

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
 Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
 6.5150/6.5151—Large-Scale Symbolic Systems
 Spring 2024

Pset 4

Issued: 6 March 2024

Due: 15 March 2024

Reading: SDF Chapter 3, Section 3.5: Efficient user-defined types

Documentation: The MIT/GNU Scheme documentation online at
<http://www.gnu.org/software/mit-scheme/>

Note: This problem set builds on the previous problem set. Please be sure to start early and ask for help if you need guidance. The software has been augmented with many new files since the previous problem set.

To Do

The “flavor” for this problem set is `user-defined-types`, so to load the code use:
`(manage 'new 'user-defined-types).`

To modify the entities in the adventure game you must edit stuff in the following files:

`</path/to>/sdf/user-defined-types/adventure-substrate`

`</path/to>/sdf/user-defined-types/adventure-objects`

`</path/to>/sdf/user-defined-types/adventure-world`

Problems are on SDF pages 153–154:

Exercise 3.16: Adventure Warmup

Exercise 3.17: Health

Exercise 3.18: Medical Help

New Exercise: Food for health

It would be nice for there to be a few `vending machines` on the campus that have `“food”` that can be `purchased with “money”`. Eating food may increase one’s `health` (both the avatar and other characters). This can decrease mortality due to troll bites. So each character has a `“wallet”` with an initial amount of money. There should be a mechanism where money in a wallet is incrementally `increased with time`, perhaps `“interest”` on the amount in the wallet. Perhaps money can be `exchanged` among characters? Invent and implement such an elaboration to the adventure game.

Exercise 3.21: Your Turn

Exercise 3.22: Multiple Players (optional)

Augmenting this game, with a `video interface` and supporting multiple players `over a network` could be the basis of a group `term project`. The interesting part is preventing reader/writer bugs that can occur with `concurrent modifications` to the database.

Another good hack would be to make a `distributed game` so there is no central database – each player maintains a local database describing the state of play, which is `made consistent with other players in some interesting way`. That way, if `a player’s machine fails the other players can proceed`.