A Lisp compiler for the JVM

or

How to implement dynamic programming languages on top of the JVM

or

Lack of JVM TCO considered annoying

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Abstract

Implementing dynamic, mostly functional, languages on top of an environment such as the JVM is getting ever more popular. Languages such as Clojure, Scala, or Python. To achieve reasonable performance and Java interoperability such a language usually needs to be compiled. This thesis will be about techniques for implementing dynamic and functional languages on the JVM with a focus on Lisp and Scheme, with an implementation of a small Lisp compiler demonstrating some of these techniques.
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Chapter 1

Background

This section will explain the choices of source language its feature set as well as some of the vocabulary used in this thesis. The benefits, as well as the drawbacks, of targeting a virtual machine such as the JVM will be explored.

1.1 Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisp</td>
<td><strong>LISi Processing</strong> A family of dynamic programming languages commonly programmed using a functional programming style.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functional Programming (FP)</td>
<td>A programing style focusing chiefly on function application and side-effect free computing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Machine (VM)</td>
<td>A computer model implemented in software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JVM</td>
<td><em>Java Virtual Machine</em> A VM originally implemented for the Java programming language. Java (and more recently a whole flock of different JVM-based languages such as Clojure) compiles to Java Byte Code which the JVM then executes. Since there are implementations of the JVM for different processor architectures and environments the same code runs on portably across many architectures and operating systems without the need for recompiling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java Byte Code</td>
<td>The virtual instruction set supported by the JVM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasmin</td>
<td>A program capable of converting a simple text representation of Java Byte Code instructions to actual Java Byte Code. The same role an <em>Assembler</em> performs for a regular (usually implemented in hardware) processor architecture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Language</td>
<td>The language a compiler reads as its input.</td>
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<td>Implementation Language</td>
<td>The language the compiler is implemented in.</td>
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<td>Target Language</td>
<td>The language a compiler outputs to.</td>
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<td>REPL</td>
<td>Read-Eval-Print-Loop: Traditional name for the Lisp interactive command line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bootstrapping</td>
<td>The art of pulling oneself up by ones own bootstraps. In the context of compilers this usually refers to the act of writing a compiler capable of compiling itself.</td>
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### 1.2 Prior Work

Before starting this thesis the author had implemented a small interpreter and Lisp system for Java called LJSP, for silly reasons. This system will be used as a base, as well as implementation language, for the compiler and classes implemented for the interpreter will be able to be conveniently reused for implementing the compiler, with only minimal changes to them necessary.

Tricky issues, like mixed-type arithmetic, is already handled by these classes giving more time to work on the core parts of the compiler.

The interpreter features an interface to Java (currently somewhat quirky and limited but still useful) using Java’s reflection features. This can, among other things, be used to load generated class files into the runtime after compilation.

### 1.3 Preliminary Issues

#### 1.3.1 A (very) brief introduction on Lisp and dynamic programming languages

This section will explain why Lisp has been chosen as both the implementation language of the compiler as well as the source language for it.

---

1 Anything that has something to do with Java ought to have a “J” in the name, and the interchangeability of the letters “i” and “j” in old alphabets made this silly, and unpronuncable using modern orthographical rules, substitution obvious.
1.3. PRELIMINARY ISSUES

Why Lisp?

Despite, or perhaps because of, its age Lisp shares a lot of common ground (and thus implementation issues) with more recent and popular dynamic programming languages such as Python, Ruby or Clojure. The latter which is in fact a modern dialect of Lisp operating on top of the JVM.

Lisp is well suited for a project like this in particular due to its ease of implementation. The inherent ability of the language to do a lot given very little is going to make possible to compile interesting programs without having the compiler support the entire language (which is fairly small anyway). There is no need to spend time implementing a parser since one is already available from the LJSP interpreted environment. Writing the compiler in and for Lisp, and in this case even in LJSP itself, becomes very efficient since Lisp code is represented using Lisp data structures so the compiler can easily be built as a dispatch-on-type set of recursive functions.

1.3.2 Why JVM?

“Attracted by a generally available, machine-independent platform, implementors of other languages are turning to the Java virtual machine as a delivery vehicle for their languages.” [JVMSpec] (§1.2).

Other advantages include that the JVM includes native garbage collection giving more time for actually implementing the language and not a garbage collector, which is a big investment in development time.

Disadvantages include inefficiencies and having to deal with how the JVM is closely built around Java, with no inherent support for first-class functions nor the call-stack manipulations typically used to implement Tail-call optimization.

1.3.3 Tail-call optimization

Functional languages often eschew iteration constructs in favor of plain recursion [AIM353]. Recursion has one disadvantage however, it uses up stack frames and can lead to stack overflows given indefinite recursion. Tail-calls are a special case of recursion that lends itself to optimization allowing for boundless recursion.

What is a Tail-Call?

Whenever the last action, or the expression in tail position, in a function is to call another function this is a tail-call. For meaningful results the true and false expressions, respectively, of an if expression\(^2\) in tail position also need to be defined, inductively, as themselves being in tail position [R5RS] (§3.5). This makes sense since an if expression chooses what block of code will be the last one in this case.

\(^2\)Lisp doesn’t have statements in the usual sense. Everything is an expression and has a return value [AIM443] (p. 2) [CLL12] [R5RS]. For instance the closest approximation of a Lisp if expression in C is the ternary operator.
What is tail-call optimization (TCO)?

Whenever the last action of a function is to return the result of another function there is no longer any need to keep the stack frame of the calling function, since the variables therein will inevitably be referenced no longer. By eliminating the tail-calls, instead replacing them by a goto instruction, allows tail-calls while saving stack space.

Consider the following function:

```lisp
(defun foo (a)
  (bar (+ a 2)))
```

Which might be compiled to something like (pseudo-assembly, RISC-style):

```
foo:
  pop a     ; receive argument a on stack
  add temp, a, 2  ; (+ a 2) -> temp register
  push ret-reg ; save our return address on stack, so it doesn’t
                ; get clobbered by the call to bar
  push temp   ; argument to bar
  call bar     ; run (bar temp) -> result to result-reg.
                ; ret-reg is set to program counter.
  pop ret-reg ; restore our return address
  goto-reg ret-reg ; return to address in ret-reg. the return instruction.
            ; result-reg has been set by bar,
            ; this is what constitutes the return value.
```

Replacing the call instruction with a goto one obtains:

```
foo:
  pop a
  add temp, a, 2
  push temp     ; argument to bar
  goto bar      ; transfer control to bar. which receives the
                ; argument. ret-reg remains unchanged. bar sets
                ; result-reg and then immediately returns to
                ; the caller of foo (the value of ret-reg)
```

No longer is it necessary to use the stack to save the return address. Leaving ret-reg untouched will have bar jump directly to foo’s caller. The argument to bar, pushed on the stack, is popped inside bar, keeping the stack from growing at all. Any stack usage, for spilled registers or the like, inside foo would have to
be popped before the \texttt{goto}. Even if \texttt{bar} the stack size would remain bounded, of course given that \texttt{bar} has also had its tail-calls eliminated (essentially turning the act of self-tail-recursion into iteration). [AIM443]

While eliminating tail-calls can be thought of as an optional optimization in many languages \footnote{For example GCC optimizes tail-calls for the C language, which by no means requires it [gcc].} for many (mostly) functional programming languages proper tail recursion is a requirement of the language [R5RS] (§3.5).

This is so since those languages might either have a few iteration constructs, but whose usage is considered unfavorable or non-functional in nature, or completely lack regular iteration statements, as is the case with LJSP, relying completely on recursion for iterative tasks, perhaps even implementing (as library functions/syntax not in the core language) some iterative constructs by way of recursion\footnote{This is done in the bootstrap code for the LJSP interpreter implementing (currently a subset of the functionality of) \texttt{dolist} and \texttt{dotimes}, from Common Lisp [CLtL2] (§7.8.3), using macros and recursive higher-order functions.} [AIM353] (§1.2).

One of the big issues this thesis will tackle is how to implement TCO on top of the JVM. The JVM, being a virtual machine optimized for Java specifically, has no way of jumping between subroutines like above. In fact it completely lacks regular subroutines\footnote{This is not entirely true, the JVM has a form of subroutines that are local to a method used for compiling the finally-clause of a try-catch-finally exception-handling construct [JVMSpec] (chapter 6 operations \texttt{jsr}, \texttt{jsr_w} and \texttt{ret} and section 7.13).} and has only methods associated with either classes (\texttt{static} methods) or objects, since this is all that Java needs.

\subsection*{1.3.4 Scoping}

This section will explain the different variable scoping terms used in this thesis.

Useful terms when speaking about variable scoping [CLtL2] (§3):

\begin{description}
  \item[Scope] The textual portion of a program during which a variable may be referenced.
  \item[Extent] The interval of time during which references may occur.
\end{description}

\section*{Lexical Scoping}

A \textit{lexically scoped} binding can only be referenced within the body of some construct enclosing part of the program. The scope extends to the bodies of enclosing constructs within the outer body, allowing for instance nested functions to access, and mutate, bindings introduced by the function that created them.

The bindings are said to be of \textit{indefinite extent}, that is they can be kept so long something is using them, so that if a function closing over a value is returned that value will be kept until so long as a reference to that function \textit{closure} is kept.

Example (pseudo-code):

\begin{verbatim}
function foo(x):
\end{verbatim}
function bar(y):
    return y + x
return bar(x) + x

The free variable $x$ in $\text{bar}$ is resolved to the $x$ introduced by $\text{foo}$. Running $\text{foo}(k)$ will thus yield $k+k+k$.

Example with mutation:

function make-incrementer(x):
    function inc(y):
        x = x + y
        return x
    return inc
...

$\text{>> a = make-incrementer(2)}$
$\text{<closure inc 1>}$
$\text{>> a(2)}$
$4$
$\text{>> a(1)}$
$5$
$\text{>> b = make-incrementer(123)}$
$\text{<closure inc 2>}$
$\text{>> b(5)}$
$128$
$\text{>> a(6)}$
$11$

Erratic example:

function foobar(x):
    function baz(y):
        return y + x
    return baz(x) + y  ; $y$ not defined in this scope

This is an error for lexically scoped $x$ and $y$. Since $y$'s scope only extends throughout the body of $\text{baz}$, however the variable $x$ is available in both $\text{foobar}$ and $\text{baz}$.

Static Scoping

While often used synonymously with lexical scoping static scoping, as used in this thesis, will refer to the subset of lexically scoped variable bindings that are never captured by any function other than the defining one. That is the variables scope exists only in the body of the function that established the variable binding, and not in the bodies of any nested functions. This is similar to the C model, (disregarding for a while that it typically lacks nested functions).
1.3. PRELIMINARY ISSUES

Example:

```prolog
function foo(x):-
    function bar(x):-
        return x*3
    return bar(x) + 2

is valid for a statically scoped x, since all x:s are local to their defining functions.

function foo(x):-
    function bar():-
        return x*3
    return x + bar()
```

Would however result in a compiler error, or similar, since the free variable x is not in scope in bars environment, where as it would be with true lexical scoping.

This is the only scoping supported by the example LJSP compiler built for this thesis (but further extension of the compiler is planned, see section 3.2 The future? on page 27).

**Dynamic Scoping**

_Dynamically scoped_ variables are said to have _indefinite scope_, that is they can be referenced anywhere in the code, and _dynamic extent_. The latter means that they are referenceable between establishment and explicit disestablishment, at runtime. Thus mirroring the actual runtime call stack.

In fact one convenient way of thinking of dynamically bound variables ar

Example (all variables are dynamically bound):

```prolog
function bar(b):-
    print(a); can access a here if called from foo
    print(b); the b here will however be 12 when
    ; called from foo, and not 18, since that
    ; b has been shadowed by the b in the arguments to bar

function foo(a, b):-
    bar(12)
```

...  

```prolog
>> foo(123, 18)
123
12
<void>
>> bar(23); this will fail since a is not defined
<somefail>
```
Some implementations of dynamic scoping, such as the one used by the LJSP interpreter, will default to \texttt{nil} when accessing a non-defined variable thus failing in a much more subtle way for the last call to \texttt{bar}.

This is the only kind of scoping available in the LJSP interpreter\textsuperscript{6}.

### 1.3.5 Bootstrapping

A compiler that is capable of compiling itself is also capable of freeing itself from the original environment. A compiler that has been bootstrapped is sometimes referred to as self-hosting in the sense that to generate a new version of the compiler program no other “host” system but the compiler program is required.

The extent to which the compiler can free itself of the original environment is not necessarily the same for every compiler. This holds true for dynamic programming languages especially, for which the runtime environment and the environment of the compiler need not, and usually is not, be disjoint. Even more so on top of an environment such as the JVM. E.g. the case presented in this thesis still depends on some data structures originally defined in Java, and can’t be consider fully self-hosting. Additional work on the compiler to define the data structures independently of Java could, however, result in a truly independent compiler.

### 1.4 Problem statement

Implement a compiler for a, possibly extended, subset of the Lisp language LJSP.

The compiler shall be written itself in LJSP in a manner that will make it possible to, with further work\textsuperscript{7} than presented in this thesis, eventually bootstrap.

The compiler shall be able to compile a naive implementation of a recursive function computing the fibonacci series, as well as a more efficient tail-recursive implementation.

### 1.5 Test cases

The goal is to run these test cases, first interpretively using the existing LJSP interpreter, and then run the compiled versions. To compare the results gotten from both versions:

\textsuperscript{6}This kind of semantic dichotomy between the compiler implementation and interpreter implementation is typical of old Lisp implementations since, implementation-wise, dynamically scoped variables are easier to implement more efficiently in an interpreter, while the statically scoped variables are more easily compiled.

\textsuperscript{7}Due to time constraints and the focus of this thesis the compiler will only be worked towards bootstrapping as a long-term goal rather than actually bootstrapping.
(nlambda fib (n)
  (if (= n 0)
    0
    (if (= n 1)
      1
      (+ (fib (- n 1))
          (fib (- n 2))))))

(lambda (n)
  ((nlambda calc-fib (n a b)
      (if (= n 0)
        a
        (calc-fib (- n 1) b (+ a b))))
    n 0 1))

They both compute the \(n\):th number of the fibonacci sequence. They use the naive recursive definition (time complexity: \(O(2^n)\)) and a a tail-recursive, or iterative if you prefer, version (time complexity: \(O(n)\)).

The first one, due to it’s ridiculous time complexity and amount of function calls, is a very good performance test for small integer arithmetics and non-tail-recursive function calls.
Chapter 2

Methods

This chapter will deal with the implementation techniques used, and not used, and (possibly) slated to be used for the LJSP compiler. It is also useful in the general sense to dynamic languages on the JVM since some of the issues it tackles, like first-class functions, are common with Lisp.

2.1 General

2.1.1 Overview of compilation


Reading
Reads the input from a a file, string, or the interactive prompt (REPL). Parses the indata to LJSP data structures.

Semantic Analysis
Macro expansion takes place. Lexical analysis of free variables is performed, and closures are annotated. Different sorts of rewrites are performed.\(^1\)

Code Generation
Run on the resulting code form the semantic analysis. Takes LJSP datastructures and dispatches recursively, based on type and structure, on it generating bytecode fit for feeding in to Jasmin.

Assembly
The output of the code generator is run through jasmin producing a Java class file.\(^2\)

Loading

\(^1\)The LJSP compiler currently lacks this step, but it is planned and neccesary for more advanced features.
\(^2\)Currently performed manually.
The generated Java class file is loaded into the JVM, an object is instantiated and bound to a variable so the function may be called.

2.2 Functions and function application

Java doesn’t have functions as first-class values, while that is a prominent feature of any functional language and LJSP is just like Scheme in this regard. Achieving this in Java is pretty straight-forward however: A `Procedure` class can be created for representing function, or procedure, objects. Then by subclassing and overriding a virtual method `run` to contain code generated from the function body function objects in the Scheme sense becomes possible, by way of instantiating such a subclass and passing it around.

Example:

```java
abstract class Procedure extends LispObject {
    ...
    public abstract LispObject run(LispObject[] args);
}
```

Using this class the primitive function `car` might be implemented in pure Java as follows:

```java
class car extends Procedure {
    public LispObject run(LispObject[] o) {
        return ((o[0]) == null) ? null : ((Cons)o[0]).car;
    }
}
```

The `run` method takes as it’s argument an array of `LispObject`s and can thus support any number of arguments, including functions with variable arity, at the
2.2. FUNCTIONS AND FUNCTION APPLICATION

expense of a slightly clumsy calling convention. This is necessary since there is no support for variable arity methods in the JVM, the variable arity methods in Java merely being syntactic sugar for passing extra arguments in an array [JLS3] (§15.12.4.2). At the time of writing this is the approach implemented in the LJSP compiler.

Variable arity procedures

Due to how functions are first-class values in this language the caller may in many situations have no idea of what the actual parameter list of the function it calls looks like.

The sensible solution is thus to make it the responsibility of the callee to create the list structure needed for any rest-parameter needed.

An optimization for calling fixed-arity functions

Since most functions are of just a few arguments an optimization, for all fixed arity functions with less than an arbitrary number $K$ arguments, using several methods of differing arity is possible:

```java
abstract class Procedure extends LispObject {
    public abstract LispObject runN(LispObject[] args);
    public abstract LispObject run0();
    public abstract LispObject run1(LispObject arg1);
    public abstract LispObject run2(LispObject arg1, LispObject arg2);
    ...
}
```

This continues up to the method run$K$.

car, taking exactly one argument, could then be constructed as follows:

```java
class car extends Procedure {
    public LispObject runN(LispObject[] o) {
        if (o.length != 1)
            throw new WrongArguments();
        return this.run1(o[0]);
    }
    public LispObject run0() {
        throw new WrongArguments();
    }
    public LispObject run1(LispObject arg) {
        return (arg == null) ? null : ((Cons)arg).car;
    }
    public LispObject run2(LispObject arg1, LispObject arg2) {
        throw new WrongArguments();
    }
}```
And an example of how a variable arity procedure might be compiled:

```java
class foo extends Procedure {
    public LispObject runN(LispObject[] args) {
        // Do stuff with args. If applicable check that enough
        // arguments were received.
        return some_result;
    }
    public LispObject run0() {
        return this.runN(new LispObject[]{});
    }
    ...
    public LispObject run2(LispObject arg1, LispObject arg2) {
        return this.runN(new LispObject[]{arg1, arg2});
    }
    ...
}
```

This makes it possible for compiled code to avoid costly construction and deconstruction of Java arrays to pass arguments to functions. The caller, always knowing how many arguments it sends, simply picks which run method to call (letting the callee handle any array construction in the case of variable arity functions) and defaulting to runN if there are more than \( K \) arguments. [Kawa] (§6)

### 2.3 Literals

This section will elaborate on techniques to compile in literal constants in LJSP code.

#### 2.3.1 Constants

Whenever the compiler stumbles across an expression like \((+ a 1)\) an appropriate representation of the 1 (which according to semantics evaluates to itself) needs to be emitted.

Now 1 is a small enough integer to be represented with `LispFixnum` which is used for all integers that will fit into a Java `long`, that is a 64-bit signed two’s complement integer [JVMSpec] (§2.4.1).

The simple (however probably not the most efficient approach) is to simply emit code (at the very spot the literal is found, similar to how the compiler references

---

8With the notable exception of calling using the function `apply` which takes as it’s arguments a function and a list, calling the function with the elements of the list as the actual arguments. This is neatly resolved by compiling `apply` to always call using the `runN` method.
2.3. LITERALS

a variable) for creating a LispFixnum object with a value of 1. This can be done using the LispFixnum(long) constructor. An equivalent Java expression of how the compiler emits a literal 1 would be:

```java
new LispFixnum(1)
```
or in the Jasmin representation of Java bytecode (actual compiler output with comments for clarity):

```java
new LispFixnum
dup
1dc2_w 1 ; load 1 in long representation (uses two stack positions)
invokenonvirtual LispFixnum.<init>(J)V ; Constructor. uses up
 ; top three stack positions

;; a reference to the object is now on top of the stack
```

Similar code would be generated for floating point numbers, however instead creating an object of type LispFlonum, using the LispFlonum(double) constructor. The same is true of character and string constants using constructors LispChar(char) and LispString(java.lang.String) respectively. Even the arrays (LispArray) receive roughly the same treatment.

The process is similar for bignums, integers of arbitrary size, but due to their nature of possibly not fitting in the native integer types of Java instead the number is emitted as a string (in decimal) and then passed to the static method

```java
public static LispBignum LispBignum.parse(java.lang.String)
```
, a factory method if you will, which then parses the string into a LispBignum interpretation\(^9\). Example compiler output (with extra comment):

```java
1dc_w "1231312312312312312312312312312313123"
invokestatic LispBignum.parse(Ljava.lang.String;)LLispBignum;

;; a LispBignum reference is now on top of the stack
```

2.3.2 Complex constants

A Lisp typically has a quote special form\(^{10}\), and LJSP is no exception, that suppresses evaluation of the enclosed expression and instead returns the data structure as is allowing for complex constants of lists possibly containing their own sublists and more.

Code for constructing the same structure could be recursively generated and inserted into the exact place where the quote-expression occurred, similar to how numbers we’re handled in the previous section. Thus making:

\(^9\)At the time of writing it simply uses the BigInteger(java.lang.String) constructor of the Java standard library’s java.math.BigInteger (the internal representation currently used for LispBignum:).

\(^{10}\)Since usage of quote is so ubiquitous typical Lisp readers, or Lisp parsers, have special syntax such that, for instance *foo == (quote foo) [*RS*] [*L2*] [*L2*] [*L2*].
(lambda () (quote (1 a)))

equivalent to the code

(lambda () (cons 1 (cons (intern "a") nil)))

This is however not quite optimal, since constantly recreating constant data
in this fashion upon every call to the function would make many cases with com-
plex constants be significantly slower than their interpreted counterparts, due to
excessive allocation.

This also deviates from the interpreted semantics where

(let ((f (lambda () (quote (1 a)))))
  (eq? f (f))) ⇒ t

holds. Since the same object, the very same one that constitutes part of the function
body, is always returned by the function.

Furthermore Scheme, with which LJSP happens to share a good deal of its
semantics, requires quoted constants to always evaluate to the same object ([Incremental] §3.11 cf. [R5RS] §7.2)).

A method for initializing function constants at load-time is neccesary. In Java
static final fields may be initialized at class load time using a static initiliazer

By declaring a static final field, in the class for the function object, for each
quoted constant in the body of the function being compiled and emitting code in
the static initializer for constructing the literal. Were the quoted literal appeared
in the code code to fetch the static field is emitted instead.

The previous example compiles to something like:

```java
public class f extends Procedure {
    private static final lit1;

    static { // Initializer
        f.lit1 = new Cons(new LispFixnum(1),
                         new Cons(Symbol.intern("a"), null));
    }

    public LispObject run(LispObject[] o) {
        return f.lit1;
    }

    // some constructor stuff omitted
    ...
}
```

\(^{11}\)eq? is equivalent to a pointer compare in C or the comparison operator in Java as used on ob-
ject references. What it tests is if two references are referencing the same object.
Thus the code for recreating the quoted constant is run once at class load-time, and (eq? (f) (f)) ⇒ t holds.

Of course the “simple” constants of the previous subsection would likely benefit (both performance-wise as well as being semantically closer to the interpreter) from a similar treatment as the constants written quote with the quote form in this section, and a planned feature is to emit all constants to private static final fields of the generated class with extra logic to avoid duplicate constants, and duplicate fields, as long as the data structures involved are immutable (which holds for all numerical types used in LJSP as well as for characters and symbols).

2.4 Tail-call optimization implementation strategies

This section will describe a number of approaches to implement tail-call optimization on the JVM, why they seem plausible and why they work/don’t work.

2.4.1 Handling self-tail-calls

Probably the most important and most common case of tail-calls are tail-calls from a function to itself, otherwise known as tail recursion. Implementing this special case of tail-call elimination is likely the simplest, of the practically implementable alternatives presented in this thesis, since no circumvention of the fact that JVM can only perform jumps within a method [JVMSpec] needs to be performed; for this case jumps need only be performed within the method.

The method to implement this is almost exactly the same as the conventional (and completely general on a machine permitting jumps between functions) goto-based approach

By inserting a label at the top of the generated run(LispObject[]) method and, whenever something is found out to be a self-tail-call by the compiler, generating code to set (carefully avoiding to not set variables until all function arguments have been computed\(^\text{12}\)), instead of push to stack\(^\text{13}\), the local variables and then jump to this label the need for a regular function call has been eliminated.

Example:

(nlambda fact (n acc)
  (if (= 0 n)
    acc
    (fact (- n 1) (* n acc))))

Compiles to (actual compiler output, body only, with some additional comments):

.method public run([LLispObject;]LLispObject;
\(^\text{12}\)e.g. (nlambda calc-fib (n a b) (if (= n 0) a (calc-fib (- n 1) b (+ a b))))
wouldn’t work correctly if a was set before computing (+ a b)
\(^\text{13}\)Note how this is different to the somewhat simpler (and given the right machine also completely general) method proposed in section [L3.3] (p. [4] and [Incremental] (§3.10) (cf. [AIM443])
.limit stack 255
.limit locals 255

;; prologue to take apart the array with the arguments to the
;; function and store them in local variables, counting from 5
aload_1
ldc_w 0
aaload
astore 5
aload_1
ldc_w 1
aaload
astore 6

;; end prologue
Lselftail:

;; (if (= 0 n) acc (fact (- n 1) (* n acc)))
;; condition: (= 0 n)
new LispFixnum
dup
ldc2_w 0
invokenonvirtual LispFixnum.<init>(J)V
aload 5
;; convert the java boolean to a lispier boolean
ifeq L78
getstatic FACT/t LLispObject;
goto L77
L78:
aconst_null
L77:
;; end condition
ifnonnull L76 ; branches to the true-expr
;; false-expr: (fact (- n 1) (* n acc))
;; self-recursive tail-call args: ((~ n 1) (* n acc))
aload 5
checkcast LispNumber
new LispFixnum
dup
ldc2_w 1
invokenonvirtual LispFixnum.<init>(J)V
castcast LispNumber
invokevirtual LispNumber.sub(LLispNumber;)LLispNumber;
aload 5
checkcast LispNumber
aload 6
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checkcast LispNumber
invokevirtual LispNumber.mul(LLispNumber;)LLispNumber;
astore 6
astore 5
goto Lselftail
goto L75 ; Don't also run the true-expr like a fool
L76:
;; true-expr: acc
aload 6
L75:
;; endif
areturn
;; endlambda
.end method

If compiling without eliminating the tail-call the call-site would instead look something like (the local variable 0 refers to Java’s this, that is the object (and in this case this is the function object) which the method is running on):

;; (fact (~ n 1) (* n acc))
aload 0
checkcast Procedure
; preparing args
ldc_w 2
anewarray LispObject
dup
ldc_w 0
aload 5
checkcast LispNumber
new LispFixnum
dup
ldc2_w 1
invokelnontirtual LispFixnum.<init>(J)V
checkcast LispNumber
invokevirtual LispNumber.sub(LLispNumber;)LLispNumber;
aastore
dup
ldc_w 1
aload 5
checkcast LispNumber
aload 6
checkcast LispNumber
invokevirtual LispNumber.mul(LLispNumber;)LLispNumber;
aastore
; end preparing args
invokevirtual Procedure.run([LLispObject;]LLispObject;

Even if implementing another more general approach to TCO on the JVM implementing this approach to self-tail-calls is still very useful as a further optimization. It is by far the most common case of tail recursion and this approach is much faster than most alternatives to implementing general TCO [Kawa].

This is the only kind of TCO implemented in the LJSP compiler as of writing.

2.4.2 Method-local subroutine approach

The only way of performing method calls on the JVM is by using the `invoke*` series of instructions, and returns performed using the `*return` of instructions [JVMSpec]. The method invocation instructions take their arguments (including the object on which the method is invoked for instance methods, in a way it can be considered the first argument) on the stack and automatically store the arguments in the method local variables. The call convention of the JVM is thus, in a sense, fixed and there is no way to directly manipulate stack frames. It is not possible to perform a goto to another method nor is it possible to assign to a methods local variables since they are associated with the current frame, which is created every time a method is invoked [JVMSpec] (§3.6).

To escape this call convention imposed by the JVM functions could be implemented as subroutines all within one method and defining a new function call convention, using the operand stack of the current frame, for these subroutines. The JVM comes with three instructions, `jsr <label>`, `jsr_w <label>` and `ret <local variable>`, that in conjunction can be used to implement subroutines. Since this calling convention is done on the operand stack direct stack manipulation would be possible, and for all tail-calls `gotos` could be issued (like in the example of section 1.3.3 (p. 4)).

This is however not possible on a modern and standards-compliant JVM implementation since the subroutine instructions can not be used in a truly recursive manner, since the verifier forbids it\textsuperscript{14} [JVMSpec] (§4.8.2). In the specification for the new java standard, Java SE 7, it has been deprecated altogether (not without backwards compatability for code compiled using an older version) [JVMSpec SE 7] (§4.10.2.5). However this may be a useful, if non-portable technique, given that there are a handful of JVM implementations that seem to blatantly disregard this part of the specification\textsuperscript{15}.

2.4.3 Trampolines

One method of achieving general tail-recursion is trampolines [Baker]. By setting up an iterative procedure like (pseudo-code):

\begin{verbatim}
14It does so in more than one way. Most obviously the part
15Or perhaps, the author suspects in particular due to the examples of recursive jsr usage
floating across the net, conforms to an older edition of the JVM specification (of which the author
has been unable to procure a copy of)
2.5 Scoping

This section discusses on how to handle the different scoping methods in compiled code.

Note that these scoping methods are not exclusive of each other. Even if having true lexical scoping with closures the static scope implementation method serves as a useful optimization for variables that the compiler can prove as not having been captured.

2.5.1 Static Scope

Static scope, as described in section 1.3.4 (p. 6), is very straightforward to implement on the JVM since each frame can have up to 65535 local variables [JVMSpec] (§4.10) (essentially registers from an assembly language point of view). By simply mapping received values to these variables static scoping is achieved as it is natively supported by the JVM.

```
(nlambda <selfname> <arg-spec> . <body>)
```

Due to the current LJSP compiler only supporting static scoping this construct (mnemonic: named lambda), essentially a specialization of labels was necessary for self-recursive functions. It binds the function itself to a variable in the function body's scope. It accomplishes this by binding the local variable 0, corresponding to Java's `this` in all instance methods [JVMSpec] (§7.6), to the variable specified as `<selfname>` in the static scope of the function.
Example:

\((\text{nlambda} \ foo \ (a \ b) \ ... )\)

\[
\Rightarrow
\]

.method public run([\text{LLispObject;}])\text{LLispObject;}
  .limit stack 255 ; java requires these be set, set
  .limit locals 255 ; them to some generic big-enough size

  ;; function prologue deconstructing arguments array
  aload_1 ; the first method argument is gotten in local variable 1
  ldc_w 0
  aaload
  astore 5
  aload_1
  ldc_w 1
  aaload
  astore 6
  ;; end prologue

  ... do stuff (aload) with local variables 0 = foo, 5 = a and 6 = b ...

  areturn

.end method

2.5.2 Lexical Scope and Closures

Simple copying

Let’s first consider lexical scoping, and specifically lexical closures\(^{16}\), where the closed over variable bindings are never mutated, that is \texttt{set} is never used on them.

Example code (\texttt{nlambda} names provided for clarity, not for any self-recursion):

\[
\text{;; Bind function to global variable } foo
  (defvar foo
    (nlambda foo (a)
      (nlambda bar (x) (+ x a)))))
\]

...\[
\text{;; usage could look like:}
  ;; (hoge and pyon are already declared variables, perhaps declared special)
  >> (setq hoge (foo 12))
  <closure 1 bar>
\]

\(^{16}\)Which is what sets true lexical scoping apart from the statically scoped local variables in the previous section.
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In this case the inner lambda, bar, has a free variable in `a`. However it doesn’t mutate the binding of `a` so we may simply copy it into the `Procedure` subclass, at function construction. Thus closures can take their free variables as constructor arguments and save these to fields (which can be made `final` for extra guarantees of not mutating the binding). These can be treated in the same way that statically scoped/local variables in the previous section, but instead the variable `a` in `bars` body would be mapped to a `final` instance variable in the closure object.

It could be compiled as such:

```java
class foo extends Procedure {
    public foo() {
    }
    public LispObject run(LispObject[] o) {
        return new bar(o[0]); // return closure
    }
}

class bar extends Procedure {
    private final LispObject free1;
    public bar(LispObject free1) {
        this.free1 = free1;
    }
    public LispObject run(LispObject[] o) {
        // (+ x a) argument x, closed-over variable a
        return ((LispNumber)o[0]).add((LispNumber)free1);
    }
}
```

Mutating “functions” such as `rplaca` (replace car/head of list), `rplacd` (replace cdr/tail of list) and `aset` (set element in array) doesn’t count as mutating the variable binding. They don’t change the variable bindings like `set` does, instead they mutate the data structure that the closed over variable binding is referencing. Thus even though data is being mutated just copying all free variable references like before will have correct semantics.

In fact the situation is very similar to the very hairy and only conditions under which Java has lexical closures; inner classes in a non-static context can refer to
local variables and instance variables declared in the enclosing class/scope given that they have been declared final (Go to [JLS3] (§8.1.3) and check if I was right.)

Now a fully-fledged LJSP compiler wouldn’t be quite complete without set. Does this spell the end for this approach to lexical closures?

No. The compiler could check for usage of set, both in closures and closuree, on captured/free variables in the semantic analysis stage and use this method to implement lexical closures in the absence of it. At the same time the semantic analysis will assess all function bodies for free variables and annotates them for the code generator.

Even better: In the presence of set the compiler could exploit that rplaca, rplacd and aset can mutate state without having to touch the binding of the free variable (which also is impossible since the instance variable was declared final). In the case were the set is used the reference free variable is rewritten using one level of indirection, with the help of a mutable data type, in this case the array.

An example of this nifty rewrite (adapted from [Incremental] to fit LJSP):

```lisp
(let ((f (lambda (c)
            (cons (lambda (v) (set 'c v))
                 (lambda () c)))))
  (let ((p (f 0)))
    ((car p) 12)
    ((cdr p))))
⇒
(let ((f (lambda (t0)
            (let ((c (make-array (list t0))))
                 (cons (lambda (v)
                         (aset c 0 v)
                         v)
                 (lambda () (aref c 0)))))))
  (let ((p (f 0)))
    ((car p) 12)
    ((cdr p))))
```

Thus the code generator only has to handle closures over immutable bindings [Incremental] (§3.9, §3.12). Naturally this could be done using conses or other mutable datastructures allowing for this sort of indirect referencing.

### 2.5.3 Dynamic Scope

In Common Lisp a variable can be declared special (locally as well as globally, however for the purposes of this paper only the global case will be considered) having that variable be dynamically bound, allowing to mix the differently scoped sorts of variables in a way fitting the problem at hand. Using defvar and defparameter

---

17Useful examples include global variables that can be temporarily overridden by rebinding. For instance rebinding the global variable *standard-output* in Common Lisp has the effect of
to define global variables also has the effect of making the variable `special` [CLtL2] (§9.2, §5.2).

There are two main approaches, that are basically the same for interpreted and compiled code. Aside from that book keeping is neccesary to keep track of what symbols have ben declared as a `special`, this can simply be implemented as a property of the Symbol object.

**Value slot**

Each symbol gets one field/slot `value` that is bound to the current top-level binding of the variable. Whenever the variable is rebound the old variable is saved in either a local variable (thus implicitly utilizing the native java stack) or pushed down a stack for retrieval upon exit of the new binding and the restoring of the old one [MACLISP] (§3.2, §6.1).

This approach has the benefit of access speed to the detriment of rebinding speed. Due to the global shared state it imposes it is also fundamentally threading-incompatible.

This is the model currently implemented by the LJSP interpreter\textsuperscript{18}.

The latter approach to value slot based dynamical bindings, with a separate push-down stack, has the benefit of being able to eliminate tail-calls even in an environment with only dynamic variables (The LJSP interpreter uses this to great effect) [DynaTail].

**Environments**

Another approach would be to supply each function invocation with an easily extendable environment object of some sort. This dynamic environment object would then be used to lookup dynamically bound variables at runtime.

This would require a slight rewrite of the, for this particular example non-optimized, Procedure class proposed in section 2.2 (p. 12):

```java
abstract class Procedure extends LispObject {

  public abstract LispObject run(LispObject[] o,
                                 Environment dynamicEnvironment);
}
```

This environment is passed on at every function call site so if `foo` calls `bar`, `bar` will inherit the dynamic environment of `foo`, possibly extending it. In the case of a redirection the standard output stream, since output functions define to output to the stream object pointed to by `*standard-output*`. In fact LJSP also has a global value `*standard-output*` used in the same way.

\textsuperscript{18} And it has led to no end of problems when trying to deal with creating Swing applications in LJSP. One needs to be very very careful to run no code in parallel when there is the regular main thread and the Swing event loop.
mixed lexical/dynamic scoping environment like Common Lisp if the name of one of the arguments of `bar` coincides with the name of a variable declared `special` the environment will be augmented shadowing the old declaration of that variable until `bar` returns.

This method of handling dynamically scoped variables mimics almost exactly how environments are passed around in many Lisp interpreters, including the very first one [McCarthy60].

This method has the benefit that, for suitably built environment data structures, threads in a multi-threaded application would be able to share the same base-level binding of a dynamic variable yet capable of shadowing this binding with their own to have a thread-local top-level dynamic variable binding. Different threads will reference the same base environment, but will have their own environment extensions on top of this. Sort of like a multi-headed stack.

The drawbacks include slower lookup of dynamic variables as well as extra overhead due to always passing on the dynamic environment, even in cases where it might not be needed (a sufficiently smart compiler might be able to alleviate this somewhat however).
Chapter 3

Results

3.1 How much of the language was implemented?

3.2 The future?

- Have compiled functions handle receiving, by causing an error condition, too many arguments instead of silently ignoring it.

- Implement the optimization for function calls in section 2.2 (p. 12) at the same time as the above (this makes sense as that model makes checking for function arity much more effective than otherwise.)

- Implement compiler support for variable arity procedures.

- Implement a semantical analysis stage of compilation.

- Have the compiler support macros with a macro-expansion pass prior to semantical analysis and code generation.

- Implement lexically and dynamically bound variables, preferably while retaining the current model of statically scoped variables, as an optimization, when semantic analysis has found a variable neither captured by a closure nor declared as dynamically bound.

- Implement set and have it work for lexical scoping (to keep it fun; closures would be too trivial otherwise) and dynamic scoping alike.

- Replace or fix the old reader currently used by the LJSP interpreter.

- Have the compiler bootstrap.

- Find out how much of the reflection-based model of Java interoperability, used by the interpreter, can be salvaged and made into a newer better defined and more easily compiled approach to Java interoperability.
3.3 Benchmarks

See separate attachment.

The differences between the compiled fib-trec and interpreted ditto is smaller than the difference between fib compiled and non-compiled. Likely since fib-trec is tail-recursive (time complexity of $O(n)$) and the result gets big very fast before it starts getting slow. Likely most of the execution time of the fib-trec taken up by bignum arithmetics.
Chapter 4

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Part I

Appendices
Chapter 5

Appendix A

Contains the compiler code in all it’s messy (it is still littered with old code in comments, how horrible!) glory.

Also available, together with the necessary runtime environment, at:

http://www.nada.kth.se/~antonki/programmering/ljsp-kandx.tar.bz2

```
;-- Mode: Lisp --

;; IDEA: (doesn’t really belong here?) Start having fexprs (or
;; similar) so you can be meaner in how you handle macros (as
;; statically as CL for instance).

;; Can you somehow coerce the JVM into thinking duck-typing is a good idea?

;; TODO: DONE–ish add argument to pretty much everything to keep track of
; tail–call or not

;; * Judicious finals everywhere (we don’t subclass the generated classes
; after all)

;; * Perhaps move classname out of the environment plist?

;; * More correct–amount–of–args–checking and the likes

;; * Make all environment be ONE environment and convey static/lexical/
; dynamic using the plist instead?????

;; * instead of having the creepy %literal–vars% and %literal–init% type
; variables scan code ahead of

;; time to generate a table of constants? (we don’t win much on this move
; except

;; having cleaner code with less side–effects

;; FOR NOW

(defvar cbib `(defvar defvar (a)
              (unless (symbol–value (cadr a)) ; unless already bound
                 (list `setq (cadr a) (caddr a)))))

(defvar cbib–tree `(defvar cbib–tree (lambda (n)
                                          ((nlambda calc–fib (n a b)  
                                            (if (= n 0)  
                                            a  
                                            (calc–fib (– n 1) b (+ a b))))  
                                          n 0)  
))))
```
\[(\text{defvar } f\ \text{collatz } '(\text{lambda} \ n\ (\text{print} \ n) \ (\text{if} \ (= \ n \ 1) \ \text{nil} \ (\text{collatz} \ (\text{if} \ (= \ (\text{mod} \ n \ 2) \ 0) (/ n 2) (+ 1 (* n 3))))))))\)

\[\text{differs semantically slightly from the mapcar in stuff.js.p (aside from weird binding-stuffs, it doesn't use end? for end of list)}\]

\[(\text{defvar } mapcor1 '(\text{lambda} \ n\ x\ (\text{if} \ \text{nil} \ x \ ((\text{cons} \ (\text{car} \ n\ x) \ \text{mapcor1} \ n\ (\text{cdr} \ n\ x)))))\)

\[\text{differs semantically slightly from the assq in stuff.js.p (aside from weird binding-stuffs, it doesn't use end? for end of list)}\]

\[(\text{defvar } cassq '(\text{lambda} \ key\ alist\ (\text{if} \ (= \ \text{nil} \ alist) \ (\text{lambda} \ n \ n \ n) \ (\text{if} \ (= \ \text{eq} \ key \ (\text{car} \ (\text{car} \ alist))) \ (\text{car} \ alist) \ (\text{assq} \ key \ (\text{cdr} \ alist)))))\)

\[(\text{defvar } quote-test '(\text{subst-symbols} \ (\text{lambda} \ a) \ (\text{cons} a '(#\ W (12313123123123123123123123123123131235343412914294967296) \ (<a> <b> <c>) b (12 3) \ \text{potatismossa} \ 12.4)))\)

\[\text{since the current reader has no syntax for introducing NaN's we do this. the compiler needs to handle it}\]

\[(\text{defvar } c\ \text{fact } '(\text{lambda} \ n\ acc\ (\text{if} \ (= \ 0 \ n) \ acc \ (\text{c\ \text{fact}} \ (\text{\text{-}n 1}) \ (\text{*} n \ acc))))\)

\[\text{Blargh my parser is broken in many strange ways and crazy so let's}\]

\[(\text{defun get-label} () \ (\text{concat} \ 'L' \ (\text{inc} \ \text{\text{-}label\-counter})))\]

\[(\text{defun get-funclabel} () \ (\text{concat} \ 'FUN' \ (\text{inc} \ \text{funclabel\-counter})))\]

\[(\text{defun get-static\-var\-name} () \ (\text{concat} \ 'lit' \ (\text{inc} \ \text{static\-var\-counter})))\]

\[\text{class file. Defvarring them like this makes them be SPECIAL (or whatever)}\]

\[\text{defvar \text{reserved-reg} = \text{split+ 5)}\]

\[\text{Functions implemented using java classes that perhaps should be}\]

\[\text{made built-in to ease boot\-strapping and portability}\]

\[\text{For portability's sake consider making this a built in subr}\]
(let ((sb (send StringBuilder 'newInstance)))
  (dolist (str strs)
    (send sb 'append str))
  (send sb 'toString))
;; Same: for portabilities sake consider making this built in or similar
(defun load-PROC (name)
  (let ((name (if (type ? 'symbol name) (print1-to-string name) name)))
    (send (send Class 'forName name) 'newInstance)))
(defun concat-nl strs
  (apply concat (flatten (mapcar (lambda (x) (list x nl)) strs))))
(defun NaN? (a)
  (send Double 'isNaN a))
(defun infinite? (a)
  (send Double 'isInfinite a))
;;; End functions using java
;;; CODE WALKER FOR LEXICAL ANALYSIS
;;; Used to find free variables in lambdas (and macros) mainly
;;; This here thing does NOT want code with macros in it (HINT: ;
;;; remember to expand macros way early) (just think about the
;;; confusion let would be, for instance). Also think about: local
;;; macros WTF?
(defun analyze (a . rst)
  (let ((local variable (car rst)))
    (uniq (sort list (analyze expr local variables) hash <) eq ?)))
(defun analyze-expr (a local-variables)
  (if (atom? a)
    (if (and (type ? 'symbol a)
              (not (member a local-variables)))
      (not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))))
(defun analyze-lambda-a-local-variables
  (unless (eq? (car a) 'lambda) ; macro?
    (error 'You ought to supply me with a lambda when you want to analyze free
            variables in a lambda.))
(letrec ((scan (lambda (lst acc)
            (cond ((null? lst) (reverse! acc))
                  ((atom? lst) (reverse! (cons lst acc)))
                  ((not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))))
            (analyze-list (caddr a) (append scan (cadr a) nil) local-variables))))
(defun analyze-list (a local-variables)
  (letrec ((roop lambda (lst acc)
            (if (end? lst)
                acc
                (roop (cdr lst) (append acc (analyze-expr (car lst) local-variables)))))))
  (roop a nil))
;;; Remember to check if there are too many arguments as well in things like if and
(print)
(defun emit-if (a e tail)
  (let ((condition (cadr a))
        (true-expr (caddr a))
        (false-expr (cadddr a))
        (label (get-label)))
    (let ((sb (send StringBuilder 'newInstance)))
      (dolist (str strs)
        (send sb 'append str))
      (send sb 'toString))
    ;; Same: for portabilities sake consider making this built in or similar
    (defun load-PROC (name)
      (let ((name (if (type ? 'symbol name) (print1-to-string name) name)))
        (send (send Class 'forName name) 'newInstance)))
    (defun concat-nl strs
      (apply concat (flatten (mapcar (lambda (x) (list x nl)) strs))))
    (defun NaN? (a)
      (send Double 'isNaN a))
    (defun infinite? (a)
      (send Double 'isInfinite a))
    ;;; End functions using java
    ;;; CODE WALKER FOR LEXICAL ANALYSIS
    ;;; Used to find free variables in lambdas (and macros) mainly
    ;;; This here thing does NOT want code with macros in it (HINT: ;
    ;;; remember to expand macros way early) (just think about the
    ;;; confusion let would be, for instance). Also think about: local
    ;;; macros WTF?
    (defun analyze (a . rst)
      (let ((local variable (car rst)))
        (uniq (sort list (analyze expr local variables) hash <) eq ?)))
    (defun analyze-expr (a local-variables)
      (if (atom? a)
        (if (and (type ? 'symbol a)
                  (not (member a local-variables)))
          (not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))))
    (defun analyze-lambda-a-local-variables
      (unless (eq? (car a) 'lambda) ; macro?
        (error 'You ought to supply me with a lambda when you want to analyze free
                variables in a lambda.))
      (letrec ((scan (lambda (lst acc)
                  (cond ((null? lst) (reverse! acc))
                         ((atom? lst) (reverse! (cons lst acc)))
                         ((not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))))
                  (analyze-list (caddr a) (append scan (cadr a) nil) local-variables))))
    (defun analyze-list (a local-variables)
      (letrec ((roop lambda (lst acc)
                 (if (end? lst)
                   acc
                   (roop (cdr lst) (append acc (analyze-expr (car lst) local-variables)))))))
      (roop a nil))
    ;;; Remember to check if there are too many arguments as well in things like if and
    (println)
    (defun emit-if (a e tail)
      (let ((condition (cadr a))
            (true-expr (caddr a))
            (false-expr (cadddr a))
            (label (get-label)))
        (let ((sb (send StringBuilder 'newInstance)))
          (dolist (str strs)
            (send sb 'append str))
          (send sb 'toString))
        ;; Same: for portabilities sake consider making this built in or similar
        (defun load-PROC (name)
          (let ((name (if (type ? 'symbol name) (print1-to-string name) name)))
            (send (send Class 'forName name) 'newInstance)))
        (defun concat-nl strs
          (apply concat (flatten (mapcar (lambda (x) (list x nl)) strs))))
        (defun NaN? (a)
          (send Double 'isNaN a))
        (defun infinite? (a)
          (send Double 'isIn Infinite a))
        ;;; End functions using java
        ;;; CODE WALKER FOR LEXICAL ANALYSIS
        ;;; Used to find free variables in lambdas (and macros) mainly
        ;;; This here thing does NOT want code with macros in it (HINT: ;
        ;;; remember to expand macros way early) (just think about the
        ;;; confusion let would be, for instance). Also think about: local
        ;;; macros WTF?
        (defun analyze (a . rst)
          (let ((local variable (car rst)))
            (uniq (sort list (analyze expr local variables) hash <) eq ?)))
        (defun analyze-expr (a local-variables)
          (if (atom? a)
            (if (and (type ? 'symbol a)
                      (not (member a local-variables)))
              (not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))
            (case (car a)
              (quote ')
              ; no variables can be captured in a quote
              ((lambda (analyze-lambda local-variables)) ; macro?
                (if (analyze-list a local-variables) ; Treat if specially in future
                  (is there a point in closing over the VARIABLE if ?)
                  (otherwise (analyze-list a local-variables))))))
        (defun analyze-lambda-a-local-variables
          (unless (eq? (car a) 'lambda) ; macro?
            (error 'You ought to supply me with a lambda when you want to analyze free
                    variables in a lambda.))
          (letrec ((scan (lambda (lst acc)
                          (cond ((null? lst) (reverse! acc))
                                 ((atom? lst) (reverse! (cons lst acc)))
                                 ((not (member a *dynamic-variables*)))))
                          (analyze-list (caddr a) (append scan (cadr a) nil) local-variables))))
        (defun analyze-list (a local-variables)
          (letrec ((roop lambda (lst acc)
                     (if (end? lst)
                        acc
                        (roop (cdr lst) (append acc (analyze-expr (car lst) local-variables)))))))
          (roop a nil))
    ;;; Remember to check if there are too many arguments as well in things like if and
    (println)
(label→after (get-label)))
(concat "; ;" a nl)
(emit(expr condition e nil))
'ifnonnull 'label' ; branches to the true-expr nl
(emit(expr false-expr e tail))
'goto 'label→after' ; Don't also run the true-expr like a fool' nl
'label '':'' nl
(emit(expr true-expr e tail))
(label→after '' nl
(' ; ; endif' nl)))

;;;; Used by emit-funccall to generate code for how to structure arguments before the actual call
;;;; This particular version is when passing arguments in an array
(defun emit-funargs (args e)
(letrec ((roop (lambda (lst cntr asm)
  (if (end? lst)
    asm
    (roop (cdr lst) e
      (1+ cntr)
      (concat asm
        "dup" nl
        "ldc_w " cntr nl
        (emit(expr (car lst) e nil)
        "aastore" nl)))))
  (let ((len (length args)))
    (if (zero? len)
      (concat "aconst_null" nl)
      (concat "ldc_w " cntr nl
        (emit(expr (car lst) e nil)
        "aastore" nl)))))
  (apply concat (mapcar (lambda (x) (emit(expr x e nil)) args)))))

;; Version for passing arguments on stack in regular order
{-# defun emit-funargs (args e)
(if args
  (apply concat (mapcar (lambda (x) (emit(expr x e nil)) args)))))

;; This will need to do different things for a non-compiled function a
;; compiled function a compiled or non-compiled macro according to
;; their current bindings (we fearlessly ignore that for the
;; dynamically scoped case our function bindings might change and
;; such. This is less a problem in the lexically scoped case yet still
;; a problem for some cases (which cases?))
;; WHEN JSR-ing (or similar):
;; Don't forget to reverse the arglist
;; Don't forget to push local vars ....
;; TODO: Think up ways to store variables together with some sort of type data so
we know when to do what funccall

;; POSSIBLE OPTIMIZATION: Inline in a nice way when just a regular
;; non-recursive lambda-thingy (like the case the let- or prolog macro
;; would generate (especially the latter one is trivial))
(defun emit-funccall (a e tail)
(let ((fun (car a))
  (args (cdr a)))
  (if (and tail
    (type? 'symbol fun)
    (print (get-variable-property fun 'self e)))
    (emit-self-recursive-tail-call args e)
  (concat ' 'x
    (emit(expr fun e nil)) ; puts the function itself on the stack
    'checkcast Procedure' nl
    'preparing args' nl
    (emit-funargs args e)
    'end preparing args' nl
    'invokevirtual Procedure .run([LLispObject;LLispObject;] nil)))))

;; WRITTEN FOR STATIC ONLY
;; TODO: rewrite when stuff changes...
This currently assumes a certain layout of variables laid out by emit-lambda-body.

Note how we just reuse the old state locations since a tail-call let's us discard the old state for this frame entirely.

However, before we start setting the local variables we have pushed all the results to the stack.

If we didn't all sorts of side-effect mayhem might occur for example for

$$\text{emit-lambda foo (a b) (if (> a 100) a (foo (+ a 2) (+ a b)))}$$

a is used twice in the argument list.

(defun emit-self-recursive-tail-call (args e)
  (letrec ((funargs-push (lambda (lst e asm)
     (if (end? lst)
       asm
       (funargs-push (cdr lst)
         e
         (concat asm
         (emit-expr (car lst) e nil)))))
     (funargs-pop (lambda (cnter offset asm)
       (if (zero? cnter)
         asm
         (funargs-pop (1- cnter)
           offset
           (concat asm
           (astore " + (1- cnter) offset )
           nil)))))
     (concat ';; self-recursive tail-call args: * args nl
     (funargs-pop (length args) +reserved-reg-split+ '*)
     'goto Lselftail' nl))
)

(defun emit-quote (a e)
  (unless (and (eq? (car a) 'quote)
    (= (length a) 2))
    (error (concat "Something's wrong with your quote: " a)))
  (unless (and (type? 'string %literal-init%) ; compile-lambda does initialize these to "
    (type? 'string %literal-vars%)) ; so they should always be strings when we end up here
    (error (concat "Special variables %literal-vars%: " (prin1-to-string %
    literal-vars%) ; and %literal-init%: " (prin1-to-string %literal-init%)"
    " not properly initialized")))
  (let ((static-var (get-static-var-name))
    (classname (getf e 'classname)))
    (setq %literal-vars% (concat %literal-vars%
    " . field private static final " static-var " L LispObject ; " nl))
    (setq %literal-init% (concat %literal-init%)
    (emit-obj (second a) e)
    (putstatic "classname "/" static-var " L LispObject ;" nl)))
  (concat 'getstatic "classname "/" static-var " L LispObject ; nl))
)

(defun emit-java-double (a)
  (cond ((NaN? a)
    ;; KLUDGE: workaround using division by zero (resulting in NaN) since
    ;; jasmin seems to have trouble, or at least is lacking any documentation,
    ;; how to load a NaN double as a constant
    (concat ';; jasmin lacks all sort of documentation on how to push a NaN
    double. Division by zero works as a workaround." nl
    "dconst_0" nl
    "ddiv" nil))
  ((and (infinite? a) (not (neg? a)))
    ;; KLUDGE: some thing but for positive infinity
    (concat ';; hackaround for positive infinity' nl
    "ldc2_w 1.0d" nl
    "dconst_0" nl
    "ddiv" nil))
  ((and (infinite? a) (neg? a))
    ;;KLUDGE: some thing but for negative infinity
    (concat ';; hackaround for negative infinity' nl
    "ldc2_w -1.0d" nl
    "dconst_0" nl
    "ddiv" nil))
)

'(dconst_0* nl
'ddiv* nl))
(t
;; that d is important, otherwise we are loading a float (not double)
;; constant and introducing rounding errors
(concat "ldc2_w " a "d" nl)))

(defun emit-java-long (a)
  (concat "ldc2_w " a nl))

;; Emits code to regenerate an object as it is (quoted stuffs use
;; this)
;; TODO: * what about procedures and the like, while not having a
;; literal representation one might send crazy shit to the
;; compiler...?
;; * What about uninterned symbols? (Does it really make a difference?) Very
tricky shit this :/

(defun emit-obj (obj e)
  (cond ((eq? obj nil) (emit-nil))
        ((type? 'fixnum obj)
         (concat "new LispFixnum* nl
'dup* nl
'(emit-java-long a)
'(invokonvirtual LispFixnum.<init>(J)V* nl))
        ((type? 'flonum obj)
         (concat "new LispFlonum* nl
'dup* nl
'(emit-java-double obj)
'(invokonvirtual LispFlonum.<init>(D)V* nl))
        ((type? 'bignum obj)
         (concat "ldc_w * dblnutt obj dblnutt nl
'(invokesstatic LispBignum.parse(Ljava.lang.String;LLispBignum;* nl))
        ((type? 'string obj)
         (concat "new LispString* nl
'dup* nl
'(ldc_w * dblnutt obj dblnutt nl
'(invokonvirtual LispString.<init>(Ljava.lang.String;J)V* nl))
        ((type? 'array obj)
         (concat "new LispArray* nl
'dup* nl
(let roop ((cntr (length obj))
  (asm (concat "ldc_w " (length obj) nl
    "anewarray LispObject* nl))
  (if (zero? cntr)
    asm
    (roop (1- cntr)
      (concat asm
        "dup* nl
        "ldc_w * (1- cntr) nl
        (emit-obj (aref obj (1- cntr)) e)
        "aastore* nl)))))
        (type? 'symbol obj)
         (concat "ldc_w * dblnutt obj dblnutt nl
'(invokesstatic Symbol.intern(Ljava.lang.String;LSymbol;* nl))
        ((type? 'char obj)
         (concat "new LispChar* nl
'dup* nl
'bipush * (char->integer obj) nl
'(invokonvirtual LispChar.<init>(C)V* nl))
        ((type? 'cons obj)
         (concat "new Cons* nl
'dup* nl
(emit-obj (car obj) e)
(emit-obj (cdr obj) e)
'(invokonvirtual Cons.<init>(LLispObject;LLispObject;V) nl))
        (t (error (concat "Couldn’t match type for: " a)))))
    (error "Arghewhats?"))))

(defun emit-return-self (obj e)
  (cond ((type? 'symbol obj) (emit-variable-reference obj e))
        ((atom? obj) (emit-obj obj e))
        (t (error "Arghewhats?"))))
;;; TODO: when/if removing multiple alists for different sorts of environments:
REWRITE

(defun get-variable-property (var property e)
  (or (get-static-variable-property var property e)
      (get-lexical-variable-property var property e)
      (get-dynamic-variable-property var property e)))

(defun get-static-variable-property (var property e)
  (get (cdr (assq var (getf e 'static-environment))) property))

(defun get-lexical-variable-property (var property e)
  (get (cdr (assq var (getf e 'lexical-environment))) property))

(defun get-dynamic-variable-property (var property e)
  (get (cdr (assq var (getf e 'lexical-environment))) property))

;; ; ; ; Variable lists look like ((a <storage-location> . <extra-properties-plist>) (b ...)) ...
;; ; ; ; e.g ((a t) (fib 0 self t))
(defun get-static-variable (var e)
  (let ((static-environment (getf e 'static-environment)))
    (cdr (assq var static-environment))))

(defun get-lexical-variable (var e)
  (let ((lexical-environment (getf e 'lexical-environment)))
    (cdr (assq var lexical-environment))))

(defun get-dynamic-variable (var e)
  (let ((dynamic-environment (getf e 'dynamic-environment)))
    (cdr (assq var dynamic-environment))))

(defun emit-variable-reference (a e)
  (let ((static-var-place (get (static-variable a e)))
        (lexical-var-place (get (lexical-variable a e)))
        (dynamic-var-place (get (dynamic-variable a e))))
    (cond (static-var-place (concat "aload " static-var-place nl))
          (lexical-var-place (concat "nolexicallyet " nl))
          (dynamic-var-place (concat "nodynamiccyet " nl))
          (t (error (concat "Variable: " a " doesn ' t seem to exist anywhere.").))))

(defun emit-arithmetic (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 3)
    (error (concat "You can ' t arithmetic with wrong amount of args: " a)))))

(defun emit-expr (second e nil)
  "checkcast LispNumber" nl

(defun emit-expression (third a e nil)
  "checkcast LispNumber" nl

(defun invokevirtual LispNumber .
  (case (car a) (+ "add") (- "sub") (+ "mul") (/ "div")
    ("L LispNumber;LL LispNumber;" nil))

(defun emit-integer-binop (a e)
  (error (concat "You can ' t integer-binop with wrong amount of args: " a)))

(defun emit-expr (second a e nil)
  "checkcast LispInteger" nl

(defun invokevirtual LispInteger .
  (case (car a) (mod "mod") (ash "ash")
    ("L LispInteger;LL LispInteger;" nil))

(defun emit-int (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

;; ; ; ; Used, internalish, to emit dereferencing the variable t (currently special hardcoded, put in own function for modularity
(defun emit-t (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname)))

(defun emit-s (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

(defun emit-d (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

(defun emit-obj (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

(defun emit-deref (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

(defun emit-obj (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))

(defun emit-deref (e)
  (concat (classname (getf e 'classname))))
### Appendix A

---

#### mishmash

; Used to emit the sequence to convert a java boolean to a more lispish boolean.

; Used in mostly "internalish" ways.

(defun emit-boolean-to-lisp (e)
  (let ((label (get-label)))
    (concat "if eq" label nl
            ;; (emit-return-self 123 nil) ; TODO: change me to emit t later
            (emit-t e)
            "goto " label-after nl
            (emit-nil) label-: nl (label-: " " nl)
            (label-: nil)))
)

(defun emit-= (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 3)
    (error (concat "You can’t = with wrong amount of args: " a)))
  (concat (emit-expr (second a) e nil)
          (concat (emit-expr (third a) e nil)
                (concat "; ; (emit-return-self 123 nil) ; TODO: change me to emit t later
                        (emit-t e)
                        "goto " label-after nl
                        (emit-nil) label-: nl
                        (label-: nil)))))
)

(defun emit-neg? (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 2)
    (error (concat "You can’t neg? with wrong amount of args: " a)))
  (concat (emit-expr (second a) e nil)
          (concat (emit-expr (third a) e nil)
                (concat "; ; (emit-return-self 123 nil) ; TODO: change me to emit t later
                        (emit-t e)
                        "goto " label-after nl
                        (emit-nil) label-: nl
                        (label-: nil)))))
)

(defun emit-eq? (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 3)
    (error (concat "You can’t eq? with wrong amount of args: " a)))
  (let ((label-ne (get-label)))
    (concat (emit-expr (second a) e nil)
            (concat (emit-expr (third a) e nil)
                  "if_acmpne " label-ne nl
                  "goto " label-after nl
                  "aconst_null" nl (label-: nil)))
)

(defun emit-eql? (a e)
  (error "eql? not implemented")
)

(defun emit-print (a e)
  (let ((label-nil (get-label)))
    (concat (emit-expr (cadr a) e nil)
            "dup" nl
            "astore_2 ; store in the temp variable" nl
            "dup" nl
            "ifnull " label-nil nl
            "invokevirtual java/lang/Object.tostring ()Ljava/lang/String;" nl
            "goto " label-after nl
            "aconst_null" nl (label-: nil))
)

; ; (defun emit-print-stream (a e)
; (concat (emit-expr (cadr a) e nil)
;            "dup" nl
;            "astore_2 ; store in the temp variable" nl
;            "dup" nl
;            "ifnull " label-nil nl
;            "invokevirtual java/lang/Object.toString ()Ljava/lang/String;" nl
;            "goto " label-after nl
;            "aconst_null" nl (label-: nil))))

; ; TODO: ∗ two-argument version of print
; ; ∗ implement without temp variable if possible. Having
; ; temp-variables might grow trickier when some method
; ; implementations do away with the need to (always)
; ; deconstruct an array

### Chapter 5. Appendix A
(defun emit-set (a e)
  (error "set not implemented"))
(defun emit-nil ()
  (concat "aconst_null" nl))
(defun emit-car-cdr (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 2)
    (error "You can't (car a) with wrong amount of args: " a))
  (let ((label-nil (get-label)))
    (concat (emit-expr (cadr a) e nil)
             "dup" nl
             "ifnull" label-nil nl
             "checkcast Cons" nl
             "getfield Cons/" (car a) " LLispObject ; " nl
             label-nil ":" nl)))
(defun emit-cons (a e)
  (unless (= (length a) 3)
    (error "You can't cons with wrong amount of args: " a))
  (concat "new Cons" nl
         "dup" nl
         (emit-expr (second a) e nil)
         (emit-expr (third a) e nil)
         "invokenonvirtual Cons.<init>(LLispObject;LLispObject;)V" nl))
(defun emit-expr (a eetail)
  (if (list? a)
      (case (car a)
        ;; To be able to pass these, where appropriate (e.g. not if), as arguments
        ;; the bootstrap code needs to define functions that use these builtins.
        ;; e.g. (defun + (a b) (+ a b))
        ;; (running-compiled? (emit-return-self 1337 nil)) ; TODO: change me to
        ;; emit later
        ;; (running-compiled? (emit-t e))
        ;; (set (emit-set a e))
        ;; (eq? (emit-eq? a e))
        ;; ((or + - * /) (emit-arithmetic a e))
        ;; (= (emit-eq a e))
        ;; (neg? (emit-neg? a e))
        ;; ((or mod ash) (emit-integer-binop a e))
        ;; ((or car cdr) (emit-car-cdr a e))
        ;; (cons (emit-cons a e))
        ;; (if (emit-if a e tail))
        ;; (print (emit-print a e))
        ;; (quote (emit-quote a e))
        ;; (otherwise (if (car a) ; need to be careful about nil...? (should this truly be here?... well it is due to the list? check (nil is a list))
                     (emit-funcall a e tail)
                     (emit-nil))))
      (emit-return-self a e)))))
(defun emit-lambda (a e)
  (let ((function-class-name (compile-lambda a)
          (list 'static-environment nil
                 'lexical-environment (getf e 'lexical-environment)
                 'dynamic-environment (getf e 'dynamic-environment))))
    ;; TODO: save this in a private static final field in the class? (if
    ;; possible of course since when I introduce closures there will be cases
    ;; where it may no longer be possible to do it that way)
    (concat 'new 'function-class-name nil
            "dup" nil
            'invokenonvirtual 'function-class-name ".<init>(V' nil))))
  ;; OLD CRAP COMMENT
  ;; TODO?: something else than compile-lambda should output whatever amounts to
  ;; dereferencing a function after actually having compiled the function and
(defun emit-classfile-prologue (classname)
  (super Procedure)
  .field private static final t LLispObject;
  "%literal-vars"
  .method static <cinit>()V
  .limit locals 255
  .limit stack 255
  ldc_w "dblfnutt" t "dblfnutt"
  invokevirtual Symbol.intern(Ljava/lang/String;)LSymbol;
  putstatic 'classname 't LLispObject;
  "%literal-init"
  return
  .end method

(method public <init>()V
  .limit stack 2
  .limit locals 1
  aload_0
  ldc "dblfnutt classname dblfnutt" t
  invokevirtual Procedure.<init>(Ljava/lang/String;)V
  return
  .end method

(method public run([LLispObject;) LLispObject;
  .limit stack 255
  .limit locals 255
  )
)

(defun compile-lambda (a e . rest)
  (unless (and (type? 'list a)
    (or (eq? (car a) 'lambda)
      (eq? (car a) 'nlambda)))
    (error (concat "Are you really sure you passed me a lambda: " a)))
  (let* ((classname (if rest (car rest) (get-funclabel)))
    (env (list* 'classname classname e))
    (%literal-vars"
    (%literal-init"
    (body (case (car a) ; since we evaluate the
      ; body also for the side effects to %literal-vars%
      (lambda (emit-lambda-body a env)) ; and %literal-init% we
        have to evaluate this before emit-classfile-prologue
        (nlambda (emit-nlambda-body a env)))))
    (with-open-file (stream (concat classname ".j") out)
      (write-string (concat (emit-classfile-prologue classname)
        body
        (emit-classfile-epilogue classname)))
    stream)) ; HERE: compile the file just emitted too
  )
)

(defun emit-progn (a e tail) ; NOT TAIL RECURSIVE
  (cond ((cdr a) (concat (emit-expr (car a) e nil)
    'pop' nl
    (emit-progn (cdr a) e tail)))
    (a (emit-expr (car a) e tail))
    (t "))
)

; (nlambda <name> (a b c) . <body>)
(defun emit-nlambda-body (a e)
  (emit-lambda-body (cons 'lambda (cddr a)))
  e
)
we know ourselves by being register 0 which is "this" in Java. this variable has the self property set to the parameter-list of the function. emit-funcall will thus know it can do self-tail-call-elimination and also how the parameters are to be interpreted (when to construct a list out of some of them etc. etc.)

(defun emit-lambda-body (a e . rst)
  (letrec ((static-environment-augmentation (first rst)) ; Optional argument that augments the generated static environment if present
    (args (cadr a))
    (body (cddr a))
    (args-roop (lambda (lst alist asm cntr offset) ; TODO: variable arity rest-parameter stuff
      (if lst
        (args-roop (cdr lst)
          (acons (car lst) (list (+ cntr offset)) ; static t) alist)
        (concat asm
          "aload_1" nl
          "ldc_w" cntr nl
          "aaload" nl
          "astore" (+ cntr offset) nl)
        (1+ cntr)
        offset)
      )
    (cons asm alist))))
  (args-result (args-roop args '() *** 0 +reserved-regs-split+) ; + reserved-regs-split is the first register that is general-purpose enough
    (asm (car args-result))
    (alist (cdr args-result))
    (new-e (list 'classname (getf e 'classname) 'static-environment (append alist static-environment-augmentation)))))
  (concat ";; " a nl)
  asm
  "Lselftail:" nl ; label used for self-tail-recursive purposes
  (emit-progn body new-e e t) ; in a lambda the progn body is always a tail-waity
  "aretur" nl
  ";; endlambda" nil)
  (concat " ; ; endlambda " nl)
)

; ; An emit lambda for when all arguments are passed to the method
; ; plain. Might be good if you want to kawa-style optimize when
; ; there's a smaller than N number of args to a function
(defun emit-lambda (a e . rst)
  (letrec ((static-environment-augmentation (car rst)) ; Optional argument that augments the generated static environment if present
    (args (cadr a))
    (body (cddr a))
    (args-roop (lambda (lst alist cntr))
      (if lst
        (args-roop (cdr lst)
          (acons (car lst) cntr alist)
        (1+ cntr)
        )
      )
    (cons e nil)
    (concat ";; " a nl)
    (emit-progn body new-e e t) ; in a lambda the progn body is always a tail-waity
    "aretur" nl
    ";; endlambda" nil)))

; ; T O D O: lexic I guess
; ; Old emit lambda when I was preparing for JSR-based stuff (might come in handy again when you try your hand at TCO)
(defun emit-lambda (a e r s t) ; Optional argument that augments the generated static environment if present
  (letrec ((static-environment-augmentation (car r s t)))
    (args (cadr a))
    (body (cddr a))
    (args-roop (lambda (lst asm alist cntr)
      (if lst
        (args-roop (cdr lst)
          (concat " astore " cntr nl asm)
          (acons (car lst) cntr alist)
          (1+ cntr))
        (cons asm alist))))
    (args-result (args-roop args "'() +reserved+regs+split+)) ; +reserved+regs+split+ is the first register that isn't reserved
    (asm (car args-result))
    (new-e (list 'classname (getf e 'classname) 'static-environment (append (cdr args-result) static-environment-augmentation)))
    (concat "; ; " a nl
    'astore 255 ; store return address in variable 255' nl
    asm ; the argsy stuff
    (emit-progn body new-e t) ; in a lambda the progn body is always a tailly-waitly
    'ret 255' nl
    ';; endlambda' nl)))
  (provide 'compile)