

Class 22: Boolean Values and Predicate Procedures

Held: Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Summary: We consider the ways in which Scheme supports yes/no questions and procedures that can be used to ask such questions. We also see how such procedures can provide another form of control.

Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Boolean Values and Predicate Procedures.
- Reading: Boolean Values and Predicate Procedures.

Notes:

- Reading for Wednesday: Conditionals.
- Advance warning: Exam 2 distributed next Tuesday; substitute here W-F.
- There was a racial bias incident over the weekend. We will discuss it in class if folks find it appropriate.
- EC for Thursday's Thursday Extra: (not sure).
- EC for Friday's CS Table: Notes from an alum.
- Questions and tips on Assignment 5.

Overview:

- Boolean values.
- Predicates - Procedures that return Boolean values.
- Combining booleans with `and` and `or`.
- Lab.

Preparation

- What did you learn from the reading? (Let's try to summarize for each other.)
- What questions do you have?

`or` and `and` as control structures

- How does normal procedure application work?
 - Evaluate all the parameters
 - "Plug them in to the body"
 - Evaluate the body
- How does `OR` work?
 - It evaluates each parameter, in turn, until one holds (or it runs out of parameters).

- As soon as one holds, it stops and returns that value.
- How does `and` work?
 - It evaluates each parameter, in turn, until one fails to hold (or it runs out of parameters).
 - As soon as one fails to hold, it stops and returns `#f`.
- This evaluation strategy means that we can use `and` and `or` to evaluate a sequence of expressions, stopping when we get the first acceptable one.

Lab

- Work on the lab.
 - Be prepared to discuss!
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