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Motivation

- Create a language for the “Musical Computer Scientist”
- Bring the semantics of musical composition to a programming language
- Flexible enough for a variety of uses
 - Simple music creation
 - Algorithmic music creation

Language Overview

- Imperative programming language
- Statically scoped, weakly-typed
- Types are immutable
- No pointers
- No polymorphism of function names
- `/* Comments */`
- Source file is piped in and optional output file can be piped out.

Types

- int digits only
- boolean true or false
- string chars inside double quotes
- pitch $\$[A-G][b\#]?[0-9]?$
- sequence comma-separated list of ints inside []
- beat rational numbers
- note pitch + beat
- chord set of notes
- phrase ordered list of chords
- rhythm $1,0,-, _$ within ' '
- void void

Operators

- Arithmetic: + - * / // %
- Comparators: < > <= >= == !=
- Unary: - !
- Note/Chord Manipulation: ^ ^^ : :: +
- Phrase Manipulation: << >> ** @@
- Assignment: =

Function Declarations

```
type function func_name (type name list) {  
    body  
}
```

- Program is a list of function declarations
- Applicative order
- Pass-by-value parameters
- Special functions
 - main
 - print
 - play

Syntax Overview

```
expression := literal | unop expr  
            | expr binop expr  
            | name (expr list) | name = expr  
            | [ expr list ] | name
```

```
statement := expr; | if (expr) stmt [else stmt]  
           | for (expr; expr; expr) stmt  
           | while (expr) stmt  
           | foreach(type name in expr) stmt  
           | return expr;  
           | {stmt list }  
           | type name [= expr];
```

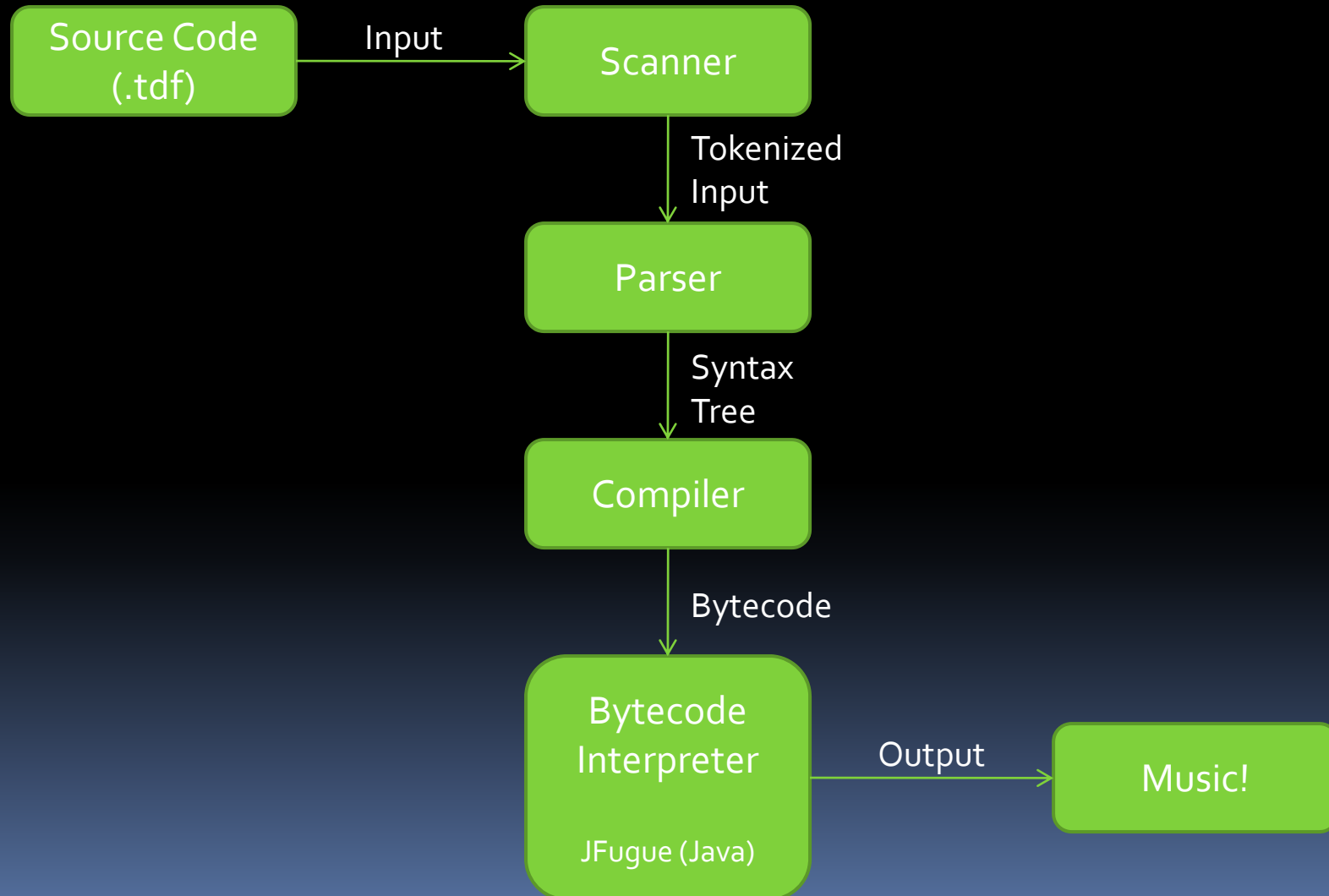
Example Program - Phrase Creation

```
void function main() {
    note n = $C5 : 1//4;
    sequence s = [];
    for (int i = 0; i<10; i = i+1){
        s = s + [x]; /* Creates a sequence
    }
    phrase p = n << reverse_sequence(s); /* Creates phrase using note
                                        and sequence */

    play(p);
}

sequence function reverse_sequence (sequence in_seq) {
    sequence s = [];
    foreach (int x in in_seq) {
        s = [x] + s;
    }
    return s;
}
```


Language Implementation



Sample Bytecode

```
void function main() {  
    foreach (int i in [4,5,6]) {  
        print (i + "\n");  
    }  
}
```

Output:

4
5
6

0	Jmp 2	9	Combine	17	Concat
1	Hlt	10	Bra 10	18	Jmp -1
2	Entry 1	11	Decompose	19	Pop
3	PushEmpty sequence	12	Store 1	20	IsEmpty
4	PushInt 6	13	Pop	21	Beq -10
5	Combine	14	Load 1	22	Pop
6	PushInt 5	15	ConvertType int -	23	PushInt 0
7	Combine		>string	24	Ret 0
8	PushInt 4	16	PushString \n		

Stack

- type mbeat = int * int (* numerator, denominator *)
- type mnote = int * mbeat (* pitch, beat *)
- type mchord = mnote list (* list of notes *)
- type mphrase = mchord list (* list of chords *)
- type msequence = int list

- MemInteger of int
- MemString of string
- MemPitch of int
- MemBool of bool
- MemBeat of mbeat
- MemNote of mnote
- MemChord of mchord
- MemPhrase of mphrase
- MemSequence of msequence
- MemRhythm of string

Frame
pointer



...
Argument 2
Argument 1
Return Address
Old Frame Pointer
Local 1
Local 2
...

MemChord (mchord([mnote(61, mbeat(1, 2))]))

MemNote (mnote(65, mbeat (1, 4)))

MemString (string("Quicksort Music"))

MemBeat (mbeat(1, 4))

MemInteger (42)

How We Collaborated

- Source Code Control - Subversion
 - Hosting by Assembla.com
 - Stress frequent commits
 - Automatic E-Mail on new commits to notify team members
- Google Documents
 - Collaborative editing on all documents and presentations
 - Proposal, Task List, LRM, Presentation, Final Report
- Instant Messaging, E-Mail conversations
- Impromptu meetings (after class) as required

Lessons Learned

- KISS - Keep it Simple Stupid (cliché, we know)
 - Everything is just an integer or a string
- If you don't have an easy solution, just add another layer of indirection
 - Orthodox stack -> Object based stack

Summary & Conclusion

- Successfully implemented Tonedef per the Language Reference Manual
- Future work
 - Overlapping phrases
 - User interaction in program
 - Command arguments
 - Different instruments, tempo and time signature