

Version 0.991

Co	ontents	Page
1	Language Structure	3
2	Scope	3
3	Normative References	3
4	Conformance Definitions	4
5	Error Definitions	4
6	Compliance	4
7	Conventions	5
	7.1 Layout and Typography	
8	Definitions	
9	Lexical Syntax	
J	9.1 Character Set	9
	9.2 Whitespace and Comments	
	9.3 Identifiers	
	9.5 Boolean	
1.0		
10	Modules 10.1 Module Definition	
	10.2 Directives	
	10.2.1 export Directive	12
	10.2.2 import Directive	
	10.2.3 expose Directive	
	10.2.4 Syntax Directive:	
	10.4 Special Forms	14
	10.5 Module Processing	14
11	Objects	15
	11.1 System Defined Classes	15
	11.2 Single Inheritance	15
	11.3 Defining Classes	16 17
	11.5 Specializing Methods	
	11.6 Method Lookup and Generic Dispatch	19
	11.7 Creating and Initializing Objects	
	11.8 Accessing Slots	
12	Level-0 Defining, Special and Function-call Forms	
	12.1 Simple Expressions	21
	12.3 Destructive Operations	
	12.4 Conditional Expressions	24
	12.5 Variable Binding and Sequences	
	12.6 Quasiquotation Expressions	27
	12.7.1 Syntax of Level-0 modules	
	12.7.2 Syntax of Level-0 defining forms	
	12.7.3 Syntax of Level-0 special forms	
	12.7.4 Syntax of Level-0 function calls	
13	Condition Classes	
14	Condition Signalling and Handling	33
15	Concurrency	
	15.1 Threads	
	15.2 Locks	
16	Level-0 Module Library	38

Pr	ogram	nming Language EuLisp:2010(E)	V	ers	810	n (J.§	991
1.7	16.1 16.2 16.3 16.4 16.5 16.6 16.7 16.8 16.9 16.10 16.11 16.12 16.13 16.14 16.15 16. 16. 16. 16. 16. 16. 16. 17 16.18 16.19 16.20 Prog 17.1 17.2 17.3 17.4 17.5 17.6 17.7 17.8 17.9 17.10	Characters Collections Comparison Conversion Conversion Copying Double Precision Floats Floating Point Numbers Formatted-IO Fixed Precision Integers Integers Keywords Lists Elementary Functions Numbers Streams 15.1 Stream classes 15.2 Stream operators 15.3 Stream objects 15.4 Buffer management 15.5 Reading from streams 15.6 Writing to streams 15.7 Additional functions 15.8 Convenience forms Strings Symbols Tables Vectors Syntax of Level-0 objects Gramming Language EuLisp, Level-1 Modules Classes and Objects Generic Functions Methods Object Introspection Class Introspection Generic Function Introspection Generic Function Introspection Generic Function Introspection Class Introspection Class Introspection Generic Function Introspection Method Introspection Class Intrialization				40 46 48 49 50 51 52 54 55 66 65 65 67 67 68 69 70 71 72 74 75 76 78 78 78 78 78 80 81 82		
	$17.10 \\ 17.11 \\ 17.12 \\ 17.13 \\ 17.14 \\ 17.15 \\ 17.16 \\ 17.17 \\ 17.18 \\ 17.19 \\ 17.20 \\ 17. \\ 17.$	Class Initialization Slot Description Initialization Generic Function Initialization Method Initialization Inheritance Protocol Slot Access Protocol Method Lookup and Generic Dispatch Low Level Allocation Primitives Dynamic Binding						85 86 86 90 93 94 95 96 97 97
Bib		phy						
Μc	odule Ir	ndex						99
Cla	ass Inde	ex						100
Spe	ecial Fo	orms Index						101
		Index						
Ge:	neric F	Punction Index						103
Co	ndition	ı Index						104
Co	nstant	Index						105

Programming Language EuLisp:2010(E)

Version 0.991

Figures

$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	13 13 25
local exits	27
Example 1 — handler actions	$\frac{34}{72}$
Tables	
Table 1 — Level-0 class hierarchy	15
Table 2 — Condition class hierarchy	32
Table 3 — Character digrams	39
Table 4 — Level-0 number class hierarchy	62
Table 5 — Level-1 metaclass hierarchy	81
Table 6 — Level-1 class hierarchy	82
Table 7 — Initialization Call Structure	85

Foreword

The EULISP group first met in September 1985 at IRCAM in Paris to discuss the idea of a new dialect of Lisp, which should be less constrained by the past than Common Lisp and less minimalist than Scheme. Subsequent meetings formulated the view of EULISP that was presented at the 1986 ACM Conference on Lisp and Functional Programming held at MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts [15] and at the European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI-86) held in Brighton, Sussex [22]. Since then, progress has not been steady, but happening as various people had sufficient time and energy to develop part of the language. Consequently, although the vision of the language has in the most part been shared over this period, only certain parts were turned into physical descriptions and implementations. For a nine month period starting in January 1989, through the support of INRIA, it became possible to start writing the EULISP definition. Since then, affairs have returned to their previous state, but with the evolution of the implementations of EULISP and the background of the foundations laid by the INRIA-supported work, there is convergence to a consistent and practical definition.

Work on this version started in 2010 from the material archived by Julian Padget in 1993 with the aim of finalising an EU LISP-1.0 definition as close to the plans of the original contributors as is possible to ascertain from the remaining documents. If there is interest from any of the original contributors or others parties to participate in the process of finalising EULISP-1.0 your input would be greatly appreciated.

The acknowledgments for this definition fall into three categories: intellectual, personal, and financial.

The ancestors of EULISP (in alphabetical order) are Common Lisp [20], InterLISP [23], LE-LISP [4], LISP/VM [1], Scheme [6], and T [17] [18]. Thus, the authors of this report are pleased to acknowledge both the authors of the manuals and definitions of the above languages and the many who have dissected and extended those languages in individual papers. The various papers on Standard ML [14] and the draft report on Haskell [10] have also provided much useful input.

The writing of this report has, at various stages, been supported by Bull S.A., Gesellschaft für Mathematik und Datenverarbeitung (GMD, Sankt Augustin), Ecole Polytechnique (LIX), ILOG S.A., Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA), University of Bath, and Université Paris VI (LITP). The authors gratefully acknowledge this support. Many people from European Community countries have attended and contributed to EULISP meetings since they started, and the authors would like to thank all those who have helped in the development of the language.

In the beginning, the work of the EULISP group was supported by the institutions or companies where the participants worked, but in 1987 DG XIII (Information technology directorate) of the Commission of the European Communities agreed to support the continuation of the working group by funding meetings and providing places to meet. It can honestly be said that without this support EULISP would not have reached its present state. In addition, the EULISP group is grateful for the support of:

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Programming Language EuLisp — Version 0.991

Introduction

EULISP is a dialect of Lisp and as such owes much to the great body of work that has been done on language design in the name of Lisp over the last forty years. The distinguishing features of EULISP are (i) the integration of the classical Lisp type system and the object system into a single class hierarchy (ii) the complementary abstraction facilities provided by the class and the module mechanism (iii) support for concurrent execution.

Here is a brief summary of the main features of the language.

- Classes are first-class objects. The class structure integrates the primitive classes describing fundamental datatypes, the predefined classes and user-defined classes.
- Modules together with classes are the building blocks of both the EULISP language and of applications written in EULISP. The module system exists to limit access to objects by name. That is, modules allow for hidden definitions. Each module defines a fresh, empty, lexical environment.
- Multiple control threads can be created in EULISP and the concurrency model has been designed to allow consistency across a wide range of architectures. Access to shared data can be controlled via locks (semaphores). Event-based programming is supported through a generic waiting function.
- Both functions and continuations are first-class in EULISP, but the latter are not as general as in Scheme because they can only be used in the dynamic extent of their creation. That implies they can only be used once.
- A condition mechanism which is fully integrated with both classes and threads, allows for the definition of generic handlers and supports both propagation of conditions and continuable handling.
- Dynamically scoped bindings can be created in EULISP, but their use is restricted, as in Scheme. EULISP enforces a strong distinction between lexical bindings and dynamic bindings by requiring the manipulation of the latter via special forms.

EULISP does not claim any particular Lisp dialect as its closest relative, although parts of it were influenced by features found in Common Lisp, InterLISP, LE-LISP, LISP/VM, Scheme, and T. EULISP both introduces new ideas and takes from these Lisps. It also extends or simplifies their ideas as seen fit. But this is not the place for a detailed language comparison. That can be drawn from the rest of this text.

EULISP breaks with LISP tradition in describing all its types (in fact, classes) in terms of an object system. This is called The EU LISP Object System, or Telos. Telos incorporates elements of the Common Lisp Object System (CLOS) [3], ObjVLisp [7], Oaklisp [12], MicroCeyx [5], and MCS [24].

1 Language Structure

The EULISP definition comprises the following items:

Level-0: comprises all the level-0 classes, functions, defining forms and special forms , which is this text minus $\S17$. The object system can be extended by user-defined structure classes, and generic functions.

Level-1: extends level-0 with the classes, functions, defining forms and special forms defined in §17. The object system can be extended by user-defined classes and metaclasses. The implementation of level-1 is not necessarily written or writable as a conforming level-0 program.

A level-0 function is a (generic) function defined in this text to be part of a conforming processor for level-0. A function defined in terms of level-0 operations is an example of a level-0 application.

Much of the functionality of EULISP is defined in terms of modules . These modules might be available (and used) at any level, but certain modules are required at a given level. Whenever a module depends on the operations available at a given level, that dependency will be specified.

EULISP level-0 is provided by the module level-0. This module imports and re-exports the modules specified in table 1.

Modules comprising eulisp0:

Module	Section(s)
character	16.1
collection	16.2
compare	16.3
condition	12.8
convert	16.4
сору	16.5
double	16.6
fpi	16.9
formatted-io	16.8
function	12.2
keyword	16.11
list	16.12
lock	15.2
mathlib	??
number	16.14
telos0	11
stream	16.15
string	16.16
symbol	16.17
table	16.18
thread	15.1
vector	16.19

This definition is organized in three parts:

Sections 9–12: describes the core of level-0 of EULISP, covering modules, simple classes, objects and generic functions, threads, conditions, control forms and events. These sections contain the information about EULISP that characterizes the language.

Section 16: describes the classes required at level-0 and the operations defined on instances of those classes. The section is organized by module in alphabetical order. These sections contain information about the predefined classes in EULISP that are necessary to make the language usable, but is not central to an appreciation of the language.

Section 17: describes the reflective aspects of the object system and how to program the metaobject protocol and some additional control forms.

Prior to these, sections 2–8 define the scope of the text, cite normative references, conformance definitions, error definitions, typographical and layout conventions and terminology definitions used in this text.

2 Scope

This text specifies the syntax and semantics of the computer programming language EULISP by defining the requirements for a conforming EULISP processor and a conforming EULISP program (the textual representation of data and algorithms). This text does not specify:

- a) The size or complexity of an EULISP program that will exceed the capacity of any specific configuration or processor, nor the actions to be taken when those limits are exceeded.
- b) The minimal requirements of a configuration that is capable of supporting an implementation of a EULISP processor.
- c) The method of preparation of a EULISP program for execution or the method of activation of this EULISP program once prepared.
- d) The method of reporting errors, warnings or exceptions to the client of a EULISP processor.
- The typographical representation of a EULISP program for human reading.
- f) The means to map module names to the filing system or other object storage system attached to the processor.

To clarify certain instances of the use of English in this text the following definitions are provided:

must: a verbal form used to introduce a *required* property. All conforming processors must satisfy the property.

should: A verbal form used to introduce a *strongly recommended* property. Implementors of processors are urged (but not required) to satisfy the property.

3 Normative References

The following standards contain provisions, which through references in this text constitute provisions of this definition. At the time of writing, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision and parties making use of this definition are encouraged to apply the most recent edition of the standard listed below.

[ISO 646: 1991] Information processing — ISO 7-bit coded character set for information interchange, 1991.

[ISO 2382] Data processing — vocabulary.

[ISO TR 10034 : 1990] Information technology — Guidelines for the preparation of conformity clauses in programming language standards.

[ISO TR 10176: 1991] Information technology — Guidelines for the preparation of programming language standards. Note: this is currently a draft technical report.

[ISO/IEC 9899:1999] Programming Languages — C.

4 Conformance Definitions

The following terms are general in that they could be applied to the definition of any programming language. They are derived from ISO/IEC TR 10034: 1990.

4.1 configuration

Host and target computers, any operating systems(s) and soft-ware (run-time system) used to operate a language *processor*.

4.2 conformity clause

Statement that is not part of the language definition but that specifies requirements for compliance with the language standard.

4.3 conforming program

Program which is written in the language defined by the language standard and which obeys all the *conformity clauses* for programs in the language standard.

4.4 conforming processor

Processor which processes conforming programs and program units and which obeys all the conformity clauses for processors in the language standard.

4.5 error

Incorrect program construct or incorrect functioning of a program as defined by the language standard.

4.6 extension

Facility in the *processor* that is not specified in the language standard but that does not cause any ambiguity or contradiction when added to the language standard.

4.7 implementation-defined

Specific to the *processor*, but required by the language standard to be defined and documented by the implementer.

4.8 processor

Compiler, translator or interpreter working in combination with a *configuration*.

5 Error Definitions

Errors in the language described in this definition fall into one of the following three classes:

5.1 static error

An error which is detected during the execution of a EULISP program or which is a violation of the defined behaviour of EU LISP. Static errors have two classifications:

- a) Where a conforming processor is required to detect the erroneous situation or behaviour and report it. This is signified by the phrase an error is signalled. The condition class to be signalled is specified. Signalling an error consists of identifying the condition class related to the error and allocating an instance of it. This instance is initialized with information dependent on the condition class. A conforming EULISP program can rely on the fact that this condition will be signalled.
- b) Where a *conforming processor* might or might not detect and report upon the error. This is signified by the phrase ... is an error. A processor should provide a mode where such errors are detected and reported where possible.

If the result of preparation is a runnable program, then that program must signal any static error.

5.2 environmental error

An error which is detected by the configuration supporting the EULISP processor. The processor must signal the corresponding static error which is identified and handled as described above.

5.3 violation

An error which is detected during the preparation of a EULISP program for execution, such as a violation of the syntax or static semantics of EULISP in the program under preparation. A *conforming processor* is required to issue a diagnostic if a violation is detected.

All errors specified in this definition are static unless explicitly stated otherwise.

6 Compliance

An EULISP processor can conform at either of the two levels defined under Language Structure in the Introduction. Thus a level-0 conforming processor must support all the basic expressions, classes and class operations defined at level-0. A level-1 conforming processor must support all the basic expressions, classes, class operations and modules defined at level-0 and at level-1.

The following two statements govern the conformance of a processor at a given level.

- a) A conforming processor must correctly process all programs conforming both to the standard at the specified level and the implementation-defined features of the processor.
- b) A conforming processor should offer a facility to report the use of an extension which is statically determinable solely from inspection of a program, without execution. (It is also considered desirable that a facility to report the use of an extension which is only determinable dynamically be offered.)

A level-0 conforming program is one which observes the syntax and semantics defined for level-0. A level-0 conforming program might not conform at level-1. A *strictly-conforming* level-0 program is one that also conforms at level-1. A level-1 conforming program observes the syntax and semantics defined for level-1.

In addition, a *conforming program* at any level must not use any *extensions* implemented by a language *processor*, but it can rely on *implementation-defined* features.

The documentation of a $conforming\ processor$ must include:

- a) A list of all the *implementation-defined* definitions or values.
- b) A list of all the features of the language standard which are dependent on the processor and not implemented by this processor due to non-support of a particular facility, where such non-support is permitted by the standard.
- c) A list of all the features of the language implemented by this processor which are extensions to the standard language.
- d) A statement of conformity, giving the complete reference of the language standard with which conformity is claimed,

and, if appropriate, the level of the language supported by this processor.

7 Conventions

This section defines the conventions employed in this text, how definitions will be laid out, the typefaces to be used, the metalanguage used in descriptions and the naming conventions. A later section (8) contains definitions of the terms used in this text.

A standard function denotes an immutable top-lexical binding of the defined name. All the definitions in this text are bindings in some module except for the special form operators, which have no definition anywhere. All bindings and all the special form operators can be renamed.

NOTE 1 A description making mention of "an x" where "x" is the name a class usually means "an instance of <x>".

Frequently, a class-descriptive name will be used in the argument list of a function description to indicate a restriction on the domain to which that argument belongs. In the case of a function, it is an error to call it with a value outside the specified domain. A generic function can be defined with a particular domain and/or range. In this case, any new methods must respect the domain and/or range of the generic function to which they are to be attached. The use of a class-descriptive name in the context of a generic function definition defines the intention of the definition, and is not necessarily a policed restriction.

The result-class of an operation, except in one case, refers to a primitive or a defined class described in this definition. The exception is for predicates. Predicates are defined to return either the empty list—written ()—representing the boolean value false, or any value other than (), representing true.

7.1 Layout and Typography

Both layout and fonts are used to help in the description of EULISP. A language element is defined as an entry with its name as the heading of a clause, coupled with its classification. The syntax notation used is based on that described in [ISO/IEC 9899:1999] with modifications to support the specification of a return type and to improve clarity. Syntactic categories (non-terminals) are indicated by italic type, and literal words and characters (terminals) by constant width type. A colon (:) following a non-terminal introduces its definition. Alternative definitions are listed on separate lines, except when prefaced by the words "one of". An optional symbol is indicated by the subscript "opt", a list of zero or more occurrences of a symbol are indicated by the superscript "*, and a list of one or more occurrences of a symbol are indicated by the superscript "+". Examples of several kinds of entry are now given. Some subsections of entries are optional and are only given where it is felt necessary.

7.1.1 a-special-form

special operator

7.1.1.1 Syntax

```
a	ext{-special-form:} 	o result-class ( a	ext{-special-form} form-1 \dots form-n_{opt} )
```

Arguments

 $\it form\mathchar`-1$: description of structure and rôle of $\it form\mathchar`-1$:

form- n_{opt} : description of structure and rôle of optional argument form- n_{opt} .

Result

A description of the result and, possibly, its result-class.

Remarks

Any additional information defining the behaviour of a-special-form or the syntax category a-special-form-form.

Examples

Some examples of use of the special form and the behaviour that should result.

See also

Cross references to related entries.

7.1.2 a-function

function

7.1.2.1 Signature

```
(a-function argument-1 ... argument-n_{opt})
\rightarrow result-class
```

Arguments

 $argument-n_{opt}$: information about the class or classes of the optional argument argument-n.

Result

A description of the result and, possibly, its result-class.

Remarks

Any additional information about the actions of a-function.

Examples

Some examples of calling the function with certain arguments and the result that should be returned.

See also

Cross references to related entries.

7.1.3 a-generic

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
argument-a <class-a>: means that argument-a of
a-generic must be an instance of <class-a>
and that argument-a is one of the arguments
on which a-generic specializes. Furthermore,
each method defined on a-generic may special-
ize only on a subclass of <class-a> for argument-
a.
:
```

argument-n: means that (i) argument-n is an instance of <object>, i.e. it is unconstrained, (ii) a-generic does not specialize on argument-n, (iii) no method on a-generic can specialize on argument-n.

Result

A description of the result and, possibly, its class.

Remarks

Any additional information about the actions of a-generic. This can take two forms depending on the function. This will probably be in general terms, since the actual behaviour will be determined by the methods.

See also

Cross references to related entries.

7.1.4 a-generic <class-a>

method

(A method on a-generic with the following specialized arguments.)

Specialized Arguments

argument-a <class-a>: means that argument-a of
the method must be an instance of <class-a>.
 Of course, this argument must be one which was
defined in a-generic as being open to specialization and <class-a> must be a subclass of the
class.

:

argument-n: means that (i) argument-n is an instance of <object>, i.e. it is unconstrained, because a-generic does not specialize on argument-n.

Result

A description of the result and, possibly, its class.

Remarks

Any additional information about the actions of this method attached to a-generic.

See also

Cross references to related entries.

7.1.5 <a-condition>

<condition> condition

Initialization Options

keyword-a value-a: means that an instance of <a-condition> has a slot called keyword-a which should be initialized to value-a, where value-a is often the name of a class, indicating that value-a should be an instance of that class and a description of the information that value-a is supposed to provide about the exceptional situation that has arisen.

:

keyword-n value-n: As for keyword-a.

Remarks

Any additional information about the circumstances in which the condition will be signalled.

7.1.6 <a-class>

<class> class

Initialization Options

keyword-a value-a: means that <a-class> has an keyword whose name is keyword-a and the description will usually say of what class (or classes) value-a should be an instance. This keyword is required.

:

[keyword-n value-n]: The enclosing square brackets denote that this keyword is optional. Otherwise the interpretation of the definition is as for keyword-a.

Remarks

A description of the rôle of <a-class>.

7.1.7 a-constant <a-class>

constant

Remarks

A description of the constant of type <a-class>.

7.2 Naming

Naming conventions are applied in the descriptions of primitive and defined classes as well as in the choice of other function names. Here is a list of the conventions and some examples of their use.

- 7.1 "<name>" wrapping: By convention, classes have names which begin with "<" and end with ">".
- **7.2** "binary" prefix: The two argument version of a n-ary argument function. For example binary+ is the two argument (generic) function corresponding to the n-ary argument + function.
- 7.3 "-class" suffix: The name of a metaclass of a set of related classes. For example, <function-class>, which is the class of <simple-function>, <generic-function> and any of their subclasses. The exception is <class> itself which is the default metaclass. The prefix should describe the general domain of the classes in question, but not necessarily any particular class in the set.
- **7.4** "generic-" prefix: The generic version of the function named by the stem.
- **7.5** hyphenation: Function and class names made up of more than one word are hyphenated, for example: compute-specialized-slot-class.
- **7.6** "make-" prefix: For most primitive or defined classes there is constructor function, which is usually named make-class-name.

7.7 "!" suffix: A destructive function is named by a "!" suffix, for example the destructive version of reverse is named reverse!.

7.8 "?" suffix: A predicate function is named by a "?" suffix, for example cons?.

8 Definitions

This set of definitions, which are be used throughout this document, is self-consistent but might not agree with notions accepted in other language definitions. The terms are defined in alphabetical rather than dependency order and where a definition uses a term defined elsewhere in this section it is written in *italics*. Names in courier font refer to entities defined in the language.

8.1 abstract class

A Class that by definition has no direct instances.

8.2 applicable method

A *method* is applicable for a particular set of arguments if each element in its *domain* is a *superclass* of the *class* of the corresponding argument.

8.3 binding

A location containing a value.

8.4 class

A class is an *object* which describes the structure and behaviour of a set of *objects* which are its *instances*. A *class* object contains *inheritance* information and a set of *slot descriptions* which define the structure of its *instances*. A *class object* is an *instance* of a *metaclass*. All *classes* in EULISP are *subclasses* of <object>, and all *instances* of <class> are *classes*.

8.5 class precedence list

Each class has a linearised list of all its super-classes, direct and indirect, beginning with the class itself and ending with the root of the inheritance graph, the class <object>. This list determines the specificity of slot and method inheritance. A class's class precedence list may be accessed through the function class-precedence-list. The rules used to compute this list are determined by the class of the class through methods of the generic function compute-class-precedence-list.

8.6 class option

A keyword and its associated value applying to a *class* appearing in a class definition form, for example: the **predicate** keyword and its value, which defines a predicate *function* for the *class* being defined.

8.7 closure

A first-class function with *free variables* that are bound in the *lexical environment*. Such a function is said to be "closed over" its free variables. Example: the function returned by the expression (let $((x \ 1)) \ \#$ '(lambda () x)) is a closure since it closes over the free variable x.

8.8 congruent

A constraint on the form of the *lambda-list* of a method, which requires it to have the same number of elements as the generic function to which it is to be attached.

8.9 continuation

A continuation is a function of one parameter which represents the rest of the program. For every point in a program there is the remainder of the program coming after that point; this can be viewed as a function of one argument awaiting the result of that point. The *current continuation* is the continuation that would be derived from the current point in a program's execution, see let/cc.

8.10 converter function

The generic function associated with a class (the target) that is used to project an instance of another class (the source) to an instance of the target.

8.11 defining form

Any form or *syntax expression* expanding into a form whose operator is a *defining operator*.

8.12 defining operator

One of defclass, defcondition, defconstant, defgeneric, deflocal, defsyntax, defun, or defglobal.

8.13 direct instance

A direct instance of a class $class_1$ is any object whose most specific class is $class_1$.

8.14 direct subclass

A class₁ is a direct subclass of class₂ if class₁ is a subclass of class₂, class₁ is not identical to class₂, and there is no other class₃ which is a superclass of class₁ and a subclass of class₂.

8.15 direct superclass

A direct superclass of a class $class_1$ is any class for which $class_1$ is a direct subclass.

8.16 dynamic environment

The *inner* and *top dynamic* environment, taken together, are referred to as the dynamic environment.

8.17 dynamic extent

A lifetime constraint, such that the entity is created on control entering an expression and destroyed when control exits the expression. Thus the entity only exists for the time between control entering and exiting the expression.

8.18 dynamic scope

An access constraint, such that the *scope* of the entity is limited to the *dynamic extent* of the expression that created the entity.

8.19 extent

That lifetime for which an entity exists. Extent is constrained to be either *dynamic* or *indefinite*.

8.20 first-class

First-class entities are those which can be passed as parameters, returned from functions, or assigned into a variables.

8.21 function

A function is either a continuation, a $simple\ function$ or a $generic\ function.$

8.22 generic function

Generic functions are functions for which the method executed depends on the class of its arguments. A generic function is defined in terms of methods which describe the action of the generic function for a specific set of argument classes called the method's domain.

8.23 identifier

An identifier is the syntactic representation of a variable.

8.24 indefinite extent

A lifetime constraint, such that the entity exists for ever. In practice, this means for as long as the entity is accessible.

8.25 indirect instance

An indirect instance of a class $class_1$ is any **object** whose class is an indirect subclass of $class_1$.

8.26 indirect subclass

A $class_1$ is an indirect subclass of $class_2$ if $class_1$ is a subclass of $class_2$, $class_1$ is not identical to $class_2$, and there is at least one other $class_3$ which is a superclass of $class_1$ and a subclass of $class_2$.

8.27 inheritance graph

A directed labelled acyclic graph whose nodes are *classes* and whose edges are defined by the *direct subclass* relations between the nodes. This graph has a distinguished root, the *class* <object>, which is a *superclass* of every *class*.

8.28 inherited slot description

A *slot* description is inherited for a *class*₁ if the *slot* description is defined for another *class*₂ which is a direct or indirect superclass of *class*₁.

8.29 keyword

A *keyword* used in an *initlist* to mark the value of some *slot* or additional information. Used in conjunction with **make** and the other *object* initialization functions to initialize the object. An *keyword* may be declared for a *slot* in a class definition form using the **keyword** *slot-option* or the **keyword** *class-option*.

8 30 default

A form which is evaluated to produce a default initial *slot* value. Defaults are closed in their *lexical* environments and the resulting *closure* is called a *default-function*. A *default* may be declared for a *slot* in a class definition form using the **default** *slot-option*.

8.31 default-function

A function of no arguments whose result is used as the default value of a ${\it slot.}$ default-functions capture the ${\it lexical}$ environment of a ${\it default}$ declaration in a class definition form.

8.32 initlist

A list of alternating keywords and values which describes some not-yet instantiated object. Generally the keywords correspond to the keywords of some class.

8.33 inner dynamic

Inner dynamic bindings are created by dynamic-let, referenced by dynamic and modified by dynamic-setq. Inner dynamic bindings extend—and can shadow—the dynamically enclosing dynamic environment.

8.34 inner lexical

Inner lexical bindings are created by lambda and let/cc, referenced by variables and modified by setq. Inner lexical bindings extend—and can shadow—the lexically enclosing lexical environment. Note that let/cc creates an immutable binding.

8.35 instance

Every *object* is the instance of some *class*. An instance thus describes an *object* in relation to its *class*. An instance takes on the structure and behaviour described by its *class*. An instance can be either *direct* or *indirect*.

8.36 instantiation graph

A directed graph whose nodes are *objects* and whose edges are defined by the *instance* relations between the *objects*. This graph has only one cycle, an edge from *<*class> to itself. The instantiation graph is a tree and *<*class> is the root.

8.37 lexical environment

The *inner* and *top lexical* environment of a module are together referred to as the lexical environment except when it is necessary to distinguish between them.

8.38 lexical scope

An access constraint, such that the *scope* of the entity is limited to the textual region of the form creating the entity. See also *lexically closer* and *shadow*.

8.39 syntax operator

A syntax operator is distinguished by when it is used: syntax operators are only used during the syntax expansion of modules to transform expressions.

8.40 metaclass

A metaclass is a *class object* whose *instances* are themselves *classes*. All metaclasses in EULISP are *instances* of **<class>**, which is an *instance* of itself. All metaclasses are also *subclasses* of **<class>**. **<class>** is a metaclass.

8.41 method

A method describes the action of a generic-function for a particular list of argument classes called the method's domain. A method is thus said to add to the behaviour of each of the classes in its domain. Methods are not functions but objects which contain, among other information, a function representing the method's behaviour.

8.42 method function

A function which implements the behaviour of a particular method. Method functions have special restrictions which do not apply to all functions: their formal parameter bindings are immutable, and the special operators call-next-method and next-method? are only valid within the lexical scope of a method function.

8.43 method specificity

A domain $domain_1$ is more specific than another $domain_2$ if the first class in $domain_1$ is a subclass of the first class in $domain_2$, or, if they are the same, the rest of $domain_1$ is more specific than the rest of $domain_2$.

8.44 multi-method

A method which specializes on more than one argument.

8.45 new instance

A newly allocated instance, which is distinct, but can be isomorphic to other instances.

8.46 reflective

A system which can examine and modify its own state is said to be *reflective*. EULISP is reflective to the extent that it has explicit *class* objects and *metaclasses*, and user-extensible operations upon them.

8.47 scope

That part of the extent in which a given *variable* is accessible. Scope is constrained to be *lexical*, *dynamic* or *indefinite*.

8.48 self-instantiated class

A class which is an instance of itself. In EULISP, <class> is the only example of a self-instantiated class.

8.49 setter function

The function associated with the function that accesses a place in an entity, which changes the value stored in that place.

8.50 simple function

A function comprises at least: an expression, a set of identifiers, which occur in the expression, called the parameters and the closure of the expression with respect to the *lexical environment* in which it occurs, less the parameter identifiers. Note: this is not a definition of the class <simple-function>.

8.51 slot

A named component of an *object* which can be accessed using the slot's *accessor*. Each *slot* of an *object* is described by a *slot* description associated with the *class* of the *object*. When we refer to the *structure* of an *object*, this usually means its set of *slots*.

8.52 slot description

A slot description describes a *slot* in the *instances* of a *class*. This description includes the *slot's* name, its logical position in *instances*, and a way to determine its default value. A *class's* slot descriptions may be accessed through the *function* class-slots. A slot description can be either *direct* or *inherited*.

8.53 slot option

A keyword and its associated value applying to one of the slots appearing in a class definition form, for example: the accessor keyword and its value, which defines a function used to read or write the value of a particular slot.

8.54 slot specification

A list of alternating keywords and values (starting with a keyword) which represents a not-yet-created *slot description* during class initialization.

8.55 special form

Any form or *syntax expression* expanding into a form whose operator is a *special operator*. They are semantic primitives of the language and in consequence, any processor (for example, a compiler or a code-walker) need be able to process only the special forms of the language and compositions of them.

8.56 special operator

One of a-special-form, call-next-handler, call-next-method, dynamic, dynamic-let, dynamic-setq, if, letfuns, lambda, let/cc, next-method?, progn, quote, setq, unwind-protect, or with-handler.

8.57 specialize

A verbal form used to describe the creation of a more specific version of some entity. Normally applied to classes, slots and methods.

8.58 specialize on

A verbal form used to describe relationship of methods and the classes specified in their domains.

8.59 subclass

The behaviour and structure defined by a class $class_1$ are inherited by a set of classes which are termed subclasses of $class_1$. A subclass can be either direct or indirect or itself.

8.60 superclass

A $class_1$ is a superclass of $class_2$ iff $class_2$ is a subclass of $class_1$. A superclass can be either direct or indirect or itself.

8.61 top dynamic

Top dynamic bindings are created by defglobal, referenced by dynamic and modified by dynamic-setq. There is only one top dynamic environment.

8.62 top lexical

Top lexical bindings are created in the *top lexical* environment of a module by a defining form. All these bindings are immutable except those created by **deflocal** which creates a mutable top-lexical binding. All such bindings are referenced by *variables* and those made by **deflocal** are modified by **setq**. Each module defines its own distinct *top lexical* environment.

9 Lexical Syntax

9.1 Character Set

Case is distinguished in each of characters, strings and identifiers, so that variable-name and Variable-name are different, but where a character is used in a positional number representation (e.g. #\x3Ad) the case is ignored. Thus, case is also significant in this definition and, as will be observed later, all the special form and standard function names are lower case. In this section, and throughout this text, the names for individual character glyphs are those used in [ISO 646: 1991].

The minimal character set to support EULISP is defined in syntax table 9.1. The language as defined in this text uses only the characters given in this table. Thus, left hand sides of the productions in this table define and name groups of characters which are used later in this definition: decimal-digit, upper-letter, lower-letter, letter, other-character and special-character. Any character not specified here is classified under other-character, which permits its use as an initial or a constituent character of an identifier (see § 9.3.0.3).

9.1.0.1 Syntax

```
decimal-digit: one of
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
upper-letter: one of
      ABCDEFGHIJKLM
      NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
lower-letter: one of
      abcdefghijklm
      nopqrstuvwxyz
letter:
      upper-letter
      lower-letter
normal-other-character: one of
      * / < = > + .
other\mbox{-}character:
      no \textcolor{red}{\tau} mal-other-character
special-character: one of
      ; ', \ " # ( ) ' | @
level-0-character:
      decimal-digit
      letter
      other-character
      special-character
```

9.2 Whitespace and Comments

Whitespace characters are spaces, newlines, line feeds, carriage returns, character tabulations, line tabulations and form feeds. The newline character is also used to represent end of record for configurations providing such an input model, thus, a reference to newline in this definition should also be read as a reference to end of record. Whitespace separates tokens and is only significant in a string or when it occurs escaped within an *identifier*.

A line comment is introduced by a *semicolon* (;) and continues up to, but does not include, the end of the line. Hence, a line comment cannot occur in the middle of a token because of the whitespace in the form of the newline which is to *whitespace*. An *object* comment is introduced by the #; sequence optionally followed by *whitespace* and an *object* to be "commented out".

9.2.0.2 Syntax

```
whitespace:
    space
    newline
    line-feed
    return
    tab
    vertical-tab
    form-feed
comment:
    ; all subsequent characters
    up to the end of the line
#; whitespace* object
```

NOTE 1 There is no notation in EULISP for block comments.

9.3 Identifiers

Identifiers in EULISP are very similar lexically to *identifiers* in other Lisps and in other programming languages. Informally, an *identifier* is a sequence of *letter*, *decimal-digit* and *other-characters* starting with a character that is not a *decimal-digit*. *special-characters* must be escaped if they are to be used in the names of *identifiers*. However, because the common notations for arithmetic operations are the glyphs for plus (+) and minus (-), which are also used to indicate the sign of a number, these glyphs are classified as *identifiers* in their own right as well as being part of the syntax of a number.

Sometimes, it might be desirable to incorporate characters in an *identifier* that are normally not legal constituents. The aim of escaping in *identifiers* is to change the meaning of particular characters so that they can appear where they are not otherwise acceptable. Identifiers containing characters that are not ordinarily legal constituents can be written by delimiting the sequence of characters by multiple-escape, the glyph for which is called *vertical bar* (1). The *multiple-escape* denotes the beginning of an escaped part of an identifier and the next multiple-escape denotes the end of an escaped part of an identifier. A single character that would otherwise not be a legal constituent can be written by preceding it with single-escape, the glyph for which is called *reverse solidus* (\backslash). Therefore, single-escape can be used to incorporate the multiple-escape or the *single-escape* character in an *identifier*, delimited (or not) by multiple-escapes. For example, |).(| is the identifier whose name contains the three characters #\), #\. and #\(, and a|b| is the *identifier* whose name contains the characters #\a and #\b. The sequence | | is the *identifier* with no name, and so is | | | | |, but | \ | | is the *identifier* whose name contains the single character |, which can also be written \|, without delimiting multiple-escapes.

9.3.0.3 Syntax

```
identifier:
       normal-identifier
       peculiar-identifier
       escaped-identifier
normal-identifier:
       normal-initial normal-constituent*
normal-initial:
       normal-other-character
normal-constituent:
       letter
       decimal-diait
       other-character
peculiar-identifier:
       {+ | -}
          \{peculiar\text{-}constituent\ normal\text{-}constituent^*\}_{opt}
          peculiar-constituent normal-constituent
peculiar-constituent:
       letter
       other-character
escaped-identifier:
       escaped-sequence escaped-sequences*
       normal-initial escaped-sequences*
       escaped-sequences:
       escaped-sequence
       escaped-or-normal-constituent*
escaped-sequence:
       ||escaped-sequence-constituent^*||
escaped-or-normal-constituent:
       \label{level-0-character} \
       normal-constituent
escaped-sequence-constituent:
       \label{level-0-character} $\level-0$-character
       level-0-character other than |
```

9.4 Objects

An object is either a *literal*, a *symbol* or a *list*. The syntax of the classes of objects that can be read by EULISP is defined in the section of this definition corresponding to the class as defined below:

9.4.0.4 Syntax

object:	
literal	
list	§16.12
symbol	§16.17
literal:	
boolean	
character	§ 16.1
float	§16.7
integer	§16.10
string	§ 16.16
vector	§16.19

9.5 Boolean

A boolean value is either false, which is represented by the empty list—written () and is also the value of ${\tt nil}$ —or true, which is represented by any other value than () or if specified as ${\tt t}$:

9.5.0.5 Syntax

```
boolean:
    true
    false

true:
    t
    object not ()

false:
    ()
    nil
```

Although the class containing exactly this set of values is not defined in the language, notation is abused for convenience and *boolean* is defined, for the purposes of this definition, to mean that set of values.

10 Modules

The EULISP module scheme has several influences: LeLisp's module system and module compiler (complice), Haskell, ML [13], MIT-Scheme's make-environment and T's locales.

All bindings of objects in EULISP reside in some module somewhere. Also, all programs in EULISP are written as one or more modules. Almost every module imports a number of other modules to make its definition meaningful. These imports have two purposes, which are separated in EULISP: firstly the bindings needed to process the syntax in which the module is written, and secondly the bindings needed to resolve the free variables in the module after syntax expansion. These bindings are made accessible by specifying which modules are to be imported for which purpose in a directive at the beginning of each module. The names of modules are bound in a disjoint binding environment which is only accessible via the module definition form. That is to say, modules are not first-class. The body of a module definition comprises a list of directives followed by a sequence of level-0 and export forms.

The module mechanism provides abstraction and security in a form complementary to that provided by the object system. Indeed, although objects do support data abstraction, they do not support all forms of information hiding and they are usually conceptually smaller units than modules. A module defines a mapping between a set of names and either local or imported bindings of those names. Most such bindings are immutable. The exception are those bindings created by deflocal which may be modified by both the defining and importing modules. There are no implicit imports into a module—not even the special forms are available in a module that imports nothing. A module exports nothing by default. Mutually referential modules are not possible because a module must be defined before it can be used. Hence, the importation dependencies form a directed acyclic graph. The processing of a module definition uses three environments, which are initially empty. These are the top-lexical, the external and the syntax environments of the module.

top-lexical: The top-lexical environment comprises all the locally defined bindings and all the imported bindings.

external: The external environment comprises all the exposed bindings—bindings from modules being exposed by this module but not necessarily imported—and all the exported bindings, which are either local or imported. Thus, the external environment might not be a subset of the top-lexical environment because, by virtue of an expose directive, it can contain bindings from modules which have not been imported. This is the environment received by any module importing this module.

syntax: The syntax environment comprises all the bindings available for the syntax expansion of the module.

Each binding is a pair of a *local-name* and a *module-name*. It is a violation if any two instances of *local-name* in any one of these environments have different *module-name*s. This is called a name clash. These environments do not all need to exist at the same time, but it is simpler for the purposes of definition to describe module processing as if they do.

10.1 Module Definition

10.1.1 defmodule

syntax

10.1.1.1 Syntax

```
def module - 0-form:
       ( defmodule \ module - name
         module-directives
         level-0-module-form^*)
module-name:
       identifier
module-directives:
       (module-directive^*)
module\mbox{-}directive:
       export ( identifier* )
       expose ( module-descriptor^* )
       import ( module-descriptor^*
       syntax ( module-descriptor*
level-0-module-form:
       ( export identifier* )
       level - 0-form
       defining-0-form
       ( progn level-0-module-form* )
module-descriptor:
       module\text{-}name
       module	ext{-filter}
module-filter:
       ( except ( identifier* ) module-descriptor )
       (only (identifier*) module-descriptor)
       ( rename ( rename-pair* ) module-descriptor )
rename-pair:
       ( identifier identifier )
level-0-form:
       identifier
       literal
       special-0-form
       function-call-form
form:
       level-0-form
special-form:
       special \hbox{-} 0 \hbox{-} form
```

Arguments

module name: A symbol used to name the module.

module directives: A form specifying the exported names, exposed modules, imported modules and syntax modules used by this module.

 $module\ form\colon$ One of a defining form, an expression or an export directive.

Remarks

The **defmodule** form defines a module named by *module-name* and associates the name *module-name* with a module object in the module binding environment.

NOTE 1 Intentionally, nothing is defined about any relationship between modules and files.

Examples

An example module definition with explanatory comments is given in example 1.

10.2 Directives

The list of module directives is a sequence of keywords and forms, where the keywords indicate the interpretation of the forms (see syntax table 10.1.1.1). This representation allows for the addition of further keywords at other levels of the definition and also for implementation-defined keywords. For the keywords given here, there is no defined order of appearance,

nor is there any restriction on the number of times that a keyword can appear. Multiple occurrences of any of the directives defined here are treated as if there is a single directive whose form is the combination of each of the occurrences. This definition describes the processing of four keywords, which are now described in detail. The syntax of all the directives is given in syntax table 10.1.1.1 and an example of their use appears in example 1.

10.2.1 export Directive

This is denoted by the keyword **export** followed by a sequence of names of top-lexical bindings—these could be either locally-defined or imported—and has the effect of making those bindings accessible to any module importing this module by adding them to the external environment of the module. A name clash can arise in the external environment from interaction with exposed modules.

10.2.2 import Directive

This is denoted by the keyword import followed by a sequence of module-descriptors (see syntax table 10.1.1.1), being module names or the filters except, only and rename. This sequence denotes the union of all the names generated by each element of the sequence. A filter can, in turn, be applied to a sequence of module descriptors, and so the effect of different kinds of filters can be combined by nesting them. An import directive specifies either the importation of a module in its entirety or the selective importation of specified bindings from a module.

The purpose of this directive is to specify the imported bindings which constitute part of the top-lexical environment of a module. These are the explicit run-time dependencies of the module. Additional run-time dependencies may arise as a result of syntax expansion. These are called implicit run-time dependencies.

In processing import directives, every name should be thought of as a pair of a *module-0-name* and a *local-name*. Intuitively, a namelist of such pairs is generated by reference to the module name and then filtered by except, only and rename. In an import directive, when a namelist has been filtered, the names are regarded as being defined in the top-lexical environment of the module into which they have been imported. A name clash can arise in the top-lexical environment from interaction between different imported modules. Elements of an import directive are interpreted as follows:

module-name: All the exported names from *module-name*.

except: Filters the names from each *module-descriptor* discarding those specified and keeping all other names. The except directive is convenient when almost all of the names exported by a module are required, since it is only necessary to name those few that are not wanted to exclude them.

only: Filters the names from each *module-descriptor* keeping only those names specified and discarding all other names. The only directive is convenient when only a few names exported by a module are required, since it is only necessary to name those that are wanted to include them.

rename: Filters the names from each *module-descriptor* replacing those with *old-name* by *new-name*. Any name not mentioned in the replacement list is passed unchanged. Note that once a name has been replaced the new-name is not compared against the replacement list again. Thus, a binding can only be renamed once by a single rename directive. In consequence, name exchanges are possible.

Example 1 – module directives

```
(defmodule a-module
 (import
                                                      ;; import everything from module-1
    (module-1
     (except (binding-a) module-2)
                                                      ;; all but binding-a from module-2
     (only (binding-b) module-3)
                                                      ;; only binding-b from module-3
      ((binding-c binding-d) (binding-d binding-c)) ;; all of module-4, but exchange
     module-4))
                                                      ;; the names of binding-c and binding-d
  syntax
    (syntax-module-1
                                                      ;; all of the module syntax-module-1
                                                      ;; rename the binding of syntax-a
     (rename ((syntax-a syntax-b))
                                                      ;; of syntax-module-2 as syntax-b
     syntax-module-2)
     (rename ((syntax-c syntax-a))
                                                      ;; rename the binding of syntax-c
     syntax-module-3))
                                                      ;; of syntax-module-3 as syntax-a
  expose
    ((except (binding-e) module-5)
                                                      ;; all but binding-e from module-5
    module-6)
                                                      ;; export all of module-6
  export
    (binding-1 binding-2 binding-3))
                                                      ;; and three bindings from this module
 (export local-binding-4)
                                                      ;; a fourth binding from this module
 (export binding-c)
                                                      ;; the imported binding binding-c
```

10.2.3 expose Directive

This is denoted by the keyword expose followed by a list of module-directives (see syntax table 10.1.1.1). The purpose of this directive is to allow a module to export subsets of the external environments of various modules without importing them itself. Processing an expose directive employs the same model as for imports, namely, a pair of a module-name and a local-name with the same filtering operations. When the namelist has been filtered, the names are added to the external environment of the module begin processed. A name clash can arise in the external environment from interaction with exports or between different exposed modules. As an example of the use of expose, a possible implementation of the level-0 module is shown in example 1.

Example 1 - module using expose

```
(defmodule level-0
  (expose
    (character collection compare condition convert
    copy double-float elementary-functions event
    formatted-io int function
    keyword list lock number object-0 stream string
    symbol syntax-0 table thread vector)))
```

It is also meaningful for a module to include itself in an expose directive. In this way, it is possible to refer to all the bindings in the module being defined. This is convenient, in combination with <code>except</code> (see § 10.2.2), as a way of exporting all but a few bindings in a module, especially if syntax expansion creates additional bindings whose names are not known, but should be exported.

10.2.4 syntax Directive

This directive is processed in the same way as an import directive, except that the bindings are added to the syntax environment. This environment is used in the second phase of module processing (syntax expansion). These constitute the dependencies for the syntax expansion of the definitions and expressions in the body of the module. A name clash can arise in the syntax environment from interaction between different syntax modules.

It is important to note that special forms are considered part of the syntax and they may also be renamed.

10.3 Definitions and Expressions

Definitions in a module only containunqualified names—that is, local-names, using the above terminology and created by defining forms: are

```
defining-0-form:
    defclass-form
    defcondition-form
    defconstant-form
    deflocal-form
    defgeneric-form
    defsyntax-form
    defun-form
```

A top-lexical binding is created exactly once and shared with all modules that import its exported name from the module that created the binding. A name clash can arise in the top-lexical environment from interaction between local definitions and between local definitions and imported modules. Only top-lexical bindings created by deflocal are mutable—both in the defining module and in any importing module. It is a violation to modify an immutable binding. Expressions, that is non-defining forms, are collected and evaluated in order of ap-

pearance at the end of the module definition process when the top-lexical environment is complete—that is after the creation and initialization of the top-lexical bindings. The exception to this is the **progn** form, which is descended and the forms within it are treated as if the **progn** were not present. Definitions may only appear either at top-level within a module definition or inside any number of **progn** forms. This is specified more precisely in the grammar for a module in syntax table 10.1.1.1.

10.4 Special Forms

***HGW Say something!

```
special - 0-form:
       defmethod-form
       generic-lambda-form
       quote\mbox{-}form
       lambda-form
       setq	ext{-}form
       if-form
       let/cc-form
       letfuns-form
       progn-form
       unwind-protect-form
       quasiquote\hbox{-}form
       unquote	ext{-}form
       unquote-splicing-form
       call-next-handler-form
       with-handler-form
       cond-form
       and-form
       or-form
       block-form
       return-from-form
       let-form
       let-star-form
       with-input-file-form
       with-output-file-form
       with-source-form
       with-sink-form
```

10.5 Module Processing

The following steps summarize the module definition process:

directive processing: This is described in detail in § 10.2–10.2.4. This step creates and initializes the top-lexical, syntax and external environments.

syntax expansion: The body of the module is expanded according to the operators defined in the syntax environment constructed from the syntax directive.

NOTE 1 The semantics of syntax expansion are still under discussion and will be described fully in a future version of the EULISP definition. In outline, however, it is intended that the mechanism should provide for hygenic expansion of forms in such a way that the programmer need have no knowledge of the expansion-time or run-time dependencies of the syntax defining module. Currently syntax expansion is unhygienic to allow a simple syntax for syntax operator definition.

static analysis: The expanded body of the module is analyzed. Names referenced in export forms are added to the external environment. Names defined by defining forms are added to the top-lexical environment. It is a violation, if a free identifier in an expression or defining form does not have a binding in the top-lexical environment.

NOTE 2 Additional implementation-defined steps may be added here, such as compilation.

initialization: The top-lexical bindings of the module (created above) are initialized by evaluating the defining forms in the body of the module in the order they appear.

NOTE 3 In this sense, a module can be regarded as a generalization of the **letfuns** form of this and other Lisp dialects.

expression evaluation: The expressions in the body of the module are evaluated in the order in which they appear.

11 Objects

In EuLisp, every object in the system has a specific class. Classes themselves are first-class objects. In this respect EuLisp differs from statically-typed object-oriented languages such as C++ and μ CEYX. The EuLisp object system is called Telos. The facilities of the object system are split across the two levels of the definition. Level-0 supports the definition of generic functions, methods and structures. The defined name of this module is telos0.

Programs written using Telos typically involve the design of a *class hierarchy*, where each class represents a category of entities in the problem domain, and a *protocol*, which defines the operations on the objects in the problem domain.

A class defines the structure and behaviour of its instances. *Structure* is the information contained in the class's instances and *behaviour* is the way in which the instances are treated by the protocol defined for them.

The components of an object are called its *slots*. Each slot of an object is defined by its class.

A protocol defines the operations which can be applied to instances of a set of classes. This protocol is typically defined in terms of a set of *generic functions*, which are functions whose application behaviour depends on the classes of the arguments. The particular class-specific behaviour is partitioned into separate units called *methods*. A method is not a function itself, but is a closed expression which is a component of a generic function.

Generic functions replace the *send* construct found in many object-oriented languages. In contrast to sending a message to a particular object, which it must know how to handle, the method executed by a generic function is determined by all of its arguments. Methods which specialize on more than one of their arguments are called *multi-methods*.

Inheritance is provided through classes. Slots and methods defined for a class will also be defined for its subclasses but a subclass may specialize them. In practice, this means that an instance of a class will contain all the slots defined directly in the class as well as all of those defined in the class's superclasses. In addition, a method specialized on a particular class will be applicable to direct and indirect instances of this class. The inheritance rules, the applicability of methods and the generic dispatch are described in detail later in this section.

Classes are defined using the defclass (11.3) and defcondition (13) defining forms, both of which create top-lexical bindings.

Generic functions are defined using the **defgeneric** defining form, which creates a named generic function in the top-lexical environment of the module in which it appears and **generic-lambda**, which creates an anonymous generic function. These forms are described in detail later in this section.

Methods can either be defined at the same time as the generic function, or else defined separately using the **defmethod** syntax operator, which adds a new method to an existing generic function. This syntax operator is described in detail later in this section.

11.1 System Defined Classes

The basic classes of EULISP are elements of the object system class hierarchy, which is shown in table 1. Indentation indicates a subclass relationship to the class under which the

Table 1 - Level-0 class hierarchy

```
\mathcal{A} <object>
  \mathcal{C} <character>
  \mathcal{A} <condition> See table 2
      <function>
     C <continuation>
      \mathcal{C} <simple-function>
      \mathcal{P} <generic-function>
         \mathcal{C} <simple-generic-function>
   \mathcal{A} <collection>
      \mathcal{A} <sequence>
         \mathcal{P} <\bar{\text{list}}>
            C <cons>
C <null>
         \mathcal{A} <character-sequence>
            C <string>
         \mathcal C <vector>
      {\cal A} 
         \mathcal{C} <hash-table>
  \mathcal{C} <lock>
   \mathcal{A} <number>
      \mathcal{A} <integer>
         \mathcal{C} <fpi>
      \mathcal{A} <float>
         \mathcal C <double-float>
   \mathcal{A} <stream>
      \mathcal{A} <buffered-stream>
         C <string-stream>
         \mathcal{C} <file-stream>
   {\cal A} <name>
      \mathcal{C} <symbol>
      \mathcal{C} <keyword>
   \mathcal{A} <thread>
      C <simple-thread>
```

line has been indented, for example, <condition> is a subclass of <object>. The names given here correspond to the bindings of names to classes as they are exported from the level-0 modules. Classes directly relevant to the object system are described in this section while others are described in corresponding sections, e.g. <condition> is described in § 12.8. In this definition, unless otherwise specified, classes declared to be subclasses of other classes may be indirect subclasses. Classes not declared to be in a subclass relationship are disjoint. Furthermore, unless otherwise specified, all objects declared to be of a certain class may be indirect instances of that class.

11.1.1 <object>

class

The root of the inheritance hierarchy. <object> defines the basic methods for initialization and external representation of objects. No initialization options are specified for <object>.

11.1.2 <class>

class

The default super-class including for itself. All classes defined using the defclass form are direct or indirect subclasses of <class>. Thus, this class is specializable by user-defined classes at level-0.

11.2 Single Inheritance

TELOS level-0 provides only single inheritance, meaning that a class can have exactly one direct superclass—but indefinitely many direct subclasses. In fact, all classes in the level-0 class inheritance tree have exactly one direct superclass except the root class <object> which has no direct superclass.

Each class has a *class precedence list (CPL)*, a linearized list of all its superclasses, which defines the classes from which the class inherits structure and behaviour. For single inheritance classes, this list is defined recursively as follows:

- a) the CPL of <object> is a list of one element containing <object> itself;
- b) the *CPL* of any other class is a list of classes beginning with the class itself followed by the elements of the *CPL* of its direct superclass which is **object** by default.

The class precedence list controls system-defined protocols concerning:

- a) inheritance of slot and class options when initializing a class;
- method lookup and generic dispatch when applying a generic function.

11.3 Defining Classes

11.3.1 defclass

defining operator

11.3.1.1 Syntax

```
def class-form:
       ( defclass class-name superclass-name
         ( slot^* ) class-option^* )
class-name:
       identifier
superclass-name:
       identifier
slot:
       slot-name
       ( slot-name slot-option* )
slot-name:
       identifier
slot-option:
                  identifier
       keyword:
       default:
                 level-0-form
       reader:
                 identifier
       writer: identifier
       accessor: identifier
       required?: boolean
class-option:
       keywords: ( identifier* )
       constructor: constructor-specification
       predicate: identifier
       abstract?:
                    boolean
constructor-specification:
       ( identifier identifier* )
initlist:
       {identifier object}*
```

Arguments

class-name: A symbol naming a binding to be initialized with the new structure class. The binding is immutable.

superclass-name: A symbol naming a binding of a class to be used as the direct superclass of the new structure class. slot: Either a slot-name or a list of slot-name followed by some slot-options.

class-option: A key and a value (see below) which, taken together, apply to the class as a whole.

Remarks

defclass defines a new structure class. Structure classes support single inheritance as described above. Neither class redefinition nor changing the class of an instance is supported by structure classes¹⁾.

The ${\it slot-options}$ are interpreted as follows:

keyword: identifier: The value of this option is an identifier naming a symbol, which is the name of an argument to be supplied in the initialization options of a call to make on the new class. The value of this argument in the call to make is the initial value of the slot. This option must only be specified once for a particular slot. The same keyword name may be used for several slots, in which case they will share the same initial value if the keyword is given to make. Subclasses inherit the keyword. Each slot must have at most one keyword including the inherited one. That means, a subclass can not shadow or add a new keyword, if a superclass has already defined one.

default: level-0-form: The value of this option is a form, which is evaluated as the default value of the slot, to be used if no keyword is defined for the slot or given to a call to make. The expression is evaluated in the lexical environment of the call to defclass and the dynamic environment of the call to make. The expression is evaluated each time make is called and the default value is called for. The order of evaluation of the defaults in all the slots is determined by initialize. This option must only be specified once for a particular slot. Subclasses inherit the default. However, a more specific form may be specified in a subclass, which will shadow the inherited one.

reader: identifier: The value is the identifier of the variable to which the reader function will be bound. The binding is immutable. The reader function is a means to access the slot. The reader function is a function of one argument, which should be an instance of the new class. No writer function is automatically bound with this option. This option can be specified more than once for a slot, creating several bindings for the same reader function. It is a violation to specify the same reader, writer, or accessor name for two different slots.

writer: identifier: The value is the identifier of the variable to which the writer function will be bound. The binding is immutable. The writer function is a means to change the slot value. The creation of the writer is analogous to that of the reader function. The writer function is a function of two arguments, the first should be an instance of the new class and the second can be any new value for the slot. This option can be specified more than once for a slot. It is a violation to

¹⁾In combination with the guarantee that the behaviour of generic functions cannot be modified once it has been defined, due to no support for method removal nor method combination, this imbues level-0 programs with static semantics.

specify the same reader, writer, or accessor name for two different slots.

accessor: identifier: The value is the identifier of the variable to which the reader function will be bound. In addition, the use of this slot-option causes the writer function to be associated to the reader via the setter mechanism. This option can be specified more than once for a slot. It is a violation to specify the same reader, writer, or accessor name for two different slots.

required? : boolean: The value is either t or (). t indicates that an initialization argument must be supplied for this slot.

The class-options are interpreted as follows:

keywords: (identifier*): The value of this option is a list of identifiers naming symbols, which extend the inherited names of arguments to be supplied to make on the new class. Keywords are inherited by union. The values of all legal arguments in the call to make are the initial values of corresponding slots if they name a slot keyword or are ignored by the default initialize <object> method, otherwise. This option must only be specified once for a class.

constructor: constructor-specification: Creates a constructor function for the new class. The constructor specification gives the name to which the constructor function will be bound, followed by a sequence of legal keywords for the class. The new function creates an instance of the class and fills in the slots according to the match between the specified keywords and the given arguments to the constructor function. This option may be specified any number of times for a class.

predicate: identifier: Creates a function which tests whether an object is an instance of the new class. The predicate specification gives the name to which the predicate function will be bound. This option may be specified any number of times for a class.

abstract? : boolean: The value is either t or (). t indicates that the class being defined is abstract.

11.3.2 abstract-class?

function

11.3.2.1 Signature

```
(abstract-class? object) 
ightarrow <object>
```

Arguments

object: Returns object, if it is an abstract class, otherwise ().

NOTE 1 abstract-class? is not currently implemented in Voutoo

11.4 Defining Generic Functions and Methods

11.4.1 <function> <object> class

The class of all functions.

11.4.2 <simple-function>

<function> class

Place holder for <simple-function> class.

11.4.3 <generic-function>

<function> class

The class of all generic functions.

11.4.4 <simple-generic-function>

 ${
m <generic-function>}\ class$

Place holder for <simple-generic-function> class..

11.4.5 defgeneric

defining operator

11.4.5.1 Syntax

```
defgeneric-form:
       ( defgeneric gf-name gf-lambda-list
          level-0-init-option)
gf-name:
       identifier
gf-lambda-list:
       specialized-lambda-list
level-0-init-option:
       method method-description
method-description:
       ( specialized-lambda-list form* )
specialized-lambda-list:
       ( specialized-parameter<sup>+</sup> {. identifier}<sub>opt</sub> )
specialized-parameter:
       ( identifier class-name )
       identifier
```

Arguments

gf-name: One of a symbol, or a form denoting a setter function or a converter function.

gf-lambda-list: The parameter list of the generic function, which may be specialized to restrict the domain of methods to be attached to the generic function.

level-0-init-option: is method method-description where method-description is a list comprising the specialized-lambda-list of the method, which denotes the domain, and a sequence of forms, denoting the method body. The method body is closed in the lexical environment in which the generic function definition appears. This option may be specified more than once.

Remark

This defining form defines a new generic function. The resulting generic function will be bound to *gf-name*. The second argument is the formal parameter list. The method's specialized lamba list must be congruent to that of the generic function. Two lambda lists are said to be *congruent* iff:

- a) both have the same number of formal parameters, and
- b) if one lambda list has a rest formal parameter then the other lambda list has a rest formal parameter too, and vice versa.

An error is signalled (condition class: <non-congruent-lambda-lists>) if any method defined on this generic function does not have a lambda list *congruent* to that of the generic function.

An error is signalled (condition class: <incompatible-method-domain>) if the method's specialized lambda list widens the domain of the generic function. In other words, the lambda lists of all methods must specialize on subclasses of the classes in the lambda list of the generic function.

An error is signalled (condition class: <method-domain-clash>) if any methods defined on this generic function have the same domain. These conditions apply both to methods defined at the same time as the generic function and to any methods added subsequently by defmethod. An level-0-init-option is an identifier followed by a corresponding value.

An error is signalled (condition class: <no-applicable-method>) if an attempt is made to apply a generic function which has no applicable methods for the classes of the arguments supplied.

11.4.5.2 Rewrite Rules

```
(defgeneric identifier
  gf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*)
              \equiv (defconstant identifier
                   (generic-lambda
                      gf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*))
(defgeneric
  (setter identifier)
  gf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*)
              \equiv ((setter setter) identifier
                    (generic-lambda
                      qf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*))
(defgeneric
  (converter identifier)
  qf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*)
              ≡ ((setter converter)
                    identifier
                    (generic-lambda
                      gf-lambda-list level-0-init-option*))
```

Examples

In the following example of the use of defgeneric a generic function named gf-0 is defined with three methods attached to it. The domain of gf-0 is constrained to be <object> × <class-a>. In consequence, each method added to the generic function, both here and later (by defmethod), must have a domain which is a subclass of <object> × <class-a>, which is to say that <class-c>, <class-e> and <class-g> must all be subclasses of <class-a>.

See also

defmethod, generic-lambda.

11.4.6 defmethod

defining operator

11.4.6.1 Syntax

Remarks

This syntax operator is used for defining new methods on generic functions. A new method object is defined with the specified body and with the domain given by the specialized-lambda-list. This method is added to the generic function bound to <code>gf-name</code>, which is an identifier, or a form denoting a setter function or a converter function. If the specialized-lambda-list is not congruent with that of the generic function, an error is signalled (condition class: <code><non-congruent-lambda-lists></code>). An error is signalled (condition class: <code><incompatible-method-domain></code>) if the method's specialized lambda list would widen the domain of the generic function. If there is a method with the same domain already defined on this gneric function, an error is signalled (condition class: <code><method-domain-clash></code>).

11.4.7 generic-lambda

special operator

11.4.7.1 Syntax

Remarks

generic-lambda creates and returns an anonymous generic function that can be applied immediately, much like the normal lambda. The *gf-lambda-list* and the *level-0-init-options* are interpreted exactly as for the level-0 definition of defgeneric.

Examples

In the following example an anonymous version of gf-0 (see defgeneric above) is defined. In all other respects the resulting object is the same as gf-0.

See also

defgeneric.

11.5 Specializing Methods

The following two operators are used to specialize more general methods. The more specialized method can do some additional computation before calling these operators and can then carry out further computation before returning. It is an error to use either of these operators outside a method body. Argument bindings inside methods are immutable. Therefore an argu-

ment inside a method retains its specialized class throughout the processing of the method.

11.5.1 call-next-method

 $special\ operator$

11.5.1.1 Signature

(call-next-method) → <object>

Regult

The result of calling the next most specific applicable method.

Remarks

The next most specific applicable method is called with the same arguments as the current method. An error is signalled (condition class: <no-next-method>) if there is no next most specific method.

11.5.2 next-method?

 $special\ operator$

11.5.2.1 Signature

 $(next-method?) \rightarrow boolean$

Result

If there is a next most specific method, next-method? returns a non-() value, otherwise, it returns ().

11.6 Method Lookup and Generic Dispatch

The system defined method lookup and generic function dispatch is purely class based.

The application behaviour of a generic function can be described in terms of *method lookup* and *generic dispatch*. The method lookup determines

- a) which methods attached to the generic function are applicable to the supplied arguments, and
- b) the linear order of the applicable methods with respect to classes of the arguments and the argument precedence order.

A class C_1 is called *more specific* than class C_2 with respect to C_3 iff C_1 appears before C_2 in the class precedence list (CPL) of C_3 ²⁾.

Two additional concepts are needed to explain the processes of method lookup and generic dispatch: (i) whether a method is applicable, (ii) how specific it is in relation to the other applicable methods. The definitions of each of these terms is now given.

A method with the domain $D_1 \times ... \times D_m[\times < list>]$ is applicable to the arguments $a_1 ... a_m[a_{m+1} ... a_n]$ if the class of

each argument, C_i , is a subclass of D_i , which is to say, D_i is a member of C_i 's class precedence list.

A method M_1 with the domain $D_{11} \times \ldots \times D_{1m}[\times < list>]$ is more specific than a method M_2 with the domain $D_{21} \times \ldots \times D_{2m}[\times < list>]$ with respect to the arguments $a_1 \ldots a_m[a_{m+1} \ldots a_n]$ iff there exists an $i \in (1 \ldots m)$ so that D_{1i} is more specific than D_{2i} with respect to C_i , the class of a_i , and for all $j = 1 \ldots i - 1$, D_{2j} is not more specific than D_{1j} with respect to C_j , the class of a_j .

Now, with the above definitions, we can describe the application behaviour of a generic function ($\mathbf{f} \ a_1 \dots a_m [a_{m+1} \dots a_n]$):

- a) Select the methods applicable to $a_1 \dots a_m[a_{m+1} \dots a_n]$ from all methods attached to f.
- b) Sort the applicable methods $M_1 \dots M_k$ into decreasing order of specificity using left to right argument precedence order to resolve otherwise equally specific methods.
- c) If call-next-method appears in one of the method bodies, make the sorted list of applicable methods available for it.
- d) Apply the most specific method on $a_1 \dots a_m [a_{m+1} \dots a_n]$.
- e) Return the result of the previous step.

The first two steps are usually called *method lookup* and the first four are usually called *generic dispatch*.

11.7 Creating and Initializing Objects

Objects can be created by calling

- constructors (predefined or user defined) or
- make, the general constructor function or
- allocate, the general allocator function.

11.7.1 make

function

Arguments

class: The class of the object to create.

 $key_1 \ obj_1 \dots key_n \ obj_n$: Initialization arguments.

Result

An instance of class.

Remarks

The general constructor make creates a new object calling allocate and initializes it by calling initialize. make returns whatever allocate returns as its result.

11.7.2 allocate

function

Arguments

class: The class to allocate.

initlist: The list of initialization arguments.

Result

A new uninitialized direct instance of the first argument.

²⁾This definition is required when multiple inheritance comes into play. Then, two classes have to be compared with respect to a third class even if they are not related to each other via the subclass relationship. Although, multiple inheritance is not provided at level-0, it is provided at level-1 the method lookup protocol is independent of the inheritance strategy defined on classes. It depends on the class precedence lists of the domains of methods attached to the generic function and the argument classes involved.

Remarks

The *class* must be a structure class, the *initlist* is ignored. The behaviour of **allocate** is extended at level-1 for classes not accessible at level-0. The level-0 behaviour is not affected by the level-1 extension.

11.7.3 initialize

generic function

Generic Arguments

object <object>: The object to initialize.

initlist: The list of initialization arguments.

Result

The initialized object.

Remarks

Initializes an object and returns the initialized object as the result. It is called by make on a new uninitialized object created by calling allocate.

Users may extend **initialize** by defining methods specializing on newly defined classes, which are structure classes at level-0.

11.7.4 initialize <object>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: The object to initialize.

initist: The list of initialization arguments.

Result

The initialized object.

Remarks

This is the default method attached to **initialize**. This method performs the following steps:

- a) Checks if the supplied keywords are legal and signals an error otherwise. Legal keywords are those specified in the class definition directly or inherited from a superclass. An keyword may be specified as a slot-option or as a classoption.
- b) Initializes the slots of the object according to the keyword, if supplied, or according to the most specific default, if specified. Otherwise, the slot remains "unbound".

Legal *keywords* which do not initialize a slot are ignored by the default **initialize** <object> method. More specific methods may handle these *keywords* and call the default method by calling call-next-method.

11.8 Accessing Slots

Object components (slots) can be accessed using reader and writer functions (accessors) only. For system defined object classes there are predefined readers and writers. Some of the writers are accessible using the **setter** function. If there is no writer for a slot, its value cannot be changed. When users define new classes, they can specify which readers and writers should be accessible in a module and by which binding. Accessor bindings are not exported automatically when a class (binding) is exported. They can only be exported explicitly.

11.9 Other Abstract Classes

11.9.1 <name>

<object> class

The class of all "names".

See also

<symbol> and <keyword>.

12 Level-0 Defining, Special and Function-call Forms

This section gives the syntax of well-formed expressions and describes the semantics of the special-forms, functions and syntax forms of the level-0 language. In the case of level-0 syntax forms, the description includes a set of expansion rules. However, these descriptions are not prescriptive of any processor and a conforming program cannot rely on adherence to these expansions.

12.1 Simple Expressions

12.1.1 constant

syntax

There are two kinds of constants, literal constants and defined constants. Only the first kind are considered here. A literal constant is a number, a string, a character, or the empty list. The result of processing such a literal constant is the constant itself—that is, it denotes itself.

Examples

() the empty list

123 a fixed precision integer

#\a a character
"abc" a string

12.1.2 defconstant

defining operator

12.1.2.1 Syntax

```
\begin{array}{ll} \textit{defconstant-form:} & \rightarrow & \texttt{<object>} \\ & \texttt{( defconstant } constant-name \ form \ ) \\ & constant-name: \\ & identifier \end{array}
```

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming an immutable toplexical binding to be initialized with the value of *form*.

form: The form whose value will be stored in the binding of identifier.

Remarks

The value of *form* is stored in the top-lexical binding of *identifier*. It is a violation to attempt to modify the binding of a defined constant.

12.1.3 t <symbol>

constant

Remarks

This may be used to denote the abstract boolean value *true*, but so may any other value than ().

12.1.4 symbol

syntax

The current lexical binding of **symbol** is returned. A symbol can also name a defined constant—that is, an immutable top-lexical binding.

12.1.5 deflocal

defining operator

12.1.5.1 Syntax

```
deflocal\text{-}form: \rightarrow < object>  ( deflocal \ local\text{-}name \ form ) local\text{-}name: \ identifier
```

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming a binding containing the value of *form*.

form: The form whose value will be stored in the binding of identifier.

Remarks

The value of *form* is stored in the top-lexical binding of *identifier*. The binding created by a **deflocal** form is mutable.

See also

setq.

12.1.6 quote

 $special\ operator$

12.1.6.1 Syntax

```
quote-form: → object
    ( quote object )
    'object
```

Arguments

object: the object to be quoted.

\mathbf{Result}

The result is *object*.

Remarks

The result of processing the expression (quote object) is object. The object can be any object having an external representation. The special form quote can be abbreviated using apostrophe — graphic representation '— so that (quote a) can be written 'a. These two notations are used to incorporate literal constants in programs. It is an error to modify a literal expression.

12.1.7 ' syntax

Remarks

See quote.

12.2 Functions: creation, definition and application

12.2.1 lambda

 $special\ operator$

12.2.1.1 Syntax

```
lambda-form: → <function>
    ( lambda lambda-list body )
lambda-list:
    identifier
    simple-list
    rest-list
simple-list:
    ( identifier* )
rest-list:
    ( identifier* . identifier )
body:
    form*
```

Arguments

lambda-list: The parameter list of the function conforming to the syntax 12.2.1.1.

form: An expression.

Result

A function with the specified *lambda-list* and sequence of *forms*.

Remarks

The function construction operator is lambda. Access to the lexical environment of definition is guaranteed. The syntax of lambda-list is defined in reflambda-syntax-table.

If <code>lambda-list</code> is an <code>identifier</code>, it is bound to a newly allocated list of the actual parameters. This binding has lexical scope and indefinite extent. If <code>lambda-list</code> is a <code>simple-list</code>, the arguments are bound to the corresponding <code>identifier</code>. Otherwise, <code>lambda-list</code> must be a <code>rest-list</code>. In this case, each <code>identifier</code> preceding the dot is bound to the corresponding argument and the <code>identifier</code> succeeding the dot is bound to a newly allocated list whose elements are the remaining arguments. These bindings have lexical scope and indefinite extent. It is a violation if the same identifier appears more than once in a <code>lambda-list</code>. It is an error to modify <code>rest-list</code>.

12.2.2 defsyntax

 $defining\ operator$

12.2.2.1 Syntax

```
\begin{array}{ll} \textit{defsyntax-form:} & \rightarrow & <\texttt{function>} \\ & (& \texttt{defsyntax} & \textit{syntax-operator-name} & \textit{lambda-list} & \textit{body} \\ & \textit{syntax-operator-name:} \\ & \textit{identifier} \\ \end{array} \right)
```

Arguments

syntax-operator-name: A symbol naming an immutable top-lexical binding to be initialized with a function having the specified lambda-list and body.

lambda-list: The parameter list of the function conforming to the syntax specified under lambda.

body: A sequence of forms.

Remarks

The defsyntax form defines a syntax operator named by syntax-operator-name and stores the definition as the top-lexical binding of syntax-operator-name. The interpretation of the lambda-list is as defined for lambda (see 12.2.1.1).

NOTE 1 A syntax operator is automatically exported from the the module which defines because it cannot be used in the module which defines it.

See also

lambda.

12.2.3 defun

defining operator

12.2.3.1 Syntax

```
defun-form: → <function>
    simple-defun
    setter-defun

simple-defun:
    ( defun function-name lambda-list
    body )

setter-defun:
    ( defun ( setter function-name ) lambda-list
    body )

function-name:
    identifier
```

Arguments

function-name: A symbol naming an immutable toplexical binding to be initialized with a function having the specified *lambda-list* and *body*.

(setter function-name): An expression denoting the setter function to correspond to function-name.

lambda-list: The parameter list of the function conforming to the syntax specified under lambda.

body: A sequence of forms.

Remarks

The defun form defines a function named by *function-name* and stores the definition (i) as the top-lexical binding of *function-name* or (ii) as the setter function of *function-name*. The interpretation of the *lambda-list* is as defined for *lambda*.

12.2.3.2 Rewrite Rules

```
 \begin{array}{lll} (\text{defun } identifier & \equiv & (\text{defconstant } identifier \\ lambda-list & & (\text{lambda } lambda-list \\ body) & & body)) \\ \\ (\text{defun} & \equiv & ((\text{setter setter}) \\ (\text{setter } identifier) \\ lambda-list & & (\text{lambda } lambda-list \\ body) & & body)) \\ \\ \end{array}
```

12.2.4 function call

syntax

12.2.4.1 Syntax

Arguments

operator: This may be a symbol—being either the name of a special form, or a lexical variable—or a function call, which must result in an instance of <function>.

An error is signalled (condition class: <invalid-operator>) if the operator is not a function.

operand*: Each operand must be either an identifier, a literal, a special-form or a function-call-form.

Result

The result is the value of the application of operator to the evaluation of $operand^*$.

Remarks

The *operand* expressions are evaluated in order from left to right. The *operator* expression may be evaluated at any time before, during or after the evaluation of the operands.

NOTE 2 The above rule for the evaluation of function calls was finally agreed upon for this version since it is in line with one strand of common practice, but it may be revised in a future version.

See also

constant, symbol, quote.

12.2.5 <invalid-operator>

<general-condition> condition

Initialization Options

invalid-operator object: The object which was being used as an operator.

operand-list list: The operands prepared for the operator.

Remarks

Signalled by function call if the operator is not an instance of <function>.

12.2.6 apply function

12.2.6.1 Syntax

Arguments

function: A form which must evaluate to an instance
 of <function>.

 $form_1 \dots form_{n-1}$: A sequence of expressions, which will be evaluated according to the rules given in function-call-form.

 $form_n$: An expression which must evaluate to a proper list. It is an error if obj_n is not a proper list.

Result

The result is the result of calling *function* with the actual parameter list created by appending $form_n$ to a list of the arguments $form_1$ through $form_{n-1}$. An error is signalled (condition class: <invalid-operator>) if the first argument is not an instance of <function>.

See also

function-call-form, <invalid-operator>.

12.3 Destructive Operations

An assignment operation modifies the contents of a binding named by a identifier—that is, a variable.

12.3.1 setq

 $special\ operator$

12.3.1.1 Syntax

```
setq	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}  ( setq identifier form )
```

Arguments

identifier: The identifier whose lexical binding is to be updated.

form: An expression whose value is to be stored in the binding of *identifier*.

Result

The result is the value of *form*.

Remarks

The *form* is evaluated and the result is stored in the closest lexical binding named by *identifier*. It is a violation to modify an immutable binding.

12.3.2 setter

function

Arguments

reader: An expression which must evaluate to an instance of <function>.

Result

The writer corresponding to reader.

Remarks

A generalized place update facility is provided by setter. Given reader, setter returns the corresponding update function. If no such function is known to setter, an error is signalled (condition class: <no-setter>). Thus (setter car) returns the function to update the car of a pair. New update functions can be added by using setter's update function, which is accessed by the expression (setter setter). Thus ((setter setter) a-reader a-writer) installs the function which is the value of a-writer as the writer of the reader function which is the value of a-reader. All writer functions in this definition and user-defined writers have the same immutable status as other standard functions, such that attempting to redefine such a function, for example ((setter setter) car a-new-value), signals an error (condition class: <cannot-update-setter>)

defgeneric, defmethod, defclass, defun.

12.3.3<no-setter> <general-condition> condition

Initialization Options

object object: The object given to setter.

Signalled by setter if there is no updater for the given function.

12.3.4 <cannot-update-setter> <general-condition> condition

Initialization Options

 $accessor \ object_1:$ The given accessor object.

updater object₂: The given updater object.

Remarks

Signalled by (setter setter) if the updater of the given accessor is immutable.

See also

12.4.1 if

setter.

12.4Conditional Expressions

12.4.1.1

form

Syntax

```
if-form:
          → <object>
       ( if antecedent
           consequent
         alternative )
antecedent:
      form
consequent:
      form
alternative:
```

Result

Either the value of *consequent* or *alternative* depending on the value of *antecedent*.

Remarks

The antecedent is evaluated. If the result is t the consequent is evaluated, otherwise the alternative is evaluated. Both consequent and alternative must be specified. The result of if is the result of the evaluation of whichever of *consequent* or alternative is chosen.

12.4.2 cond

special operator

special operator

12.4.2.1 Syntax

```
cond-form:
            → <object>
      ( cond
        {( antecedent consequent* )}* )
```

The cond syntax operator provides a convenient syntax for collections of *if-then-elseif...else* expressions.

12.4.2.2 Rewrite Rules

```
\equiv
                                     ()
(cond)
(cond (antecedent)
                                      (or antecedent (cond ...))
  ...)
(cond
                                      (or antecedent<sub>1</sub>
  (antecedent_1)
                                           (cond
  (antecedent_2 \ consequent^*)
                                             (antecedent_2)
                                                consequent^*)
                                             ...))
                                     (if antecedent_1
                                           (progn consequent^*)
  (antecedent_1 \ consequent^*)
  (antecedent_2 \ consequent^*)
                                           (cond
                                             (antecedent_2)
  ...)
                                                consequent^*)
                                              ...))
```

12.4.3else <symbol>

constant

Remarks

This may be used to denote the default clause in cond and case forms and has the value t, i.e. it is an alias for t introduced to improve readability of the cond and case forms.

12.4.4 when

special operator

12.4.4.1 Syntax

```
when	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
       ( when antecedent
            consequent)
```

Result

The *antecedent* is evaluated and if the result is t the *consequent* is evaluated and returned otherwise () is returned.

12.4.4.2 Rewrite Rules

```
(when antecedent \equiv (if antecedent)
  consequent)
                            consequent
                            ())
```

12.4.5unless

special operator

12.4.5.1Syntax

```
unless-form:
             → <object>
      ( unless antecedent
          consequent)
```

Result

The antecedent is evaluated and if the result is () the consequent is evaluated and returned otherwise () is returned.

12.4.5.2 Rewrite Rules

```
\begin{array}{ll} ({\tt unless} \ antecedent & \equiv \ ({\tt if} \ antecedent \\ consequent) & () \\ & consequent) \end{array}
```

12.4.6 and

special operator

12.4.6.1 Syntax

```
and\text{-}form: \rightarrow \langle \text{object} \rangle
( and consequent^* )
```

Remarks

The expansion of an and form leads to the evaluation of the sequence of *forms* from left to right. The first *form* in the sequence that evaluates to () stops evaluation and none of the *forms* to its right will be evaluated—that is to say, it is non-strict. The result of (and) is t. If none of the *forms* evaluate to (), the value of the last *form* is returned.

12.4.6.2 Rewrite Rules

```
\begin{array}{lll} (\text{and}) & \equiv & \mathsf{t} \\ (\text{and } form) & \equiv & form \\ (\text{and } form_1 \ form_2 \dots) & \equiv & (\text{if } form_1 \\ & & & (\text{and } form_2 \dots) \\ & & & & ()) \end{array}
```

12.4.7 or

 $special\ operator$

12.4.7.1 Syntax

```
or-form: → <object>
( or form* )
```

Remarks

The expansion of an or form leads to the evaluation of the sequence of *forms* from left to right. The value of the first *form* that evaluates to **t** is the result of the or form and none of the *forms* to its right will be evaluated—that is to say, it is non-strict. If none of the forms evaluate to **t**, the value of the last *form* is returned.

12.4.7.2 Rewrite Rules

```
 \begin{array}{cccc} (\texttt{or}) & \equiv & () \\ (\texttt{or} \ \textit{form}) & \equiv & \textit{form} \\ (\texttt{or} \ \textit{form}_1 \ \textit{form}_2 \dots) & \equiv & (\texttt{let} \ ((\texttt{x} \ \textit{form}_1)) \\ & & & (\texttt{if} \ \texttt{x} \\ & & & & (\texttt{or} \ \textit{form}_2 \dots))) \end{array}
```

Note that x does not occur free in any of $form_2 \dots form_n$.

12.5 Variable Binding and Sequences

12.5.1 let/cc

special operator

12.5.1.1 Syntax

```
let/cc-form: \rightarrow <object> ( let/cc identifier\ body )
```

Arguments

identifier: To be bound to the continuation of the
let/cc form.

body: A sequence of forms to evaluate.

Result

The result of evaluating the last form in **body** or the value of the argument given to the continuation bound to **identifier**.

Remarks

The *identifier* is bound to a new location, which is initialized with the continuation of the <code>let/cc</code> form. This binding is immutable and has lexical scope and indefinite extent. Each form in *body* is evaluated in order in the environment extended by the above binding. It is an error to call the continuation outside the dynamic extent of the <code>let/cc</code> form that created it. The continuation is a function of one argument. Calling the continuation causes the restoration of the lexical environment and dynamic environment that existed before entering the <code>let/cc</code> form.

Examples

An example of the use of let/cc is given in example 1. The function path-open takes a list of paths, the name of a file and list of options to pass to open. It tries to open the file by appending the name to each path in turn. Each time open fails, it signals a condition that the file was not found which is trapped by the handler function. That calls the continuation bound to fail to cause it to try the next path in the list. When open does find a file, the continuation bound to succeed is called with the stream as its argument, which is subsequently returned to the caller of path-open. If the path list is exhausted, map (section 16.2) terminates and an error (condition class: <cannot-open-path>) is signalled.

Example 1 - using let/cc

```
(defun path-open (pathlist name . options)
  (let/cc succeed
    (map
      (lambda (path)
        (let/cc fail
          (with-handler
            (lambda (condition resume) (fail ()))
            (succeed
              (apply open
                (format () "~a/~a" path name)
                options)))))
      pathlist)
    (error
      (format ()
        "Cannot open stream for (~a) ~a"
        pathlist name)
      <cannot-open-path>)))
```

See also

block, return-from.

12.5.2 block

 $special\ operator$

12.5.2.1 Syntax

```
block-form: \rightarrow <object>
( block identifier body )
```

Remarks

The block expression is used to establish a statically scoped binding of an escape function. The block *identifier* is bound to the continuation of the block. The continuation can be invoked anywhere within the block by using return-from. The *forms* are evaluated in sequence and the value of the last one is returned as the value of the block form. See also let/cc.

12.5.2.2 Rewrite Rules

```
\begin{array}{ll} (\texttt{block}\ identifier) & \equiv & () \\ (\texttt{block}\ identifier & \equiv & (\texttt{let/cc}\ identifier \\ body) & body) \end{array}
```

The rewrite for **block** does not prevent the **block** being exited from anywhere in its dynamic extent, since the function bound to *identifier* is a first-class item and can be passed as an argument like other values.

See also

return-from.

12.5.3 return-from

special operator

12.5.3.1 Syntax

```
return	ext{-}from	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{-} 	ex
```

Remarks

In return-from, the *identifier* names the continuation of the (lexical) block from which to return. return-from is the invocation of the continuation of the block named by *identifier*. The *form* is evaluated and the value is returned as the value of the block named by *identifier*.

12.5.3.2 Rewrite Rules

```
(return-from identifier) ≡ (identifier ())
(return-from ≡ (identifier form)
identifier form)
```

See also

block.

12.5.4 letfuns

 $special\ operator$

12.5.4.1 Syntax

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming a new inner-lexical binding to be initialized with the function having the lambda-list and body specified.

lambda-list: The parameter list of the function conforming to the syntax specified below.

body: A sequence of forms.

letfuns-body: A sequence of forms.

Result

The letfuns operator provides for local mutually recursive function creation. Each *identifier* is bound to a new inner-lexical binding initialized with the function constructed from *lambda-list* and *body*. The scope of the *identifiers* is the entire letfuns form. The *lambda-list* is either a single variable or a list of variables—see lambda. Each form in *letfuns-body* is evaluated in order in the lexical environment extended with the bindings of the *identifiers*. The result of evaluating the last form in *letfuns-body* is returned as the result of the letfuns form.

12.5.5 let

special operator

12.5.5.1 Syntax

```
 \begin{array}{ll} let\text{-}form: & \to & <\text{object}> \\ & (& \text{let } identifier_{opt} & (& binding^* & ) \\ & & body & ) \\ binding: & & variable \\ & & (& variable & form & ) \\ variable: & & identifier & var: \\ & & variable & \end{array}
```

Remarks

The optional *identifier* denotes that the let form can be called from within its *body*. This is an abbreviation for letfuns form in which *identifier* is bound to a function whose parameters are the identifiers of the *bindings* of the let, whose body is that of the let and whose initial call passes the values of the initializing form of the *bindings*. A binding is specified by either an identifier or a two element list of an identifier and an initializing form. All the initializing forms are evaluated in order from left to right in the current environment and the variables named by the identifiers in the *bindings* are bound to new locations holding the results. Each form in *body* is evaluated in order in the environment extended by the above bindings. The result of evaluating the last form in *body* is returned as the result of the let form.

12.5.5.2 Rewrite Rules

```
(let () body)
                            (progn body)
(let ((var_1 form_1)
                            ((lambda (var_1 var_2 var_3 ...)
       (var_2 form_2)
                                 body
                               form_1 \ form_2 \ () \ \ldots )
       var_3
  body)
(let var_0
                          (letfuns
                               ((var_0 (var_1 var_2 \dots))
     ((var_1 form_1)
                                body))
      var_2
                               (var_0 form_1 () \dots))
  body)
```

12.5.6 let*

special operator

12.5.6.1 Syntax

```
\begin{array}{ccc} \textit{let-star-form:} & \rightarrow & \texttt{object>} \\ & \texttt{(let* (}\textit{binding*)} \\ & \textit{body )} \end{array}
```

Remarks

A binding is specified by a two element list of a variable and an initializing form. The first initializing form is evaluated in the current environment and the corresponding variable is bound to a new location containing that result. Subsequent bindings are processed in turn, evaluating the initializing form in the environment extended by the previous binding. Each form in body is evaluated in order in the environment extended by the above bindings. The result of evaluating the last form is returned as the result of the let* form.

12.5.6.2 Rewrite Rules

```
 \begin{array}{cccc} (\mathsf{let*}\,() \ body) & \equiv & (\mathsf{progn} \ body) \\ (\mathsf{let*}\,((var_1 \ form_1) & \equiv & (\mathsf{let}\,((var_1 \ form_1)) \\ & (var_2 \ form_2) & & (\mathsf{let*}\,((var_2 \ form_2) \\ & var_3 & & var_3 \\ & \dots) & & \dots) \\ & body) & & body)) \end{array}
```

12.5.7 progn

 $special\ operator$

12.5.7.1 Syntax

```
progn	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}  ( progn body )
```

Arguments

form*: A sequence of forms and in certain circumstances, defining forms.

Result

The sequence of *forms* is evaluated from left to right, returning the value of the last one as the result of the **progn** form. If the sequence of forms is empty, **progn** returns ().

Remarks

If the progn form occurs enclosed only by progn forms and a defmodule form, then the *forms* within the progn can be defining forms, since they appear in the top-lexical environment. It is a violation for defining forms to appear in inner-lexical environments.

12.5.8 unwind-protect

special operator

12.5.8.1 Syntax

Arguments

protected-form: A form.

after-form*: A sequence of forms.

Result

The value of *protected-form*.

Romarke

The normal action of unwind-protect is to process protected-form and then each of after-forms in order, returning the value of protected-form as the result of unwind-protect. A non-local exit from the dynamic extent of protected-form, which can be caused by processing a non-local exit form, will cause each of after-forms to be processed before control goes to the continuation specified in the non-local exit form. The after-forms are not protected in any way by the current unwind-protect. Should any kind of non-local exit occur during the processing of the after-forms, the after-forms being processed are not reentered. Instead, control is transferred to wherever specified by the new non-local exit but the after-forms of any intervening unwind-protects between the dynamic extent of the target of control transfer and the current unwind-protect are evaluated in increasing order of dynamic extent.

Examples

Example 2 – Interaction of unwind-protect with non-local exits

The code fragment in example 2 illustrates both the use of unwind-protect and of a difference between the semantics of EULISP and some other Lisps. Stepping through the evaluation of this form: k1 is bound to the continuation of its let/cc form; a recursive function named loop is constructed, loop is called from the body of the letfuns form; k2 is bound to the continuation of its let/cc form; unwind-protect calls k1; the after forms of unwind-protect are evaluated in order; k2 is called; loop is called; etc.. This program loops indefinitely.

12.6 Quasiquotation Expressions

12.6.1 quasiquote

 $special\ operator$

12.6.1.1 Syntax

Remarks

Quasiquotation is also known as backquoting. A quasiquoted expression is a convenient way of building a structure. The

skeleton describes the shape and, generally, many of the entries in the structure but some holes remain to be filled. The **quasiquote** syntax operator can be abbreviated by using the glyph called *grave accent* ('), so that **(quasiquote skeleton)** can be written '**skeleton**.

12.6.2 'syntax

Remarks

See quasiquote.

12.6.3 unquote

 $special\ operator$

12.6.3.1 Syntax

```
unquote	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<observable} conditions on the condition of the condition of
```

Remarks

See unquote-splicing.

12.6.4 , syntax

Remarks

See unquote.

12.6.5 unquote-splicing

special operator

12.6.5.1 Syntax

```
unquote-splicing-form: → <object>
    ( unquote-splicing form )
    ,@form
```

Remarks

The holes in a quasiquoted expression are identified by unquote expressions of which there are two kinds—forms whose value is to be inserted at that location in the structure and forms whose value is to be spliced into the structure at that location. The former is indicated by an unquote expression and the latter by an unquote-splicing expression. In unquote-splicing the form must result in a proper list. The insertion of the result of an unquote-splice expression is as if the opening and closing parentheses of the list are removed and all the elements of the list are appended in place of the unquote-splice expression.

The syntax forms unquote and unquote-splicing can be abbreviated respectively by using the glyph called *comma* (,) preceding an expression and by using the diphthong *comma* followed by the glyph called *commercial at* (,0) preceding a form. Thus, (unquote a) may be written ,a and (unquote-splicing a) can be written ,0a.

Examples

```
'(a ,(list 1 2) b) \rightarrow (a (1 2) b) '(a ,0(list 1 2) b) \rightarrow (a 1 2 b)
```

12.6.6 , © syntax

Remarks

See unquote-splicing.

12.7 Summary of Level-0 Defining, Special and Function-call Forms

This section gives the syntax of the character-set, comments and all level-0 forms starting with modules. The syntax of data objects is given in the section pertaining to the class and is summarized in section 16.20.

```
decimal-digit: one of
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
upper-letter: one of
      ABCDEFGHIJKLM
      NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
lower-letter: one of
      abcdefghijklm
      nopqrstuvwxyz
letter:
      upper-letter
      lower-letter
normal-other-character: one of
      * / < = > + .
other-character:
      normal-other-character
special-character: one of
      ; ', \ " # ( ) ' | @
level-0-character:
      decimal	ext{-}digit
      letter
      other-character
      special	ext{-}character
whitespace:
      space
      newline
      line-feed
      return
      tab
      vertical-tab
      form-feed
comment:
      ; all subsequent characters
        up to the end of the line
```

#; whitespace* object

12.7.1 Syntax of Level-0 modules

```
def module - 0-form:
       ( defmodule \ module - name
         module	ext{-}directives
         level-0-module-form^*)
module-name:
       identifier\\
module-directives:
       (module-directive^*)
module-directive:
       export ( identifier* )
       expose ( module-descriptor^* )
       import ( module-descriptor*
       syntax ( module-descriptor* )
level-0-module-form:
       ( export identifier* )
       level-0-form
       defining - 0 - form
       ( progn level-0-module-form* )
module-descriptor:
       module-name
       module	ext{-}filter
module	ext{-}filter:
       ( except ( identifier* ) module-descriptor )
       ( only ( identifier* ) module-descriptor )
       ( rename ( rename-pair* ) module-descriptor )
rename-pair:
       ( identifier identifier )
level-0-form:
       identifier\\
       literal
       special - 0-form
       function-call-form
form:
       level-0-form
special-form:
       special-0-form
```

12.7.2 Syntax of Level-0 defining forms

```
defining-0-form:
       def class-form
        defcondition-form
       def constant 	ext{-} form
       deflocal-form
        defgeneric-form
        defsyntax-form
       defun-form
defclass-form:
        ( defclass class-name superclass-name
          ( slot^* ) class-option^* )
class-name:
       identifier
superclass-name:\\
       identifier
slot:
       slot\text{-}name
       ( slot-name slot-option* )
slot-name:
       identifier
slot-option:
       keyword: identifier
       default: level-O-form
       reader: identifier
       writer: identifier
       accessor: identifier
       required?: boolean
class-option:
       keywords: ( identifier* )
       {\tt constructor:}\ \ constructor-specification
       predicate: identifier
       abstract?: boolean
constructor\mbox{-}specification:
       ( identifier identifier* )
initlist:
       {identifier object}*
defgeneric-form:
       ( defgeneric gf-name gf-lambda-list
          level-0-init-option )
gf-name:
       identifier
qf-lambda-list:
       specialized\hbox{-} lambda\hbox{-} list
level\mbox{-}0\mbox{-}init\mbox{-}option :
       method-description
method-description:
        ( specialized-lambda-list form* )
specialized-lambda-list:
        ( specialized-parameter<sup>+</sup> {. identifier}<sub>opt</sub> )
specialized-parameter:
        ( identifier class-name )
       identifier
defmethod-form:
       ( defmethod gf-locator
          specialized-lambda-list
          body)
qf-locator:
       identifier
        ( setter identifier )
        ( converter identifier )
defconstant-form: \rightarrow \langle object \rangle
       ( defconstant constant-name form )
constant-name:
       identifier
deflocal-form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
       ( deflocal local-name form )
local-name:
       identifier
```

```
defsyntax-form: \rightarrow \langle function \rangle
                                                                            if\text{-}form: \rightarrow \langle \text{object} \rangle
         ( defsyntax syntax-operator-name lambda-list body )
                                                                                   ( if antecedent
syntax-operator-name:
                                                                                         consequent
        identifier
                                                                                      alternative )
                                                                            antecedent:
 defun\text{-}form: \rightarrow \langle \text{function} \rangle
        simple-defun
                                                                                   form
                                                                            consequent:
         setter-defun
                                                                                   form
simple-defun:
                                                                            alternative:
         ( defun function-name lambda-list
                                                                                   form
           body)
 setter-defun:
         (defun (setter function-name) lambda-list
                                                                            cond-form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
           body)
                                                                                    ( cond
                                                                                      {( antecedent consequent* )}* )
function-name:
        identifier
                                                                            when-form: \rightarrow \texttt{<object>}
                                                                                   ( when antecedent
                                                                                         consequent )
12.7.3 Syntax of Level-0 special forms
                                                                            unless-form: \rightarrow \langle object \rangle
special - 0-form:
                                                                                    ( unless antecedent
        defmethod\text{-}form
                                                                                         consequent)
         generic-lambda-form
         quote-form
                                                                            and-form: <math>\rightarrow <object>
         lambda-form
                                                                                   ( and consequent* )
         setq-form
         if-form
                                                                            or\text{-}form: \rightarrow \langle object \rangle
                                                                                   ( or form* )
         let/cc-form
         let funs-form
                                                                            let/cc-form: \rightarrow <object>
         progn-form
                                                                                   ( let/cc identifier body )
         unwind\mbox{-}protect\mbox{-}form
                                                                            letfuns-form: \rightarrow \langle object \rangle
         quasiquote	ext{-}form
                                                                                   ( letfuns
         unquote	ext{-}form
                                                                                      ( function-definition* )
         unquote-splicing-form
                                                                                      let funs-body )
         call{-}next{-}handler{-}form
                                                                           function-definition:
         with-handler-form
                                                                                    ( identifier lambda-list body )
         cond-form
                                                                            letfuns-body:
         and-form
                                                                                   form^*
         or-form
                                                                            progn	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
         block	ext{-}form
                                                                                   ( progn body )
         return-from-form
                                                                            unwind-protect-form: \rightarrow <object>
         let-form
                                                                                   \verb"(unwind-protect" protected-form")
         let-star-form
                                                                                      after-form*)
         with - input - file - form
                                                                            protected-form:
         with-output-file-form
                                                                                   form
         with-source-form
                                                                            after-form:
         with\hbox{-}sink\hbox{-}form
                                                                                   form
qeneric-lambda-form:
                                                                            apply-form: <math>\rightarrow <object>
         ( generic-lambda gf-lambda-list
                                                                                    ( apply function body )
           level-0-init-option^*)
                                                                           function:
lambda-form: \rightarrow <function>
                                                                                   level-0-form
         ( lambda lambda-list\ body )
lambda-list:
                                                                            block\text{-}form: \rightarrow \texttt{<object>}
        identifier
                                                                                   ( block\ identifier\ body )
        simple-list
                                                                            return\text{-}from\text{-}form: \rightarrow \texttt{<}object\texttt{>}
        rest-list
                                                                                   ( return-from identifier\ form_{opt} )
simple-list:
                                                                            let	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
        ( identifier* )
                                                                                   ( let identifier_{opt} ( binding^* )
 rest-list:
                                                                                      body)
         ( identifier* . identifier )
                                                                            binding:
 body:
                                                                                   variable
        form^*
                                                                                    ( variable form )
 quote-form: 	o object
                                                                            variable:
         ( quote object )
                                                                                   identifier\ var:
         'object
                                                                                   variable
 setq	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
                                                                           let-star-form: <math>\rightarrow <object>
         ( setq\ identifier\ form )
                                                                                    ( let* ( binding* )
                                                                                      body)
```

12.7.4 Syntax of Level-0 function calls

```
function-call-form: → <object>
    ( operator operand* )
operator:
    identifier
operand:
    identifier
literal
    special-form
function-call-form
```

12.8 Conditions

The defined name of this module is condition.

The condition system was influenced by the Common Lisp error system [16] and the Standard ML exception mechanism. It is a simplification of the former and an extension of the latter. Following standard practice, this text defines the actions of functions in terms of their normal behaviour. Where an exceptional behaviour might arise, this has been defined in terms of a condition. However, not all exceptional situations are errors. Following Pitman, we use *condition* to be a kind of occasion in a program when an exceptional situation has been signalled. An error is a kind of condition—error and condition are also used as terms for the objects that represent exceptional situations. A condition can be signalled continuably by passing a continuation for the resumption to signal. If a continuation is not supplied then the condition cannot be continued.

These two categories are characterized as follows:

- a) A condition might be signalled when some limit has been transgressed and some corrective action is needed before processing can resume. For example, memory zone exhaustion on attempting to heap-allocate an item can be corrected by calling the memory management scheme to recover dead space. However, if no space was recovered a new kind of condition has arisen. Another example arises in the use of IEEE floating point arithmetic, where a condition might be signalled to indicate divergence of an operation. A condition should be signalled continuably when there is a strategy for recovery from the condition.
- b) Alternatively, a condition might be signalled when some catastrophic situation is recognized, such as the memory manager being unable to allocate more memory or unable to recover sufficient memory from that already allocated. A condition should be signalled non-continuably when there is no reasonable way to resume processing.

A condition class is defined using defcondition (see § 13). The definition of a condition causes the creation of a new class of condition. A condition is signalled using the function signal, which has two required arguments and one optional argument: an instance of a condition, a resume continuation or the empty list—the latter signifying a non-continuable signal—and a thread. A condition can be handled using the special form with-handler, which takes a function—the handler function—and a sequence of forms to be protected. The initial condition class hierarchy is shown in table 2.

13 Condition Classes

13.0.1 defcondition

 $defining\ operator$

13.0.1.1 Syntax

Arguments

condition-class-name: A symbol naming a binding to be initialized with the new condition class.

Table 2 - Condition class hierarchy

<condition> <general-condition> <invalid-operator> <cannot-update-setter> <no-setter> <environment-condition> <arithmetic-condition> <division-by-zero> <conversion-condition> <no-converter> <stream-condition> <end-of-stream> <read-error> <thread-condition> <thread-already-started> <wrong-thread-continuation> <wrong-condition-class> <telos-condition> <no-next-method> <generic-function-condition> <non-congruent-lambda-lists> <incompatible-method-domain> <no-applicable-method> <method-domain-clash>

> condition-superclass-name: A symbol naming a binding of a class to be used as the superclass of the new condition class.

> ${m slot}$: Either a ${m slot\text{-}name}$ or a list of ${m slot\text{-}name}$ followed by some ${m slot\text{-}options}$.

class-option: A key and a value which, taken together, apply to the condition as a whole.

Remarks

This defining form defines a new condition class, it is analogous to defclass except in the in the specification of and default superclass. The first argument is the name to which the new condition class will be bound, the second is the name of the superclass of the new condition class. If superclass-name is (), the superclass is taken to be <condition>. Otherwise superclass-name must be <condition> or the name of one of its subclasses.

13.0.2 <condition>

<object> class

Initialization Options

message <string>: A string, containing information which should pertain to the situation which caused the condition to be signalled.

Remarks

The class which is the superclass of all condition classes.

13.0.3 condition?

function

Arguments

object: An object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a condition, otherwise ().

13.0.4 initialize <condition>

method

Specialized Arguments

condition <condition>: a condition.

initlist: A list of initialization options as follows:

message <string>: A string, containing information which should pertain to the situation which caused the condition to be signalled.

message-arguments A list of objects to be used in processing the message format string.

Result

A new, initialized condition.

Remarks

First calls **call-next-method** to carry out initialization specified by superclasses then does the **<condition>** specific initialization.

13.0.5 <general-condition> <condition> condition>

This is the general condition class for conditions arising from the execution of programs by the processor.

13.0.6 <domain-condition>

<general-condition> condition

Initialization Options

argument <object>: An argument, which was not of the expected class, or outside a defined range and therefore lead to the signalling of this condition.

13.0.7 <range-condition>

 ${\tt \langle general\text{-}condition \rangle}\ condition$

Initialization Options

result <object>: A result, which was not of the expected class, or outside a defined range and therefore lead to the signalling of this condition.

13.0.8 <environment-condition>

<condition> condition

This is the general condition class for conditions arising from the environment of the processor.

13.0.9 <wrong-condition-class>

<thread-condition> condition

Initialization Options

condition condition: A condition.

Signalled by **signal** if the given condition is not an instance of the condition class **<thread-condition>**.

13.0.10 <generic-function-condition>

<condition> condition

This is the general condition class for conditions arising from operations in the object system at level 0. The following direct subclasses of **<generic-function-condition>** are defined at level 0:

- <no-applicable-method>: signalled by a generic function when there is no method which is applicable to the arguments.
- <incompatible-method-domain>: signalled by if the
 domain of the method being added to a generic
 function is not a subdomain of the generic function's domain.
- <non-congruent-lambda-lists>: signalled if the
 lambda list of the method being added to a
 generic function is not congruent to that of the
 generic function.
- <method-domain-clash>: signalled if the method being added to a generic function has the same domain as a method already attached to the generic
 function.
- <no-next-method>: signalled by call-next-method if
 there is no next most specific method.

13.0.11 <no-applicable-method>

 ${\tt \langle generic - function - condition \rangle} \ \ condition$

Initialization Options

generic function: The generic function which was applied.

 $arguments\ list\colon$ The arguments of the generic function which was applied.

Remarks

Signalled by a generic function when there is no method which is applicable to the arguments.

13.0.12 <incompatible-method-domain>

<generic-function-condition> condition

Initialization Options

generic function: The generic function to be extended.

method method: The method to be added.

Remarks

Signalled by one of defgeneric, defmethod or generic-lambda if the domain of the method would not be a subdomain of the generic function's domain.

13.0.13 <non-congruent-lambda-lists>

 ${\tt generic-function-condition} > condition$

Initialization Options

generic function: The generic function to be extended.

method method: The method to be added.

Remarks

Signalled by one of defgeneric, defmethod or generic-lambda if the lambda list of the method is not congruent to that of the generic function.

13.0.14 <method-domain-clash>

<generic-function-condition> condition

Initialization Options

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} {\tt generic} & function: The generic function to be extended. \end{tabular}$

methods list: The methods with the same domain.

Remarks

Signalled by one of defgeneric, defmethod or generic-lambda if there would be methods with the same domain attached to the generic function.

13.0.15 <no-next-method>

<generic-function-condition> condition

Initialization Options

method method: The method which called call-next-method.

operand-list *list*: A list of the arguments to have been passed to the next method.

Remarks

Signalled by **call-next-method** if there is no next most specific method.

14 Condition Signalling and Handling

Conditions are handled with a function called a handler. Handlers are established dynamically and have dynamic scope and extent. Thus, when a condition is signalled, the processor will call the dynamically closest handler. This can accept, resume or decline the condition (see with-handler for a full discussion and definition of this terminology). If it declines, then the next dynamically closest handler is called, and so on, until a handler accepts or resumes the condition. It is the first handler accepting the condition that is used and this may not necessarily be the most specific. Handlers are established by the special form with-handler.

14.0.16 signal

function

Arguments

condition: The condition to be signalled.

function: The function to be called if the condition is handled and resumed, that is to say, the condition is continuable, or () otherwise.

thread_{opt}: If this argument is not supplied, the condition is signalled on the thread which called signal, otherwise, thread indicates the thread on which condition is to be signalled.

Result

signal should never return. It is an error to call signal's continuation.

Remarks

Called to indicate that a specified condition has arisen during the execution of a program. If the third argument is not supplied, signal calls the dynamically closest handler with condition and continuation. If the second argument is a subclass of function, it is the resume continuation to be used in the case of a handler deciding to resume from a continuable condition. If the second argument is (), it indicates that the condition was signalled as a non-continuable condition—in this way the handler is informed of the signaler's intention.

If the third argument is supplied, signal registers the specified condition to be signalled on thread. The condition must be an instance of the condition class <thread-condition>, otherwise an error is signalled (condition class: <wrong-condition-class>) on the thread calling signal. A signal on a determined thread has no effect on either the signalled or signalling thread except in the case of the above error.

See also

thread-reschedule, thread-value, with-handler.

14.0.17 call-next-handler

special operator

14.0.17.1 Syntax

```
call-next-handler-form:
    ( call-next-handler )
```

Remarks

The call-next-handler special form calls the next enclosing handler. It is an error to evaluate this form other than within an established handler function. The call-next-handler special form is normally used when a handler function does not know how to deal with the class of condition. However, it may also be used to combine handler function behaviour in a similar but orthogonal way to call-next-method (assuming a generic handler function).

14.0.18 with-handler

special operator

14.0.18.1 Syntax

Arguments

handler-function: The result of evaluating the handler function expression must be either a function or a generic function. This function will be called if a condition is signalled during the dynamic extent of protected-forms and there are

no intervening handler functions which accept or resume the condition. A handler function takes two arguments: a condition, and a resume function/continuation. The condition is the condition object that was passed to signal as its first argument. The resume continuation is the continuation (or ()) that was given to signal as its second argument.

forms: The sequence of forms whose execution is protected by the handler function specified above.

Result

The value of the last form in the sequence of forms.

Romarks

A with-handler form is evaluated in three steps:

- a) The new handler-function is evaluated. This now identifies the nearest enclosing handler and shadows the previous nearest enclosing handler.
- b) The sequence of *forms* is evaluated in order and the value of the last one is returned as the result of the **with-handler** expression.
- c) the handler-function is disestablished as the nearest enclosing handler, and the previous handler function is restored as the nearest enclosing.

The above is the normal behaviour of with-handler. The exceptional behaviour of with-handler happens when there is a call to signal during the evaluation of protected-form. signal calls the nearest closing handler-function passing on the first two arguments given to signal. The handler-function is executed in the dynamic extent of the call to signal. However, any signals occurring during the execution of handler-function are dealt with by the nearest enclosing handler outside the extent of the form which established handler-function. It is an error if there is no enclosing handler. In this circumstance the identified error is delivered to the configuration to be dealt with in an implementation-defined way. Errors arising in the dynamic extent of the handler function are signalled in the dynamic extent of the original signal but are handled in the enclosing dynamic extent of the handler.

Examples

There are three ways in which a $handler\mbox{-}function$ can respond: actions:

- a) The error is very serious and the computation must be abandoned; this is likely to be characterised by a non-local exit from the handler function.
- b) The situation can be corrected by the handler, so it does and then returns. Thus the call to **signal** returns with the result passed back from the handler function.
- c) The handler function does not know how to deal with the class of condition signalled; control is passed explicitly to the next enclosing handler via the call-next-handler special form.

An illustration of the use of all three cases is given here:

Example 1 – handler actions

```
(defgeneric error-handler (condition)
  method: (((c <serious-error>))
```

See also signal.

14.0.19 error

function

Arguments

condition-class: the class of condition to be signalled.

 $error-message\colon$ a string containing relevant information.

init-option*: a sequence of options to be passed to initialize-instance when making the instance of condition.

Result

The result is ().

Remarks

The error function signals a non-continuable error. It calls signal with an instance of a condition of condition-class initialized from the error-message, init-options and a resume continuation value of (), signifying that the condition was not signalled continuably.

14.0.20 cerror

function

Arguments

condition-class: the class of condition to be signalled.

error-message: a string containing relevant informa-

init-option*: a sequence of options to be passed to initialize-instance when making the instance of condition.

Result

The result is ().

Remarks

The cerror function signals a continuable error. It calls signal with an instance of a condition of condition-class initialized from the error-message, init-options and a resume continuation value which is the continuation of the cerror expression. A non-() resume continuation signifies that the condition has been signalled continuably.

15 Concurrency

The basic elements of parallel processing in EULISP are processes and mutual exclusion, which are provided by the classes <thread> and <lock> respectively.

A thread is allocated and initialized, by calling make. The keyword of a thread specifies the initial function, which is where execution starts the first time the thread is dispatched by the scheduler. In this discussion four states of a thread are identified: new, running, aborted and finished. These are for conceptual purposes only and a EuLisp program cannot distinguish between new and running or between aborted and finished. (Although accessing the result of a thread would permit such a distinction retrospectively, since an aborted thread will cause a condition to be signalled on the accessing thread and a finished thread will not.) In practice, the running state is likely to have several internal states, but these distinctions and the information about a thread's current state can serve no useful purpose to a running program, since the information may be incorrect as soon as it is known. The initial state of a thread is new. The union of the two final states is known as determined. Although a program can find out whether a thread is determined or not by means of wait with a timeout of t (denoting a poll), the information is only useful if the thread has been determined.

A thread is made available for dispatch by starting it, using the function thread-start, which changes its state from new to running. After running a thread becomes either finished or aborted. When a thread is finished, the result of the initial function may be accessed using thread-value. If a thread is aborted, which can only occur as a result of a signal handled by the default handler (installed when the thread is created), then thread-value will signal the condition that aborted the thread on the thread accessing the value. Note that thread-value suspends the calling thread if the thread whose result is sought is not determined.

While a thread is running, its progress can be suspended by accessing a lock, by a stream operation or by calling thread-value on an undetermined thread. In each of these cases, thread-reschedule is called to allow another thread to execute. This function may also be called voluntarily. Progress can resume when the lock becomes unlocked, the input/output operation completes or the undetermined thread becomes determined.

The actions of a thread can be influenced externally by signal. This function registers a condition to be signalled no later than when the specified thread is rescheduled for execution—when thread-reschedule returns. The condition must be an instance of <thread-condition>. Conditions are delivered to the thread in order of receipt. This ordering requirement is only important in the case of a thread sending more than one signal to the same thread, but in other circumstances the delivery order cannot be verified. A signal on a determined thread has no discernable effect on either the signalled or signalling thread unless the condition is not an instance of <thread-condition>, in which case an error is signalled on the signalling thread. See also § 12.8.

A lock is an abstract data type protecting a binary value which denotes whether the lock is locked or unlocked. The operations on a lock are lock and unlock. Executing a lock operation will eventually give the calling thread exclusive control of a lock. The unlock operation unlocks the lock so that either a thread subsequently calling lock or one of the threads which has already called lock on the lock can gain exclusive access.

NOTE 1 It is intended that implementations of locks based on

spin-locks, semaphores or channels should all be capable of satisfying the above description. However, to be a conforming implementation, the use of a spin-lock must observe the fairness requirement, which demands that between attempts to acquire the lock, control must be ceded to the scheduler.

The programming model is that of concurrently executing threads, regardless of whether the configuration is a multiprocessor or not, with some constraints and some weak fairness guarantees.

- a) A processor is free to use run-to-completion, timeslicing and/or concurrent execution.
- b) A conforming program must assume the possibility of concurrent execution of threads and will have the same semantics in all cases—see discussion of fairness which follows.
- c) The default condition handler for a new thread, when invoked, will change the state of the thread to aborted, save the signalled condition and reschedule the thread.
- e) The lexical environment (inner and top) associated with the initial function may be shared, as is the top-dynamic environment, but each thread has a distinct inner-dynamic environment. In consequence, any modifications of bindings in the lexical environment or in the top-dynamic environment should be mediated by locks to avoid nondeterministic behaviour.
- f) The creation and starting of a thread represent changes to the state of the processor and as such are not affected by the processor's handling of errors signalled subsequently on the creating/starting thread (c.f. streams). That is to say, a non-local exit to a point dynamically outside the creation of the subsidiary thread has no default effect on the subsidiary thread.
- g) The behaviour of i/o on the same stream by multiple threads is undefined unless it is mediated by explicit locks.

The parallel semantics are preserved on a sequential run-tocompletion implementation by requiring communication between threads to use only thread primitives and shared data protected by locks—both the thread primitives and locks will cause rescheduling, so other threads can be assumed to have a chance of execution.

There is no guarantee about which thread is selected next. However, a fairness guarantee is needed to provide the illusion that every other thread is running. A strong guarantee would ensure that every other thread gets scheduled before a thread which reschedules itself is scheduled again. Such a scheme is usually called "round-robin". This could be stronger than the guarantee provided by a parallel implementation or the scheduler of the host operating system and cannot be mandated in this definition.

A weak but sufficient guarantee is that if any thread reschedules infinitely often then every other thread will be scheduled infinitely often. Hence if a thread is waiting for shared data to be changed by another thread and is using a lock, the other thread is guaranteed to have the opportunity to change the data. If it is not using a lock, the fairness guarantee ensures that in the same scenario the following loop will exit eventually:

(while (= data 0) (thread-reschedule))

15.1 Threads

The defined name of this module is thread. This section defines the operations on threads.

15.1.1 <thread>

<object> class

The class of all instances of <thread>.

Initialization Options

init-function fn: an instance of <function> which
 will be called when the resulting thread is started
 by thread-start.

15.1.2 thread?

function

Arguments

object: An object to examine.

Result

The supplied argument if it is an instance of <thread>, otherwise ().

15.1.3 thread-reschedule

function

This function takes no arguments.

Result

The result is ().

Remarks

This function is called for side-effect only and may cause the thread which calls it to be suspended, while other threads are run. In addition, if the thread's condition queue is not empty, the first condition is removed from the queue and signalled on the thread. The resume continuation of the signal will be one which will eventually call the continuation of the call to thread-reschedule.

See also

thread-value, signal and \S 12.8 for details of conditions and signalling.

15.1.4 current-thread

function

This function takes no arguments.

Result

The thread on which **current-thread** was executed.

15.1.5 thread-start

function

Arguments

thread: the thread to be started, which must be new. If thread is not new, an error is signalled (condition class: <thread-already-started>).

 $obj_1 \dots obj_n$: values to be passed as the arguments to the initial function of *thread*.

Result

The thread which was supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

The state of thread is changed to running. The values obj_1 to obj_n will be passed as arguments to the initial function of thread.

15.1.6 thread-value

function

Arguments

thread: the thread whose finished value is to be accessed.

Result

The result of the initial function applied to the arguments passed from thread-start. However, if a condition is signalled on thread which is handled by the default handler the condition will now be signalled on the thread calling thread-value—that is the condition will be propagated to the accessing thread.

Remarks

If thread is not determined, each thread calling thread-value is suspended until thread is determined, when each will either get the thread's value or signal the condition.

See also

thread-reschedule, signal.

15.1.7 wait

generic function

Generic Arguments

obj: An object.

timeout <object>: One of (), t or a non-negative
integer.

Result

Returns () if timeout was reached, otherwise a non-() value.

Remarks

wait provides a generic interface to operations which may block. Execution of the current thread will continue beyond the wait form only when one of the following happened:

- a) A condition associated with *obj* returns **t**;
- b) timeout time units elapse;
- c) A condition is raised by another thread on this thread.

wait returns () if timeout occurs, else it returns a non-nil value.

A timeout argument of () or zero denotes a polling operation. A timeout argument of **t** denotes indefinite blocking (cases a or

c above). A *timeout* argument of a non-negative integer denotes the minimum number of time units before timeout. The number of time units in a second is given by the implementation-defined constant ticks-per-second.

Examples

This code fragment copies characters from stream ${\bf s}$ to the current output stream until no data is received on the stream for a period of at least 1 second.

See also

threads (section 15.1), streams (section 16.15).

15.1.8 wait <thread>

method

Specialized Arguments

thread <thread>: The thread on which to wait.

timeout <object>: The timeout period which is specified by one of (), t, and non-negative integer.

Result

Result is either thread or (). If timeout is (), the result is thread if it is determined. If timeout is t, thread suspends until thread is determined and the result is guaranteed to be thread. If timeout is a non-negative integer, the call blocks until either thread is determined, in which case the result is thread, or until the timeout period is reached, in which case the result is (), whichever is the sooner. The units for the non-negative integer timeout are the number of clock ticks to wait. The implementation-defined constant ticks-per-second is used to make timeout periods processor independent.

See also

wait and ticks-per-second (§ 12.8).

15.1.9 ticks-per-second <double-float>

constant

The number of time units in a second expressed as a double precision floating point number. This value is implementation-defined.

15.1.10 <thread-condition>

<condition> condition

Initialization Options

current-thread thread: The thread which is signalling the condition.

Remarks

This is the general condition class for all conditions arising from thread operations.

15.1.11 <wrong-thread-continuation>

<thread-condition> condition

Initialization Options

continuation continuation: A continuation.

thread thread: The thread on which continuation was created.

Remarks

Signalled if the given continuation is called on a thread other than the one on which it was created.

15.1.12 <thread-already-started>

<thread-condition> condition

Initialization Options

thread thread: A thread.

Remarks

Signalled by thread-start if the given thread has been started already.

15.2 Locks

The defined name of this module is lock.

15.2.1 <lock> <object> class

The class of all instances of <lock>. This class has no init-options. The result of calling make on <lock> is a new, open lock.

15.2.2 lock? function

Arguments

object: An object to examine.

Result

The supplied argument if it is an instance of <lock>, otherwise ().

15.2.3 lock function

Arguments

lock: the lock to be acquired.

Result

The lock supplied as argument.

Remarks

Executing a <lock> operation will eventually give the calling thread exclusive control of lock. A consequence of calling <lock> is that a condition from another thread may be signalled on this thread. Such a condition will be signalled before lock has been acquired, so a thread which does not handle the condition will not lead to starvation; the condition will be signalled continuably so that the process of acquiring the lock may continue after the condition has been handled.

See also

unlock and § 12.8 for details of conditions and signalling.

15.2.4 unlock

function

Arguments

lock: the lock to be released.

Result

The lock supplied as argument.

Remarks

The unlock operation unlocks *lock* so that either a thread subsequently calling <lock> or one of the threads which has already called <lock> on the lock can gain exclusive access.

See also

<lock>.

15.2.5 <simple-thread>

<thread> class

Place holder for <simple-thread> class.

16 Level-0 Module Library

This section describes the classes required at level-0 and the operations defined on instances of those classes. The section is organized by module in alphabetical order. These sub-sections contain information about the predefined classes in EULISP that are necessary to make the language usable.

16.1 Characters

The defined name of this module is character.

16.1.1 character

syntax

Character literals are denoted by the extension glyph, called hash (#), followed by the character-extension glyph, called reverse solidus (\), followed by the name of the character. The syntax for the external representation of characters is defined in syntax table 16.1.1.1. For most characters, their name is the same as the glyph associated with the character, for example: the character "a" has the name "a" and has the external representation #\a. Certain characters in the group named special (see table 9.1 and also syntax table 16.1.1.1) form the syntax category *special-character-token* and are referred to using the digrams defined in table 16.1. Any character which does not have an external representation dealt with by cases described so far is represented by the digram $\#\x$ (see table 16.1) followed four hexadecimal digits. The value of the hexadecimal number represents the position of the character in the current character set. Examples of such character literals are #\x0000 and #\xabcd, which denote, respectively, the characters at position 0 and at position 43981 in the character set current at the time of reading or writing. The syntax for the external representation of characters is defined in syntax table 16.1.1.1 below:

Table 3 - Character digrams

Operation	Digram
alert	\a
backspace	\ b
delete	\d
formfeed	\f
linefeed	\1
newline	\n
return	\r
tab	\t
vertical tab	\v
hex-insertion	\x
string delimiter	\"
string escape	\\

16.1.1.1 Syntax

```
character:
       literal-character-token
       special-character-token
       numeric-character-token
literal-character-token:
       \#\letter
       \#\decimal-digit
       \verb"#| other-character"
       \#\backslash special\text{-}character
special\mbox{-}character\mbox{-}token:
       #\\a
       #\\b
       \#\backslash d
numeric-character-token:
       hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
```

NOTE 1 This text refers to the "current character set" but defines no means of selecting alternative character sets. This is to allow for future extensions and implementation-defined extensions which support more than one character set.

16.1.2	<character></character>	<object></object>	class

The class of all characters.

16.1.3 character? function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a character, otherwise ().

16.1.4 binary= <character> method

Specialized Arguments

character₁ <character>: A character.

character2 <character>: A character.

Result

If $character_1$ is the same character as $character_2$ the result is $character_1$, otherwise the result is ().

16.1.5 binary< <character>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
character1 <character>: A character.
character2 <character>: A character.
```

Result

If both characters denote uppercase alphabetic or both denote lowercase alphabetic, the result is defined by alphabetical order. If both characters denote a digit, the result is defined by numerical order. In these three cases, if the comparison is \mathbf{t} , the result is *character*₁, otherwise it is (). Any other comparison is an error and the result of such comparisons is undefined.

Examples

```
(binary< #\A #\Z) ⇒ #\A

(binary< #\a #\z) ⇒ #\a

(binary< #\0 #\9) ⇒ #\0

(binary< #\A #\a) ⇒ undefined

(binary< #\A #\0) ⇒ undefined

(binary< #\a #\0) ⇒ undefined
```

See also

Method binary< <string> for

16.1.6	<string></string>	class

16.1.7 as-lowercase

generic function

Generic Arguments

object <object>: An object to convert to lower case.

Result

An instance of the same class as object converted to lower case according to the actions of the appropriate method for the class of object.

See also

Another method as-lowercase <string> for <string>.

16.1.8 as-lowercase <character> method

Specialized Arguments

character <character>: A character.

Result

If *character* denotes an upper case character, a character denoting its lower case counterpart is returned. Otherwise the result is the argument.

16.1.9 as-uppercase

generic function

Generic Arguments

object <object>: An object to convert to upper case.

Result

An instance of the same class as *object* converted to upper case according to the actions of the appropriate method for the class of *object*.

See also

Another method is defined on as-uppercase <string> for <string>.

16.1.10 as-uppercase <character>

method

Specialized Arguments

character <character>: A character.

Result

If *character* denotes an lower case character, a character denoting its upper case counterpart is returned. Otherwise the result is the argument.

16.1.11 generic-print <character>

method

Specialized Arguments

 $stream \le stream >: Stream on which character is to be output.$

Result

The character character.

Romanka

Output the interpretation of *character* on *stream*.

16.1.12 generic-write <character>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <stream>: Stream on which character is to be ouptut.

Result

The character character.

Remarks

Output external representation of character on stream in the format $\#\name$ as described at the beginning of this section.

16.2 Collections

The defined name of this module is collection. A *collection* is defined as an instance of one of t>, <string>, <vector>, or any user-defined class for which a method is added to any of the collection manipulation functions. Collection does not name a class and does not form a part of the class hierarchy. This module defines a set of operators on collections as generic functions and default methods with the behaviours given here.

When iterating over a single collection, the order in which elements are processed might not be important, but as soon as more than one collection is involved, it is necessary to specify how the collections are aligned so that it is clear which elements of the collections will be processed together. This is quite straightforward in the cases of <list>, <string> and <vector>, since there is an intuitive natural order for the elements which allows them to be identified by a non-negative integer. Thus, when iterating over a combination of any of these, all the elements at index position i will be processed together, starting with the elements at position 0 and finishing with those at position n-1 where n is the size of the smallest collection in the combination. The subset of collections which have natural order is called sequence and members of this set can be identified by the predicate sequence?, while collections in general can be identified by collection?.

Collection alignment is more complicated when tables are involved since they use explicit keys rather than natural order to identify their elements. In any iteration over a combination of collections including a table or some tables, the set of keys used is the intersection of the keys of the tables and the implicit keys of the other collection classes present; this identifies the elements of the collections with common keys. Thus, for an iteration to process any elements from the combination of a collection with natural order and a table, the table must have some integer keys and they must be in the range $[0\dots size)$ of the collection with natural order.

A conforming level-0 implementation must define methods on these functions to support operations on lists (16.12), strings (16.16), tables (16.18), vector (16.19) and any combination of these.

16.2.1 <collection>

<object> class

The class of all collections.

16.2.2 <sequence>

<collection> class

The class of all sequences, the subset of collections which have natural order.

16.2.3 <character-sequence>

<sequence> class

The class of all sequences of characters e.g. <string>.

16.2.4 <collection-condition>

<condition> condition

This is the condition class for all collection processing conditions.

16.2.5 accumulate

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

function <function>: A function of two arguments.

obj <object>: The object which is the initial value for the accumulation operation.

collection <collection>: The collection which is the subject of the accumulation operation.

Result

The result is the result of the application of function to the accumulated result and successive elements of collection. The initial value of the accumulated result is supplied by obj.

Examples

Note that the order of the elements in the result of the second example depends on the hashing algorithm of the implementation and does not prescribe the result that any particular implementation must give.

16.2.6 accumulate1

generic function

Generic Arguments

function <function>: A function of two arguments.

collection <collection>: The collection which is the subject of the accumulation operation.

Result

The result is the result of the application of function to the accumulated result and successive elements of collection starting with the second element. The initial value of the accumulated result is the first element of collection. The terms first and second correspond to the appropriate elements of a natural order collection, but no elements in particular of an explicit key collection. If collection is empty, the result is ().

Examples

16.2.7 all?

generic function

Generic Arguments

function <function>: A function to be used as a predicate on the elements of the collection(s).

collection <collection>: A collection.

more-collections. More collections.

Result

The function is applied to argument lists constructed from corresponding successive elements of collection and more-

collections. If the result is t for all elements of collection and more-collections the result of all? is t otherwise ().

Examples

```
(all? even? #(1 2 3 4)) \Rightarrow () (all? even? #(2 4 6 8)) \Rightarrow t
```

See also

any?.

16.2.8 any?

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

function <function>: A function to be used as a predicate on the elements of the collection(s).

collection <collection>: A collection.

more-collections $_{opt}$: More collections.

Result

The function is applied to argument lists constructed from corresponding successive elements of collection and more-collections. If the result is t, the result of any? is t and there are no further applications of function to elements of collection and more-collections. If any of the collections is exhausted, the result of any? is ().

Examples

See also

all?.

16.2.9 collection?

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

object <object>: An object to examine.

Result

Returns t if *object* is a collection, otherwise ().

Remarks

This predicate does not return *object* because () is a collection.

16.2.10 concatenate

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection.

more-collections. More collections.

Result

The result is an object of the same class as collection.

Remarks

The contents of the result object depend on whether *collection* has natural order or not:

- a) If collection has natural order then the size of the result is the sum of the sizes of collection and more-collections. The result collection is initialized with the elements of collection followed by the elements of each of more-collections taken in turn. If any element cannot be stored in the result collection, for example, if the result is a string and some element is not a character, an error is signalled (condition class: collection-condition).
- b) If collection does not have natural order, then the result will contain associations for each of the keys in collection and more-collections. If any key occurs more than once, the associated value in the result is the value of the last occurrence of that key after processing collection and each of more-collections taken in turn.

Examples

16.2.11 delete

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
object <object>: Object to be removed.
collection <collection>: A collection.
```

 $test_{opt}$: The function to be used to compare object—/ and the elements of collection.

Result

If there is an element of collection such that test returns ${\sf t}$ when applied to object-/ and that element, then the result is the modified collection, less that element. Otherwise, the result is collection.

Remarks

delete is destructive. The test function defaults to eql.

16.2.12 do

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
function <function>: A function.

collection <collection>: A collection.

more-collections<sub>opt</sub>: More collections.
```

Result

The result is (). This operator is used for side-effect only. The function is applied to argument lists constructed from corresponding successive elements of collection and more-collections and the result is discarded. Application stops if any of the collections is exhausted.

Examples

```
(do prin '(1 b \#\c)) \Rightarrow 1bc (do write '(1 b \#\c)) \Rightarrow 1b\#\c
```

16.2.13 element

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
collection <collection>: The object to be accessed
  or updated.
```

key <object>: The object identifying the key of the element in collection.

Result

The value associated with key in collection.

Examples

```
      (element "abc" 1)
      ⇒ #\b

      (element '(a b c) 1)
      ⇒ b

      (element #(a b c) 1)
      ⇒ b

      (element (make  fill-value: 'b)

      1)
```

16.2.14 (setter element)

setter

Generic Arguments

```
collection < collection >: The object to be accessed or updated.
```

key <object>: The object identifying the key of the element in collection.

value **<object>**: The object to replace the value associated with key in collection (for setter).

Result

The argument supplied as value, having updated the association of key in collection to refer to value.

16.2.15 empty?

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
collection <collection>: The object to be examined.
```

Result

Returns \mathbf{t} if *collection* is the object identified with the empty object for that class of collection.

Examples

```
      (emptyp "")
      ⇒
      t

      (emptyp ())
      ⇒
      t

      (emptyp #())
      ⇒
      t

      (emptyp (make ))
      ⇒
      t
```

16.2.16 fill

generic function

Generic Arguments

collection < collection >: A collection to be (partially) filled.

object <object>: The object with which to fill collection.

 $keys_{opt}$: The keys with which object is to be associated.

Result

The result is ().

Remarks

This function side-effects collection by updating the values associated with each of the specified keys with obj. If no keys are specified, the whole collection is filled with obj. Otherwise, the key specification can take two forms:

- A collection, in which case the values of the collection are taken to be the keys of collection to be associated with obj.
- b) Two fixed precision integers, denoting the start and end keys, respectively, in a natural order collection to be associated with obj. An error is signalled (condition class: collection-condition) if collection does not have natural order. It is an error if the start and end do not specify an ascending sub-interval of the interval [0, size), where size is that of collection.

16.2.17 find-key

generic function

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection.

test <function>: A function.

 $skip_{opt}$: An integer.

 $failure_{opt}$: An integer.

\mathbf{Result}

The function *test* is applied to successive elements of *collection*. If *test* returns **t** when applied to an element, then the result of **find-key** is the key associated with that element.

Remarks

The value skip, which defaults to zero, indicates how many successful tests are to be made before returning a result. The value failure, which defaults to (), is returned if no key satisfying the test was found. Note that skip and failure are positional arguments and that skip must be specified if failure is specified.

16.2.18 first

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

sequence <sequence>: A sequence.

Result

The result is contents of index position 0 of sequence.

16.2.19 last

generic function

Generic Arguments

sequence <sequence>: A sequence.

Result

The result is last element of sequence.

16.2.20 key-sequence

generic function

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection.

Result

The result is a collection comprising the keys of *collection*.

16.2.21 map

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
function <function>: A function.
```

collection <collection>: A collection.

more-collections $_{opt}$: More collections.

Result

The result is an object of the same class as *collection*. The elements of the result are computed by the application of *function* to argument lists constructed from corresponding successive elements of *collection* and *more-collections*. Application stops if any of the collections is exhausted.

Examples

```
(map cons #(1 2) '(3)) \Rightarrow #((1 . 3))

(map \Rightarrow #(3 -1 2 1)

(lambda (f) (f 1 2))

#(+ - * %))
```

16.2.22 member

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

object <object>: The object to be searched for in collection.

collection <collection>: The collection to be searched.

 $test_{opt}$: The function to be used to compare object and the elements of collection.

Result

Returns ${\bf t}$ if there is an element of collection such that the result of the application of test to object and that element is ${\bf t}$. If test is not supplied, eql is used by default. Note that ${\bf t}$ denotes any value that is not () and that the class of the result depends on the class of collection. In particular, if collection is a list, the result of member is a list.

Examples

```
      (member #\b "abc")
      ⇒ t

      (member 'b '(a b c))
      ⇒ (b c)

      (member 'b #(a b c))
      ⇒ t

      (member 'b (member 'b (member 'b (make  'entries '((1 . b) (0 . a) (2 . c))))
```

16.2.23 remove

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
object < object > : Object to be removed.
```

collection <collection>: A collection.

 $test_{opt}$: The function to be used to compare *object* and the elements of collection.

Result

If there is an element of collection such that test returns ${\tt t}$ when applied to object and that element, then the result is a shallow copy of collection less that element. Otherwise, the result is collection.

Remarks

The test function defaults to eql.

16.2.24 reverse

generic function

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection.

Result

The result is an object of the same class as *collection* whose elements are the same as those in *collection*, but in the reverse order with respect to the natural order of *collection*. If *collection* does not have natural order, the result is equal to the argument.

Examples

```
(reverse "abc") \Rightarrow "cba"
(reverse '(1 2 3)) \Rightarrow (3 2 1)
(reverse #(a b c)) \Rightarrow #(c b a)
```

16.2.25 reverse!

generic function

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection.

Result

Destructively reverses the order of the elements in *collection* (see **reverse**) and returns it.

16.2.26 sequence?

generic function

Generic Arguments

object <object>: An object to examine.

Result

Returns \mathbf{t} if *object* is a sequence (has natural order), otherwise ().

Remarks

This predicate does not return *object* because () is a sequence.

16.2.27 size

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

collection <collection>: The object to be examined.

Result

An integer which denotes the size of *collection* according to the method for the class of *collection*.

Examples

```
(size "")
                                               0
                                               0
(size ())
                                           \Rightarrow
(size #())
                                               0
(size (make ))
(size "abc")
(size (cons 1 ()))
                                               1
(size (cons 1 . 2))
(size (cons 1 (cons 2 . 3)))
(size '(1 2 3))
(size #(a b c))
(size (make  'entries '((0 . a)))
```

16.2.28 slice

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
sequence <sequence>: A sequence.
```

 $start \leq fpi > :$ The index of the first element of the slice.

end <fpi>: The index of the last element of the slice.

Result

The result is new sequence of the same class as sequence containing the elements of sequence from start up to but not including end.

Examples

```
(slice '(a b c d) 1 3) \Rightarrow (b c)
```

16.2.29 sort

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
sequence <sequence>: A sequence.
comparator <function>: A function.
```

Result

The result of sort is a new sequence comprising the elements of sequence ordered according to comparator.

Version 0.991

Remarks

Methods on this function are only defined for t> and <vector>.

16.2.30 sort!

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

sequence <sequence>: A sequence.

comparator <function>: A function.

Result

Destructively sorts the elements of sequence (see sort) and returns it.

Remarks

Methods on this function are only defined for t> and <vector>.

16.2.31 (converter <list>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection to be converted into a list.

Result

If *collection* is a list, the result is the argument. Otherwise a list is constructed and returned whose elements are the elements of *collection*. If *collection* has natural order, then the elements will appear in the result in the same order as in *collection*. If *collection* does not have natural order, the order in the resulting list is undefined.

See also

Conversion (16.4).

16.2.32 (converter <string>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection to be converted into a string.

Result

If collection is a string, the result is the argument. Otherwise a string is constructed and returned whose elements are the elements of collection as long as all the elements of collection are characters. An error is signalled (condition class: conversion-condition) if any element of collection is not a character. If collection has natural order, then the elements will appear in the result in the same order as in collection. If collection does not have natural order, the order in the resulting string is undefined.

${\bf See\ also}$

Conversion (16.4).

16.2.33 (converter)

converter

Specialized Arguments

collection <collection>: A collection to be converted into a table.

Result

If collection is a table, the result is the argument. Otherwise a table is constructed and returned whose elements are the elements of collection. If collection has natural order, then the elements will be stored under integer keys in the range $[0 \dots size)$, otherwise the keys used will be the keys associated with the elements of collection.

See also

Conversion (16.4).

16.2.34 (converter <vector>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

collection < collection >: A collection to be converted into a vector.

Result

If collection is a vector, the result is the argument. Otherwise a vector is constructed and returned whose elements are the elements of collection. If collection has natural order, then the elements will appear in the result in the same order as in collection. If collection does not have natural order, the order in the resulting vector is undefined.

See also

Conversion (16.4).

16.3 Comparison

The defined name of this module is **compare**. There are three binary functions for comparing objects for equality, **eq**, **eq**1, **binary=** and the n-ary **=** which uses **binary=**. The three binary functions are related in the following way:

There are four n-ary function for comparing objects by order, < and > which are implemented by the generic function binary<, <= and >= which are implemented by the generic functions binary< and binary=. There is also one binary function for comparing objects for inequality, !=. A summary of the comparison functions and the classes for which they have defined behaviour is given below:

```
<object>x<object>
eq:
eql:
          <object>×<object> ⇒eq
          <character>×<character>
          <fpi>×
          <fpi>
          \dot{double-float} \times \double-float> \Rightarrow \double-float>
binary=:
          <object>x<object>
          <character>×<character>
          \langle null \rangle \times \langle null \rangle
          <number>×<number> ⇒eql
          <fpi>×
          <fpi>
          <double-float>x<double-float>
          <double-float>x<fpi>
          <fpi>×<double-float>
          <cons>x<cons>
          <string>x<string>
          <vector>×<vector>
binary<:
          <character>×<character>
          <symbol>x<symbol>
          <fpi>×
          <fpi>
          <double-float>x<double-float>
          <string>x<string>
          <object>×<object> ⇒binary=
=:
!=:
          <object> × <object>
          <object>×<object> ⇒binary
<
>:
          <object>x<object>
<=:
          <object>x<object>
          <object>x<object>
>=:
```

16.3.1 eq function

Arguments

 $object_1$: An object. $object_2$: An object.

Result

Compares $object_1$ and $object_2$ and returns ${\color{blue}\mathbf{t}}$ if they are the same object, otherwise (). Same in this context means "identifies the same memory location".

Remarks

In the case of numbers and characters the behaviour of $\operatorname{\sf eq}$ might differ between processors because of implementation choices about internal representations. Therefore, $\operatorname{\sf eq}$ might return $\operatorname{\sf t}$ or () for numbers which are $\operatorname{\sf =}$ and similarly for characters which are $\operatorname{\sf eql}$, depending on the implementation .

Examples

```
(eq 'a 'a)
                                                    t
                                               \Rightarrow
(eq 'a 'b)
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                    ()
(eq #\a #\a)
                                                   tor()
                                               \Rightarrow
(eq 3 3)
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                   tor()
(eq 3 3.0)
                                                   ()
                                               \Rightarrow
(eq 3.0 3.0)
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                   tor()
(eq (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'c))
                                                   ()
                                               \Rightarrow
(eq (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'b))
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                    ()
(eq''(a . b)''(a . b))
                                               \Rightarrow tor()
(let ((x (cons 'a 'b))) (eq x x))
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                    t
(let ((x '(a . b))) (eq x x))
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                    t
(eq "string" "string")
                                               \Rightarrow
                                                   tor()
(eq #('a 'b) #('a 'b))
                                               \Rightarrow tor ()
(let ((x #('a 'b))) (eq x x))
                                               \Rightarrow t
```

16.3.2 eql function

Arguments

 $object_1$: An object. $object_2$: An object.

Result

If the class of $object_1$ and of $object_2$ is the same and is a subclass of <code><character></code> or <code><number></code>, the result is that of comparing them under <code>binary= <character></code> or <code>binary= <number></code> respectively. Otherwise the result is that of comparing them under <code>eq</code>.

Examples

Given the same set of examples as for eq, the same result is obtained except in the following cases:

```
(eql #\a #\a) \Rightarrow t
(eql 3 3) \Rightarrow t
(eql 3.0 3.0) \Rightarrow t
```

16.3.3 binary=

generic function

Arguments

```
object1, <object>: An object.
object2, <object>: An object.
```

Result

Returns \mathbf{t} or () according to the method for the class(es) of $object_1$ and $object_2$. It is an error if either or both of the arguments is self-referential.

See also

Class specific methods on binary= are defined for <character>, <list>, <number> (with specialisations for <fpi> and <double-float>), <string>, <vectors>. All other cases are handled by the default method defined for <object>:

16.3.4 binary= <object>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
object1 <object>: An object.
object2 <object>: An object.
```

Version 0.991

Result

The result is as if eql had been called with the arguments supplied.

16.3.5 binary<

generic function

Generic Arguments

object1 <object>: An object.
object2 <object>: An object.

Result

The first argument if it is less than the second, according to the method for the class of the arguments, otherwise ().

See also

Class specific methods on binary< are defined for <character>, <string>, <fpi> and <double-float>.

16.3.6 =

function

Arguments

 $number_1 \dots$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Given one argument the result is **t**. Given more than one argument the result is determined by **binary=**, returning **t** if all the arguments are the same, otherwise ().

16.3.7 !=

function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ldots$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Given one argument the result is (). Given more than one argument the result is determined by binary=, returning () if all the arguments are the same, otherwise t.

16.3.8 <

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \ldots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

Given one argument the result is t. Given more than one argument the result is t if the sequence of objects $object_1$ up to $object_n$ is strictly increasing according to the generic function binary. Otherwise, the result is ().

16.3.9 >

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \ldots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

Given one argument the result is \mathbf{t} . Given more than one argument the result is \mathbf{t} if the sequence of objects *object*₁ up to

 $object_n$ is strictly decreasing according to the generic function **binary**< applied to the arguments in reverse order. Otherwise, the result is ().

16.3.10 <

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \dots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

Given one argument the result is \mathbf{t} . Given more than one argument the result is \mathbf{t} if the sequence of objects $object_1$ up to $object_n$ is strictly increasing according to the generic function binary< and binary=. Otherwise, the result is ().

16.3.11 >=

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \dots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

Given one argument the result is \mathbf{t} . Given more than one argument the result is \mathbf{t} if the sequence of objects $object_1$ up to $object_n$ is strictly decreasing according to the generic function binary< and binary= applied to the arguments in reverse order. Otherwise, the result is ().

16.3.12 max

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \dots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

The maximal element of the sequence of objects $object_1$ up to $object_n$ using the generic function **binary**. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns $object_1$.

16.3.13 min

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \ldots$: A non-empty sequence of objects.

Result

The minimal element of the sequence of objects $object_1$ up to $object_n$ using the generic function binary<. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns $object_1$.

16.4 Conversion

The defined name of this module is convert.

The mechanism for the conversion of an instance of one class to an instance of another is defined by a user-extensible framework which has some similarity to the **setter** mechanism.

To the user, the interface to conversion is via the function convert, which takes an object and some class to which the object is to be converted. The target class is used to access an associated converter function, in fact, a generic function, which is applied to the source instance, dispatching on its class to select the method which implements the appropriate conversion. Thus, having defined a new class to which it may be desirable to convert instances of other classes, the programmer defines a generic function:

(defgeneric (converter new-class) (instance))

Hereafter, new converter methods may be defined for *new-class* using a similar extended syntax for **defmethod**:

The conversion is implemented by defining methods on the converter for *new-class* which specialize on the source class. This is also how methods are documented in this text: by an entry for a method on the converter function for the target class. In general, the method for a given source class is defined in the section about that class, for example, converters from one kind of collection to another are defined in section 16.2, converters from string in section 16.16, etc..

16.4.1 convert function

Arguments

object: An instance of some class to be converted to an instance of class.

class: The class to which object is to be converted.

Result

Returns an instance of *class* which is equivalent in some class-specific sense to *object*, which may be an instance of any type. Calls the converter function associated with *class* to carry out the conversion operation. An error is signalled (condition: <no-converter>) if there is no associated function. An error is signalled (condition: <no-applicable-method>) if there is no method to convert an instance of the class of *object* to an instance of *class*.

16.4.2 <conversion-condition>

<condition> condition

This is the general condition class for all conditions arising from conversion operations.

Initialization Options

source < object>: The object to be converted into an instance of <math>target-class.

target-class <class>: The target class for the conversion operation.

Remarks

Should be signalled by convert or a converter method.

16.4.3 <no-converter>

<conversion-condition> condition

Initialization Options

source <object>: The object to be converted into an instance of *target-class*.

target-class <class>: The target class for the conversion operation.

Remarks

Should be signalled by convert if there is no associated function.

16.4.4 converter

function

Arguments

target-class: The class whose set of conversion methods is required.

Result

The accessor returns the converter function for the class *target-class*. The converter is a generic-function with methods specialized on the class of the object to be converted.

16.4.5 (setter converter)

setter

Arguments

target-class: The class whose converter function is to be replaced.

generic-function: The new converter function.

Result

The new converter function. The setter function replaces the converter function for the class *target-class* by *generic-function*. The new converter function must be an instance of <code><generic-function></code>.

Remarks

Converter methods from one class to another are defined in the section pertaining to the source class.

See also

Converter methods are defined for collections (16.2), double float (16.6), fixed precision integer (16.9), string (16.16), symbol (16.17), vector (16.19).

Version 0.991

16.5 Copying

The defined name of this module is copy.

16.5.1 deep-copy

generic function

Generic Arguments

object: An object to be copied.

Result

Constructs and returns a copy of the source which is the same (under some class specific predicate) as the source and whose slots contain copies of the objects stored in the corresponding slots of the source, and so on. The exact behaviour for each class of *object* is defined by the most applicable method for *object*.

See also

Class specific sections which define methods on deep-copy: list (16.12), string (16.16), table (16.18) and vector (16.19).

16.5.2 deep-copy <object>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: An object.

Result

Returns object.

16.5.3 deep-copy <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

Result

Constructs and returns a new structure whose slots are initialized with copies (using ${\tt deep-copy}$) of the contents of the slots of class.

16.5.4 shallow-copy

generic function

Generic Arguments

object: An object to be copied.

\mathbf{Result}

Constructs and returns a copy of the source which is the same (under some class specific predicate) as the source. The exact behaviour for each class of *object* is defined by the most applicable method for *object*.

See also

Class specific sections which define methods on **shallow-copy**: pair (16.12), string (16.16), table (16.18) and vector (16.19).

16.5.5 shallow-copy <object>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: An object.

Result

Returns object.

16.5.6 shallow-copy <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

Result

Constructs and returns a new structure whose slots are initialized with the contents of the correpsonding slots of *struct*.

16.6 Double Precision Floats

The defined name of this module is double. Arithmetic operations for <double-float> are defined by methods on the generic functions defined in the compare module (16.3):

binary=, binary<,

the number module (16.14):

binary+, binary-, binary*, binary/, binary-mod, negate,
zero?

the float module (16.7):

ceiling, floor, round, truncate

and the elementary functions module (??):

acos, asin, atan, atan2, cos, sin, tan, cosh, sinh, tanh, exp, log, log10, pow, sqrt

The behaviour of these functions is defined in the modules noted above.

16.6.1 <double-float>

<float> class

The class of all double precision floating point numbers.

The syntax for the exponent of a double precision floating point is given below:

double-exponent:

- d $sign_{opt}$ decimal-integer
- D $sign_{opt}$ decimal-integer

The general syntax for floating point numbers is given in syntax table 16.7.1.1.

16.6.2 double-float?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a double float, otherwise ().

See also

float? (16.14).

16.6.3 most-positive-double-float <double-float> constant

Remarks

The value of most-positive-double-float is that positive double precision floating point number closest in value to (but not equal to) positive infinity that the processor provides.

16.6.4 least-positive-double-float double-float constant

Remarks

The value of **least-positive-double-float** is that positive double precision floating point number closest in value to (but not equal to) zero that the processor provides.

16.6.5 least-negative-double-float <double-float>

constant

Remarks

The value of **least-negative-double-float** is that negative double precision floating point number closest in value to (but not equal to) zero that the processor provides. Even if the processor provide negative zero, this value must not be negative zero.

16.6.6 most-negative-double-float <double-float> constant

Remarks

The value of most-negative-double-float is that negative double precision floating point number closest in value to (but not equal to) negative infinity that the processor provides.

16.6.7 (converter <string>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

 $x \leq \text{double-float} > : A double precision float.$

Result

Constructs and returns a string, the characters of which correspond to the external representation of x as produced by **generic-print**, namely that specified in the syntax as [sign] float format 3.

16.6.8 (converter <fpi>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

 $x \leq \text{double-float} > : A double precision float.$

Result

A fixed precision integer.

Remarks

This function is the same as the <double-float> method of round. It is defined for the sake of symmetry.

16.6.9 generic-print <double-float>

method

Specialized Arguments

 $double \le double - float > :$ The double float to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream >: The stream on which the representation is to be output.$

Result

The double float supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of double on stream, as an optional sign preceding the syntax defined by float format 3. Finer control over the format of the output of floating point numbers is provided by some of the formatting specifications of format (see section 16.8).

16.6.10 generic-write <double-float>

method

Specialized Arguments

double <double-float>: The double float to be output on stream.

stream <stream>: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The double float supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of double on stream, as an optional sign preceding the syntax defined by float format 3. Finer control over the format of the output of floating point numbers is provided by some of the formatting specifications of format (see section 16.8).

16.7 Floating Point Numbers

The defined name of this module is float. This module defines the abstract class <float> and the behaviour of some generic functions on floating point numbers. Further operations on numbers are defined in the numbers module (16.14) and further operations on floating point numbers are defined in the elementary functions module (??). A concrete float class is defined in the double float module (16.6).

16.7.1 float

syntax

The syntax for the external representation of floating point literals is defined in syntax table 16.7.1.1. The representation used by write and prin is that of a sign, a whole part and a fractional part without an exponent, namely that defined by float format 3. Finer control over the format of the output of floating point numbers is provided by some of the formatting specifications of format (section 16.8).

16.7.1.1 Syntax

```
float:
    sign<sub>opt</sub> unsigned-float exponent<sub>opt</sub>
unsigned-float:
    float-format-1
    float-format-2
    float-format-3
float-format-1:
    decimal-integer .
float-format-2:
    decimal-integer
float-format-3:
    float-format-1 decimal-integer
exponent:
    double-exponent
```

A floating point number has six forms of external representation depending on whether either or both the whole and the fractional part are specified and on whether an exponent is specified. In addition, a positive floating point number is optionally preceded by a plus sign and a negative floating point number is preceded by a minus sign. For example: +123. (float format 1), -.456 (float format 2), 123.456 (float format 3); and with exponents: +123456.D-3, 1.23455D2, -.123456D3.

16.7.2 <float>

<number> class

The abstract class which is the superclass of all floating point numbers.

16.7.3 float?

function

Arguments

objext: Object to examine.

Result

Returns object if it is a floating point number, otherwise ().

16.7.4 ceiling

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Returns the smallest integral value not less than *float* expressed as a float of the same class as the argument.

16.7.5 floor

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Returns the largest integral value not greater than *float* expressed as a float of the same class as the argument.

16.7.6 round

generic function

Arguments

float: A floating point number.

Result

Returns the integer whose value is closest to *float*, except in the case when *float* is exactly half-way between two integers, when it is rounded to the one that is even.

16.7.7 truncate

generic function

Arguments

float: A floating point number.

Result

Returns the greatest integer value whose magnitude is less than or equal to $\it float$.

16.8 Formatted-IO

The defined name of this module is formatted-io.

16.8.1 scan

function

Arguments

format-string: A string containing format directives.

 $stream_{opt}$: A stream from which input is to be taken.

Result

Returns a list of the objects read from stream.

Remarks

This function provides support for formatted input. The format-string specifies reading directives, and inputs are matched according to these directives. An error is signaled (condition: <scan-mismatch>) if the class of the object read is not compatible with the specified directive. The second (optional) argument specifies a stream from which to take input. If stream is not supplied, input is taken from stdin. Scan returns a list of the objects read in.

~a any: any object.

"b binary: an integer in binary format.

~c character: a single character

~d decimal: an integer decimal format.

 \tilde{n}_{opt} e: a exponential-format floating-point number.

 \tilde{n}_{opt} f: a fixed-format floating-point number.

~o octal: an integer in octal format.

"r radix: an integer in specified radix format.

"x hexadecimal: an integer in hexadecimal format.

"% newline: matches a newline character in the input.

16.8.2 <scan-mismatch>

<stream-condition> condition

Initialization Options

format-string string: The value of this option is the format string that was passed to scan.

input *list*: The value of this option is a list of the items read by scan up to and including the object that caused the condition to be signaled.

Remarks

This condition is signalled by scan if the format string does not match the data input from stream.

16.8.3 sformat

function

Arguments

stream: A stream.

format-string: A string containing format directives.

 $object_1 \dots opt$: A sequence of objects to be output on stream.

Result

Returns stream and has the side-effect of outputting objects according the formats specified in format-string to stream. Characters are output as if the string were output by the sprin function with the exception of those prefixed by tilde—graphic representation "—which are treated specially as detailed in the following list. These formatting directives are intentionally compatible with the facilities defined for the function fprintf in ISO/IEC 9899: 1990 except for the prefix " rather than %.

- ~a any: uses sprin to output the argument.
- **binary:** the argument must be an integer and is output in binary notation (syntax table 16.10.1.1).
- ~c character: the argument must be a character and is output using write (syntax table 16.1.1.1).
- "d decimal: the argument must be an integer and is output using write (syntax table 16.10.1.1).
- \tilde{m}_{opt} . n_{opt} e exponential-format floating-point: the argument must be a floating point number. It is output in the style $-_{opt}d.ddd$ e $\pm dd$, in a field of width m characters, where there are n precision digits after the decimal point, or 6 digits, if n is not specified (syntax table 16.7.1.1). If the value to be output has fewer characters than m it is padded on the left with spaces.
- $^{\sim}m_{opt}$. n_{opt} f fixed-format floating-point: the argument must be a floating point number. It is output in the style $_{opt}ddd.ddd$, in a field of width m characters, where the are n precision digits after the decimal point, or 6 digits, if n is not specified (syntax table 16.7.1.1). The value is rounded to the appropriate number of digits. If the value to be output has fewer characters than m it is padded on the left with spaces.
- m_{opt} . n_{opt} generalized floating-point: the argument must be a floating point number. It is output in either fixed-format or exponential notation as appropriate (syntax table 16.7.1.1).
- ~o octal: the argument must be an integer and is output in octal notation (syntax table 16.10.1.1).
- \tilde{n} radix: the argument must be an integer and is output in radix n notation (syntax table 16.10.1.1).
- "s s-expression: uses write to output the argument (syntax table 9.5.0.5).
- \tilde{n}_{opt} t tab: output sufficient spaces to reach the next tabstop, if n is not specified, or the n^{th} tab stop if it is.
- "x hexadecimal: the argument must be an integer and is output in hexadecimal notation (syntax table 16.10.1.1).
- ~% newline: output a newline character.
- **% conditional newline:** output a newline character using, if it cannot be determined that the output stream is at the beginning of a fresh line.
- ~~ tilde: output a tilde character using sprin.

16.8.4 format

function

Arguments

format-string: A string containing format directives.

object₁ ... opt: A sequence of objects to be output on stdout.

Result

Returns **stdout** and has the side-effect of outputting *objects* according the formats specified in *format-string* (see **sformat**) to **stdout**.

16.8.5 fmt

function

Arguments

format-string: A string containing format directives.

 $object_1 \dots opt$: A sequence of objects to be formatted into a string.

Remarks

Return the string created by formatting the *objects* according the formats specified in *format-string* (see **sformat**).

16.9 Fixed Precision Integers

The defined name of this module is fpi. Arithmetic operations for <fpi> are defined by methods on the generic functions defined in the compare module (16.3):

binary=, binary<,</pre>

the number module:

binary+, binary-, binary*, binary/, binary%, binary-gcd, binary-lcm, binary-mod, negate, zero?

and in the integer module:

even?

The behaviour of these functions is defined in the modules noted above.

16.9.1 <fpi>

 ${\tt integer} > class$

The class of all instances of fixed precision integers.

16.9.2 int? function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is fixed precision integer, otherwise ().

16.9.3 most-positive-int <fpi> constant

Remarks

This is an implementation-defined constant. A conforming processor must support a value greater than or equal to 32767 and greater than or equal to the value of maximum-vector-index.

16.9.4 most-negative-int <fpi> constant

Remarks

This is an implementation-defined constant. A conforming processor must support a value less than or equal to -32768.

16.9.5 (converter <string>) converter

Specialized Arguments

integer <fpi>: An integer.

Result

Constructs and returns a string, the characters of which correspond to the external representation of *integer* in decimal notation.

16.9.6 (converter <double-float>) converter

Specialized Arguments

integer <fpi>: An integer.

Result

Returns a double float whose value is the floating point approximation to *integer*.

16.9.7 generic-print <fpi>

method

Specialized Arguments

integer <fpi>: An integer to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream >: The stream on which the representation is to be output.$

Result

The fixed precision integer supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs external representation of *integer* on *stream* in decimal as defined by *decimal integer* at the beginning of this section.

16.9.8 generic-write <fpi>

method

Specialized Arguments

integer <fpi>: An integer to be output on stream.

stream <stream>: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The fixed precision integer supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs external representation of *integer* on *stream* in decimal as defined by *decimal integer* at the beginning of this section.

16.10 Integers

The defined name of this module is **integer**. This module defines the abstract class **integer** and the behaviour of some generic functions on integers. Further operations on numbers are defined in the numbers module (16.14). A concrete integer class is defined in the fixed precision integer module (16.9).

16.10.1.1 Syntax

```
integer:
      sign_{opt} unsigned-integer
sign:
      one of
unsigned-integer:
      binary-integer
      octal-integer
       decimal-integer
      hexa decimal \hbox{-} integer
      specified-base-integer
binary-integer:
      #b binary-digit+
binary-digit: one of
      0 1
octal-integer:
      #o octal-digit<sup>+</sup>
octal-digit: one of
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
decimal-integer:
      decimal-digit^+
hexadecimal-integer:
      #x hexadecimal-digit<sup>+</sup>
hexadecimal-digit:
      decimal-digit
      hex-lower-letter
      hex-upper-letter
hex-lower-letter: one of
      abcdef
hex-upper-letter: one of
      ABCDEF
specified-base-integer:
      # base-specification r
       specified-base-digit
      specified-base-digit*
base-specification:
      3 { 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 }
specified-base-digit:
       decimal-digit
       letter
```

NOTE 1 At present this text does not define a class integer with variable precision. It is planned this should appear in a future version at level-1 of the language. The class will be named <variable-precision-integer>. The syntax given here is applicable to both fixed and variable precision integers.

16.10.1 integer syntax

A positive integer is has its external representation as a sequence of digits optionally preceded by a plus sign. A negative integer is written as a sequence of digits preceded by a minus sign. For example, 1234567890, -456, +1959.

Integer literals have an external representation in any base up to base 36. For convenience, base 2, base 8 and base 16 have distinguished notations—#b, #o and #x, respectively. For example: 1234, #b10011010010, #o2322 and #x4d2 all denote the same value.

The general notation for an arbitrary base is #baser, where base is an unsigned decimal number. Thus, the above examples may also be written: #10r1234, #2r10011010010, #8r2322, #16r4d2 or #36rya. The reading of any number is terminated on encountering a character which cannot be a constituent of that number. The syntax for the external representation of integer literals is defined below.

16.10.2 <integer>

<number> class

The abstract class which is the superclass of all integer numbers.

16.10.3 integer?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is an integer, otherwise ().

16.10.4 even?

generic function

Arguments

integer, <integer>: An integer.

Result

Returns t if two divides *integer*, otherwise ().

16.10.5 odd?

function

Arguments

integer: An integer.

Result

Returns the equivalent of the logical negation of even ? applied to integer.

16.11 Keywords

The defined name of this module is keyword.

16.11.1 keyword

syntax

The syntax of keywords is very similar to that of identifiers and of symbols, including all the escape conventions, but are distinguished by a colon (:) suffix:

16.11.1.1 Syntax

keyword:

identifier:

It is an error to use a keyword where an identifier is expected, such as, for example, in lambda parameter lists or in let binding forms

The matter of keywords appering in lambda parameter lists, for example, rest:, instead of the dot notation, is currently an open issue.

Operationally, the most important aspect of keywords is that each is unique, or, stated the other way around: the result of processing every syntactic token comprising the same sequence of characters which denote a keyword is the same object. Or, more briefly, every keyword with the same name denotes the same keyword. A consequence of this guarantee is that keywords may be compared using eq.

16.11.2 <keyword>

<name> class

The class of all instance of <keyword>.

Initialization Options

string string: The string containing the characters to be used to name the keyword. The default value for string is the empty string, thus resulting in the keyword with no name, written |:|.

What is the defined behaviour if the last character of string is colon?

16.11.3 keyword?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a keyword.

16.11.4 keyword-name

function

Arguments

keyword: A keyword.

Result

Returns a *string* which is **binary= <string>** to that given as the argument to the call to **make** which created *keyword*. It is an error to modify this string.

Arguments

16.11.5 keyword-exists?

function

Remarks

This function is the same as **keyword-name**. It is defined for the sake of symmetry.

string: A string containing the characters to be used to determine the existence of a keyword with that name.

Result

Returns the keyword whose name is *string* if that keyword has already been constructed by **make**. Otherwise, returns ().

16.11.6 generic-print <keyword>

method

Specialized Arguments

keyword <keyword>: The keyword to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream >: The stream on which the representation is to be output.$

Result

The keyword supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *keyword* on *stream* as described in the section on symbols, interpreting each of the characters in the name.

16.11.7 generic-write <keyword>

method

Specialized Arguments

keyword < keyword > : The keyword to be output on stream.

 $stream \le tream > :$ The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The keyword supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *keyword* on *stream* as described in the section on symbols. If any characters in the name would not normally be legal constituents of a keyword, the output is preceded and succeeded by multiple-escape characters.

Examples

```
(write (make <keyword> 'string "abc")) \Rightarrow abc: (write (make <keyword> 'string "a c")) \Rightarrow |a c:| (write (make <keyword> 'string ").(")) \Rightarrow |).(:|
```

16.11.8 (converter <string>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

keyword <keyword>: A keyword to be converted to a string.

Result

A string.

16.12 Lists

The name of this module is list. The class is an abstract class and has two subclasses: <null> and <cons>. The only instance of <null> is the empty list. The combination of these two classes allows the creation of proper lists, since a proper list is one whose last pair contains the empty list in its cdr field. See also section 16.2 (collections) for further operations on lists.

16.12.1 list> <collection> class

The class of all lists.

16.12.2 () syntax

Remarks

The empty list, which is the only instance of the class $\langle \text{null} \rangle$, has as its external representation an open parenthesis followed by a close parenthesis. The empty list is also used to denote the boolean value false.

16.12.3 <null> 1st> class

The class whose only instance is the empty list, denoted ().

16.12.4 null? function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns t if *object* is the empty list, otherwise ().

16.12.5 generic-print <null> method

Specialized Arguments

null: The empty list.

stream: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The empty list.

Remarks

Output the external representation of the empty list on *stream* as described above.

16.12.6 generic-write <null> method

Specialized Arguments

null: The empty list.

stream: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The empty list.

Remarks

Output the external representation of the empty list on stream as described above.

16.12.7 pair syntax

A pair is written as $(object_1 . object_2)$, where $object_1$ is called the car and object2 is called the cdr. There are two special cases in the external representation of pair. If $object_2$ is the empty list, then the pair is written as $(object_1)$. If $object_2$ is an instance of pair, then the pair is written as (object₁ object₃ object₄), where object₃ is the car of object₂ and object₄ is the cdr with the above rule for the empty list applying. By induction, a list of length n is written as ($object_1 \dots object_{n-1}$). $object_n$), with the above rule for the empty list applying. The representations of $object_1$ and $object_2$ are determined by the external representations defined in other sections of this definition (see $\langle \text{character} \rangle$ (16.1), $\langle \text{double-float} \rangle$ (16.6), $\langle \text{fpi} \rangle$ (16.9), <string> (16.16), <symbol> (16.17) and <vector> (16.19), as well as instances of <cons> itself. The syntax for the external representation of pairs and lists is defined in syntax table 16.12.7.1.

16.12.7.1 Syntax

```
null:
        ()
pair:
        ( object .
                      object )
list:
        empty\text{-}list
        proper-list
        improper-list
empty-list:
        ()
proper-list:
        (object^+)
improper-list:
        (object^+)
                        object )
```

Examples

```
() the empty list
(1) a list whose car is 1 and cdr is ()
(1 . 2) a pair whose car is 1 and cdr is 2
(1 2) a list whose car is 1 and cdr is (2)
```

16.12.8 <cons> 16.12.8 <cons> 16.12.8 <cons>

The class of all instances of <cons>. An instance of the class <cons> (also known informally as a dotted pair or a pair) is a 2-tuple, whose slots are called, for historical reasons, car and cdr. Pairs are created by the function cons and the slots are accessed by the functions car and cdr. The major use of pairs is in the construction of (proper) lists. A (proper) list is defined as either the empty list (denoted by ()) or a pair whose cdr is a proper list. An improper list is one containing a cdr which is not a list (see syntax table 16.12.7.1).

It is an error to apply **car** or **cdr** or their **setter** functions to anything other than a pair. The empty list is not a pair and (**car** ()) or (**cdr** ()) is an error.

16.12.9 cons? function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a pair, otherwise ().

16.12.10 atom? function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is not a pair, otherwise ().

16.12.11 cons function

Arguments

 $object_1$: An object. pair. $object_2$: An object. pair.

Result

Allocates a new pair whose slots are initialized with $object_1$ in the car and $object_2$ in the cdr.

16.12.12 car function

Arguments

pair: A pair.

Result

Given a pair, such as the result of (cons $object_1$ $object_2$), then the function car returns $object_1$.

16.12.13 cdr function

Arguments

pair: A pair.

Result

Given a pair, such as the result of (cons $object_1$ $object_2$), then the function cdr returns $object_2$.

16.12.14 (setter car) setter

Arguments

pair: A pair.

object: An object.

Result

Given a pair, such as the result of (cons $object_1$ $object_2$), then the function (setter car) replaces $object_1$ with object. The result is object.

16.12.15 (setter cdr)

setter

Arguments

pair: A pair.

object: An object.

Result

Given a pair, such as the result of (cons $object_1$ $object_2$), then the function (setter cdr) replaces $object_2$ with object. The result is object.

Remarks

Note that if *object* is not a proper list, then the use of (setter cdr) might change *pair* into an improper list.

16.12.16 binary= <cons>

method

Specialized Arguments

pair₁ <cons>: A pair.

 $pair_2 < cons > : A pair.$

Result

If the result of the conjunction of the pairwise application of binary= to the car fields and the cdr fields of the arguments is t the result is $pair_1$ otherwise the result is ().

16.12.17 deep-copy <cons>

method

Specialized Arguments

pair <cons>: A pair.

 \mathbf{Result}

Constructs and returns a copy of the list starting at *pair* copying both the **car** and the **cdr** slots of the list. The list can be proper or improper. Treatment of the objects stored in the **car** slot (and the **cdr** slot in the case of the final pair of an improper list) is determined by the **deep-copy** method for the class of the object.

16.12.18 shallow-copy <cons>

method

Specialized Arguments

pair <cons>: A pair.

Resul

Constructs and returns a copy of the list starting at *pair* but copying only the **cdr** slots of the list, terminating when a pair is encountered whose **cdr** slot is not a pair. The list beginning at *pair* can be proper or improper.

16.12.19 list

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \dots object_{nopt}$: A sequence of objects.

Result

Allocates a set of pairs each of which has been initialized with $object_i$ in the car field and the pair whose car field contains $object_{i+1}$ in the cdr field. Returns the pair whose car field contains $object_1$.

Examples

(list) \Rightarrow () (list 1 2 3) \Rightarrow (1 2 3)

16.12.20 generic-print <cons>

method

Specialized Arguments

pair <cons>: The pair to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream > :$ The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The pair supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Output the external representation of *pair* on *stream* as described at the beginning of this section. Uses **generic-print** to produce the external representation of the contents of the **car** and **cdr** slots of *pair*.

16.12.21 generic-write <cons>

method

Specialized Arguments

pair <cons>: The pair to be output on stream.

stream <stream>: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The pair supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Output the external representation of *pair* on *stream* as described at the beginning of this section. Uses **generic-write** to produce the external representation of the contents of the **car** and **cdr** slots of *pair*.

16.13 Elementary Functions

The defined name of this module is mathlib. The functionality defined for this module is intentionally precisely that of the trigonmetric functions, hyperbolic functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and power functions defined for <math.h> in ISO/IEC 9899: 1990 with the exceptions of frexp, ldexp and modf.

16.13.1 pi <double-float>

constant

Remarks

The value of **pi** is the ratio the circumference of a circle to its diameter stored to double precision floating point accuracy.

16.13.2 acos

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the principal value of the arc cosine of *float* which is a value in the range $[0,\pi]$ radians. An error is signalled (condition-class: <domain-condition>) if *float* is not in the range [-1,+1].

16.13.3 asin

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float < float >: A floating point number.

Resul

Computes the principal value of the arc sine of *float* which is a value in the range $[-\pi/2, +\pi/2]$ radians. An error is signalled (condition-class: <domain-condition>) if *float* is not in the range [-1, +1].

$16.13.4 \quad \mathtt{atan}$

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the principal value of the arc tangent of *float* which is a value in the range $[-\pi/2, +\pi/2]$ radians.

16.13.5 atan2

generic function

Generic Arguments

 $float_1 < float>: A floating point number.$

float₂ <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the principal value of the arc tangent of $float_1/float_2$, which is a value in the range $[-\pi, +\pi]$ radians, using the signs of both arguments to determine the quadrant of the result. An error might be signalled (condition-class: <domain-condition>) if either $float_1$ or $float_2$ is zero.

16.13.6 cos

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the cosine of *float* (measured in radians).

16.13.7 sin

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the sine of *float* (measured in radians).

16.13.8 tan

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the tangent of *float* (measured in radians).

16.13.9 cosh

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the hyperbolic cosine of *float*. An error might be signalled (condition class: <range-condition>) if the magnitude of *float* is too large.

16.13.10 sinh

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the hyperbolic sine of *float*. An error might be signalled (condition class: <range-condition>) if the magnitude of *float* is too large.

16.13.11 tanh

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the hyperbolic tangent of *float*.

16.13.12 exp

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the exponential function of *float*. An error might be signalled (condition class: <range-condition>) if the magnitude of *float* is too large.

16.13.13 log

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the natural logarithm of *float*. An error is signalled (condition class: <domain-condition>) if *float* is negative. An error might be signalled (condition class: <range-condition>) if *float* is zero.

16.13.14 log10

generic function

Generic Arguments

float <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes the base-ten logarithm of *float*. An error is signalled (condition class: <domain-condition>) if *float* is negative. An error might be signalled (condition class: <range-condition>) if *float* is zero.

16.13.15 pow

generic function

Generic Arguments

 $float_1 < float >: A floating point number.$

float₂ <float>: A floating point number.

Result

Computes $float_1$ raised to the power $float_2$. An error is signalled (condition class: $\langle domain-condition \rangle$) if $float_1$ is negative and $float_2$ is not integral. An error is signalled (condition class: $\langle domain-condition \rangle$) if the result cannot be represented when $float_1$ is zero and $float_2$ is less than or equal to zero. An error might be signalled (condition class: $\langle range-condition \rangle$) if the result cannot be represented.

16.13.16 sqrt

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

 $float \leq float >: A floating point number.$

\mathbf{Result}

Computes the non-negative square root of *float*. An error is signalled (condition class: <domain-condition>) if *float* is negative.

16.14 Numbers

The defined name of this module is number.

Numbers can take on many forms with unusual properties, specialized for different tasks, but two classes of number suffice for the majority of needs, namely integers (<integer>, <fpi>) and floating point numbers (<float>, <double-float>). Thus, these only are defined at level-0.

Table 4 shows the initial number class hierarchy at level-0. The inheritance relationships by this diagram are part of this definition, but it is not defined whether they are direct or not. For example, <integer> and <float> are not necessarily direct subclasses of <number>, while the class of each number class might be a subclass of <number>. Since there are only two concrete number classes at level-0, coercion is simple, namely from <fpi> to <double-float>. Any level-0 version of a library module, for example, elementary-functions??, need only define methods for these two classes. Mathematically, the reals are regarded as a superset of the integers and for the purposes of this definition we regard <float> as a superset of <integer> (even though this will cause representation problems when variable precision integers are introduced). Hence, <float> is referred to as being higher that <integer> and arithmetic involving instances of both classes will cause integers to be converted to an equivalent floating point value, before the calculation proceeds³⁾ (see in particular binary/, binary% and binary-mod).

Table 4 - Level-0 number class hierarchy

<number>
 <float>
 <double-float>
 <integer>
 <fpi>

16.14.1 <number>

<object> class

The abstract class which is the superclass of all number classes.

16.14.2 number?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a number, otherwise ().

16.14.3 <arithmetic-condition>

<condition> condition

Initialization Options

operator object: The operator which signalled the condition.

operand-list list: The operands passed to the operator.

Remarks

This is the general condition class for conditions arising from arithmetic operations.

16.14.4 <division-by-zero>

 ${\tt `arithmetic-condition'} \ condition$

Signalled by any of binary/, binary% and binary-mod if their second argument is zero.

16.14.5

function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the sum of the arguments using the generic function binary+. Given zero arguments, + returns 0 of class <integer>. One argument returns that argument. The arguments are combined left-associatively.

16.14.6 - function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the result of subtracting successive arguments—from the second to the last—from the first using the generic function binary—. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns the negation of the argument, using the generic function negate. The arguments are combined left-associatively.

16.14.7 *

function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the product of the arguments using the generic function binary*. Given zero arguments, * returns 1 of class <integer>. One argument returns that argument. The arguments are combined left-associatively.

16.14.8 / function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the result of dividing the first argument by its succeeding arguments using the generic function binary/. Zero arguments is an error. One argument computes the reciprocal of the argument. It is an error in the single argument case, if the argument is zero.

 $^{^{3)} \}mathrm{This}$ behaviour is popularly referred to as floating point contagion

16.14.9 % function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the result of taking the remainder of dividing the first argument by its succeeding arguments using the generic function binary%. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns that argument.

 $16.14.10 \mod function$

Arguments

number₁ number₂ ...opt: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the largest integral value not greater than the result of dividing the first argument by its succeeding arguments using the generic function **binary-mod**. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns $number_1$.

16.14.11 gcd function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ... opt$: A non-empty sequence of numbers.

Result

Computes the greatest common divisor of $number_1$ up to $number_n$ using the generic function binary-gcd. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns $number_1$.

16.14.12 lcm function

Arguments

 $number_1 \ number_2 \ ..._{opt}$: A non-empty sequence of numbers

Result

Computes the least common multiple of $number_1$ up to $number_n$ using the generic function binary-lcm. Zero arguments is an error. One argument returns $number_1$.

16.14.13 abs function

Arguments

number: A number.

Result

Computes the absolute value of number.

16.14.14 zero? generic function

Generic Arguments

number: A number.

Result

Compares *number* with the zero element of the class of *number* using the generic function binary=.

16.14.15 negate

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

number <number>: A number.

Result

Computes the additive inverse of number.

16.14.16 signum

function

Arguments

number: A number.

Result

Returns number if zero? applied to number is t. Otherwise returns the result of converting ± 1 to the class of number with the sign of number.

16.14.17 positive?

function

Arguments

number: A number.

Result

Compares *number* against the zero element of the class of *number* using the generic function **binary**<.

16.14.18 negative?

function

Arguments

number: A number.

Result

Compares number against the zero element of the class of number using the generic function binary<.

16.14.19 binary= <number>

method

Generic Arguments

number₁ <number>: A number.
number₂ <number>: A number.

Result

Returns t if $number_1$ and $number_2$ are numerically equal otherwise ();

16.14.20 binary+

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

```
number<sub>1</sub> <number>: A number.
number<sub>2</sub> <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the sum of $number_1$ and $number_2$.

16.14.21 binary-

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
number1 <number>: A number.
number2 <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the difference of $number_1$ and $number_2$.

16.14.22 binary*

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
number1 <number>: A number.
number2 <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the product of $number_1$ and $number_2$.

16.14.23 binary/

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
number1 <number>: A number.
number2 <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the division of *number*₁ by *number*₂ expressed as a number of the class of the higher of the classes of the two arguments. The sign of the result is positive if the signs the arguments are the same. If the signs are different, the sign of the result is negative. If the second argument is zero, the result might be zero or an error might be signalled (condition class: <division-by-zero>).

16.14.24 binary%

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

```
number<sub>1</sub> <number>: A number.
number<sub>2</sub> <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the value of $number_1-i*number_2$ expressed as a number of the class of the higher of the classes of the two arguments, for some integer i such that, if $number_2$ is non-zero, the result has the same sign as $number_1$ and magnitude less then the magnitude of $number_2$. If the second argument is zero, the result might be zero or an error might be signalled (condition class: division-by-zero>).

16.14.25 binary-mod

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

```
number<sub>1</sub> <number>: A number.
number<sub>2</sub> <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the largest integral value not greater than $number_1$ $number_2$ expressed as a number of the class of the higher of the classes of the two arguments, such that if $number_2$ is non-zero, the result has the same sign as $number_2$ and magnitude less than $number_2$. If the second argument is zero, the result might be zero or an error might be signalled (condition class: <division-by-zero>).

16.14.26 binary-gcd

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
number1 <number>: A number.
number2 <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the greatest common divisor of $number_1$ and $number_2$.

16.14.27 binary-lcm

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

```
number<sub>1</sub> <number>: A number.
number<sub>2</sub> <number>: A number.
```

Result

Computes the lowest common multiple of $number_1$ and $number_2$.

16.15 Streams

The defined name of this module is stream.

The aim of the stream design presented here is an open architecture for programming with streams, which should be applicable when the interface to some object can be characterized by either serial access to, or delivery of, objects.

The two specific objectives are: (i) transfer of objects between a process and disk storage; (ii) transfer of objects between one process and another.

The fundamental purpose of a stream object in the scheme presented here is to provide an interface between two objects through the two functions **read**, for streams from which objects are received, and **write**, for streams to which objects are sent.

16.15.1 Stream classes

16.15.1 <stream>

<object> class

This is the root of the stream class hierarchy and also defines the basic stream class.

Initialization Options

read-action <function>: A function which is
 called by the <stream> generic-read <stream>
 method. The accessor for this slot is called
 stream-read-action.

write-action <function>: A function which is called by the <stream> generic-write <stream> method. The accessor for this slot is called stream-write-action.

The following accessor functions are defined for <stream>
stream-lock: A lock, to be used to allow exclusive
access to a stream.

stream-source: An object to which the stream is connected and from which input is read.

stream-sink: An object to which the stream is connected and to which outtut is written.

stream-buffer: An object which is used to buffer
 data by some subclasses of <stream>. Its default
 value is ().

stream-buffer-size: The maximum number of objects that can be stored in *stream-buffer*. Its default value is 0.

The transaction unit of <stream> is <object>.

16.15.2 stream?

function

Arguments

object, <object>: The object to be examined.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a stream, otherwise ().

16.15.3 from-stream function

A constructor function of one argument for <stream> which returns a stream whose stream-read-action is the given argument.

16.15.4 to-stream

function

A constructor function of one argument for <stream> which returns a stream whose stream-write-action is the given argument.

16.15.5 <buffered-stream>

<stream> class

This class specializes <stream> by the use of a buffer which may grow arbitrarily large. The transaction unit of <buffered-stream> is <object>.

16.15.6 <fixed-buffered-stream>

<buffered-stream> class

This class specializes <buffered-stream> by placing a bound on the growth of the buffer. The transaction unit of <fixed-buffered-stream> is <object>.

16.15.7 <file-stream> <fixed-buffered-stream> class

This class specializes <fixed-buffered-stream> by providing an interface to data stored in files on disk. The transaction unit of <file-stream> is <character>. The following additional accessor functions are defined for <file-stream>:

file-stream-filename: The path identifying the file system object associated with the stream.

file-stream-mode: The mode of the connection between the stream and the file system object (usually either read or write).

file-stream-buffer-position: A key identifying the current position in the stream's buffer.

16.15.8 file-stream?

function

Arguments

object, <object>: The object to be examined.

\mathbf{Result}

Returns *object* if it is a **<file-stream>** otherwise ().

16.15.9 <string-stream>

<buffered-stream> class

The class of the default string stream.

16.15.10 string-stream?

function

Arguments

object, <object>: The object to be examined.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a <string-stream> otherwise ().

16.15.2 Stream operators

16.15.11 connect

function

Arguments

source: The source object from which the stream will read data.

sink: The sink object to which the stream will write data.

 $options_{opt}$: An optional argument for specifying implementation-defined options.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Connects *source* to *sink* according to the class-specific behaviours of **generic-connect**.

16.15.12 generic-connect

generic function

Generic Arguments

source <object>: The source object from which the stream will read data.

options_{opt} : An optional argument for specifying implementation-defined options.

Remarks

Generic form of connect.

16.15.13 generic-connect <stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

source <stream>: The stream which is to be the source of sink.

sink <stream>: The stream which is to be the sink of source.

options A list of implementation-defined options.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Connects the source of sink to source and the sink of source to sink.

16.15.14 generic-connect <path>

method

Specialized Arguments

source <path>: A path name.

sink <file-stream>: The stream via which data will be received from the file named by path.

options A list of implementation-defined options.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Opens the object identified by the path source for reading and connects sink to it. Hereafter, sink may be used for reading data from sink, until sink is disconnected or reconnected. Implementation-defined options for the opening of files may be specified using the third argument.

See also

open-input-file.

16.15.15 generic-connect <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

source <file-stream>: The stream via which data will be sent to the file named by path.

sink <path>: A path name.

options A list of implementation-defined options.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Opens the object identifed by the path sink for writing and connects source to it. Hereafter, source may be used for writing data to sink, until source is disconnected or reconnected. Implementation-defined options for the opening of files may be specified using the third argument.

See also

open-output-file.

16.15.16 reconnect

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

s1 <stream>: A stream.
s2 <stream>: A stream.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Transfers the source and sink connections of s1 to s2, leaving s1 disconnected.

16.15.17 reconnect <stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

s1 <stream>: A stream.

s2 <stream>: A stream.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Implements the **reconnect** operation for objects of class <stream>.

16.15.18 disconnect

generic function

Generic Arguments

 $s \leq stream > : A stream.$

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Disconnects the stream s from its source and/or its sink.

16.15.19 disconnect <stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

 $s \leq stream > : A stream.$

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Implements the disconnect operation for objects of class <stream>.

16.15.20 disconnect <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

s <file-stream>: A file stream.

Result

The return value is ().

Remarks

Implements the diconnect operation for objects of class **\file-stream>**. In particular, this involves closing the file associated with the stream s.

16.15.3 Stream objects

16.15.21 stdin <file-stream>

instance

Remarks

The standard input stream, which is a file-stream and whose transaction unit is therefore character. In Posix compliant configurations, this object is initialized from the Posix stdin object. Note that although stdin itself is a constant binding, it may be connected to different files by the reconnect operation.

16.15.22 lispin <stream>

in stance

Remarks

The standard lisp input stream, and its transaction unit is object. This stream is initially connected to stdin (although not necessarily directly), thus a read operation on lispin will case characters to be read from stdin and construct and return an object corresponding to the next lisp expression. Note that although lispin itself is a constant binding, it may be connected to different source streams by the reconnect operation.

16.15.23 stdout <file-stream>

instance

Remarks

The standard output stream, which is a file-stream and whose transaction unit is therefore character. In Posix compliant configurations, this object is initialized from the Posix stdout object. Note that although stdout itself is a constant binding, it may be connected to different files by the reconnect operation.

16.15.24 stderr <file-stream>

instance

Remarks

The standard error stream, which is a file-stream and whose transaction unit is therefore character. In Posix compliant configurations, this object is initialized from the Posix stderr object. Note that although stderr itself is a constant binding, it may be connected to different files by the reconnect operation.

16.15.4 Buffer management

16.15.25 fill-buffer

generic function

Generic Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

Result

The buffer associated with *stream* is refilled from its *source*. Returns a count of the number of items read.

Remarks

This function is guaranteed to be called when an attempt is made to read from a buffered stream whose buffer is either empty, or from which all the items have been read.

16.15.26 fill-buffer <buffered-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

16.15.27 fill-buffer <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <file-stream>: A stream.

16.15.28 flush-buffer

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

Result

The contents of the buffer associated with *stream* is flushed to its sink. If this operation succeeds, a **t** value is returned, otherwise the result is ().

Remarks

This function is guaranteed to be called when an attempt is made to write to a buffered stream whose buffer is full.

16.15.29 flush-buffer <buffered-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

Result

The contents of the buffer associated with stream is flushed to its sink. If this operation succeeds, a t value is returned, otherwise the result is ().

Remarks

Implements the **flush-buffer** operation for objects of class
 buffered-stream>.

16.15.30 flush-buffer <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <file-stream>: A stream.

Result

The contents of the buffer associated with stream is flushed to its sink. If this operation succeeds, a t value is returned, otherwise the result is ().

Remarks

Implements the **flush-buffer** operation for objects of **<file-stream>**. This method is called both when the buffer is full and after a newline character is written to the buffer.

16.15.31 <end-of-stream>

 ${\tt \langle stream-condition \rangle}\ condition$

Initialization Options

stream <stream>: A stream.

Remarks

Signalled by the default end of stream action, as a consequence of a read operation on *stream*, when it is at end of stream.

See also

generic-read.

16.15.32 end-of-stream

generic function

Generic Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

Remarks

This function is guaranteed to be called when a read operation encounters the end of *stream* and the <code>eos-error</code>? argument to read has a non-() value.

16.15.33 end-of-stream <buffered-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A stream.

Remarks

Signals the end of stream condition.

16.15.34 end-of-stream <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <file-stream>: A stream.

Remarks

Disconnects stream and signals the end of stream condition.

16.15.5 Reading from streams

16.15.35 <read-error>

<condition> condition

Generic Arguments

stream <stream>: A stream.

Remarks

Signalled by a **read** operation which fails in some manner other than when it is at end of stream.

16.15.36 read

function

Arguments

 $stream_{opt}$: A stream.

eos-error?_{opt}: A boolean.

 $eos-value_{opt}$: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

That of calling **generic-read** with the arguments supplied or defaulted as described.

Remarks

The stream defaults to lispin, eos-error? defaults to () and eos-value defaults to eos-default-value.

16.15.37 generic-read

generic function

Generic Arguments

stream <stream>: A stream.

eos-error? <object>: A boolean.

eos-value <object>: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

The next transaction unit from stream.

Remarks

If the end of *stream* is encountered and the value of *eos-error?* is (), the result is *eos-value*. If the end of *stream* is encountered and the value of *eos-error?* is non-(), the function end-of-stream <stream> is called with the argument *stream*.

16.15.38 generic-read <stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <stream>: A stream.

eos-error? <object>: A boolean.

eos-value <object>: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

That of calling the read-action of stream with the arguments stream, eos-error? and eos-value. Returns t.

Remarks

Implements the **generic-read** operation for objects of class <stream>.

16.15.39 generic-read <buffered-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <buffered-stream>: A buffered stream.

eos-error? <object>: A boolean.

eos-value <object>: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

The next object stored in the stream buffer. If the buffer is empty, the function **fill-buffer** is called. If the refilling operation did not succeed, the end of stream action is carried out as described under **generic-read**. Returns **t**.

Remarks

Implements the **generic-read** operation for objects of class **buffered-stream>**.

16.15.40 generic-read <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

stream <file-stream>: A file stream.

eos-error? <object>: A boolean.

 $eos\text{-}value \text{-}\langle object \rangle$: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

The next object stored in the stream buffer. If the buffer is empty, the function **fill-buffer** is called. If the refilling operation did not succeed, the end of stream action is carried out as described under **generic-read**. Returns **t**.

$\mathbf{Remarks}$

Implements the **generic-read** operation for objects of class <file-stream>.

16.15.6 Writing to streams

16.15.41 generic-write

generic function

Generic Arguments

object < object >: An object to be written to stream.

stream <stream>: Stream to which object is to be written.

Result

Returns object.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of object on the output stream stream.

See also

The following generic-write methods deare fined: generic-write <character>, generic-write <symbol>. generic-write <keyword>, generic-write <fpi>, generic-write <double-float>, generic-write <null>, generic-write <cons>, generic-write generic-write t>, generic-write <string>, <vector>, generic-write <stream>, generic-write <buffered-stream> and generic-write <file-stream>.

16.15.42 generic-write <stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: An object to be written to stream.

stream <stream>: Stream to which object is to be written.

16.15.43 generic-write <buffered-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: An object to be written to stream.

stream < buffered-stream >: Stream to which object is to be written.

16.15.44 generic-write <file-stream>

method

Specialized Arguments

object <object>: An object to be written to stream.

 $stream \le file-stream >: Stream to which object is to be written.$

16.15.45 swrite

function

Arguments

stream: Stream to which object is to be written.

object: An object to be written to stream.

Result

Returns stream.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *object* on the output stream *stream* using **generic-write**.

See also

generic-write.

16.15.46 write

function

Arguments

object: An object to be written to stream.

Result

Returns stdout.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *object* on **stdout** using **generic-write**.

See also

swrite, generic-write.

16.15.7 Additional functions

16.15.47 read-line

function

Arguments

stream: A stream.

 $eos-error?_{opt}$: A boolean.

 $eos\mbox{-}value_{opt}$: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

Result

A string.

Remarks

Reads a line (terminated by a newline character or the end of the stream) from the stream of characters which is *stream*. Returns the line as a string, discarding the terminating newline, if any. If the stream is already at end of stream, then the stream action is called: the default stream action is to signal an error: (condition class: <end-of-stream>).

16.15.48 generic-print

generic function

Generic Arguments

object <object>: An object to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream >: A$ character stream on which ob-ject is to be output.

Result

Returns object.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of object on the output stream stream.

See also

prin. The following generic-write methods are defined: generic-write <character>, generic-write <symbol>, generic-write <keyword>, generic-write <fpi>>, generic-write <double-float>, generic-write <null>, generic-write <cons>, generic-write tst>, generic-write <string> and generic-write <vector>.

16.15.49 sprint

function

Arguments

stream: A character stream on which object is to be output.

object₁ object₂ ...opt: A sequence of objects to be output on stream.

Result

Returns stream.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *object*₁ *object*₂ ... on the output stream *stream* using **generic-print** for each object.

See also

generic-print.

16.15.50 print

function

Arguments

 $object_1 \ object_2 \ ... opt$: A sequence of objects to be output on **stdout**.

Result

Returns stdout.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *object*₁ *object*₂ ... on the output stream **stdout** using **sprint** for each object.

See also

sprint and generic-print.

16.15.51 sflush

function

Arguments

stream: A stream to flush.

Result

Returns stream.

Remarks

sflush causes any buffered data for the stream to be written to the stream. The stream remains open.

16.15.52 flush

function

16.15.57 open-output-file

function

Result

Returns stdout.

Remarks

flush causes any buffered data for ${\tt stdout}$ to be written to ${\tt stdout}$.

See also

sflush.

16.15.53 sprin-char

function

Arguments

stream: A stream.

char: Character to be written to stream.

 $times_{opt}$: Integer count.

Result

Outputs char on stream. The optional count times defaults to 1.

16.15.54 prin-char

function

Arguments

char: Character to be written to stdout.

 $times_{opt}$: Integer count.

Result

Outputs char on stdout. The optional count times defaults to

See also

sprin-char.

16.15.55 sread

function

Arguments

stream: A stream.

eos-error?_{opt}: A boolean.

 $eos\mbox{-}value_{opt}$: Value to be returned to indicate end of stream.

16.15.8 Convenience forms

16.15.56 open-input-file

function

Arguments

path: A path identifying a file system object.

Result

Allocates and returns a new <file-stream> object whose source is connected to the file system object identified by path.

Arguments

path: A path identifying a file system object.

Result

Allocates and returns a new **<file-stream>** object whose sink is connected to the file system object identified by *path*.

16.15.58 with-input-file

special operator

16.15.58.1 Syntax

16.15.59 with-output-file

 $special\ operator$

16.15.59.1 Syntax

```
with	ext{-}output	ext{-}file	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>} \ ( with	ext{-}output	ext{-}file path \ body )
```

16.15.60 with-source

 $special\ operator$

16.15.60.1 Syntax

```
with-source-form: → <object>
    ( with-source ( identifier form )
          body )
```

16.15.61 with-sink

 $special\ operator$

16.15.61.1 Syntax

```
with\text{-}sink\text{-}form: \rightarrow \text{`object'}
( with\t-sink ( identifier\ form )
body )
```

16.16 Strings

The defined name of this module is string. See also section 16.2 (collections) for further operations on strings.

16.16.1 string syntax

String literals are delimited by the glyph called *quotation mark* ("). For example, "abcd".

Sometimes it might be desirable to include string delimiter characters in strings. The aim of escaping in strings is to fulfill this need. The string-escape glyph is defined as reverse solidus (\). String escaping can also be used to include certain other characters that would otherwise be difficult to denote. The set of named special characters (see \S 9.1 and \S 16.1) are included in strings using the character digrams defined in table 16.1. To allow arbitrary characters to appear in strings, the hex-insertion digram is followed by an integer denoting the position of the character in the current character set as for characters (see \S 9.1). The syntax for the external representation of strings is defined in syntax table 16.16.1.1 below:

16.16.1.1 Syntax

```
string:
      " string-constituent* "
string-constituent:
      normal-string-constituent
      digram-string-constituent
      numeric string constituent
normal-string-constituent:
      level-0-character other than " or \
digram-string-constituent: one of
      \a \b \d \f \l \n \r \t \v \" \\
numeric-string-constituent:
       \x hexadecimal-digit
       x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
      \x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
         hexadecimal-digit
       \x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
         hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
```

Some examples of string literals appear in table 1.

Example 1 – Examples of string literals

Example	Contents
"a\nb"	#\a, #\n and #\b
"c\\"	#\c and #\\
"\x1 "	#\x1 followed by #\space
"\xabcde"	#\xabcd followed by #\e
"\x1\x2"	#x1 followed by $#x2$
"\x12+"	$\#\x12$ followed by $\#\+$
"\xabcg"	#\xabc followed by #\g
"\x00abc"	#\xab followed by #\c

NOTE 1 At present this document refers to the "current character set" but defines no means of selecting alternative character sets. This is to allow for future extensions and implementation-defined extensions which support more than one character set.

The function write outputs a re-readable form of any escaped characters in the string. For example, "a\n\b" (input notation) is the string containing the characters #\n, #\a, #\\ and #\b. The function write produces "a\n\b", whilst prin produces

\b

The function write outputs characters which do not have a glyph associated with their position in the character set as a hex insertion in which all four hex digits are specified, even if there are leading zeros, as in the last example in table 1. The function prin outputs the interpretation of the characters according to the definitions in section 16.1 without the delimiting quotation marks.

```
16.16.2 <string>
```

<character-sequence> class

The class of all instances of <string>.

Initialization Options

size <fpi>: The number of characters in the string. Strings are zero-based and thus the maximum index is *size-1*. If not specified the *size* is zero.

fill-value: <character>: A character with which to initialize the string. The default fill character is #\x0.

Examples

16.16.3 string?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a string, otherwise ().

16.16.4 (converter <symbol>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

```
string < string >: A string to be converted to a symbol.
```

Result

If the result of **symbol-exists?** when applied to *string* is a symbol, that symbol is returned. If the result is (), then a new symbol is constructed whose name is *string*. This new symbol is returned.

```
16.16.5 binary= <string>
```

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string1 <string>: A string.
string2 <string>: A string.
```

Result

If the size of $string_1$ is the same (under =) as that of $string_2$, and the result of the conjunction of the pairwise application of binary= <character> to the elements of the arguments is t the result is $string_1$. If not the result is ().

16.16.6 deep-copy <string>

method

16.16.10 as-uppercase <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

string <string>: A string.

Result

Constructs and returns a copy of *string* in which each element is **eql** to the corresponding element in *string*.

16.16.7 shallow-copy <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string <string>: A string.
```

Result

Constructs and returns a copy of *string* in which each element is **eql** to the corresponding element in *string*.

16.16.8 binary< <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string1 <string>: A string.
string2 <string>: A string.
```

Result

If the second argument is longer than the first, the result is (). Otherwise, if the sequence of characters in $string_1$ is pairwise less than that in $string_2$ according to <code>binary< <character></code> the result is t. Otherwise the result is (). Since it is an error to compare lower case, upper case and digit characters with any other kind than themselves, so it is an error to compare two strings which require such comparisons and the results are undefined.

Examples

```
(< "a" "b")
(< "b" "a")
                     ()
(< "a" "a")
                     ()
(< "a" "ab")
(< "ab" "a")
                     ()
(< "A" "B")
(< "0" "1")
                     t
(< "a1" "a2
                 \Rightarrow
                     t
(< "a1" "bb")
                     t
(< "a1" "ab")
                     undefined
```

See also

Method binary< <character> (16.3) for characters (16.1).

16.16.9 as-lowercase <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string <string>: A string.
```

Result

Returns a copy of *string* in which each character denoting an upper case character, is replaced by a character denoting its lower case counterpart. The result must not be eq to *string*.

Specialized Arguments

```
string <string>: A string.
```

Result

Returns a copy of *string* in which each character denoting an lower case character, is replaced by a character denoting its upper case counterpart. The result must not be eq to *string*.

16.16.11 generic-print <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string <string>: String to be outut on stream.
stream <stream>: Stream on which string is to be
outut.
```

Result

The string *string*. Output external representation of *string* on *stream* as described in the introduction to this section, interpreting each of the characters in the string. The opening and closing quotation marks are not output.

16.16.12 generic-write <string>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
string <string>: String to be output on stream.
stream <stream>: Stream on which string is to be output.
```

Result

The string string. Output external representation of string on stream as described in the introduction to this section, replacing single characters with escape sequences if necessary. Opening and closing quotation marks are output.

16.17 Symbols

The defined name of this module is symbol.

16.17.1 symbol

syntax

A *symbol* is a literal *identifier* and hence has the same syntax 9 3 0 3:

16.17.1.1 Syntax

symbol:

identifier

Because there are two escaping mechanisms and because the first character of a token affects the interpretation of the remainder, there are many ways in which to input the same *identifier*. If this same identifier is used as a literal, *i.e.* a *symbol*, the results of processing each token denoting the *identifier* will be eq to one another. For example, the following tokens all denote the same *symbol*:

|123|, \123, |1|23, ||123, |||123

which will be output by the function write as |123|. If output by write, the representation of the symbol will permit reconstruction by read—escape characters are preserved—so that equivalence is maintained between read and write for symbols. For example: |a(b| and abc.def are two symbols as output by write such that read can read them as two symbols. If output by prin, the escapes necessary to re-read the symbol will not be included. Thus, taking the same examples, prin outputs a(b and abc.def, which read interprets as the symbol a followed by the start of a list, the symbol b and the symbol abc.def.

Computationally, the most important aspect of *symbols* is that each is unique, or, stated the other way around: the result of processing every syntactic token comprising the same sequence of characters which denote an identifier is the same object. Or, more briefly, every identifier with the same name denotes the same *symbol*.

16.17.2 <symbol>

<name> class

The class of all instances of <symbol>.

Initialization Options

string string: The string containing the characters to be used to name the symbol. The default value for string is the empty string, thus resulting in the symbol with no name, written ||.

16.17.3 symbol?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a symbol.

16.17.4 gensym

function

Arguments

string_{opt}: A string contain characters to be prepended to the name of the new symbol.

Result

Makes a new symbol whose name, by default, begins with the character #\g and the remaining characters are generated by an implementation-defined mechanism. Optionally, an alternative prefix string for the name may be specified. It is guaranteed that the resulting symbol did not exist before the call to gensym.

16.17.5 symbol-name

function

Arguments

symbol: A symbol.

Result

Returns a *string* which is **binary= <string>** to that given as the argument to the call to **make** which created *symbol*. It is an error to modify this string.

16.17.6 symbol-exists?

function

Arguments

string: A string containing the characters to be used to determine the existence of a symbol with that name.

Result

Returns the symbol whose name is *string* if that symbol has already been constructed by make. Otherwise, returns ().

16.17.7 generic-print <symbol>

method

Specialized Arguments

symbol <symbol>: The symbol to be output on stream.

 $stream \le stream >: The stream on which the representation is to be output.$

Result

The symbol supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *symbol* on *stream* as described in the introduction to this section, interpreting each of the characters in the name.

16.17.8 generic-write <symbol>

method

Specialized Arguments

 $symbol \le symbol >:$ The symbol to be output on stream.

stream <stream>: The stream on which the representation is to be output.

Version 0.991

Result

The symbol supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Outputs the external representation of *symbol* on *stream* as described in the introduction to this section. If any characters in the name would not normally be legal constituents of an identifier or symbol, the output is preceded and succeeded by multiple-escape characters.

Examples

```
(write (make <symbol> 'string "abc")) \Rightarrow abc (write (make <symbol> 'string "a c")) \Rightarrow |a c| (write (make <symbol> 'string ").(")) \Rightarrow |).(|
```

16.17.9 (converter <string>)

converter

Specialized Arguments

symbol <symbol>: A symbol to be converted to a string.

Result

A string.

Remarks

This function is the same as **symbol-name**. It is defined for the sake of symmetry.

16.18 Tables

The defined name of this module is table. See also section 16.2 (collections) for further operations on tables.

16.18.1

<collection> class

The class of all instances of .

Initialization Options

comparator: <function>: The function to be used
 to compare keys. The default comparison function is eql.

fill-value: <object>: An object which will be returned as the default value for any key which does not have an associated value. The default fill value is ().

hash-function: <function>: The function to be used to compute an unique key for each object stored in the table. This function must return a fixed precision integer. The hash function must also satisfy the constraint that if the comparison function returns t for any two objects, then the hash function must return the same key when applied to those two objects. The default is an implementation defined function which satisfies these conditions.

16.18.2 table?

function

Arguments

 $object\colon$ Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a table, otherwise ().

16.18.3 clear-table

function

Arguments

table: A table.

Result

An empty table.

Remarks

All entries in table are deleted. The result is eq to the argument, which is to say that the argument is modified.

16.18.4 <hash-table>

class

Place holder for <hash-table> class.

16.19 Vectors

The defined name of this module is vector. See also section 16.2 (collections) for further operations on vectors.

16.19.1 vector syntax

A vector is written as $\#(obj_1 \dots obj_n)$. For example: $\#(1\ 2\ 3)$ is a vector of three elements, the integers 1, 2 and 3. The representations of obj_i are determined by the external representations defined in other sections of this definition (see <character> (16.1), <fpi> (16.9), <float> (16.7), (16.12), <string> (16.16) and <symbol> (16.17), as well as instances of <vector> itself. The syntax for the external representation of vectors is defined below.

16.19.1.1 Syntax

```
vector:
#( object* )
```

16.19.2 <vector>

<sequence> class

The class of all instances of <vector>.

Initialization Options

size: <fpi>: The number of elements in the vector. Vectors are zero-based and thus the maximum index is *size-1*. If not supplied the *size* is zero.

fill-value: <object>: An object with which to initialize the vector. The default fill value is ().

Examples

16.19.3 vector?

function

Arguments

object: Object to examine.

Result

Returns *object* if it is a vector, otherwise ().

16.19.4 maximum-vector-index <integer> constant

Remarks

This is an implementation-defined constant. A conforming processor must support a maximum vector index of at least 32767.

16.19.5 binary= <vector>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
vector<sub>1</sub> <vector>: A vector.
vector<sub>2</sub> <vector>: A vector.
```

Result

If the size of $vector_1$ is the same (under =) as that of $vector_2$, and the result of the conjunction of the pairwise application of binary= to the elements of the arguments \mathbf{t} the result is $vector_1$. If not the result is ().

16.19.6 deep-copy <vector>

method

Specialized Arguments

vector <vector>: A vector.

Result

Constructs and returns a copy of vector, in which each element is the result of calling deep-copy on the corresponding element of vector.

16.19.7 shallow-copy <vector>

method

Specialized Arguments

vector <vector>: A vector.

Result

Constructs and returns a copy of *vector* in which each element is **eq1** to the corresponding element in *vector*.

16.19.8 generic-print <vector>

method

Specialized Arguments

vector <vector>: A vector to be outtut on stream.

stream <stream>: A stream on which the representation is to be output.

Result

The vector supplied as the first argument.

Remarks

Output the external representation of *vector* on *stream* as described in the introduction to this section. Calls the generic function again to produce the external representation of the elements stored in the vector.

16.19.9 generic-write <vector>

method

Specialized Arguments

vector <vector>: A vector to be outtut on stream.

stream <stream>: A stream on which the representation is to be output.

Remarks

Output the external representation of *vector* on *stream* as described in the introduction to this section. Calls the generic function again to produce the external representation of the elements stored in the vector.

16.20 Syntax of Level-0 objects

This section repeats the syntax for reading and writing of the various classes defined in $\S 16$.

```
object:
        literal
                                                     §16.12
        list
        symbol
                                                      §16.17
literal:
        boolean
        character
                                                     §16.1
       float
                                                      §16.7
        integer
                                                      §16.10
                                                      §16.16
        string
                                                      §16.19
        vector
boolean:
        true
        false
true:
        object not ()
false:
        ()
       nil
character:
        literal-character-token
        special-character-token
        numeric-character-token
literal-character-token:
       \#\letter
       \#\decimal-digit
       #\other-character
       \verb|\#| special-character|
special-character-token:
       #\\a
#\\b
       \#\backslash d
       #\\f
       #\\1
       \# \backslash \backslash n
       #\\r
       \# \setminus t
       \# \setminus v
       #\\"
       #\\\
numeric\mbox{-}character\mbox{-}token :
       hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
float:
        sign_{opt} unsigned-float exponent<sub>opt</sub>
unsigned-float:
        float-format-1
       float-format-2
       float-format-3
float-format-1:
        decimal	ext{-}integer .
float-format-2:
        . decimal-integer
float-format-3:
       float-format-1 decimal-integer
exponent:
        double-exponent
double-exponent:
       d sign_{opt} decimal-integer
       D sign<sub>opt</sub> decimal-integer
```

```
integer:
        sign_{opt} unsigned-integer
sign:
       one of
       + -
unsigned\mbox{-}integer:
        binary\text{-}integer
        octal-integer
        decimal	ext{-}integer
        hexadecimal-integer
        specified-base-integer
binary-integer:
       #b binary-digit+
binary-digit: one of
       0 1
octal-integer:
       #o octal-digit<sup>+</sup>
octal-digit: one of
       0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
decimal-integer:
        decimal-digit^+
hexadecimal-integer:
       #x hexadecimal-digit<sup>+</sup>
hexadecimal-digit:
        decimal\hbox{-} digit
        hex-lower-letter
       hex-upper-letter
hex-lower-letter: one of
       abcdef
hex-upper-letter: one of
       ABCDEF
specified\mbox{-}base\mbox{-}integer:
       # base-specification r
        specified-base-digit
        specified-base-digit*
base-specification:
        { 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 }
        \{ 1 \mid 2 \}  decimal-digit
       3 { 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 }
specified-base-digit:
        decimal-digit
        letter
keyword:
        identifier:
null:
        ()
pair:
        ( object .
                      object )
list:
        empty-list
        proper-list
        improper-list
empty-list:
        ()
proper-list:
        ( object^+ )
improper-list:
        ( object<sup>+</sup>
                       object )
```

```
" string-constituent* "
string-constituent:
       normal-string-constituent
       digram\text{-}string\text{-}constituent
       numeric string constituent
normal-string-constituent:
       level-0-character other than " or \
digram-string-constituent: one of
       \a \b \d \f \l \n \r \t \v \" \\
numeric-string-constituent:
       \x hexadecimal-digit
       \x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
       \x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
         hexadecimal-digit
       \x hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
         hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit
symbol:
       identifier
vector:
       #( object* )
```

17 Programming Language EuLisp, Level-1

This section describes the additions features in EULISP level-1 including the reflective aspects of the object system and how to program the metaobject protocol and support for dynamic variable and related control forms.

17.1 Modules

```
def module - 1 - form:
        ( defmodule \ module - name
          module\mbox{-}directives
          level-1-module-form^*)
level-1-module-form:
        level-0-module-form
       level-1-form
        defining-1-form
level-1-form:
        level-0-form
        special \hbox{-} 1 \hbox{-} form
form:
        level-1-form
special-form:
       special-1-form
defining - 1 - form:
       defclass-1-form
       defgeneric - 1-form
        defglobal	ext{-}form
special-1-form:
       generic-lambda-form
       method-lambda-form
       defmethod-form
       method\hbox{-}function\hbox{-}lambda\hbox{-}form
       catch-form
       throw-form
```

17.2 Classes and Objects

17.2.1 defclass

defining operator

17.2.1.1 Syntax

```
defclass-1-form:
       ( defclass class-name superclass-names
          ( slot-1^* )
         class-option-1^*)
superclass-names:
       ()
       superclass-name
       ( superclass-name^* )
slot-1:
       ( slot-name slot-option-1*)
slot-option-1:
       slot-option
       identifier level-1-form
class-option-1
       class-option
       {\tt class:} \ \ class-name
       identifier level-1-form
```

Arguments

superclass-names: Either a symbol or a list of symbols naming bindings of the class/classes to be used as the superclass/superclasses of the new class (multiple inheritance). If this list of superclass names is empty, the superclass is <object>. This is different from defclass at level-0, where only one superclass may be specified.

slot-1: A list of slot specifications (see below), comprising either a slot-name or a list of a slot-name followed by some slot-options. One of the class options (see below) allows the specification of the class of the slot description.

class-option-1: A key and a value (see below). One of the class options (<class>) allows the specification of the class of the class being defined.

Remarks

This defining form defines a new class. The resulting class will be bound to *class-name*. All the slot and class options are exactly the same as for defclass (11.3).

The *slot-option-1*s are interpreted as follows:

identifier level-1-form: The symbol named by identifier and the value of expression are passed to make of the slot description class along with other slot options. The values are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of the defclass. For the language defined slot description classes, no slot keywords are defined which are not specified by particular defclass slot options.

The *class-option-1*s are interpreted as follows:

class class-name: The value of this option is the class of the new class. By default, this is <class>. This option must only be specified once for the new class.

identifier level-1-form: The symbol named by identifier and the value of expression are passed to make on the class of the new class. This list is appended to the end of the list that defclass

constructs. The values are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of the defclass. This option is used for metaclasses which need extra information not provided by the standard options.

17.3 Generic Functions

17.3.1 generic-lambda

special operator

17.3.1.1 Syntax

```
generic-lambda-form:
       ( generic-lambda gf-lambda-list
          level-1-init-option^*)
level-1-init-option:
       class class-name
       method-class class-name
       method level-1-method-description
       identifier level-1-form
       level-0-init-option
level-1-method-description:
       ( method-init-option*
          specialized-lambda-list
          \overline{body})
method\mbox{-}init\mbox{-}option :
       class class-name
       identifier level-1-form
```

Arguments

gf-lambda-list: As level-0. See section 11.4.

level-1-init-option*: Format as level-0, but with additional options, which are defined below.

Result

A generic function.

Remarks

The syntax of <code>generic-lambda</code> is an extension of the level-0 syntax allowing additional init-options. These allow the specification of the class of the new generic function, which defaults to <code>specification</code>, the class of all methods, which defaults to <code>specification</code>, and non-standard options. The latter are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of <code>generic-lambda</code> and passed to <code>make</code> of the generic function as additional initialization arguments. The additional <code>init-options</code> over level-0 are interpreted as follows:

class gf-class: The class of the new generic function.
 This must be a subclass of <generic-function>.
 The default is <generic-function>.

method-class method-class: The class of all methods to be defined on this generic function. All methods of a generic function must be instances of this class. The method-class must be a subclass of <method> and defaults to <method>.

identifier expression: The symbol named by identifier and the value of expression are passed to make as keywords. The values are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of the defgeneric. This option is used for classes which need extra information not provided by the standard options.

In addition, method init options can be specified for the individual methods on a generic function. These are interpreted as follows:

class method-class: The class of the method to be defined. The method class must be a subclass of <method> and is, by default, <method>. The value is passed to make as the first argument. The symbol and the value are not passed as keywords to make.

identifier expression: The symbol named by identifier and the value of expression are passed to make creating a new method as keywords. The values are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of the generic-lambda. This option is used for classes which need extra information not provided by the standard options.

Examples

In the following example an anonymous version of gf-1 (see defgeneric) is defined. In all other respects the resulting object is the same as gf-1.

```
(generic-lambda (arg1 (arg2 <class-a>))
 class <another-gf-class>
 class-key-a class-value-a
 class-key-b class-value-b
 method-class <another-method-class-a>
 method (class <another-method-class-b>
         method-class-b-key-a method-class-b-value-a
          ((m1-arg1 <class-b>) (m1-arg2 <class-c>))
 method (method-class-a-key-a method-class-a-value-a
          ((m2-arg1 <class-d>) (m2-arg2 <class-e>))
          ...)
 method (class <another-method-class-c>
         method-class-c-key-a method-class-c-value-a
          ((m3-arg1 <class-f>) (m3-arg2 <class-g>))0
          ...)
)
```

See also

defgeneric.

17.3.2 defgeneric

defining operator

17.3.2.1 Syntax

Arguments

```
gf name: As level-0. See section 11.4.

gf lambda list: As level-0. See section 11.4.

init option*: As for generic-lambda, defined above.
    below.
```

Remarks

This defining form defines a new generic function. The resulting generic function will be bound to *gf-name*. The second argument is the formal parameter list. An error is signalled (condition: <non-congruent-lambda-lists>) if any of the methods defined on this generic function do not have lambda lists congruent to that of the generic function. This applies

both to methods defined at the same time as the generic function and to any methods added subsequently by defmethod or add-method. An init-option is a identifier followed by its initial value. The syntax of defgeneric is an extension of the level-0 syntax. The rewrite rules for the defgeneric form are identical to those given in section 11.4.5.2 except that level 1 init option replaces level 0 init option.

Examples

In the following example of the use of defgeneric a generic function named gf-1 is defined. The differences between this function and gf-0 (see 11.4) are

- The class of the generic function is specified (<another-gf-class>) along with some init-options related to the creation of an instance of that class.
- The default class of the methods to be attached to the generic function is specified (<another-method-class-a>) along with an init-option related to the creation of an instance of that class.
- In addition, some of the methods to be attached are of a different method class (<another-method-class-b> and <another-method-class-c>) also with method specific init-options. These method classes are subclasses of <another-method-class-a>.

```
(defgeneric gf-1 (arg1 (arg2 <class-a>))
  class <another-gf-class>
  class-key-a class-value-a
  class-key-b class-value-b
  method-class <another-method-class-a>
  method (class <another-method-class-b>
          {\tt method-class-b-key-a\ method-class-b-value- \frac{1}{2}} hat\ defined\ in\ level-0.
          ((m1-arg1 <class-b>) (m1-arg2 <class-c>))
           . . .)
  method (method-class-a-key-a method-class-a-value-d7.4.3 method-function-lambda
          ((m2-arg1 <class-d>) (m2-arg2 <class-e>))
           ...)
  method (class <another-method-class-c>
          method-class-c-key-a method-class-c-value-a
          ((m3-arg1 <class-f>) (m3-arg2 <class-g>))
          ...)
)
```

17.4Methods

17.4.1 method-lambda

special operator

17.4.1.1Syntax

```
method-lambda-form: <math>\rightarrow \langle function \rangle
           ( method-lambda
              method\text{-}init\text{-}option^*
              specialized\hbox{-} lambda\hbox{-} list
              body)
```

Arguments

method init option: A quoted symbol followed by an expression.

specialized lambda list: As defined under generic-lambda.

form: An expression.

This syntax creates and returns an anonymous method with the given lambda list and body. This anonymous method can later be added to a generic function with a congruent lambda list via the generic function add-method. Note that the lambda list can be specialized to specify the method's domain. The value of the special keywords <class> determines the class to instantiate; the rest of the initlist is passed to make called with this class. The default method class is <method>.

Remarks

The additional method-init-options includes <class>, for specifying the class of the method to be defined, and non-standard options, which are evaluated in the lexical and dynamic environment of method-lambda and passed to initialize of that method.

17.4.2 defmethod

defining operator

17.4.2.1 Syntax

```
defmethod-1-form:
       ( defmethod gf-locator
         method-init-option*
         specialized-lambda-list
         body)
```

Remarks

The ${\tt defmethod}$ form of level-1 extends that of level-0 to accept method-init-options. This allows for the specification of the method class by means of the <class> init option. This class must be a subclass of the method class of the host generic function. The method class otherwise defaults to that of the host generic function. In all other respects, the behaviour is as

 $special\ operator$

Arguments

lambda-list: A lambda list

form*: A sequence of forms.

This syntax operator creates and returns an anonymous method function with the given lambda list and body. This anonymous method function can later be added to a method using method-function, or as the function initialization value in a call of make on an instance of <method>. A function of this type is also returned by the method accessor method-function. Only functions created using this syntax operator can be used as method functions. Note that the lambda list must not be specialized; a method's domain is stored in the method itself.

17.4.4 call-method

function

Arguments

method: A method.

next-methods: A list of methods.

arg*: A sequence of expressions.

This function calls the method method with arguments args. The argument *next-methods* is a list of methods which are used as the applicable method list for args; it is an error if this list is different from the methods which would be produced by the method lookup function of the generic function of method. If method is not attached to a generic function, its behavior is unspecified. The next-methods are used to determine the next method to call when call-next-method is called within method-fn.

17.4.5 apply-method

function

Arguments

method: A method.

next-methods: A list of methods.

 $form_1 \dots form_{n-1}$: A sequence of expressions.

 $form_n$: An expression.

This function is identical to call-method except that its last argument is a list whose elements are the other arguments to pass to the method's method function. The difference is the same as that between normal function application and apply.

17.5 Object Introspection

The only reflective capability which every object possesses is the ability to find its class.

17.5.1 class-of

function

Arguments

object: An object.

Result

The class of the object.

Remarks

The function **class-of** can take any LISP object as argument and returns an instance of **<class>** representing the class of that entity.

17.6 Class Introspection

Standard classes are not redefinable and support single inheritance only. General multiple inheritance can be provided by extensions. Nor is it possible to use a class as a superclass which is not defined at the time of class definition. Again, such forward reference facilities can be provided by extensions. The distinction between metaclasses and non-metaclasses is made explicit by a special class, named <metaclass>, which is the class of all metaclasses. This is different from ObjVlisp, where whether a class is a metaclass depends on the superclass list of the class in question. It is implementation-defined whether <metaclass> itself is specializable or not. This implies that implementations are free to restrict the instantiation tree (excluding the selfinstantiation loop of <metaclass>) to a depth of three levels. The metaclasses defined at level-1 are shown in table 5.

Table 5 – Level-1 metaclass hierarchy

```
A <object> See level-0 table 1
A <class>
    C <simple-class>
    C <function-class>
```

The minimum information associated with a class metaobject is:

- a) The class precedence list, ordered most specific first, beginning with the class itself.
- b) The list of (effective) slot descriptions.
- c) The list of (effective) keywords.

Standard classes support local slots only. Shared slots can be provided by extensions. The minimal information associated with a slot description metaobject is:

- The name, which is required to perform inheritance computations.
- b) The default-function, called by default to compute the initial slot value when creating a new instance.
- c) The reader, which is a function to read the corresponding slot value of an instance.

- d) The writer, which is a function to write the corresponding slot of an instance.
- e) The keyword, which is a symbol to access the value which can be supplied to a make call in order to initialize the corresponding slot in a newly created object.

The metaobject classes defined for slot descriptions at level-1 are shown in table 6.

Table 6 - Level-1 class hierarchy

A <object> See level-0 table 1
A <slot>
C <local-slot>
A <function>
A <generic-function>
C <simple-generic-function>
A <method>
C <simple-method>

17.6.1 <metaclass> class

Place holder for <metaclass>.

17.6.2 <simple-class> <class> class

Place holder for <simple-class>.

17.6.3 <function-class> class

Place holder for <function-class>.

17.6.4 class-name function

Arguments

class: A class.

Result

Returns a *string* which is **binary=** <**string>** to that given as the argument to the call to **defclass** which created *class*. It is an error to modify this string.

17.6.5 class-precedence-list function

Arguments

class: A class.

Result

A list of classes, starting with *class* itself, succeeded by the superclasses of *class* and ending with *<object>*. This list is equivalent to the result of calling compute-class-precedence-list.

Remarks

The class precedence list is used to control the inheritance of slots and methods.

17.6.6 class-slots function

Arguments

class: A class.

Result

A list of slots, one for each of the slots of an instance of class.

Remarks

The slots determine the instance size (number of slots) and the slot access.

17.6.7 class-keywords

function

Arguments

class: A class.

Result

A list of symbols, which can be used as legal keywords to initialize instances of the class.

Remarks

17.7.2

The keywords correspond to the keywords specified in the keyword slot-option or the keywords class-option when the class and its superclasses were defined.

17.7 Slot Introspection

<local-slot>

17.7.1 <slot> class

The abstract class of all slot descriptions.

The class of all local slot descriptions.

Initialization Options

name string: The name of the slot.

reader function: The function to access the slot.

writer function: The function to update the slot.

default-function function: The function to compute the initial value in the absence of a supplied value.

keyword symbol: The key to access a supplied initial value.

The default value for all initoptions is ().

17.7.3 slot-name

function

<slot> class

Arguments

slot: A slot description.

Result

The symbol which was used to name the slot when the class, of which the slot is part, was defined.

Remarks

The slot description name is used to identify a slot description in a class. It has no effect on bindings.

17.7.4 slot-default-function

function

Arguments

slot: A slot description.

Result

A function of no arguments that is used to compute the initial value of the slot in the absence of a supplied value.

17.7.5 slot-slot-reader

function

Arguments

slot: A slot description.

Result

A function of one argument that returns the value of the slot in that argument.

17.7.6 slot-slot-writer

function

Arguments

slot: A slot description.

Result

A function of two arguments that installs the second argument as the value of the slot in the first argument.

17.8 Generic Function Introspection

The default generic dispatch scheme is class-based; that is, methods are class specific. The default argument precedence order is left-to-right.

The minimum information associated with a generic function metaobject is:

- The domain, restricting the domain of each added method to a sub-domain.
- b) The method class, restricting each added method to be an instance of that class.
- c) The list of all added methods.
- d) The method look-up function used to collect and sort the applicable methods for a given domain.
- The discriminating function used to perform the generic dispatch.

17.8.1 generic-function-domain

function

Arguments

generic-function: A generic function.

Result

A list of classes.

Remarks

This function returns the domain of a generic function. The domains of all methods attached to a generic function are con-

strained to be within this domain. In other words, the domain classes of each method must be subclasses of the corresponding generic function domain class. It is an error to modify this list.

17.8.2 generic-function-method-class

function

Arguments

generic-function: A generic function.

Result

This function returns the class which is the class of all methods of the generic function. Each method attached to a generic function must be an instance of this class. When a method is created using defmethod, method-lambda, or by using the method generic function option in a defgeneric or generic-lambda, it will be an instance of this class by default.

17.8.3 generic-function-methods

function

Arguments

generic-function: A generic function.

Result

This function returns a list of the methods attached to the generic function. The order of the methods in this list is undefined. It is an error to modify this list.

17.8.4 generic-function-method-lookup-function

function

Arguments

generic-function: A generic function.

Result

A function.

Remarks

This function returns a function which, when applied to the arguments given to the generic function, returns a sorted list of applicable methods. The order of the methods in this list is determined by compute-method-lookup-function.

${\bf 17.8.5} \quad {\tt generic-function-discriminating-function} \\ function$

Arguments

generic-function: A generic function.

Result

A function.

Remarks

This function returns a function which may be applied to the same arguments as the generic function. This function is called to perform the generic dispatch operation to determine the applicable methods whenever the generic function is called, and call the most specific applicable method function. This function is created by compute-discriminating-function.

17.9 Method Introspection

The minimal information associated with a method metaobject is:

- a) The domain, which is a list of classes.
- b) The function comprising the code of the method.
- c) The generic function to which the method has been added, or () if it is attached to no generic function.

The metaobject classes for generic functions defined at level-1 are shown in table 6.

17.9.1 <method> class

Place holder for <method>.

17.9.2 <simple-method> <method> class

Place holder for <method-class>.

17.9.3 method-domain function

Arguments

method: A method.

Result

A list of classes defining the domain of a method.

17.9.4 method-function function

Arguments

method: A method.

Result

This function returns a function which implements the method. The returned function which is called when *method* is called, either by calling the generic function with appropriate arguments, through a call-next-method, or by using call-method. A method metaobject itself cannot be applied or called as a function.

17.9.5 (setter method-function) setter

Arguments

method: A method.

function: A function.

Result

This function sets the function which implements the method.

17.9.6 method-generic-function function

Arguments

method: A method.

Result

This function returns the generic function to which *method* is attached; if *method* is not attached to a generic function, it returns ().

17.10 Class Initialization

17.10.1 initialize <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

initlist initialization options as follows:

name symbol: Name of the class being initialized.

direct-superclasses *list*: List of direct superclasses.

direct-slots *list*: List of direct slot specifications.

direct-keywords *list*: List of direct keywords.

Result

The initialized class.

Remarks

The initialization of a class takes place as follows:

- a) Check compatibility of direct superclasses
- b) Perform the logical inheritance computations of:
 - 1) class precedence list
 - 2) keywords
 - 3) slot descriptions
- c) Compute new slot accessors and ensure all (new and inherited) accessors to work correctly on instances of the new class.
- d) Make the results accessible by class readers.

The basic call structure is laid out in figure 7 Note that compute-keywords is called by the default initialize method with all direct keywords as the second argument: those specified as slot option and those specified as class option.

17.10.2 compute-predicate $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: A class.

Result

Computes and returns a function of one argument, which is a predicate function for class.

17.10.3 compute-predicate <class>

method

Table 7 - Initialization Call Structure

```
compatible-superclasses?
         cl\ direct-superclasses 
ightarrow boolean
  compatible-superclass?
           cl superclass \rightarrow boolean
compute-class-precedence-list
         cl\ direct-superclasses 
ightarrow (cl^*)
compute-inherited-keywords
         cl\ direct-superclasses 
ightarrow ((keyword*)*)
compute-keywords
         cl direct-keywords inherited-keywords
         \rightarrow (keyword*)
compute-inherited-slots
         cl direct-superclasses \rightarrow ((sd^*)^*)
compute-slots
         cl slot-specs inherited-sds \rightarrow (sd*)
  ei.t.h.er
    compute-defined-slot
              cl\ slot	ext{-}spec\ 	o\ sd
       compute-defined-slot-description-class
                cl \ slot	ext{-spec} 
ightarrow sd	ext{-}class
  or
    compute-specialized-slot
              cl inherited-sds slot-spec \rightarrow sd
       compute-specialized-slot-class
                cl inherited-sds slot-spec
                \rightarrow sd-class
compute-instance-size
         cl effective-sds \rightarrow integer
compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors
         cl effective-sds inherited-sds \rightarrow (sd^*)
  compute-slot-reader
           cl sd effective-sds \rightarrow function
  compute-slot-writer
           cl sd effective-sds \rightarrow function
  ensure-slot-reader
           cl sd effective-sds reader \rightarrow function
    compute-primitive-reader-using-slot
              sd cl effective-sds 	o function
       compute-primitive-reader-using-class
                cl sd effective-sds \rightarrow function
  ensure-slot-writer
            cl sd effective-sds writer \rightarrow function
    compute-primitive-writer-using-slot
              sd\ cl\ effective	ext{-} sds\ 	o\ function
       compute-primitive-writer-using-class
                cl sd effective-sds 
ightarrow function
```

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

Result

Computes and returns a function of one argument, which returns t when applied to direct or indirect instances of *class* and () otherwise.

17.10.4 compute-constructor

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
class <class>: A class.
```

parameters tion being created.

Result

Computes and returns a constructor function for class.

17.10.5 compute-constructor <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

parameters tist>: The argument list of the function being created.

Result

Computes and returns a constructor function, which returns a new instance of class.

17.10.6 allocate

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: A class.

initlist : A list of initialization arguments.

Result

An instance of the first argument.

Remarks

Creates an instance of the first argument. Users may define new methods for new metaclasses.

17.10.7 allocate <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

initlist : A list of initialization arguments.

Result

An instance of the first argument.

Remarks

The default method creates a new uninitialized instance of the first argument. The initlist is not used by this allocate method.

17.11 Slot Description Initialization

17.11.1 initialize <slot>

method

Specialized Arguments

slot <slot>: A slot description.

initlist A list of initialization options as follows:

name symbol: The name of the slot.

default-function function: A function.

keyword symbol: A symbol.

reader function: A slot reader function.

writer function: A slot writer function.

Result

The initialized slot description.

17.12 Generic Function Initialization

17.12.1 initialize <generic-function>

method

Specialized Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

initlist initialization options as follows:

 ${\tt name}\ symbol\colon {\tt The}\ {\tt name}\ {\tt of}\ {\tt the}\ {\tt generic}$ function.

domain list: List of argument classes.

method-class class: Class of attached methods.

method method-description: A method to be attached. This option may be specified more than once.

Result

The initialized generic function.

Remarks

This method initializes and returns the *generic-function*. The specified methods are attached to the generic function by add-method, and its slots are initialized from the information passed in *initlist* and from the results of calling compute-method-lookup-function and compute-discriminating-function on the generic function. Note that these two functions may not be called during the call to initialize, and that they may be called several times for the generic function.

The basic call structure is: add-method gf method $\rightarrow gf$ compute-method-lookup-function gf domain \rightarrow function compute-discriminating-function gf domain lookup-fn methods \rightarrow function

17.13 Method Initialization

17.13.1 initialize <method>

method

Specialized Arguments

method <method>: A method.

initlist A list of initialization options as follows:

domain *list*: The list of argument classes.

function fn: A function, created with method-function-lambda.

generic-function gf: A generic function.

Result

This method returns the initialized method metaobject *method*. If the *generic-function* option is supplied, add-method is called to install the new method in the *generic-function*.

17.14 Inheritance Protocol

17.14.1 compatible-superclasses? g

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: A class.

direct-superclasses A list of potential direct superclasses of class.

Result

Returns t if class is compatible with direct-superclasses, otherwise ().

17.14.2 compatible-superclasses? <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: A class.

direct-superclasses A list of potential direct superclasses.

Result

Returns the result of calling compatible-superclass? on class and the first element of the *direct-superclasses* (single inheritance assumption).

17.14.3 compatible-superclass?

 $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

subclass <class>: A class.

superclass <class>: A potential direct superclass.

Result

Returns **t** if *subclass* is compatible with *superclass*, otherwise

17.14.4 compatible-superclass? <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

subclass <class>: A class.

superclass <class>: A potential direct superclass.

Result

Returns \mathbf{t} if the class of the first argument is a subclass of the class of the second argument, otherwise ().

If the implementation wishes to restrict the instantiation tree (see introduction to B.4), this method should return () if superclass is method should return () if <math>superclass is superclass if superclass is s

17.14.5 compatible-superclass? <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

subclass <class>: A class.

superclass <abstract-class>: A potential direct superclass.

Result

Always returns t.

 ${\bf 17.14.6 \quad compatible\text{--superclass?} \quad \mbox{--abstract-class}} \\ method$

Specialized Arguments

subclass <abstract-class>: A class.

superclass <class>: A potential direct superclass.

Result

Always returns ().

Specialized Arguments

subclass <abstract-class>: A class.

superclass <abstract-class>: A potential direct superclass.

Result

Always returns t.

17.14.8 compute-class-precedence-list

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses.

Result

Computes and returns a list of classes which represents the linearized inheritance hierarchy of *class* and the given list of direct superclasses, beginning with *class* and ending with *<object>*.

17.14.9 compute-class-precedence-list <list>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses

Result

A list of classes.

Remarks

This method can be considered to return a cons of *class* and the class precedence list of the first element of *direct-superclasses*

(single inheritance assumption). If no *direct-superclasses* has been supplied, the result is the list of two elements: *class* and <object>.

17.14.10 compute-slots

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-slot-specifications 1ist>: A list of direct slot specification.

inherited-slots list>: A list of lists of inherited slot
descriptions.

Result

Computes and returns the list of effective slot descriptions of class.

See also

compute-inherited-slots.

17.14.11 compute-slots <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

 $slot\text{-}specs \le list > :$ List of (direct) slot specifications.

inherited-slot-lists st of lists (in fact one
list in single inheritance) of inherited slot descriptions.

Resul

A list of effective slot descriptions.

Remarks

The default method computes two sublists:

- a) Calling compute-specialized-slot with the three arguments (i) class, (ii) each inherited-slot as a singleton list, (iii) the slot-spec corresponding (by having the same name) to the slot description, if it exists, otherwise (), giving a list of the specialized slot descriptions.
- b) Calling compute-defined-slot with the three arguments (i) class, (ii) each slot-specification which does not have a corresponding (by having the same name) inherited-slot.

The method returns the concatenation of these two lists as its result. The order of elements in the list is significant. All specialized slot descriptions have the same position as in the effective slot descriptions list of the direct superclass (due to the single inheritance). The slot accessors (computed later) may rely on this assumption minimizing the number of methods to one for all subclasses and minimizing the access time to an indexed reference.

See also

 $\label{lem:compute-specialized-slot} \mbox{compute-slot-slot}, \qquad \mbox{compute-defined-slot}, \\ \mbox{compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors}.$

17.14.12 compute-keywords

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

keywords List of direct keywords.

inherited-keyword-lists A list of lists of inherited keywords.

Result

List of symbols.

Remarks

Computes and returns all legal keywords for class.

See also

compute-inherited-keywords.

17.14.13 compute-keywords <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

keywords t>: List of direct keywords.

inherited-keyword-lists 4 list of lists of inherited keywords.

Result

List of symbols.

Remarks

This method appends the second argument with the first element of the third argument (single inheritance assumption), removes duplicates and returns the result. Note that compute-keywords is called by the default initialize method with all direct keywords as the second argument: those specified as slot option and those specified as class option.

$17.14.14 \quad {\tt compute-inherited-slots} \qquad generic \ function$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses.

Result

List of lists of inherited slot descriptions.

Remarks

Computes and returns a list of lists of effective slot descriptions.

See also

compute-slots.

17.14.15 compute-inherited-slots <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses.

Result

List of lists of inherited slot descriptions.

Remarks

The result of the default method is a list of one element: a list of effective slot descriptions of the first element of the second argument (single inheritance assumption). Its result is used by compute-slots as an argument.

17.14.16 compute-inherited-keywords generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses.

Result

List of lists of symbols.

Remarks

Computes and returns a list of lists of keywords. Its result is used by compute-keywords as an argument.

See also

 ${\tt compute-keywords}.$

17.14.17 compute-inherited-keywords <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

direct-superclasses <list>: List of direct superclasses.

Result

List of lists of symbols.

Remarks

The result of the default method contains one list of legal keywords of the first element of the second argument (single inheritance assumption).

17.14.18 compute-defined-slot generic function

Generic Arguments

class < class >: Class being defined.

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized slot specification.

Result

Slot description.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new effective slot description. It is called by **compute-slots** on each slot specification which has no corresponding inherited slot descriptions.

See also

compute-defined-slot-class.

17.14.19 compute-defined-slot <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

slot-spec <code>slot-spec</code> Canonicalized slot specification.

Result

Slot description.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new effective slot description. The class of the result is determined by calling compute-defined-slot-class.

See also

compute-defined-slot-class.

17.14.20 compute-defined-slot-class generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

slot-spec c Canonicalized slot specification.

Result

Slot description class.

Remarks

Determines and returns the slot description class corresponding to class and slot-spec.

See also

compute-defined-slot.

17.14.21 compute-defined-slot-class <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized slot specification.

Result

The class <local-slot>.

Remarks

This method just returns the class <local-slot>.

$17.14.22 \quad {\tt compute-specialized-slot} \quad \textit{generic function}$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

inherited-slots list>: List of inherited slot descriptions (each of the same name as the slot being defined).

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized slot specification or
().

Result

Slot description.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new effective slot description. It is called by **compute-slots** on the class, each list of inherited slots with the same name and with the specialising slot specification list or () if no one is specified with the same name.

See also

compute-specialized-slot-class.

17.14.23 compute-specialized-slot <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

inherited-slots List of inherited slot descriptions.

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized sdirect-lot specification or ().

\mathbf{Result}

Slot description.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new effective slot description. The class of the result is determined by calling compute-specialized-slot-class.

See also

compute-specialized-slot-class.

17.14.24 compute-specialized-slot-class

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class being defined.

inherited-slots List of inherited slot descriptions.

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized slot specification or
().

Result

Slot description class.

Remarks

Determines and returns the slot description class corresponding to (i) the class being defined, (ii) the inherited slot descriptions being specialized (iii) the specializing information in *slot-spec*.

See also

compute-specialized-slot.

17.14.25 compute-specialized-slot-class <class> method

Specialized Arguments

```
class <class>: Class being defined.
inherited-slots list>: List of inherited slot descriptions.
```

slot-spec <list>: Canonicalized slot specification or
().

Result

The class <local-slot>.

Remarks

This method just returns the class <local-slot>.

17.15 Slot Access Protocol

The slot access protocol is defined via accessors (readers and writers) only. There is no primitive like CLOS's slot-value. The accessors are generic for standard classes, since they have to work on subclasses and should do the applicability check anyway. The key idea is that the discrimination on slots and classes is performed once at class definition time rather than again and again at slot access time.

Each slot has exactly one reader and one writer as anonymous objects. If a reader/writer slot-option is specified in a class definition, the anonymous reader/writer of that slot is bound to the specified identifier. Thus, if a reader/writer option is specified more than once, the same object is bound to all the identifiers. If the accessor slot-option is specified the anonymous writer will be installed as the setter of the reader. Specialized slots refer to the same objects as those in the superclasses (single inheritance makes that possible). Since the readers/writers are generic, it is possible for a subclass (at the meta-level) to add new methods for inherited slots in order to make the readers/writers applicable on instances of the subclass. A new method might be necessary if the subclasses have a different instance allocation or if the slot positions cannot be kept the same as in the superclass (in multiple inheritance extensions). This can be done during the initialization computations.

$17.15.1 \quad {\tt compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors} \\ generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

```
class <class>: Class being defined.
slots tist>: List of effective slot descriptions.
inherited-slots tist>: List of lists of inherited slot descriptions.
```

Result

List of effective slot descriptions.

Remarks

Computes new accessors or ensures that inherited accessors work correctly for each effective slot description.

17.15.2 compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors <class> method

Specialized Arguments

```
class <class>: Class being defined.
slots list>: List of effective slot descriptions.
inherited-slots list>: List of lists of inherited slot descriptions.
```

Result

List of effective slot descriptions.

Remarks

For each slot description in *slots* the default method checks if it is a new slot description and not an inherited one. If the slot description is new,

- a) calls compute-slot-reader to compute a new slot reader and stores the result in the slot description;
- calls compute-slot-writer to compute a new slot writer and stores the result in the slot description;

Otherwise, it assumes that the inherited values remain valid.

Finally, for every slot description (new or inherited) it ensures the reader and writer work correctly on instances of *class* by means of ensure-slot-reader and ensure-slot-writer.

17.15.3 compute-slot-reader

class <class>: Class.

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slot-list t List of effective slot descriptions.
```

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new slot reader applicable to instances of *class* returning the slot value corresponding to *slot*. The third argument can be used in order to compute the logical slot position.

17.15.4 compute-slot-reader <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots list>: List of effective slot descriptions.
```

Result

Generic function.

Version 0.991

Remarks

The default method returns a new generic function of one argument without any methods. Its domain is class.

17.15.5 compute-slot-writer

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots <list>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a new slot writer applicable to instances of *class* and any value to be stored as the new slot value corresponding to *slot*. The third argument can be used in order to compute the logical slot position.

17.15.6 compute-slot-writer <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots tist>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Generic function.

Remarks

The default method returns a new generic function of two arguments without any methods. Its domain is *class* × **<object>**.

17.15.7 ensure-slot-reader

generic function

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots <list>: List of effective slot descriptions.
reader <function>: The slot reader.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Ensures function correctly fetches the value of the slot from instances of class.

17.15.8 ensure-slot-reader <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class.

```
slot <slot>: Slot description.
```

slots : List of effective slot descriptions.

reader <generic-function>: The slot reader.

Result

Generic function.

Remarks

The default method checks if there is a method in the *generic-function*. If not, it creates and adds a new one, otherwise it assumes that the existing method works correctly. The domain of the new method is *class* and the function is

```
(method-function-lambda ((object class))
  (primitive-reader object))
```

compute-primitive-reader-using-slot is called by ensure-slot-reader method to compute the primitive reader used in the function of the new created reader method.

17.15.9 ensure-slot-writer

generic function

Generic Arguments

```
class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots thist>: List of effective slot descriptions.
writer <function>: The slot writer.
```

Result

Function.

Remarks

Ensures function correctly updates the value of the slot in instances of class.

17.15.10 ensure-slot-writer <class>

method

Specialized Arguments

```
class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slot-list t>: List of effective slot descriptions.
writer <generic-function>: The slot writer.
```

Result

Generic function.

Remarks

The default method checks if there is a method in the *generic-function*. If not, creates and adds a new one, otherwise it assumes that the existing method works correctly. The domain of the new method is $class \times <$ object> and the function is:

```
(method-function-lambda ((obj class)
          (new-value <object>))
          (primitive-writer obj new-value))
```

compute-primitive-writer-using-slot is called by ensure-slot-writer method to compute the primitive writer used in the function of the new created writer method.

17.15.11 compute-primitive-reader-using-slot $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

slot <slot>: Slot description.
class <class>: Class.
slots <list>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which returns a slot value when applied to an instance of class.

17.15.12 compute-primitive-reader-using-slot <slot> method

Specialized Arguments

slot <slot>: Slot description.
class <class>: Class.
slots ! List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Calls compute-primitive-reader-using-class. This is the default method.

17.15.13 compute-primitive-reader-using-class $generic\ function$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class.

slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots <list>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which returns the slot value when applied to an instance of *class*.

17.15.14 compute-primitive-reader-using-class <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class.

```
slot <slot>: Slot description.
```

slots t>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

The default method returns a function of one argument.

$\begin{array}{ccc} 17.15.15 & {\tt compute-primitive-writer-using-slot} \\ & & generic\ function \end{array}$

Generic Arguments

slot <slot>: Slot description.
class <class>: Class.
slots tist>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which stores a new slot value when applied on an instance of *class* and a new value.

$17.15.16 \quad {\tt compute-primitive-writer-using-slot < slot>} \\ method$

Specialized Arguments

slot <slot>: Slot description.
class <class>: Class.
slots <list>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Calls compute-primitive-writer-using-class. This is the default method.

$\begin{array}{ccc} 17.15.17 & {\tt compute-primitive-writer-using-class} \\ & & generic\ function \end{array}$

Generic Arguments

class <class>: Class.
slot <slot>: Slot description.
slots tist>: List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which stores the new slot value when applied on an instance of class and new value.

17.15.18 compute-primitive-reader-using-class <class> method

Specialized Arguments

class <class>: Class.

slot <slot>: Slot description.

slots List of effective slot descriptions.

Result

Function.

Remarks

The default method returns a function of two arguments.

17.16 Method Lookup and Generic Dispatch

17.16.1 compute-method-lookup-function

generic function

Generic Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

domain t>: A list of classes which cover the domain.

Result

A function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which will be called at least once for each domain to select and sort the applicable methods by the default dispatch mechanism. New methods may be defined for this function to implement different method lookup strategies. Although only one method lookup function generating method is provided by the system, each generic function has its own specific lookup function which may vary from generic function to generic function.

method

Specialized Arguments

qf <generic-function>: A generic function.

domain t>: A list of classes which cover the domain.

Result

A function.

Remarks

Computes and returns a function which will be called at least once for each domain to select and sort the applicable methods by the default dispatch mechanism. It is not defined, whether each generic function may have its own lookup function.

17.16.3 compute-discriminating-function generic function

Generic Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

domain t>: A list of classes which span the do-

lookup-fn <function>: The method lookup function.

methods <list>: A list of methods attached to the generic-function.

Result

A function.

Remarks

This generic function computes and returns a function which is called whenever the generic function is called. The returned function controls the generic dispatch. Users may define methods on this function for new generic function classes to implement non-default dispatch strategies.

17.16.4 compute-discriminating-function <generic-function> method

Specialized Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

domain t>: A list of classes which span the domain.

lookup-fn <function>: The method lookup function.

methods <list>: A list of methods attached to the generic-function.

Result

A function.

Remarks

This method computes and returns a function which is called whenever the generic function is called. This default method implements the standard dispatch strategy: The generic func-17.16.2 compute-method-lookup-function <generic-function of methods are sorted using the function returned by ompute-method-lookup-function, and the first is called as if by call-method, passing the others as the list of next methods. Note that call-method need not be directly called.

17.16.5 add-method

generic function

Generic Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

method <method>: A method to be attached to the generic function.

Result

This generic function adds method to the generic function gf. This method will then be taken into account when gf is called with appropriate arguments. It returns the generic function gf. New methods may be defined on this generic function for new generic function and method classes.

Remarks

In contrast to CLOS, add-method does not remove a method with the same domain as the method being added. Instead, a noncontinuable error is signalled.

17.16.6 add-method <generic-function>

method

Specialized Arguments

gf <generic-function>: A generic function.

method <method>: A method to be attached.

Result

The generic function.

Remarks

This method checks that the domain classes of the method are subclasses of those of the generic function, and that the method is an instance of the generic function's method class. If not, signals an error (condition: <incompatible-method-and-gf>). It also checks if there is a method with the same domain already attached to the generic function. If so, a noncontinuable error is signaled (condition: <method-domain-clash>). If no error occurs, the method is added to the generic function. Depending on particular optimizations of the generic dispatch, adding a method may cause some updating computations, e.g. by calling compute-method-lookup-function and compute-discriminating-function.

17.17 Low Level Allocation Primitives

This module provides primitives which are necessary to implement new allocation methods portably. However, they should be defined in such a way that objects cannot be destroyed unintentionally. In consequence it is an error to use primitive-class-of, primitive-ref and their setters on objects not created by primitive-allocate.

17.17.1 primitive-allocate

function

Arguments

class: A class.

size: An integer.

Result

An instance of the first argument.

Remarks

This function returns a new instance of the first argument which has a vector-like structure of length *size*. The components of the new instance can be accessed using **primitive-ref** and updated using **primitive-ref**. It is intended to be used in new **allocate** methods defined for new metaclasses.

17.17.2 primitive-class-of

function

Arguments

object: An object created by primitive-allocate.

Result

A class.

Remarks

This function returns the class of an object. It is similar to **class-of**, which has a defined behaviour on any object. It is an error to use **primitive-class-of** on objects which were not created by **primitive-allocate**.

17.17.3 (setter primitive-class-of)

setter

Arguments

object: An object created by primitive-allocate.

class: A class.

Result

The class.

Remark

This function supports portable implementations of

- a) dynamic classification like change-class in CLOS.
- b) automatic instance updating of redefined classes.

17.17.4 primitive-ref

function

Version 0.991

Arguments

object: An object created by primitive-allocate.

index: The index of a component.

Result

An object.

Remarks

Returns the value of the objects component corresponding to the supplied index. It is an error if *index* is outside the index range of *object*. This function is intended to be used when defining new kinds of accessors for new metaclasses.

17.17.5 (setter primitive-ref)

setter

Arguments

object: An object created by primitive-allocate.

index: The index of a component.

value: The new value, which can be any object.

Result

The new value.

Remarks

Stores and returns the new value as the objects component corresponding to the supplied index. It is an error if *index* is outside the index range of *object*. This function is intended to be used when defining new kinds of accessors for new metaclasses.

17.18 Dynamic Binding

The name of this module is dynamic.

17.18.1 dynamic

special operator

17.18.1.1 Syntax

```
dynamic-form: \rightarrow <object> ( dynamic identifier )
```

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming a dynamic binding.

Result

The value of closest dynamic binding of *identifier* is returned. If no visible binding exists, an error is signaled (condition: <unbound-dynamic-variable>).

17.18.2 dynamic-setq

 $special\ operator$

17.18.2.1 Syntax

```
dynamic\text{-}setq\text{-}form: \rightarrow \texttt{`object'}
( dynamic\text{-}setq identifier form )
```

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming a dynamic binding to be updated.

form: An expression whose value will be stored in the dynamic binding of *identifier*.

Result

The value of *form*.

Remarks

The *form* is evaluated and the result is stored in the closest dynamic binding of *identifier*. If no visible binding exists, an error is signalled (condition: <unbound-dynamic-variable>).

17.18.3 <unbound-dynamic-variable>

 ${\tt \langle general\text{-}condition \rangle}\ condition$

Initialization Options

symbol symbol: A symbol naming the (unbound) dynamic variable.

Remarks

Signalled by dynamic or dynamic-setq if the given dynamic variable has no visible dynamic binding.

17.18.4 dynamic-let

special operator

17.18.4.1 Syntax

```
\begin{array}{ccc} dynamic\text{-}let\text{-}form\colon & \to & \mathsf{object} \mathsf{>} \\ & (& \mathsf{dynamic}\text{-}let & binding^* \\ & & body & ) \end{array}
```

Arguments

binding*: A list of binding specifiers.

body: A sequence of forms.

Result

The sequence of *form*s is evaluated in order, returning the value of the last one as the result of the **dynamic-let** form.

Remarks

A binding specifier is either an identifier or a two element list of an identifier and an initializing form. All the initializing forms are evaluated from left to right in the current environment and the new bindings for the symbols named by the identifiers are created in the dynamic environment to hold the results. These bindings have dynamic scope and dynamic extent. Each form in body is evaluated in order in the environment extended by the above bindings. The result of evaluating the last form in body is returned as the result of dynamic-let.

17.18.5 defglobal

defining operator

17.18.5.1 Syntax

Arguments

identifier: A symbol naming a top dynamic binding containing the value of *form*.

form: The form whose value will be stored in the top dynamic binding of identifier.

Remarks

The value of *form* is stored as the top dynamic value of the symbol named by *identifier*. The binding created by **defglobal** is mutable. An error is signaled (condition: <dynamic-multiply-defined>), on processing this form more than once for the same *identifier*.

NOTE 1 The problems engendered by cross-module reference necessitated by a single top-dynamic environment are leading to a reconsideration of the defined model. Another unpleasant aspect of the current model is that it is not clear how to address the issue of importing (or hiding) dynamic variables—they are in every sense global, which conflicts with the principle of module abstraction. A model, in which a separate top-dynamic environment is associated with each module is under consideration for a later version of the definition.

17.18.6 <dynamic-multiply-defined> <general-condition> condition

Initialization Options

symbol symbol: A symbol naming the dynamic variable which has already been defined.

Remarks

Signalled by **defglobal** if the named dynamic variable already exists.

17.19 Exit Extensions

The name of this module is exit-1.

17.19.1 catch

special operator

17.19.1.1 Syntax

```
catch	ext{-}form: 	o 	ext{<object>}  ( catch tag \ body ) tag:  symbol
```

Remarks

The catch operator is similar to block, except that the scope of the name (tag) of the exit function is dynamic. The catch tag must be a symbol because it is used as a dynamic variable to create a dynamically scoped binding of tag to the continuation of the catch form. The continuation can be invoked anywhere within the dynamic extent of the catch form by using throw. The forms are evaluated in sequence and the value of the last one is returned as the value of the catch form.

17.19.1.2 Rewrite Rules

```
 \begin{array}{ccc} ({\tt catch}) & \equiv & {\tt Is \ an \ error} \\ ({\tt catch} \ tag) & \equiv & ({\tt progn} \ tag \ ()) \\ ({\tt catch} \ tag \ body) & \equiv & ({\tt let/cc \ tmp} \\ & & & ({\tt dynamic-let} \ ((tag \ tmp)) \\ & & & & body)) \\ \end{array}
```

Exiting from a catch, by whatever means, causes the restoration of the lexical environment and dynamic environment that existed before the catch was entered. The above rewrite for catch, causes the variable tmp to be shadowed. This is an artifact of the above presentation only and a conforming processor must not shadow any variables that could occur in the body of catch in this way.

See also

throw.

17.19.2 throw

special operator

17.19.2.1 Syntax

```
throw\text{-}form\colon 	o 	ext{<object>} \ (	ext{ throw } tag \ body \ )
```

Remarks

In throw, the *tag* names the continuation of the catch from which to return. throw is the invocation of the continuation of the catch named *tag*. The *body* is evaluated and the value are returned as the value of the catch named by *tag*. The *tag* is a symbol because it used to access the current dynamic binding of the symbol, which is where the continuation is bound.

17.19.2.2 Rewrite Rules

```
\begin{array}{lll} (\mbox{throw}) & \equiv & \mbox{Is an error} \\ (\mbox{throw} \ tag) & \equiv & ((\mbox{dynamic} \ tag) \ ()) \\ (\mbox{throw} \ tag \ form) & \equiv & ((\mbox{dynamic} \ tag) \ form) \end{array}
```

See also

catch.

17.20 Syntax of Level-1 objects

This section gives the syntax of all level-1 forms:

Any productions undefined here appear elsewhere in the definition, specifically: the syntax of most expressions and definitions is given in the section defining level-0.

17.20.1 Syntax of Level-1 modules

```
def module - 1 - form:
        ( defmodule module-name
           module	ext{-}directives
           level-1-module-form^*)
level-1-module-form:
        level\mbox{-}0\mbox{-}module\mbox{-}form
        level-1-form
        defining-1-form
level-1-form:
        level-0-form
        special - 1 - form
form:
        level-1-form
special \hbox{-} form :
        special-1-form
defining-1-form:
        defclass-1-form
        defgeneric-1-form
        defglobal-form
special-1-form:
        generic\mbox{-}lambda\mbox{-}form
        method-lambda-form
        defmethod-form
        method\hbox{-}function\hbox{-}lambda\hbox{-}form
        catch-form
        throw	ext{-}form
```

17.20.2 Syntax of Level-1 defining forms

```
defclass-1-form:
       ( defclass class-name superclass-names
         (slot-1^*)
         class-option-1^*)
superclass-names:
       superclass-name
       (superclass-name^*)
slot-1:
       ( slot-name slot-option-1* )
slot	ext{-}option	ext{-}1:
       slot-option
       identifier level-1-form
class-option-1
       class-option
       class: class-name
       identifier\ level-1-form
defgeneric-1-form:
       ( defgeneric gf-name gf-lambda-list
         level-1-init-option)
defmethod - 1-form:
       ( defmethod gf-locator
         method\text{-}init\text{-}option^*
         specialized-lambda-list
         body)
defglobal-form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
       ( defglobal identifier level-1-form )
```

17.20.3 Syntax of Level-1 special forms

```
dynamic-form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
        ( dynamic identifier )
dynamic\text{-}setq\text{-}form: \rightarrow \texttt{<}object\texttt{>}
        ( dynamic-setq identifier form )
dynamic-let-form: \rightarrow \langle object \rangle
        ( dynamic-let binding*
           body)
qeneric-lambda-form:
        ( generic-lambda gf-lambda-list
           level-1-init-option*)
level - 1 - init - option:
       class class-name
        method-class class-name
        method level-1-method-description
        identifier level-1-form
        level-0-init-option
level - 1 - method - description:
        ( method-init-option*
          specialized-lambda-list
           \overline{body})
method-init-option:
        {\tt class} {\it class-name}
        identifier level-1-form
method-lambda-form: <math>\rightarrow <function>
        ( method-lambda
           method-init-option*
           specialized\hbox{-} lambda\hbox{-} list
           body)
catch\text{-}form: \rightarrow \texttt{<object>}
        ( catch tag \ body )
taa:
        symbol
throw-form: 	o 	ext{<object>}
        ( throw tag body )
```

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Version 0.991

Module Index

Class Index

$\begin{tabular}{ll} $\ad-class> (undefined-module) & & & & & \\ \end{tabular}$
<pre><buffered-stream> (stream)</buffered-stream></pre>
<pre><character> (character)</character></pre>
<pre><character-sequence> (collection)40</character-sequence></pre>
<class> (telos0)</class>
<pre><collection> (collection)</collection></pre>
<pre><condition> (condition)</condition></pre>
<cons> (list)</cons>
<pre><double-float> (double-float)50</double-float></pre>
<pre><file-stream> (stream)65</file-stream></pre>
<fixed-buffered-stream> (stream)</fixed-buffered-stream>
<float> (float)</float>
<fpi> (fpi)</fpi>
<function> (telos0)</function>
<pre><function-class> (level-1)82</function-class></pre>
<pre><generic-function> (telos0)</generic-function></pre>
<pre><generic-function> (telos0)</generic-function></pre>
<pre><integer> (integer)55</integer></pre>
<pre><keyword> (keyword)56</keyword></pre>
t> (list)
<pre><local-slot> (level-1)</local-slot></pre>
<lock> (lock)</lock>
<pre><metaclass> (level-1)82</metaclass></pre>
<method> (level-1)</method>
<name> $(telos0)$</name>
<null> (list)</null>
<number> (number)</number>
<pre><object> (telos0)15</object></pre>
<pre><sequence> (collection)40</sequence></pre>
<pre><simple-class> (level-1)82</simple-class></pre>
<pre><simple-function> (telos0)</simple-function></pre>
<pre><simple-generic-function> (telos0)</simple-generic-function></pre>
<pre><simple-method> (level-1)84</simple-method></pre>
<pre><simple-thread> (lock)</simple-thread></pre>
<slot> (level-1)</slot>
<pre><stream> (stream)65</stream></pre>
<pre><string> (character)39</string></pre>
<pre><string> (string)</string></pre>
${\tt string-stream} \ ({\tt stream}) \ \dots \ $
<pre><symbol> (symbol)</symbol></pre>
<pre> (table)</pre>
<pre><thread> (thread)</thread></pre>
<pre><vector> (vector)</vector></pre>

Version 0.991

Special Forms Index

', (level-0)	
() (list)	58
, (syntax-0)	
' (syntax-0)	
a-special-form (undefined-module)	5
and (level-0)	25
block (level-0)	.25
call-next-handler (condition)	34
call-next-method (telos0)	19
catch (exit-1)	96
character (character)	38
cond (level-0)	24
constant (level-0)	21
defclass (level-1)	
defclass (telos0)	16
defcondition (condition)	
defconstant (level-0)	
defgeneric (level-1)	70
defgeneric (telos0)	17
defglobal (dynamic)	90
deflocal (level-0)	
defmethod (level-1)	80
defmethod (telos0)	18
defmodule ()	11
defsyntax (level-0)	
defun (level-0)	.22
dynamic (dynamic)	95
dynamic-let (dynamic)	
dynamic-setq (dynamic)	95
float (float)	51
function call (level-0)	
generic-lambda (level-1)	79
generic-lambda (telos0)	18
if (level-0)	2/1
integer (integer)	
keyword (keyword)	
lambda (level-0)	21
let (level-0)	26
let* (level-0)	
let/cc (level-0)	25
letfuns (level-0)	
${\tt method-function-lambda} \ (level-1) \ \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots$	
method-lambda (level-1)	80
next-method? (telos0)	
or (level-0)	
pair (list)	58
progn (level-0)	.27
quasiquote (syntax-0)	27
quote (level-0)	21
return-from (level-0)	26
setq (level-0)	
string (string)	
symbol (level-0)	21
symbol (symbol)	7/
throw (exit-1)	
unless (level-0)	- 24
unquote (syntax-0)	28
unquote-splicing (syntax-0)	28 28
unquote-splicing (syntax-0)	28 28 27
unquote-splicing (syntax-0)	28 28 27 76
unquote-splicing (syntax-0) unwind-protect (level-0) vector (vector) when (level-0)	28 28 27 76 24
unquote-splicing (syntax-0) unwind-protect (level-0) vector (vector) when (level-0) with-handler (condition)	28 28 27 76 24 34
unquote-splicing (syntax-0) unwind-protect (level-0) vector (vector) when (level-0) with-handler (condition) with-input-file (stream)	28 27 76 24 34 71
unquote-splicing (syntax-0) unwind-protect (level-0) vector (vector) when (level-0) with-handler (condition) with-input-file (stream) with-output-file (stream)	28 28 27 76 24 34 71 71
unquote-splicing (syntax-0) unwind-protect (level-0) vector (vector) when (level-0) with-handler (condition) with-input-file (stream)	28 28 27 76 24 34 71 71

Function Index

* (number)	method
+ (number)	min (cc
- (number)	${\tt mod}\ ({ m nu}$
/ (number)	negati
< (compare)	null?
<= (compare)	number
= (compare)	odd? (i
> (compare)	open-i
>= (compare)	open-o
% (number)	positi
a-function (undefined-module)5	primit
abs (number)	primit
abstract-class? (telos0)	primit prin-c
allocate (telos0)	1
apply (level-0)	print (
apply-method (level-1)	read (s
atom? (list)	scan (f
call-method (level-1)80	setter
car (list)	
cdr (list)	(sette
cerror (condition)	(sette
character? (character)	(sette
class-keywords (level-1)	(sette
class-name (level-1)	(sette
class-of (level-1)81	(sette
class-precedence-list (level-1)82	sflush
class-slots (level-1)82	sforma
clear-table (table)	
condition? (condition)32	signal signum
connect (stream)	slot-d
cons (list)	slot-u
cons? (list)	slot-n
convert (convert)	slot-s
converter (convert)	sprin-
current-thread (thread)	sprint
double-float? (double-float)50	sread
eq (compare)	stream
eql (compare)	stream
error (condition)	stream
file-stream-buffer-position (stream)	stream
file-stream-filename (stream)	stream
file-stream-mode (stream)	stream
file-stream? (stream)	string
float? (float)	string
flush (stream)	swrite
. (6	symbol
fmt (formatted-io)	~
format (formatted-io)	
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65	symbol
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63	symbol symbol
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83	symbol symbol table?
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83	symbol symbol table?
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83	symbol symbol table? thread thread
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83	symbol symbol table? thread thread
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread thread
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 57	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 genery (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 57 keyword-name (keyword) 56	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 57 keyword? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-domain (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 57 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 genery (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 57 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59 lock (lock) 38	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59 lock (lock) 38 lock? (lock) 38	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59 lock (lock) 38 lock? (lock) 38 make (telos0) 19	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 genery (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59 lock (lock) 38 lock? (lock) 38 make (telos0) 19 max (compare) 47	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector
format (formatted-io) 53 from-stream (stream) 65 gcd (number) 63 generic-function-discriminating-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-class (level-1) 83 generic-function-method-lookup-function (level-1) 83 generic-function-methods (level-1) 83 gensym (symbol) 74 int? (fpi) 54 integer? (integer) 55 keyword-exists? (keyword) 56 keyword? (keyword) 56 lcm (number) 63 list (list) 59 lock (lock) 38 lock? (lock) 38 make (telos0) 19	symbol symbol table? thread thread thread to-str unlock vector write

ethod-generic-function (level-1)	.84
in (compare)	47
nod (number)	
egative? (number)	63
ull? (list)	.58
number? (number)	
odd? (integer)	
ppen-input-file (stream)	.71
pen-output-file (stream)	71
positive? (number)	
rimitive-allocate (level-1)	
$\operatorname{orimitive-class-of}(\operatorname{level-1})$	
$\operatorname{f primitive-ref}$ (level-1)	
orin-char (stream)	71
orint (stream)	
read (stream)	
read-line (stream)	
can (formatted-io)	.52
setter (level-0)	
setter car) (list)	
setter cdr) (list)	
setter converter) (convert)	
setter element) (collection)	
setter method-function) (level-1)	
setter primitive-class-of) (level-1)	0.4
setter primitive class of (level-1)	05
settles primitative refr (never-1)	
eformat (formatted-io)	52
signal (condition)	
signum (number)slot-default-function (level-1)	
Slot-name (level-1)	
	. 00
siot-siot-writer (level-1)	. 83 71
sprin-char (stream)	
sprint (stream)	70
read (stream)	(1
tream-buffer (stream)	
stream-buffer-size (stream)	
tream-lock (stream)	
tream-sink (stream)	
tream-source (stream)	
tream? (stream)	
string-stream? (stream)	
tring? (string)	.72
write (stream)	69
symbol-exists? (symbol)	
symbol-name (symbol)	
symbol? (symbol)	
able? (table)	
chread-reschedule (thread)	36
hread-start (thread)	36
hread-value (thread)	37
hread? (thread)	. 36
o-stream (stream)	65
mlock (lock)	
rector? (vector)	
rite (stream)	70

Generic Function Index

a-generic5	defmethod class (level-1)	86
defgeneric (undefined-module)5	compatible-superclasses?	
defmethod class-a (undefined-module)6	defgeneric (level-1)	
$\verb accumu ate$	defmethod class (level-1)	
defgeneric (collection)40	compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors	
accumulate1	defgeneric (level-1)	
defgeneric (collection)	defmethod class (level-1)	
acos	compute-class-precedence-list	
defgeneric (mathlib)	defgeneric (level-1)	
add-method 93 defgeneric (level-1) 93	defmethod list (level-1)	
defmethod generic-function (level-1)94	defgeneric (level-1)	
all?	defmethod class (level-1)	
defgeneric (collection)	compute-defined-slot	
allocate85	defgeneric (level-1)	
defgeneric (level-1)	defmethod class (level-1)	89
defmethod class (level-1)	compute-defined-slot-class	
any?	defgeneric (level-1)	
defgeneric (collection)	defmethod class (level-1)	
as-lowercase	compute-discriminating-function	
defgeneric (character) 39 defmethod character (character) 39	defgeneric (level-1)	
definethed string (string)	compute-inherited-keywords	
as-uppercase	defgeneric (level-1)	
defgeneric (character)40	defmethod class (level-1)	
defmethod character (character) 40	compute-inherited-slots	
defmethod string (string)	defgeneric (level-1)	
asin	defmethod class (level-1)	
defgeneric (mathlib)	compute-keywords	88
atan	defgeneric (level-1)	
defgeneric (mathlib)	defmethod class (level-1)	
atan2	compute-method-lookup-function defgeneric (level-1)	
binary*	defmethod generic-function (level-1)	
defgeneric (number)	compute-predicate	
binary+63	defgeneric (level-1)	84
defgeneric (number)	defmethod class (level-1)	
binary64	compute-primitive-reader-using-class	
defgeneric (number)	defgeneric (level-1)	
binary-gcd	defmethod class (level-1)	
defgeneric (number)	compute-primitive-reader-using-slot	
binary-lcm	defgeneric (level-1)	
binary-mod	compute-primitive-writer-using-class	
defgeneric (number)	defgeneric (level-1)	
binary/	compute-primitive-writer-using-slot	
defgeneric (number)	defgeneric (level-1)	
binary<	defmethod slot (level-1)	
defgeneric (compare)	compute-slot-reader	
defmethod character (character)	defgeneric (level-1)	
defmethod string (string)	defmethod class (level-1)	
binary=	compute-slot-writer defgeneric (level-1)	91 91
defmethod character (character)	defmethod class (level-1)	
defmethod cons (list)	compute-slots	
defmethod number (number)	defgeneric (level-1)	
defmethod object (compare)46	defmethod class (level-1)	
defmethod string (string)	compute-specialized-slot	
defmethod vector (vector)	defgeneric (level-1)	
binary%	defmethod class (level-1)	
defgeneric (number)	compute-specialized-slot-class	
ceiling 51 defgeneric (float) 51	defgeneric (level-1)	
collection?41	concatenate	
defgeneric (collection)	defgeneric (collection)	
compatible-superclass?	cos	61
defgeneric (level-1)	defgeneric (mathlib)	
defmethod abstract-class (level-1)87	cosh	61

defgeneric (mathlib) 61 deep-copy 49	generic-write	
deep-copy		
	defgeneric (stream)	
defgeneric (copy)49	defmethod buffered-stream (stream)	69
defmethod class (copy)49	defmethod character (character)	4(
(10)		
defmethod cons (list)59	defmethod cons (list)	
definethed object $(copy)$	defmethod double-float (double-float)	
defmethod string (string)	defmethod file-stream (stream)	69
defmethod vector (vector)	defmethod fpi (fpi)	
delete	defmethod keyword (keyword)	อ์โ
defgeneric (collection)42	defmethod null (list)	58
disconnect	defmethod stream (stream)	
defgeneric (stream)	defmethod string (string)	73
defmethod file-stream (stream)67	defmethod symbol (symbol)	
	defmethod vector (vector)	70
defmethod stream (stream)		
do42	initialize	20
defgeneric (collection)42	defgeneric (telos0)	20
	defmethod class (level-1)	
element		
defgeneric (collection)42	defmethod condition (condition)	3^{2}
empty?42	defmethod generic-function (level-1)	86
defgeneric (collection)	defmethod method (level-1)	
end-of-stream	defmethod object $(telos 0)$	
defgeneric (stream)	defmethod slot (level-1)	85
defmethod buffered-stream (stream)		
delmechod pullered_Stream (Stream)	key-sequence	
defmethod file-stream (stream)68	defgeneric (collection)	40
ensure-slot-reader91	last	43
defgeneric (level-1)91	defgeneric (collection)	
	der Remer To (concentral)	
defmethod class (level-1)91	log	o 1
ensure-slot-writer91	defgeneric (mathlib)	61
defgeneric (level-1)91	log10	
	10g10	01
defmethod class (level-1)91	defgeneric (mathlib)	öΙ
even?	map	43
defgeneric (integer)	defgeneric (collection)	
exp	member	
defgeneric (mathlib)61	defgeneric (collection)	43
fill42	negate	6:
defgeneric (collection)42	defgeneric (number)	
fill-buffer	pow	
defgeneric (stream)	defgeneric (mathlib)	61
defmethod buffered-stream (stream)67	reconnect	66
defmethod file-stream (stream)67		
	defgeneric (stream)	
	1 ()	
find-key43	defmethod stream (stream)	66
find-key43	defmethod stream (stream)	
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43	remove	44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43	remove	44 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43	remove	44 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43	remove	44 44 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52	remove	44 44 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52	remove	44 44 44 52
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67	remove	44 44 44 52 52
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67	remove	44 44 44 52 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67	remove	44 44 44 52 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68	remove	44 44 44 52 54 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy	44 44 44 52 44 44 48
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy)	44 44 52 54 44 49
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy)	44 44 52 54 44 49
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy)	44 44 44 44 44 49 49
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy)	44 44 44 44 44 49 49 49
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy)	44 44 44 44 44 49 49 49
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string)	44 44 44 44 44 44 46 46
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh	4444444452444949494949494949494949494949
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (mathlib)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50 defmethod fpi (fpi) 54	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) size	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) size defgeneric (collection)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod fpi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) size defgeneric (collection)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 68 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod fpi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod null (list) 58	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (mathlib) size defgeneric (collection) slice	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 68 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50 defmethod fpi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod string (string) 73	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) slice defgeneric (collection)	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 68 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod null (list) 58 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod symbol (symbol) 74	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) slice defgeneric (collection) sort	444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 68 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod null (list) 58 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod symbol (symbol) 74	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) slice defgeneric (collection) sort	44444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 68 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod double-float (double-float) 50 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod null (list) 58 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod vector (vector) 76	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) size defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection)	44444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod pi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod vector (vector) 76 generic-read 68	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) size defgeneric (collection) slice defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection)	44444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod pi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod vector (vector) 76 generic-read 68 defgeneric (stream) 68	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) sice defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (mathlib)	444 444 444 444 444 444 444 444 444 44
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod pi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod vector (vector) 76 generic-read 68	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) sice defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (mathlib) tan	44444444444444444444444444444444444444
find-key 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 first 43 defgeneric (collection) 43 floor 52 defgeneric (float) 52 flush-buffer 67 defgeneric (stream) 67 defmethod buffered-stream (stream) 68 defmethod file-stream (stream) 68 generic-connect 66 defgeneric (stream) 66 defmethod file-stream (stream) 66 defmethod path (stream) 66 defmethod stream (stream) 66 generic-print 70 defgeneric (stream) 70 defmethod character (character) 40 defmethod cons (list) 60 defmethod pi (fpi) 54 defmethod keyword (keyword) 57 defmethod string (string) 73 defmethod vector (vector) 76 generic-read 68 defgeneric (stream) 68	remove defgeneric (collection) reverse defgeneric (collection) round defgeneric (float) sequence? defgeneric (collection) shallow-copy defgeneric (copy) defmethod class (copy) defmethod cons (list) defmethod object (copy) defmethod string (string) defmethod vector (vector) sin defgeneric (mathlib) sinh defgeneric (collection) sice defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (collection) sort defgeneric (mathlib)	44444444444444444444444444444444444444

Programming Language EuLisp:2010(E)

Version 0.991

defgeneric (mathlib)61
truncate
defgeneric (float)
wait37
defgeneric (thread)37
defmethod thread (thread)37
zero?
defgeneric (number)

Condition Index

<pre><cannot-update-setter> (level-0)</cannot-update-setter></pre>		23
a-condition (undefined-module)		. 6
arithmetic-condition (number)		62
cannot-update-setter (level-0)		
collection-condition (collection)		
conversion-condition (collection)		
conversion-condition (convert)		48
division-by-zero (number)		
domain-condition (condition)		
$ exttt{domain-condition (mathlib) '}$	60.	61
dynamic-multiply-defined (dynamic)		
end-of-stream (stream)		
environment-condition (condition)		32
general-condition (condition)		
generic-function-condition (condition)		
incompatible-method-and-gf (level-1)		
incompatible-method-domain (condition)		33
incompatible-method-domain (telos0)		18
invalid-operator (level-0)		
method-domain-clash (condition)		
method-domain-clash (level-1)		
$\mathtt{method} ext{-}\mathtt{domain} ext{-}\mathtt{clash}\stackrel{(\mathrm{telos}0)}{\cdot}\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots\dots$		
no-applicable-method (condition)		
no-applicable-method (convert)		
no-applicable-method (telos0)		
no-converter (convert)		
no-next-method (condition)		33
no-next-method $(telos0)$		
no-setter ($level$ - $\stackrel{\circ}{0}$)		
non-congruent-lambda-lists (condition)		
non-congruent-lambda-lists (level-1)		
$ exttt{non-congruent-lambda-lists} (exttt{telos}0) \dots \dots \dots$		18
range-condition (condition)		32
range-condition (mathlib)		
read-error (stream)		
scan-mismatch (formatted-io)		52
thread-already-started (thread)		
thread-condition (thread)		37
unbound-dynamic-variable (dynamic)		
wrong-condition-class (condition)	32.	34
wrong-thread-continuation (level-0)		
wrong-thread-continuation (thread)		

Version 0.991

Constant Index

a-constant (undefined-module)
else (level-0)
least-negative-double-float (double-float)50
least-positive-double-float (double-float)50
maximum-vector-index (vector)
most-negative-double-float (double-float)50
most-negative-int (fpi)54
most-positive-double-float (double-float)50
most-positive-int (fpi)54
pi (mathlib)
t (level-0)
ticks-per-second (thread)

Index

,	top dynamic	
()	block	
*	rewrite rules	
+	see also let/cc	
,	syntax table	
	boolean10, 1	П
/	boolean	
<	syntax table	
<=	<pre><buffered-stream></buffered-stream></pre>	
=	call-method	
>	call-next-handler	-
>=	syntax table	
63	call-next-method	
·	function signature	
<a-class>6</a-class>	car	
a-constant6	case sensitivity	
a-function5	catch	
function signature	rewrite rules	
a-generic	syntax table	
a-special-form5	cdr	
syntax table	ceiling	
abs	cerror	
abstract class	character	
abstract-class?	character-extension glyph	
function signature	minimal character set	
abstract?	module	
accessor	<pre><character></character></pre>	
accumulate40	character	
accumulate1	syntax table	
acos	character set	
add-method93, 94	<pre><character-sequence></character-sequence></pre>	40
all?	character-set	_
allocate	syntax table	
and25	character?	
rewrite rules	Common Lispvi,	
syntax table	class	
any?	primitive	
applicable method	self-instantiated	
apply	<class></class>	
syntax table	class	
apply-method	class option	
as-lowercase	class precedence list	
as-uppercase	class-keywords	
asin	class-name 8 class-of 8	
assignment	class-precedence-list	
atan2	class-slots	
atom?	clear-table	
backquoting	CLOS	
base	closure	
arbitrary base literals55	coercion	
limitation on input	collection	
binary literals55	alignment	
binary*	module4	
binary+	<pre><collection></collection></pre>	
binary	collection-condition	
binary-gcd	collection?	
pinary-lcm	comment	
pinary-mod	syntax table	10
pinary/	comments	
binary<	line	
pinary=39, 46, 46, 50, 54, 59, 63, 72, 76	object	
pinary%	Common Lisp Error System	
binding	compare	
dynamically scoped	module	
module	compatible-superclass?	
of module names	compatible-superclasses?	
of module names	compliance	
	*	_

compute-and-ensure-slot-accessors90, 90	module4	48
compute-class-precedence-list87, 87	convert	
compute-constructor	converter	
compute-defined-slot	converter function	
compute-defined-slot-class	(converter <double-float>)</double-float>	
compute-discriminating-function	(converter <fpi>)</fpi>	
compute-inherited-keywords	(converter <list>)</list>	
compute-inherited-slots	(converter <string>)</string>	
compute-keywords	<pre>(converter <symbol>) (converter)</symbol></pre>	
compute-method-lookup-function .93, 93 compute-predicate .84, 84	(converter)	
compute-primitive-reader-using-class92, 92, 93	copy	
compute-primitive-reader-using-slot	module	
compute-primitive-writer-using-class	cos	
compute-primitive-writer-using-slot	cosh	
compute-slot-reader	current-thread	
compute-slot-writer	deep-copy	
compute-slots	default	
compute-specialized-slot89, 89	default	
compute-specialized-slot-class	default-function	.8
concatenate	defclass	78
concurrency	syntax table	16
cond	defclass-1	
rewrite rules	syntax table	78
syntax table	defcondition	
condition	syntax table	
continuable	defconstant	21
module	syntax table	21
non-continuable31	defgeneric	
<pre><condition>32</condition></pre>	rewrite rules	
condition? 32	syntax table	17
configuration4	defgeneric-1	
conformance4	syntax table	
level-0	defglobal	
level-1	syntax table	
conforming processor	defining form3,	
conforming program4	defining operator	. 7
conformity clause4	defining-0-forms	
conformity-clause	syntax table	
least negative double precision float50	deflocal	
least positive double precision float50	syntax table	
maximum vector index	defmethod	
most negative fixed precision float	syntax table	го
most negative fixed precision integer	defmethod-1	٥n
most positive double precision noat	syntax table	
congruent	defmodule-0	11
connect	syntax table	19
<cons></cons>	defmodule-1	12
cons	syntax table	78
cons? 59	defsyntax	
constant	syntax table	
a-constant6	defun	
defined	rewrite rules	
else	syntax table	
least-negative-double-float50	delete	
least-positive-double-float50	direct instance	. 7
literal	direct subclass	. 7
maximum-vector-index	direct superclass	. 7
most-negative-double-float50	disconnect	
most-negative-int	do	
most-positive-double-float50	double-float	50
most-positive-int54	module	50
pi	<pre><double-float></double-float></pre>	50
t	double-float	
ticks-per-second $\dots 37$	syntax table	
$\verb constant \dots \dots 21, 21$	double-float?	
constructor	dynamic	
continuation	module	
conventions5	dynamic	
convert	syntax table	95

dynamic environment	format	
dynamic extent	formatted-io module	
dynamic scope	fpi	
syntax table	module	
dynamic-setq95	<fpi><fpi></fpi></fpi>	
syntax table95	from-stream	
element	function	
else	calling	
empty?	reader	
end-of-stream	standard function	
ensure-slot-reader	writer <function></function>	
ensure-slot-writer	function call	
eq46	function signatures	ے ب
implementation-defined behaviour	a-function	. 5
eql46	abstract-class?	17
error	call-next-method	_
can be signalled4	next-method?	19
environmental	function-call syntax table	വ
handler 33 signalled 4	syntax table	
static	gcd	
violation	generic function	
error	lambda-list	
errors4	rewrite rules	
EULISP	generic-1-lambda	
level-0	syntax table	
level-1	generic-connect	
libraries	<pre><generic-function> generic-function-discriminating-function</generic-function></pre>	
except	generic-function-discriminating-function	
exit-1	generic-function-method-class	
module96	generic-function-method-lookup-function	
exp50, 61	generic-function-methods	
exportiii, 12	generic-lambda	7 9
exposeiii, 13	syntax table	
•		
extension4	generic-print	
extension	generic-print40, 50, 54, 57, 58, 60, 70, 73, 74, generic-read	69
extension	generic-print	69 76
extension	generic-print40, 50, 54, 57, 58, 60, 70, 73, 74, generic-read	69 76 74
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11
extension 4 extent 7 external representation 58 external representation 51 integer 55 null (empty list) 58	generic-print .40, 50, 54, 57, 58, 60, 70, 73, 74, generic-read .68, generic-write .40, 51, 54, 57, 58, 60, 69, 69, 73, 74, gensym <hash-table> Haskell .vi, hexadecimal literals identifier .7,</hash-table>	69 76 74 75 11 55 10
extension 4 extent 7 external representation 58 external representation 51 integer 55 null (empty list) 58 pair 58	generic-print .40, 50, 54, 57, 58, 60, 70, 73, 74, generic-read .68, generic-write .40, 51, 54, 57, 58, 60, 69, 69, 73, 74, gensym <hash-table> Haskell .vi, hexadecimal literals identifier .7, definition of </hash-table>	69 76 74 75 11 55 10
extension 4 extent 7 external representation 58 external representation 51 integer 55 null (empty list) 58 pair 58 string 72	generic-print .40, 50, 54, 57, 58, 60, 70, 73, 74, generic-read .68, generic-write .40, 51, 54, 57, 58, 60, 69, 69, 73, 74, gensym <hash-table> Haskell .vi, hexadecimal literals identifier .7, definition of peculiar identifiers </hash-table>	69 76 74 75 11 55 10
extension 4 extent 7 external representation 58 external representation 51 integer 55 null (empty list) 58 pair 58 string 72 vector 76	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 10 24 24
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 24 . 4
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 24 46 50 50
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 10 24 46 50 76
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 50
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 50 54
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 50 54 50
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 24 46 50 76 12 50 54 50 54 37
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 50 54 37 12
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 50 54 54 77 12 77
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 54 50 54 57 12 . 7 . 8
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 76 12 54 50 54 57 12 . 7 . 8
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 46 50 50 76 12 55 43 77 12 .7 .8 .8
extension	generic-print	69 76 74 75 11 55 10 10 10 24 24 46 50 76 12 55 4 37 12 .7 .8 .8

inherited slot description8	lexical syntax	
init-list8	lispin	
initialization	LISP/VMvi,	
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	list5	
inner dynamic8	module5	
inner lexical	<pre><list>5</list></pre>	-
instance	list5	
direct	syntax table5	18
indirect	literal	
instantiation graph	arbitrary base5	
int?	binary5	
integer	character	
module	hexadecimal5	
<integer></integer>	modification of	
integer	octal 5	
syntax table55	quotation2	
integer?55	<pre><local-slot></local-slot></pre>	
InterLISPvi, 2	lock3	
key-sequence	module3	
keyword	<lock></lock>	
abstract?	lock	
accessor	lock?	
class	log	
constructor	log10	
default	make	
definition of	map	
except	mathlib 6 module 6	
export	max4	
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	maximum-vector-index	
import iii, 12 keyword	MCS	
keywords	member	
method	metaclass	
module	<pre><metaclass></metaclass></pre>	
only	method	
predicate	applicable	
reader	bindings	
rename	specificity	
required?	<pre><method></method></pre>	
syntaxiii, 13	method	
writer	method function	
<pre><keyword>56</keyword></pre>	method specificity	
keyword	method-domain8	
syntax table	method-function8	
keyword-exists? 57	method-function-lambda8	
keyword-name	method-generic-function8	34
keyword?56	method-lambda8	
keywords	syntax table	30
lambda	MicroCeyx	2
syntax table	min4	٠7
language structure3	${\tt mod}$ 6	3
last	module	.1
lcm	directives1	
${\tt least-negative-double-float} \ \dots $	environments	
least-positive-double-float50	$\mathtt{except} \dots $	
LeLisp	export	
LE-LISP	expose	
let	import	
rewrite rules	name bindings	
syntax table	only1	
let*	rename1	
rewrite rules	syntax	.3
syntax table	modules	9
let/cc	level-0	
see also block and return-from	most-negative-double-float	
syntax table	most-negative-int	
syntax table	most-positive-double-float	
syntax table	multi-method	
lexical environment	multiple inheritance	
lexical scope	multiple inheritance	

<name></name>	reverse4
negate50, 54, 63	rewrite rules
negative?	and
new instance8	block2
next-method?	catch9
function signature	cond2
normativeReferences	defgeneric
null	defun
<nul> 58 </nul>	generic function
null?	let
number	let*
coercion	or
module	return-from
<number></number>	throw 9
number?	$\verb"unless" \dots $
Oaklisp	when $\ldots 2^{q}$
object	round
syntax	scan
syntax-197	scope
<pre><object></object></pre>	scope and extent
object	of lambda bindings
syntax table	scope and extent
v	
objects	in letfuns expressions
ObjVLisp	of let/cc binding
octal literals55	of dynamic-let bindings9
odd?	self-instantiated class
only	<pre><sequence>4</sequence></pre>
open-input-file71	sequence? 4
open-output-file71	setq2
or	syntax table2
rewrite rules	setter
syntax table	setter function
pair	(setter car)
pair	(setter cdr)5
pi	(setter converter)
positive?	(setter element)
pow	(setter method-function)
predicate	(setter primitive-class-of)9
•	
primitive-allocate94	(setter primitive-ref)9
primitive-class-of94	sflush
primitive-ref94	sformat
prin-char	shallow-copy
print	signal
processing	signum
constants	simple function
symbols	<pre><simple-class>8</simple-class></pre>
processor	<pre><simple-function></simple-function></pre>
processor-defined	<pre><simple-generic-function></simple-generic-function></pre>
gensym names	<pre><simple-method>8</simple-method></pre>
progn	<pre><simple-thread>3</simple-thread></pre>
syntax table	sin
quasiquotation	single inheritance
quasiquote	sinh
abbreviation with '	size
syntax table	slice
quote	slot
abbreviation with '	<pre><slot></slot></pre>
syntax table	slot description
range-condition	slot option
read	slot specification
read-line	slot-default-function8
reader	slot-name8
reconnect	slot-slot-reader8
reflective	slot-slot-writer8
remove	sort4
rename	special form
required?	special operator
return-from	special-0-forms
rewrite rules	syntax table
see also let/cc	specialize
syntax table	specialize on

sprin-char		71
sprint		
sqrt		
sread		
Standard ML		
Standard ML		
standard modulestatic error		
stderrstdin		
stdout		
stream		
module		
<pre><stream></stream></pre>		
stream-buffer		
stream-buffer-size		
stream-lock		
stream-sink		65
stream-source		65
stream?		
string		
escaping in		
module		
string-escape glyph		
<pre><string></string></pre>	. 39,	72
string		72
syntax table		
<pre><string-stream></string-stream></pre>		05
string-stream?		
string? subclass		
direct		
indirect		
superclass		
direct		
swrite		
symbol		
module		
<symbol></symbol>		
symbol		
syntax table		
symbol-exists?		
symbol-name		
symbol?		
syntax		
generic function lambda-list		
syntax		
syntax operator		
syntax expansion		14
syntax operator		
definition by defsyntax		
syntax-1		
t		,
table		
module		
table?		
tan		
tanh		
telos0		
module		
thread		36
module		36
<thread></thread>		36
thread-reschedule		36
thread-start		
thread-value		
thread?		
throw		
rewrite rules		96

syntax table	
ticks-per-second	.37
to-stream	65
top dynamic	
top lexical	9
true5,	
$\texttt{truncate} \hspace{0.1cm} \dots \hspace{0.1cm} \hspace{0.1cm} 50,$	52
unless	
rewrite rules	25
syntax table	
unlock	
unquote	
abbreviation with ,	
syntax table	
unquote-splicing	
syntax table	
unwind-protect	
syntax table	
vector	
module	
<pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> <td></td></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	
vector	
syntax table	
vector?	
violation	
wait37,	
when	
rewrite rules	
syntax table	
whitespace	
with-handler	
syntax table	
with-input-file	
syntax table	
with-output-file	
syntax table	
with-sink	
syntax table	
with-source	
syntax table	
write	
writer	
zero? 50 , 54 ,	63