

Functional Programming

GADT: Generalize Algebraic DataType

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Interpreters, again

Language definition

```
1 data Term = I Integer  
2         | Add Term Term  
3         deriving (Eq, Show)
```

Interpreters, again

Evaluation

```
1 eval :: Term -> Integer
2 eval (I n) = n
3 eval (Add t op u) = eval t + eval u
```

A language with multiple types

Language definition

```
1 data Term = I Integer  
2           | B Bool  
3           | Add Term Term  
4           | Eq Term Term  
5           deriving (Eq, Show)
```

A language with multiple types

Evaluation

```
1 type Value = Int Integer | Bool Bool
2           deriving Show
3
4 eval :: Term -> Value
5 eval (I n) = Int n
6 eval (B b) = Bool b
7 eval (Add t t') = case (eval t, eval t') of
8                     (Int i, Int i2) -> Int (i + i2)
9 eval (Eq t t') = case (eval t, eval t') of
10                    (Int i, Int i2) -> Bool (i == i2)
11                    (Bool i, Bool i2) -> Bool (i == i2)
```

Issues with our interpreter

- The interpreter can fail.
- We need to consider failures manually.
- The more value with have in our language, the more complicated it becomes.
- The Haskell type system does not help us.

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GADTs to the rescue!

Algebraic Data Type

```
1 data Maybe a =  
2   Nothing  
3   | Just a
```

GADTs to the rescue!

Generalized Algebraic Data Type

```
1 {-# LANGUAGE GADTs #-}  
2  
3 data Maybe a where  
4   Nothing :: Maybe a  
5   Just    :: a -> Maybe a
```

We now also specify the return type!

GADTs to the rescue!

Generalized Algebraic Data Type

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1 {-# LANGUAGE GADTs #-}  
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3 data Maybe a where  
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We now also specify the return type!

Language definition with GADTs

```
1 data Term =  
2   I Integer  
3   | B Bool  
4   | Add Term Term  
5   | Eq Term Term
```

Language definition with GADTs

```
1 data Term where  
2   I :: Integer -> Term  
3   B :: Bool -> Term  
4   Add :: Term -> Term -> Term  
5   Eq :: Term -> Term -> Term
```

Language definition with GADTs

```
1 data Term a where  
2   I :: Integer -> Term Integer  
3   B :: Bool -> Term Bool  
4   Add :: Term (?) -> Term (?) -> Term (?)  
5   Eq :: Term (?) -> Term (?) -> Term (?)
```

Language definition with GADTs

```
1 data Term a where  
2   I :: Integer -> Term Integer  
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Language definition with GADTs

```
1 data Term a where
2   I :: Integer -> Term Integer
3   B :: Bool -> Term Bool
4   Add :: Term Integer -> Term Integer -> Term Integer
5   Eq :: (Eq a) => Term a -> Term a -> Term Bool
```

Evaluation for GADTs

```
1 eval :: Term a -> a -- This type annotation is mandatory
2 eval (I i) = i
3 eval (B b) = b
4 eval (Add t t') = eval t + eval t'
5 eval (Eq t t') = eval t == eval t'
```

We call this kind of interpreters “tag-less”.

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What about functions?

We want to add functions to our language.

First try

```
1 data FExp a where
2   Var  :: FExp a
3   Lam  :: FExp b -> FExp (a -> b)
4   App  :: FExp (a -> b) -> FExp a -> FExp b
```

This doesn't work: not enough type information for variables and lambdas.

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Existential Types

In the definition of `App`, `a` is present inside the types, but not in the result. This is an *existential* type.

```
1 App :: FExp (a -> b) -> FExp a -> FExp b
```

Demo!

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```
1 App :: FExp (a -> b) -> FExp a -> FExp b
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Demo!

Back to functions!

Type definition

```
1 data FExp e a where  
2   App :: FExp e (a -> b) -> FExp e a -> FExp e b  
3   Lam :: FExp (a, e) b -> FExp e (a -> b)  
4   Var :: Nat e a -> FExp e a  
5  
6 data Nat e a where  
7   Zero :: Nat (a, b) a  
8   Succ :: Nat e a -> Nat (b, e) a
```

Demo!

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Demo!

Origin of GADTs

- Young extension to HM type systems.
Invented by 3 different groups:
 - ▶ Augustsson & Petersson (1994): Silly Type Families
 - ▶ Cheney & Hinze (2003): First-Class Phantom Types.
 - ▶ Xi, Chen & Chen (2003): Guarded Recursive Datatype Constructors.
- Type *checking* is decidable.
- Type *inference* is undecidable.
- Pattern matching is quite more complicated.

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Wrapping up

- GADTs allows to express more properties in types:



- We leverage Haskell's type system.
- GADTs do not solve *all* the problems. For example, you can try to write a function of type

```
1 parse :: String -> Expr a
```

Fortunately, we can combine GADTs with other Haskell features such as Type classes and Type families.

- GADTs become very complex when the domain grows!

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