R6RS: Scheme

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The The Revised^6 Report on the Algorithmic Language Scheme defines a dialect of Scheme. We use *R^{6}RS* to refer to both the standard and the language defined by the standard.

R^{6}RS defines both *libraries* and *top-level programs*. Both correspond to Racket *modules* (see §6 “Modules”). That is, although R^{6}RS defines top-level programs as entry points, you can just as easily treat a library as an entry point when using Racket. The only difference is that an R^{6}RS top-level program cannot export any bindings to other modules.

See §23 “Dialects of Racket and Scheme” for general information about different dialects of Scheme within Racket.

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1 Using R^{6}RS with DrRacket

To run an R^{6}RS program with DrRacket choose Use language declared in source from the language dialog box and add the following line to the top of your program. `#!r6rs`.

Here is a small example R^{6}RS program that will work in DrRacket.

```
#!r6rs
(import (rnrs lists (6))
        (rnrs base (6))
        (rnrs io simple (6)))
(display (find even? '(3 1 4 1 5 9)))
```

2 Running Top-Level Programs

To run a top-level program, either:

- Use the `plt-r6rs` executable, supplying the file that contains the program on the command line:

  `plt-r6rs` ⟨*program-file*⟩

  Additional command-line arguments are propagated as command-line arguments to the program (accessed via `command-line`).

  To compile the file to bytecode (to speed future runs of the program), use `plt-r6rs` with the `--compile` flag:

  `plt-r6rs --compile` ⟨*program-file*⟩

  The bytecode file is written in a `"compiled"` sub-directory next to ⟨*program-file*⟩.

  For example, if `"hi.sps"` contains

  ```
  (import (rnrs))
  (display "hello\n")
  ```

  then

  ```
  plt-r6rs hi.sps
  ```

  prints "hello."

- Prefix the program with `#!r6rs`, which counts as a comment from the R^{6}RS perspective, but is a synonym for `#lang r6rs` from the Racket perspective. Such files can be run like any other Racket module, such as using `racket`:

  `racket` ⟨*program-file*⟩

  or using DrRacket. The file can also be compiled to bytecode using `raco make`:

  `raco make` ⟨*program-file*⟩

  For example, if `"hi.sps"` contains

  ```
  #!r6rs
  (import (rnrs))
  (display "hello\n")
  ```

  then

  ```
  racket hi.sps
  ```

  prints "hello." Similarly, opening `"hi.sps"` in DrRacket and clicking Run prints "hello" within the DrRacket interactions window.

3 Installing Libraries

To reference an R^{6}RS library from a top-level program or another library, it must be installed as a collection-based library in Racket.

One way to produce an R^{6}RS installed library is to create in a collection a file that starts with `#!r6rs` and that contains a `library` form. For example, the following file might be created in a `"hello.sls"` file within a `"examples"` collection directory:

```
#!r6rs
(library (examples hello)
  (export greet)
  (import (rnrs))

  (define (greet)
    (display "hello\n")))
```

Alternately, the `plt-r6rs` executable with the `--install` flag accepts a sequence of `library` declarations and installs them into separate files in a collection directory, based on the declared name of each library:

```
plt-r6rs --install ⟨libraries-file⟩
```

By default, libraries are installed into the user-specific collection directory (see `find-user-collects-dir`). The `--all-users` flag causes the libraries to be installed into the main installation, instead (see `find-collects-dir`):

```
plt-r6rs --install --all-users ⟨libraries-file⟩
```

You may as well specify an arbitrary collections directory by using the `--collections` flag:

```
plt-r6rs --install --collections ⟨directory⟩ ⟨libraries-file⟩
```

See §5 “Libraries and Collections” for information on how R^{6}RS library names are turned into collection-based module paths, which determines where the files are written. Libraries installed by `plt-r6rs --install` are automatically compiled to bytecode form.

One final option is to supply a `++path` flag to `plt-r6rs`. A path added with `++path` extends the set of directories that are searched to find a collection (i.e., it sets `current-library-collection-paths`). If ⟨*dir*⟩ contains `"duck"` and `"cow"` sub-directories with `"duck/feather.sls"` and `"cow/bell.sls"`, and if each file is an R^{6}RS library prefixed with `#!r6rs`, then `plt-r6rs ++path` ⟨*dir*⟩ directs the R^{6}RS library references `(duck feather)` and `(cow bell)` to the files. Note that this technique does not support accessing `"duck.sls"` directly within ⟨*dir*⟩, since the library reference `(duck)` is treated like `(duck main)` for finding the library, as explained in §5 “Libraries and Collections”. Multiple paths

can be provided with multiple uses of `++path`; the paths are searched in order, and before the installation's collections.

4 R^{6}RS Module Language

`#lang r6rs` package: `r6rs-lib`

The `r6rs` language is usually used in the form `#!r6rs`, which is equivalent to `#lang r6rs` and is also valid R^{6}RS syntax.

4.1 Using R^{6}RS

See §1 "Using R^{6}RS with DrRacket", §2 "Running Top-Level Programs", and §3 "Installing Libraries" for more information on writing and running R^{6}RS programs with Racket.

4.2 The Implementation of R^{6}RS

The R^{6}RS language is itself implemented as a module within Racket. The details of that implementation, as provided in this section, are not normally relevant to programmers using R^{6}RS; see the links in §4.1 "Using R^{6}RS", instead. The details may be relevant to programmers who are developing new tools or deriving variants of R^{6}RS within Racket.

As a Racket module, the `r6rs` module language provides only a `#%module-begin` binding, which is used to process the entire body of a Racket module (see `module`). The `#%module-begin` binding from `r6rs` allows the body of a module to use the syntax of either a R^{6}RS library or a R^{6}RS top-level program.

```
(#%module-begin
 (library library-name
   (export export-spec ...)
   (import import-spec ...)
   library-body ...))
(#%module-begin
 (import import-spec ...)
 program-body ...)
```

An `r6rs` module that contains a single `library` form defines an R^{6}RS library, while a module body that starts with an `import` form defined an R^{6}RS top-level program.

The `library`, `export`, and `import` identifiers are not exported by the `r6rs` library; they are recognized through equivalence to unbound identifiers.

5 Libraries and Collections

An R^{6}RS library name is sequence of symbols, optionally followed by a version as a sequence of exact, non-negative integers. Roughly, such a name is converted to a Racket module pathname (see §6.3 "Module Paths") by concatenating the symbols with a `/` separator, and then appending the version integers each with a preceding `-`. As a special case, when an R^{6}RS path contains a single symbol (optionally followed by a version), a `main` symbol is effectively inserted after the initial symbol. See below for further encoding considerations.

When an R^{6}RS library or top-level program refers to another library, it can supply version constraints rather than naming a specific version. Version constraints are always resolved at compile time by searching the set of installed files.

In addition, when an R^{6}RS library path is converted, a file extension is selected at compile time based on installed files. The search order for file extensions is `".mzscheme.ss"`, `".mzscheme.sls"`, `".ss"`, `".sls"`, and `".rkt"`. When resolving version constraints, these extensions are all tried when looking for matches.

To ensure that all R^{6}RS library names can be converted to a unique and distinct library module path, the following conversions are applied to each symbol before concatenating them:

- The symbol is encoded using UTF-8, and the resulting bytes are treated as Latin-1 encoded characters. ASCII letters, digits, `+`, `-`, and `_` are left as-is; other characters are replaced by `%` followed by two lowercase hexadecimal digits. Note that UTF-8 encodes ASCII letters, digits, etc. as themselves, so typical library names correspond to readable module paths.
- If the R^{6}RS library reference has two symbol elements and the second one is `main` followed by any number of underscores, then an extra underscore is added to that symbol. This conversion avoids a collision between an explicit `main` and the implicit `main` when a library path has a single symbol element.

Examples (assuming a typical Racket installation):

```
(rnrs io simple (6))  means  (lib "rnrs/io/simple-6.rkt")
(rnrs)                means  (lib "rnrs/main-6.rkt")
(rnrs main)           means  (lib "rnrs/main_.rkt")
(rnrs (6))            means  (lib "rnrs/main-6.rkt")
(racket base)         means  (lib "racket/base.rkt")
(achtung!)            means  (lib "achtung%21/main.rkt")
(funco new-λ)         means  (lib "funco/new-%ce%bb.rkt")
```

6 Language Interoperability

Using the conversion rules in §5 “Libraries and Collections”, and R^{6}RS library can refer to modules that are implemented in other dialects supported by Racket, and other Racket modules can refer to libraries that are implemented in R^{6}RS.

Beware that a *pair* in R^{6}RS corresponds to a *mutable pair* in `racket/base`. Otherwise, R^{6}RS libraries and `racket/base` share the same datatype for numbers, characters, strings, bytevectors (a.k.a. byte strings), vectors, and so on. Hash tables are different. Input and output ports from `racket/base` can be used directly as binary ports with R^{6}RS libraries, and all R^{6}RS ports can be used as ports in `racket/base` programs, but only textual ports created via R^{6}RS libraries can be used by other R^{6}RS operations that expect textual ports.

7 R^{6}RS Conformance

Racket's R^{6}RS support does not conform with the standard in several known ways:

- When `guard` catches an exception that no clause matches, the exception is re-`raise`ed without restoring the continuation to the one that raised the exception.

  This difference can be made visible using `dynamic-wind`. According to R^{6}RS, the following program should print "in" and "out" twice, but each prints once using Racket:

  ```
  (guard (exn [(equal? exn 5) 'five])
    (guard (exn [(equal? exn 6) 'six])
      (dynamic-wind
        (lambda () (display "in") (newline))
        (lambda () (raise 5))
        (lambda () (display "out") (newline)))))
  ```

  Along similar lines, continuation capture and invocation within an exception handler is restricted. Unless the exception is raised through `raise-continuable`, a handler can escape only through a continuation that is a tail of the current continuation, and a continuation captured within the handler cannot be invoked after control escapes from the raise.

  The initial exception handler does not return for non-`&serious` conditions, but `raise` and `raise-continuable` both install an uncaught-exception handler (via `parameterize` and `uncaught-exception-handler`) to one that returns for non-`&serious` conditions.

- Inexact numbers are printed without a precision indicator, and precision indicators are ignored on input (e.g., `0.5|7` is read the same as `0.5`).

- Word boundaries for `string-downcase`, `string-upcase`, and `string-titlecase` are not determined as specified by Unicode Standard Annex #29.

- A custom textual port must represent positions using integers, and the positions must correspond to bytes in a UTF-8 encoding of the port's data. For custom ports (byte or character) that support both input and output, beware that buffered input can create a mismatch between the position implemented by the custom procedures and the port's current position; the result from a custom position procedure is automatically adjusted to account for buffering, and setting the port's position flushes all buffered bytes, but writing after a read does *not* automatically reset the port's position to counteract the effects of buffering.

- The bindings in a namespace produced by `null-environment` or `scheme-report-environment` correspond to R^{5}RS bindings instead of R^{6}RS bindings. In particular, `=>`, `else`, `_`, and `...` are not bound.

- Bindings for `#%datum`, `#%app`, `#%top`, and `#%top-interaction` are imported into every library and program, and at every phase level for which the library or program has imports.

Changed in version 6.0.1.4: When an identifier bound by `letrec` or `letrec*` is referenced before it is initialized, an exception is raised, instead of producing `#<undefined>`.

8 R⁶RS Libraries

8.1 (rnrs base (6)): Base

(require rnrs/base-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Base

8.2 (rnrs unicode (6)): Unicode

(require rnrs/unicode-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Unicode

8.3 (rnrs bytevectors (6)): Bytevectors

(require rnrs/bytevectors-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Bytevectors

8.4 (rnrs lists (6)): List utilities

(require rnrs/lists-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: List utilities

8.5 (rnrs sorting (6)): Sorting

(require rnrs/sorting-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Sorting

8.6 (rnrs control (6)): Control Structures

(require rnrs/control-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Control Structures

8.7 (rnrs records syntactic (6)): Records: Syntactic

`(require rnrs/records/syntactic-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Records: Syntactic

8.8 (rnrs records procedural (6)): Records: Procedural

`(require rnrs/records/procedural-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Records: Procedural

8.9 (rnrs records inspection (6)): Records: Inspection

`(require rnrs/records/inspection-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Records: Inspection

8.10 (rnrs exceptions (6)): Exceptions

`(require rnrs/exceptions-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Exceptions

See also §7 "R^{6}RS Conformance".

8.11 (rnrs conditions (6)): Conditions

`(require rnrs/conditions-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Conditions

8.12 (rnrs io ports (6)): I/O: Ports

`(require rnrs/io/ports-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: I/O: Ports

8.13 (rnrs io simple (6)): I/O: Simple

`(require rnrs/io/simple-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: I/O: Simple

8.14 (rnrs files (6)): File System

`(require rnrs/files-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: File System

8.15 (rnrs programs (6)): Command-line Access and Exit Values

`(require rnrs/programs-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Command-line Access and Exit Values

8.16 (rnrs arithmetic fixnums (6)): Arithmetic: Fixnums

`(require rnrs/arithmetic/fixnums-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Arithmetic: Fixnums

8.17 (rnrs arithmetic flonums (6)): Arithmetic: Flonums

`(require rnrs/arithmetic/flonums-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Arithmetic: Flonums

8.18 (rnrs arithmetic bitwise (6)): Arithmetic: Bitwise

`(require rnrs/arithmetic/bitwise-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: Arithmetic: Bitwise

8.19 (rnrs syntax-case (6)): Syntax-Case

(require rnrs/syntax-case-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Syntax-Case

8.20 (rnrs hashtables (6)): Hashtables

(require rnrs/hashtables-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Hashtables

A hashtable is a dictionary in the sense of racket/dict, and hash table operations interact with threads in the same way for hash tables created with make-hash (e.g., hashtable-ref and hashtable-set! are thread-safe).

8.21 (rnrs enums (6)): Enumerations

(require rnrs/enums-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Enumerations

8.22 (rnrs eval (6)): Eval

(require rnrs/eval-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Eval

8.23 (rnrs mutable-pairs (6)): Mutable Pairs

(require rnrs/mutable-pairs-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Mutable Pairs

8.24 (rnrs mutable-strings (6)): Mutable Strings

(require rnrs/mutable-strings-6) package: r6rs-lib

Original specification: Mutable Strings

8.25 `(rnrs r5rs (6))`: R5RS Compatibility

`(require rnrs/r5rs-6)` package: `r6rs-lib`

Original specification: R5RS Compatibility

See also §7 "R^{6}RS Conformance".

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