Compilers and Formal Languages

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2 Regular Expressions, Derivatives	7 Compilation, JVM
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The Goal of this Course

Write a compiler



Today a lexer.

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Write a compiler



Today a lexer.



lexing ⇒ recognising words (Stone of Rosetta)

Regular Expressions

In programming languages they are often used to recognise:

- operands, digits
- identifiers
- numbers (non-leading zeros)
- keywords
- comments

http://www.regexper.com

Lexing: Test Case

```
write "Fib":
read n:
minus1 := 0;
minus2 := 1;
while n > 0 do {
       temp := minus2;
       minus2 := minus1 + minus2;
       minus1 := temp;
       n := n - 1
write "Result";
write minus2
```

```
"if true then then 42 else +"
KFYWORD:
  if, then, else,
WHTTESPACE:
  " ", \n,
TDFNTTFTFR:
  LETTER \cdot (LETTER + DIGIT + )*
NUM:
  (NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + 0
OP:
  +, -, *, %, <, <=
COMMENT:
  /* \cdot \sim (\mathsf{ALL}^* \cdot (*/) \cdot \mathsf{ALL}^*) \cdot */
```

"if true then then 42 else +"

```
KEYWORD(if),
WHITESPACE,
IDENT(true),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(then),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(then),
WHITESPACE,
NUM(42),
WHITESPACE.
KEYWORD(else),
WHITESPACE,
OP(+)
```

"if true then then 42 else +"

```
KEYWORD(if),
IDENT(true),
KEYWORD(then),
KEYWORD(then),
NUM(42),
KEYWORD(else),
OP(+)
```

There is one small problem with the tokenizer. How should we tokenize...?

```
"x-3"
ID: ...
OP:
NUM:
  (NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + ''0''
NUMBER:
  NUM + ("-" · NUM)
```

The same problem with

$$(ab+a)\cdot(c+bc)$$

and the string *abc*.

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$$(ab+a)\cdot(c+bc)$$

and the string *abc*.

Or, keywords are **if** etc and identifiers are letters followed by "letters + numbers + _"*

POSIX: Two Rules

- Longest match rule ("maximal munch rule"): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as the next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

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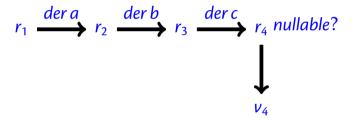
most posix matchers are buggy http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Regex_Posix traditional lexers are fast, but hairy

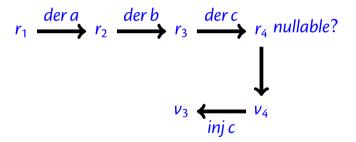
$$r_1 \xrightarrow{der a} r_2$$

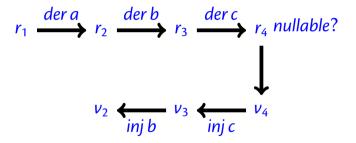
$$r_1 \xrightarrow{der a} r_2 \xrightarrow{der b} r_3$$

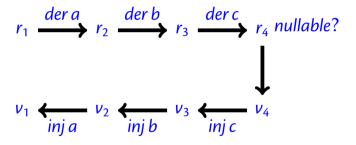
$$r_1 \xrightarrow{der a} r_2 \xrightarrow{der b} r_3 \xrightarrow{der c} r_4$$

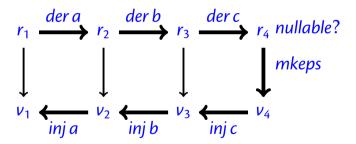
$$r_1 \xrightarrow{der a} r_2 \xrightarrow{der b} r_3 \xrightarrow{der c} r_4 \text{ nullable?}$$









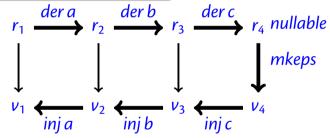


Regexes and Values

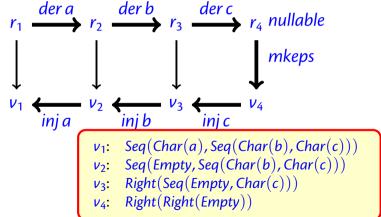
Regular expressions and their corresponding values:

```
abstract class Rexp
case object ZERO extends Rexp
case object ONE extends Rexp
case class CHAR(c: Char) extends Rexp
case class ALT(r1: Rexp, r2: Rexp) extends Rexp
case class SEQ(r1: Rexp, r2: Rexp) extends Rexp
case class STAR(r: Rexp) extends Rexp
abstract class Val
case object Empty extends Val
case class Chr(c: Char) extends Val
case class Sequ(v1: Val, v2: Val) extends Val
case class Left(v: Val) extends Val
case class Right(v: Val) extends Val
case class Stars(vs: List[Val]) extends Val
```

$$r_{1}: a \cdot (b \cdot c) r_{2}: 1 \cdot (b \cdot c) r_{3}: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + (\mathbf{1} \cdot c) r_{4}: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1})$$



$$r_1$$
: $a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
 r_2 : $\mathbf{1} \cdot (b \cdot c)$
 r_3 : $(\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + (\mathbf{1} \cdot c)$
 r_4 : $(\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1})$



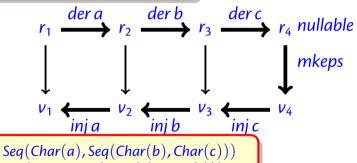
Flatten

Obtaining the string underlying a value:

```
|Empty| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad []
|Char(c)| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad [c]
|Left(v)| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad |v| | |
|Right(v)| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad |v|
|Seq(v_1, v_2)| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad |v_1| @ |v_2|
|Stars [v_1, \dots, v_n]| \qquad \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \qquad |v_1| @ \dots @ |v_n|
```

$$r_1: a \cdot (b \cdot c)$$

 $r_2: 1 \cdot (b \cdot c)$
 $r_3: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + (\mathbf{1} \cdot c)$
 $r_4: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1})$



v₁: Seq(Char(a), Seq(Char(b), Char(c))
 v₂: Seq(Empty, Seq(Char(b), Char(c)))
 v₃: Right(Seq(Empty, Char(c)))
 v₄: Right(Right(Empty))

 $|a_1|$: $|a_2|$: $|a_3|$: $|a_4|$: |

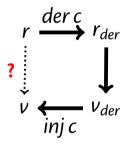
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Mkeps

Finding a (posix) value for recognising the empty string:

```
mkeps (1) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Empty
mkeps (r_1 + r_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} if nullable(r_1)
then Left(mkeps(r_1))
else Right(mkeps(r_2))
mkeps (r_1 \cdot r_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Seq(mkeps(r_1), mkeps(r_2))
mkeps (r^*) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Stars []
```

Inject



Inject

Injecting ("Adding") a character to a value

```
\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Char c
inj(c)c(Empty)
                                                       \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Left(inj r_1 c v)
ini (r_1 + r_2) c (Left(v))
                                                       \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Right(inj r_2 c v)
inj (r_1 + r_2) c (Right(v))
                                                       \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Sea(inir_1 c v_1, v_2)
inj (r_1 \cdot r_2) c (Seg(v_1, v_2))
inj(r_1 \cdot r_2) c(Left(Seq(v_1, v_2))) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Seq(inj r_1 c v_1, v_2)
                                                       \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Seq}(mkeps(r_1), inj r_2 c v)
inj (r_1 \cdot r_2) c (Right(v))
                                                       \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Stars (injrcv :: vs)
inj(r^*)c(Seq(v, Stars vs))
```

inj: 1st arg \mapsto a rexp; 2nd arg \mapsto a character; 3rd arg \mapsto a value result \mapsto a value

$inj(c)c(Empty) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Charc$

$$inj (r_1 + r_2) c (Left(v)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Left(inj r_1 c v)$$

 $inj (r_1 + r_2) c (Right(v)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Right(inj r_2 c v)$

$$\begin{array}{ll} inj \ (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (Seq(v_1, v_2)) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \ Seq(inj \ r_1 \ c \ v_1, v_2) \\ inj \ (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (Left(Seq(v_1, v_2))) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \ Seq(inj \ r_1 \ c \ v_1, v_2) \\ inj \ (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (Right(v)) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \ Seq(mkeps(r_1), inj \ r_2 \ c \ v) \end{array}$$

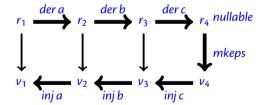
 $der c (r_1 \cdot r_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} if \ nullable(r_1) \ then \ (der c r_1) \cdot r_2 + der c r_2 \ else \ (der c r_1) \cdot r_2$

 $inj(r^*)c(Seq(v, Stars vs)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Stars(injrcv :: vs)$

Lexing

$$lex r[] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} if \, nullable(r) \, then \, mkeps(r) \, else \, error \, lex \, ra :: s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} inj \, ra \, lex(der(a,r),s)$$

lex: returns a value



Records

• new regex: (x : r) new value: Rec(x, v)

(id : r_{id}) (key : r_{key})

Records

- new regex: (x : r) new value: Rec(x, v)
- $nullable(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} nullable(r)$
- $derc(x:r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} dercr$
- $mkeps(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, mkeps(r))$
- $inj(x:r)cv \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x,injrcv)$

(id : r_{id}) (key : r_{key})

Records

- new regex: (x : r) new value: Rec(x, v)
- $nullable(x:r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} nullable(r)$
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- $mkeps(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, mkeps(r))$
- $inj(x:r) cv \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, inj r cv)$

```
for extracting subpatterns (z : ((x : ab) + (y : ba))
```

```
(id:r_{id}) \ (key:r_{key})
```

• A regular expression for email addresses

```
(name: [a-z0-9\_.-]^+)\cdot @\cdot (domain: [a-z0-9-]^+)\cdot ... (top_level: [a-z.]^{\{2,6\}}) christian.urban@kcl.ac.uk
```

• the result environment:

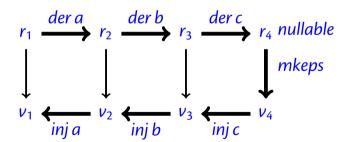
```
[(name : christian.urban),
  (domain : kcl),
  (top_level : ac.uk)]
```

While Tokens

```
WHILE_REGS \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (("k" : KEYWORD) +
                   ("i" : ID) +
                   ("o" : OP) +
                   ("n" : NUM) +
                   ("s" : SEMI) +
                   ("p" : (LPAREN + RPAREN)) +
                   ("b" : (BEGIN + END)) +
                   ("w" : WHITESPACE))*
```

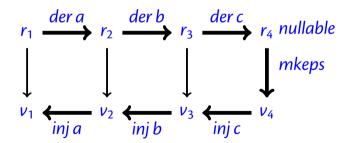
Simplification

 If we simplify after the derivative, then we are building the value for the simplified regular expression, but not for the original regular expression.



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 If we simplify after the derivative, then we are building the value for the simplified regular expression, but not for the original regular expression.



$$(\mathbf{0}\cdot(b\cdot c))+((\mathbf{0}\cdot c)+\mathbf{1})\mapsto\mathbf{1}$$

Normally we would have

$$(\mathbf{0}\cdot(b\cdot c))+((\mathbf{0}\cdot c)+\mathbf{1})$$

and answer how this regular expression matches the empty string with the value

But now we simplify this to 1 and would produce *Empty* (see *mkeps*).

Rectification

rectification functions:

```
r \cdot \mathbf{0} \mapsto \mathbf{0}

\mathbf{0} \cdot r \mapsto \mathbf{0}

r \cdot \mathbf{1} \mapsto r \qquad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Seq}(f_1 v, f_2 \operatorname{Empty})

\mathbf{1} \cdot r \mapsto r \qquad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Seq}(f_1 \operatorname{Empty}, f_2 v)

r + \mathbf{0} \mapsto r \qquad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Left}(f_1 v)

\mathbf{0} + r \mapsto r \qquad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Right}(f_2 v)

r + r \mapsto r \qquad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Left}(f_1 v)
```

Rectification

rectification functions:

$$r \cdot \mathbf{0} \mapsto \mathbf{0}$$

 $\mathbf{0} \cdot r \mapsto \mathbf{0}$
 $r \cdot \mathbf{1} \mapsto r$ $\lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Seq}(f_1 v, f_2 \operatorname{Empty})$
 $\mathbf{1} \cdot r \mapsto r$ $\lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Seq}(f_1 \operatorname{Empty}, f_2 v)$
 $r + \mathbf{0} \mapsto r$ $\lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Left}(f_1 v)$
 $\mathbf{0} + r \mapsto r$ $\lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Right}(f_2 v)$
 $r + r \mapsto r$ $\lambda f_1 f_2 v. \operatorname{Left}(f_1 v)$

old *simp* returns a rexp; new *simp* returns a rexp and a rectification function.

Rectification _ + _

```
simp(r):
    case r = r_1 + r_2
        let (r_{1s}, f_{1s}) = simp(r_1)
             (r_{2s}, f_{2s}) = simp(r_2)
        case r_{1s} = \mathbf{0}: return (r_{2s}, \lambda v. Right(f_{2s}(v)))
        case r_{2s} = \mathbf{0}: return (r_{1s}, \lambda v. Left(f_{1s}(v)))
        case r_{1s} = r_{2s}: return (r_{1s}, \lambda v. Left(f_{1s}(v)))
        otherwise: return (r_{1s} + r_{2s}, f_{alt}(f_{1s}, f_{2s}))
    f_{alt}(f_1, f_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}
           \lambda \nu. case \nu = Left(\nu'): return Left(f_1(\nu'))
                 case v = Right(v'): return Right(f_2(v'))
```

```
def simp(r: Rexp): (Rexp, Val => Val) = r match {
  case ALT(r1, r2) => {
   val(r1s, f1s) = simp(r1)
    val(r2s, f2s) = simp(r2)
    (r1s, r2s) match {
      case (ZERO, _) => (r2s, F_RIGHT(f2s))
      case (, ZERO) \Rightarrow (r1s, F LEFT(f1s))
      case =>
         if (r1s == r2s) (r1s, F LEFT(f1s))
         else (ALT (r1s, r2s), F ALT(f1s, f2s))
def F RIGHT(f: Val => Val) = (v:Val) => Right(f(v))
def F LEFT(f: Val => Val) = (v:Val) => Left(f(v))
def F ALT(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => v match {
    case Right(v) => Right(f2(v))
    case Left(v) => Left(f1(v)) }
```

Rectification _ · _

```
simp(r)...
    case r = r_1 \cdot r_2
        let (r_{1s}, f_{1s}) = simp(r_1)
              (r_{2s}, f_{2s}) = simp(r_2)
        case r_{1s} = \mathbf{0}: return (\mathbf{0}, f_{error})
        case r_{2s} = \mathbf{0}: return (\mathbf{0}, f_{error})
        case r_{1s} = 1: return (r_{2s}, \lambda \nu. Seq(f_{1s}(Empty), f_{2s}(\nu)))
        case r_{2s} = 1: return (r_{1s}, \lambda v. Seq(f_{1s}(v), f_{2s}(Empty)))
        otherwise: return (r_{1s} \cdot r_{2s}, f_{sea}(f_{1s}, f_{2s}))
     f_{sea}(f_1, f_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}
             \lambda v. case v = Seg(v_1, v_2): return Seg(f_1(v_1), f_2(v_2))
```

```
def simp(r: Rexp): (Rexp, Val => Val) = r match {
  case SEO(r1, r2) \Rightarrow {
    val(r1s, f1s) = simp(r1)
    val(r2s, f2s) = simp(r2)
    (r1s, r2s) match {
      case (ZERO, _) => (ZERO, F_ERROR)
      case ( , ZERO) => (ZERO, F ERROR)
      case (ONE, ) => (r2s, F SEQ Empty1(f1s, f2s))
      case (, ONE) \Rightarrow (r1s, F SEO Empty2(f1s, f2s))
      case \Rightarrow (SEO(r1s,r2s), F SEO(f1s, f2s))
  ...}
def F SEQ Empty1(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => Sequ(f1(Empty), f2(v))
def F SEQ Empty2(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => Sequ(f1(v), f2(Empty))
def F SEQ(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => v match {
    case Sequ(v1, v2) => Sequ(f1(v1), f2(v2)) }
```

$$(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$(\underline{b \cdot c}) + (\underline{\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$(\underline{b \cdot c}) + (\underline{\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

 $f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} f_{s1} &=& \lambda \nu.\nu \\ f_{s2} &=& \lambda \nu. Right(\nu) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} f_{alt}(f_{s1},f_{s2}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \\ \lambda \nu. \ \text{case} \ \nu &=& Left(\nu'): \ \text{return} \ Left(f_{s1}(\nu')) \\ \text{case} \ \nu &=& Right(\nu'): \ \text{return} \ Right(f_{s2}(\nu')) \end{array}$$

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

 $f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$

$$\lambda v$$
. case $v = Left(v')$: return $Left(v')$ case $v = Right(v')$: return $Right(Right(v'))$

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

 $f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$

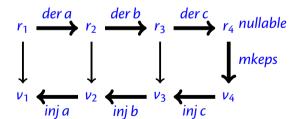
```
\lambda v. case v = Left(v'): return Left(v') case v = Right(v'): return Right(Right(v'))
```

mkeps simplified case: Right(Empty)

rectified case: Right(Right(Empty))

Lexing with Simplification

```
lex r [] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} if \, nullable(r) \, then \, mkeps(r) \, else \, error
lex \, rc :: s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} let \, (r', frect) = simp(der(c, r))
inj \, rc \, (frect(lex(r', s)))
```



Environments

Obtaining the "recorded" parts of a value:

```
env(Empty)
env(Char(c))
env(Left(v))
                                   env(v)
env(Right(v))
                                   env(v)
env(Seq(v_1, v_2))
                                   env(v_1) @ env(v_2)
                              \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} env(v_1) @ \dots @ env(v_n)
env(Stars [v_1, \ldots, v_n])
                              \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x : |v|) :: env(v)
env(Rec(x : v))
```

While Tokens

```
WHILE_REGS \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (("k" : KEYWORD) +
                 ("i" : ID) +
                 ("o" : OP) +
                 ("n" : NUM) +
                 ("s" : SEMI) +
                 ("p" : (LPAREN + RPAREN)) +
                 ("b" : (BEGIN + END)) +
                 ("w" : WHITESPACE))*
```

"if true then then 42 else +"

```
KEYWORD(if),
WHITESPACE,
IDENT(true),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(then),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(then),
WHITESPACE.
NUM(42),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(else),
WHITESPACE,
OP(+)
```

```
"if true then then 42 else +"
KEYWORD(if),
IDENT(true),
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KEYWORD(then),
NUM(42),
KEYWORD(else),
```

OP(+)

Lexer: Two Rules

- Longest match rule ("maximal munch rule"): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

Environments

Obtaining the "recorded" parts of a value:

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env(Empty)
env(Char(c))
                              def
env(Left(v))
                                   env(v)
env(Right(v))
                                   env(v)
env(Seq(v_1, v_2))
                                   env(v_1) @ env(v_2)
                              \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} env(v_1) @ \dots @ env(v_n)
env(Stars[v_1, \ldots, v_n])
                              \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x : |v|) :: env(v)
env(Rec(x : v))
```

While Tokens

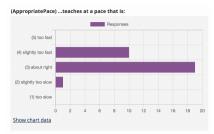
```
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KEYWORD(if),
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WHITESPACE.
NUM(42),
WHITESPACE,
KEYWORD(else),
WHITESPACE,
OP(+)
```

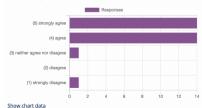
```
"if true then then 42 else +"
KEYWORD(if),
IDENT(true),
KEYWORD(then),
KEYWORD(then),
NUM(42),
KEYWORD(else),
```

OP(+)

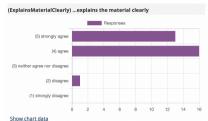


Average: 3.30

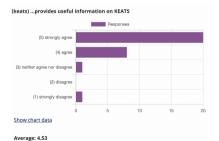
(contemporary) ..makes clear the contemporary relevance of the subject

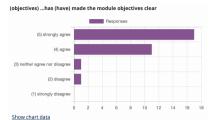


Average: 4.33

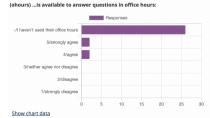


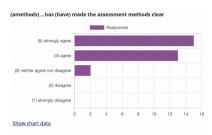
Average: 4.37





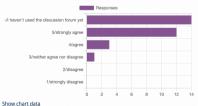
Average: 4.47

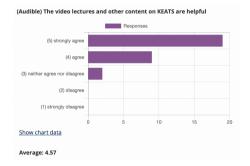


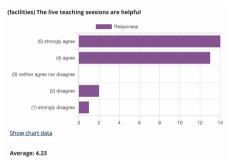


Average: 4.43

(forum) ... is available to answer questions on the discussion forum:







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- I'm impressed by the speed of the answers on KEATS, even on weekends. It's amazing. Obviously, the lecturer cares about the students.
- The handouts and materials on KEATS are very helpful and your explanation is easy to understand especially after both reading the handout and watch the lectures. The LGT is also engaging and I will try my best to engage more. I am actually already impressed by your teaching since 5CCS2PEP.

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- I believe the module is great, if possible, it would be nice to have a small handout that recaps Scala syntax from PEP last year.

- While I understand you want people to attend the small groups, not providing the solutions to the homework exercises disadvantages those with disabilities (e.g. processing difficulties) as most students take notes of the solutions during the SGTs, and those of us who are unable to do so cannot obtain the full benefit of the sessions. Even if the exam is based on those questions, it is closed-book anyway, so there is no harm in providing the answers. At least allow the TAs to give the solutions to those who attend the SGTs please?
- Really enjoy the content, but would appreciate uploads of the tutorial answers as sometimes we do not have time to go through all of them in the SGTs.

CFL is a very interesting module and the LGTs are helpful to consolidate information. The homeworks and courseworks are useful for learning the content. My only criticism is that it feels like there is too much content crammed into each week. Between the time taken each week by 2h LGT, 1h SGT, 3-4h of videos, 1-2h homework and time for courseworks, I find it difficult making time for all aspects of this module each week.

- i like this course
- I could learn the material better if the LGTs could somehow be recorded because I've sometimes felt a need to go back to them while revising stuff
- I feel that, as with most modules, there is a lot happening at once. Since we only went through the first coursework it's too early to call, but the workload tends to pile up. I understand it's in the nature of the module, and the work, though difficult, is enjoyable, but there's gotta be a way to mitigate this. Other than that, I am enjoying this module and you, Chris, are a great lecturer!

Strongly advise you, the lecturer, to take into account that
your students have not been studying the subject for as long
as you have. Also, that some of us are still waiting to be
convinced of the interesting-ness and relevance of the
subject, which you often fail to mention in the sessions and
in the videos. I find myself lost trying to find a context for
the things we are learning.

...

I thoroughly enjoy the SGTS where my concerns and questions are welcomed. But I feel uncomfortable to ask you questions in your LGTs because of the way I have heard you respond to other students.