

Class 11: Prolog (4)

Held: Wednesday, 16 February 2011

Summary: After a quick detour into Io, we continue to explore Prolog.

Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Prolog (3).
- Reading: Tate 4.4-4.5.

Notes:

- Are there questions on Assignment 4?
- It was nice to see some of you doing the reading early. We start Scala on Friday.
- EC for Aaron Todd's CS Extra on Thursday.
- EC for Friday's CS Table.
- I encourage you to attend one of RK's Town Hall Meetings.

Overview:

- Detour: Why like Io.
- Detour: Why dislike Io.
- Lab, continued.

Detour: Why I Liked Io

- We'll look a little bit at my answers to HW3.
- Fun to munge language. It was surprisingly easy to build a tree-builder for expressions.
- Being able to quickly add methods to `Object` makes some quick hacks a lot easier.
- Really easy to do polymorphic conditionals.
- Maps are a powerful tool.
- Various support for multitasking.

Detour: Why To Dislike Io

- Until you can think like an Io programmer, it seems to do things strangely. (E.g., parameters don't necessarily behave the way they do in other languages.)
- Likely to suffer from the Perl problem: Each programmer develops his or her own style, so it's hard to have a uniform group project.
- Readability issues

Final Prolog Lab, Continued

- Work on the lab.
- Be prepared to reflect.