

## Guide to the use of Sable

### Parts of the Sable File

1. Package,
2. Helper,
3. Tokens,
4. Ignored Tokens,
5. Productions.

#### **Package**

eg Package hi.compiler;

Defines what package the Java files will be in.

## Helpers

This section defines regular expressions used in the lexer

Regular expressions made up of:

- characters either
  - in quotes 'z', 'S',
  - or decimal 10, 13
- charactersets

[ 'a' .. 'z' ]  
[[ 'a' .. 'z' ] + [ 'A' .. 'Z' ]]  
[[ 'A' .. 'Z' ] - 'E' ]

## Regular expresions continued

- bracketed regular expression ( <regexp> )
- an alternation of regular expressions eg:  
`'a' | ['0'...'9'] | 'Z'`
- a string eg : `'then'`
- a helper id eg : `alpha`
- a sequence of regular expressions  
`'a' 'c' ('d' | 'e')`

## **repetitions**

- a regular expression followed by a \*
  - eg: `alpha*` stands for zero or more alphas
- a regular expression followed by a +
  - eg: `digit+` stands for one or more digits

## Helpers continued

regular expressions can be named

example

---

## Helpers

```
digit = ['0'..'9'];
lwcase = ['a'..'z'];
upcase = ['A'..'Z'];
letter = lwcase | upcase;
alphanum = letter|digit;
```

helper and other names must be lower case

## Tokens

```
begin='begin';
then ='then'
id = letter alphanum*;
number = digit+;
```

## Productions

These list the non terminals of the language being defined eg:

```
program      = fndecl + ;  
actuallist   = expr comma;  
actualparams= {emptyparams} |  
              {paramlist} actuallist* expr;  
atom         = {literal} literal |  
              {paramname} id |  
              {comp} comp;
```

Note that each alternative in a multiway production was given a label in braces thus {paramlist}. At most one unlabeled alternative is allowed for each production.

First production is the root of the parse and should be called program.

## Labelled sub-productions

Suppose a production has two occurrences of the same non-terminal. For example

```
addexp= exp plus exp;
```

Sable forces us to label the two occurrences differently:

```
addexp= [left]:exp plus [right]:exp;
```

## Generated java

If we invoke sable on a sable language definition file with package name Foo we get a collection of directories as follows:

```
/Foo  
  /analysis  
  /lexer  
  /node  
  /parser
```

within the /Foo/node directory we get a collection of class files 1 for each production or branch of a production

thus the production `actuallist = expr comma;` produces a java file:

AActuallist.java

Alternative production classes

the production

```
actualparams= {emptyparams} |  
{paramlist} actuallist* expr;
```

produces 3 classes:

AParamlistActualparams.java

AEmptyparamsActualparams.java

PActualparams.java

PActualparams will be an abstract class:

```
/* This file was generated by SableCC (http://
package Hi.node;
public abstract class PActualparams extends No
{
}
```

which the other two classes implement

## AEmptyparamsActualparams

```
/* This file was generated by SableCC (http://
package Hi.node;
import java.util.*;
import Hi.analysis.*;
public final class AEmptyparamsActualparams ex
{
public AEmptyparamsActualparams()
{
}
public Object clone()
{
return new AEmptyparamsActualparams();
}
public void apply(Switch sw)
{
((Analysis) sw).caseAEmptyparamsActualparams(t)
}
```

```
public String toString()
{
    return "";
}

void removeChild(Node child)
{
}

void replaceChild(Node oldChild, Node newChild)
{
}
```

## **AParamlistActualparams**

```
/* This file was generated by SableCC (http://
package Hi.node;
import java.util.*;
import Hi.analysis.*;
public final class AParamlistActualparams exte
{
    private final LinkedList _actuallist_ = new
    private PExpr _expr_;
    public AParamlistActualparams()
    {
    }
    public AParamlistActualparams(
        List _actuallist_,
        PExpr _expr_)
    {
        .....
    }
}
```

```
public AParamlistActualparams(
    XPActuallist _actuallist_,
    PExpr _expr_)

{
    .....
}

public Object clone()
{
    .....
}
```

The following is used by walker methods

```
public void apply(Switch sw)
{
    ((Analysis) sw).caseAParamlistActualpa
```

## Field access methods

```
public LinkedList getActuallist()
{
    return _actuallist_;
}

public void setActuallist(List list)
{
    .....
}

public PExpr getExpr()
{
    return _expr_;
}

public void setExpr(PExpr node)
{
    .....
}

public String toString()
{
```

```
    return ""  
        + toString(_actuallist_)  
        + toString(_expr_);  
}
```

The following are used to rewrite the tree during analysis

```
void removeChild(Node child)
{
    .....
}

void replaceChild(Node oldChild, Node newC
{
    .....
}
```

## The lexer

The lexer generated by sable has a main class in our case `Hi.lexer.Lexer`

this has a constructor that is passed in a `PushbackReader` which will typically be sugared input file. Its methods need not concern you. It is then passed to the parser when the parser is constructed.

## Parser

The parser takes a lexer in its constructor and has one method of interest

`parse()` which returns a syntax tree for the file pointed to by the lexer, if there is a syntax error, an exception will be thrown.

## Invoking the parser

```
package Hi;
import Hi.node.*;import Hi.lexer.*;import Hi.p
import java.io.*;
public class Main
{
    public static void main(String[] arguments)
    { // Assume single input file parameter
        Parser parser;
        try{
            FileReader r= new FileReader(arguments[0]+".";
            PushbackReader pr = new PushbackReader( new
            Lexer lexer = new Lexer( pr );
            Node ast = new Parser(lexer).parse();
        }
        catch(Exception e){
            System.out.println(e);
            System.out.println("exit");
        }
    }
}
```

## Walkers

The basic classes here are DepthFirstAdapter and ReversedDepthFirstAdapter both in the directory analysis.

They visit each node in turn in the tree. For each class of node there are 2 methods

1. An In method that is called as the traversal goes down the tree
2. An Out method that is called as the traversal goes back up the tree.

```
public void  
inAExternalBody(AExternalBody node)  
{ defaultIn(node); }  
public void  
outAExternalBody(AExternalBody node)  
{ defaultOut(node); }
```

These are typically overridden in a class you write that extends one of these adaptor classes.  
In the simplest case:

**Pass 1** we go over the tree and build up symbol tables

**Pass 2** we go over the tree and output assembler

Working store for the analysers is provided by a couple of hash tables, into which <key,value> pairs can be inserted: the In table and the Out table.

methods `setIn(object,object)` `setOut(object, object)`, `getIn(object)->object`, `getOut(object)->object` are provided.

It is probably useful to add your own additional dictionary instances to your analysis classes for instance to hold types of variables etc.