Activity 6

Parser Combinators

Consider the following grammar,

where ϵ stands for "nothing."

A fellow programmer came up with the following parser, but it's not working the way they want. They come to you for help.

```
let parse input =
// parser
let grammar = pmany0 (pstr "ab")
// parse input
match grammar (prepare input) with
| Success(res,_) -> printfn "%A" res
| Failure _ -> printfn "Invalid expression"
```

The parser correctly accepts everything the grammar says it should, like the strings "ab", "abab", "", and "ababab". However, it also incorrectly accepts the following strings: "aba", "abfoobar", and "Wait, how the heck is this possible?".

1. What is the cause of the bug in the above program?

2. There is a simple modification to the program of the form:

let grammar = pleft (pmany0 (pstr "ab"))

Use the supplied tables to find the parser that fixes this bug.