed superset `{xs, f}`
- variable 32 has no dependencies.

9.8 Pure Functions

Pure functions are an experimental feature that can be enabled by the language import

```
import language.experimental.pureFunctions
```

Under that import the syntax `A -> B` is available with the intention that it should denote a pure, side effect-free function from `A` to `B`. Some other variants are also supported:

```
(A1, ..., An) -> B           // a multi-argument pure function
(x1: A1, ..., xn: An) -> B   // a dependent pure function
A ?-> B                       // a pure context function
(A1, ..., An) ?-> B          // a multi-argument pure context function
```

```
(x1: A1, ..., xn: An) ?-> B  // a dependent pure context function
-> B                        // a pure call-by-name parameter
```

A function's purity can be checked by capture tracking, another experimental language feature which is presently in a very early stage. Until that second feature matures, the pure function syntax should be understood to be for documentation only. A pure function type is a requirement that all its instances should be side effect-free. This requirement currently needs to be checked manually, but checking might be automated in the future.

9.8.1 Why Enable It Now?

There are at least three reasons why one might want to enable `pureFunctions` today:

- to get better documentation since it makes the intent clear,
- to prepare the code base for a time when full effect checking is implemented,
- to have a common code base that can be compiled with or without capture checking enabled.

9.8.2 More info:

TBD

9.9 Tupled Function

9.9.1 Tupled Function

With functions bounded to arities up to 22 it was possible to generalize some operation on all function types using overloading. Now that we have functions and tuples generalized to [arities above 22](#) overloading is not an option anymore. The type class `TupledFunction` provides a way to abstract directly over a function of any arity converting it to an equivalent function that receives all arguments in a single tuple.

```
/** Type class relating a `FunctionN[..., R]` with an equivalent tupled function */
* @tparam F a function type
* @tparam G a tupled function type (function of arity 1 receiving a tuple as arg)
*/
@implicitNotFound("${F} cannot be tupled as ${G}")
sealed trait TupledFunction[F, G] {
  def tupled(f: F): G
  def untupled(g: G): F
}
```

The compiler will synthesize an instance of `TupledFunction[F, G]` if:

- `F` is a function type of arity `N`
- `G` is a function with a single tuple argument of size `N` and its types are equal to the arguments of `F`
- The return type of `F` is equal to the return type of `G`

- F and G are the same sort of function (both are $(\dots) \Rightarrow R$ or both are $(\dots) \Rightarrow R$)
- If only one of F or G is instantiated the second one is inferred.

9.9.2 Examples

`TupledFunction` can be used to generalize the `Function1.tupled`, ... `Function22.tupled` methods to functions of any arities. The following defines `tupled` as [extension method](#) ([full example](#)).

```
/** Creates a tupled version of this function: instead of N arguments,
* it accepts a single [[scala.Tuple]] with N elements as argument.
*
* @tparam F the function type
* @tparam Args the tuple type with the same types as the function arguments of F
* @tparam R the return type of F
*/
extension [F, Args <: Tuple, R](f: F)
  def tupled(using tf: TupledFunction[F, Args => R]): Args => R = tf.tupled(f)
```

`TupledFunction` can be used to generalize the `Function.untupled` to a function of any arities ([full example](#))

```
/** Creates an untupled version of this function: instead of a single argument of
* it accepts N arguments.
*
* This is a generalization of [[scala.Function.untupled]] that work on function.
*
* @tparam F the function type
* @tparam Args the tuple type with the same types as the function arguments of F
* @tparam R the return type of F
*/
extension [F, Args <: Tuple, R](f: Args => R)
  def untupled(using tf: TupledFunction[F, Args => R]): F = tf.untupled(f)
```

`TupledFunction` can also be used to generalize the [Tuple1.compose](#) and [Tuple1.andThen](#) methods to compose functions of larger arities and with functions that return tuples.

```
/** Composes two instances of TupledFunction into a new TupledFunction, with this
* @tparam F a function type
* @tparam G a function type
* @tparam FArgs the tuple type with the same types as the function arguments of F
* @tparam GArgs the tuple type with the same types as the function arguments of G
* @tparam R the return type of F
*/
extension [F, G, FArgs <: Tuple, GArgs <: Tuple, R](f: F)
  def compose(g: G)(using tg: TupledFunction[G, GArgs => FArgs], tf: TupledFunction[F, FArgs => R]): GArgs => R = tg.compose(f)
```

```
(x: GArgs) => tf.tupled(f)(tg.tupled(g)(x))  
}
```

10 Scala 3 Syntax Summary

The following description of Scala tokens uses literal characters ‘c’ when referring to the ASCII fragment \u0000 – \u007F.

Unicode escapes are used to represent the [Unicode character](#) with the given hexadecimal code:

```
UnicodeEscape ::= ‘\’ ‘u’ {‘u’} hexDigit hexDigit hexDigit hexDigit
hexDigit      ::= ‘0’ | ... | ‘9’ | ‘A’ | ... | ‘F’ | ‘a’ | ... | ‘f’
```

Informal descriptions are typeset as "some comment".

10.0.1 Lexical Syntax

The lexical syntax of Scala is given by the following grammar in EBNF form.

```
whiteSpace      ::= ‘\u0020’ | ‘\u0009’ | ‘\u000D’ | ‘\u000A’
upper           ::= ‘A’ | ... | ‘Z’ | ‘\’$’ | ‘_’ "... and Unicode category Lu"
lower           ::= ‘a’ | ... | ‘z’ "... and Unicode category Ll"
letter          ::= upper | lower "... and Unicode categories Lo, Lt, Nl"
digit           ::= ‘0’ | ... | ‘9’
paren           ::= ‘(’ | ‘)’ | ‘[’ | ‘]’ | ‘{’ | ‘}’
delim           ::= ‘`’ | ‘’ | ‘"’ | ‘.’ | ‘;’ | ‘,’
opchar          ::= ‘!’ | ‘#’ | ‘%’ | ‘&’ | ‘*’ | ‘+’ | ‘-’ | ‘/’ | ‘:’ |
                  ‘<’ | ‘=’ | ‘>’ | ‘?’ | ‘@’ | ‘\’ | ‘^’ | ‘|’ | ‘~’
                  "... and Unicode categories Sm, So"
printableChar   ::= "all characters in [\u0020, \u007E] inclusive"
charEscapeSeq   ::= ‘\’ (‘b’ | ‘t’ | ‘n’ | ‘f’ | ‘r’ | ‘"’ | ‘’ | ‘\’)
```



```
op              ::= opchar {opchar}
varid           ::= lower idrest
alphaid         ::= upper idrest
                | varid
plainid         ::= alphaid
                | op
id              ::= plainid
                | ‘`’ { charNoBackQuoteOrNewline | UnicodeEscape | charEscapeSeq }
idrest          ::= {letter | digit} [‘_’ op]
quoteId         ::= ‘’ alphaid
spliceId        ::= ‘$’ alphaid ;
```



```
integerLiteral  ::= (decimalNumeral | hexNumeral) [‘L’ | ‘l’]
decimalNumeral  ::= ‘0’ | nonZeroDigit [{digit | ‘_’} digit]
hexNumeral      ::= ‘0’ (‘x’ | ‘X’) hexDigit [{hexDigit | ‘_’} hexDigit]
nonZeroDigit    ::= ‘1’ | ... | ‘9’
```



```
floatingPointLiteral
```



```

      ::= [decimalNumeral] '.' digit [{digit | '_' } digit] [exponentPart]
      | decimalNumeral exponentPart [floatType]
      | decimalNumeral floatType
exponentPart ::= ('E' | 'e') ['+' | '-' ] digit [{digit | '_' } digit]
floatType    ::= 'F' | 'f' | 'D' | 'd'

booleanLiteral ::= 'true' | 'false'

characterLiteral ::= "'" (printableChar | charEscapeSeq) "'"

stringLiteral ::= '"' {stringElement} '"'
               | '"""' multiLineChars '"""'
stringElement  ::= printableChar \ ('"' | '\')
               | UnicodeEscape
               | charEscapeSeq
multiLineChars ::= {['"']} ['"'] char \ '"' {'"'}
processedStringLiteral
               ::= alphaId '"' [{'\'} processedStringPart | '\\ ' | '\\"'} '"'
               | alphaId '"""' {['"']} ['"'] char \ ('"' | '$') | escape {'"'}
processedStringPart
               ::= printableChar \ ('"' | '$' | '\') | escape
escape          ::= '$$'
               | '$' letter { letter | digit }
               | '{' Block [';' whiteSpace stringFormat whiteSpace] '}'
stringFormat    ::= {printableChar \ ('"' | '}' | ' ' | '\t' | '\n')}

symbolLiteral  ::= "'" plainid // until 2.13

comment        ::= '/*' "any sequence of characters; nested comments are allowed"
               | '// ' "any sequence of characters up to end of line"

nl             ::= "new line character"
semi          ::= ';' | nl {nl}

```

10.0.2 Optional Braces

The principle of optional braces is that any keyword that can be followed by `{` can also be followed by an indented block, without needing an intervening `..` (Allowing an optional `:` would be counterproductive since it would introduce several ways to do the same thing.)

The lexical analyzer inserts `indent` and `outdent` tokens that represent regions of indented code at certain points.

In the context-free productions below we use the notation `<<< ts >>>` to indicate a token sequence `ts` that is either enclosed in a pair of braces `{ ts }` or that constitutes an indented region `indent ts outdent`. Analogously, the notation `:<<< ts >>>` indicates a token sequence `ts` that is either enclosed in a pair of braces `{ ts }` or

that constitutes an indented region `indent ts outdent` that follows a `colon` token.

A `colon` token reads as the standard colon “:” but is generated instead of it where `colon` is legal according to the context free syntax, but only if the previous token is an alphanumeric identifier, a backticked identifier, or one of the tokens `this`, `super`, `new`, “(”, and “]”.

```
colon      ::=  ':'      -- with side conditions explained above
<<< ts >>> ::=  '{' ts '}'
            |  indent ts outdent
:<<< ts >>> ::=  [nl] '{' ts '}'
            |  colon indent ts outdent
```

10.0.3 Keywords

10.0.3.1 Regular keywords

<code>abstract</code>	<code>case</code>	<code>catch</code>	<code>class</code>	<code>def</code>	<code>do</code>	<code>else</code>
<code>enum</code>	<code>export</code>	<code>extends</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>final</code>	<code>finally</code>	<code>for</code>
<code>given</code>	<code>if</code>	<code>implicit</code>	<code>import</code>	<code>lazy</code>	<code>match</code>	<code>new</code>
<code>null</code>	<code>object</code>	<code>override</code>	<code>package</code>	<code>private</code>	<code>protected</code>	<code>return</code>
<code>sealed</code>	<code>super</code>	<code>then</code>	<code>throw</code>	<code>trait</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>try</code>
<code>type</code>	<code>val</code>	<code>var</code>	<code>while</code>	<code>with</code>	<code>yield</code>	
<code>:</code>	<code>=</code>	<code><-</code>	<code>=></code>	<code><:</code>	<code>>:</code>	<code>#</code>
<code>@</code>	<code>=>></code>	<code>?=></code>				

10.0.3.2 Soft keywords

`as` `derives` `end` `extension` `infix` `inline` `opaque` `open` `transparent` `using` `|` `*`

See the [separate section on soft keywords](#) for additional details on where a soft keyword is recognized.

10.0.4 Context-free Syntax

The context-free syntax of Scala is given by the following EBNF grammar:

10.0.4.1 Literals and Paths

```
SimpleLiteral ::=  ['-'] integerLiteral
                |  ['-'] floatingPointLiteral
                |  booleanLiteral
                |  characterLiteral
                |  stringLiteral
Literal       ::=  SimpleLiteral
                |  processedStringLiteral
                |  symbolLiteral
                |  'null'

QualId        ::=  id {'.' id}
```

```

ids                ::= id {',' id}

SimpleRef          ::= id
                    | [id '.' ] 'this'
                    | [id '.' ] 'super' [ClassQualifier] '.' id

ClassQualifier     ::= '[' id ']'

```

10.0.4.2 Types

```

Type               ::= FunType
                    | HkTypeParamClause '=>>' Type
                    | FunParamClause '=>>' Type
                    | MatchType
                    | InfixType

FunType            ::= FunTypeArgs ('=>' | '?=>') Type
                    | HKTypeParamClause '=>' Type

FunTypeArgs        ::= InfixType
                    | '(' [ FunArgTypes ] ')'
                    | FunParamClause

FunParamClause     ::= '(' TypedFunParam {',' TypedFunParam } ')'
TypedFunParam      ::= id ':' Type
MatchType          ::= InfixType `match` <<< TypeCaseClauses >>>
InfixType          ::= RefinedType {id [nl] RefinedType}
RefinedType        ::= AnnotType {[nl] Refinement}
AnnotType          ::= SimpleType {Annotation}

SimpleType         ::= SimpleLiteral
                    | '?' TypeBounds
                    | id
                    | Singleton '.' id
                    | Singleton '.' 'type'
                    | '(' Types ')'
                    | Refinement
                    | SimpleType1 TypeArgs
                    | SimpleType1 '#' id

Singleton          ::= SimpleRef
                    | SimpleLiteral
                    | Singleton '.' id

FunArgType         ::= Type
                    | '=>' Type

FunArgTypes        ::= FunArgType { ',' FunArgType }
ParamType          ::= ['=>'] ParamValueType
ParamValueType     ::= Type ['*']
TypeArgs           ::= '[' Types ']'
Refinement         ::= :<<< [RefineDcl] {semi [RefineDcl]} >>>

```

```

TypeBounds      ::= ['>:' Type] ['<:' Type]
TypeParamBounds ::= TypeBounds {':' Type}
Types           ::= Type {',' Type}

```

10.0.4.3 Expressions

```

Expr           ::= FunParams ('=>' | '?=>') Expr
                | HkTypeParamClause '=>' Expr
                | Expr1
BlockResult    ::= FunParams ('=>' | '?=>') Block
                | HkTypeParamClause '=>' Block
                | Expr1
FunParams      ::= Bindings
                | id
                | '_'
Expr1          ::= ['inline'] 'if' '(' Expr ')' {nl} Expr [[semi] 'else' Expr]
                | ['inline'] 'if' Expr 'then' Expr [[semi] 'else' Expr]
                | 'while' '(' Expr ')' {nl} Expr
                | 'while' Expr 'do' Expr
                | 'try' Expr Catches ['finally' Expr]
                | 'try' Expr ['finally' Expr]
                | 'throw' Expr
                | 'return' [Expr]
                | ForExpr
                | [SimpleExpr '.'] id '=' Expr
                | PrefixOperator SimpleExpr '=' Expr
                | SimpleExpr ArgumentExprs '=' Expr
                | PostfixExpr [Ascription]
                | 'inline' InfixExpr MatchClause
Ascription     ::= ':' InfixType
                | ':' Annotation {Annotation}
Catches        ::= 'catch' (Expr | ExprCaseClause)
PostfixExpr    ::= InfixExpr [id]
InfixExpr      ::= PrefixExpr
                | InfixExpr id [nl] InfixExpr
                | InfixExpr id ColonArgument
                | InfixExpr MatchClause
MatchClause    ::= 'match' <<< CaseClauses >>>
PrefixExpr     ::= [PrefixOperator] SimpleExpr
PrefixOperator ::= '-' | '+' | '~' | '!'
SimpleExpr     ::= SimpleRef
                | Literal
                | '_'
                | BlockExpr
                | ExprSplice
                | Quoted
                | quoteId

```

	'new' ConstrApp {'with' ConstrApp} [TemplateBody]	
	'new' TemplateBody	
	'(' ExprsInParens ')'	
	SimpleExpr '.' id	
	SimpleExpr '.' MatchClause	
	SimpleExpr TypeArgs	
	SimpleExpr ArgumentExprs	
	SimpleExpr ColonArgument	
ColonArgument	::= colon [LambdaStart]	
	indent (CaseClauses Block) outdent	
LambdaStart	::= FunParams ('=>' '?=>')	
	HkTypeParamClause '=>'	
Quoted	::= ''' '{' Block '}'	
	''' '[' Type ']'	
ExprSplice	::= spliceId	--
	'\$' '{' Block '}'	--
	'\$' '{' Pattern '}'	--
ExprsInParens	::= ExprInParens {' ,' ExprInParens}	
ExprInParens	::= PostfixExpr ':' Type	
	Expr	
ParArgumentExprs	::= '(' [ExprsInParens] ')'	
	'(' 'using' ExprsInParens ')'	
	'(' [ExprsInParens ' , '] PostfixExpr '*' ')'	
ArgumentExprs	::= ParArgumentExprs	
	BlockExpr	
BlockExpr	::= <<< (CaseClauses Block) >>>	
Block	::= {BlockStat semi} [BlockResult]	
BlockStat	::= Import	
	{Annotation {nl}} {LocalModifier} Def	
	Extension	
	Expr1	
	EndMarker	
ForExpr	::= 'for' '(' Enumerators0 ')' {nl} ['do' 'yield'] Expr	
	'for' '{' Enumerators0 '}' {nl} ['do' 'yield'] Expr	
	'for' Enumerators0 ('do' 'yield') Expr	
Enumerators0	::= {nl} Enumerators [semi]	
Enumerators	::= Generator {semi Enumerator Guard}	
Enumerator	::= Generator	
	Guard {Guard}	
	Pattern1 '=' Expr	
Generator	::= ['case'] Pattern1 '<- ' Expr	
Guard	::= 'if' PostfixExpr	
CaseClauses	::= CaseClause { CaseClause }	
CaseClause	::= 'case' Pattern [Guard] '=>' Block	

```

ExprCaseClause ::= 'case' Pattern [Guard] '=>' Expr
TypeCaseClauses ::= TypeCaseClause { TypeCaseClause }
TypeCaseClause ::= 'case' (InfixType | '_') '=>' Type [semi]

Pattern ::= Pattern1 { '|' Pattern1 }
Pattern1 ::= PatVar ':' RefinedType
            | ['-'] integerLiteral ':' RefinedType
            | ['-'] floatingPointLiteral ':' RefinedType
            | Pattern2
Pattern2 ::= [id '@'] InfixPattern ['*']
InfixPattern ::= SimplePattern { id [nl] SimplePattern }
SimplePattern ::= PatVar
                | Literal
                | '(' [Patterns] ')'
                | Quoted
                | SimplePattern1 [TypeArgs] [ArgumentPatterns]
                | 'given' RefinedType
SimplePattern1 ::= SimpleRef
                | SimplePattern1 '.' id
PatVar ::= varid
        | '_'
Patterns ::= Pattern {',' Pattern}
ArgumentPatterns ::= '(' [Patterns] ')'
                | '(' [Patterns ',' ] PatVar '*' ')'

```

10.0.4.4 Type and Value Parameters

```

ClsTypeParamClause ::= '[' ClsTypeParam {',' ClsTypeParam} '['
ClsTypeParam ::= {Annotation} ['+' | '-'] id [HkTypeParamClause] TypeParamBou

TypTypeParamClause ::= '[' TypTypeParam {',' TypTypeParam} '['
TypTypeParam ::= {Annotation} id [HkTypeParamClause] TypeBounds

HkTypeParamClause ::= '[' HkTypeParam {',' HkTypeParam} '['
HkTypeParam ::= {Annotation} ['+' | '-'] (id [HkTypeParamClause] | '_') Type

ClsParamClauses ::= {ClsParamClause} [[nl] '(' ['implicit'] ClsParams ')']
ClsParamClause ::= [nl] '(' ClsParams ')'
                | [nl] '(' 'using' (ClsParams | FunArgTypes) ')'
ClsParams ::= ClsParam {',' ClsParam}
ClsParam ::= {Annotation} [{Modifier} ('val' | 'var') | 'inline'] Param

TypelessClauses ::= TypelessClause {TypelessClause}
TypelessClause ::= DefTermParamClause
                | UsingParamClause

DefTypeParamClause ::= [nl] '[' DefTypeParam {',' DefTypeParam} '['

```

```

DefTypeParam      ::= {Annotation} id [HkTypeParamClause] TypeParamBounds
DefTermParamClause ::= [nl] '(' [DefTermParams] ')'
UsingParamClause  ::= [nl] '(' 'using' (DefTermParams | FunArgTypes) ')'
DefImplicitClause ::= [nl] '(' 'implicit' DefTermParams ')'

DefTermParams     ::= DefTermParam {',' DefTermParam}
DefTermParam      ::= {Annotation} ['inline'] Param
Param             ::= id ':' ParamType ['=' Expr]

```

10.0.4.5 Bindings and Imports

```

Bindings          ::= '(' [Binding {',' Binding}] ')'
Binding           ::= (id | '_') [':' Type]

Modifier          ::= LocalModifier
                  | AccessModifier
                  | 'override'
                  | 'opaque'
LocalModifier     ::= 'abstract'
                  | 'final'
                  | 'sealed'
                  | 'open'
                  | 'implicit'
                  | 'lazy'
                  | 'inline'
AccessModifier    ::= ('private' | 'protected') [AccessQualifier]
AccessQualifier   ::= '[' id ']'

Annotation        ::= '@' SimpleType1 {ParArgumentExprs}

Import            ::= 'import' ImportExpr {',' ImportExpr}
Export           ::= 'export' ImportExpr {',' ImportExpr}
ImportExpr        ::= SimpleRef {'.' id} '.' ImportSpec
                  | SimpleRef 'as' id
ImportSpec        ::= NamedSelector
                  | WildcardSelector
                  | '{' ImportSelectors '}'
NamedSelector     ::= id ['as' (id | '_')]
WildcardSelector  ::= '*' | 'given' [InfixType]
ImportSelectors   ::= NamedSelector {',' ImportSelectors}
                  | WildCardSelector {',' WildCardSelector}

EndMarker         ::= 'end' EndMarkerTag      -- when followed by EOL
EndMarkerTag      ::= id | 'if' | 'while' | 'for' | 'match' | 'try'
                  | 'new' | 'this' | 'given' | 'extension' | 'val'

```

10.0.4.6 Declarations and Definitions

```

RefineDcl      ::= 'val' ValDcl
                | 'def' DefDcl
                | 'type' {nl} TypeDcl
Dcl            ::= RefineDcl
                | 'var' VarDcl
ValDcl         ::= ids ':' Type
VarDcl         ::= ids ':' Type
DefDcl         ::= DefSig ':' Type
DefSig         ::= id [DefTypeParamClause] [TypelessClauses] [DefImplicitClause]
TypeDcl        ::= id [TypeParamClause] {FunParamClause} TypeBounds

Def            ::= 'val' PatDef
                | 'var' PatDef
                | 'def' DefDef
                | 'type' {nl} TypeDcl
                | TmplDef
PatDef         ::= ids [':' Type] '=' Expr
                | Pattern2 [':' Type] '=' Expr
DefDef         ::= DefSig [':' Type] '=' Expr
                | 'this' TypelessClauses [DefImplicitClause] '=' ConstrExpr

TmplDef        ::= ([ 'case' ] 'class' | 'trait') ClassDef
                | [ 'case' ] 'object' ObjectDef
                | 'enum' EnumDef
                | 'given' GivenDef
ClassDef       ::= id ClassConstr [Template]
ClassConstr    ::= [ClsTypeParamClause] [ConstrMods] ClsParamClauses
ConstrMods     ::= {Annotation} [AccessModifier]
ObjectDef      ::= id [Template]
EnumDef        ::= id ClassConstr InheritClauses EnumBody
GivenDef       ::= [GivenSig] (AnnotType ['=' Expr] | StructuralInstance)
GivenSig       ::= [id] [DefTypeParamClause] {UsingParamClause} ':'
StructuralInstance ::= ConstrApp {'with' ConstrApp} ['with' WithTemplateBody]
Extension      ::= 'extension' [DefTypeParamClause] {UsingParamClause}
                ('(' DefTermParam ')') {UsingParamClause} ExtMethods
ExtMethods     ::= ExtMethod | [nl] <<< ExtMethod {semi ExtMethod} >>>
ExtMethod      ::= {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} 'def' DefDef
                | Export
Template       ::= InheritClauses [TemplateBody]
InheritClauses ::= [ 'extends' ConstrApps ] [ 'derives' QualId {',' QualId} ]
ConstrApps     ::= ConstrApp ({',' ConstrApp} | {'with' ConstrApp})
ConstrApp      ::= SimpleType1 {Annotation} {ParArgumentExprs}
ConstrExpr     ::= SelfInvocation
                | <<< SelfInvocation {semi BlockStat} >>>
SelfInvocation ::= 'this' ArgumentExprs {ArgumentExprs}

```

```

WithTemplateBody ::= <<< [SelfType] TemplateStat {semi TemplateStat} >>>
TemplateBody    ::= :<<< [SelfType] TemplateStat {semi TemplateStat} >>>
TemplateStat    ::= Import
                  | Export
                  | {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} Def
                  | {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} Dcl
                  | Extension
                  | Expr1
                  | EndMarker
                  |
SelfType         ::= id [':' InfixType] '=>'
                  | 'this' ':' InfixType '=>'

EnumBody        ::= :<<< [SelfType] EnumStat {semi EnumStat} >>>
EnumStat        ::= TemplateStat
                  | {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} EnumCase
EnumCase        ::= 'case' (id ClassConstr ['extends' ConstrApps] | ids)

TopStats        ::= TopStat {semi TopStat}
TopStat         ::= Import
                  | Export
                  | {Annotation [nl]} {Modifier} Def
                  | Extension
                  | Packaging
                  | PackageObject
                  | EndMarker
                  |
Packaging        ::= 'package' QualId :<<< TopStats >>>
PackageObject    ::= 'package' 'object' ObjectDef

CompilationUnit ::= {'package' QualId semi} TopStats

```

11 Language Versions

Additional information on interoperability and migration between Scala 2 and 3 can be found [here](#).

11.1 Source Compatibility

Scala 3 does NOT guarantee source compatibility between different minor language versions (e.g. some syntax valid in 3.x might get deprecated and then phased out in 3.y for $y > x$). There are also some syntax structures that were valid in Scala 2 but are not anymore in Scala 3. However the compiler provides a possibility to specify the desired version of syntax used in a particular file or globally for a run of the compiler to make migration between versions easier.

The default Scala language syntax version currently supported by the Dotty compiler is [3.2](#). There are also other language versions that can be specified instead:

- [3.0-migration](#): Same as 3.0 and 3.1, but with a Scala 2 compatibility mode that helps moving Scala 2.13 sources over to Scala 3. In particular, it
 - flags some Scala 2 constructs that are disallowed in Scala 3 as migration warnings instead of hard errors,
 - changes some rules to be more lenient and backwards compatible with Scala 2.13
 - gives some additional warnings where the semantics has changed between Scala 2.13 and 3.0
 - in conjunction with `-rewrite`, offer code rewrites from Scala 2.13 to 3.0.
- [3.0](#), [3.1](#): the default set of features included in scala versions 3.0.0 to 3.1.3.
- [3.2](#): the same as 3.0 and 3.1, but in addition:
 - [stricter pattern bindings](#) are now enabled (part of `future` in earlier 3.x releases), producing warnings for refutable patterns. These warnings can be silenced to achieve the same runtime behavior, but in `future` they become errors and refutable patterns will not compile.
 - [Nonlocal returns](#) now produce a warning upon usage (they are still an error under `future`).
- [3.2-migration](#): the same as 3.2, but in conjunction with `-rewrite`, offer code rewrites from Scala 3.0/3.1 to 3.2.
- [future](#): A preview of changes that will be introduced in 3.x versions after 3.2. Some Scala 2 specific idioms are dropped in this version. The feature set supported by this version may grow over time as features become stabilised for preview.
- [future-migration](#): Same as `future` but with additional helpers to migrate from 3.2. Similarly to the helpers available under `3.0-migration`, these include migration warnings and optional rewrites.

There are two ways to specify a language version :

- with a `-source` command line setting, e.g. `-source 3.0-migration`.
- with a `scala.language` import at the top of a source file, e.g:

```
package p
import scala.language.`future-migration`

class C { ... }
```

Language imports supersede command-line settings in the source files where they are specified. Only one language import specifying a source version is allowed in a source file, and it must come before any definitions in that file.

Note: The [Scala 3 Migration Guide](#) gives further information to help the Scala programmer moving from Scala 2.13 to Scala 3.

11.2 Binary Compatibility

In Scala 2 different minor versions of the compiler were free to change the way how they encode different language features in JVM bytecode so each bump of the compiler's minor version resulted in breaking binary compatibility and if a project had any Scala dependencies they all needed to be (cross-)compiled to the same minor Scala version that was used in that project itself. On the contrary, Scala 3 has a stable encoding into JVM bytecode.

In addition to classfiles the compilation process in Scala 3 also produces files with `.tasty` extension. The [TASTy](#) format is an intermediate representation of Scala code containing full information about sources together with information provided by the typer. Some of this information is lost during generation of bytecode so Scala 3 compilers read TASTy files during compilation in addition to classfiles to know the exact types of values, methods, etc. in already compiled classes (although compilation from TASTy files only is also possible). TASTy files are also typically distributed together with classfiles in published artifacts.

TASTy format is extensible but it preserves backward compatibility and the evolution happens between minor releases of the language. This means a Scala compiler in version `3.x1.y1` is able to read TASTy files produced by another compiler in version `3.x2.y2` if `x1 >= x2` (assuming two stable versions of the compiler are considered - `SNAPSHOT` or `NIGHTLY` compiler versions can read TASTy in an older stable format but their TASTy versions are not compatible between each other even if the compilers have the same minor version; also compilers in stable versions cannot read TASTy generated by an unstable version).

TASTy version number has the format of `<major_version>.<minor_version>-<experimental_version>` and the numbering changes in parallel to language releases in such a way that a bump in language minor version corresponds to a bump in TASTy minor version (e.g. for Scala 3.0.0 the TASTy version is 28.0-0). Experimental version set to 0 signifies a stable version while others are considered unstable/experimental. TASTy version is not strictly bound to the data format itself

- any changes to the API of the standard library also require a change in TASTy minor version.

12 Soft Keywords

A soft modifier is one of the identifiers `infix`, `inline`, `opaque`, `open` and `transparent`.

A soft keyword is a soft modifier, or one of `as`, `derives`, `end`, `extension`, `throws`, `using`, `|`, `+`, `-`, `*`

A soft modifier is treated as potential modifier of a definition if it is followed by a hard modifier or a keyword combination starting a definition (`def`, `val`, `var`, `type`, `given`, `class`, `trait`, `object`, `enum`, `case class`, `case object`). Between the two words there may be a sequence of newline tokens and soft modifiers.

Otherwise, soft keywords are treated specially in the following situations:

- `inline`, if it is followed by any token that can start an expression.
- `derives`, if it appears after an extension clause or after the name and possibly parameters of a class, trait, object, or enum definition.
- `end`, if it appears at the start of a line following a statement (i.e. definition or toplevel expression)
- `extension`, if it appears at the start of a statement and is followed by `(` or `[`.
- `using`, if it appears at the start of a parameter or argument list.
- `as`, in a renaming import clause
- `|`, if it separates two patterns in an alternative.
- `+`, `-`, if they appear in front of a type parameter.
- `*`, in a wildcard import, or it follows the type of a parameter, or if it appears in a vararg splice `x*`.

Everywhere else a soft keyword is treated as a normal identifier.

13 A Classification of Proposed Language Features



This document provides an overview of the constructs proposed for Scala 3 with the aim to facilitate the discussion what to include and when to include it. It classifies features into eight groups: (1) essential foundations, (2) simplifications, (3) restrictions, (4) dropped features, (5) changed features, (6) new features, (7) features oriented towards metaprogramming with the aim to replace existing macros, and (8) changes to type checking and inference.

Each group contains sections classifying the status (i.e. relative importance to be a part of Scala 3, and relative urgency when to decide this) and the migration cost of the constructs in it.

The current document reflects the state of things as of April, 2019. It will be updated to reflect any future changes in that status.

13.1 Essential Foundations

These new constructs directly model core features of [DOT](#), higher-kinded types, and the [SI calculus for implicit resolution](#).

- [Intersection types](#), replacing compound types,
- [Union types](#),
- [Type lambdas](#), replacing encodings using structural types and type projection.
- [Context functions](#) offering abstraction over given parameters.

Status: **essential**

These are essential core features of Scala 3. Without them, Scala 3 would be a completely different language, with different foundations.

Migration cost: **none to low**

Since these are additions, there's generally no migration cost for old code. An exception are intersection types which replace compound types with slightly cleaned-up semantics. But few programs would be affected by this change.

13.2 Simplifications

These constructs replace existing constructs with the aim of making the language safer and simpler to use, and to promote uniformity in code style.

- [Trait parameters](#) replace [early initializers](#) with a more generally useful construct.
- [Given instances](#) replace implicit objects and defs, focussing on intent over mechanism.
- [Using clauses](#) replace implicit parameters, avoiding their ambiguities.
- [Extension methods](#) replace implicit classes with a clearer and simpler mechanism.
- [Opaque type aliases](#) replace most uses of value classes while guaranteeing absence of boxing.
- [Top-level definitions](#) replace package objects, dropping syntactic boilerplate.
- [Export clauses](#) provide a simple and general way to express aggregation, which can replace the previous facade pattern of package objects inheriting from classes.
- [Vararg splices](#) now use the form `*` instead of `@ _*`, mirroring vararg expressions,
- [Creator applications](#) allow using simple function call syntax instead of `new` expressions. `new` expressions stay around as a fallback for the cases where creator applications cannot be used.

With the exception of early initializers and old-style vararg splices, all superseded constructs continue to be available in Scala 3.0. The plan is to deprecate and phase them out later.

Value classes (superseded by opaque type aliases) are a special case. There are currently no deprecation plans for value classes, since we might bring them back in a more general form if they are supported natively by the JVM as is planned by project Valhalla.

Status: bimodal: now or never / can delay

These are essential simplifications. If we decide to adopt them, we should do it for 3.0. Otherwise we are faced with the awkward situation that the Scala 3 documentation has to describe an old feature that will be replaced or superseded by a simpler one in the future.

On the other hand, we need to decide now only about the new features in this list. The decision to drop the superseded features can be delayed. Of course, adopting a new feature without deciding to drop the superseded feature will make the language larger.

Migration cost: moderate

For the next several versions, old features will remain available and deprecation and rewrite techniques can make any migration effort low and gradual.

13.3 Restrictions

These constructs are restricted to make the language safer.

- **Implicit Conversions**: there is only one way to define implicit conversions instead of many, and potentially surprising implicit conversions require a language import.
- **Given Imports**: implicits now require a special form of import, to make the import clearly visible.
- **Type Projection**: only classes can be used as prefix `C` of a type projection `C#A`. Type projection on abstract types is no longer supported since it is unsound.
- **Multiversal equality** implements an “opt-in” scheme to rule out nonsensical comparisons with `==` and `!=`.
- **infix** makes method application syntax uniform across code bases.

Unrestricted implicit conversions continue to be available in Scala 3.0, but will be deprecated and removed later. Unrestricted versions of the other constructs in the list above are available only under `-source 3.0-migration`.

Status: now or never

These are essential restrictions. If we decide to adopt them, we should do it for 3.0. Otherwise we are faced with the awkward situation that the Scala 3 documentation has to describe a feature that will be restricted in the future.

Migration cost: low to high

- *low*: multiversal equality rules out code that is nonsensical, so any rewrites required by its adoption should be classified as bug fixes.

- *moderate*: Restrictions to implicits can be accommodated by straightforward rewriting.
- *high*: Unrestricted type projection cannot always be rewritten directly since it is unsound in general.

13.4 Dropped Constructs

These constructs are proposed to be dropped without a new construct replacing them. The motivation for dropping these constructs is to simplify the language and its implementation.

- `DelayedInit`,
- `Existential types`,
- `Procedure syntax`,
- `Class shadowing`,
- `XML literals`,
- `Symbol literals`,
- `Auto application`,
- `Weak conformance`,
- `Compound types`,
- `Auto tupling` (implemented, but not merged).

The date when these constructs are dropped varies. The current status is:

- Not implemented at all:
 - `DelayedInit`, `existential types`, `weak conformance`.
- Supported under `-source 3.0-migration`:
 - `procedure syntax`, `class shadowing`, `symbol literals`, `auto application`, `auto tupling` in a restricted form.
- Supported in 3.0, to be deprecated and phased out later:
 - `XML literals`, `compound types`.

Status: mixed

Currently unimplemented features would require considerable implementation effort which would in most cases make the compiler more buggy and fragile and harder to understand. If we do not decide to drop them, they will probably show up as “not yet implemented” in the Scala 3.0 release.

Currently implemented features could stay around indefinitely. Updated docs may simply ignore them, in the expectation that they might go away eventually. So the decision about their removal can be delayed.

Migration cost: moderate to high

Dropped features require rewrites to avoid their use in programs. These rewrites can sometimes be automatic (e.g. for `procedure syntax`, `symbol literals`, `auto application`) and sometimes need to be manual (e.g. `class shadowing`, `auto tupling`). Sometimes the rewrites would have to be non-local, affecting use sites as well as definition sites (e.g., in the case of `DelayedInit`, unless we find a solution).

13.5 Changes

These constructs have undergone changes to make them more regular and useful.

- **Structural Types**: They now allow pluggable implementations, which greatly increases their usefulness. Some usage patterns are restricted compared to the status quo.
- **Name-based pattern matching**: The existing undocumented Scala 2 implementation has been codified in a slightly simplified form.
- **Eta expansion** is now performed universally also in the absence of an expected type. The postfix `_` operator is thus made redundant. It will be deprecated and dropped after Scala 3.0.
- **Implicit Resolution**: The implicit resolution rules have been cleaned up to make them more useful and less surprising. Implicit scope is restricted to no longer include package prefixes.

Most aspects of old-style implicit resolution are still available under `-source 3.0-migration`. The other changes in this list are applied unconditionally.

Status: strongly advisable

The features have been implemented in their new form in Scala 3.0's compiler. They provide clear improvements in simplicity and functionality compared to the status quo. Going back would require significant implementation effort for a net loss of functionality.

Migration cost: low to high

Only a few programs should require changes, but some necessary changes might be non-local (as in the case of restrictions to implicit scope).

13.6 New Constructs

These are additions to the language that make it more powerful or pleasant to use.

- **Enums** provide concise syntax for enumerations and **algebraic data types**.
- **Parameter untupling** avoids having to use `case` for tupled parameter destructuring.
- **Dependent function types** generalize dependent methods to dependent function values and types.
- **Polymorphic function types** generalize polymorphic methods to dependent function values and types. *Current status*: There is a proposal, and a prototype implementation, but the implementation has not been finalized or merged yet.
- **Kind polymorphism** allows the definition of operators working equally on types and type constructors.

Status: mixed

Enums offer an essential simplification of fundamental use patterns, so they should be adopted for Scala 3.0. Auto-parameter tupling is a very small change that removes some awkwardness, so it might as well be adopted now. The other features constitute

more specialized functionality which could be introduced in later versions. On the other hand, except for polymorphic function types they are all fully implemented, so if the Scala 3.0 spec does not include them, they might be still made available under a language flag.

Migration cost: none

Being new features, existing code migrates without changes. To be sure, sometimes it would be attractive to rewrite code to make use of the new features in order to increase clarity and conciseness.

13.7 Metaprogramming

The following constructs together aim to put metaprogramming in Scala on a new basis. So far, metaprogramming was achieved by a combination of macros and libraries such as [Shapeless](#) that were in turn based on some key macros. Current Scala 2 macro mechanisms are a thin veneer on top the current Scala 2 compiler, which makes them fragile and in many cases impossible to port to Scala 3.

It's worth noting that macros were never included in the [Scala 2 language specification](#) and were so far made available only under an `-experimental` flag. This has not prevented their widespread usage.

To enable porting most uses of macros, we are experimenting with the advanced language constructs listed below. These designs are more provisional than the rest of the proposed language constructs for Scala 3.0. There might still be some changes until the final release. Stabilizing the feature set needed for metaprogramming is our first priority.

- **Match types** allow computation on types.
- **Inline** provides by itself a straightforward implementation of some simple macros and is at the same time an essential building block for the implementation of complex macros.
- **Quotes and splices** provide a principled way to express macros and staging with a unified set of abstractions.
- **Type class derivation** provides an in-language implementation of the `Gen` macro in Shapeless and other foundational libraries. The new implementation is more robust, efficient and easier to use than the macro.
- **Implicit by-name parameters** provide a more robust in-language implementation of the `Lazy` macro in Shapeless.

Status: not yet settled

We know we need a practical replacement for current macros. The features listed above are very promising in that respect, but we need more complete implementations and more use cases to reach a final verdict.

Migration cost: very high

Existing macro libraries will have to be rewritten from the ground up. In many cases the rewritten libraries will turn out to be simpler and more robust than the old ones,

but that does not relieve one of the cost of the rewrites. It's currently unclear to what degree users of macro libraries will be affected. We aim to provide sufficient functionality so that core macros can be re-implemented fully, but given the vast feature set of the various macro extensions to Scala 2 it is difficult to arrive at a workable limitation of scope.

13.8 Changes to Type Checking and Inference

The Scala 3 compiler uses a new algorithm for type inference, which relies on a general subtype constraint solver. The new algorithm often [works better than the old](#), but there are inevitably situations where the results of both algorithms differ, leading to errors diagnosed by Scala 3 for programs that the Scala 2 compiler accepts.

Status: essential

The new type-checking and inference algorithms are the essential core of the new compiler. They cannot be reverted without dropping the whole implementation of Scala 3.

Migration cost: high

Some existing programs will break and, given the complex nature of type inference, it will not always be clear what change caused the breakage and how to fix it.

In our experience, macros and changes in type and implicit argument inference together cause the large majority of problems encountered when porting existing code to Scala 3. The latter source of problems could be addressed systematically by a tool that added all inferred types and implicit arguments to a Scala 2 source code file. Most likely such a tool would be implemented as a [Scala 2 compiler plugin](#). The resulting code would have a greatly increased likelihood to compile under Scala 3, but would often be bulky to the point of being unreadable. A second part of the rewriting tool should then selectively and iteratively remove type and implicit annotations that were synthesized by the first part as long as they compile under Scala 3. This second part could be implemented as a program that invokes the Scala 3 compiler `scalac` programmatically.

Several people have proposed such a tool for some time now. I believe it is time we find the will and the resources to actually implement it.

14 Appendix

14.1 Context Functions - More Details [↗](#)

14.1.1 Syntax

```

Type          ::= ...
                | FunArgTypes '=>' Type
Expr          ::= ...
                | FunParams '=>' Expr

```

Context function types associate to the right, e.g. $S \Rightarrow T \Rightarrow U$ is the same as $S \Rightarrow (T \Rightarrow U)$.

14.1.2 Implementation

Context function types are shorthands for class types that define `apply` methods with context parameters. Specifically, the N-ary function type

$T_1, \dots, T_N \Rightarrow R$ is a shorthand for the class type `ContextFunctionN[T1, ..., TN, R]`. Such class types are assumed to have the following definitions, for any value of $N \geq 1$:

```

package scala
trait ContextFunctionN[-T1, ..., -TN, +R]:
  def apply(using x1: T1, ..., xN: TN): R

```

Context function types erase to normal function types, so these classes are generated on the fly for typechecking, but not realized in actual code.

Context function literals $(x_1: T_1, \dots, x_n: T_n) \Rightarrow e$ map context parameters x_i of types T_i to the result of evaluating the expression e . The scope of each context parameter x_i is e . The parameters must have pairwise distinct names.

If the expected type of the context function literal is of the form `scala.ContextFunctionN[S1, ..., Sn, R]`, the expected type of e is R and the type T_i of any of the parameters x_i can be omitted, in which case $T_i = S_i$ is assumed. If the expected type of the context function literal is some other type, all context parameter types must be explicitly given, and the expected type of e is undefined. The type of the context function literal is `scala.ContextFunctionN[S1, ..., Sn, T]`, where T is the widened type of e . T must be equivalent to a type which does not refer to any of the context parameters x_i .

The context function literal is evaluated as the instance creation expression

```

new scala.ContextFunctionN[T1, ..., Tn, T]:
  def apply(using x1: T1, ..., xn: Tn): T = e

```

A context parameter may also be a wildcard represented by an underscore `_`. In that case, a fresh name for the parameter is chosen arbitrarily.

Note: The closing paragraph of the [Anonymous Functions](#) section of Scala 2.13 is subsumed by context function types and should be removed.

Context function literals $(x_1: T_1, \dots, x_n: T_n) \Rightarrow e$ are automatically created for any expression e whose expected type is `scala.ContextFunctionN[T1, ..., Tn, R]`, unless e is itself a context function literal. This is analogous to the automatic insertion of `scala.Function0` around expressions in by-name argument position.

Context function types generalize to $N > 22$ in the same way that function types do, see [the corresponding documentation](#).

14.1.3 Examples

See the section on Expressiveness from [Simplicity: foundations and applications of implicit function types](#).

14.1.4 Type Checking

After desugaring no additional typing rules are required for context function types.

14.2 Opaque Type Aliases: More Details

14.2.1 Syntax

```
Modifier      ::= ...
                | 'opaque'
```

`opaque` is a **soft modifier**. It can still be used as a normal identifier when it is not in front of a definition keyword.

Opaque type aliases must be members of classes, traits, or objects, or they are defined at the top-level. They cannot be defined in local blocks.

14.2.2 Type Checking

The general form of a (monomorphic) opaque type alias is

```
opaque type T >: L <: U = R
```

where the lower bound L and the upper bound U may be missing, in which case they are assumed to be `scala.Nothing` and `scala.Any`, respectively. If bounds are given, it is checked that the right-hand side R conforms to them, i.e. $L <: R$ and $R <: U$. F-bounds are not supported for opaque type aliases: T is not allowed to appear in L or U .

Inside the scope of the alias definition, the alias is transparent: T is treated as a normal alias of R . Outside its scope, the alias is treated as the abstract type

```
type T >: L <: U
```

A special case arises if the opaque type alias is defined in an object. Example:

```
object o:
  opaque type T = R
```

In this case we have inside the object (also for non-opaque types) that `o.T` is equal to `T` or its expanded form `o.this.T`. Equality is understood here as mutual subtyping, i.e. `o.T <: o.this.T` and `o.this.T <: o.T`. Furthermore, we have by the rules of opaque type aliases that `o.this.T` equals `R`. The two equalities compose. That is, inside `o`, it is also known that `o.T` is equal to `R`. This means the following code type-checks:

```
object o:
  opaque type T = Int
  val x: Int = id(2)
def id(x: o.T): o.T = x
```

Opaque type aliases cannot be `private` and cannot be overridden in subclasses. Opaque type aliases cannot have a context function type as right-hand side.

14.2.3 Type Parameters of Opaque Types

Opaque type aliases can have a single type parameter list. The following aliases are well-formed

```
opaque type F[T] = (T, T)
opaque type G = [T] =>> List[T]
```

but the following are not:

```
opaque type BadF[T] = [U] =>> (T, U)
opaque type BadG = [T] =>> [U] =>> (T, U)
```

14.2.4 Translation of Equality

Comparing two values of opaque type with `==` or `!=` normally uses universal equality, unless another overloaded `==` or `!=` operator is defined for the type. To avoid boxing, the operation is mapped after type checking to the (in-)equality operator defined on the underlying type. For instance,

```
opaque type T = Int

...
val x: T
val y: T
x == y    // uses Int equality for the comparison.
```

14.2.5 Top-level Opaque Types

An opaque type alias on the top-level is transparent in all other top-level definitions in the sourcefile where it appears, but is opaque in nested objects and classes and in all other source files. Example:

```
// in test1.scala
opaque type A = String
val x: A = "abc"

object obj:
  val y: A = "abc" // error: found: "abc", required: A

// in test2.scala
def z: String = x // error: found: A, required: String
```

This behavior becomes clear if one recalls that top-level definitions are placed in their own synthetic object. For instance, the code in `test1.scala` would expand to

```
object test1$package:
  opaque type A = String
  val x: A = "abc"

object obj:
  val y: A = "abc" // error: cannot assign "abc" to opaque type alias A
```

The opaque type alias `A` is transparent in its scope, which includes the definition of `x`, but not the definitions of `obj` and `y`.

14.2.6 Relationship to SIP 35

Opaque types in Scala 3 are an evolution from what is described in [Scala SIP 35](#).

The differences compared to the state described in this SIP are:

1. Opaque type aliases cannot be defined anymore in local statement sequences.
2. The scope where an opaque type alias is visible is now the whole scope where it is defined, instead of just a companion object.
3. The notion of a companion object for opaque type aliases has been dropped.
4. Opaque type aliases can have bounds.
5. The notion of type equality involving opaque type aliases has been clarified. It was strengthened with respect to the previous implementation of SIP 35.

14.3 Parameter Untupling - More Details

14.3.1 Type Checking

The type checking happens in two steps:

1. Check whether parameter untupling is feasible
2. Adapt the function and type check it

14.3.1.1 Feasibility Check Suppose a function `f` of the form `(p1, ..., pn) => e` (where `n > 1`), with `p1, ..., pn` as parameters and `e` as function body.

If the expected type for checking `f` is a fully defined function type of the form `TupleN[T1, ..., Tn] => R` (or an equivalent SAM-type), where each type `Ti` fits

the corresponding parameter `pi`. Then `f` is feasible for parameter untupling with the expected type `TupleN[T1, ..., Tn] => R`.

A type `Ti` fits a parameter `pi` if one of the following two cases is `true`:

- `pi` comes without a type, i.e. it is a simple identifier or `_`.
- `pi` is of the form `x: Ui` or `_: Ui` and `Ti <: Ui`.

Parameter untupling composes with eta-expansion. That is, an n-ary function generated by eta-expansion can in turn be adapted to the expected type with parameter untupling.

14.3.1.2 Term adaptation

If the function

```
(p1, ..., pn) => e
```

is feasible for parameter untupling with the expected type `TupleN[T1, ..., Tn] => Te`, then continue to type check the following adapted function

```
(x: TupleN[T1, ..., Tn]) =>
  def p1: T1 = x._1
  ...
  def pn: Tn = x._n
  e
```

with the same expected type. `## Migration`

Code like this could not be written before, hence the new notation is not ambiguous after adoption.

It is possible that someone has written an implicit conversion from `(T1, ..., Tn) => R` to `TupleN[T1, ..., Tn] => R` for some `n`. Such a conversion is now only useful for general conversions of function values, when parameter untupling is not applicable. Some care is required to implement the conversion efficiently. Obsolete conversions could be detected and fixed by [Scalafix](#).

14.3.2 Reference

For more information, see [Issue #897](#).

14.4 Dropped: Class Shadowing - More Details

Spec diff: in section [5.1.4 Overriding](#), add *M' must not be a class*.

Why do we want to make this change to the language?

Class shadowing is irregular compared to other types of overrides. Indeed, inner classes are not actually overridden but simply shadowed.

How much existing code is going to be affected?

From all the code compiled so far with Scala 3 the only instance of this I could find is in the stdlib. Looking at [this commit](#) it seems like the usage of class shadowing was accidental.

How exactly is existing code going to be affected?

Code that relies on overridden inner classes will stop compiling.

Is this change going to be migratable automatically?

No.

14.5 Dropped: Weak Conformance - More Details

To simplify the underlying type theory, Scala 3 drops the notion of *weak conformance* altogether. Instead, it provides more flexibility when assigning a type to a constant expression. The new rule is:

- *If* a list of expressions **Es** appears as one of
 - the elements of a vararg parameter, or
 - the alternatives of an if-then-else or match expression, or
 - the body and catch results of a try expression,
- *and* all expressions have primitive numeric types, but they do not all have the same type,
- *then* the following is attempted:
 - the expressions **Es** are partitioned into **Int** constants on the one hand, and all other expressions on the other hand,
 - if all the other expressions have the same numeric type **T** (which can be one of **Byte**, **Short**, **Char**, **Int**, **Long**, **Float**, **Double**), possibly after widening, and if none of the **Int** literals would incur a loss of precision when converted to **T**, then they are thus converted (the other expressions are left unchanged regardless),
 - otherwise, the expressions **Es** are used unchanged.

A loss of precision occurs for

- an **Int** -> **Float** conversion of a constant **c** if **c.toFloat.toInt != c**
- an **Int** -> **Byte** conversion of a constant **c** if **c.toByte.toInt != c**,
- an **Int** -> **Short** conversion of a constant **c** if **c.toShort.toInt != c**.

14.5.1 Examples

```
inline val b = 33
def f(): Int = b + 1
Array(b, 33, 5.5)      : Array[Double] // b is an inline val
Array(f(), 33, 5.5)    : Array[AnyVal]  // f() is not a constant
Array(5, 11L)          : Array[Long]
Array(5, 11L, 5.5)     : Array[AnyVal]  // Long and Double found
```



```

Array(1.0f, 2)           : Array[Float]
Array(1.0f, 1234567890): Array[AnyVal] // loss of precision
Array(b, 33, 'a')       : Array[Char]
Array(5.toByte, 11)     : Array[Byte]

```

14.6 Automatic Eta Expansion - More Details

14.6.1 Motivation

Scala maintains a convenient distinction between *methods* and *functions*. Methods are part of the definition of a class that can be invoked in objects while functions are complete objects themselves, making them first-class entities. For example, they can be assigned to variables. These two mechanisms are bridged in Scala by a mechanism called *eta-expansion* (also called eta-abstraction), which converts a reference to a method into a function. Intuitively, a method `m` can be passed around by turning it into an object: the function `x => m(x)`.

In this snippet which assigns a method to a `val`, the compiler will perform *automatic eta-expansion*, as shown in the comment:

```

def m(x: Int, y: String) = ???
val f = m // becomes: val f = (x: Int, y: String) => m(x, y)

```

In Scala 2, a method reference `m` is converted to a function value only if the expected type is a function type, which means the conversion in the example above would not have been triggered, because `val f` does not have a type ascription. To still get eta-expansion, a shortcut `m _` would force the conversion.

For methods with one or more parameters like in the example above, this restriction has now been dropped. The syntax `m _` is no longer needed and will be deprecated in the future.

14.6.2 Automatic eta-expansion and partial application

In the following example `m` can be partially applied to the first two parameters. Assigning `m` to `f1` will automatically eta-expand.

```

def m(x: Boolean, y: String)(z: Int): List[Int]
val f1 = m
val f2 = m(true, "abc")

```

This creates two function values:

```

f1: (Boolean, String) => Int => List[Int]
f2: Int => List[Int]

```

14.6.3 Automatic eta-expansion and implicit parameter lists

Methods with implicit parameter lists will always get applied to implicit arguments.

```
def foo(x: Int)(implicit p: Double): Float = ???
implicit val bla: Double = 1.0

val bar = foo // val bar: Int => Float = ...
```

14.6.4 Automatic Eta-Expansion and context types

A method with context parameters can be expanded to a value of a context type by writing the expected context type explicitly.

```
def foo(x: Int)(using p: Double): Float = ???
val bar: Double ?=> Float = foo(3)
```

14.6.5 Rules

- If `m` has an argument list with one or more parameters, we always eta-expand
- If `m` has an empty argument list (i.e. has type `()R`):
 1. If the expected type is of the form `() => T`, we eta expand.
 2. If `m` is defined by Java, or overrides a Java defined method, we insert `()`.
 3. Otherwise we issue an error of the form: `method must be called with () argument`

Thus, an unapplied method with an empty argument list is only converted to a function when a function type is expected. It is considered best practice to either explicitly apply the method to `()`, or convert it to a function with `() => m()`.

The method value syntax `m _` is deprecated.

14.6.6 Reference

For more information, see [PR #2701](#).

14.7 Implicit Conversions - More Details

14.7.1 Implementation

An implicit conversion, or *view*, from type `S` to type `T` is defined by either:

- An implicit def which has type `S => T` or `(=> S) => T`
- An implicit value which has type `Conversion[S, T]`

The standard library defines an abstract class `Conversion`:

```
package scala
@java.lang.FunctionalInterface
abstract class Conversion[-T, +U] extends Function1[T, U]:
  def apply(x: T): U
```

Function literals are automatically converted to `Conversion` values.

Views are applied in three situations:

1. If an expression `e` is of type `T`, and `T` does not conform to the expression's expected type `pt`. In this case, an implicit `v` which is applicable to `e` and whose result type conforms to `pt` is searched. The search proceeds as in the case of implicit parameters, where the implicit scope is the one of `T => pt`. If such a view is found, the expression `e` is converted to `v(e)`.
2. In a selection `e.m` with `e` of type `T`, if the selector `m` does not denote an accessible member of `T`. In this case, a view `v` which is applicable to `e` and whose result contains an accessible member named `m` is searched. The search proceeds as in the case of implicit parameters, where the implicit scope is the one of `T`. If such a view is found, the selection `e.m` is converted to `v(e).m`.
3. In an application `e.m(args)` with `e` of type `T`, if the selector `m` denotes some accessible member(s) of `T`, but none of these members is applicable to the arguments `args`. In this case, a view `v` which is applicable to `e` and whose result contains a method `m` which is applicable to `args` is searched. The search proceeds as in the case of implicit parameters, where the implicit scope is the one of `T`. If such a view is found, the application `e.m(args)` is converted to `v(e).m(args)`.

14.8 Differences with Scala 2 implicit conversions

In Scala 2, views whose parameters are passed by-value take precedence over views whose parameters are passed by-name. This is no longer the case in Scala 3. A type error reporting the ambiguous conversions will be emitted in cases where this rule would be applied in Scala 2:

```
implicit def conv1(x: Int): String = x.toString
implicit def conv2(x: => Int): String = x.toString

val x: String = 0 // Compiles in Scala2 (uses `conv1`),
                  // type error in Scala 3 because of ambiguity.
```

In Scala 2, implicit values of a function type would be considered as potential views. In Scala 3, these implicit value need to have type `Conversion`:

```
// Scala 2:
def foo(x: Int)(implicit conv: Int => String): String = x

// Becomes with Scala 3:
def foo(x: Int)(implicit conv: Conversion[Int, String]): String = x

// Call site is unchanged:
foo(4)(_.toString)

// Scala 2:
implicit val myConverter: Int => String = _.toString

// Becomes with Scala 3:
implicit val myConverter: Conversion[Int, String] = _.toString
```

Note that implicit conversions are also affected by the [changes to implicit resolution](#) between Scala 2 and Scala 3.

14.8.1 Motivation for the changes

The introduction of `scala.Conversion` in Scala 3 and the decision to restrict implicit values of this type to be considered as potential views comes from the desire to remove surprising behavior from the language:

```
implicit val m: Map[Int, String] = Map(1 -> "abc")

val x: String = 1 // Scala 2: assigns "abc" to x
                // Scala 3: type error
```

This snippet contains a type error. The right-hand side of `val x` does not conform to type `String`. In Scala 2, the compiler will use `m` as an implicit conversion from `Int` to `String`, whereas Scala 3 will report a type error, because `Map` isn't an instance of `Conversion`.

14.8.2 Migration path

Implicit values that are used as views should see their type changed to `Conversion`.

For the migration of implicit conversions that are affected by the changes to implicit resolution, refer to the [Changes in Implicit Resolution](#) for more information.

14.8.3 Reference

For more information about implicit resolution, see [Changes in Implicit Resolution](#). Other details are available in [PR #2065](#).

14.9 Programmatic Structural Types - More Details

14.9.1 Syntax

```
SimpleType    ::= ... | Refinement
Refinement    ::= '{' RefineStatSeq '}'
RefineStatSeq ::= RefineStat {semi RefineStat}
RefineStat    ::= 'val' VarDcl | 'def' DefDcl | 'type' {nl} TypeDcl
```

14.9.2 Implementation of Structural Types

The standard library defines a universal marker trait `scala.Selectable`:

```
trait Selectable extends Any
```

An implementation of `Selectable` that relies on [Java reflection](#) is available in the standard library: `scala.reflect.Selectable`. Other implementations can be envisioned for platforms where Java reflection is not available.

Implementations of `Selectable` have to make available one or both of the methods `selectDynamic` and `applyDynamic`. The methods could be members of the `Selectable` implementation or they could be extension methods.

The `selectDynamic` method takes a field name and returns the value associated with that name in the `Selectable`. It should have a signature of the form:

```
def selectDynamic(name: String): T
```

Often, the return type `T` is `Any`.

Unlike `scala.Dynamic`, there is no special meaning for an `updateDynamic` method. However, we reserve the right to give it meaning in the future. Consequently, it is recommended not to define any member called `updateDynamic` in `Selectables`.

The `applyDynamic` method is used for selections that are applied to arguments. It takes a method name and possibly `Classes` representing its parameters types as well as the arguments to pass to the function. Its signature should be of one of the two following forms:

```
def applyDynamic(name: String)(args: Any*): T
def applyDynamic(name: String, ctags: Class[?]*)(args: Any*): T
```

Both versions are passed the actual arguments in the `args` parameter. The second version takes in addition a vararg argument of `java.lang.Classes` that identify the method's parameter classes. Such an argument is needed if `applyDynamic` is implemented using Java reflection, but it could be useful in other cases as well. `selectDynamic` and `applyDynamic` can also take additional context parameters in using clauses. These are resolved in the normal way at the callsite.

Given a value `v` of type `C { Rs }`, where `C` is a class reference and `Rs` are structural refinement declarations, and given `v.a` of type `U`, we consider three distinct cases:

- If `U` is a value type, we map `v.a` to:

```
v.selectDynamic("a").asInstanceOf[U]
```

- If `U` is a method type `(T11, ..., T1n)...(TN1, ..., TNn): R` and it is not a dependent method type, we map `v.a(a11, ..., a1n)...(aN1, ..., aNn)` to:

```
v.applyDynamic("a")(a11, ..., a1n, ..., aN1, ..., aNn)
  .asInstanceOf[R]
```

If this call resolves to an `applyDynamic` method of the second form that takes a `Class[?]*` argument, we further rewrite this call to

```
v.applyDynamic("a", c11, ..., c1n, ..., cN1, ... cNn)(
  a11, ..., a1n, ..., aN1, ..., aNn)
  .asInstanceOf[R]
```

where each `cij` is the literal `java.lang.Class[?]` of the type of the formal parameter `Tij`, i.e., `classOf[Tij]`.

- If U is neither a value nor a method type, or a dependent method type, an error is emitted.

Note that v 's static type does not necessarily have to conform to `Selectable`, nor does it need to have `selectDynamic` and `applyDynamic` as members. It suffices that there is an implicit conversion that can turn v into a `Selectable`, and the selection methods could also be available as *extension methods*.

14.9.3 Limitations of Structural Types

- Dependent methods cannot be called via structural call.
- Refinements may not introduce overloads: If a refinement specifies the signature of a method m , and m is also defined in the parent type of the refinement, then the new signature must properly override the existing one.
- Subtyping of structural refinements must preserve erased parameter types: Assume we want to prove $S <: T \{ \text{def } m(x: A): B \}$. Then, as usual, S must have a member method m that can take an argument of type A . Furthermore, if m is not a member of T (i.e. the refinement is structural), an additional condition applies. In this case, the member *definition* m of S will have a parameter with type A' say. The additional condition is that the erasure of A' and A is the same. Here is an example:

```
class Sink[A] { def put(x: A): Unit = {} }
val a = Sink[String]()
val b: { def put(x: String): Unit } = a // error
b.put("abc") // looks for a method with a `String` parameter
```

The second to last line is not well-typed, since the erasure of the parameter type of `put` in class `Sink` is `Object`, but the erasure of `put`'s parameter in the type of `b` is `String`. This additional condition is necessary, since we will have to resort to some (as yet unknown) form of reflection to call a structural member like `put` in the type of `b` above. The condition ensures that the statically known parameter types of the refinement correspond up to erasure to the parameter types of the selected call target at runtime.

Most reflection dispatch algorithms need to know exact erased parameter types. For instance, if the example above would typecheck, the call `b.put("abc")` on the last line would look for a method `put` in the runtime type of `b` that takes a `String` parameter. But the `put` method is the one from class `Sink`, which takes an `Object` parameter. Hence the call would fail at runtime with a `NoSuchMethodException`.

One might hope for a “more intelligent” reflexive dispatch algorithm that does not require exact parameter type matching. Unfortunately, this can always run into ambiguities, as long as overloading is a possibility. For instance, continuing the example above, we might introduce a new subclass `Sink1` of `Sink` and change the definition of `a` as follows:

```
class Sink1[A] extends Sink[A] { def put(x: "123") = ??? }
val a: Sink[String] = Sink1[String]()
```

Now there are two `put` methods in the runtime type of `b` with erased parameter types `Object` and `String`, respectively. Yet dynamic dispatch still needs to go to the first `put` method, even though the second looks like a better match.

For the cases where we can in fact implement reflection without knowing precise parameter types (for instance if static overloading is replaced by dynamically dispatched multi-methods), there is an escape hatch. For types that extend `scala.Selectable.WithoutPreciseParameterTypes` the signature check is omitted. Example:

```
trait MultiMethodSelectable extends Selectable.WithoutPreciseParameterTypes:
  // Assume this version of `applyDynamic` can be implemented without knowing
  // precise parameter types `paramTypes`:
  def applyDynamic(name: String, paramTypes: Class[_]*)(args: Any*): Any = ???

class Sink[A] extends MultiMethodSelectable:
  def put(x: A): Unit = {}

val a = new Sink[String]
val b: MultiMethodSelectable { def put(x: String): Unit } = a // OK
```

14.9.4 Differences with Scala 2 Structural Types

- Scala 2 supports structural types by means of Java reflection. Unlike Scala 3, structural calls do not rely on a mechanism such as `Selectable`, and reflection cannot be avoided.
- In Scala 2, refinements can introduce overloads.
- In Scala 2, mutable `vars` are allowed in refinements. In Scala 3, they are no longer allowed.
- Scala 2 does not impose the “same-erasure” restriction on subtyping of structural types. It allows some calls to fail at runtime instead.

14.9.5 Context

For more information, see [Rethink Structural Types](#).

14.10 Dependent Function Types - More Details

Initial implementation in [PR #3464](#).

14.10.1 Syntax

```
FunArgTypes ::= InfixType
              | '(' [ FunArgType {',' FunArgType } ] ')'
```

```

      | '(' TypedFunParam {' ',' TypedFunParam } ')'
TypedFunParam ::= id ':' Type

```

Dependent function types associate to the right, e.g. $(s: S) \Rightarrow (t: T) \Rightarrow U$ is the same as $(s: S) \Rightarrow ((t: T) \Rightarrow U)$.

14.10.2 Implementation

Dependent function types are shorthands for class types that define `apply` methods with a dependent result type. Dependent function types desugar to refinement types of `scala.FunctionN`. A dependent function type $(x_1: K_1, \dots, x_N: K_N) \Rightarrow R$ of arity N translates to:

```

FunctionN[K1, ..., Kn, R']:
  def apply(x1: K1, ..., xN: KN): R

```

where the result type parameter R' is the least upper approximation of the precise result type R without any reference to value parameters x_1, \dots, x_N .

The syntax and semantics of anonymous dependent functions is identical to the one of regular functions. Eta expansion is naturally generalized to produce dependent function types for methods with dependent result types.

Dependent functions can be implicit, and generalize to arity $N > 22$ in the same way that other functions do, see [the corresponding documentation](#).

14.10.3 Examples

The example below defines a trait `C` and the two dependent function types `DF` and `IDF` and prints the results of the respective function applications:

```

trait C { type M; val m: M }

type DF = (x: C) => x.M

type IDF = (x: C) ?=> x.M

@main def test =
  val c = new C { type M = Int; val m = 3 }

  val depfun: DF = (x: C) => x.m
  val t = depfun(c)
  println(s"t=$t")    // prints "t=3"

  val idepfun: IDF = summon[C].m
  val u = idepfun(using c)
  println(s"u=$u")    // prints "u=3"

```

In the following example the depend type `f.Eff` refers to the effect type `CanThrow`:


```

trait Effect

// Type X => Y
abstract class Fun[-X, +Y]:
  type Eff <: Effect
  def apply(x: X): Eff ?=> Y

class CanThrow extends Effect
class CanIO extends Effect

given ct: CanThrow = new CanThrow
given ci: CanIO = new CanIO

class I2S extends Fun[Int, String]:
  type Eff = CanThrow
  def apply(x: Int) = x.toString

class S2I extends Fun[String, Int]:
  type Eff = CanIO
  def apply(x: String) = x.length

// def map(f: A => B)(xs: List[A]): List[B]
def map[A, B](f: Fun[A, B])(xs: List[A]): f.Eff ?=> List[B] =
  xs.map(f.apply)

// def mapFn[A, B]: (A => B) -> List[A] -> List[B]
def mapFn[A, B]: (f: Fun[A, B]) => List[A] => f.Eff ?=> List[B] =
  f => xs => map(f)(xs)

// def compose(f: A => B)(g: B => C)(x: A): C
def compose[A, B, C](f: Fun[A, B])(g: Fun[B, C])(x: A):
  f.Eff ?=> g.Eff ?=> C =
  g(f(x))

// def composeFn: (A => B) -> (B => C) -> A -> C
def composeFn[A, B, C]:
  (f: Fun[A, B]) => (g: Fun[B, C]) => A => f.Eff ?=> g.Eff ?=> C =
  f => g => x => compose(f)(g)(x)

@main def test =
  val i2s = new I2S
  val s2i = new S2I

  assert(mapFn(i2s)(List(1, 2, 3)).mkString == "123")
  assert(composeFn(i2s)(s2i)(22) == 2)

```

14.10.4 Type Checking

After desugaring no additional typing rules are required for dependent function types.

14.11 Intersection Types - More Details [↗](#)

14.11.1 Syntax

Syntactically, the type $S \ \& \ T$ is an infix type, where the infix operator is $\&$. The operator $\&$ is a normal identifier with the usual precedence and subject to usual resolving rules. Unless shadowed by another definition, it resolves to the type `scala.&`, which acts as a type alias to an internal representation of intersection types.

```
Type          ::= ... | InfixType
InfixType      ::= RefinedType {id [nl] RefinedType}
```

14.11.2 Subtyping Rules

$$T <: A \quad T <: B$$

$$T <: A \ \& \ B$$

$$A <: T$$

$$A \ \& \ B <: T$$

$$B <: T$$

$$A \ \& \ B <: T$$

From the rules above, we can show that $\&$ is *commutative*: $A \ \& \ B <: B \ \& \ A$ for any type A and B .

$B <: B$	$A <: A$
<hr/>	<hr/>
$A \ \& \ B <: B$	$A \ \& \ B <: A$
<hr/>	
$A \ \& \ B <: B \ \& \ A$	

In another word, $A \ \& \ B$ is the same type as $B \ \& \ A$, in the sense that the two types have the same values and are subtypes of each other.

If C is a type constructor, then $C[A] \ \& \ C[B]$ can be simplified using the following three rules:

- If C is covariant, $C[A] \ \& \ C[B] \rightsquigarrow C[A \ \& \ B]$
- If C is contravariant, $C[A] \ \& \ C[B] \rightsquigarrow C[A \mid B]$
- If C is non-variant, emit a compile error

When C is covariant, $C[A \ \& \ B] <: C[A] \ \& \ C[B]$ can be derived:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
A <: A \\
\hline
A \ \& \ B <: A \\
\hline
C[A \ \& \ B] <: C[A]
\end{array}
\qquad
\begin{array}{c}
B <: B \\
\hline
A \ \& \ B <: B \\
\hline
C[A \ \& \ B] <: C[B]
\end{array} \\
\hline
C[A \ \& \ B] <: C[A] \ \& \ C[B]
\end{array}$$

When C is contravariant, $C[A \mid B] <: C[A] \ \& \ C[B]$ can be derived:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
A <: A \\
\hline
A <: A \mid B \\
\hline
C[A \mid B] <: C[A]
\end{array}
\qquad
\begin{array}{c}
B <: B \\
\hline
B <: A \mid B \\
\hline
C[A \mid B] <: C[B]
\end{array} \\
\hline
C[A \mid B] <: C[A] \ \& \ C[B]
\end{array}$$

14.11.3 Erasure

The erased type for $S \ \& \ T$ is the erased *glb* (greatest lower bound) of the erased type of S and T . The rules for erasure of intersection types are given below in pseudocode:

$|S \ \& \ T| = \text{glb}(|S|, |T|)$

```

glb(JArray(A), JArray(B)) = JArray(glb(A, B))
glb(JArray(T), _)         = JArray(T)
glb(_, JArray(T))         = JArray(T)
glb(A, B)                  = A                if A extends B
glb(A, B)                  = B                if B extends A
glb(A, _)                  = A                if A is not a trait
glb(_, B)                  = B                if B is not a trait
glb(A, _)                  = A                // use first

```

In the above, $|T|$ means the erased type of T , `JArray` refers to the type of Java Array.

See also: [TypeErasure#erasedGlb](#).

14.11.4 Relationship with Compound Type (`with`)

Intersection types $A \ \& \ B$ replace compound types $A \text{ with } B$ in Scala 2. For the moment, the syntax $A \text{ with } B$ is still allowed and interpreted as $A \ \& \ B$, but its usage as a type (as opposed to in a `new` or `extends` clause) will be deprecated and removed in the future.

14.12 Type Lambdas - More Details

14.12.1 Syntax

```

Type           ::= ... | TypeParamClause '=>>' Type
TypeParamClause ::= '[' TypeParam {',' TypeParam} ']'
TypeParam      ::= {Annotation} (id [HkTypeParamClause] | '_' ) TypeBounds
TypeBounds     ::= ['>:' Type] ['<:' Type]

```

14.12.2 Type Checking

A type lambda such as $[X] \Rightarrow F[X]$ defines a function from types to types. The parameter(s) may carry bounds. If a parameter is bounded, as in $[X >: L <: U] \Rightarrow F[X]$ it is checked that arguments to the parameters conform to the bounds L and U . Only the upper bound U can be F -bounded, i.e. X can appear in it.

14.12.3 Subtyping Rules

Assume two type lambdas

```

type TL1 = [X >: L1 <: U1] =>> R1
type TL2 = [X >: L2 <: U2] =>> R2

```

Then $TL1 <: TL2$, if

- the type interval $L2..U2$ is contained in the type interval $L1..U1$ (i.e. $L1 <: L2$ and $U2 <: U1$),
- $R1 <: R2$

Here we have relied on [alpha renaming](#) to match the two bound types X .

A partially applied type constructor such as `List` is assumed to be equivalent to its eta expansion. I.e, `List` = $[X] \Rightarrow List[X]$. This allows type constructors to be compared with type lambdas.

14.12.4 Relationship with Parameterized Type Definitions

A parameterized type definition

```
type T[X] = R
```

is regarded as a shorthand for an unparameterized definition with a type lambda as right-hand side:

```
type T = [X] =>> R
```

If the type definition carries $+$ or $-$ variance annotations, it is checked that the variance annotations are satisfied by the type lambda. For instance,

```
type F2[A, +B] = A => B
```

expands to

```
type F2 = [A, B] =>> A => B
```

and at the same time it is checked that the parameter B appears covariantly in `A => B`.

A parameterized abstract type

```
type T[X] >: L <: U
```

is regarded as shorthand for an unparameterized abstract type with type lambdas as bounds.

```
type T >: ([X] ==> L) <: ([X] ==> U)
```

However, if `L` is `Nothing` it is not parameterized, since `Nothing` is treated as a bottom type for all kinds. For instance,

```
type T[X] <: X => X
```

is expanded to

```
type T >: Nothing <: ([X] ==> X => X)
```

instead of

```
type T >: ([X] ==> Nothing) <: ([X] ==> X => X)
```

The same expansions apply to type parameters. For instance,

```
[F[X] <: Coll[X]]
```

is treated as a shorthand for

```
[F >: Nothing <: [X] ==> Coll[X]]
```

Abstract types and opaque type aliases remember the variances they were created with. So the type

```
type F2[-A, +B]
```

is known to be contravariant in `A` and covariant in `B` and can be instantiated only with types that satisfy these constraints. Likewise

```
opaque type O[X] = List[X]
```

`O` is known to be invariant (and not covariant, as its right-hand side would suggest). On the other hand, a transparent alias

```
type O2[X] = List[X]
```

would be treated as covariant, `X` is used covariantly on its right-hand side.

Note: The decision to treat `Nothing` as universal bottom type is provisional, and might be changed after further discussion.

Note: Scala 2 and 3 differ in that Scala 2 also treats `Any` as universal top-type. This is not done in Scala 3. See also the discussion on [kind polymorphism](#)

14.12.5 Curried Type Parameters

The body of a type lambda can again be a type lambda. Example:

```
type TL = [X] =>> [Y] =>> (X, Y)
```

Currently, no special provision is made to infer type arguments to such curried type lambdas. This is left for future work.

14.13 Union Types - More Details

14.13.1 Syntax

Syntactically, unions follow the same rules as intersections, but have a lower precedence, see [Intersection Types - More Details](#).

14.13.1.1 Interaction with pattern matching syntax `|` is also used in pattern matching to separate pattern alternatives and has lower precedence than `:` as used in typed patterns, this means that:

```
case _: A | B => ...
```

is still equivalent to:

```
case (_: A) | B => ...
```

and not to:

```
case _: (A | B) => ...
```

14.13.2 Subtyping Rules

- `A` is always a subtype of `A | B` for all `A, B`.
- If `A <: C` and `B <: C` then `A | B <: C`
- Like `&`, `|` is commutative and associative:

$$A | B ::= B | A$$

$$A | (B | C) ::= (A | B) | C$$

- `&` is distributive over `|`:

$$A \& (B | C) ::= A \& B | A \& C$$

From these rules it follows that the *least upper bound* (LUB) of a set of types is the union of these types. This replaces the [definition of least upper bound in the Scala 2 specification](#).

14.13.3 Motivation

The primary reason for introducing union types in Scala is that they allow us to guarantee that for every set of types, we can always form a finite LUB. This is both useful in practice (infinite LUBs in Scala 2 were approximated in an ad-hoc way,

resulting in imprecise and sometimes incredibly long types) and in theory (the type system of Scala 3 is based on the [DOT calculus](#), which has union types).

Additionally, union types are a useful construct when trying to give types to existing dynamically typed APIs, this is why they're [an integral part of TypeScript](#) and have even been [partially implemented in Scala.js](#).

14.13.4 Join of a union type

In some situation described below, a union type might need to be widened to a non-union type, for this purpose we define the *join* of a union type $T_1 \mid \dots \mid T_n$ as the smallest intersection type of base class instances of T_1, \dots, T_n . Note that union types might still appear as type arguments in the resulting type, this guarantees that the join is always finite.

The *visible join* of a union type is its join where all operands of the intersection that are instances of [transparent](#) traits or classes are removed.

14.13.4.1 Example Given

```
trait C[+T]
trait D
trait E
transparent trait X
class A extends C[A], D, X
class B extends C[B], D, E, X
```

The join of $A \mid B$ is $C[A \mid B] \ \& \ D \ \& \ X$ and the visible join of $A \mid B$ is $C[A \mid B] \ \& \ D$.

14.13.5 Hard and Soft Union Types

We distinguish between hard and soft union types. A *hard* union type is a union type that's explicitly written in the source. For instance, in

```
val x: Int | String = ...
```

`Int | String` would be a hard union type. A *soft* union type is a type that arises from type checking an alternative of expressions. For instance, the type of the expression

```
val x = 1
val y = "abc"
if cond then x else y
```

is the soft union type `Int | String`. Similarly for match expressions. The type of

```
x match
  case 1 => x
  case 2 => "abc"
  case 3 => List(1, 2, 3)
```

is the soft union type `Int | "abc" | List[Int]`.

14.13.6 Type inference

When inferring the result type of a definition (`val`, `var`, or `def`) and the type we are about to infer is a soft union type, then we replace it by its visible join, provided it is not empty. Similarly, when instantiating a type argument, if the corresponding type parameter is not upper-bounded by a union type and the type we are about to instantiate is a soft union type, we replace it by its visible join, provided it is not empty. This mirrors the treatment of singleton types which are also widened to their underlying type unless explicitly specified. The motivation is the same: inferring types which are “too precise” can lead to unintuitive typechecking issues later on.

14.13.6.1 Example

```
import scala.collection.mutable.ListBuffer
val x = ListBuffer(Right("foo"), Left(0))
val y: ListBuffer[Either[Int, String]] = x
```

This code typechecks because the inferred type argument to `ListBuffer` in the right-hand side of `x` was `Left[Int, Nothing] | Right[Nothing, String]` which was widened to `Either[Int, String]`. If the compiler hadn’t done this widening, the last line wouldn’t typecheck because `ListBuffer` is invariant in its argument.

14.13.7 Members

The members of a union type are the members of its join.

14.13.7.1 Example The following code does not typecheck, because method `hello` is not a member of `AnyRef` which is the join of `A | B`.

```
trait A { def hello: String }
trait B { def hello: String }
```

```
def test(x: A | B) = x.hello // error: value `hello` is not a member of A | B
```

On the other hand, the following would be allowed

```
trait C { def hello: String }
trait A extends C with D
trait B extends C with E
```

```
def test(x: A | B) = x.hello // ok as `hello` is a member of the join of A | B whi
```

14.13.8 Exhaustivity checking

If the selector of a pattern match is a union type, the match is considered exhaustive if all parts of the union are covered.

14.13.9 Erasure

The erased type for $A \mid B$ is the *erased least upper bound* of the erased types of A and B . Quoting from the documentation of `TypeErasure#erasedLub`, the erased LUB is computed as follows:

- if both argument are arrays of objects, an array of the erased LUB of the element types
- if both arguments are arrays of same primitives, an array of this primitive
- if one argument is array of primitives and the other is array of objects, `Object`
- if one argument is an array, `Object`
- otherwise a common superclass or trait S of the argument classes, with the following two properties:
 - S is minimal: no other common superclass or trait derives from S
 - S is last : in the linearization of the first argument type $|A|$ there are no minimal common superclasses or traits that come after S . The reason to pick last is that we prefer classes over traits that way, which leads to more predictable bytecode and (?) faster dynamic dispatch.

14.14 Macros Spec

14.14.1 Implementation

14.14.1.1 Syntax Compared to the [Scala 3 reference grammar](#) there are the following syntax changes:

```
SimpleExpr      ::= ...
                  |  ' ' '{' Block '}'
                  |  ' ' '[' Type ']'
                  |  '$' '{' Block '}'
SimpleType      ::= ...
                  |  '$' '{' Block '}'
```

In addition, an identifier `$x` starting with a `$` that appears inside a quoted expression or type is treated as a splice `${x}` and a quoted identifier `'x` that appears inside a splice is treated as a quote `'{x}`

14.14.1.2 Implementation in scalac Quotes and splices are primitive forms in the generated abstract syntax trees. Top-level splices are eliminated during macro expansion while typing. On the other hand, top-level quotes are eliminated in an expansion phase `PickleQuotes` phase (after typing and pickling). PCP checking occurs while preparing the RHS of an inline method for top-level splices and in the `Staging` phase (after typing and before pickling).

Macro-expansion works outside-in. If the outermost scope is a splice, the spliced AST will be evaluated in an interpreter. A call to a previously compiled method can be implemented as a reflective call to that method. With the restrictions on splices that are currently in place that's all that's needed. We might allow more interpretation in splices in the future, which would allow us to loosen the restriction.

Quotes in spliced, interpreted code are kept as they are, after splices nested in the quotes are expanded.

If the outermost scope is a quote, we need to generate code that constructs the quoted tree at run-time. We implement this by serializing the tree as a TASTy structure, which is stored in a string literal. At runtime, an unpickler method is called to deserialize the string into a tree.

Splices inside quoted code insert the spliced tree as is, after expanding any quotes in the spliced code recursively.

14.14.2 Formalization

The phase consistency principle can be formalized in a calculus that extends simply-typed lambda calculus with quotes and splices.

14.14.2.1 Syntax The syntax of terms, values, and types is given as follows:

Terms	$t ::= x$	variable
	$(x: T) \Rightarrow t$	lambda
	$t \ t$	application
	$'t$	quote
	$\$t$	splice
Values	$v ::= (x: T) \Rightarrow t$	lambda
	$'u$	quote
Simple terms	$u ::= x \mid (x: T) \Rightarrow u \mid u \ u \mid 't$	
Types	$T ::= A$	base type
	$T \rightarrow T$	function type
	$\text{expr } T$	quoted
Environment	$E ::= ()$	empty
	$E, x: T$	
Env. stack	$Es ::= ()$	empty
	E	simple
	$Es * Es$	combined
Separator	$* ::= ' \mid \$$	

Typing rules are formulated using a stack of environments Es . Individual environments E consist as usual of variable bindings $x: T$. Environments can be combined using the two combinators $'$ and $\$$.

The two environment combinators are both associative with left and right identity $()$.

14.14.2.2 Operational semantics We define a small step reduction relation \rightarrow with the following rules:

$$((x: T) \Rightarrow t) v \rightarrow [x := v]t$$

$$\${u} \rightarrow u$$

$$\frac{t1 \rightarrow t2}{e[t1] \rightarrow e[t2]}$$

The first rule is standard call-by-value beta-reduction. The second rule says that splice and quotes cancel each other out. The third rule is a context rule; it says that reduction is allowed in the hole $[]$ position of an evaluation context. Evaluation contexts e and splice evaluation context e_s are defined syntactically as follows:

Eval context $e ::= [] \mid e t \mid v e \mid 'e_s[\${e}]$
 Splice context $e_s ::= [] \mid (x: T) \Rightarrow e_s \mid e_s t \mid u e_s$

14.14.2.3 Typing rules Typing judgments are of the form $Es \vdash t: T$. There are two substructural rules which express the fact that quotes and splices cancel each other out:

$$\frac{Es1 * Es2 \vdash t: T}{Es1 \$ E1 ' E2 * Es2 \vdash t: T}$$

$$\frac{Es1 * Es2 \vdash t: T}{Es1 ' E1 \$ E2 * Es2 \vdash t: T}$$

The lambda calculus fragment of the rules is standard, except that we use a stack of environments. The rules only interact with the topmost environment of the stack.

$$\frac{x: T \text{ in } E}{Es * E \vdash x: T}$$

$$\frac{Es * E, x: T1 \vdash t: T2}{Es * E \vdash (x: T1) \Rightarrow t: T \rightarrow T2}$$

$$\frac{Es \vdash t1: T2 \rightarrow T \quad Es \vdash t2: T2}{Es \vdash t1 t2: T}$$

The rules for quotes and splices map between `expr T` and `T` by trading `'` and `$` between environments and terms.

$$\frac{\text{Es } \$ () \mid - t: \text{expr } T}{\text{Es } \mid - \$t: T}$$

$$\frac{\text{Es } ' () \mid - t: T}{\text{Es } \mid - 't: \text{expr } T}$$

The meta theory of a slightly simplified 2-stage variant of this calculus is studied [separately](#).

14.14.3 Going Further

The metaprogramming framework as presented and currently implemented is quite restrictive in that it does not allow for the inspection of quoted expressions and types. It's possible to work around this by providing all necessary information as normal, unquoted inline parameters. But we would gain more flexibility by allowing for the inspection of quoted code with pattern matching. This opens new possibilities.

For instance, here is a version of `power` that generates the multiplications directly if the exponent is statically known and falls back to the dynamic implementation of `power` otherwise.

```
import scala.quoted.*

inline def power(x: Double, n: Int): Double =
  ${ powerExpr('x, 'n) }

private def powerExpr(x: Expr[Double], n: Expr[Int])
  (using Quotes): Expr[Double] =
  n.value match
    case Some(m) => powerExpr(x, m)
    case _ => '{ dynamicPower($x, $n) }

private def powerExpr(x: Expr[Double], n: Int)
  (using Quotes): Expr[Double] =
  if n == 0 then '{ 1.0 }
  else if n == 1 then x
  else if n % 2 == 0 then '{ val y = $x * $x; ${ powerExpr('y, n / 2) } }
  else '{ $x * ${ powerExpr(x, n - 1) } }

private def dynamicPower(x: Double, n: Int): Double =
  if n == 0 then 1.0
  else if n % 2 == 0 then dynamicPower(x * x, n / 2)
  else x * dynamicPower(x, n - 1)
```

In the above, the method `.value` maps a constant expression of the type `Expr[T]` to its value of the type `T`.

With the right extractors, the “AsFunction” conversion that maps expressions over functions to functions over expressions can be implemented in user code:

```
given AsFunction1[T, U]: Conversion[Expr[T => U], Expr[T] => Expr[U]] with
  def apply(f: Expr[T => U]): Expr[T] => Expr[U] =
    (x: Expr[T]) => f match
      case Lambda(g) => g(x)
      case _ => '{ ($f)($x) }
```

This assumes an extractor

```
object Lambda:
  def unapply[T, U](x: Expr[T => U]): Option[Expr[T] => Expr[U]]
```

Once we allow inspection of code via extractors, it’s tempting to also add constructors that create typed trees directly without going through quotes. Most likely, those constructors would work over `Expr` types which lack a known type argument. For instance, an `Apply` constructor could be typed as follows:

```
def Apply(fn: Expr[Any], args: List[Expr[Any]]): Expr[Any]
```

This would allow constructing applications from lists of arguments without having to match the arguments one-by-one with the corresponding formal parameter types of the function. We then need “at the end” a method to convert an `Expr[Any]` to an `Expr[T]` where `T` is given from the outside. For instance, if `code` yields a `Expr[Any]`, then `code.atType[T]` yields an `Expr[T]`. The `atType` method has to be implemented as a primitive; it would check that the computed type structure of `Expr` is a subtype of the type structure representing `T`.

Before going down that route, we should evaluate in detail the tradeoffs it presents. Constructing trees that are only verified *a posteriori* to be type correct loses a lot of guidance for constructing the right trees. So we should wait with this addition until we have more use-cases that help us decide whether the loss in type-safety is worth the gain in flexibility. In this context, it seems that deconstructing types is less error-prone than deconstructing terms, so one might also envisage a solution that allows the former but not the latter.

14.14.4 Conclusion

Metaprogramming has a reputation of being difficult and confusing. But with explicit `Expr/Type` types and quotes and splices it can become downright pleasant. A simple strategy first defines the underlying quoted or unquoted values using `Expr` and `Type` and then inserts quotes and splices to make the types line up. Phase consistency is at the same time a great guideline where to insert a splice or a quote and a vital sanity check that the result makes sense.

14.15 Erased Definitions: More Details

TODO: complete ## Rules

1. `erased` is a soft modifier. It can appear:

- At the start of a parameter block of a method, function or class
- In a method definition
- In a `val` definition (but not `lazy val` or `var`)
- In a `class` or `trait` definition

```
erased val x = ...
erased def f = ...
```

```
def g(erased x: Int) = ...
```

```
(erased x: Int, y: Int) => ...
def h(x: (Int, erased Int) => Int) = ...
```

```
class K(erased x: Int) { ... }
erased class E {}
```

2. A reference to an `erased val` or `def` can only be used

- Inside the expression of argument to an `erased` parameter
- Inside the body of an `erased val` or `def`

3. Functions

- $(\text{erased } x_1: T_1, x_2: T_2, \dots, x_N: T_N) \Rightarrow y : (\text{erased } T_1, T_2, \dots, T_N) \Rightarrow R$
- $(\text{given } x_1: T_1, \text{erased } x_2: T_2, \dots, x_N: T_N) \Rightarrow y: (\text{given } T_1, \text{erased } T_2, \dots, T_N) \Rightarrow R$
- $(\text{given } \text{erased } T_1) \Rightarrow R \quad <: < \quad \text{erased } T_1 \Rightarrow R$
- $(\text{given } T_1, \text{erased } T_2) \Rightarrow R \quad <: < \quad (T_1, \text{erased } T_2) \Rightarrow R$
- ...

Note that there is no subtype relation between $(\text{erased } T) \Rightarrow R$ and $T \Rightarrow R$ (or $(\text{given } \text{erased } T) \Rightarrow R$ and $(\text{given } T) \Rightarrow R$). The `erased` parameters must match exactly in their respective positions.

4. Eta expansion

if `def f(erased x: T): U` then `f: (erased T) => U`.

5. Erasure semantics

- All `erased` parameters are removed from the function
- All argument to `erased` parameters are not passed to the function
- All `erased` definitions are removed
- $(\text{erased } ET_1, \text{erased } ET_2, T_1, \dots, \text{erased } ET_N, TM) \Rightarrow R$ are erased to $(T_1, \dots, TM) \Rightarrow R$.

- (given erased ET1, erased ET2, T1, ..., erased ETN, TM) => R are erased to (given T1, ..., TM) => R.

6. Overloading

Method with **erased** parameters will follow the normal overloading constraints after erasure.

7. Overriding

- Member definitions overriding each other must both be **erased** or not be **erased**.
- `def foo(x: T): U` cannot be overridden by `def foo(erased x: T): U` and vice-versa.

8. Type Restrictions

- For dependent functions, **erased** parameters are limited to realizable types, that is, types that are inhabited by non-null values. This restriction stops us from using a bad bound introduced by an erased value, which leads to unsoundness (see #4060).
- Polymorphic functions with erased parameters are currently not supported, and will be rejected by the compiler. This is purely an implementation restriction, and might be lifted in the future.

14.16 Named Type Arguments - More Details

In this section we give more details about the **named type arguments** (*experimental*).

14.16.1 Syntax

The addition to the grammar is:

```
SimpleExpr1      ::= ...
                  | SimpleExpr (TypeArgs | NamedTypeArgs)
NamedTypeArgs    ::= '[' NamedTypeArg {',' NamedTypeArg} ']'
NamedTypeArg     ::= id '=' Type
```

Note in particular that named arguments cannot be passed to type constructors:

```
class C[T]

val x: C[T = Int] = // error
new C[T = Int] // error

class E extends C[T = Int] // error
```

14.16.2 Compatibility considerations

Named type arguments do not have an impact on binary compatibility, but they have an impact on source compatibility: if the name of a method type parameter is

changed, any existing named reference to this parameter will break. This means that the names of method type parameters are now part of the public API of a library.

(Unimplemented proposal: to mitigate this, [scala.deprecatedName](#) could be extended to also be applicable on method type parameters.)

14.17 A Classification of Proposed Language Features

This document provides an overview of the constructs proposed for Scala 3 with the aim to facilitate the discussion what to include and when to include it. It classifies features into eight groups: (1) essential foundations, (2) simplifications, (3) restrictions, (4) dropped features, (5) changed features, (6) new features, (7) features oriented towards metaprogramming with the aim to replace existing macros, and (8) changes to type checking and inference.

Each group contains sections classifying the status (i.e. relative importance to be a part of Scala 3, and relative urgency when to decide this) and the migration cost of the constructs in it.

The current document reflects the state of things as of April, 2019. It will be updated to reflect any future changes in that status.

14.17.1 Essential Foundations

These new constructs directly model core features of [DOT](#), higher-kinded types, and the [SI calculus for implicit resolution](#).

- [Intersection types](#), replacing compound types,
- [Union types](#),
- [Type lambdas](#), replacing encodings using structural types and type projection.
- [Context functions](#) offering abstraction over given parameters.

Status: essential

These are essential core features of Scala 3. Without them, Scala 3 would be a completely different language, with different foundations.

Migration cost: none to low

Since these are additions, there's generally no migration cost for old code. An exception are intersection types which replace compound types with slightly cleaned-up semantics. But few programs would be affected by this change.

14.17.2 Simplifications

These constructs replace existing constructs with the aim of making the language safer and simpler to use, and to promote uniformity in code style.

- [Trait parameters](#) replace [early initializers](#) with a more generally useful construct.
- [Given instances](#) replace implicit objects and defs, focussing on intent over mechanism.
- [Using clauses](#) replace implicit parameters, avoiding their ambiguities.
- [Extension methods](#) replace implicit classes with a clearer and simpler mechanism.
- [Opaque type aliases](#) replace most uses of value classes while guaranteeing absence of boxing.
- [Top-level definitions](#) replace package objects, dropping syntactic boilerplate.

- **Export clauses** provide a simple and general way to express aggregation, which can replace the previous facade pattern of package objects inheriting from classes.
- **Vararg splices** now use the form `*` instead of `@ _*`, mirroring vararg expressions,
- **Creator applications** allow using simple function call syntax instead of `new` expressions. `new` expressions stay around as a fallback for the cases where creator applications cannot be used.

With the exception of early initializers and old-style vararg splices, all superseded constructs continue to be available in Scala 3.0. The plan is to deprecate and phase them out later.

Value classes (superseded by opaque type aliases) are a special case. There are currently no deprecation plans for value classes, since we might bring them back in a more general form if they are supported natively by the JVM as is planned by project Valhalla.

Status: bimodal: now or never / can delay

These are essential simplifications. If we decide to adopt them, we should do it for 3.0. Otherwise we are faced with the awkward situation that the Scala 3 documentation has to describe an old feature that will be replaced or superseded by a simpler one in the future.

On the other hand, we need to decide now only about the new features in this list. The decision to drop the superseded features can be delayed. Of course, adopting a new feature without deciding to drop the superseded feature will make the language larger.

Migration cost: moderate

For the next several versions, old features will remain available and deprecation and rewrite techniques can make any migration effort low and gradual.

14.17.3 Restrictions

These constructs are restricted to make the language safer.

- **Implicit Conversions**: there is only one way to define implicit conversions instead of many, and potentially surprising implicit conversions require a language import.
- **Given Imports**: implicits now require a special form of import, to make the import clearly visible.
- **Type Projection**: only classes can be used as prefix `C` of a type projection `C#A`. Type projection on abstract types is no longer supported since it is unsound.
- **Multiversal equality** implements an “opt-in” scheme to rule out nonsensical comparisons with `==` and `!=`.
- **infix** makes method application syntax uniform across code bases.

Unrestricted implicit conversions continue to be available in Scala 3.0, but will be deprecated and removed later. Unrestricted versions of the other constructs in the

list above are available only under `-source 3.0-migration`.

Status: now or never

These are essential restrictions. If we decide to adopt them, we should do it for 3.0. Otherwise we are faced with the awkward situation that the Scala 3 documentation has to describe a feature that will be restricted in the future.

Migration cost: low to high

- *low*: multiversal equality rules out code that is nonsensical, so any rewrites required by its adoption should be classified as bug fixes.
- *moderate*: Restrictions to implicits can be accommodated by straightforward rewriting.
- *high*: Unrestricted type projection cannot always be rewritten directly since it is unsound in general.

14.17.4 Dropped Constructs

These constructs are proposed to be dropped without a new construct replacing them. The motivation for dropping these constructs is to simplify the language and its implementation.

- `DelayedInit`,
- `Existential types`,
- `Procedure syntax`,
- `Class shadowing`,
- `XML literals`,
- `Symbol literals`,
- `Auto application`,
- `Weak conformance`,
- `Compound types`,
- `Auto tupling` (implemented, but not merged).

The date when these constructs are dropped varies. The current status is:

- Not implemented at all:
 - `DelayedInit`, `existential types`, `weak conformance`.
- Supported under `-source 3.0-migration`:
 - `procedure syntax`, `class shadowing`, `symbol literals`, `auto application`, `auto tupling` in a restricted form.
- Supported in 3.0, to be deprecated and phased out later:
 - `XML literals`, `compound types`.

Status: mixed

Currently unimplemented features would require considerable implementation effort which would in most cases make the compiler more buggy and fragile and harder to understand. If we do not decide to drop them, they will probably show up as “not yet implemented” in the Scala 3.0 release.

Currently implemented features could stay around indefinitely. Updated docs may simply ignore them, in the expectation that they might go away eventually. So the decision about their removal can be delayed.

Migration cost: moderate to high

Dropped features require rewrites to avoid their use in programs. These rewrites can sometimes be automatic (e.g. for procedure syntax, symbol literals, auto application) and sometimes need to be manual (e.g. class shadowing, auto tupling). Sometimes the rewrites would have to be non-local, affecting use sites as well as definition sites (e.g., in the case of `DelayedInit`, unless we find a solution).

14.17.5 Changes

These constructs have undergone changes to make them more regular and useful.

- **Structural Types**: They now allow pluggable implementations, which greatly increases their usefulness. Some usage patterns are restricted compared to the status quo.
- **Name-based pattern matching**: The existing undocumented Scala 2 implementation has been codified in a slightly simplified form.
- **Eta expansion** is now performed universally also in the absence of an expected type. The postfix `_` operator is thus made redundant. It will be deprecated and dropped after Scala 3.0.
- **Implicit Resolution**: The implicit resolution rules have been cleaned up to make them more useful and less surprising. Implicit scope is restricted to no longer include package prefixes.

Most aspects of old-style implicit resolution are still available under `-source 3.0-migration`. The other changes in this list are applied unconditionally.

Status: strongly advisable

The features have been implemented in their new form in Scala 3.0's compiler. They provide clear improvements in simplicity and functionality compared to the status quo. Going back would require significant implementation effort for a net loss of functionality.

Migration cost: low to high

Only a few programs should require changes, but some necessary changes might be non-local (as in the case of restrictions to implicit scope).

14.17.6 New Constructs

These are additions to the language that make it more powerful or pleasant to use.

- **Enums** provide concise syntax for enumerations and **algebraic data types**.
- **Parameter untupling** avoids having to use `case` for tupled parameter destructuring.

- **Dependent function types** generalize dependent methods to dependent function values and types.
- **Polymorphic function types** generalize polymorphic methods to dependent function values and types. *Current status:* There is a proposal, and a prototype implementation, but the implementation has not been finalized or merged yet.
- **Kind polymorphism** allows the definition of operators working equally on types and type constructors.

Status: mixed

Enums offer an essential simplification of fundamental use patterns, so they should be adopted for Scala 3.0. Auto-parameter tupling is a very small change that removes some awkwardness, so it might as well be adopted now. The other features constitute more specialized functionality which could be introduced in later versions. On the other hand, except for polymorphic function types they are all fully implemented, so if the Scala 3.0 spec does not include them, they might be still made available under a language flag.

Migration cost: none

Being new features, existing code migrates without changes. To be sure, sometimes it would be attractive to rewrite code to make use of the new features in order to increase clarity and conciseness.

14.17.7 Metaprogramming

The following constructs together aim to put metaprogramming in Scala on a new basis. So far, metaprogramming was achieved by a combination of macros and libraries such as **Shapeless** that were in turn based on some key macros. Current Scala 2 macro mechanisms are a thin veneer on top the current Scala 2 compiler, which makes them fragile and in many cases impossible to port to Scala 3.

It's worth noting that macros were never included in the **Scala 2 language specification** and were so far made available only under an `-experimental` flag. This has not prevented their widespread usage.

To enable porting most uses of macros, we are experimenting with the advanced language constructs listed below. These designs are more provisional than the rest of the proposed language constructs for Scala 3.0. There might still be some changes until the final release. Stabilizing the feature set needed for metaprogramming is our first priority.

- **Match types** allow computation on types.
- **Inline** provides by itself a straightforward implementation of some simple macros and is at the same time an essential building block for the implementation of complex macros.
- **Quotes and splices** provide a principled way to express macros and staging with a unified set of abstractions.
- **Type class derivation** provides an in-language implementation of the **Gen** macro in Shapeless and other foundational libraries. The new implementation is more

robust, efficient and easier to use than the macro.

- **Implicit by-name parameters** provide a more robust in-language implementation of the `Lazy` macro in Shapeless.

Status: not yet settled

We know we need a practical replacement for current macros. The features listed above are very promising in that respect, but we need more complete implementations and more use cases to reach a final verdict.

Migration cost: very high

Existing macro libraries will have to be rewritten from the ground up. In many cases the rewritten libraries will turn out to be simpler and more robust than the old ones, but that does not relieve one of the cost of the rewrites. It's currently unclear to what degree users of macro libraries will be affected. We aim to provide sufficient functionality so that core macros can be re-implemented fully, but given the vast feature set of the various macro extensions to Scala 2 it is difficult to arrive at a workable limitation of scope.

14.17.8 Changes to Type Checking and Inference

The Scala 3 compiler uses a new algorithm for type inference, which relies on a general subtype constraint solver. The new algorithm often [works better than the old](#), but there are inevitably situations where the results of both algorithms differ, leading to errors diagnosed by Scala 3 for programs that the Scala 2 compiler accepts.

Status: essential

The new type-checking and inference algorithms are the essential core of the new compiler. They cannot be reverted without dropping the whole implementation of Scala 3.

Migration cost: high

Some existing programs will break and, given the complex nature of type inference, it will not always be clear what change caused the breakage and how to fix it.

In our experience, macros and changes in type and implicit argument inference together cause the large majority of problems encountered when porting existing code to Scala 3. The latter source of problems could be addressed systematically by a tool that added all inferred types and implicit arguments to a Scala 2 source code file. Most likely such a tool would be implemented as a [Scala 2 compiler plugin](#). The resulting code would have a greatly increased likelihood to compile under Scala 3, but would often be bulky to the point of being unreadable. A second part of the rewriting tool should then selectively and iteratively remove type and implicit annotations that were synthesized by the first part as long as they compile under Scala 3. This second part could be implemented as a program that invokes the Scala 3 compiler `scalac` programmatically.

Several people have proposed such a tool for some time now. I believe it is time we find the will and the resources to actually implement it.