

Scheme Cheat Sheet

Created by Ben Cuan - CS61A Fall 2021

Resources

- This cheat sheet: <https://go.cs61a.org/ben-scheme>
- Scheme Specification: <https://cs61a.org/articles/scheme-spec/>
- Built-In Procedures: <https://cs61a.org/articles/scheme-builtins/>

Variables	Scheme	Python
Numbers	123	123
Booleans	#t, #f	True, False
Assignment	(define hippo 1) <i><returns hippo></i>	hippo = 1 <i><returns None></i>

Booleans	Scheme	Python
And	(and (+ 1 2) 'hi)	(1 + 2) and 'hi'
Or	(or (* 3 4) '(1))	(3 * 4) or Link(1)
Not	(not (- 5 6))	not (5 - 6)
Truthy Values	0, (print 'hi), #t, (list 1), nil, '(), etc.	'hi', -1, [3, 5], etc.
Falsey Values	#f	0, False, [], None, etc.
Comparing nums	(<= 7 8)	7 <= 8
Null check	(null? duck)	duck is None
Type checks	(<TYPE>? x) <TYPE>: list, boolean, integer, atom...	isinstance(x, <TYPE>) <TYPE>: str, int, list, dict...
Even/odd	(even? 61) (odd? 61)	61 % 2 == 0 61 % 2 == 1
Equals	(= a b) <i><NUMBERS ONLY></i> (eq? a b) <i><NUMS/BOOLS/SYMBOLS></i> (equal? a b) <i><LISTS/PAIRS - checks if each element is equal></i>	a == b a is b (not exact equivalence; see https://cs61a.org/articles/scheme-builtins/#general for more info)

Functions	Scheme	Python
Function Definitions	<code>(define (f x) (+ x 1))</code>	<code>def f(x): return x + 1</code>
Lambdas	<code>(lambda (elephant) 7)</code>	<code>lambda elephant: 7</code>
Higher order functions	<code>(define (f x) (define (g y) (+ x y)) g)</code>	<code>def f(x): def g(y): return x + y return g</code>

Control Statements	Scheme	Python
If	<code>(if (< 4 5) 'yes 'no)</code>	<code>'yes' if (4 < 5) else 'no'</code> - OR - <code>if 4 < 5: return 'yes' else: return 'no'</code>
Elif/Cond	<code>(if (< a b) 1 (if (> a b) 2 3))</code> - OR - <code>(cond ((< a b) 1) ((> a b) 2) (else 3))</code>	<code>if a < b: return 1 elif a > b: return 2 else: return 3</code>
Begin (Multi-line expressions)	<code>(begin (print 'cs61a) (print 'is_awesome!))</code>	<code>print('cs61a') print('is_awesome!')</code> <i><python doesn't need begin, just type multiple lines!></i>
Let (Temporary assignment)	<code>(let ((x 1) (y 2)) (+ x y))</code>	<code>(lambda x, y: x + y)(1, 2)</code> <i><not a 1-1 correlation! let doesn't exist in python></i>

List Operations <i>ALL SCHEME LISTS ARE LINKED LISTS!</i>	Scheme	Python
Create list	<code>(cons first rest)</code>	<code>Link(first, rest)</code>
Get value	<code>(car lst)</code>	<code>lst.first</code>
Get rest	<code>(cdr lst)</code>	<code>lst.rest</code>
Empty list	<code>nil, '()</code>	<code>Link.empty</code>
Make long list	<code>(list 1 2 3)</code> OR <code>'(1 2 3)</code> OR <code>(quote (1 2 3))</code> OR <code>(cons 1 (cons 2 (cons 3 nil)))</code>	<code>Link(1, Link(2, Link(3, Link.empty)))</code>

Debugging Tips

Running Scheme in vscode

1. Install recommended extensions ([how-to guide](#)):
 - a. Bracket Pair Colorizer
 - b. vscode-scheme
2. Open **folder** containing Scheme assignment inside vscode (file->open folder)
3. Open terminal in vscode using [ctrl ~] (tilde is that key near esc)
4. Run ``python3 scheme`` in terminal
5. Enjoy!

Common Errors

- Unexpected EOF: most likely mismatched parentheses. Also, make sure you're calling functions like `(f x)` and not `f(x)`.
- int is not callable: make sure you don't have parentheses around a number such as `(0)`. Parentheses in Scheme treat the first element in the list as if it were a function; doing `(0)` in Python would look something like `0()`.
- incorrect number of arguments to cons: unlike Link in python, cons always needs exactly 2 arguments, a first and rest. If no rest is needed, put ``nil``.