

# Table of Contents

<b>About the Author .....</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>About the Technical Reviewers .....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>xiii</b>
<b>Preface .....</b>	<b>xvii</b>
<b>Chapter 1: Basic concepts.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Dynamic variables.....	1
1.1.1 Dynamic variables in C .....	1
1.1.2 Dynamic variables in Common Lisp .....	8
1.1.3 Alternatives in other languages.....	13
1.2 Non-local transfers of control .....	14
1.2.1 TAGBODY and GO .....	16
1.2.2 BLOCK and RETURN-FROM/RETURN.....	18
1.2.3 CATCH and THROW .....	20
1.3 Lexical closures .....	21
<b>Chapter 2: Introducing the condition system .....</b>	<b>25</b>
2.1 A simple system of hooks .....	25
2.1.1 Hook #1: Launching Counter-Strike .....	27
2.1.2 Hook #2: Only call Counter-Strike players .....	33
2.1.3 Hook #3: Only call parents... maybe .....	34
2.1.4 Hook #4: Holiday wishes .....	35
2.1.5 Accumulating hooks .....	36
2.1.6 Hook #5: Calling Tom's girlfriend again .....	37
2.1.7 Multiple types of hooks .....	39
2.1.8 Summary: The hook subsystem .....	42

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2.2 A simple system of condition handlers .....	43
2.2.1 Exception handling .....	50
2.2.2 Protection against transfers of control .....	58
2.2.3 Clustering .....	60
2.2.4 Summary: The handler subsystem .....	62
2.3 A simple system of choices .....	62
2.3.1 Kate and Mark .....	63
2.3.2 Choice #1: Escape .....	64
2.3.3 Choice #2: Excuses .....	72
2.3.4 Summary: the choice subsystem .....	74
2.4 A simple system of restarts .....	75
2.4.1 Interactive restarts .....	84
2.5 A simple system of actually restarting restarts .....	87
2.5.1 Restarts that perform a non-local exit .....	87
2.5.2 From RESTART-BIND to RESTART-CASE .....	90
2.5.3 Simple restarts .....	93
2.5.4 Standard restarts and restart-invoking functions .....	94
2.5.5 Defining custom restart-invoking functions .....	95
2.6 Reporting conditions and restarts .....	97
2.6.1 Printing vs. reporting .....	97
2.6.2 Custom condition reports .....	98
2.6.3 Custom restart reports .....	101
2.7 Warnings .....	104
2.7.1 Different ways of warning .....	105
2.7.2 Muffling warnings .....	106
2.8 Assertions .....	107
2.8.1 Simple assertions via ASSERT .....	107
2.8.2 Type checking via CHECK-TYPE .....	109
2.8.3 Case assertions .....	110
2.8.4 Correctable case assertions .....	110
2.8.5 Arguments for continuable errors .....	111

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2.9 A simple debugger .....	112
2.9.1 Reporting the condition in the debugger .....	113
2.9.2 Reporting the condition type in the debugger .....	114
2.9.3 Reporting the restarts in the debugger .....	115
2.9.4 Choosing the restarts in the debugger .....	116
2.9.5 Installing a custom debugger .....	118
2.9.6 Recursive debugger.....	120
2.9.7 Adding a REPL to the debugger .....	124
2.9.8 Backtraces.....	127
2.9.9 Associating conditions with restarts .....	128
<b>Chapter 3: Implementing the Common Lisp condition system .....</b>	<b>135</b>
3.1 Package definition .....	136
3.2 Conditions .....	138
3.2.1 Base class for conditions .....	138
3.2.2 Defining new condition types .....	140
3.3 Coercing data to conditions .....	146
3.4 Restart basics .....	148
3.4.1 Restart class.....	148
3.4.2 Restart visibility and computing restarts.....	150
3.4.3 Invoking restarts.....	153
3.5 Binding restarts.....	155
3.6 Restart cases .....	158
3.6.1 First iteration: basics .....	158
3.6.2 Second iteration: Forms instead of a function.....	163
3.6.3 Third iteration: Managing the keyword differences .....	167
3.6.4 Fourth iteration: Associating conditions with restarts .....	169
3.6.5 Implementing simple restarts.....	174
3.7 System-defined restarts .....	175
3.8 Assertions .....	177
3.8.1 Case failures.....	177
3.8.2 Case utilities .....	178

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

3.8.3 Non-correctable case assertions.....	180
3.8.4 Correctable case assertions .....	182
3.8.5 General assertions.....	186
3.9 Signaling .....	190
3.10 Handlers.....	195
3.10.1 Binding handlers .....	195
3.10.2 Handler cases.....	196
3.10.3 Testing assertions.....	202
3.11 A featureful debugger .....	203
3.11.1 Debugger commands .....	203
3.11.2 Evaluating Lisp forms.....	205
3.11.3 Reporting and returning conditions.....	206
3.11.4 Listing and invoking restarts .....	208
3.11.5 Debugger help and REPL.....	211
3.11.6 Debugger interface.....	216
3.12 Finishing touches.....	217
3.12.1 Integration .....	217
3.12.2 Additional work.....	218
<b>Chapter 4: Wrapping up.....</b>	<b>221</b>
4.1 The purpose of the condition system.....	222
4.2 Binding vs. casing.....	223
4.3 Separation of concerns.....	224
4.4 Algebraic effects .....	225
4.5 Downsides of the condition system .....	226
4.5.1 Separation from CLOS .....	226
4.5.2 Dynamic extent of restart objects .....	227
4.5.3 Speed .....	228
4.5.4 Optimization settings.....	228
4.5.5 Introspection.....	228
4.5.6 Concrete condition types.....	229

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

4.5.7 Warning conditions and #'WARN .....	230
4.5.8 Implementing custom SIGNAL-like operators.....	230
4.5.9 Lack of functional interfaces to handlers and restarts.....	230
4.5.10 Smaller issues .....	231
4.5.11 Summary: Downsides of the Common Lisp condition system.....	232
4.6 Condition system in practice.....	233
4.6.1 Unit test library: Collecting results .....	233
4.6.2 Web framework: Sending results over the network .....	234
4.6.3 GUI applications: Interactive querying .....	235
4.6.4 Generating data: Python-like generators.....	235
<b>Chapter 5: Appendixes.....</b>	<b>237</b>
5.1 Appendix A: Implementation of dynamic variables in C .....	237
5.2 Appendix B: Additional utilities for working with Common Lisp conditions .....	242
5.2.1 CALL-WITH-HANDLER and CALL-WITH-RESTART .....	242
5.2.2 HANDLER-BIND* and HANDLER-CASE* .....	246
5.2.3 HANDLER-BIND-CASE.....	249
5.3 Appendix C: Lisp macros 101 .....	252
5.3.1 Basics of macro writing.....	253
5.3.2 Backquote.....	254
5.3.3 Symbol capture .....	255
5.3.4 Order of evaluation .....	258
5.3.5 Multiple evaluation .....	259
5.3.6 When not to write macros .....	260
5.3.7 Reference .....	260
5.4 Appendix D: Condition system reference .....	260
5.4.1 Restarts and related functions .....	260
5.4.2 Condition-restart association .....	264
5.4.3 Restart macros .....	265
5.4.4 Standard restarts.....	268
5.4.5 Defining and instantiating conditions .....	270

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

5.4.6 Assertions .....	274
5.4.7 Condition signaling .....	278
5.4.8 Handler macros .....	281
5.4.9 Condition types .....	283
5.4.10 Debugger invocation .....	290
<b>Index.....</b>	<b>293</b>