

---+ Package TWiki::Infix::Parser

A simple stack-based parser that parses infix expressions with nonary, unary and binary operators specified using an operator table.

Escapes are supported in strings, using backslash.

## new(\$client\_class, \%options) -> parser object

Creates a new infix parser. Operators must be added for it to be useful.

The tokeniser matches tokens in the following order: operators, quotes (" and '), numbers, words, brackets. If you have any overlaps (e.g. an operator '<' and a bracket operator '<<') then the first choice will match.

\$client\_class needs to be the *name* of a *package* that supports the following two functions:

- newLeaf(\$val, \$type) - create a terminal. \$type will be:
  1. if the terminal matched the words specification (see below).
  2. if it is a number matched the numbers specification (see below)
  3. if it is a quoted string
- =newNode(\$op, @params ) - create a new operator node. @params is a variable-length list of parameters, left to right. \$op is a reference to the operator hash in the \@opers list.

These functions should throw Error::Simple in the event of errors. TWiki::Infix::Node is such a class, ripe for subclassing.

The remaining parameters are named, and specify options that affect the behaviour of the parser:

1. words=>qr// - should be an RE specifying legal words (unquoted terminals that are not operators i.e. names and numbers). By default this is \w+. It's ok if operator names match this RE; operators always have precedence over atoms.
2. numbers=>qr// - should be an RE specifying legal numbers (unquoted terminals that are not operators or words). By default this is qr/[+-]?(?:\d+\.\d+|\d+\.|\.\d+|\d+)(?:[eE][+-]?\d+)?/, which matches integers and floating-point numbers. Number matching always takes precedence over word matching (i.e. "1xy" will be parsed as a number followed by a word. A typical usage of this option is when you only want to recognise integers, in which case you would set this to numbers => qr/\d+/.

## ObjectMethod addOperator (\%oper)

Add an operator to the parser.

\%oper is a hash (or an object), containing the following fields:

- name - operator string
- prec - operator precedence, positive non-zero integer. Larger number => higher precedence.
- arity - set to 1 if this operator is unary, 2 for binary. Arity 0 is legal, should you ever need it.
- close - used with bracket operators. name should be the open bracket string, and close the close bracket. The existence of close marks this as a bracket operator.
- casematters= - indicates that the parser should check case in the operator name (i.e. treat 'AND' and 'and' as different). By default operators are case insensitive. **Note** that operator names must be caselessly unique i.e. you can't define 'AND' and 'and' as different operators in the same parser. Does not affect the interpretation of non-operator terminals (names).

Other fields in the hash can be used for other purposes; the parse tree generated by this parser will point to the hashes passed to this function.

Field names in the hash starting with `InfixParser_` are reserved for use by the parser.

## ObjectMethod `parse ($string) -> $parseTree`

Parses `$string`, calling `newLeaf` and `newNode` in the client class as necessary to create a parse tree. Returns the result of calling `newNode` on the root of the parse.

Throws `TWiki::Infix::Error` in the event of parse errors.

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This topic: TWiki > TWikiInfixParserDotPm

Topic revision: r2 - 2008-12-06 - TWikiContributor



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