

Functional Programming

Lecture 1

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What is FP?

What is imperative programming?

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auto x = 0;  
x = 5;
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What does this do?

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The place x is not the same as the value of x.

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3. Store the value 5 in x.

The place x is not the same as the value of x.

For example: &x is allowed, &5 is not.

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def x := 0
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What does this do?

1. Define x to be another name for the value 0.

That's all!

- x is not a place.
- x does not store a value.
- Later, $x := 5$ (i.e. $0 := 5$) does not make sense.

Functional programming is programming that focuses on *values*.

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Other effects:

- Reading and writing input
- Picking a value non-deterministically
- Throwing an exception

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Functional languages often support effects, but do so by building them on top of values. We will see how in this course.

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Reason 2: You will get a deeper understanding of your code.

Reason 3: Modern libraries focus on a functional style.

Reason 4: Features from functional languages come to imperative ones.

Lean

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Important note: we use Lean **4**.
Lean 3 is very different!

Lean is primarily popular amongst mathematicians.

- Large amounts of mathematics is available in the [Mathlib](#).
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As AI becomes more common, being able to write specifications and automatically check them becomes more important.

Why Lean?

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5. Lean is growing in popularity.
6. If you know Lean, you can learn Haskell/Agda/Idris/Arend/Rocq...

Our goals:

1. Primary: teach you to program in a functional style (in Lean).
2. Secondary: teach you to reason about your code (in Lean).

Learning materials:

- [Functional Programming in Lean](#)
- [Theorem Proving in Lean 4](#)

Logistics

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- Help each other, discuss questions, ask online.
- Final exam will be on paper.



Grading

Your grade consists of:

- 50% homework grade
 - Goal: help you understand the material.
- 50% exam grade
 - Goal: check your understanding.

You need at least 45% on **each part** to pass the course.

Tutorial sessions

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Your classmate Mikhail Vorobev (@purely_injected on Telegram) has kindly agreed to lead the tutorial sessions and answer your questions.

Communication

If you have questions:

1. Discuss it with a classmate.
2. Ask in the group.
 - We may split out a “help” group if needed.
3. Ask Mikhail (@purely_injected).
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Questions so far?