Chapter 3: The Logic of Types

Sergei Winitzki

Academy by the Bay

November 22, 2017

Types and syntax of functions returning functions

"Curried functions" in Scala

• A function that returns a function:

```
def logWith(topic: String): (String ⇒ Unit) = {
   x ⇒ println(s"$topic: $x")
}
```

Calling this function:

```
val statusLogger: (String ⇒ Unit) = logWith("Result status")
primaryLogger("success")
```

- One-line syntax for calling: logWith("Result status")("success")
- Alternative syntax ("Curried" function):

```
val logWith: String \Rightarrow String \Rightarrow Unit = topic \Rightarrow x \Rightarrow println(s"$topic: $x")
```

• Syntax convention: $x \Rightarrow y \Rightarrow z$ means $x \Rightarrow (y \Rightarrow z)$

Functions with fully parametric types

"No argument type left non-parametric"

Compare these two functions (note tuple type syntax):

```
def hypothenuse = (x: Double, y: Double) \Rightarrow math.sqrt(x*x + y*y) def swap: ((Double, Double)) \Rightarrow (Double, Double) = { case (x, y) \Rightarrow (y, x) }
```

We can fully parameterize the argument types for swap:

```
def swap[X, Y]: ((X, Y)) \Rightarrow (Y, X) = { case (x, y) \Rightarrow (y, x) }
```

- (The first function is too specific to generalize the argument types.)
- Note: Scala does not support a val with a parametric type
 - ▶ Instead we can use def or parametric classes/traits
- More examples:

```
def identity[T]: (T \Rightarrow T) = x \Rightarrow x
def const[C, X]: (C \Rightarrow X \Rightarrow C) = c \Rightarrow x \Rightarrow c
def compose[X, Y, Z](f: X \Rightarrow Y, g: Y \Rightarrow Z): X \Rightarrow Z = x \Rightarrow g(f(x))
```

Functions with fully parametric types are actually useful!

Worked examples

- For the functions const and identity defined above, what is const(identity) and what is its type? Write out the type parameters.
- Define a function twice that takes a function f as its argument and returns a function that applies f twice. For example, twice(x \Rightarrow x+3) should return a function equivalent to x \Rightarrow x+6. Find the type of twice.
- What does twice(twice) do? Test your answer on the expression twice(twice[Int])(x ⇒ x+3)(10). What are the type parameters here?
- Implement a function that applies a given function f repeatedly to an initial value x₀, until a given condition function cond returns true:
 def converge[X] (f: X ⇒ X, x0: X, cond: X ⇒ Boolean): X = ???
- Take a function with two arguments, fix the value of the first argument, and return the function of the remaining one argument.
 Define this operation as a function with fully parametric types:
 def firstArg[X, Y, Z](f: (X, Y) ⇒ Z, x0: X): Y ⇒ Z = ???
- Infer missing types: $def p[...]:... = f \Rightarrow f(2)$. Does f(f) compile?
- Infer missing types: def $p[...]:... = f \Rightarrow g \Rightarrow g(f)$

Exercises I

- For the function identity defined above, what is identity(identity) and what is its type? Same question for identity(const).
- For the function const above, what is const(const), what is its type?
- For the function twice above, what does twice(twice(twice))) do? Test your answer on an example.
- Define a function thrice that applies its argument function 3 times, similarly to twice. What does thrice(thrice(thrice))) do?
- Define a function ence that applies a given function n times.
- Take a function with two arguments, and define a function of these two arguments swapped. Package this functionality as a function swapFunc with fully parametric types. To test:

```
def f(x: Int, y: Int) = x - y // check that f(10, 2) gives 8 val g = swapFunc(f) // now check that g(10, 2) gives - 8
```

- Infer missing types: def $r[...]:... = f \Rightarrow f(g \Rightarrow g(f))$
- Infer missing types: def s[...]:... = f \Rightarrow g \Rightarrow g(x \Rightarrow f(g(x)))

Tuples with names: "case classes"

- Pair of values: val a: (Int, String) = (123, "xyz")
- For convenience, we can define a name for this type:
 type MyPair = (Int, String); val a: MyPair = (123, "xyz")
- We can define a name for each value and also for the type:

```
case class MySocks(size: Double, color: String)
val a: MySocks = MySocks(10.5, "white")
```

Case classes can be nested:

```
case class BagOfSocks(socks: MySocks, count: Int)
val bag = BagOfSocks(MySocks(10.5, "white"), 6)
```

Parts of the case class can be accessed by name:
 val c: String = bag.socks.color

- Parts can be given in any order by using names:
 val y = MySocks(color = "black", size = 11.0)
- Default values can be defined for parts:

```
case class Shirt(color: String = "blue", hasHoles: Boolean = false)
val sock = Shirt(hasHoles = true)
```

Tuples with one element and with zero elements

- A tuple type expression (Int, String) is special syntax for parameterized type Tuple2[Int, String]
- Case class with no parts is called a "case object"
- What are tuples with one element or with zero elements?
 - ► There is no TupleO it is a special type called Unit

Tuples	Case classes
(123, "xyz"): Tuple2[Int, String]	case class A(x: Int, y: String)
(123,): Tuple1[Int]	case class B(z: Int)
(): Unit	case object C

- Case classes can have one or more type parameters:
 case class Pairs [A, B] (left: A, right: B, count: Int)
- The "Tuple" types could be defined by this code: case class Tuple2[A, B] (_1: A, _2: B)

Pattern-matching syntax for case classes

Scala allows pattern matching in two places:

- val pattern = ... (value assignment)
- case pattern ⇒ ... (partial function)

Examples with case classes:

```
val a = MySocks(10.5, "white")
val MySocks(x, y) = a
val f: BagOfSocks⇒Int = { case BagOfSocks(MySocks(s, c), z)⇒...}
def f(b: BagOfSocks): String = b match {
   case BagOfSocks(MySocks(s, c), z) ⇒ c
}
```

• Note: s, c, z are defined as pattern variables of correct types

Disjunction types

- Motivational examples:
 - ▶ The roots of a quadratic equation are either a pair, or one, or none
 - ▶ Binary search gives either a found value and an index, or nothing
 - Computations that give a value or an error with a text message
 - ► Computer game states: several kinds of rooms, types players, etc.
 - ★ Each kind of room may have different sets of properties
- We would like to be able to represent disjunctions of sets
 - ► A value that is either (Complex, Complex) or Complex or empty ()
 - ► A value that is either (Int, Int) or empty ()
 - ► A value that is either an Int value or a String error message
 - ▶ A value that is one case class out of a number of case classes
- Disjunction types represent such values as types

Disjunction type: Either[A, B]

Example: Either[String, Int] (may be used for error reporting)

- Represents a value that is either a String or an Int (but not both)
- Example values: Left("blah") or Right(123)
- Use pattern matching to distinguish "left" from "right":

```
def logError(x: Either[String, Int]): Int = x match {
  case Left(error) ⇒ println(s"Got error: $error"); -1
  case Right(res) ⇒ res
} // Left("blah") and Right(123) are possible values of type Either[String, Int]
```

- Now logError(Right(123)) returns 123 while logError(Left("bad result")) prints the error and returns -1
- The case expression chooses among possible values of a given type
 - Note the similarity with this code:

```
def f(x: Int): Int = x match {
  case 0 ⇒ println(s"error: must be nonzero"); -1
  case 1 ⇒ println(s"error: must be greater than 1"); -1
  case res ⇒ res
} // 0 and 1 are possible values of type Int
```

More general disjunction types: using case classes

A future version of Scala 3 has a short syntax for disjunction types:

- type MyIntOrStr = Int | String
- more generally, type MyType = List[Int] | (Int, Boolean) | MySocks
 - Some libraries (scalaz, cats, shapeless) also provide shorter syntax

```
For now, in Scala 2, we use the "long syntax":
```

```
(specify names for each case and for each part, use "trait" / "extends")
```

```
sealed trait MyType
final case class HaveListInt(x: List[Int]) extends MyType
final case class HaveIntBool(s: Int, b: Boolean) extends MyType
final case class HaveSocks(socks: MySocks) extends MyType
```

Pattern-matching example:

```
val x: MyType = if (...) HaveSocks(...) else HaveListInt(...) ... // some other code here x match { case HaveListInt(1st) \Rightarrow ... case HaveIntBool(p, q) \Rightarrow ... case HaveSocks(s) \Rightarrow ...
```

The most used disjunction type: Option[T]

A simple implementation:

```
sealed trait Option[T]
final case class Some[T](t: T) extends Option[T]
final case object None extends Option[Nothing]
```

Pattern-matching example:

```
def saveDivide(x: Double, y: Double): Option[Double] = {
   if (y == 0) None else Some(x / y)
// Example usage:
val result = safeDivide(1.0, q) match {
   case Some(x) ⇒ previousResult * x
   case None ⇒ previousResult // provide a default value
}
```

Many Scala library functions return an Option[T]

- find, headOption, reduceOption, get (for Map[K, V]), etc.
 - ► Note: Option[T] is "collection-like": has map, flatMap, filter, exists...

Worked examples

• What problems can we solve now?

Exercises II





Types and propositional logic

The Curry-Howard correspondence

This code: val x: T = ... means that we can compute a value of type T as part of our program

- Let's denote this proposition by $\mathcal{CH}(T)$ "Code Has a value of type T"
- We have the following correspondence:

Туре	Proposition	Short notation
Т	$\mathcal{CH}(T)$	T
(A, B)	CH(A) and $CH(B)$	$A \times B$
Either[A, B]	CH(A) or $CH(B)$	$A \oplus B$
$A \Rightarrow B$	CH(A) implies $CH(B)$	$A \Rightarrow B$
Unit	true	1
Nothing	false	0

• type parameter [T] means $\forall T$, for example the type of the function def dupl[A](x: A): (A, A) corresponds to the (valid) proposition: $\forall A : A \Rightarrow A \times A$

• Example 1:

```
sealed trait UserAction
case class SetName(first: String, last: String) extends UserAction
case class SetEmail(email: String) extends UserAction
case class SetUserId(id: Long) extends UserAction
```

- Short notation: UserAction = (String × String) ⊕ String ⊕ Long
- Example 2: parametric type

```
sealed trait Either3[A, B, C]
case class Left[A, B, C](x: A) extends Either3[A, B, C]
case class Middle[A, B, C](x: B) extends Either3[A, B, C]
case class Right[A, B, C](x: C) extends Either3[A, B, C]
```

• Short notation: $\forall A \forall B \forall C$: Either3[A, B, C] = $A \oplus B \oplus C$

Using known properties of propositional logic

Some standard identities in logic:

$$A \times 1 = A$$

$$A + 1 = 1$$

$$(A \times B) \times C = A \times (B \times C)$$

$$(A \oplus B) \oplus C = A \oplus (B \oplus C)$$

$$A \times (B \oplus C) = (A \times B) \oplus (A \times C)$$

$$A \oplus (B \times C) = (A \oplus B) \times (A \oplus C)$$

- Each identity gives functions that map both ways
- Some of these identities yield isomorphisms of types
 - ▶ Which ones do *not* yield isomorphisms, and why?

Algebraic computations with types

Example 3: Recursive type

```
sealed trait IntList
final case object Empty extends IntList
final case class Nonempty(head: Int, tail: IntList) extends IntList
```

Short notation: (the sign "≡" means type isomorphism)

```
 \begin{array}{c} \operatorname{IntList} \equiv 1 \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times \operatorname{IntList} \equiv 1 \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times (1 \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times (1 \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times (...)...) \\ \equiv 1 \oplus \operatorname{Int} \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times \operatorname{Int} \oplus \operatorname{Int} \times \operatorname{Int} \times \operatorname{Int} \oplus ... \end{array}
```

Recursive list of integers ≡ disjunction of empty, list of 1 integer, list
of 2 integers, etc.

Any valid proposition can be implemented in code

Proposition	Code
$\forall A: A \Rightarrow A$	def identity[A](x:A):A = x
$\forall A: A \Rightarrow 1$	<pre>def toUnit[A](x:A): Unit = ()</pre>
$\forall A \forall B : A \Rightarrow A \oplus B$	<pre>def inLeft[A,B](x:A): Either[A,B] = Left(x)</pre>
$\forall A \forall B : A \times B \Rightarrow A$	def first[A,B](p:(A,B)):A = p1
$\forall A \forall B : A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow A)$	$def const[A,B](x:A):B \Rightarrow A = (y:B) \Rightarrow x$

- Invalid propositions cannot be implemented in code
 - Examples:

$$\forall A : 1 \Rightarrow A; \ \forall A \forall B : A \oplus B \Rightarrow A;$$

 $\forall A \forall B : A \Rightarrow A \times B; \qquad \forall A \forall B : (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow A$

- Given a type, can we decide whether it is implementable?
 - ► Example: $\forall A \forall B : ((((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B$
 - ★ Pure propositional logic has a decision algorithm

Worked examples

• What problems can we solve now?

Exercises III



Implications for designing new programming languages

- The CH correspondence maps the type system of each programming language into a certain system of logical propositions
- Scala, Haskell, OCaml, F#, Swift, Rust, etc. are mapped into the full constructive logic (all logical operations are available)
 - ► C, C++, Java, C#, etc. are mapped to *incomplete logics* without "or" and without "true" / "false"
 - Python, JavaScript, Ruby, Clojure, etc. have only one type ("any value") and are mapped to logics with only one proposition
- The CH correspondence is a principle for designing type systems:
 - ► Choose a complete logic, free of inconsistency
 - Mathematicians have studied all kinds of logics and determined which ones are interesting, and found the minimal sets of axioms for them
 - ► Provide a type constructor for each basic operation (e.g. "or", "and")

Implications for actually writing code

What problems can we solve now?

- Given a fully parametric type, decide whether it can be implemented in code ("type is inhabited"); if so, generate the code
 - ► The Gentzen-Vorobiev-Hudelmaier algorithms and generalizations
- Given some code, infer the most general type it can have
 - ► The Damas-Hindley-Milner algorithm (Scala code) and generalizations