

301AA - Advanced Programming

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AP-13: Functional Programming

Functional Programming - Outline

- Historical origins
- Main concepts
- Languages families: LISP, ML, and Haskell
- Core concepts of Haskell
- Lazy evaluation

Functional Programming: Historical Origins

- The imperative and functional models grew out of work undertaken Alan Turing, Alonzo Church, Stephen Kleene, Emil Post, etc. ~1930s
 - different formalizations of the notion of an algorithm, or *effective procedure*, based on automata, symbolic manipulation, recursive function definitions, and combinatorics
- These results led Church to conjecture that *any* intuitively appealing model of computing would be equally powerful as well
 - this conjecture is known as *Church's thesis*

Historical Origins

- Church's model of computing is called the *lambda calculus*
 - based on the notion of *parameterized expressions* (parameters introduced by letter λ)
 - allows one to define mathematical functions in a constructive/effective way
 - lambda calculus was the inspiration for functional programming
 - computation proceeds by substituting parameters into expressions, just as one computes in a high level functional program by passing arguments to functions
- We shall see later the basics of lambda-calculus

Functional Programming Concepts

- Functional languages such as **LISP**, **Scheme**, **FP**, **ML**, **Miranda**, and **Haskell** are an attempt to realize Church's lambda calculus in practical form as a programming language
- The key idea: **do everything by composing functions**
 - no mutable state
 - no side effects

Functional Programming Concepts

- Necessary features, many of which are missing in some imperative languages:
 - **1st class and high-order functions**
 - Functions can be denoted, passed as arguments to functions, returned as result of function invocation
 - Meaningful because new functions can be defined
 - **Recursion**
 - Takes the place of iteration (no "control variables")
 - **Powerful list facilities**
 - Recursive functions exploit recursive definition of lists
 - **Polymorphism** (typically universal parametric implicit)
 - Relevance of Containers/Collections

Functional Programming Concepts

– Fully general aggregates

- Wide use of tuples and records
- Data structures cannot be modified, have to be re-created

– Structured function returns

- No side-effects, thus the only way for functions to pass information to the caller

– Garbage collection

- In case of static scoping, unlimited extent for:
 - locally allocated data structures
 - locally defined functions
- They cannot be allocated on the stack

The LISP family of languages

- **LISP** (**L**IS**T** **P**rocessor) was designed in 1958 by **John McCarty** (Turing award in 1971) and implemented in 1960 by **Steve Russel**
- Only FORTRAN is older...
- Main programming language for **AI**
- It includes some features that are not necessary present in other functional languages:
 - Programs (**S-expressions**) are data (lists)
 - `(func arg1 arg2 ... argn)`
 - Self-definition
 - A LISP interpreter can be written in few LISP lines
 - Read-evaluate-print interactive loop

The LISP family of languages

- Variants of LISP
 - (Original) LISP
 - purely functional
 - strong dynamic type checking
 - dynamically scoped
 - **Common Lisp**: current standard
 - statically scoped
 - very rich and complex
 - **Scheme**:
 - statically scoped
 - essential syntax
 - very elegant
 - widely used for teaching

Other functional languages: the ML family

- **Robin Milner** (Turing award in 1991, CCS, Pi-calculus, ...)
- Statically typed, general-purpose programming language
 - “Meta-Language” of the LCF theorem proving system
- Type safe, with **type inference** and **formal semantics**
- Compiled language, but intended for interactive use
- Combination of Lisp and Algol-like features
 - Expression-oriented
 - Higher-order functions
 - Garbage collection
 - Abstract data types
 - Module system
 - Exceptions
- **Impure**: it allows side-effects
- Members of the family: **Standard ML, Caml, OCaml, F#**

Other functional languages: **Haskell**

- Designed by committee in 80's and 90's to unify research efforts in lazy languages
 - Evolution of Miranda, name from **Haskell Curry**, logician (1900-82),
 - Haskell 1.0 in 1990, Haskell '98, Haskell 2010 (→ Haskell 2020)
- Several features in common with ML, but **some differ**:
- Types and type checking
 - Type inference
 - Implicit parametric polymorphism
 - **Ad hoc polymorphism (overloading)**
- Control
 - **Lazy evaluation**
 - Tail recursion and continuations
- Purely functional
 - **Precise management of effects**

Downloading Haskell

<https://www.haskell.org/platform/>



Downloads

Community

Documentation

News



Haskell Platform

Haskell with batteries included

A multi-OS distribution

designed to get you up and running quickly, making it easy to focus on using Haskell. You get:

- the [Glasgow Haskell Compiler](#)
- the [Cabal build system](#)
- the [Stack tool](#) for developing projects
- support for profiling and code coverage analysis
- 35 core & widely-used [packages](#)

[Prior releases](#) of the Platform are also available.

For playing with Haskell now,
use an online interpreter like
repl.it

Core Haskell

- Basic Types
 - Unit
 - Booleans
 - Integers
 - Strings
 - Reals
 - Tuples
 - Lists
 - Records
- Patterns
- Declarations
- Functions
- Polymorphism
- Type declarations
- Type Classes
- Monads
- Exceptions

Overview of Haskell

- Interactive Interpreter (**ghci**): read-eval-print
 - **ghci** infers type before compiling or executing
 - Type system does not allow casts or similar things!
- Examples

```
Prelude> 5==4
False
Prelude> :set +t    -- enables printing of types
Prelude> 'x'
'x'
it :: Char
Prelude> (5+3)-2
6
it :: Num a => a    -- generic constrained type
                  -- "type class"
Prelude> :t (+)    -- type of a function
(+ :: Num a => a -> a -> a
```

Overview by Type

- Booleans

```
True, False :: Bool
```

```
not :: Bool -> Bool
```

```
and, or :: Foldable t => t Bool -> Bool
```

```
if ... then ... else ...
```

```
--conditional expression: types must match
```

- Characters & Strings

```
'a','b',';','\t','2','X' :: Char
```

```
"Ron Weasley" :: [Char] --strings are lists of chars
```

Overview by Type

- Numbers

```
0,1,2,... :: Num p => p --type classes, to disambiguate
```

```
1.0, 3.1415 :: Fractional a => a
```

```
(45 :: Integer) :: Integer -- explicit typing
```

```
+, * , -, ... :: Num a => a -> a -> a
```

```
-- infix + becomes prefix (+)
```

```
-- prefix binary op becomes infix `op`
```

```
/ :: Fractional a => a -> a -> a
```

```
div, mod :: Integral a => a -> a -> a
```

```
^ :: (Num a, Integral b) => a -> b -> a
```


Simple Compound Types

- Tuples

```
("AP", 2017) :: Num b => ([Char], b) -- pair
fst  :: (a, b) -> a   -- selector: only for pairs
snd  :: (a, b) -> b   -- selector: only for pairs

('4', True, "AP") :: (Char, Bool, [Char]) -- tuple
```

- Lists

```
[] :: [a] -- NIL, polymorphic type
1 : [2, 3, 4] :: Num a => [a] -- infix cons notation
[1,2]++[3,4] :: Num a => [a] -- concatenation
head :: [a] -> a -- first element
tail :: [a] -> [a] -- rest of the list
```

- Records

```
data Person = Person {firstName :: String,
                      lastName  :: String}
hg = Person { firstName = "Hermione",
             lastName  = "Granger"}
```

More on list constructors

```
ghci> [1..20]           -- range
[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20]
ghci> ['a'..'z']
"abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
ghci> [3,6..20]        -- range with step
[3,6,9,12,15,18]
ghci> [7,6..1]
[7,6,5,4,3,2,1]
```

```
ghci> [1..]           -- an infinite list: runs forever
ghci> take 10 [1..]   -- prefix of an infinite lists
[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10] -- returns!
ghci> take 10 (cycle [1,2])
[1,2,1,2,1,2,1,2,1,2]
ghci> take 10 (repeat 5)
[5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5,5]
```

How does it work??? Later...

Binding variables

- Variables (names) are bound to expressions, without evaluating them (because of lazy evaluation)
- The scope of the binding is the rest of the session
- Comparing OCaml and Haskell

HASKELL

```
Prelude> let a = 6 -- no output

Prelude> b = a + 2 --'let' optional

Prelude> b -- now b is evaluated
8

Prelude> a = a + 1 -- no output
Prelude> a -- what does it print?
^CInterrupted. - loop broken
```

OCaml

```
# let a = 6 ;;
val a : int = 6
# let b = a + 2 ;;
val b : int = 8
# b ;;
- : int = 8
# let a = a + 1 ;;
val a : int = 7
```

Patterns and Declarations

- Patterns can be used in place of variables
 <pat> ::= <var> | <tuple> | <cons> | <record> ...
- Value declarations
 - General form: <pat> = <exp>
 - Examples

```
myTuple = ("Foo", "Bar")
(x,y)   = myTuple   -- x = "Foo", y = "Bar"
myList  = [1, 2, 3, 4]
z:zs    = myList    -- z = 1, zs = [2,3,4]
```

- Local declarations

```
let (x,y) = (2, "FooBar") in x * 4
```

Anonymous Functions (lambda abstraction)

- Anonymous functions

```
\x -> x+1    --like LISP lambda, function (...) in JS
Prelude> (\x -> x+1)5    => 6
Prelude> f = \x -> x+1
Prelude> :t f
f :: Num a => a -> a
Prelude> f 7    => 8
```

- Anonymous functions using patterns

```
Prelude> h = \(x,y) -> x+y
h :: Num a => (a, a) -> a
Prelude> h (3, 4)    => 7
Prelude> h 3 4      => error

Prelude> k = \(z:zs) -> length zs
k :: [a] -> Int
Prelude> k "hello"    => 4
```

Function declarations

- Function declaration form

`<name> <pat1> = <exp1>`

`<name> <pat2> = <exp2> ...`

- Examples

```
f (x,y) = x+y      --argument must match pattern (x,y)
```

```
length [] = 0
```

```
length (x:s) = 1 + length(s)
```

```
Prelude> len (z:zs) = length zs
```

```
len :: [a] -> Int
```

```
Prelude> len [1,2,3] ==> 2
```

```
Prelude> len []
```

```
*** Exception: <interactive>:143:5-24: Non-  
exhaustive patterns in function len
```

More Functions on Lists

- Reverse a list

```
reverse [] = [] -- quadratic
reverse (x:xs) = (reverse xs) ++ [x]
```

```
reverse xs = -- linear, tail recursive
  let rev ( [], accum ) = accum
      rev ( y:ys, accum ) = rev ( ys, y:accum )
  in rev ( xs, [] )
```

- Other (higher-order) functions later