## 61A Lecture 27

Wednesday, October 31

## Programming Languages

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In computer science, languages can be implemented:

- An interpreter for a programming language is a function that, when applied to an expression of the language, performs the actions required to evaluate that expression.
- The semantics and syntax of a language must be specified precisely in order to build an interpreter.

The Scheme-Syntax Calculator Language

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A subset of Scheme that includes:

- Number primitives
- Built-in arithmetic operators: +, -, *, /
- Call expressions


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$$
\begin{aligned}
& >\left(+\left(\begin{array}{lll}
* & 3
\end{array}\right)(-106)\right) \\
& 19 \\
& >\left(+\quad{ }^{*} 3\right. \\
& \text { (+ (* } 24 \text { 4) } \\
& (+35)) \text { ) } \\
& \text { (+ (- } 10 \text { 7) } \\
& \text { 6) ) } \\
& 57
\end{aligned}
$$

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- The * operator returns the product of its arguments
- The / operator returns the real-valued quotient of a dividend and divisor (i.e., a numerator and denominator)


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'(+ 2 2)'

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| lines | Parser | expression | Evaluator |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

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```
                scheme_reader.py
```



```
'(* (+ 1'
' (- 23)'
    (* 4 5.6))'
```

    10) '
    Lines forming a Scheme expression

A number or a Pair with an operator as its first element

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Demo (http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/fa12/projects/scalc/scheme_reader.py.html)

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