Replacement Coursework 1 (Roman Numerals)

This coursework is worth 10%. It is about translating roman numerals into integers and also about validating roman numerals. The coursework is due on 2 February at 5pm. Make sure the files you submit can be processed by just calling scala <<filename.scala>>.

Important: Do not use any mutable data structures in your submission! They are not needed. This menas you cannot use ListBuffers, for example. Do not use return in your code! It has a different meaning in Scala, than in Java. Do not use var! This declares a mutable variable. Make sure the functions you submit are defined on the "top-level" of Scala, not inside a class or object. Also note that the running time will be restricted to a maximum of 360 seconds on my laptop.

Disclaimer

It should be understood that the work you submit represents your own effort! You have not copied from anyone else. An exception is the Scala code I showed during the lectures or uploaded to KEATS, which you can freely use.

Part 1 (Translation)

Roman numerals are strings consisting of the letters *I*, *V*, *X*, *L*, *C*, *D*, and *M*. Such strings should be transformed into an internal representation using the datatypes RomanDigit and RomanNumeral (defined in roman.scala), and then from this internal representation converted into Integers.

(1) First write a polymorphic function that recursively transforms a list of options into an option of a list. For example, if you have the lists on the left-hand side, they should be transformed into the options on the righthand side:

This means the function should produce None as soon as a None is inside the list. Otherwise it produces a list of all Somes. In case the list is empty, it produces Some of the empty list. [1 Mark]

(2) Write first a function that converts the characters I, V, X, L, C, D, and M into an option of a RomanDigit. If it is one of the roman digits, it should produce Some; otherwise None. Next write a function that converts a string into a RomanNumeral. Again, this function should return an Option: If the string consists of I, V, X, L, C, D, and M only, then it produces Some; otherwise if there is any other character in the string, it should produce None. The empty string is just the empty RomanNumeral, that is the empty list of RomanDigit's. You should use the function under Task (1) to produce the result. [2 Marks]

(3) Write a recursive function RomanNumral2Int that converts a RomanNumeral into an integer. You can assume the generated integer will be between 0 and 3999. The argument of the function is a list of roman digits. It should look how this list starts and then calculate what the corresponding integer is for this "start" and add it with the integer for the rest of the list. That means if the argument is of the form shown on the left-hand side, it should do the calculation on the right-hand side.

M::r	\Rightarrow	1000 + roman numeral of rest <i>r</i>
C :: M :: r	\Rightarrow	900 + roman numeral of rest r
D::r	\Rightarrow	500 + roman numeral of rest r
C::D::r	\Rightarrow	400 + roman numeral of rest <i>r</i>
C::r	\Rightarrow	100 + roman numeral of rest r
X :: C :: r	\Rightarrow	90 + roman numeral of rest r
L :: r	\Rightarrow	50 + roman numeral of rest r
X :: L :: r	\Rightarrow	40 + roman numeral of rest <i>r</i>
X::r	\Rightarrow	10 + roman numeral of rest r
I :: X :: r	\Rightarrow	9 + roman numeral of rest r
V::r	\Rightarrow	5 + roman numeral of rest r
I :: V :: r	\Rightarrow	4 + roman numeral of rest r
I :: r	\Rightarrow	1 + roman numeral of rest r

The empty list will be converted to integer 0. [1 Mark]

- (4) Write a function that takes a string and if possible converts it into the internal representation. If successful, it then calculates the integer (an option of an integer) according to the function in (3). If this is not possible, then return None. [1 Mark]
- (5) The file roman.txt contains a list of roman numerals. Read in these numerals, convert them into integers and then add them all up. The Scala function for reading a file is

Source.fromFile("filename")("ISO-8859-9")

Make sure you process the strings correctly by ignoring whitespaces where needed.

[1 Mark]

Part 2 (Validation)

As you can see the function under Task (3) can produce some unexpected results. For example for *XXCIII* it produces 103. The reason for this unexpected result is that *XXCIII* is actually not a valid roman number, neither is *IIII* for 4 nor *MIM* for 1999. Although actual Romans were not so fussy about this,¹ but modern times declared that there are precise rules for what a valid roman number is, namely:

- Repeatable roman digits are *I*, *X*, *C* and *M*. The other ones are non-repeatable. Repeatable digits can be repeated upto 3 times in a number (for example *MMM* is OK); non-repeatable digits cannot be repeated at all (for example *VV* is excluded).
- If a smaller digits precedes a bigger digit, then *I* can precede *V* and *X*; *X* can preced *L* and *C*; and *C* can preced *D* and *M*. No other combination is permitted in this case.
- If a smaller digit precedes a bigger digit (for example *IV*), then the smaller number must be either the first digit in the number, or follow a digit which is at least 10 times its value. So *VIV* is excluded, because *I* follows *V* and *I* * 10 is bigger than *V*; but *XIV* is allowed, because *I* follows *X* and *I* * 10 is equal to *X*.
- Let us say two digits are called a *compound* roman digit when a smaller digit precedes a bigger digit (so *IV*, *XL*, *CM* for example). If a compound digit is followed by another digit, then this digit must be smaller than the first digit in the compound digit. For example *IXI* is excluded, but *XLI* is not.
- The empty roman numeral is valid.

The tasks in this part are as follows:

(6) Implement a recursive function isValidNumeral that takes a RomanNumeral as argument and produces true if all the rules above are satisfied, and otherwise false.

Hint: It might be more convenient to test when the rules fail and then return false; return true in all other cases. [2 Marks]

- (7) Write a recursive function that converts an Integer into a RomanNumeral. You can assume the function will only be called for integers between 0 and 3999.
- (8) Write a function that reads a text file (for example roman2.txt) containing valid and invalid roman numerals. Convert all valid roman numerals into integers, add them up and produce the result as a RomanNumeral (using the function from (7)). [1 Mark]

¹They happily used numbers like XIIX or IIXX for 18.