

# Syntax: Meta-Programming Helpers

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# 1 Syntax Object Helpers

## 1.1 Deconstructing Syntax Objects

```
(require syntax/stx)
```

---

```
(stx-null? v) → boolean?  
v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` is either the empty list or a syntax object representing the empty list (i.e., `syntax-e` on the syntax object returns the empty list).

---

```
(stx-pair? v) → boolean?  
v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` is either a pair or a syntax object representing a pair (see `syntax-pair`).

---

```
(stx-list? v) → boolean?  
v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` is a list, or if it is a sequence of pairs leading to a syntax object such that `syntax->list` would produce a list.

---

```
(stx->list stx-list) → (or/c list? #f)  
stx-list : stx-list?
```

Produces a list by flattening out a trailing syntax object using `syntax->list`.

---

```
(stx-car v) → any  
v : stx-pair?
```

Takes the car of a syntax pair.

---

```
(stx-cdr v) → any  
v : stx-pair?
```

Takes the cdr of a syntax pair.

---

```
(stx-map proc stx1 ...) → list?  
proc : procedure?
```

```
stxl : stx-list?
```

Equivalent to `(map proc (stx->list stxl) ...)`.

---

```
(module-or-top-identifier=? a-id b-id) → boolean?  
  a-id : identifier?  
  b-id : identifier?
```

Returns `#t` if `a-id` and `b-id` are `free-identifier=?`, or if `a-id` and `b-id` have the same name (as extracted by `syntax-e`) and `a-id` has no binding other than at the top level.

This procedure is useful in conjunction with `syntax-case*` to match procedure names that are normally bound by Racket. For example, the `include` macro uses this procedure to recognize `build-path`; using `free-identifier=?` would not work well outside of module, since the top-level `build-path` is a distinct variable from the `racket/base` export (though it's bound to the same procedure, initially).

## 1.2 Matching Fully-Expanded Expressions

```
(require syntax/kerncase)
```

---

```
(kernel-syntax-case stx-expr trans?-expr clause ...)
```

A syntactic form like `syntax-case*`, except that the literals are built-in as the names of the primitive Racket forms as exported by `scheme/base`; see §1.2.3.1 “Fully Expanded Programs”.

The `trans?-expr` boolean expression replaces the comparison procedure, and instead selects simply between normal-phase comparisons or transformer-phase comparisons. The `clauses` are the same as in `syntax-case*`.

The primitive syntactic forms must have their normal bindings in the context of the `kernel-syntax-case` expression. Beware that `kernel-syntax-case` does not work in a module whose language is `mzscheme`, since the binding of `if` from `mzscheme` is different than the primitive `if`.

---

```
(kernel-syntax-case* stx-expr trans?-expr (extra-id ...) clause ...)
```

A syntactic form like `kernel-syntax-case`, except that it takes an additional list of extra literals that are in addition to the primitive Racket forms.

---

```
(kernel-syntax-case/phase stx-expr phase-expr clause ...)
```

Generalizes `kernel-syntax-case` to work at an arbitrary phase level, as indicated by `phase-expr`.

---

```
(kernel-syntax-case*/phase stx-expr phase-expr (extra-id ..)
  clause ...)
```

Generalizes `kernel-syntax-case*` to work at an arbitrary phase level, as indicated by `phase-expr`.

---

```
(kernel-form-identifier-list) → (listof identifier?)
```

Returns a list of identifiers that are bound normally, `for-syntax`, and `for-template` to the primitive Racket forms for expressions, internal-definition positions, and module-level and top-level positions. This function is useful for generating a list of stopping points to provide to `local-expand`.

In addition to the identifiers listed in §1.2.3.1 “Fully Expanded Programs”, the list includes `letrec-syntaxes+values`, which is the core form for local expand-time binding and can appear in the result of `local-expand`.

### 1.3 Hashing on `bound-identifier=?` and `free-identifier=?`

See also `syntax/id-table` for an implementation of identifier mappings using the `scheme/dict` dictionary interface.

```
(require syntax/boundmap)
```

---

```
(make-bound-identifier-mapping) → bound-identifier-mapping?
```

Produces a hash-table-like value for storing a mapping from syntax identifiers to arbitrary values.

The mapping uses `bound-identifier=?` to compare mapping keys, but also uses a hash table based on symbol equality to make the mapping efficient in the common case (i.e., where non-equivalent identifiers are derived from different symbolic names).

---

```
(bound-identifier-mapping? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` was produced by `make-bound-identifier-mapping`, `#f` otherwise.

---

```
(bound-identifier-mapping-get bound-map
                             id
                             [failure-thunk]) → any
bound-map : bound-identifier-mapping?
id : identifier?
failure-thunk : any/c
             = (lambda () (raise (make-exn:fail ...)))
```

Like hash-table-get for bound-identifier mappings.

---

```
(bound-identifier-mapping-put! bound-map
                              id
                              v) → void?
bound-map : bound-identifier-mapping?
id : identifier?
v : any/c
```

Like hash-table-put! for bound-identifier mappings.

---

```
(bound-identifier-mapping-for-each bound-map
                                   proc) → void?
bound-map : bound-identifier-mapping?
proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)
```

Like hash-table-for-each.

---

```
(bound-identifier-mapping-map bound-map
                              proc) → (listof any?)
bound-map : bound-identifier-mapping?
proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)
```

Like hash-table-map.

---

```
(make-free-identifier-mapping) → free-identifier-mapping?
```

Produces a hash-table-like value for storing a mapping from syntax identifiers to arbitrary values.

The mapping uses `free-identifier=?` to compare mapping keys, but also uses a hash table based on symbol equality to make the mapping efficient in the common case (i.e., where non-equivalent identifiers are derived from different symbolic names at their definition sites).



---

```
(free-identifier-mapping? v) → boolean?  
  v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` was produced by `make-free-identifier-mapping`, `#f` otherwise.

---

```
(free-identifier-mapping-get free-map  
                             id  
                             [failure-thunk]) → any  
  free-map : free-identifier-mapping?  
  id : identifier?  
  failure-thunk : any/c  
                = (lambda () (raise (make-exn:fail ...)))
```

Like `hash-table-get` for free-identifier mappings.

---

```
(free-identifier-mapping-put! free-map id v) → void?  
  free-map : free-identifier-mapping?  
  id : identifier?  
  v : any/c
```

Like `hash-table-put!` for free-identifier mappings.

---

```
(free-identifier-mapping-for-each free-map  
                                 proc) → void?  
  free-map : free-identifier-mapping?  
  proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)
```

Like `hash-table-for-each`.

---

```
(free-identifier-mapping-map free-map proc) → (listof any?)  
  free-map : free-identifier-mapping?  
  proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)
```

Like `hash-table-map`.

---

```
(make-module-identifier-mapping) → module-identifier-mapping?  
(module-identifier-mapping? v) → boolean?  
  v : any/c
```

```

(module-identifier-mapping-get module-map
  id
  [failure-thunk]) → any
  module-map : module-identifier-mapping?
  id : identifier?
  failure-thunk : any/c
                = (lambda () (raise (make-exn:fail ...)))
(module-identifier-mapping-put! module-map
  id
  v) → void?
  module-map : module-identifier-mapping?
  id : identifier?
  v : any/c
(module-identifier-mapping-for-each module-map
  proc) → void?
  module-map : module-identifier-mapping?
  proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)
(module-identifier-mapping-map module-map
  proc) → (listof any?)
  module-map : module-identifier-mapping?
  proc : (identifier? any/c . -> . any)

```

The same as `make-free-identifier-mapping`, etc.

## 1.4 Identifier dictionaries

```
(require syntax/id-table)
```

This module provides functionality like that of `syntax/boundmap` but with more operations, standard names, implementation of the `scheme/dict` interface, and immutable (functionally-updating) variants.

### 1.4.1 Dictionaries for `bound-identifier=?`

Bound-identifier tables implement the dictionary interface of `scheme/dict`. Consequently, all of the appropriate generic functions (`dict-ref`, `dict-map`, etc) can be used on free-identifier tables.

---

```

(make-bound-id-table [init-dict
  #:phase phase]) → mutable-bound-id-table?
  init-dict : dict? = null
  phase : (or/c exact-integer? #f) = (syntax-local-phase-level)

```

```
(make-immutable-bound-id-table [init-dict
                               #:phase phase])
→ immutable-bound-id-table?
  init-dict : dict? = null
  phase : (or/c exact-integer? #f) = (syntax-local-phase-level)
```

Produces a dictionary mapping syntax identifiers to arbitrary values. The mapping uses `bound-identifier=?` to compare keys, but also uses a hash table based on symbol equality to make the mapping efficient in the common case. The two procedures produce mutable and immutable dictionaries, respectively.

The identifiers are compared at phase level `phase`. The default value is generally appropriate for identifier tables used by macros, but code that analyzes fully-expanded programs may need to create identifier tables at multiple different phases.

The optional `init-dict` argument provides the initial mappings. It must be a dictionary, and its keys must all be identifiers. If the `init-dict` dictionary has multiple distinct entries whose keys are `bound-identifier=?`, only one of the entries appears in the new id-table, and it is not specified which entry is picked.

---

```
(bound-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
```

Returns `#t` if `v` was produced by `make-bound-id-table` or `make-immutable-bound-id-table`, `#f` otherwise.

---

```
(mutable-bound-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
(immutable-bound-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
```

Predicate for the mutable and immutable variants of bound-identifier tables, respectively.

---

```
(bound-id-table-ref table id [failure]) → any
  table : bound-id-table?
  id : identifier?
  failure : any/c = (lambda () (raise (make-exn:fail ....)))
```

Like `hash-ref` for bound identifier tables. In particular, if `id` is not found, the `failure` argument is applied if it is a procedure, or simply returned otherwise.

---

```
(bound-id-table-set! table id v) → void?
  table : mutable-bound-id-table?
  id : identifier?
```

`v : any/c`

Like `hash-set!` for mutable bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-set table id v) → immutable-bound-id-table?  
  table : immutable-bound-id-table?  
  id : identifier?  
  v : any/c
```

Like `hash-set` for immutable bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-remove! table id) → void?  
  table : mutable-bound-id-table?  
  id : identifier?
```

Like `hash-remove!` for mutable bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-remove table id v) → immutable-bound-id-table?  
  table : immutable-bound-id-table?  
  id : identifier?  
  v : any/c
```

Like `hash-remove` for immutable bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-map table proc) → list?  
  table : bound-id-table?  
  proc : (-> identifier? any/c any)
```

Like `hash-map` for bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-for-each table proc) → void?  
  table : bound-id-table?  
  proc : (-> identifier? any/c any)
```

Like `hash-for-each` for bound-identifier tables.

---

```
(bound-id-table-count table) → exact-nonnegative-integer?  
  table : bound-id-table?
```

Like `hash-count` for bound-identifier tables.

## 1.4.2 Dictionaries for free-identifier=?

Free-identifier tables implement the dictionary interface of `scheme/dict`. Consequently, all of the appropriate generic functions (`dict-ref`, `dict-map`, etc) can be used on free-identifier tables.

---

```
(make-free-id-table [init-dict
                    #:phase phase]) → mutable-free-id-table?
  init-dict : dict? = null
  phase : (or/c exact-integer? #f) = (syntax-local-phase-level)
(make-immutable-free-id-table [init-dict
                               #:phase phase])
→ immutable-free-id-table?
  init-dict : dict? = null
  phase : (or/c exact-integer? #f) = (syntax-local-phase-level)
(free-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
(mutable-free-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
(immutable-free-id-table? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c
(free-id-table-ref table id [failure]) → any
  table : free-id-table?
  id : identifier?
  failure : any/c = (lambda () (raise (make-exn:fail .....)))
(free-id-table-set! table id v) → void?
  table : mutable-free-id-table?
  id : identifier?
  v : any/c
(free-id-table-set table id v) → immutable-free-id-table?
  table : immutable-free-id-table?
  id : identifier?
  v : any/c
(free-id-table-remove! table id) → void?
  table : mutable-free-id-table?
  id : identifier?
(free-id-table-remove table id v) → immutable-free-id-table?
  table : immutable-free-id-table?
  id : identifier?
  v : any/c
(free-id-table-map table proc) → list?
  table : free-id-table?
  proc : (-> identifier? any/c any)
```

```
(free-id-table-for-each table proc) → void?
  table : free-id-table?
  proc : (-> identifier? any/c any)
(free-id-table-count table) → exact-nonnegative-integer?
  table : free-id-table?
```

Like the procedures for bound-identifier tables (`make-bound-id-table`, `bound-id-table-ref`, etc), but for free-identifier tables, which use `free-identifier=?` to compare keys.

## 1.5 Rendering Syntax Objects with Formatting

```
(require syntax/to-string)
```

---

```
(syntax->string stx-list) → string?
  stx-list : stx-list?
```

Builds a string with newlines and indenting according to the source locations in `stx-list`; the outer pair of parens are not rendered from `stx-list`.

## 1.6 Computing the Free Variables of an Expression

```
(require syntax/free-vars)
```

---

```
(free-vars expr-stx) → (listof identifier?)
  expr-stx : syntax?
```

Returns a list of free lambda- and let-bound identifiers in `expr-stx`. The expression must be fully expanded (see §1.2.3.1 “Fully Expanded Programs” and `expand`).

## 1.7 Replacing Lexical Context

```
(require syntax/strip-context)
```

---

```
(strip-context stx) → syntax?
  stx : syntax?
```

Removes all lexical context from `stx`, preserving source-location information and properties.

---

```
(replace-context ctx-stx stx) → syntax?  
  ctx-stx : (or/c syntax? #f)  
  stx : syntax?
```

Uses the lexical context of `ctx-stx` to replace the lexical context of all parts of `stx`, preserving source-location information and properties of `stx`.

## 1.8 Helpers for Processing Keyword Syntax

The `syntax/keyword` module contains procedures for parsing keyword options in macros.

```
(require syntax/keyword)  
  
keyword-table = (dict-of keyword (listof check-procedure))
```

A keyword-table is a dictionary (`dict?`) mapping keywords to lists of check-procedures. (Note that an association list is a suitable dictionary.) The keyword's arity is the length of the list of procedures.

Example:

```
> (define my-keyword-table  
  (list (list '#:a check-identifier)  
        (list '#:b check-expression check-expression)))  
current-directory: 'exists' access denied for  
/home/scheme/docs/pdf/  
  
check-procedure = (syntax syntax -> any)
```

A check procedure consumes the syntax to check and a context syntax object for error reporting and either raises an error to reject the syntax or returns a value as its parsed representation.

Example:

```
> (define (check-stx-string stx context-stx)  
  (unless (string? (syntax-e stx))  
    (raise-syntax-error #f "expected string" context-stx stx)  
    stx)  
  
options = (listof (list keyword syntax-keyword any ...))
```

Parsed options are represented as an list of option entries. Each entry contains the keyword, the syntax of the keyword (for error reporting), and the list of parsed values returned by the keyword's list of check procedures. The list contains the parsed options in the order they

appeared in the input, and a keyword that occurs multiple times in the input occurs multiple times in the options list.

---

```
(parse-keyword-options stx
  table
  [#:context ctx
   #:no-duplicates? no-duplicates?
   #:incompatible incompatible
   #:on-incompatible incompatible-handler
   #:on-too-short too-short-handler
   #:on-not-in-table not-in-table-handler])

→ options any/c
stx : syntax?
table : keyword-table
ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?) = #f
no-duplicates? : boolean? = #f
incompatible : (listof (listof keyword?)) = '()
incompatible-handler : (-> keyword? keyword?
  options syntax? syntax?
  (values options syntax?))
= (lambda (...) (error ...))
too-short-handler : (-> keyword? options syntax? syntax?
  (values options syntax?))
= (lambda (...) (error ...))
not-in-table-handler : (-> keyword? options syntax? syntax?
  (values options syntax?))
= (lambda (...) (error ...))
```

Parses the keyword options in the syntax *stx* (*stx* may be an improper syntax list). The keyword options are described in the *table* association list. Each entry in *table* should be a list whose first element is a keyword and whose subsequent elements are procedures for checking the arguments following the keyword. The keyword's arity (number of arguments) is determined by the number of procedures in the entry. Only fixed-arity keywords are supported.

Parsing stops normally when the syntax list does not have a keyword at its head (it may be empty, start with a non-keyword term, or it may be a non-list syntax object). Two values are returned: the parsed options and the rest of the syntax (generally either a syntax object or a list of syntax objects).

A variety of errors and exceptional conditions can occur during the parsing process. The following keyword arguments determine the behavior in those situations.

The `#:context ctx` argument is used to report all errors in parsing syntax. In addition, *ctx* is passed as the final argument to all provided handler procedures. Macros using `parse-keyword-options` should generally pass the syntax object for the whole macro use as *ctx*.



If *no-duplicates?* is a non-false value, then duplicate keyword options are not allowed. If a duplicate is seen, the keyword's associated check procedures are not called and an incompatibility is reported.

The *incompatible* argument is a list of incompatibility entries, where each entry is a list of *at least two* keywords. If any keyword in the entry occurs after any other keyword in the entry, an incompatibility is reported.

Note that including a keyword in an incompatibility entry does not prevent it from occurring multiple times. To disallow duplicates of some keywords (as opposed to all keywords), include those keywords in the *incompatible* list as being incompatible with themselves. That is, include them twice:

```
; Disallow duplicates of only the #:foo keyword
(parse-keyword-options ... #:incompatible '((#:foo #:foo)))
```

When an *incompatibility* occurs, the *incompatible-handler* is tail-called with the two keywords causing the incompatibility (in the order that they occurred in the syntax list, so the keyword triggering the incompatibility occurs second), the syntax list starting with the occurrence of the second keyword, and the context (*ctx*). If the incompatibility is due to a duplicate, the two keywords are the same.

When a keyword is not followed by enough arguments according to its arity in *table*, the *too-short-handler* is tail-called with the keyword, the options parsed thus far, the syntax list starting with the occurrence of the keyword, and *ctx*.

When a keyword occurs in the syntax list that is not in *table*, the *not-in-table-handler* is tail-called with the keyword, the options parsed thus far, the syntax list starting with the occurrence of the keyword, and *ctx*.

Handlers typically escape—all of the default handlers raise errors—but if they return, they should return two values: the parsed options and a syntax object; these are returned as the results of *parse-keyword-options*.

Examples:

```
> (parse-keyword-options
   #'(#:transparent #:property p (lambda (x) (f x)))
   (list (list '#:transparent)
         (list '#:inspector check-expression)
         (list '#:property check-expression check-expression)))
current-directory: 'exists' access denied for
/home/scheme/docs/pdf
> (parse-keyword-options
   #'(#:transparent #:inspector (make-inspector))
   (list (list '#:transparent)
         (list '#:inspector check-expression)))
```

```

      (list '#:property check-expression check-expression))
#:context #'define-struct
#:incompatible '((#:transparent #:inspector)
                 (#:inspector #:inspector)
                 (#:inspector #:inspector)))

```

*current-directory: 'exists' access denied for  
/home/scheme/docs/pdf/*

---

```

(parse-keyword-options/eol
 stx
 table
 [#:context ctx
  #:no-duplicates? no-duplicates?
  #:incompatible incompatible
  #:on-incompatible incompatible-handler
  #:on-too-short too-short-handler
  #:on-not-in-table not-in-table-handler
  #:on-not-eol not-eol-handler])
→ options
stx : syntax?
table : keyword-table
ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?) = #f
no-duplicates? : boolean? = #f
incompatible : (listof (list keyword? keyword?)) = '()
incompatible-handler : (-> keyword? keyword?
                        options syntax? syntax?
                        (values options syntax?))
                        = (lambda (...) (error ...))
too-short-handler : (-> keyword? options syntax? syntax?
                    (values options syntax?))
                    = (lambda (...) (error ...))
not-in-table-handler : (-> keyword? options syntax? syntax?
                       (values options syntax?))
                       = (lambda (...) (error ...))
not-eol-handler : (-> options syntax? syntax?
                  options)
                  = (lambda (...) (error ...))

```

Like `parse-keyword-options`, but checks that there are no terms left over after parsing all of the keyword options. If there are, `not-eol-handler` is tail-called with the options parsed thus far, the leftover syntax, and `ctx`.

---

```

(options-select options keyword) → (listof list?)
options : options
keyword : keyword?

```

Selects the values associated with one keyword from the parsed options. The resulting list has as many items as there were occurrences of the keyword, and each element is a list whose length is the arity of the keyword.

---

```
(options-select-row options
                    keyword
                    #:default default) → any

options : options
keyword : keyword?
default : any/c
```

Like `options-select`, except that the given keyword must occur either zero or one times in `options`. If the keyword occurs, the associated list of parsed argument values is returned. Otherwise, the `default` list is returned.

---

```
(options-select-value options
                      keyword
                      #:default default) → any

options : options
keyword : keyword?
default : any/c
```

Like `options-select`, except that the given keyword must occur either zero or one times in `options`. If the keyword occurs, the associated list of parsed argument values must have exactly one element, and that element is returned. If the keyword does not occur in `options`, the `default` value is returned.

---

```
(check-identifier stx ctx) → identifier?
stx : syntax?
ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?)
```

A check-procedure that accepts only identifiers.

---

```
(check-expression stx ctx) → syntax?
stx : syntax?
ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?)
```

A check-procedure that accepts any non-keyword term. It does not actually check that the term is a valid expression.

---

```
((check-stx-listof check) stx ctx) → (listof any/c)
check : check-procedure
stx : syntax?
```

```
ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?)
```

Lifts a check-procedure to accept syntax lists of whatever the original procedure accepted.

---

```
(check-stx-string stx ctx) → syntax?  
  stx : syntax?  
  ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?)
```

A check-procedure that accepts syntax strings.

---

```
(check-stx-boolean stx ctx) → syntax?  
  stx : syntax?  
  ctx : (or/c false/c syntax?)
```

A check-procedure that accepts syntax booleans.

## 1.9 Legacy Zodiac Interface

```
(require syntax/zodiac)  
(require syntax/zodiac-unit)  
(require syntax/zodiac-sig)
```

The interface is similar to Zodiac—enough to be useful for porting—but different in many ways. See the source "zodiac-sig.rkt" for details. New software should not use this compatibility layer.

## 2 Module-Processing Helpers

### 2.1 Reading Module Source Code

```
(require syntax/modread)
```

---

```
(with-module-reading-parameterization thunk) → any  
  thunk : (-> any)
```

Calls *thunk* with all reader parameters reset to their default values.

---

```
(check-module-form stx  
  expected-module-sym  
  source-v)  
→ (or/c syntax? false/c)  
  stx : (or/c syntax? eof-object?)  
  expected-module-sym : symbol?  
  source-v : (or/c string? false/c)
```

Inspects *stx* to check whether evaluating it will declare a module—at least if *module* is bound in the top-level to Racket’s module. The syntax object *stx* can contain a compiled expression. Also, *stx* can be an end-of-file, on the grounds that `read-syntax` can produce an end-of-file.

The *expected-module-sym* argument is currently ignored. In previous versions, the module form *stx* was obliged to declare a module whose name matched *expected-module-sym*.

If *stx* can declare a module in an appropriate top-level, then the `check-module-form` procedure returns a syntax object that certainly will declare a module (adding explicit context to the leading module if necessary) in any top-level. Otherwise, if *source-v* is not `#f`, a suitable exception is raised using the `write` form of the source in the message; if *source-v* is `#f`, `#f` is returned.

If *stx* is eof or eof wrapped as a syntax object, then an error is raised or `#f` is returned.

### 2.2 Getting Module Compiled Code

```
(require syntax/modcode)
```

---

```

(get-module-code path
  [#:sub-path compiled-subdir0
   compiled-subdir
   #:compile compile-proc0
   compile-proc
   #:extension-handler ext-proc0
   ext-proc
   #:choose choose-proc
   #:notify notify-proc
   #:source-reader read-syntax-proc]) → any

path : path?
compiled-subdir0 : (and/c path-string? relative-path?)
                  = "compiled"
compiled-subdir : (and/c path-string? relative-path?)
                  = compiled-subdir0
compile-proc0 : (any/c . -> . any) = compile
compile-proc : (any/c . -> . any) = compile-proc0
ext-proc0 : (or/c false/c (path? boolean? . -> . any)) = #f
ext-proc : (or/c false/c (path? boolean? . -> . any))
           = ext-proc0
choose-proc : (path? path? path?
              . -> .
              (or/c (symbols 'src 'zo 'so) false/c))
             = (lambda (src zo so) #f)
notify-proc : (any/c . -> . any) = void
read-syntax-proc : (any/c input-port? . -> . (or/c syntax? eof-object?))
                  = read-syntax

```

Returns a compiled expression for the declaration of the module specified by *path*.

The *compiled-subdir* argument defaults to "compiled"; it specifies the sub-directory to search for a compiled version of the module.

The *compile-proc* argument defaults to `compile`. This procedure is used to compile module source if an already-compiled version is not available.

The *ext-proc* argument defaults to `#f`. If it is not `#f`, it must be a procedure of two arguments that is called when a native-code version of *path* is should be used. In that case, the arguments to *ext-proc* are the path for the extension, and a boolean indicating whether the extension is a `_loader` file (`#t`) or not (`#f`).

The *choose-proc* argument is a procedure that takes three paths: a source path, a ".zo" file path, and an extension path (for a non-`_loader` extension). Some of the paths may not exist. The result should be either `'src`, `'zo`, `'so`, or `#f`, indicating which variant should be used or (in the case of `#f`) that the default choice should be used.

The default choice is computed as follows: if a ".zo" version of *path* is available and newer than *path* itself (in one of the directories specified by *compiled-subdir*), then it is used instead of the source. Native-code versions of *path* are ignored, unless only a native-code non-*\_loader* version exists (i.e., *path* itself does not exist). A *\_loader* extension is selected a last resort.

If an extension is preferred or is the only file that exists, it is supplied to *ext-proc* when *ext-proc* is *#f*, or an exception is raised (to report that an extension file cannot be used) when *ext-proc* is *#f*.

If *notify-proc* is supplied, it is called for the file (source, ".zo" or extension) that is chosen.

If *read-syntax-proc* is provided, it is used to read the module from a source file (but not from a bytecode file).

---

```
(moddep-current-open-input-file)
→ (path-string? . -> . input-port?)
(moddep-current-open-input-file proc) → void?
proc : (path-string? . -> . input-port?)
```

A parameter whose value is used like *open-input-file* to read a module source or ".zo" file.

---

```
(struct exn:get-module-code exn:fail (path)
      #:extra-constructor-name make-exn:get-module-code)
path : path?
```

An exception structure type for exceptions raised by *get-module-code*.

## 2.3 Resolving Module Paths to File Paths

```
(require syntax/modresolve)
```

---

```
(resolve-module-path module-path-v
                    rel-to-path-v) → path?
module-path-v : module-path?
rel-to-path-v : (or/c path-string? (-> any) false/c)
```

Resolves a module path to filename path. The module path is resolved relative to *rel-to-path-v* if it is a path string (assumed to be for a file), to the directory result of calling the *think* if it is a thunk, or to the current directory otherwise.

---

```
(resolve-module-path-index module-path-index
                          rel-to-path-v) → path?
  module-path-index : module-path-index?
  rel-to-path-v : (or/c path-string? (-> any) false/c)
```

Like `resolve-module-path` but the input is a module path index; in this case, the `rel-to-path-v` base is used where the module path index contains the “self” index. If `module-path-index` depends on the “self” module path index, then an exception is raised unless `rel-to-path-v` is a path string.

## 2.4 Simplifying Module Paths

```
(require syntax/modcollapse)
```

---

```
(collapse-module-path module-path-v
                     rel-to-module-path-v)
→ (or/c path? module-path?)
  module-path-v : module-path?
  rel-to-module-path-v : any/c
```

Returns a “simplified” module path by combining `module-path-v` with `rel-to-module-path-v`, where the latter must have the form `'(lib ...)` or a symbol, `'(file <string>)`, `'(planet ...)`, a path, or a thunk to generate one of those.

The result can be a path if `module-path-v` contains a path element that is needed for the result, or if `rel-to-module-path-v` is a non-string path that is needed for the result; otherwise, the result is a module path in the sense of `module-path?`.

When the result is a `'lib` or `'planet` module path, it is normalized so that equivalent module paths are represented by `equal?` results.

---

```
(collapse-module-path-index module-path-index
                          rel-to-module-path-v)
→ (or/c path? module-path?)
  module-path-index : module-path-index?
  rel-to-module-path-v : any/c
```

Like `collapse-module-path`, but the input is a module path index; in this case, the `rel-to-module-path-v` base is used where the module path index contains the “self” index.



## 2.5 Inspecting Modules and Module Dependencies

```
(require syntax/moddep)
```

Re-exports `syntax/modread`, `syntax/modcode`, `syntax/modcollapse`, and `syntax/modresolve`, in addition to the following:

---

```
(show-import-tree module-path-v) → void?  
  module-path-v : module-path?
```

A debugging aid that prints the import hierarchy starting from a given module path.

## 3 Macro Transformer Helpers

### 3.1 Extracting Inferred Names

```
(require syntax/name)
```

---

```
(syntax-local-infer-name stx) → any/c  
  stx : syntax?
```

Similar to `syntax-local-name` except that `stx` is checked for an `'inferred-name` property (which overrides any inferred name). If neither `syntax-local-name` nor `'inferred-name` produce a name, or if the `'inferred-name` property value is `#<void>`, then a name is constructed from the source-location information in `stx`, if any. If no name can be constructed, the result is `#f`.

### 3.2 Support for `local-expand`

```
(require syntax/context)
```

---

```
(build-expand-context v) → list?  
  v : (or/c symbol? list?)
```

Returns a list suitable for use as a context argument to `local-expand` for an internal-definition context. The `v` argument represents the immediate context for expansion. The context list builds on `(syntax-local-context)` if it is a list.

---

```
(generate-expand-context) → list?
```

Calls `build-expand-context` with a generated symbol.

### 3.3 Parsing define-like Forms

```
(require syntax/define)
```

---

```
(normalize-definition defn-stx  
  lambda-id-stx  
  [check-context?  
   opt+kws?]) → identifier? syntax?  
  defn-stx : syntax?
```

```
lambda-id-stx : identifier?  
check-context? : boolean? = #t  
opt+kws? : boolean? = #t
```

Takes a definition form whose shape is like `define` (though possibly with a different name) and returns two values: the defined identifier and the right-hand side expression.

To generate the right-hand side, this function may need to insert uses of `lambda`. The `lambda-id-stx` argument provides a suitable `lambda` identifier.

If the definition is ill-formed, a syntax error is raised. If `check-context?` is true, then a syntax error is raised if `(syntax-local-context)` indicates that the current context is an expression context. The default value of `check-context?` is `#t`.

If `opt+kws?` is `#t`, then arguments of the form `[id expr]`, keyword `id`, and keyword `[id expr]` are allowed, and they are preserved in the expansion.

### 3.4 Flattening `begin` Forms

```
(require syntax/flatten-begin)
```

---

```
(flatten-begin stx) → (listof syntax?)  
stx : syntax?
```

Extracts the sub-expressions from a `begin`-like form, reporting an error if `stx` does not have the right shape (i.e., a syntax list). The resulting syntax objects have annotations transferred from `stx` using `syntax-track-origin`.

### 3.5 Expanding `define-struct-like` Forms

```
(require syntax/struct)
```

---

```
(parse-define-struct stx orig-stx) → identifier?  
                                     (or/c identifier? false/c)  
                                     (listof identifier?)  
                                     syntax?  
  
stx : syntax?  
orig-stx : syntax?
```

Parses `stx` as a `define-struct` form, but uses `orig-stx` to report syntax errors (under the assumption that `orig-stx` is the same as `stx`, or that they at least share sub-forms). The result is four values: an identifier for the struct type name, a identifier or `#f` for the

super-name, a list of identifiers for fields, and a syntax object for the inspector expression.

---

```
(build-struct-names name-id
                   field-ids
                   [#:constructor-name ctr-name]
                   omit-sel?
                   omit-set?
                   [src-stx])
→ (listof identifier?)
name-id : identifier?
field-ids : (listof identifier?)
ctr-name : (or/c identifier? #f) = #f
omit-sel? : boolean?
omit-set? : boolean?
src-stx : (or/c syntax? false/c) = #f
```

Generates the names bound by `define-struct` given an identifier for the struct type name and a list of identifiers for the field names. The result is a list of identifiers:

- `struct:name-id`
- `ctr-name`, or `make-name-id` if `ctr-name` is `#f`
- `name-id?`
- `name-id-field`, for each `field` in `field-ids`.
- `set-name-id-field!` (getter and setter names alternate).
- ....

If `omit-sel?` is true, then the selector names are omitted from the result list. If `omit-set?` is true, then the setter names are omitted from the result list.

The default `src-stx` is `#f`; it is used to provide a source location to the generated identifiers.

---

```
(build-struct-generation name-id
                       field-ids
                       [#:constructor-name ctr-name]
                       omit-sel?
                       omit-set?
                       [super-type
                       prop-value-list
                       immutable-k-list])
→ (listof identifier?)
name-id : identifier?
```

```

field-ids : (listof identifier?)
ctr-name : (or/c identifier? #f) = #f
omit-sel? : boolean?
omit-set? : boolean?
super-type : any/c = #f
prop-value-list : list? = empty
immutable-k-list : list? = empty

```

Takes the same arguments as `build-struct-names` and generates an S-expression for code using `make-struct-type` to generate the structure type and return values for the identifiers created by `build-struct-names`. The optional `super-type`, `prop-value-list`, and `immutable-k-list` parameters take S-expression values that are used as the corresponding arguments to `make-struct-type`.

---

```

(build-struct-generation* all-name-ids
                          name-id
                          field-ids
                          [#:constructor-name ctr-name]
                          omit-sel?
                          omit-set?
                          [super-type
                           prop-value-list
                           immutable-k-list])
→ (listof identifier?)
all-name-ids : (listof identifier?)
name-id : identifier?
field-ids : (listof identifier?)
ctr-name : (or/c identifier? #f) = #f
omit-sel? : boolean?
omit-set? : boolean?
super-type : any/c = #f
prop-value-list : list? = empty
immutable-k-list : list? = empty

```

Like `build-struct-generation`, but given the names produced by `build-struct-names`, instead of re-generating them.

---

```

(build-struct-expand-info name-id
                          field-ids
                          [#:omit-constructor? no-ctr?
                           #:constructor-name ctr-name
                           #:omit-struct-type? no-type?]
                          omit-sel?
                          omit-set?
                          base-name
                          base-getters
                          base-setters)           → any

name-id : identifier?
field-ids : (listof identifier?)
no-ctr? : any/c = #f
ctr-name : (or/c identifier? #f) = #f
no-type? : any/c = #f
omit-sel? : boolean?
omit-set? : boolean?
base-name : (or/c identifier? boolean?)
base-getters : (listof (or/c identifier? false/c))
base-setters : (listof (or/c identifier? false/c))

```

Takes mostly the same arguments as `build-struct-names`, plus a parent identifier/`#t`/`#f` and a list of accessor and mutator identifiers (possibly ending in `#f`) for a parent type, and generates an S-expression for expansion-time code to be used in the binding for the structure name.

If `no-ctr?` is true, then the constructor name is omitted from the expansion-time information. Similarly, if `no-type?` is true, then the structure-type name is omitted.

A `#t` for the `base-name` means no super-type, `#f` means that the super-type (if any) is unknown, and an identifier indicates the super-type identifier.

---

```

(struct-declaration-info? v) → boolean?
  v : any/c

```

Returns `#t` if `x` has the shape of expansion-time information for structure type declarations, `#f` otherwise. See §4.6 “Structure Type Transformer Binding”.

---

```

(generate-struct-declaration orig-stx
                             name-id
                             super-id-or-false
                             field-id-list
                             current-context
                             make-make-struct-type
                             [omit-sel?
                             omit-set?])          → syntax?

orig-stx : syntax?
name-id  : identifier?
super-id-or-false : (or/c identifier? false/c)
field-id-list : (listof identifier?)
current-context : any/c
make-make-struct-type : procedure?
omit-sel? : boolean? = #f
omit-set? : boolean? = #f

```

This procedure implements the core of a `define-struct` expansion.

The `generate-struct-declaration` procedure is called by a macro expander to generate the expansion, where the `name-id`, `super-id-or-false`, and `field-id-list` arguments provide the main parameters. The `current-context` argument is normally the result of `syntax-local-context`. The `orig-stx` argument is used for syntax errors. The optional `omit-sel?` and `omit-set?` arguments default to `#f`; a `#t` value suppresses definitions of field selectors or mutators, respectively.

The `make-struct-type` procedure is called to generate the expression to actually create the struct type. Its arguments are `orig-stx`, `name-id-stx`, `defined-name-stxes`, and `super-info`. The first two are as provided originally to `generate-struct-declaration`, the third is the set of names generated by `build-struct-names`, and the last is super-struct info obtained by resolving `super-id-or-false` when it is not `#f`, `#f` otherwise.

The result should be an expression whose values are the same as the result of `make-struct-type`. Thus, the following is a basic `make-make-struct-type`:

```

(lambda (orig-stx name-stx defined-name-stxes super-info)
  #'(make-struct-type '#,name-stx
                      #,(and super-info (list-ref super-info 0))
                      #,(/ (- (length defined-name-stxes) 3) 2)
                      0 #f))

```

but an actual `make-make-struct-type` will likely do more.

### 3.6 Resolving include-like Paths

```
(require syntax/path-spec)
```

---

```
(resolve-path-spec path-spec-stx
                  source-stx
                  expr-stx
                  build-path-stx) → complete-path?

path-spec-stx : syntax?
source-stx : syntax?
expr-stx : syntax?
build-path-stx : syntax?
```

Resolves the syntactic path specification *path-spec-stx* as for `include`.

The *source-stx* specifies a syntax object whose source-location information determines relative-path resolution. The *expr-stx* is used for reporting syntax errors. The *build-path-stx* is usually `#'build-path`; it provides an identifier to compare to parts of *path-spec-stx* to recognize the `build-path` keyword.

### 3.7 Controlling Syntax Templates

```
(require syntax/template)
```

---

```
(transform-template template-stx
                   #:save save-proc
                   #:restore-stx restore-proc-stx
                   [#:leaf-save leaf-save-proc
                    #:leaf-restore-stx leaf-restore-proc-stx
                    #:leaf-datum-stx leaf-datum-proc-stx
                    #:pvar-save pvar-save-proc
                    #:pvar-restore-stx pvar-restore-stx
                    #:cons-stx cons-proc-stx
                    #:ellipses-end-stx ellipses-end-stx
                    #:constant-as-leaf? constant-as-leaf?])
→ syntax?

template-stx : syntax?
save-proc : (syntax? . -> . any/c)
restore-proc-stx : syntax?
leaf-save-proc : (syntax? . -> . any/c) = save-proc
leaf-restore-proc-stx : syntax? = #'(lambda (data stx) stx)
leaf-datum-proc-stx : syntax? = #'(lambda (v) v)
```



```

pvar-save-proc : (identifier? . -> . any/c) = (lambda (x) #f)
pvar-restore-stx : syntax? = #'(lambda (d stx) stx)
cons-proc-stx : syntax? = cons
ellipses-end-stx : syntax? = #'values
constant-as-leaf? : boolean? = #f

```

Produces an representation of an expression similar to #'(syntax #, *template-stx*), but functions like *save-proc* can collect information that might otherwise be lost by syntax (such as properties when the syntax object is marshaled within bytecode), and run-time functions like the one specified by *restore-proc-stx* can use the saved information or otherwise process the syntax object that is generated by the template.

The *save-proc* is applied to each syntax object in the representation of the original template (i.e., in *template-stx*). If *constant-as-leaf?* is #t, then *save-proc* is applied only to syntax objects that contain at least one pattern variable in a sub-form. The result of *save-proc* is provided back as the first argument to *restore-proc-stx*, which indicates a function with a contract (-> any/c syntax any/c any/c); the second argument to *restore-proc-stx* is the syntax object that syntax generates, and the last argument is a datum that have been processed recursively (by functions such as *restore-proc-stx*) and that normally would be converted back to a syntax object using the second argument's context, source, and properties. Note that *save-proc* works at expansion time (with respect to the template form), while *restore-proc-stx* indicates a function that is called at run time (for the template form), and the data that flows from *save-proc* to *restore-proc-stx* crosses phases via quote.

The *leaf-save-proc* and *leaf-restore-proc-stx* procedures are analogous to *save-proc* and *restore-proc-stx*, but they are applied to leaves, so there is no third argument for recursively processed sub-forms. The function indicated by *leaf-restore-proc-stx* should have the contract (-> any/c syntax? any/c).

The *leaf-datum-proc-stx* procedure is applied to leaves that are not syntax objects, which can happen because pairs and the empty list are not always individually wrapped as syntax objects. The function should have the contract (-> any/c any/c). When *constant-as-leaf?* is #f, the only possible argument to the procedure is *null*.

The *pvar-save* and *pvar-restore-stx* procedures are analogous to *save-proc* and *restore-proc-stx*, but they are applied to pattern variables. The *pvar-restore-stx* procedure should have the contract (-> any/c syntax? any/c), where the second argument corresponds to the substitution of the pattern variable.

The *cons-proc-stx* procedure is used to build intermediate pairs, including pairs passed to *restore-proc-stx* and pairs that do not correspond to syntax objects.

The *ellipses-end-stx* procedure is an extra filter on the syntax object that follows a sequence of . . . ellipses in the template. The procedure should have the contract (-> any/c any/c).

The following example illustrates a use of `transform-template` to implement a `syntax/shape` form that preserves the `'paren-shape` property from the original template, even if the template code is marshaled within bytecode.

```
(define-for-syntax (get-shape-prop stx)
  (syntax-property stx 'paren-shape))

(define (add-shape-prop v stx datum)
  (syntax-property (datum->syntax stx datum stx stx stx)
    'paren-shape
    v))

(define-syntax (syntax/shape stx)
  (syntax-case stx ()
    [(_ tmpl)
     (transform-template #'tmpl
       #:save get-shape-prop
       #:restore-stx #'add-shape-prop)]))
```

## 4 Reader Helpers

### 4.1 Raising `exn:fail:read`

```
(require syntax/readerr)
```

---

```
(raise-read-error msg-string
                  source
                  line
                  col
                  pos
                  span) → any
msg-string : string?
source : any/c
line : (or/c number? false/c)
col : (or/c number? false/c)
pos : (or/c number? false/c)
span : (or/c number? false/c)
```

Creates and raises an `exn:fail:read` exception, using *msg-string* as the base error message.

Source-location information is added to the error message using the last five arguments (if the `error-print-source-location` parameter is set to `#t`). The *source* argument is an arbitrary value naming the source location—usually a file path string. Each of the *line*, *pos* arguments is `#f` or a positive exact integer representing the location within *source-name* (as much as known), *col* is a non-negative exact integer for the source column (if known), and *span* is `#f` or a non-negative exact integer for an item range starting from the indicated position.

The usual location values should point at the beginning of whatever it is you were reading, and the span usually goes to the point the error was discovered.

---

```
(raise-read-eof-error msg-string
                     source
                     line
                     col
                     pos
                     span) → any
msg-string : string?
source : any/c
line : (or/c number? false/c)
col : (or/c number? false/c)
```

```
pos : (or/c number? false/c)
span : (or/c number? false/c)
```

Like `raise-read-error`, but raises `exn:fail:read:eof` instead of `exn:fail:read`.

## 4.2 Module Reader

```
(require syntax/module-reader)
```

The `syntax/module-reader` library provides support for defining `#lang` readers. It is normally used as a module language, though it may also be required to get `make-meta-reader`. It provides all of the bindings of `scheme/base` other than `#!/module-begin`.

See also §17.3  
“Defining new  
#lang Languages”  
in *The Racket  
Guide*.

---

```
(#!/module-begin module-path)
(#!/module-begin module-path reader-option ... form ....)
(#!/module-begin          reader-option ... form ....)

reader-option = #:read          read-expr
                | #:read-syntax read-syntax-expr
                | #:whole-body-readers? whole?-expr
                | #:wrapper1     wrapper1-expr
                | #:wrapper2     wrapper2-expr
                | #:language     lang-expr
                | #:info         info-expr
                | #:language-info language-info-expr

read-expr : (input-port? . -> . any/c)
read-syntax-expr : (any/c input-port? . -> . any/c)
whole-expr : any/c
wrapper1-expr : (or/c ((-> any/c) . -> . any/c)
                    ((-> any/c) boolean? . -> . any/c))
wrapper2-expr : (or/c (input-port? (input-port? . -> . any/c)
                        . -> . any/c)
                  (input-port? (input-port? . -> . any/c)
                                boolean? . -> . any/c))
info-expr : (symbol? any/c (symbol? any/c . -> . any/c) . -> . any/c)
module-info-expr : (or/c (vector/c module-path? symbol? any/c) #f)
lang-expr : (or/c module-path?
              (and/c syntax? (compose module-path? syntax->datum)
                    procedure?))
```

In its simplest form, the body of a module written with `syntax/module-reader` contains just a module path, which is used in the language position of read modules. For example, a module `something/lang/reader` implemented as

```
(module reader syntax/module-reader
  module-path)
```

creates a reader such that a module source

```
#lang something
....
```

is read as

```
(module name-id module-path
  (%module-begin ....))
```

Keyword-based `reader-options` allow further customization, as listed below. Additional `forms` are as in the body of `scheme/base` module; they can import bindings and define identifiers used by the `reader-options`.

- `#:read` and `#:read-syntax` (both or neither must be supplied) specify alternate readers for parsing the module body—replacements `read` and `read-syntax`, respectively. Normally, the replacements for `read` and `read-syntax` are applied repeatedly to the module source until `eof` is produced, but see also `#:whole-body-readers?`.

For example, a language built on the *Honu* reader could be implemented with:

```
(module reader syntax/module-reader
  module-path
  #:read read-honu
  #:read-syntax read-honu-syntax)
```

See also `#:wrapper1` and `#:wrapper2`, which support simple parameterization of readers rather than wholesale replacement.

- `#:whole-body-readers?` specified as true indicates that the `#:read` and `#:read-syntax` functions each produce a list of S-expressions or syntax objects for the module content, so that each is applied just once to the input stream.

If the resulting list contains a single form that starts with the symbol `'%module-begin` (or a syntax object whose datum is that symbol), then the first item is used as the module body; otherwise, a `'%module-begin` (symbol or identifier) is added to the beginning of the list to form the module body.

- `#:wrapper1` specifies a function that controls the dynamic context in which the `read` and `read-syntax` functions are called. A `#:wrapper1`-specified function must accept a thunk, and it normally calls the thunk to produce a result while `parameterizing` the call. Optionally, a `#:wrapper1`-specified function can accept a boolean that indicates whether it is used in `read (#f)` or `read-syntax (#t)` mode.

For example, a language like `scheme/base` but with case-insensitive reading of symbols and identifiers can be implemented as

```
(module reader syntax/module-reader
  scheme/base
  #:wrapper1 (lambda (t)
               (parameterize ([read-case-sensitive #f])
                 (t))))
```

Using a `readtable`, you can implement languages that are extensions of plain S-expressions.

- `#:wrapper2` is like `#:wrapper1`, but a `#:wrapper2`-specified function receives the input port to be read, and the function that it receives accepts an input port (usually, but not necessarily the same input port). A `#:wrapper2`-specified function can optionally accept a boolean that indicates whether it is used in `read (#f)` or `read-syntax (#t)` mode.
- `#:info` specifies an implementation of reflective information that is used by external tools to manipulate the *source* of modules in the language *something*. For example, DrRacket uses information from `#:info` to determine the style of syntax coloring that it should use for editing a module's source.

The `#:info` specification should be a function of three arguments: a symbol indicating the kind of information requested (as defined by external tools), a default value that normally should be returned if the symbol is not recognized, and a default-filtering function that takes the first two arguments and returns a result.

The expression after `#:info` is placed into a context where `language-module` and `language-data` are bound. The `language-module` identifier is bound to the `module-path` that is used for the read module's language as written directly or as determined through `#:language`. The `language-data` identifier is bound to the second result from `#:language`, or `#f` by default.

The default-filtering function passed to the `#:info` function is intended to provide support for information that `syntax/module-reader` can provide automatically. Currently, it recognizes only the `'module-language` key, for which it returns `language-module`; it returns the given default value for any other key.

In the case of the DrRacket syntax-coloring example, DrRacket supplies `'color-lexer` as the symbol argument, and it supplies `#f` as the default. The default-filtering argument (i.e., the third argument to the `#:info` function) currently just returns the default for `'color-lexer`.

- `#:language-info` specifies an implementation of reflective information that is used by external tools to manipulate the module in the language *something* in its *expanded*, *compiled*, or *declared* form (as opposed to source). For example, when Racket starts a program, it uses information attached to the main module to initialize the run-time environment.

Since the expanded/compiled/declared form exists at a different time than when the source is read, a `#:language-info` specification is a vector that indicates an implementation of the reflective information, instead of a direct implementation as a function like `#:info`. The first element of the vector is a module path, the second is a symbol corresponding to a function exported from the module, and the last element is a value to be passed to the function. The last value in the vector must be one that can be written with `write` and read back with `read`. When the exported function indicated by the first two vector elements is called with the value from the last vector element, the result should be a function or two arguments: a symbol and a default value. The symbol and default value are used as for the `#:info` function (but without an extra default-filtering function).

The value specified by `#:language-info` is attached to the module form that is parsed from source through the `'module-language` syntax property. See `module` for more information.

The expression after `#:language-info` is placed into a context where `language-module` and `language-data` are bound, the same as for `#:info`.

In the case of the Racket run-time configuration example, Racket uses the `#:language-info` vector to obtain a function, and then it passes `'configure-runtime` to the function to obtain information about configuring the runtime environment. See also §17.1.5 “Language Run-Time Configuration”.

- `#:language` allows the language of the read module to be computed dynamically and based on the program source, instead of using a constant `module-path`. (Either `#:language` or `module-path` must be provided, but not both.)

This value of the `#:language` option can be either a module path (possibly as a syntax object) that is used as a module language, or it can be a procedure. If it is a procedure it can accept either

- 0 arguments;
- 1 argument: an input port; or
- 5 arguments: an input port, a syntax object whose datum is a module path for the enclosing module as it was referenced through `#lang` or `#reader`, a starting line number (positive exact integer) or `#f`, a column number (non-negative exact integer) or `#f`, and a position number (positive exact integer) or `#f`.

The result can be either

- a single value, which is a module path or a syntax object whose datum is a module path, to be used like `module-path`; or

- two values, where the first is like a single-value result and the second can be any value.

The second result, which defaults to `#f` if only a single result is produced, is made available to the `#:info` and `#:module-info` functions through the `language-data` binding. For example, it can be a specification derived from the input stream that changes the module’s reflective information (such as the syntax-coloring mode or the output-printing styles).

As another example, the following reader defines a “language” that ignores the contents of the file, and simply reads files as if they were empty:

```
(module ignored syntax/module-reader
  scheme/base
  #:wrapper1 (lambda (t) (t) '()))
```

Note that the wrapper still performs the read, otherwise the module loader would complain about extra expressions.

As a more useful example, the following module language is similar to `at-exp`, where the first datum in the file determines the actual language (which means that the library specification is effectively ignored):

```
(module reader syntax/module-reader
  -ignored-
  #:wrapper2
  (lambda (in rd stx?)
    (let* ([lang (read in)]
           [mod (parameterize ([current-readtable
                               (make-at-readtable)]
                              (rd in))]
           [mod (if stx? mod (datum->syntax #f mod))]
           [r (syntax-case mod ()
                [(module name lang* . body)
                 (with-syntax ([lang (datum->syntax
                                       #'lang* lang #'lang*)]
                               (syntax/loc mod (module name lang . body))))]))]
          (if stx? r (syntax->datum r))))
    (require scribble/reader))
```

The ability to change the language position in the resulting module expression can be useful in cases such as the above, where the base language module is chosen based on the input. To make this more convenient, you can omit the `module-path` and instead specify it via a `#:language` expression. This expression can evaluate to a datum or syntax object that is used as a language, or it can evaluate to a thunk. In the latter case, the thunk is invoked



to obtain such a datum before reading the module body begins, in a dynamic extent where `current-input-port` is the source input. A syntax object is converted using `syntax->datum` when a datum is needed (for `read` instead of `read-syntax`). Using `#:language`, the last example above can be written more concisely:

```
(module reader syntax/module-reader
  #:language read
  #:wrapper2 (lambda (in rd stx?)
              (parameterize ([current-readtable
                             (make-at-readtable)])
                (rd in)))
  (require scribble/reader))
```

For such cases, however, the alternative reader constructor `make-meta-reader` implements a might tightly controlled reading of the module language.

---

```
(make-meta-reader self-sym
                  path-desc-str
                  [#:read-spec read-spec]
                  module-path-parser
                  convert-read
                  convert-read-syntax
                  convert-get-info)
→ procedure? procedure? procedure?
self-sym : symbol?
path-desc-str : string?
read-spec : (input-port? . -> . any/c) = (lambda (in) ...)
module-path-parser : (any/c . -> . (or/c module-path? #f))
convert-read : (procedure? . -> . procedure?)
convert-read-syntax : (procedure? . -> . procedure?)
convert-get-info : (procedure? . -> . procedure?)
```

Generates procedures suitable for export as `read` (see `read` and `#lang`), `read-syntax` (see `read-syntax` and `#lang`), and `get-info` (see `read-language` and `#lang`), respectively, where the procedures chains to another language that is specified in an input stream.

The generated functions expect a target language description in the input stream that is provided to `read-spec`. The default `read-spec` extracts a non-empty sequence of bytes after one or more space and tab bytes, stopping at the first whitespace byte or end-of-file (whichever is first), and it produces either such a byte string or `#f`. If `read-spec` produces `#f`, a reader exception is raised, and `path-desc-str` is used as a description of the expected language form in the error message.

The result of `read-spec` is converted to a module path using `module-path-parser`. If `module-path-parser` produces `#f`, a reader exception is raised in the same way as when

The `at-exp`, `reader`, and `planet` languages are implemented using this function.

The `reader` language supplies `read` for `read-spec`. The `at-exp` and `planet` languages use the default `read-spec`.

`read-spec` produces a `#f`. The `planet` languages supply a `module-path-parser` that converts a byte string to a module path.

If loading the module produced by `module-path-parser` succeeds, then the loaded module's `read`, `read-syntax`, or `get-info` export is passed to `convert-read`, `convert-read-syntax`, or `convert-get-info`, respectively.

The procedures generated by `make-meta-reader` are not meant for use with the `syntax/module-reader` language; they are meant to be exported directly.

The `at-exp` language supplies `convert-read` and `convert-read-syntax` to add `@-expression` support to the current readtable before chaining to the given procedures.

---

```
(wrap-read-all mod-path
  in
  read
  mod-path-stx
  src
  line
  col
  pos)      → any/c
mod-path : module-path?
in : input-port?
read : (input-port . -> . any/c)
mod-path-stx : syntax?
src : (or/c syntax? #f)
line : number?
col : number?
pos : number?
```

*This function is deprecated; the `syntax/module-reader` language can be adapted using the various keywords to arbitrary readers; please use it instead.*

Repeatedly calls `read` on `in` until an end of file, collecting the results in order into `lst`, and derives a `name-id` from `(object-name in)`. The last five arguments are used to construct the syntax object for the language position of the module. The result is roughly

```
'(module ,name-id ,mod-path ,@lst)
```

## 5 Non-Module Compilation And Expansion

```
(require syntax/toplevel)
```

---

```
(expand-syntax-top-level-with-compile-time-evals stx) → syntax?  
  stx : syntax?
```

Expands *stx* as a top-level expression, and evaluates its compile-time portion for the benefit of later expansions.

The expander recognizes top-level `begin` expressions, and interleaves the evaluation and expansion of the `begin` body, so that compile-time expressions within the `begin` body affect later expansions within the body. (In other words, it ensures that expanding a `begin` is the same as expanding separate top-level expressions.)

The *stx* should have a context already, possibly introduced with `namespace-syntax-introduce`.

---

```
(expand-top-level-with-compile-time-evals stx) → syntax?  
  stx : syntax?
```

Like `expand-syntax-top-level-with-compile-time-evals`, but *stx* is first given context by applying `namespace-syntax-introduce` to it.

---

```
(expand-syntax-top-level-with-compile-time-evals/flatten stx)  
→ (listof syntax?)  
  stx : syntax?
```

Like `expand-syntax-top-level-with-compile-time-evals`, except that it returns a list of syntax objects, none of which have a `begin`. These syntax objects are the flattened out contents of any `begin`s in the expansion of *stx*.

---

```
(eval-compile-time-part-of-top-level stx) → void?  
  stx : syntax?
```

Evaluates expansion-time code in the fully expanded top-level expression represented by *stx* (or a part of it, in the case of `begin` expressions). The expansion-time code might affect the compilation of later top-level expressions. For example, if *stx* is a `require` expression, then `namespace-require/expansion-time` is used on each `require` specification in the form. Normally, this function is used only by `expand-top-level-with-compile-time-evals`.

---

```
(eval-compile-time-part-of-top-level/compile stx)
```

```
→ (listof compiled-expression?)  
  stx : syntax?
```

Like `eval-compile-time-part-of-top-level`, but the result is compiled code.

## 6 Trusting Standard Recertifying Transformers

```
(require syntax/trusted-xforms)
```

The `syntax/trusted-xforms` library has no exports. It exists only to require other modules that perform syntax transformations, where the other transformations must use `syntax-recertify`. An application that wishes to provide a less powerful code inspector to a sub-program should generally attach `syntax/trusted-xforms` to the sub-program's namespace so that things like the class system from `scheme/class` work properly.

## 7 Attaching Documentation to Exports

```
(require syntax/docprovide)
```

---

```
(provide-and-document doc-label-id doc-row ...)
```

```
doc-row = (section-string (name type-datum doc-string ...) ...)
          | (all-from prefix-id module-path doc-label-id)
          | (all-from-except prefix-id module-path doc-label-id id ...)
```

```
name = id
       | (local-name-id external-name-id)
```

A form that exports names and records documentation information.

The *doc-label-id* identifier is used as a key for accessing the documentation through [lookup-documentation](#). The actual documentation is organized into “rows”, each with a section title.

A [row](#) has one of the following forms:

- `(section-string (name type-datum doc-string ...) ...)`  
Creates a documentation section whose title is *section-string*, and provides/documents each *name*. The *type-datum* is arbitrary, for use by clients that call [lookup-documentation](#). The *doc-strings* are also arbitrary documentation information, usually concatenated by clients.  
A *name* is either an identifier or a renaming sequence (*local-name-id* *external-name-id*).  
Multiple [rows](#) with the same section name will be merged in the documentation output. The final order of sections matches the order of the first mention of each section.
- `(all-from prefix-id module-path doc-label-id)`
- `(all-from-except prefix-id module-path doc-label-id id ...)`  
Merges documentation and provisions from the specified module into the current one; the *prefix-id* is used to prefix the imports into the current module (so they can be re-exported). If *ids* are provided, the specified *ids* are not re-exported and their documentation is not merged.

---

```
(lookup-documentation module-path-v
                     label-sym) → any
module-path-v : module-path?
label-sym : symbol?
```

Returns documentation for the specified module and label. The *module-path-v* argument is a quoted module path, like the argument to `dynamic-require`. The *label-sym* identifies a set of documentation using the symbol as a label identifier in `provide-and-document`.

## 8 Parsing and specifying syntax

The `syntax/parse` library provides a framework for writing macros and processing syntax. The library provides a powerful language of syntax patterns, used by the pattern-matching form `syntax-parse` and the specification form `define-syntax-class`. Macros that use `syntax-parse` automatically generate error messages based on descriptions and messages embedded in the macro's syntax patterns.

```
(require syntax/parse)
```

### 8.1 Introduction

This section provides an introduction to writing robust macros with `syntax-parse` and `syntax-classes`.

As a running example we use the following task: write a macro named `mylet` that has the same syntax and behavior as Racket's `let` form. The macro should produce good error messages when used incorrectly.

Here is the specification of `mylet`'s syntax:

---

```
(mylet ([var-id rhs-expr] ...) body ...+)
(mylet loop-id ([var-id rhs-expr] ...) body ...+)
```

For simplicity, we handle only the first case for now. We return to the second case later in the introduction.

The macro can be implemented very simply using `define-syntax-rule`:

```
> (define-syntax-rule (mylet ([var rhs] ...) body ...)
  ((lambda (var ...) body ...) rhs ...))
```

When used correctly, the macro works, but it behaves very badly in the presence of errors. In some cases, the macro merely fails with an uninformative error message; in others, it blithely accepts illegal syntax and passes it along to `lambda`, with strange consequences:

```
> (mylet ([a 1] [b 2]) (+ a b))
3
> (mylet (b 2) (sub1 b))
mylet: use does not match pattern: (mylet ((var rhs) ...)
body ...) at: (mylet (b 2) (sub1 b))
> (mylet ([1 a]) (add1 a))
```



*lambda: not an identifier, identifier with default, or keyword at: 1*

```
> (mylet ([#:x 1] [y 2]) (* x y))
```

*struct eval:145:0: expects 0 arguments plus an argument with keyword #:x, given 2: 1 2*

These examples of illegal syntax are not to suggest that a typical programmer would make such mistakes attempting to use `mylet`. At least, not often, not after an initial learning curve. But macros are also used by inexperienced programmers and as targets of other macros (or code generators), and many macros are far more complex than `mylet`. Macros must validate their syntax and report appropriate errors. Furthermore, the macro writer benefits from the *machine-checked* specification of syntax in the form of more readable, maintainable code.

We can improve the error behavior of the macro by using `syntax-parse`. First, we import `syntax-parse` into the transformer environment, since we will use it to implement a macro transformer.

```
> (require (for-syntax syntax/parse))
```

The following is the syntax specification above transliterated into a `syntax-parse` macro definition. It behaves no better than the version using `define-syntax-rule` above.

```
> (define-syntax (mylet stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ ([var-id rhs-expr] ...) body ...+)
     #'((lambda (var-id ...) body ...) rhs-expr ...))])
```

One minor difference is the use of `...+` in the pattern; `...` means match zero or more repetitions of the preceding pattern; `...+` means match one or more. Only `...` may be used in the template, however.

The first step toward validation and high-quality error reporting is annotating each of the macro's pattern variables with the syntax class that describes its acceptable syntax. In `mylet`, each variable must be an identifier (`id` for short) and each right-hand side must be an `expr` (expression). An annotated pattern variable is written by concatenating the pattern variable name, a colon character, and the syntax class name.

```
> (define-syntax (mylet stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ ((var:id rhs:expr) ...) body ...+)
     #'((lambda (var ...) body ...) rhs ...))])
```

For an alternative to the "colon" syntax, see the `~var` pattern form.

Note that the syntax class annotations do not appear in the template (i.e., `var`, not `var:id`).

The syntax class annotations are checked when we use the macro.

```

> (mylet ([a 1] [b 2]) (+ a b))
3
> (mylet (["a" 1]) (add1 a))
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"

```

The `expr` syntax class does not actually check that the term it matches is a valid expression—that would require calling that macro expander. Instead, `expr` just means not a keyword.

```

> (mylet ([a #:whoops]) 1)
mylet: expected expression at: #:whoops

```

Also, `syntax-parse` knows how to report a few kinds of errors without any help:

```

> (mylet ([a 1 2]) (* a a))
mylet: unexpected term at: 2

```

There are other kinds of errors, however, that this macro does not handle gracefully:

```

> (mylet (a 1) (+ a 2))
mylet: bad syntax at: (mylet (a 1) (+ a 2))

```

It's too much to ask for the macro to respond, “This expression is missing a pair of parentheses around `(a 1)`.” The pattern matcher is not that smart. But it can pinpoint the source of the error: when it encountered `a` it was expecting what we might call a “binding pair,” but that term is not in its vocabulary yet.

To allow `syntax-parse` to synthesize better errors, we must attach *descriptions* to the patterns we recognize as discrete syntactic categories. One way of doing that is by defining new syntax classes:

```

> (define-syntax (mylet stx)

  (define-syntax-class binding
    #:description "binding pair"
    (pattern (var:id rhs:expr)))

  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ (b:binding ...) body ...+)
     #'((lambda (b.var ...) body ...) b.rhs ...))])

```

Another way is the `~describe` pattern form.

Note that we write `b.var` and `b.rhs` now. They are the nested attributes formed from the annotated pattern variable `b` and the attributes `var` and `rhs` of the syntax class `binding`.

Now the error messages can talk about “binding pairs.”

```
> (mylet (a 1) (+ a 2))  
mylet: expected binding pair at: a
```

Errors are still reported in more specific terms when possible:

```
> (mylet (["a" 1]) (+ a 2))  
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"
```

There is one other constraint on the legal syntax of `mylet`. The variables bound by the different binding pairs must be distinct. Otherwise the macro creates an illegal lambda form:

```
> (mylet ([a 1] [a 2]) (+ a a))  
lambda: duplicate argument name at: a
```

Constraints such as the distinctness requirement are expressed as side conditions, thus:

```
> (define-syntax (mylet stx)  
  
  (define-syntax-class binding  
    #:description "binding pair"  
    (pattern (var:id rhs:expr)))  
  
  (syntax-parse stx  
    [(_ (b:binding ...) body ...+)  
     #:fail-when (check-duplicate-identifier  
                  (syntax->list #'(b.var ...)))  
                  "duplicate variable name"  
                  #'((lambda (b.var ...) body ...) b.rhs ...))])
```

```
> (mylet ([a 1] [a 2]) (+ a a))  
mylet: duplicate variable name at: a
```

The `#:fail-when` keyword is followed by two expressions: the condition and the error message. When the condition evaluates to anything but `#f`, the pattern fails. Additionally, if the condition evaluates to a syntax object, that syntax object is used to pinpoint the cause of the failure.

Syntax classes can have side conditions, too. Here is the macro rewritten to include another syntax class representing a “sequence of distinct binding pairs.”

```
> (define-syntax (mylet stx)

  (define-syntax-class binding
    #:description "binding pair"
    (pattern (var:id rhs:expr)))

  (define-syntax-class distinct-bindings
    #:description "sequence of distinct binding pairs"
    (pattern (b:binding ...)
      #:fail-when (check-duplicate-identifier
                    (syntax->list #'(b.var ...)))
                    "duplicate variable name"
      #:with (var ...) #'(b.var ...)
      #:with (rhs ...) #'(b.rhs ...)))

  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ bs:distinct-bindings . body)
     #'((lambda (bs.var ...) . body) bs.rhs ...)]))
```

Here we’ve introduced the `#:with` clause. A `#:with` clause matches a pattern with a computed term. Here we use it to bind `var` and `rhs` as attributes of `distinct-bindings`. By default, a syntax class only exports its patterns’ pattern variables as attributes, not their nested attributes.

Alas, so far the macro only implements half of the functionality offered by Racket’s `let`. We must add the “named-let” form. That turns out to be as simple as adding a new clause:

```
> (define-syntax (mylet stx)

  (define-syntax-class binding
    #:description "binding pair"
    (pattern (var:id rhs:expr)))

  (define-syntax-class distinct-bindings
    #:description "sequence of distinct binding pairs"
    (pattern (b:binding ...)
      #:fail-when (check-duplicate-identifier
                    (syntax->list #'(b.var ...)))
                    "duplicate variable name"
      #:with (var ...) #'(b.var ...)
      #:with (rhs ...) #'(b.rhs ...)))
```

The alternative would be to explicitly declare the attributes of `distinct-bindings` to include the nested attributes `b.var` and `b.rhs`, using the `#:attribute` option. Then the macro would refer to `bs.b.var` and `bs.b.rhs`.

```
(syntax-parse stx
  [(_ bs:distinct-bindings body ...+)
   #'((lambda (bs.var ...) body ...) bs.rhs ...)]
  [(_ loop:id bs:distinct-bindings body ...+)
   #'(letrec ([loop (lambda (bs.var ...) body ...)])
       (loop bs.rhs ...)))]))
```

We are able to reuse the `distinct-bindings` syntax class, so the addition of the “named-let” syntax requires only three lines.

But does adding this new case affect `syntax-parse`’s ability to pinpoint and report errors?

```
> (mylet ([a 1] [b 2]) (+ a b))
3
> (mylet (["a" 1]) (add1 a))
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"
> (mylet ([a #:whoops]) 1)
mylet: expected expression at: #:whoops
> (mylet ([a 1 2]) (* a a))
mylet: unexpected term at: 2
> (mylet (a 1) (+ a 2))
mylet: expected binding pair at: a
> (mylet ([a 1] [a 2]) (+ a a))
mylet: duplicate variable name at: a
```

The error reporting for the original syntax seems intact. We should verify that the named-let syntax is working, that `syntax-parse` is not simply ignoring that clause.

```
> (mylet loop ([a 1] [b 2]) (+ a b))
3
> (mylet loop (["a" 1]) (add1 a))
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"
> (mylet loop ([a #:whoops]) 1)
mylet: expected expression at: #:whoops
> (mylet loop ([a 1 2]) (* a a))
mylet: unexpected term at: 2
> (mylet loop (a 1) (+ a 2))
mylet: expected binding pair at: a
> (mylet loop ([a 1] [a 2]) (+ a a))
mylet: duplicate variable name at: a
```

How does `syntax-parse` decide which clause the programmer was attempting, so it can use it as a basis for error reporting? After all, each of the bad uses of the named-let syntax

are also bad uses of the normal syntax, and vice versa. And yet the macro does not produce errors like “`mylet: expected sequence of distinct binding pairs at: loop.`”

The answer is that `syntax-parse` records a list of all the potential errors (including ones like `loop` not matching `distinct-binding`) along with the *progress* made before each error. Only the error with the most progress is reported.

For example, in this bad use of the macro,

```
> (mylet loop (["a" 1]) (add1 a))  
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"
```

there are two potential errors: expected `distinct-bindings` at `loop` and expected identifier at `"a"`. The second error occurs further in the term than the first, so it is reported.

For another example, consider this term:

```
> (mylet (["a" 1]) (add1 a))  
mylet: expected identifier at: "a"
```

Again, there are two potential errors: expected identifier at `(["a" 1])` and expected identifier at `"a"`. They both occur at the second term (or first argument, if you prefer), but the second error occurs deeper in the term. Progress is based on a left-to-right traversal of the syntax.

A final example: consider the following:

```
> (mylet ([a 1] [a 2]) (+ a a))  
mylet: duplicate variable name at: a
```

There are two errors again: duplicate variable name at `([a 1] [a 2])` and expected identifier at `([a 1] [a 2])`. Note that as far as `syntax-parse` is concerned, the progress associated with the duplicate error message is the second term (first argument), not the second occurrence of `a`. That’s because the check is associated with the entire `distinct-bindings` pattern. It would seem that both errors have the same progress, and yet only the first one is reported. The difference between the two is that the first error is from a *post-traversal* check, whereas the second is from a normal (i.e., pre-traversal) check. A post-traversal check is considered to have made more progress than a pre-traversal check of the same term; indeed, it also has greater progress than any failure *within* the term.

It is, however, possible for multiple potential errors to occur with the same progress. Here’s one example:

```
> (mylet "not-even-close")
mylet: expected identifier or expected sequence of distinct
binding pairs at: "not-even-close"
```

In this case `syntax-parse` reports both errors.

Even with all of the annotations we have added to our macro, there are still some misuses that defy `syntax-parse`'s error reporting capabilities, such as this example:

```
> (mylet)
mylet: bad syntax at: (mylet)
```

The philosophy behind `syntax-parse` is that in these situations, a generic error such as “bad syntax” is justified. The use of `mylet` here is so far off that the only informative error message would include a complete recapitulation of the syntax of `mylet`. That is not the role of error messages, however; it is the role of documentation.

This section has provided an introduction to syntax classes, side conditions, and progress-ordered error reporting. But `syntax-parse` has many more features. Continue to the §8.2 “Examples” section for samples of other features in working code, or skip to the subsequent sections for the complete reference documentation.

## 8.2 Examples

This section provides an extended introduction to `syntax/parse` as a series of worked examples.

### 8.2.1 Modules and reusable syntax classes

As demonstrated in the §8.1 “Introduction”, the simplest place to define a syntax class is within the macro definition that uses it. But this location, of course, limits the scope of the syntax class to the one client macro. Creating reusable syntax classes is slightly complicated, however, by the Racket phase level separation. A syntax class defined within a module cannot be used by macros in the same module; it is defined at the wrong phase.

```
> (module phase-mismatch-mod racket
  (require syntax/parse (for-syntax syntax/parse))
  (define-syntax-class foo
    (pattern (a b c)))
  (define-syntax (macro stx)
    (syntax-parse stx
```

```

      [(_ f:foo) #'(+ f.a f.b f.c))]))
syntax-parse: not defined as syntax class at: foo

```

In the module above, the syntax class `foo` is defined at phase level 0. The reference to `foo` within `macro`, however, is at phase level 1, being the implementation of a macro transformer. (Needing to require `syntax/parse` twice, once normally and once `for-syntax` is another sign of the phase level incompatibility.) The only way to define reusable syntax classes that can be used within macros is to define them in a separate module and require that module `for-syntax`.

```

> (module stxclass-mod racket
  (require syntax/parse)
  (define-syntax-class foo
    (pattern (a b c)))
  (provide foo))
> (module macro-mod racket
  (require (for-syntax syntax/parse
                      'stxclass-mod))
  (define-syntax (macro stx)
    (syntax-parse stx
      [(_ f:foo) #'(+ f.a f.b f.c)]))
  (provide macro))
> (require 'macro-mod)
> (macro (1 2 3))
6

```

If the syntax classes refer to keywords, or if they compute expressions via syntax templates, then the module containing the syntax classes must generally require the keywords or bindings used in the syntax templates `for-template`.

```

> (module arith-keywords-mod racket
  (define-syntax plus (syntax-rules ()))
  (define-syntax times (syntax-rules ()))
  (provide plus times))
> (module arith-stxclass-mod racket
  (require syntax/parse
    (for-template 'arith-keywords-mod
                  racket))
  (define-syntax-class arith
    #:literals (plus times)
    (pattern n:nat
      #:with expr #'n)
    (pattern (plus a:arith b:arith)
      #:with expr #'(+ a.expr b.expr))
    (pattern (times a:arith b:arith)

```



```

        #:with expr #'(* a.expr b.expr)))
    (provide arith))
> (module arith-macro-mod racket
  (require (for-syntax syntax/parse
                    'arith-stxclass-mod)
           'arith-keywords-mod)
  (define-syntax (arith-macro stx)
    (syntax-parse stx
      [(_ a:arith)
       #'(values 'a.expr a.expr)]))
  (provide arith-macro
           (all-from-out 'arith-keywords-mod)))
> (require 'arith-macro-mod)
> (arith-macro (plus 1 (times 2 3)))
'+ 1 (* 2 3)
7

```

In `'arith-stxclass-mod`, the module `'arith-keywords-mod` must be required for-template because the keywords are used in phase-0 expressions. Likewise, the module `racket` must be required for-template because the syntax class contains syntax templates involving `+` and `*` (and, in fact, the implicit  `#%app` syntax). All of these identifiers (the keywords `plus` and `times`; the procedures `+` and `*`; and the implicit syntax  `#%app`) must be bound at “absolute” phase level 0. Since the module `'arith-stxclass-mod` is required with a phase level offset of 1 (that is, `for-syntax`), it must compensate with a phase level offset of -1, or `for-template`.

## 8.2.2 Optional keyword arguments

This section explains how to write a macro that accepts (simple) optional keyword arguments. We use the example `mycond`, which is like Racket’s `cond` except that it takes an optional keyword argument that controls what happens if none of the clauses match.

Optional keyword arguments are supported via head patterns. Unlike normal patterns, which match one term, head patterns can match a variable number of subterms in a list. Some important head-pattern forms are `~seq`, `~or`, and `~optional`.

Here’s one way to do it:

```

> (define-syntax (mycond stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(mycond (~or (~seq #:error-on-fallthrough who:expr) (~seq))
             clause ...)
     (with-syntax ([error? (if (attribute who) #'#t #'#f)]
                  [who (or (attribute who) #'#f)])
       #'(mycond* error? who clause ...)))]))

```

```

> (define-syntax mycond*
  (syntax-rules ()
    [(mycond error? who [question answer] . clauses)
     (if question answer (mycond* error? who . clauses))]
    [(mycond #t who)
     (error who "no clauses matched")]
    [(mycond #f _)
     (void)]))

```

We cannot write `#'who` in the macro's right-hand side, because the `who` attribute does not receive a value if the keyword argument is omitted. Instead we must write `(attribute who)`, which produces `#f` if matching did not assign a value to the attribute.

```

> (mycond [(even? 13) 'blue]
         [(odd? 4) 'red])
> (mycond #:error-on-fallthrough 'myfun
         [(even? 13) 'blue]
         [(odd? 4) 'red])
myfun: no clauses matched

```

There's a simpler way of writing the `~or` pattern above:

```
(~optional (~seq #:error-on-fallthrough who:expr))
```

Yet another way is to introduce a splicing syntax class, which is like an ordinary syntax class but for head patterns.

```

> (define-syntax (mycond stx)

  (define-splicing-syntax-class maybe-fallthrough-option
    (pattern (~seq #:error-on-fallthrough who:expr)
             #:with error? #'#t)
    (pattern (~seq)
             #:with error? #'#f
             #:with who #'#f))

  (syntax-parse stx
    [(mycond fo:maybe-fallthrough-option clause ...)
     #'(mycond* fo.error? fo.who clause ...)]))

```

Defining a splicing syntax class also makes it easy to eliminate the case analysis we did before using `attribute` by defining `error?` and `who` as attributes within both of the syntax class's variants. (This is possible to do in the inline pattern version too, using `~and` and `~parse`, just less convenient.) Splicing syntax classes also closely parallel the style of grammars in macro documentation.

### 8.2.3 Variants with uniform meanings

Syntax classes not only validate syntax, they also extract some measure of meaning from it. From the perspective of meaning, there are essentially two kinds of syntax class. In the first, all of the syntax class's variants have the same kind of meaning. In the second, variants may have different kinds of meaning. This section discusses the first kind, syntax classes with uniform meanings. The next section discusses §8.2.4 “Variants with varied meanings”.

In other words, some syntax classes' meanings are products and others' meanings are sums.

If all of a syntax class's variants express the same kind of information, that information can be cleanly represented via attributes, and it can be concisely processed using ellipses.

One example of a syntax class with uniform meaning: the `init-decl` syntax of the `class` macro. Here is the specification of `init-decl`:

```
init-decl = id
           | (maybe-renamed)
           | (maybe-renamed default-expr)

maybe-renamed = id
                | (internal-id external-id)
```

The `init-decl` syntax class has three variants, plus an auxiliary syntax class that has two variants of its own. But all forms of `init-decl` ultimately carry just three pieces of information: an internal name, an external name, and a default configuration of some sort. The simpler syntactic variants are just abbreviations for the full information.

The three pieces of information determine the syntax class's attributes. It is useful to declare the attributes explicitly using the `#:attributes` keyword; the declaration acts both as in-code documentation and as a check on the variants.

```
(define-syntax-class init-decl
  #:attributes (internal external default)
  --)
```

Next we fill in the syntactic variants, deferring the computation of the attributes:

```
(define-syntax-class init-decl
  #:attributes (internal external default)
  (pattern ???:id
    --)
  (pattern (???:maybe-renamed)
    --)
  (pattern (???:maybe-renamed ???:expr)
    --))
```

We perform a similar analysis of `maybe-renamed`:

```
(define-syntax-class maybe-renamed
  #:attributes (internal external)
  (pattern ???:id
    __)
  (pattern (???:id ???:id)
    __))
```

Here's one straightforward way of matching syntactic structure with attributes for `maybe-renamed`:

```
(define-syntax-class maybe-renamed
  #:attributes (internal external)
  (pattern internal:id
    #:with external #'internal)
  (pattern (internal:id external:id)))
```

Given that definition of `maybe-renamed`, we can fill in most of the definition of `init-decl`:

```
(define-syntax-class init-decl
  #:attributes (internal external default)
  (pattern internal:id
    #:with external #:internal
    #:with default ???)
  (pattern (mr:maybe-renamed)
    #:with internal #'mr.internal
    #:with external #'mr.external
    #:with default ???)
  (pattern (mr:maybe-renamed default0:expr)
    #:with internal #'mr.internal
    #:with external #'mr.external
    #:with default ???))
```

At this point we realize we have not decided on a representation for the default configuration. In fact, it is an example of syntax with varied meanings (aka sum or disjoint union). The following section discusses representation options in greater detail; for the sake of completeness, we present one of them here.

There are two kinds of default configuration. One indicates that the initialization argument is optional, with a default value computed from the given expression. The other indicates that the initialization argument is mandatory. We represent the variants as a (syntax) list containing the default expression and as the empty (syntax) list, respectively. More precisely:

```
(define-syntax-class init-decl
  #:attributes (internal external default)
  (pattern internal:id
```

```

      #:with external #:internal
      #:with default #'())
(pattern (mr:maybe-renamed)
      #:with internal #'mr.internal
      #:with external #'mr.external
      #:with default #'())
(pattern (mr:maybe-renamed default0:expr)
      #:with internal #'mr.internal
      #:with external #'mr.external
      #:with default #'(default0)))

```

Another way to look at this aspect of syntax class design is as the algebraic factoring of sums-of-products (concrete syntax variants) into products-of-sums (attributes and abstract syntax variants). The advantages of the latter form are the “dot” notation for data extraction, avoiding or reducing additional case analysis, and the ability to concisely manipulate sequences using ellipses.

## 8.2.4 Variants with varied meanings

As explained in the previous section, the meaning of a syntax class can be uniform, or it can be varied; that is, different instances of the syntax class can carry different kinds of information. This section discusses the latter kind of syntax class.

A good example of a syntax class with varied meanings is the `for-clause` of the `for` family of special forms.

```

for-clause = [id seq-expr]
             | [(id ...) seq-expr]
             | #:when guard-expr

```

The first two variants carry the same kind of information; both consist of identifiers to bind and a sequence expression. The third variant, however, means something totally different: a condition that determines whether to continue the current iteration of the loop, plus a change in scoping for subsequent `seq-exprs`. The information of a `for-clause` must be represented in a way that a client macro can do further case analysis to distinguish the “bind variables from a sequence” case from the “skip or continue this iteration and enter a new scope” case.

This section discusses two ways of representing varied kinds of information.

## Syntactic normalization

One approach is based on the observation that the syntactic variants already constitute a representation of the information they carry. So why not adapt that representation, removing redundancies and eliminating simplifying the syntax to make subsequent re-parsing trivial.

```
(define-splicing-syntax-class for-clause
  #:attribute (norm)
  (pattern [var:id seq:expr]
    #:with norm #'[(var) seq])
  (pattern [(var:id ...) seq:expr]
    #:with norm #'[(var ...) seq])
  (pattern (~seq #:when guard:expr)
    #:with norm #'[#:when guard]))
```

First, note that since the `#:when` variant consists of two separate terms, we define `for-clause` as a splicing syntax class. Second, that kind of irregularity is just the sort of thing we'd like to remove so we don't have to deal with it again later. Thus we represent the normalized syntax as a single term beginning with either a sequence of identifiers (the first two cases) or the keyword `#:when` (the third case). The two normalized cases are easy to process and easy to tell apart. We have also taken the opportunity to desugar the first case into the second.

A normalized syntactic representation is most useful when the subsequent case analysis is performed by `syntax-parse` or a similar form.

## Non-syntax-valued attributes

When the information carried by the syntax is destined for complicated processing by Racket code, it is often better to parse it into an intermediate representation using idiomatic Racket data structures, such as lists, hashes, structs, and even objects.

Thus far we have only used syntax pattern variables and the `#:with` keyword to bind attributes, and the values of the attributes have always been syntax. To bind attributes to values other than syntax, use the `#:attr` keyword.

```
; A ForClause is either
; - (bind-clause (listof identifier) syntax)
; - (when-clause syntax)
(struct bind-clause (vars seq-expr))
(struct when-clause (guard))

(define-splicing-syntax-class for-clause
  #:attributes (ast))
```

```

(pattern [var:id seq:expr]
  #:attr ast (bind-clause (list #'var) #'seq))
(pattern [(var:id ...) seq:expr]
  #:attr ast (bind-clause (syntax->list #'(var ...))
                          #'seq))
(pattern (~seq #:when guard:expr)
  #:attr ast (when-clause #'guard)))

```

Be careful! If we had used `#:with` instead of `#:attr`, the `#f` would have been coerced to a syntax object before being matched against the pattern `default`.

Attributes with non-syntax values cannot be used in syntax templates. Use the attribute form to get the value of an attribute.

### 8.2.5 More keyword arguments

This section shows how to express the syntax of `struct`'s optional keyword arguments using `syntax-parse` patterns.

The part of `struct`'s syntax that is difficult to specify is the sequence of struct options. Let's get the easy part out of the way first.

```

> (define-splicing-syntax-class maybe-super
  (pattern (~seq super:id))
  (pattern (~seq)))
> (define-syntax-class field-option
  (pattern #:mutable)
  (pattern #:auto))
> (define-syntax-class field
  (pattern field:id
    #:with (option ...) '())
  (pattern [field:id option:field-option ...]))

```

Given those auxiliary syntax classes, here is a first approximation of the main pattern, including the struct options:

```

(struct name:id super:maybe-super (field:field ...)
  (~or (~seq #:mutable)
    (~seq #:super super-expr:expr)
    (~seq #:inspector inspector:expr)
    (~seq #:auto-value auto:expr)
    (~seq #:guard guard:expr)
    (~seq #:property prop:expr prop-val:expr)))

```

```

    (~seq #:transparent)
    (~seq #:prefab)
    (~seq #:constructor-name constructor-name:id)
    (~seq #:extra-constructor-name extra-constructor-name:id)
    (~seq #:omit-define-syntaxes)
    (~seq #:omit-define-values))
  ...)

```

The fact that `expr` does not match keywords helps in the case where the programmer omits a keyword's argument; instead of accepting the next keyword as the argument expression, `syntax-parse` reports that an expression was expected.

There are two main problems with the pattern above:

- There's no way to tell whether a zero-argument keyword like `#:mutable` was seen.
- Some options, like `#:mutable`, should appear at most once.

The first problem can be remedied using `~and` patterns to bind a pattern variable to the keyword itself, as in this sub-pattern:

```
(~seq (~and #:mutable mutable-kw))
```

The second problem can be solved using *repetition constraints*:

```

(struct name:id super:maybe-super (field:field ...)
  (~or (~optional (~seq (~and #:mutable) mutable-kw))
    (~optional (~seq #:super super-expr:expr))
    (~optional (~seq #:inspector inspector:expr))
    (~optional (~seq #:auto-value auto:expr))
    (~optional (~seq #:guard guard:expr))
    (~seq #:property prop:expr prop-val:expr)
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:transparent transparent-kw)))
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:prefab prefab-kw)))
    (~optional (~seq #:constructor-name constructor-name:id))
    (~optional
      (~seq #:extra-constructor-name extra-constructor-name:id))
    (~optional
      (~seq (~and #:omit-define-syntaxes omit-def-stxs-kw)))
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:omit-define-values omit-def-vals-
kw))))))
  ...)

```



The `~optional` repetition constraint indicates that an alternative can appear at most once. (There is a `~once` form that means it must appear exactly once.) In `struct`'s keyword options, only `#:property` may occur any number of times.

There are still some problems, though. Without additional help, `~optional` does not report particularly good errors. We must give it the language to use, just as we had to give descriptions to sub-patterns via syntax classes. Also, some related options are mutually exclusive, such as `#:inspector`, `#:transparent`, and `#:prefab`.

```
(struct name:id super:maybe-super (field:field ...)
  (~or (~optional
    (~or (~seq #:inspector inspector:expr)
      (~seq (~and #:transparent transparent-kw)
        (~seq (~and #:prefab prefab-kw)))
      #:name "#:inspector, #:transparent, or #:prefab option")
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:mutable) mutable-kw)
      #:name "#:mutable option")
    (~optional (~seq #:super super-expr:expr)
      #:name "#:super option")
    (~optional (~seq #:auto-value auto:expr)
      #:name "#:auto-value option")
    (~optional (~seq #:guard guard:expr)
      #:name "#:guard option")
    (~seq #:property prop:expr prop-val:expr)
    (~optional (~seq #:constructor-name constructor-name:id)
      #:name "#:constructor-name option")
    (~optional
      (~seq #:extra-constructor-name extra-constructor-name:id)
      #:name "#:extra-constructor-name option")
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:omit-define-syntaxes omit-def-
      stxs-kw))
      #:name "#:omit-define-syntaxes option")
    (~optional (~seq (~and #:omit-define-values omit-def-vals-
      kw))
      #:name "#:omit-define-values option")))
  ...))
```

Here we have grouped the three incompatible options together under a single `~optional` constraint. That means that at most one of any of those options is allowed. We have given names to the optional clauses. See `~optional` for other customization options.

Note that there are other constraints that we have not represented in the pattern. For example, `#:prefab` is also incompatible with both `#:guard` and `#:property`. Repetition constraints cannot express arbitrary incompatibility relations. The best way to handle such constraints is with a side condition using `#:fail-when`.

## 8.2.6 Contracts on macro sub-expressions

Just as procedures often expect certain kinds of values as arguments, macros often have expectations about the expressions they are given. And just as procedures express those expectations via contracts, so can macros, using the `expr/c` syntax class.

For example, here is a macro `myparameterize` that behaves like `parameterize` but enforces the `parameter?` contract on the parameter expressions.

```
> (define-syntax (myparameterize stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ ((p v:expr) ...) body:expr)
     #:declare p (expr/c #'parameter?)
     #:name "parameter argument")
     #'(parameterize ((p.c v) ...) body)]))
> (myparameterize ((current-input-port
                   (open-input-string "(1 2 3)")))
  (read))
'(1 2 3)
> (myparameterize (('whoops 'something))
  'whatever)
parameter argument of myparameterize: self-contract
violation, expected <parameter?>, given: 'whoops
contract from program, blaming program
contract: parameter?
at: eval:126.0
```

**Important:** Make sure when using `expr/c` to use the `c` attribute. If the macro above had used `p` in the template, the expansion would have used the raw, unchecked expressions. The `expr/c` syntax class does not change how pattern variables are bound; it only computes an attribute that represents the checked expression.

## 8.3 Parsing syntax

This section describes `syntax-parse`, the `syntax/parse` library's facility for parsing syntax. Both `syntax-parse` and the specification facility, `syntax-classes`, use a common language of syntax patterns, which is described in detail in §8.5 "Syntax patterns".

Two parsing forms are provided: `syntax-parse` and `syntax-parser`.

---

```
(syntax-parse stx-expr parse-option ... clause ...+)
```

```

parse-option = #:context context-expr
              | #:literals (literal ...)
              | #:literal-sets (literal-set ...)
              | #:conventions (convention-id ...)
              | #:local-conventions (convention-rule ...)
              | #:disable-colon-notation

literal = literal-id
         | (pattern-id literal-id)
         | (pattern-id literal-id #:phase phase-expr)

literal-set = literal-set-id
            | (literal-set-id literal-set-option ...)

literal-set-option = #:at context-id
                   | #:phase phase-expr

clause = (syntax-pattern pattern-directive ... expr ...+)

stx-expr : syntax?
context-expr : syntax?
phase-expr : (or/c exact-integer? #f)

```

Evaluates *stx-expr*, which should produce a syntax object, and matches it against the *clauses* in order. If some clause's pattern matches, its attributes are bound to the corresponding subterms of the syntax object and that clause's side conditions and *expr* is evaluated. The result is the result of *expr*.

Each clause consists of a syntax pattern, an optional sequence of pattern directives, and a non-empty sequence of body expressions.

If the syntax object fails to match any of the patterns (or all matches fail the corresponding clauses' side conditions), a syntax error is raised.

The following options are supported:

---

```
#:context context-expr
```

```
context-expr : syntax?
```

When present, *context-expr* is used in reporting parse failures; otherwise *stx-expr* is used.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(a b 3))
```

```

      [(x:id ...) 'ok])
a: expected identifier at: 3
> (syntax-parse #'(a b 3)
   #:context #'(lambda (a b 3) (+ a b))
   [(x:id ...) 'ok])
lambda: expected identifier at: 3

```

---

```
#:literals (literal ...)
```

```

literal = literal-id
         | (pattern-id literal-id)
         | (pattern-id literal-id #:phase phase-expr)

```

```
phase-expr : (or/c exact-integer? #f)
```

The `#:literals` option specifies identifiers that should be treated as literals rather than pattern variables. An entry in the literals list has two components: the identifier used within the pattern to signify the positions to be matched (*pattern-id*), and the identifier expected to occur in those positions (*literal-id*). If the entry is a single identifier, that identifier is used for both purposes.

If the `#:phase` option is given, then the literal is compared at phase *phase-expr*. Specifically, the binding of the *literal-id* at phase *phase-expr* must match the input's binding at phase *phase-expr*.

Unlike `syntax-case`, `syntax-parse` requires all literals to have a binding. To match identifiers by their symbolic names, use the `~datum` pattern form instead.

---

```
#:literal-sets (literal-set ...)
```

```

literal-set = literal-set-id
            | (literal-set-id literal-set-option ...)

```

```

literal-set-option = #:at lctx
                   | #:phase phase-expr

```

```
phase-expr : (or/c exact-integer? #f)
```

Many literals can be declared at once via one or more literal sets, imported with the `#:literal-sets` option. See literal sets for more information.

If the `#:at` keyword is given, the lexical context of the *lctx* term is used to determine which identifiers in the patterns are treated as literals; this option is useful primarily for macros that generate `syntax-parse` expressions.

---

```
#:conventions (conventions-id ...)
```

Imports conventions that give default syntax classes to pattern variables that do not explicitly specify a syntax class.

---

```
#:local-conventions (convention-rule ...)
```

Uses the conventions specified. The advantage of `#:local-conventions` over `#:conventions` is that local conventions can be in the scope of syntax-class parameter bindings. See the section on conventions for examples.

---

```
#:disable-colon-notation
```

Suppresses the “colon notation” for annotated pattern variables.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c)
  [(x:y ...) 'ok])
syntax-parse: not defined as syntax class at: y
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c) #:disable-colon-notation
  [(x:y ...) 'ok])
'ok
```

---

```
(syntax-parser parse-option ... clause ...+)
```

Like `syntax-parse`, but produces a matching procedure. The procedure accepts a single argument, which should be a syntax object.

---

```
(define/syntax-parse syntax-pattern pattern-directive ... stx-expr)
```

```
stx-expr : syntax?
```

Definition form of `syntax-parse`. That is, it matches the syntax object result of `stx-expr` against `syntax-pattern` and creates pattern variable definitions for the attributes of `syntax-pattern`.

Examples:

```
> (define/syntax-parse ((~seq kw:keyword arg:expr) ...)
  #'(#:a 1 #:b 2 #:c 3))
> #'(kw ...)
#<syntax:123:0 ( #:a #:b #:c )>
```

Compare with `define/with-syntax`, a similar definition form that uses the simpler `syntax-case` patterns.

## 8.4 Specifying syntax with syntax classes

Syntax classes provide an abstraction mechanism for syntax patterns. Built-in syntax classes are supplied that recognize basic classes such as `identifier` and `keyword`. Programmers can compose basic syntax classes to build specifications of more complex syntax, such as lists of distinct identifiers and formal arguments with keywords. Macros that manipulate the same syntactic structures can share syntax class definitions.

---

```
(define-syntax-class name-id stxclass-option ...
  stxclass-variant ...+)
(define-syntax-class (name-id . kw-formals) stxclass-option ...
  stxclass-variant ...+)

stxclass-option = #:attributes (attr-arity-decl ...)
                  | #:description description-expr
                  | #:opaque
                  | #:commit
                  | #:no-delimit-cut
                  | #:literals (literal-entry ...)
                  | #:literal-sets (literal-set ...)
                  | #:conventions (convention-id ...)
                  | #:local-conventions (convention-rule ...)
                  | #:disable-colon-notation

attr-arity-decl = attr-name-id
                  | (attr-name-id depth)

stxclass-variant = (pattern syntax-pattern pattern-directive ...)

description-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

Defines *name-id* as a *syntax class*, which encapsulates one or more single-term patterns.

A syntax class may have formal parameters, in which case they are bound as variables in the body. Syntax classes support optional arguments and keyword arguments using the same syntax as `lambda`. The body of the syntax-class definition contains a non-empty sequence of pattern variants.

The following options are supported:

---

```
#:attributes (attr-arity-decl ...)

attr-arity-decl = attr-id
                  | (attr-id depth)
```

Declares the attributes of the syntax class. An attribute arity declaration consists of the attribute name and optionally its ellipsis depth (zero if not explicitly specified).

If the attributes are not explicitly listed, they are inferred as the set of all pattern variables occurring in every variant of the syntax class. Pattern variables that occur at different ellipsis depths are not included, nor are nested attributes from annotated pattern variables.

---

`#:description` *description-expr*

*description-expr* : (or/c string? #f)

The `description` argument is evaluated in a scope containing the syntax class's parameters. If the result is a string, it is used in error messages involving the syntax class. For example, if a term is rejected by the syntax class, an error of the form "expected `description`" may be synthesized. If the result is `#f`, the syntax class is skipped in the search for a description to report.

If the option is not given absent, the name of the syntax class is used instead.

---

`#:opaque`

Indicates that errors should not be reported with respect to the internal structure of the syntax class.

---

`#:commit`

Directs the syntax class to "commit" to the first successful match. When a variant succeeds, all choice points within the syntax class are discarded. See also `~commit`.

---

`#:no-delimit-cut`

By default, a cut (`~!`) within a syntax class only discards choice points within the syntax class. That is, the body of the syntax class acts as though it is wrapped in a `~delimit-cut` form. If `#:no-delimit-cut` is specified, a cut may affect choice points of the syntax class's calling context (another syntax class's patterns or a `syntax-parse` form).

It is an error to use both `#:commit` and `#:no-delimit-cut`.

---

`#:literals` (*literal-entry*)

---

```
#:literal-sets (literal-set ...)
```

---

```
#:conventions (convention-id ...)
```

Declares the literals and conventions that apply to the syntax class's variant patterns and their immediate `#:with` clauses. Patterns occurring within subexpressions of the syntax class (for example, on the right-hand side of a `#:fail-when` clause) are not affected.

These options have the same meaning as in `syntax-parse`.

Each variant of a syntax class is specified as a separate `pattern-form` whose syntax pattern is a single-term pattern.

---

```
(define-splicing-syntax-class name-id stxclass-option ...  
  stxclass-variant ...+)  
(define-splicing-syntax-class (name-id kw-formals) stxclass-option ...  
  stxclass-variant ...+)
```

Defines *name-id* as a *splicing syntax class*, analogous to a syntax class but encapsulating head patterns rather than single-term patterns.

The options are the same as for `define-syntax-class`.

Each variant of a splicing syntax class is specified as a separate `pattern-form` whose syntax pattern is a head pattern.

---

```
(pattern syntax-pattern pattern-directive ...)
```

Used to indicate a variant of a syntax class or splicing syntax class. The variant accepts syntax matching the given syntax pattern with the accompanying pattern directives.

When used within `define-syntax-class`, *syntax-pattern* should be a single-term pattern; within `define-splicing-syntax-class`, it should be a head pattern.

The attributes of the variant are the attributes of the pattern together with all attributes bound by `#:with` clauses, including nested attributes produced by syntax classes associated with the pattern variables.



### 8.4.1 Pattern directives

Both the parsing forms and syntax class definition forms support *pattern directives* for annotating syntax patterns and specifying side conditions. The grammar for pattern directives follows:

```
pattern-directive = #:declare pattern-id syntax-class-id
                  | #:declare pattern-id (syntax-class-id arg ...)
                  | #:with syntax-pattern expr
                  | #:attr attr-arity-decl expr
                  | #:fail-when condition-expr message-expr
                  | #:fail-unless condition-expr message-expr
                  | #:when condition-expr
                  | #:do [def-or-expr ...]
```

---

```
#:declare pvar-id syntax-class-id
```

---

```
#:declare pvar-id (syntax-class-id arg ...)
```

The first form is equivalent to using the `pvar-id:syntax-class-id` form in the pattern (but it is illegal to use both for the same pattern variable).

The second form allows the use of parameterized syntax classes, which cannot be expressed using the “colon” notation. The `args` are evaluated outside the scope of any of the attribute bindings from pattern that the `#:declare` directive applies to. Keyword arguments are supported, using the same syntax as in `#:app`.

---

```
#:with syntax-pattern stx-expr
```

Evaluates the `stx-expr` in the context of all previous attribute bindings and matches it against the pattern. If the match succeeds, the pattern’s attributes are added to environment for the evaluation of subsequent side conditions. If the `#:with` match fails, the matching process backtracks. Since a syntax object may match a pattern in several ways, backtracking may cause the same clause to be tried multiple times before the next clause is reached.

---

```
#:attr attr-arity-decl expr
```

Evaluates the `expr` in the context of all previous attribute bindings and binds it to the given attribute. The value of `expr` need not be syntax.

---

`#:fail-when` *condition-expr* *message-expr*

*message-expr* : (or/c string? #f)

Evaluates the *condition-expr* in the context of all previous attribute bindings. If the value is any true value (not #f), the matching process backtracks (with the given message); otherwise, it continues. If the value of the condition expression is a syntax object, it is indicated as the cause of the error.

If the *message-expr* produces a string it is used as the failure message; otherwise the failure is reported in terms of the enclosing descriptions.

---

`#:fail-unless` *condition-expr* *message-expr*

*message-expr* : (or/c string? #f)

Like `#:fail-when` with the condition negated.

---

`#:when` *condition-expr*

Evaluates the *condition-expr* in the context of all previous attribute bindings. If the value is #f, the matching process backtracks. In other words, `#:when` is like `#:fail-unless` without the message argument.

---

`#:do` [*def-or-expr* ...]

Takes a sequence of definitions and expressions, which may be intermixed, and evaluates them in the scope of all previous attribute bindings. The names bound by the definitions are in scope in the expressions of subsequent patterns and clauses.

There is currently no way to bind attributes using a `#:do` block. It is an error to shadow an attribute binding with a definition in a `#:do` block.

## 8.4.2 Pattern variables and attributes

An *attribute* is a name bound by a syntax pattern. An attribute can be a pattern variable itself, or it can be a nested attribute bound by an annotated pattern variable. The name of a nested attribute is computed by concatenating the pattern variable name with the syntax class's exported attribute's name, separated by a dot (see the example below).

Attribute names cannot be used directly as expressions; that is, attributes are not variables. Instead, an attribute's value can be gotten using the `attribute` special form.

---

```
(attribute attr-id)
```

Returns the value associated with the attribute named *attr-id*. If *attr-id* is not bound as an attribute, an error is raised.

The value of an attribute need not be syntax. Non-syntax-valued attributes can be used to return a parsed representation of a subterm or the results of an analysis on the subterm. A non-syntax-valued attribute should be bound using the `#:attr` directive or a `~bind` pattern.

Examples:

```
> (define-syntax-class table
  (pattern ((key value) ...)
    #:attr hash
    (for/hash ([k (syntax->datum #'(key ...))]
              [v (syntax->datum #'(value ...))])
      (values k v))))
> (syntax-parse #'((a 1) (b 2) (c 3))
  [t:table
  (attribute t.hash)])
'#hash((b . 2) (a . 1) (c . 3))
```

A syntax-valued attribute is an attribute whose value is a syntax object or a syntax list of the appropriate ellipsis depth. Syntax-valued attributes can be used within `syntax`, `quasisyntax`, etc as part of a syntax template. If a non-syntax-valued attribute is used in a syntax template, a runtime error is signalled.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'((a 1) (b 2) (c 3))
  [t:table
  #'(t.key ...)])
#<syntax:115:0 (a b c)>
> (syntax-parse #'((a 1) (b 2) (c 3))
  [t:table
  #'t.hash])
t.hash: attribute is bound to non-syntax value: '#hash((b . 2) (a . 1) (c . 3)) at: t.hash
```

Every attribute has an associated *ellipsis depth* that determines how it can be used in a syntax template (see the discussion of ellipses in `syntax`). For a pattern variable, the ellipsis depth is the number of ellipses the pattern variable “occurs under” in the pattern. For a nested attribute the depth is the sum of the pattern variable’s depth and the depth of the attribute in the syntax class. Consider the following code:

```
(define-syntax-class quark
```

```
(pattern (a b ...))
(syntax-parse some-term
 [(x (y:quark ...) ... z:quark)
  some-code])
```

The syntax class `quark` exports two attributes: `a` at depth 0 and `b` at depth 1. The `syntax-parse` pattern has three pattern variables: `x` at depth 0, `y` at depth 2, and `z` at depth 0. Since `x` and `y` are annotated with the `quark` syntax class, the pattern also binds the following nested attributes: `y.a` at depth 2, `y.b` at depth 3, `z.a` at depth 0, and `z.b` at depth 1.

An attribute's ellipsis nesting depth is *not* a guarantee that its value has that level of list nesting. In particular, `~or` and `~optional` patterns may result in attributes with fewer than expected levels of list nesting.

Example:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3)
  [(~or (x:id ...) _)
   (attribute x)])
#f
```

## 8.5 Syntax patterns

The grammar of *syntax patterns* used by `syntax/parse` facilities is given in the following table. There are four main kinds of syntax pattern:

- single-term patterns, abbreviated *S-pattern*
- head patterns, abbreviated *H-pattern*
- ellipsis-head patterns, abbreviated *EH-pattern*
- action patterns, abbreviated *A-pattern*

A fifth kind, list patterns (abbreviated *L-pattern*), is just a syntactically restricted subset of single-term patterns.

When a special form in this manual refers to *syntax-pattern* (eg, the description of the `syntax-parse` special form), it means specifically single-term pattern.

```
S-pattern = pvar-id
            | pvar-id:syntax-class-id
            | literal-id
            | (~varS- id)
            | (~varS+ id syntax-class-id)
```

```

| (~vars+ id (syntax-class-id arg ...))
| (~literal literal-id)
| atomic-datum
| (~datum datum)
| (H-pattern . S-pattern)
| (A-pattern . S-pattern)
| (EH-pattern ... . S-pattern)
| (H-pattern ...+ . S-pattern)
| (~ands proper-S/A-pattern ...+)
| (~ors S-pattern ...+)
| (~not S-pattern)
| #(pattern-part ...)
| #s(prefab-struct-key pattern-part ...)
| #&S-pattern
| (~rest S-pattern)
| (~describes maybe-opaque expr S-pattern)
| (~commits S-pattern)
| (~delimit-cuts S-pattern)
| A-pattern

L-pattern = ()
| (A-pattern . L-pattern)
| (H-pattern . L-pattern)
| (EH-pattern ... . L-pattern)
| (H-pattern ...+ . L-pattern)
| (~rest L-pattern)

H-pattern = pvar-id:splicing-syntax-class-id
| (~varh id splicing-syntax-class-id)
| (~varh id (splicing-syntax-class-id arg ...))
| (~seq . L-pattern)
| (~andh proper-H/A-pattern ...+)
| (~orh H-pattern ...+)
| (~optionalh H-pattern maybe-optional-option)
| (~describeh maybe-opaque expr H-pattern)
| (~commith H-pattern)
| (~delimit-cuth H-pattern)
| (~peek H-pattern)
| (~peek-not H-pattern)
| proper-S-pattern

EH-pattern = (~oreh EH-pattern ...)
| (~once H-pattern once-option ...)
| (~optionaleh H-pattern optional-option ...)
| (~between H min-number max-number between-option)

```

| *H-pattern*

```
A-pattern = ~!  
            | (~bind [attr-arity-decl expr] ...)  
            | (~fail maybe-fail-condition maybe-message-expr)  
            | (~parse S-pattern stx-expr)  
            | (~anda A-pattern ...+)  
            | (~do defn-or-expr ...)
```

*proper-S-pattern* = a *S-pattern* that is not a *A-pattern*

*proper-H-pattern* = a *H-pattern* that is not a *S-pattern*

The following pattern keywords can be used in multiple pattern variants:

---

*~var*

One of *~var*<sup>s</sup>, *~var*<sup>s+</sup>, or *~var*<sup>h</sup>.

---

*~and*

One of *~and*<sup>s</sup>, *~and*<sup>h</sup>, or *~and*<sup>a</sup>:

- *~and*<sup>a</sup> if all of the conjuncts are action patterns
- *~and*<sup>h</sup> if any of the conjuncts is a proper head pattern
- *~and*<sup>s</sup> otherwise

---

*~or*

One of *~or*<sup>s</sup>, *~or*<sup>h</sup>, or *~or*<sup>eh</sup>:

- *~or*<sup>eh</sup> if the pattern occurs directly before ellipses (...) or immediately within another *~or*<sup>eh</sup> pattern
- *~or*<sup>h</sup> if any of the disjuncts is a proper head pattern
- *~or*<sup>s</sup> otherwise

---

*~describe*

One of *~describe*<sup>s</sup> or *~describe*<sup>h</sup>:

- `~describeh` if the subpattern is a proper head pattern
- `~describes` otherwise

---

`~commit`

One of `~commits` or `~commith`:

- `~commith` if the subpattern is a proper head pattern
- `~commits` otherwise

---

`~delimit-cut`

One of `~delimit-cuts` or `~delimit-cuth`:

- `~delimit-cuth` if the subpattern is a proper head pattern
- `~delimit-cuts` otherwise

---

`~optional`

One of `~optionalh` or `~optionaleh`:

- `~optionaleh` if it is an immediate disjunct of a `~oreh` pattern
- `~optionalh` otherwise

### 8.5.1 Single-term patterns

A *single-term pattern* (abbreviated *S-pattern*) is a pattern that describes a single term. These are like the traditional patterns used in `syntax-rules` and `syntax-case`, but with additional variants that make them more expressive.

“Single-term” does not mean “atomic”; a single-term pattern can have complex structure, and it can match terms that have many parts. For example, `(17 . . .)` is a single-term pattern that matches any term that is a proper list of repeated `17` numerals.

A *proper single-term pattern* is one that is not an action pattern.

The *list patterns* (for “list pattern”) are single-term patterns having a restricted structure that guarantees that they match only terms that are proper lists.

Here are the variants of single-term pattern:

---

*id*

An identifier can be either a pattern variable, an annotated pattern variable, or a literal:

- If *id* is the “pattern” name of an entry in the literals list, it is a literal pattern that behaves like `(~literal id)`.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(define x 12)
  #:literals (define)
  [(define var:id body:expr) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'(lambda x 12)
  #:literals (define)
  [(define var:id body:expr) 'ok])
lambda: expected the identifier 'define' at: lambda
> (syntax-parse #'(define x 12)
  #:literals ([def define])
  [(def var:id body:expr) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'(lambda x 12)
  #:literals ([def define])
  [(def var:id body:expr) 'ok])
lambda: expected the identifier 'define' at: lambda
```

- If *id* is of the form `pvar-id:syntax-class-id` (that is, two names joined by a colon character), it is an annotated pattern variable, and the pattern is equivalent to `(~var pvar-id syntax-class-id)`.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'a
  [var:id (syntax-e #'var)])
'a
> (syntax-parse #'12
  [var:id (syntax-e #'var)])
?: expected identifier at: 12
> (define-syntax-class two
  #:attributes (x y)
  (pattern (x y)))
> (syntax-parse #'(a b)
  [t:two (syntax->datum #'(t t.x t.y))])
'((a b) a b)
```



```
> (syntax-parse #'(a b)
  [t
   #:declare t two
   (syntax->datum #'(t t.x t.y))])
'((a b) a b)
```

- Otherwise, *id* is a pattern variable, and the pattern is equivalent to `(~var id)`.

---

`(~var pvar-id)`

A *pattern variable*. If *pvar-id* has no syntax class (by `#:convention`), the pattern variable matches anything. The pattern variable is bound to the matched subterm, unless the pattern variable is the wildcard (`_`), in which case no binding occurs.

If *pvar-id* does have an associated syntax class, it behaves like an annotated pattern variable with the implicit syntax class inserted.

---

`(~var pvar-id syntax-class-use)`

```
syntax-class-use = syntax-class-id
                  | (syntax-class-id arg ...)
```

An *annotated pattern variable*. The pattern matches only terms accepted by `syntax-class-id` (parameterized by the `arg-exprs`, if present).

In addition to binding *pvar-id*, an annotated pattern variable also binds *nested attributes* from the syntax class. The names of the nested attributes are formed by prefixing *pvar-id*. (that is, *pvar-id* followed by a “dot” character) to the name of the syntax class’s attribute.

If *pvar-id* is `_`, no attributes are bound.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'a
  [(~var var id) (syntax-e #'var)])
'a
> (syntax-parse #'12
  [(~var var id) (syntax-e #'var)])
?: expected identifier at: 12
> (define-syntax-class two
  #:attributes (x y)
  (pattern (x y)))
> (syntax-parse #'(a b)
  [(~var t two) (syntax->datum #'(t t.x t.y))])
'((a b) a b)
```

```

> (define-syntax-class (nat-less-than n)
  (pattern x:nat #:when (< (syntax-e #'x) n)))
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3 4 5)
  [((~var small (nat-less-than 4)) ... large:nat ...)
   (list #'(small ...) #'(large ...))])
'(#<syntax:65:0 (1 2 3)> #<syntax:65:0 (4 5)>)

```

---

(~literal *literal-id*)

A *literal* identifier pattern. Matches any identifier `free-identifier=?` to *literal-id*.

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(define x 12)
  [((~literal define) var:id body:expr) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'(lambda x 12)
  [((~literal define) var:id body:expr) 'ok])
lambda: expected the identifier 'define' at: lambda

```

---

*atomic-datum*

Numbers, strings, booleans, keywords, and the empty list match as literals.

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(a #:foo bar)
  [(x #:foo y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'bar
> (syntax-parse #'(a foo bar)
  [(x #:foo y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
a: expected the literal #:foo at: foo

```

---

(~datum *datum*)

Matches syntax whose S-expression contents (obtained by `syntax->datum`) is `equal?` to the given *datum*.

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(a #:foo bar)
  [(x (~datum #:foo) y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'bar
> (syntax-parse #'(a foo bar)
  [(x (~datum #:foo) y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
a: expected the literal #:foo at: foo

```

The `~datum` form is useful for recognizing identifiers symbolically, in contrast to the `~literal` form, which recognizes them by binding.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse (let ([define 'something-
else]) #'(define x y))
  [((~datum define) var:id e:expr) 'yes]
  [_ 'no])
'yes
> (syntax-parse (let ([define 'something-
else]) #'(define x y))
  [((~literal define) var:id e:expr) 'yes]
  [_ 'no])
'no
```

---

*(H-pattern . S-pattern)*

Matches any term that can be decomposed into a list prefix matching *H-pattern* and a suffix matching *S-pattern*.

Note that the pattern may match terms that are not even improper lists; if the head pattern can match a zero-length head, then the whole pattern matches whatever the tail pattern accepts.

The first pattern can be a single-term pattern, in which case the whole pattern matches any pair whose first element matches the first pattern and whose rest matches the second.

See head patterns for more information.

---

*(A-pattern . S-pattern)*

Performs the actions specified by *A-pattern*, then matches any term that matches *S-pattern*.

Pragmatically, one can throw an action pattern into any list pattern. Thus, `(x y z)` is a pattern matching a list of three terms, and `(x y ~! z)` is a pattern matching a list of three terms, with a cut performed after the second one. In other words, action patterns “don’t take up space.”

See action patterns for more information.

---

*(EH-pattern ... . S-pattern)*

Matches any term that can be decomposed into a list head matching some number of repetitions of the *EH-pattern* alternatives (subject to its repetition constraints) followed by a list tail matching *S-pattern*.

In other words, the whole pattern matches either the second pattern (which need not be a list) or a term whose head matches one of the alternatives of the first pattern and whose tail recursively matches the whole sequence pattern.

See ellipsis-head patterns for more information.

---

*(H-pattern ...+ . S-pattern)*

Like an ellipsis (...) pattern, but requires at one occurrence of the head pattern to be present.

That is, the following patterns are equivalent:

- (H ...+ . S)
- ((~between H 1 +inf.0) ... . S)

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3)
  [(n:nat ...+) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'()
  [(n:nat ...+) 'ok]
  [_ 'none])
'none
```

---

*(~and S/A-pattern ...)*

Matches any term that matches all of the subpatterns.

The subpatterns can contain a mixture of single-term patterns and action patterns, but must contain at least one single-term pattern.

Attributes bound in subpatterns are available to subsequent subpatterns. The whole pattern binds all of the subpatterns' attributes.

One use for ~and-patterns is preserving a whole term (including its lexical context, source location, etc) while also examining its structure. Syntax classes are useful for the same purpose, but ~and can be lighter weight.

Examples:

```
> (define-syntax (import stx)
  (raise-syntax-error #f "illegal use of import" stx))
> (define (check-imports stx) ...)
> (syntax-parse #'(m (import one two))
  #:literals (import)
  [(~and import-clause (import i ...))
   (let ([bad (check-imports
                (syntax->list #'(i ...)))]
```

```

      (when bad
        (raise-syntax-error
         #f "bad import" #'import-clause bad))
      'ok])
'ok

```

---

`(~or S-pattern ...)`

Matches any term that matches one of the included patterns. The alternatives are tried in order.

The whole pattern binds *all* of the subpatterns' attributes. An attribute that is not bound by the "chosen" subpattern has a value of `#f`. The same attribute may be bound by multiple subpatterns, and if it is bound by all of the subpatterns, it is sure to have a value if the whole pattern matches.

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'a
   [(~or x:id y:nat) (values (attribute x) (attribute y))])
#<syntax:79:0 a>
#f
> (syntax-parse #'(a 1)
   [(~or (x:id y:nat) (x:id)) (values #'x (attribute y))])
#<syntax:80:0 a>
#<syntax:80:0 1>
> (syntax-parse #'(b)
   [(~or (x:id y:nat) (x:id)) (values #'x (attribute y))])
#<syntax:81:0 b>
#f

```

---

`(~not S-pattern)`

Matches any term that does not match the subpattern. None of the subpattern's attributes are bound outside of the `~not`-pattern.

Example:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(x y z => u v)
   #:literals (=>)
   [((~and before (~not =>)) ... => after ...)
    (list #'(before ...) #'(after ...))])
'(#<syntax:82:0 (x y z)> #<syntax:82:0 (u v)>)

```

---

`#(pattern-part ...)`

Matches a term that is a vector whose elements, when considered as a list, match the single-term pattern corresponding to `(pattern-part ...)`.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'#(1 2 3)
    [#(x y z) (syntax->datum #'z)])
3
> (syntax-parse #'#(1 2 3)
    [#(x y ...) (syntax->datum #'(y ...))])
'(2 3)
> (syntax-parse #'#(1 2 3)
    [#(x ~rest y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'(2 3)
```

---

`#s(prefab-struct-key pattern-part ...)`

Matches a term that is a prefab struct whose key is exactly the given key and whose sequence of fields, when considered as a list, match the single-term pattern corresponding to `(pattern-part ...)`.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'#s(point 1 2 3)
    [#s(point x y z) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'#s(point 1 2 3)
    [#s(point x y ...) (syntax->datum #'(y ...))])
'(2 3)
> (syntax-parse #'#s(point 1 2 3)
    [#s(point x ~rest y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'(2 3)
```

---

`#&S-pattern`

Matches a term that is a box whose contents matches the inner single-term pattern.

Example:

```
> (syntax-parse #'#&5
    [#&n:nat 'ok])
'ok
```

---

`(~rest S-pattern)`

Matches just like `S-pattern`. The `~rest` pattern form is useful in positions where improper (“dotted”) lists are not allowed by the reader, such as vector and structure patterns (see above).

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3)
    [(x ~rest y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'(2 3)
> (syntax-parse #'#(1 2 3)
    [#(x ~rest y) (syntax->datum #'y)])
'(2 3)
```

---

(~describe *maybe-opaque* *expr* *S-pattern*)

*maybe-opaque* =  
| #:opaque

*expr* : (or/c string? #f)

The ~describe pattern form annotates a pattern with a description, a string expression that is evaluated in the scope of all prior attribute bindings. If parsing the inner pattern fails, then the description is used to synthesize the error message.

A ~describe pattern has no effect on backtracking.

---

(~commit *S-pattern*)

The ~commit pattern form affects backtracking in two ways:

- If the pattern succeeds, then all choice points created within the subpattern are discarded, and a failure *after* the ~commit pattern backtracks only to choice points *before* the ~commit pattern, never one *within* it.
- A cut (~!) within a ~commit pattern only eliminates choice-points created within the ~commit pattern. In this sense, it acts just like ~delimit-cut.

---

(~delimit-cut *S-pattern*)

The ~delimit-cut pattern form affects backtracking in the following way:

- A cut (~!) within a ~delimit-cut pattern only eliminates choice-points created within the ~delimit-cut pattern.

---

*A-pattern*

An action pattern is considered a single-term pattern when there is no ambiguity; it matches any term.

## 8.5.2 Head patterns

A *head pattern* (abbreviated *H-pattern*) is a pattern that describes some number of terms that occur at the head of some list (possibly an improper list). A head pattern's usefulness comes from being able to match heads of different lengths, such as optional forms like keyword arguments.

A *proper head pattern* is a head pattern that is not a single-term pattern.

Here are the variants of head pattern:

---

`pvar-id:splicing-syntax-class-id`

Equivalent to `(~var pvar-id splicing-syntax-class-id)`.

---

`(~var pvar-id splicing-syntax-class-use)`

`splicing-syntax-class-use = splicing-syntax-class-id  
| (splicing-syntax-class-id arg ...)`

Pattern variable annotated with a splicing syntax class. Similar to a normal annotated pattern variable, except matches a head pattern.

---

`(~seq . L-pattern)`

Matches a sequence of terms whose elements, if put in a list, would match *L-pattern*.

Example:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3 4)
  [((~seq 1 2 3) 4) 'ok])
'ok
```

See also the section on ellipsis-head patterns for more interesting examples of `~seq`.

---

`(~and H-pattern ...)`

Like the single-term pattern version, `~ands`, but matches a sequence of terms instead.

Example:



```

> (syntax-parse #'(#:a 1 #:b 2 3 4 5)
  [((~and (~seq (~seq k:keyword e:expr) ...)
           (~seq keyword-stuff ...))
     positional-stuff ...)
    (syntax->datum #'((k ...) (e ...) (keyword-
stuff ...))))])
'((#:a #:b) (1 2) (#:a 1 #:b 2))

```

The head pattern variant of `~and` requires that all of the subpatterns be proper head patterns (not single-term patterns). This is to prevent typos like the following, a variant of the previous example with the second `~seq` omitted:

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(#:a 1 #:b 2 3 4 5)
  [((~and (~seq (~seq k:keyword e:expr) ...)
           (keyword-stuff ...))
     positional-stuff ...)
    (syntax->datum #'((k ...) (e ...) (keyword-
stuff ...))))])
syntax-parse: single-term pattern not allowed after head
pattern at: (keyword-stuff ...)
; If the example above were allowed, it would be equivalent
to this:
> (syntax-parse #'(#:a 1 #:b 2 3 4 5)
  [((~and (~seq (~seq k:keyword e:expr) ...)
           (~seq (keyword-stuff ...)))
     positional-stuff ...)
    (syntax->datum #'((k ...) (e ...) (keyword-
stuff ...))))])
?: expected keyword at: 3

```

---

(`~or` *H-pattern* ...)

Like the single-term pattern version, `~ors`, but matches a sequence of terms instead.

Examples:

```

> (syntax-parse #'(m #:foo 2 a b c)
  [(_ (~or (~seq #:foo x) (~seq)) y:id ...)
    (attribute x)])
#<syntax:96:0 2>
> (syntax-parse #'(m a b c)
  [(_ (~or (~seq #:foo x) (~seq)) y:id ...)
    (attribute x)])
#f

```

---

`(~optional H-pattern maybe-optional-option)`

`maybe-optional-option =`  
`| #:defaults ([attr-arity-decl expr] ...)`

`attr-arity-decl = attr-id`  
`| (attr-id depth)`

Matches either the given head subpattern or an empty sequence of terms. If the `#:defaults` option is given, the subsequent attribute bindings are used if the subpattern does not match. The default attributes must be a subset of the subpattern's attributes.

Examples:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(m #:foo 2 a b c)
  [(_ (~optional (~seq #:foo x) #:defaults ([x #'#f])) y:id ...)
   (attribute x)])
#<syntax:98:0 2>
> (syntax-parse #'(m a b c)
  [(_ (~optional (~seq #:foo x) #:defaults ([x #'#f])) y:id ...)
   (attribute x)])
#<syntax:99:0 #f>
> (syntax-parse #'(m a b c)
  [(_ (~optional (~seq #:foo x)) y:id ...)
   (attribute x)])
#f
> (syntax-parse #'(m #:syms a b c)
  [(_ (~optional (~seq #:nums n:nat ...) #:defaults ([n 1] null)))
   (~optional (~seq #:syms s:id ...) #:defaults ([s 1] null)))
   #'((n ...) (s ...))])
#<syntax:101:0 (() (a b c))>
```

---

`(~describe expr H-pattern)`

Like the single-term pattern version, `~describes`, but matches a head pattern instead.

---

`(~commit H-pattern)`

Like the single-term pattern version, `~commits`, but matches a head pattern instead.

---

`(~delimit-cut H-pattern)`

Like the single-term pattern version, `~delimit-cuts`, but matches a head pattern instead.

---

`(~peek H-pattern)`

Matches the *H-pattern* but then resets the matching position, so the `~peek` pattern consumes no input. Used to look ahead in a sequence.

Examples:

```
> (define-splicing-syntax-class nf-id ; non-final id
  (pattern (~seq x:id (~peek another:id))))
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c 1 2 3)
  [(n:nf-id ... rest ...)
   (printf "nf-ids are ~s\n" (syntax-
>datum #'(n.x ...)))
   (printf "rest is ~s\n" (syntax-
>datum #'(rest ...)))]
nf-ids are (a b)
rest is (c 1 2 3)
```

---

`(~peek-not H-pattern)`

Like `~peek`, but succeeds if the subpattern fails and fails if the subpattern succeeds. On success, the `~peek-not` resets the matching position, so the pattern consumes no input. Used to look ahead in a sequence. None of the subpattern's attributes are bound outside of the `~peek-not-pattern`.

Examples:

```
> (define-splicing-syntax-class final ; final term
  (pattern (~seq x (~peek-not _))))
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c)
  [((~or f:final o:other) ...)
   (printf "finals are ~s\n" (syntax-
>datum #'(f.x ...)))
   (printf "others are ~s\n" (syntax-
>datum #'(o ...)))]
syntax-parse: not defined as syntax class at: other
```

---

*S-pattern*

Matches a sequence of one element, which must be a term matching *S-pattern*.

### 8.5.3 Ellipsis-head patterns

An *ellipsis-head pattern* (abbreviated *EH-pattern*) is a pattern that describes some number of terms, like a head pattern, but also places constraints on the number of times it occurs in a repetition. They are useful for matching, for example, keyword arguments where the keywords may come in any order. Multiple alternatives are grouped together via `~oreh`.

Examples:

```
> (define parser1
  (syntax-parser
    [((~or (~once (~seq #:a x) #:name "#:a keyword")
             (~optional (~seq #:b y) #:name "#:b keyword")
             (~seq #:c z)) ...)
      'ok]))
> (parser1 #'(#:a 1))
'ok
> (parser1 #'(#:b 2 #:c 3 #:c 25 #:a 'hi))
'ok
> (parser1 #'(#:a 1 #:a 2))
?: too many occurrences of #:a keyword at: ()
```

The pattern requires exactly one occurrence of the `#:a` keyword and argument, at most one occurrence of the `#:b` keyword and argument, and any number of `#:c` keywords and arguments. The “pieces” can occur in any order.

Here are the variants of ellipsis-head pattern:

---

```
(~or EH-pattern ...)
```

Matches if any of the inner *EH-pattern* alternatives match.

---

```
(~once H-pattern once-option ...)
```

```
once-option = #:name name-expr
              | #:too-few too-few-message-expr
              | #:too-many too-many-message-expr
```

```
name-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

```
too-few-message-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

```
too-many-message-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

Matches if the inner *H-pattern* matches. This pattern must be matched exactly once in the match of the entire repetition sequence.

If the pattern is not matched in the repetition sequence, then the ellipsis pattern fails with the message either *too-few-message-expr* or "missing required occurrence of *name-expr*".

If the pattern is chosen more than once in the repetition sequence, then the ellipsis pattern fails with the message either *too-many-message-expr* or "too many occurrences of *name-expr*".

---

(~optional *H-pattern optional-option ...*)

```
optional-option = #:name name-expr
                 | #:too-many too-many-message-expr
                 | #:defaults ([attr-id expr] ...)
```

```
name-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

```
too-many-message-expr : (or/c string? #f)
```

Matches if the inner *H-pattern* matches. This pattern may be used at most once in the match of the entire repetition.

If the pattern is matched more than once in the repetition sequence, then the ellipsis pattern fails with the message either *too-many-message-expr* or "too many occurrences of *name-expr*".

If the `#:defaults` option is given, the following attribute bindings are used if the subpattern does not match at all in the sequence. The default attributes must be a subset of the subpattern's attributes.

---

(~between *H-pattern min-number max-number between-option ...*)

```
reps-option = #:name name-expr
              | #:too-few too-few-message-expr
              | #:too-many too-many-message-expr
```

```
name-expr : (or/c syntax? #f)
```

```
too-few-message-expr : (or/c syntax? #f)
```

Matches if the inner *H-pattern* matches. This pattern must be matched at least *min-number* and at most *max-number* times in the entire repetition.

If the pattern is matched too few times, then the ellipsis pattern fails with the message either *too-few-message-expr* or "too few occurrences of *name-expr*".

If the pattern is chosen too many times, then the ellipsis pattern fails with the message either *too-many-message-expr* or "too many occurrences of *name-expr*".

## 8.5.4 Action patterns

An *action pattern* (abbreviated *A-pattern*) does not describe any syntax; rather, it has an effect such as the binding of attributes or the modification of the matching process.

---

~!

The *cut* operator, written ~!, eliminates backtracking choice points and commits parsing to the current branch of the pattern it is exploring.

Common opportunities for cut-patterns come from recognizing special forms based on keywords. Consider the following expression:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(define-values a 123)
  #:literals (define-values define-syntaxes)
  [(define-values (x:id ...) e) 'define-values]
  [(define-syntaxes (x:id ...) e) 'define-syntaxes]
  [e 'expression])
'expression
```

Given the ill-formed term `(define-values a 123)`, the expression tries the first clause, fails to match `a` against the pattern `(x:id ...)`, and then backtracks to the second clause and ultimately the third clause, producing the value `'expression`. But the term is not an expression; it is an ill-formed use of `define-values`. The proper way to write the `syntax-parse` expression follows:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(define-values a 123)
  #:literals (define-values define-syntaxes)
  [(define-values ~! (x:id ...) e) 'define-values]
  [(define-syntaxes ~! (x:id ...) e) 'define-syntaxes]
  [e 'expression])
define-values: bad syntax at: (define-values a 123)
```

Now, given the same term, `syntax-parse` tries the first clause, and since the keyword `define-values` matches, the cut-pattern commits to the current pattern, eliminating the choice points for the second and third clauses. So when the clause fails to match, the `syntax-parse` expression raises an error.

The effect of a ~! pattern is delimited by the nearest enclosing ~delimit-cut or ~commit pattern. If there is no enclosing ~describe pattern but the cut occurs within a syntax class definition, then only choice points within the syntax class definition are discarded. A ~! pattern is not allowed within a ~not pattern unless there is an intervening ~delimit-cut or ~commit pattern.

---

`(~bind [attr-arity-decl expr] ...)`

`attr-arity-decl = attr-name-id`  
`| (attr-name-id depth)`

Evaluates the `exprs` and binds them to the given `attr-ids` as attributes.

---

`(~fail maybe-fail-condition maybe-message-expr)`

`maybe-fail-condition =`  
`| #:when condition-expr`  
`| #:unless condition-expr`

`maybe-message-expr =`  
`| message-expr`

`message-expr : (or/c string? #f)`

If the condition is absent, or if the `#:when` condition evaluates to a true value, or if the `#:unless` condition evaluates to `#f`, then the pattern fails with the given message. If the message is omitted, the default value `#f` is used, representing “no message.”

Fail patterns can be used together with cut patterns to recognize specific ill-formed terms and address them with custom failure messages.

---

`(~parse S-pattern stx-expr)`

`stx-expr : syntax?`

Evaluates `stx-expr` to a syntax object and matches it against `S-pattern`.

---

`(~and A-pattern ...+)`

Performs the actions of each `A-pattern`.

---

`(~do defn-or-expr ...)`

Takes a sequence of definitions and expressions, which may be intermixed, and evaluates them in the scope of all previous attribute bindings. The names bound by the definitions are in scope in the expressions of subsequent patterns and clauses.

There is currently no way to bind attributes using a `~do` pattern. It is an error to shadow an attribute binding with a definition in a `~do` block.

Example:

```
> (syntax-parse #'(1 2 3)
    [(a b (~do (printf "a was ~s\n" #'a)) c:id) 'ok])
a was #<syntax:112:0 1>
?: expected identifier at: 3
```

## 8.6 Defining simple macros

```
(require syntax/parse/define)
```

---

```
(define-simple-macro (macro-id . pattern) pattern-directive ...
  template)
```

Defines a macro named *macro-id*; equivalent to the following:

```
(define-syntax (macro-id stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(macro-id . pattern) pattern-directive ... #'template]))
```

Examples:

```
> (define-simple-macro (fn x:id rhs:expr) (lambda (x) rhs))
> ((fn x x) 17)
17
> (fn 1 2)
fn: expected identifier at: 1
> (define-simple-macro (fn2 x y rhs)
  #:declare x id
  #:declare y id
  #:declare rhs expr
  (lambda (x y) rhs))
> ((fn2 a b (+ a b)) 3 4)
7
> (fn2 a #:b 'c)
fn2: expected identifier at: #:b
```

## 8.7 Literal sets and Conventions

Sometimes the same literals are recognized in a number of different places. The most common example is the literals for fully expanded programs, which are used in many analysis and transformation tools. Specifying literals individually is burdensome and error-prone. As a remedy, `syntax/parse` offers *literal sets*. A literal set is defined via `define-literal-set` and used via the `#:literal-set` option of `syntax-parse`.



---

```

(define-literal-set id maybe-phase maybe-imports (literal ...))

  literal = literal-id
           | (pattern-id literal-id)

  maybe-phase =
           | #:for-template
           | #:for-syntax
           | #:for-label
           | #:phase phase-level

  maybe-imports =
           | #:literal-sets (imported-litset-id ...)

```

Defines *id* as a literal set. Each *literal* can have a separate *pattern-id* and *literal-id*. The *pattern-id* determines what identifiers in the pattern are treated as literals. The *literal-id* determines what identifiers the literal matches. If the `#:literal-sets` option is present, the contents of the given *imported-litset-ids* are included.

Examples:

```

> (define-literal-set def-litset
  (define-values define-syntaxes))
> (syntax-parse #'(define-syntaxes (x) 12)
  #:literal-sets (def-litset)
  [(define-values (x:id ...) e:expr) 'v]
  [(define-syntaxes (x:id ...) e:expr) 's])
's

```

The literals in a literal set always refer to the bindings at phase *phase-level* relative to the enclosing module. If the `#:for-template` option is given, *phase-level* is `-1`; `#:for-syntax` means `1`, and `#:for-label` means `#f`. If no phase keyword option is given, then *phase-level* is `0`.

For example:

Examples:

```

> (module common racket/base
  (define x 'something)
  (provide x))
> (module lits racket/base
  (require syntax/parse 'common)
  (define-literal-set common-lits (x))
  (provide common-lits))

```

In the literal set `common-lits`, the literal `x` always recognizes identifiers bound to the variable `x` defined in module `'common`.

The following module defines an equivalent literal set, but imports the `'common` module for-template instead:

Example:

```
> (module lits racket/base
  (require syntax/parse (for-template 'common))
  (define-literal-set common-lits #:for-template (x))
  (provide common-lits))
```

When a literal set is *used* with the `#:phase phase-expr` option, the literals' fixed bindings are compared against the binding of the input literal at the specified phase. Continuing the example:

Examples:

```
> (require syntax/parse 'lits (for-syntax 'common))
> (syntax-parse #'x #:literal-sets ([common-lits #:phase 1])
  [x 'yes]
  [_ 'no])
'yes
```

The occurrence of `x` in the pattern matches any identifier whose binding at phase 1 is the `x` from module `'common`.

---

(literal-set->predicate *litset-id*)

Given the name of a literal set, produces a predicate that recognizes identifiers in the literal set. The predicate takes one required argument, an identifier *id*, and one optional argument, the phase *phase* at which to examine the binding of *id*; the *phase* argument defaults to `(syntax-local-phase-level)`.

Examples:

```
> (define kernel? (literal-set->predicate kernel-literals))
> (kernel? #'lambda)
#f
> (kernel? #'%plain-lambda)
#t
> (kernel? #'define-values)
#t
> (kernel? #'define-values 4)
#f
```

---

```
(define-conventions name-id convention-rule ...)
```

```
convention-rule = (name-pattern syntax-class)
```

```
name-pattern = exact-id  
              | name-rx
```

```
syntax-class = syntax-class-id  
              | (syntax-class-id expr ...)
```

Defines *conventions* that supply default syntax classes for pattern variables. A pattern variable that has no explicit syntax class is checked against each *id-pattern*, and the first one that matches determines the syntax class for the pattern. If no *id-pattern* matches, then the pattern variable has no syntax class.

Examples:

```
> (define-conventions xyz-as-ids  
   [x id] [y id] [z id])  
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c 1 2 3)  
   #:conventions (xyz-as-ids)  
   [(x ... n ...) (syntax->datum #'(x ...))])  
'(a b c)  
> (define-conventions xn-prefixes  
   [#rx"^x" id]  
   [#rx"^n" nat])  
> (syntax-parse #'(a b c 1 2 3)  
   #:conventions (xn-prefixes)  
   [(x0 x ... n0 n ...) (syntax->datum #'(x0 (x ...) n0 (n ...)))]])  
'(a (b c) 1 (2 3))
```

Local conventions, introduced with the `#:local-conventions` keyword argument of `syntax-parse` and syntax class definitions, may refer to local bindings:

Examples:

```
> (define-syntax-class (nat> bound)  
   (pattern n:nat  
     #:fail-unless (> (syntax-e #'n) bound)  
                  (format "expected number > ~s" bound)))  
> (define-syntax-class (natlist> bound)  
   #:local-conventions ([N (nat> bound)])  
   (pattern (N ...)))  
> (define (parse-natlist> bound x)  
   (syntax-parse x
```

```

      #:local-conventions ([NS (natlist> bound)])
      [NS 'ok]))
> (parse-natlist> 0 #'(1 2 3))
'ok
> (parse-natlist> 5 #'(8 6 4 2))
?: expected number > 5 at: 4

```

## 8.8 Library syntax classes and literal sets

### 8.8.1 Syntax classes

---

expr

Matches anything except a keyword literal (to distinguish expressions from the start of a keyword argument sequence). The term is not otherwise inspected, since it is not feasible to check if it is actually a valid expression.

---

identifier  
 boolean  
 str  
 char  
 keyword  
 number  
 integer  
 exact-integer  
 exact-nonnegative-integer  
 exact-positive-integer

Match syntax satisfying the corresponding predicates.

---

id

Alias for identifier.

---

nat

Alias for exact-nonnegative-integer.

---

```

(static predicate description) → (attributes value)
  predicate : (-> any/c any/c)
  description : (or/c string? #f)

```

The `static` syntax class matches an identifier that is bound in the syntactic environment to static information (see `syntax-local-value`) satisfying the given `predicate`. If the term does not match, the `description` argument is used to describe the expected syntax.

When used outside of the dynamic extent of a macro transformer (see `syntax-transforming?`), matching fails.

The attribute `value` contains the value the name is bound to.

---

```
(expr/c contract-expr
  [#:positive pos-blame
   #:negative neg-blame
   #:name expr-name
   #:macro macro-name
   #:context ctx]) → (attributes c)
contract-expr : syntax?
pos-blame : (or/c syntax? string? module-path-index? 'from-macro 'use-site 'unknown)
             = 'use-site
neg-blame : (or/c syntax? string? module-path-index? 'from-macro 'use-site 'unknown)
             = 'from-macro
expr-name : (or/c identifier? string? symbol?) = #f
macro-name : (or/c identifier? string? symbol?) = #f
ctx : (or/c syntax? #f) = determined automatically
```

Accepts an expression (`expr`) and computes an attribute `c` that represents the expression wrapped with the contract represented by `contract-expr`.

The contract's positive blame represents the obligations of the expression being wrapped. The negative blame represents the obligations of the macro imposing the contract—the ultimate user of `expr/c`. By default, the positive blame is taken as the module currently being expanded, and the negative blame is inferred from the definition site of the macro (itself inferred from the `context` argument), but both blame locations can be overridden.

The `pos-blame` and `neg-blame` arguments are turned into blame locations as follows:

- If the argument is a string, it is used directly as the blame label.
- If the argument is `syntax`, its source location is used to produce the blame label.
- If the argument is a module path index, its resolved module path is used.
- If the argument is `'from-macro`, the macro is inferred from either the `macro-name` argument (if `macro-name` is an identifier) or the `context` argument, and the module where it is *defined* is used as the blame location. If neither an identifier `macro-name` nor a `context` argument is given, the location is `"unknown"`.
- If the argument is `'use-site`, the module being expanded is used.

- If the argument is `'unknown`, the blame label is `"unknown"`.

The `macro-name` argument is used to determine the macro's binding, if it is an identifier. If `expr-name` is given, `macro-name` is also included in the contract error message. If `macro-name` is omitted or `#f`, but `context` is a syntax object, then `macro-name` is determined from `context`.

If `expr-name` is not `#f`, it is used in the contract's error message to describe the expression the contract is applied to.

The `context` argument is used, when necessary, to infer the macro name for the negative blame party and the contract error message. The `context` should be either an identifier or a syntax pair with an identifier in operator position; in either case, that identifier is taken as the macro ultimately requesting the contract wrapping.

See §8.2.6 “Contracts on macro sub-expressions” for an example.

**Important:** Make sure when using `expr/c` to use the `c` attribute. The `expr/c` syntax class does not change how pattern variables are bound; it only computes an attribute that represents the checked expression.

## 8.8.2 Literal sets

---

`kernel-literals`

Literal set containing the identifiers for fully-expanded code (§1.2.3.1 “Fully Expanded Programs”). The set contains all of the forms listed by `kernel-form-identifier-list`, plus `module`,  `#%plain-module-begin`,  `#%require`, and  `#%provide`.

Note that the literal-set uses the names  `#%plain-lambda` and  `#%plain-app`, not  `lambda` and  `%app`.

## 8.9 Debugging and inspection tools

```
(require syntax/parse/debug)
```

The following special forms are for debugging syntax classes.

---

```
(syntax-class-attributes syntax-class-id)
```

Returns a list of the syntax class's attributes. Each attribute entry consists of the attribute's name and ellipsis depth.

---

```
(syntax-class-arity syntax-class-id)  
(syntax-class-keywords syntax-class-id)
```

Returns the syntax class's arity and keywords, respectively. Compare with [procedure-arity](#) and [procedure-keywords](#).

---

```
(syntax-class-parse syntax-class-id stx-expr arg ...)
```

```
stx-expr : syntax?
```

Runs the parser for the syntax class (parameterized by the [arg-exprs](#)) on the syntax object produced by [stx-expr](#). On success, the result is a list of vectors representing the attribute bindings of the syntax class. Each vector contains the attribute name, depth, and associated value. On failure, the result is some internal representation of the failure.

---

```
(debug-parse stx-expr S-pattern ....)
```

```
stx-expr : syntax?
```

Tries to match [stx-expr](#) against the [S-patterns](#). If matching succeeds, the symbol `'success` is returned. Otherwise, an S-expression describing the failure is returned.

The failure S-expression shows both the raw set of failures (unsorted) and the failures with maximal progress. The maximal failures are divided into equivalence classes based on their progress (progress is a partial order); that is, failures within an equivalence class have the same progress and, in principle, pinpoint the same term as the problematic term. Multiple equivalence classes only arise from `~parse` patterns (or equivalently, `#:with` clauses) that match computed terms or `~fail` (`#:fail-when`, etc) clauses that allow a computed term to be pinpointed.

## 8.10 Experimental

The following facilities are experimental.

### 8.10.1 Contracts for macro sub-expressions

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/contract)
```

This module is deprecated; it reprovides [expr/c](#) for backward compatibility.

### 8.10.2 Contracts for syntax classes

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/provide)
```

---

```
(provide-syntax-class/contract  
  [syntax-class-id syntax-class-contract] ...)  
  
syntax-class-contract = (syntax-class/c (mandatory-arg ...))  
                       | (syntax-class/c (mandatory-arg ...)  
                                         (optional-arg ...))  
  
      arg = contract-expr  
          | keyword contract-expr  
  
contract-expr : contract?
```

Provides the syntax class (or splicing syntax class) *syntax-class-id* with the given contracts imposed on its formal parameters.

---

syntax-class/c

Keyword recognized by provide-syntax-class/contract.

### 8.10.3 Reflection

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/reflect)
```

A syntax class can be reified into a run-time value, and a reified syntax class can be used in a pattern via the `~reflect` and `~splicing-reflect` pattern forms.

---

```
(reify-syntax-class syntax-class-id)
```

Reifies the syntax class named *syntax-class-id* as a run-time value. The same form also handles splicing syntax classes. Syntax classes with the `#:no-delimit-cut` option cannot be reified.

---

```
(reified-syntax-class? x) → boolean?  
  x : any/c  
(reified-splicing-syntax-class? x) → boolean?  
  x : any/c
```



Returns `#t` if `x` is a reified (normal) syntax class or a reified splicing syntax class, respectively.

---

```
(reified-syntax-class-attributes r)
→ (listof (list/c symbol? exact-nonnegative-integer?))
r : (or/c reified-syntax-class? reified-splicing-syntax-class?)
```

Returns the reified syntax class's attributes.

---

```
(reified-syntax-class-arity r) → procedure-arity?
r : (or/c reified-syntax-class? reified-splicing-syntax-class?)
(reified-syntax-class-keywords r)
→ (listof keyword?) (listof keyword?)
r : (or/c reified-syntax-class? reified-splicing-syntax-class?)
```

Returns the reified syntax class's arity and keywords, respectively. Compare with `procedure-arity` and `procedure-keywords`.

---

```
(reified-syntax-class-curry r
  arg ...
  #:<kw> kw-arg ...)
→ (or/c reified-syntax-class? reified-splicing-syntax-class?)
r : (or/c reified-syntax-class? reified-splicing-syntax-class?)
arg : any/c
kw-arg : any/c
```

Partially applies the reified syntax class to the given arguments. If more arguments are given than the reified syntax class accepts, an error is raised.

```
S-pattern = ...
  | (~reflect var-id (reified-expr arg-expr ...) maybe-attrs)

H-pattern = ...
  | (~splicing-reflect var-id (reified-expr arg-expr ...)
    maybe-attrs)
```

---

```
(~reflect var-id (reified-expr arg-expr ...) maybe-attrs)
```

```
maybe-attrs =
  | #:attributes (attr-arity-decl ...)
```

Like `~var`, except that the syntax class position is an expression evaluating to a reified syntax object, not a syntax class name, and the attributes bound by the reified syntax class (if any) must be specified explicitly.

---

```
(~splicing-reflect var-id (reified-expr arg-expr ...) maybe-attrs)
```

Like ~reflect but for reified splicing syntax classes.

Examples:

```
> (define-syntax-class (nat> x)
  #:description (format "natural number greater than ~s" x)
  #:attributes (diff)
  (pattern n:nat
    #:when (> (syntax-e #'n) x)
    #:with diff (- (syntax-e #'n) x)))
> (define-syntax-class (nat/mult x)
  #:description (format "natural number multiple of ~s" x)
  #:attributes (quot)
  (pattern n:nat
    #:when (zero? (remainder (syntax-e #'n) x))
    #:with quot (quotient (syntax-e #'n) x)))
> (define r-nat> (reify-syntax-class nat>))
> (define r-nat/mult (reify-syntax-class nat/mult))
> (define (partition/r stx r n)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [((~or (~reflect yes (r n)) no) ...)
     #'((yes ...) (no ...))]))
> (partition/r #'(1 2 3 4 5) r-nat> 3)
#<syntax:6:0 ((4 5) (1 2 3))>
> (partition/r #'(1 2 3 4 5) r-nat/mult 2)
#<syntax:6:0 ((2 4) (1 3 5))>
> (define (bad-attrs r)
  (syntax-parse #'6
    [(~reflect x (r 3) #:attributes (diff))
     #'x.diff]))
> (bad-attrs r-nat>)
#<syntax 3>
> (bad-attrs r-nat/mult)
reflect-syntax-class: reified syntax-class is missing
declared attribute 'diff'
```

#### 8.10.4 Procedural splicing syntax classes

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/splicing)
```

---

```
(define-primitive-splicing-syntax-class (name-id param-id ...)
  maybe-description maybe-attrs
  parser-expr)

  parser : (-> syntax?
            (->* () ((or/c string? #f) -> any))
            (cons/c exact-positive-integer? list?))
```

Defines a splicing syntax via a procedural parser.

The parser procedure is given two arguments, the syntax to parse and a failure procedure. To signal a successful parse, the parser procedure returns a list of  $N+1$  elements, where  $N$  is the number of attributes declared by the splicing syntax class. The first element is the size of the prefix consumed. The rest of the list contains the values of the attributes.

To indicate failure, the parser calls the failure procedure with an optional message argument.

### 8.10.5 Ellipsis-head alternative sets

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/eh)
```

Unlike single-term patterns and head patterns, ellipsis-head patterns cannot be encapsulated by syntax classes, since they describe not only sets of terms but also repetition constraints.

This module provides *ellipsis-head alternative sets*, reusable encapsulations of ellipsis-head patterns.

---

```
(define-eh-alternative-set name eh-alternative ...)

alternative = (pattern EH-pattern)
```

Defines *name* as an ellipsis-head alternative set. Using *name* (via `~eh-var`) in an ellipsis-head pattern is equivalent to including each of the alternatives in the pattern via `~oreh`, except that the attributes bound by the alternatives are prefixed with the name given to `~eh-var`.

Unlike syntax classes, ellipsis-head alternative sets must be defined before they are referenced.

```
EH-pattern = ....
             | (~eh-var name eh-alternative-set-id)
```

---

```
(~eh-var name eh-alternative-set-id)
```

Includes the alternatives of *eh-alternative-set-id*, prefixing their attributes with *name*.

Examples:

```
> (define-eh-alternative-set options
  (pattern (~once (~seq #:a a:expr) #:name "#:a option"))
  (pattern (~seq #:b b:expr)))
> (define (parse/options stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ (~eh-var s options) ...)
     #'(s.a (s.b ...))]))
> (parse/options #'(m #:a 1 #:b 2 #:b 3))
#<syntax:13:0 (1 (2 3))>
> (parse/options #'(m #:a 1 #:a 2))
m: too many occurrences of #:a option at: ()
> (define (parse/more-options stx)
  (syntax-parse stx
    [(_ (~or (~eh-var s options)
              (~seq #:c c1:expr c2:expr))
         ...)
     #'(s.a (s.b ...) ((c1 c2) ...))]))
> (parse/more-options #'(m #:a 1 #:b 2 #:c 3 4 #:c 5 6))
#<syntax:16:0 (1 (2) ((3 4) (5 6)))>
> (define-eh-alternative-set ext-options
  (pattern (~eh-var s options))
  (pattern (~seq #:c c1 c2)))
> (syntax-parse #'(m #:a 1 #:b 2 #:c 3 4 #:c 5 6)
  [(_ (~eh-var x ext-options) ...)
   #'(x.s.a (x.s.b ...) ((x.c1 x.c2) ...))])
#<syntax:19:0 (1 (2) ((3 4) (5 6)))>
```

### 8.10.6 Syntax class specialization

```
(require syntax/parse/experimental/specialize)
```

---

```
(define-syntax-class/specialize header syntax-class-use)
```

```
  header = id
          | (id . kw-formals)
```

```
  syntax-class-use = target-stxclass-id
                   | (target-stxclass-id arg ...)
```

Defines `id` as a syntax class with the same attributes, options (eg, `#:commit`, `#:no-delimit-cut`), and patterns as `target-stxclass-id` but with the given `args` supplied.

Examples:

```
> (define-syntax-class/specialize nat>10 (nat> 10))
> (syntax-parse #'(11 12) [(n:nat>10 ...) 'ok])
'ok
> (syntax-parse #'(8 9) [(n:nat>10 ...) 'ok])
?: expected natural number greater than 10 at: 8
```

## 9 Source Locations

There are two libraries in this collection for dealing with source locations; one for manipulating representations of them, and the other for quoting the location of a particular piece of source code.

### 9.1 Representations

```
(require syntax/srcloc)
```

This module defines utilities for manipulating representations of source locations, including both `srcloc` structures and all the values accepted by `datum->syntax`'s third argument: syntax objects, lists, vectors, and `#f`.

---

```
(source-location? x) → boolean?  
  x : any/c  
(source-location-list? x) → boolean?  
  x : any/c  
(source-location-vector? x) → boolean?  
  x : any/c
```

These functions recognize valid source location representations. The first, `source-location?`, recognizes `srcloc` structures, syntax objects, lists, and vectors with appropriate structure, as well as `#f`. The latter predicates recognize only valid lists and vectors, respectively.

Examples:

```
> (source-location? #f)  
#t  
> (source-location? #'here)  
#t  
> (source-location? (make-srcloc 'here 1 0 1 0))  
#t  
> (source-location? (make-srcloc 'bad 1 #f 1 0))  
#f  
> (source-location? (list 'here 1 0 1 0))  
#t  
> (source-location? (list* 'bad 1 0 1 0 'tail))  
#f  
> (source-location? (vector 'here 1 0 1 0))  
#t  
> (source-location? (vector 'bad 0 0 0 0))  
#f
```

---

```
(check-source-location! name x) → void?  
  name : symbol?  
  x : any/c
```

This procedure checks that its input is a valid source location. If it is, the procedure returns (`void`). If it is not, `check-source-location!` raises a detailed error message in terms of `name` and the problem with `x`.

Examples:

```
> (check-source-location! 'this-example #f)  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example #'here)  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (make-srcloc 'here 1 0 1 0))  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (make-srcloc 'bad 1 #f 1 0))  
this-example: expected a source location with line number  
and column number both numeric or both #f; got 1 and #f  
respectively: (srcloc 'bad 1 #f 1 0)  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (list 'here 1 0 1 0))  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (list* 'bad 1 0 1 0 'tail))  
this-example: expected a source location (a list of 5  
elements); got an improper list: '(bad 1 0 1 0 . tail)  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (vector 'here 1 0 1 0))  
> (check-source-location! 'this-example (vector 'bad 0 0 0 0))  
this-example: expected a source location with a positive  
line number or #f (second element); got line number 0:  
'(bad 0 0 0 0)
```

---

```
(build-source-location loc ...) → srcloc?  
  loc : source-location?  
(build-source-location-list loc ...) → source-location-list?  
  loc : source-location?  
(build-source-location-vector loc ...) → source-location-vector?  
  loc : source-location?  
(build-source-location-syntax loc ...) → syntax?  
  loc : source-location?
```

These procedures combine multiple (zero or more) source locations, merging locations within the same source and reporting `#f` for locations that span sources. They also convert the result to the desired representation: `srcloc`, list, vector, or syntax object, respectively.

Examples:

```
> (build-source-location)  
(srcloc #f #f #f #f #f)  
> (build-source-location-list)
```

```

'(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-vector)
'#(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-syntax)
#<syntax ()>
> (build-source-location #f)
(srcloc #f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-list #f)
'(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-vector #f)
'#(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-syntax #f)
#<syntax ()>
> (build-source-location (list 'here 1 2 3 4))
(srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4)
> (build-source-location-list (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4))
'here 1 2 3 4)
> (build-source-location-vector (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4))
'#(here 1 2 3 4)
> (build-source-location-syntax (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4))
#<syntax:1:2 ()>
> (build-source-location (list 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'here 5 6 7 8))
(srcloc 'here 1 2 3 12)
> (build-source-location-list (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'here 5 6 7 8))
'here 1 2 3 12)
> (build-source-location-vector (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'here 5 6 7 8))
'#(here 1 2 3 12)
> (build-source-location-syntax (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'here 5 6 7 8))
#<syntax:1:2 ()>
> (build-source-location (list 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'there 5 6 7 8))
(srcloc #f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-list (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'there 5 6 7 8))
'(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-vector (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'there 5 6 7 8))
'#(#f #f #f #f #f)
> (build-source-location-syntax (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4) (vector 'there 5 6 7 8))
#<syntax ()>

```

---

```

(source-location-known? loc) → boolean?
  loc : source-location?

```

This predicate reports whether a given source location contains more information than simply #f.

Examples:



```

> (source-location-known? #f)
#f
> (source-location-known? (make-srcloc #f #f #f #f #f))
#f
> (source-location-known? (make-srcloc 'source 1 2 3 4))
#t
> (source-location-known? (list #f #f #f #f #f))
#f
> (source-location-known? (vector 'source #f #f #f #f))
#t
> (source-location-known? (datum->syntax #f null #f))
#t
> (source-location-known? (datum->syntax #f null (list 'source #f #f #f #f)))
#t

```

---

```

(source-location-source loc) → any/c
  loc : source-location?
(source-location-line loc)
→ (or/c orexact-positive-integer? #f)
  loc : source-location?
(source-location-column loc)
→ (or/c exact-nonnegative-integer? #f)
  loc : source-location?
(source-location-position loc)
→ (or/c exact-positive-integer? #f)
  loc : source-location?
(source-location-span loc)
→ (or/c exact-nonnegative-integer? #f)
  loc : source-location?

```

These accessors extract the fields of a source location.

Examples:

```

> (source-location-source #f)
#f
> (source-location-line (make-srcloc 'source 1 2 3 4))
1
> (source-location-column (list 'source 1 2 3 4))
2
> (source-location-position (vector 'source 1 2 3 4))
3
> (source-location-span (datum->syntax #f null (list 'source 1 2 3 4)))
4

```

---

```

(source-location-end loc)

```

```
→ (or/c exact-nonnegative-integer? #f)
   loc : source-location?
```

This accessor produces the end position of a source location (the sum of its position and span, if both are numbers) or `#f`.

Examples:

```
> (source-location-end #f)
#f
> (source-location-end (make-srcloc 'source 1 2 3 4))
7
> (source-location-end (list 'source 1 2 3 #f))
#f
> (source-location-end (vector 'source 1 2 #f 4))
#f
```

---

```
(update-source-location loc
  #:source source
  #:line line
  #:column column
  #:position position
  #:span span) → source-location?

loc : source-location?
source : any/c
line : (or/c exact-nonnegative-integer? #f)
column : (or/c exact-positive-integer? #f)
position : (or/c exact-nonnegative-integer? #f)
span : (or/c exact-positive-integer? #f)
```

Produces a modified version of `loc`, replacing its fields with `source`, `line`, `column`, `position`, and/or `span`, if given.

Examples:

```
> (update-source-location #f #:source 'here)
'(here #f #f #f #f)
> (update-source-location (list 'there 1 2 3 4) #:line 20 #:column 79)
'(there 20 79 3 4)
> (update-source-location (vector 'everywhere 1 2 3 4) #:position #f #:span #f)
' #(everywhere 1 2 #f #f)
```

---

```
(source-location->string loc) → string?
loc : source-location?
(source-location->prefix loc) → string?
loc : source-location?
```

These procedures convert source locations to strings for use in error messages. The first produces a string describing the source location; the second appends ": " to the string if it is non-empty.

Examples:

```
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4))
"here:1.2"
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc 'here #f #f 3 4))
"here::3-7"
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc 'here #f #f #f #f))
"here"
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc #f 1 2 3 4))
":1.2"
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc #f #f #f 3 4))
"::3-7"
> (source-location->string (make-srcloc #f #f #f #f #f))
""
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc 'here 1 2 3 4))
"here:1.2: "
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc 'here #f #f 3 4))
"here::3-7: "
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc 'here #f #f #f #f))
"here: "
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc #f 1 2 3 4))
":1.2: "
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc #f #f #f 3 4))
"::3-7: "
> (source-location->prefix (make-srcloc #f #f #f #f #f))
""
```

## 9.2 Quoting

```
(require syntax/location)
```

This module defines macros that evaluate to various aspects of their own source location.

*Note:* The examples below illustrate the use of these macros and the representation of their output. However, due to the mechanism by which they are generated, each example is considered a single character and thus does not have realistic line, column, and character positions.

Furthermore, the examples illustrate the use of source location quoting inside macros, and the difference between quoting the source location of the macro definition itself and quoting the source location of the macro's arguments.

---

```
(quote-srcloc)
(quote-srcloc form)
(quote-srcloc form #:module-source expr)
```

Quotes the source location of *form* as a `srcloc` structure, using the location of the whole `(quote-srcloc)` expression if no *expr* is given. Uses relative directories for paths found within the collections tree, the user's collections directory, or the PLaneT cache.

Examples:

```
> (quote-srcloc)
(srcloc 'eval 2 0 2 1)
> (define-syntax (not-here stx) #'(quote-srcloc))
> (not-here)
(srcloc 'eval 3 0 3 1)
> (not-here)
(srcloc 'eval 3 0 3 1)
> (define-syntax (here stx) #'(quote-srcloc #,stx))
> (here)
(srcloc 'eval 7 0 7 1)
> (here)
(srcloc 'eval 8 0 8 1)
```

---

```
(quote-source-file)
(quote-source-file form)
(quote-line-number)
(quote-line-number form)
(quote-column-number)
(quote-column-number form)
(quote-character-position)
(quote-character-position form)
(quote-character-span)
(quote-character-span form)
```

Quote various fields of the source location of *form*, or of the whole macro application if no *form* is given.

Examples:

```
> (list (quote-source-file)
        (quote-line-number)
        (quote-column-number)
        (quote-character-position)
        (quote-character-span))
'(eval 2 0 2 1)
```

```

> (define-syntax (not-here stx)
  #'(list (quote-source-file)
         (quote-line-number)
         (quote-column-number)
         (quote-character-position)
         (quote-character-span)))
> (not-here)
'(eval 3 0 3 1)
> (not-here)
'(eval 3 0 3 1)
> (define-syntax (here stx)
  #'(list (quote-source-file #,stx)
         (quote-line-number #,stx)
         (quote-column-number #,stx)
         (quote-character-position #,stx)
         (quote-character-span #,stx)))
> (here)
'(eval 7 0 7 1)
> (here)
'(eval 8 0 8 1)

```

---

(quote-module-name)

Quotes the name of the module in which the form is compiled as a path or symbol, or `'top-level` when used outside of a module. To produce a name suitable for use in printed messages, apply `path->relative-string/library` when the result is a path.

Examples:

```

> (module A racket
  (require syntax/location)
  (define-syntax-rule (name) (quote-module-name))
  (define a-name (name))
  (provide (all-defined-out)))
> (require 'A)
> a-name
'A
> (module B racket
  (require syntax/location)
  (require 'A)
  (define b-name (name))
  (provide (all-defined-out)))
> (require 'B)
> b-name
'B
> (quote-module-name)

```

```
'top-level
> [current-namespace (module->namespace ''A)]
> (quote-module-name)
'A
```

---

```
(quote-module-path)
```

*This form is deprecated, as it does not produce module paths that reliably indicate collections or PLaneT packages. Please use `quote-module-name` and `path->relative-string/library` to produce human-readable module names in printed messages.*

Quotes the name of the module in which the form is compiled as a module path using `quote` or `file`, or produces `'top-level` when used outside of a module.

Examples:

```
> (module A racket
  (require syntax/location)
  (define-syntax-rule (path) (quote-module-path))
  (define a-path (path))
  (provide (all-defined-out)))
> (require 'A)
> a-path
''A
> (module B racket
  (require syntax/location)
  (require 'A)
  (define b-path (path))
  (provide (all-defined-out)))
> (require 'B)
> b-path
''B
> (quote-module-path)
'top-level
> [current-pathspace (module->pathspace ''A)]
reference to undefined identifier: current-pathspace
> (quote-module-path)
'top-level
```

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