

Practical Applications

Script generated by TTT

- symbol tables, type checking/inference, and simple code generation can all be specified using *L*-attributed grammars

Title: Petter: Compiler Construction (18.06.2020)
-40: Visitors for L-Attributed Grammars

Date: Fri Jun 19 10:37:59 CEST 2020

Duration: 14:33 min

Pages: 7

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Implementation of Attribute Systems via a *Visitor*

- class with a method for every non-terminal in the grammar

```
public abstract class Regex {  
    public abstract void accept(Visitor v);  
}
```

- attribute-evaluation works via *pre-order / post-order callbacks*

```
public interface Visitor {  
    default void pre(OrEx re) {}  
    default void pre(AndEx re) {}  
    ...  
    default void post(OrEx re) {}  
    default void post(AndEx re) {}  
}
```

- we pre-define a depth-first traversal of the syntax tree

```
public class OrEx extends Regex {  
    Regex l,r;  
    public void accept(Visitor v) {  
        v.pre(this); l.accept(v); v.inter(this);  
        r.accept(v); v.post(this);  
    } }
```

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Example: Leaf Numbering

```
public abstract class AbstractVisitor implements Visitor {  
    public void pre(OrEx re) { pr(re); }  
    public void pre(AndEx re) { pr(re); }  
    ... /* redirecting to default handler for bin exprs */  
    public void post(OrEx re) { po(re); }  
    public void post(AndEx re) { po(re); }  
    abstract void po(BinEx re);  
    abstract void in(BinEx re);  
    abstract void pr(BinEx re);  
}  
  
public class LeafNum extends AbstractVisitor {  
    public Map<Regex, Integer> pre = new HashMap<>();  
    public Map<Regex, Integer> post = new HashMap<>();  
    public LeafNum (Regex r) { pre.put(r, 0); r.accept(this); }  
    public void pre(Const r) { post.put(r, pre.get(r)+1); }  
    public void pr(BinEx r) { pre.put(r.l, pre.get(r)); }  
    public void in(BinEx r) { pre.put(r.r, post.get(r.l)); }  
    public void po(BinEx r) { post.put(r, post.get(r.r)); }  
}
```

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