Generic programming

Haskell and Cryptocurrencies

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Goals

- · Introduce datatype-generic programming.
- · GHC generics.
- · generics-sop.

Motivation

User-defined datatypes are fantastic

- · Easy to introduce.
- Distinguished from existing types by the compiler.
- · Added safety.
- Can use domain-specific names for types and constructors.
- · Make the program more readable.

User-defined datatypes are problematic

- New datatypes have no associated library.
- Cannot be compared for equality, cannot be (de)serialized, cannot be traversed, ...

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- Cannot be compared for equality, cannot be (de)serialized, cannot be traversed, ...

Fortunately, there is **deriving**.

Derivable classes

In Haskell 2010:

Eq, Ord, Enum, Bounded, Read, Show

Derivable classes

In Haskell 2010:

```
Eq, Ord, Enum, Bounded, Read, Show
```

In GHC (in addition to the ones above):

```
Functor, Foldable, Traversable, Typeable, Data, Generic
```

What about other classes?

For many additional classes, we can come up with an informal algorithm that explains how to derive them. we can intuitively derive instances.

But can we also do it in practice?

Options for deriving other classes

- · Template Haskell.
- External preprocessor (such as data-derive).
- GHC **Generic** support.
- One of many other libraries for datatype-generic programming in Haskell.

Options for deriving other classes

- · Template Haskell.
- External preprocessor (such as data-derive).
- GHC **Generic** support.
- One of many other libraries for datatype-generic programming in Haskell.

In this lecture, we'll look at the ideas of datatype-generic programming that are the foundation for the latter two approaches. GHC generics – the user perspective

Using a generic function

```
Step 1
Define a new datatype and derive Generic for it.

data MyType a b =
    Flag Bool
    | Combo (a, a)
    | Other b Int (MyType a a)
    deriving Generic
```

This requires the **DeriveGeneric** language extension and importing the **Generic** type class from **GHC.Generics**.

Using a generic function

Step 2a

Use a library that makes use of GHC **Generic** and give an empty instance declaration for a suitable type class:

```
import Data.Binary
```

```
instance
```

```
(Binary a, Binary b) => Binary (MyType a b)
```

That is all. The generic implementation is derived by GHC and supplied automatically.

Using a generic function

Step 2b

With recent GHC versions, we can also use **deriving** instead of an empty instance declaration:

```
data MyType a b =
   Flag Bool
   | Combo (a, a)
   | Other b Int (MyType a a)
   deriving (Generic, Binary)
```

This requires the **DeriveAnyClass** extension. It only works in a truly robust way from GHC 8.2 onwards (although in some simple cases it may work with 8.0 or even 7.10).

Deriving **Generic** is still necessary!

Explaining how to derive a class

Equality as an example

Let's work with our "copy" of the Eq class:

```
class Eq' a where
  eq' :: a -> a -> Bool
```

Equality as an example

Let's work with our "copy" of the **Eq** class:

```
class Eq' a where
  eq' :: a -> a -> Bool
```

Let's define some instances by hand.

Equality on binary trees

```
data T = A | N T T
```

Equality on another type

```
data Choice =
   I Int | C Char | B Choice Bool | S Choice
```

Equality on another type

```
data Choice =
    I Int | C Char | B Choice Bool | S Choice
```

Assuming instances for Int, Char, Bool:

```
instance Eq' Choice where
eq' (I n1 ) (I n2 ) = eq' n1 n2
eq' (C c1 ) (C c2 ) = eq' c1 c2
eq' (B x1 b1) (B x2 b2) = eq' x1 x2 && eq' b1 b2
eq' (S x1 ) (S x2 ) = eq' x1 x2
eq' _ _ _ = False
```

What is the pattern?

- How many cases does the function definition have?
- What is on the right hand sides?

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- · What is on the right hand sides?
- How many clauses are there in the conjunctions on each right hand side?

Relevant concepts:

- · number of constructors in datatype,
- · number of fields per constructor,
- recursion leads to recursion,
- · other types lead to invocation of equality on those types.

More datatypes

```
data Tree a = Leaf a | Node (Tree a) (Tree a)
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Yet another equality function

This is often called a rose tree:

```
data Rose a = Fork a [Rose a]
```

Yet another equality function

This is often called a rose tree:

```
data Rose a = Fork a [Rose a]
```

Assuming an instance for lists:

```
instance Eq' a => Eq' (Rose a) where
eq' (Fork x1 xs1) (Fork x2 xs2) =
   eq' x1 x2 && eq' xs1 xs2
```

More concepts

- Parameterization of types is reflected by parameterization of the functions (via constraints on the instances).
- Using parameterized types in other types then works as expected.

The equality pattern

In order to define equality for a datatype:

- · introduce a parameter for each parameter of the datatype,
- introduce a case for each constructor of the datatype,
- introduce a final catch-all case returning False,
- for each of the other cases, compare the constructor fields pair-wise and combine them using (§§),
- for each field, use the appropriate equality instance.

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- for each of the other cases, compare the constructor fields pair-wise and combine them using (§§),
- · for each field, use the appropriate equality instance.

If we can describe it, can we write a program to do it?

Datatype-generic programming

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 Rep A,
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- · can be lifted to work on the original type A

The key idea of datatype-generic programming

- · Represent a type A as an isomorphic type Rep A.
- If a limited number of type constructors is used to build
 Rep A,
- · then functions defined on each of these type constructors
- · can be lifted to work on the original type A
- · and thus on any representable type.

Many options

What to choose as representation Rep of a type?

Many options

What to choose as representation Rep of a type?

- There are many different options.
- The choice influences which datatypes can be represented, how easy it is to define certain generic functions, and how the resulting generic programming library looks and feels.
- This is one of the reasons why there are so many different approaches to datatype-generic programming in Haskell.

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In the following, we will primarily look at one particular representation, called the binary sums of products representation.

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Booleans encode choice, but do not provide information what the choice is about.

```
data Either a b = Left a | Right b
```

Choice between three things:

```
type Either<sub>3</sub> a b c = Either a (Either b c)
```

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Combining three fields:

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We need another type.

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We need another type.

Well, how many values does a constructor without argument encode?

To keep representation and original types apart, let's define isomorphic copies of the types we need:

```
data U = U
data a :+: b = L a | R b
data a :*: b = a :*: b
```

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data U = U
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```

We can now get started:

```
data Bool = False | True
```

How do we represent Bool?

To keep representation and original types apart, let's define isomorphic copies of the types we need:

```
data U = U
data a :+: b = L a | R b
data a :*: b = a :*: b
```

We can now get started:

```
data Bool = False | True
```

How do we represent Bool ?

```
type RepBool = U :+: U
```

A class for representable types

```
class Generic a where
  type Rep a
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a
```

The type Rep is an example of an associated type.

A class for representable types

```
class Generic a where
  type Rep a
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a
```

The type Rep is an example of an associated type.

Equivalent to defining Rep separately as a type family:

```
type family Rep a
```

Representable Booleans

```
instance Generic Bool where
  type Rep Bool = U :+: U
  from False = L U
  from True = R U
  to (L U) = False
  to (R U) = True
```

Representable lists

Representable lists

Note:

- · shallow transformation,
- no constraint on Generic a required.

Representable trees

Representable rose trees

```
instance Generic (Rose a) where
  type Rep (Rose a) = a :*: [Rose a]
  from (Fork x xs) = x :*: xs
  to (x :*: xs) = Fork x xs
```

Representing primitive types

We do not define instances of **Generic** for primitive types such as **Int**, **Char** or **Float**.

Representing primitive types

We do not define instances of Generic for primitive types such as Int, Char or Float.

This will imply that we cannot derive a generic function for such primitive types.

If we want a function to work on these types, we have to provide an appropriate class instance manually.

Back to equality

Intermediate summary

- We have defined class Generic that maps datatypes to representations built up from U, (:+:), (:*:) and other datatypes.
- If we can define equality on the representation types, then we should be able to obtain a generic equality function.
- Let us apply the informal recipe from earlier.

A class for generic equality

```
class GEq a where
  geq :: a -> a -> Bool
```

Instance for sums

```
instance (GEq a, GEq b) => GEq (a :+: b) where
  geq (L a1) (L a2) = geq a1 a2
  geq (R b1) (R b2) = geq b1 b2
  geq _ = False
```

Instance for products and unit

```
instance (GEq a, GEq b) => GEq (a :*: b) where
  geq (a1 :*: b1) (a2 :*: b2) =
    geq a1 a2 && geq b1 b2

instance GEq U where
  geq U U = True
```

Instances for primitive types

```
instance GEq Int where
geq = ((==) :: Int -> Int -> Bool)
```

What now?

```
defaultEq ::
    (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
defaultEq x y = geq (from x) (from y)
```

```
defaultEq ::
    (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
defaultEq x y = geq (from x) (from y)
```

Defining generic instances is now trivial:

```
defaultEq ::
    (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
defaultEq x y = geq (from x) (from y)
```

Or with the **DefaultSignatures** language extension:

```
class GEq a where
 geq :: a -> a -> Bool
 default geq ::
   (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
 geq = defaultEq
instance GEq Bool
instance GEq a => GEq [a]
instance GEq a => GEq (Tree a)
instance GEq a => GEq (Rose a)
```

```
defaultEq ::
    (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
defaultEq x y = geq (from x) (from y)
```

Or with DeriveAnyClass / StandaloneDeriving:

```
class GEq a where
 geq :: a -> a -> Bool
  default geq ::
   (Generic a, GEq (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
 geq = defaultEq
deriving instance GEq Bool
deriving instance GEq a => GEq [a]
deriving instance GEq a => GEq (Tree a)
deriving instance GEq a => GEq (Rose a)
```

Isn't this as bad as before?

Amount of work

Question

Haven't we just replaced some tedious work (defining equality for a type) by some other tedious work (defining a representation for a type)?

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Haven't we just replaced some tedious work (defining equality for a type) by some other tedious work (defining a representation for a type)?

Yes, but:

- The representation has to be given only once, and works for potentially many generic functions.
- Since there is a single representation per type, it could be generated automatically by some other means (compiler support, TH).
- In other words, it's sufficient if we can use **deriving** on class **Generic**.

Yes (with DeriveGeneric) ...

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...but the representations in GHC are not quite as simple as we've pretended before:

```
class Generic a where
  type Rep a
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a
```

Yes (with DeriveGeneric) ...

...but the representations in GHC are not quite as simple as we've pretended before:

```
class Generic a where
  type Rep a :: * -> *
  from :: a -> Rep a x
  to :: Rep a x -> a
```

Representation types are actually of kind * -> *.

An extra argument?

- · It's a pragmatic choice.
- Facilitates some things, because we also want to derive classes parameterized by type constructors (such as Functor).
- · For now, let's just try to "ignore" the extra argument.

Simple vs. GHC representation

```
Old:
type instance Rep (Tree a) = a :+: (Tree a :*: Tree a)
New.
type instance Rep (Tree a) =
 D1 (MetaData "Tree" "Main" "main" False)
   (C1 (MetaCons "Leaf" PrefixI False)
      (S1 (MetaSel Nothing NoSourceUnpackedness NoSourceStrictness DecidedLazy)
         (Rec0 a)
     :+:
    C1 (MetaCons "Node" PrefixI False)
      (S1 (MetaSel Nothing NoSourceUnpackedness NoSourceStrictness DecidedLazy)
         (Rec0 (Tree a))
        :*:
       S1 (MetaSel Nothing NoSourceUnpackedness NoSourceStrictness DecidedLazy)
        (Rec0 (Tree a))
```

Simple vs. GHC representation

```
Old:
type instance Rep (Tree a) = a :+: (Tree a :*: Tree a)
New:
type instance Rep (Tree a) =
                a
      :+:
                Tree a
         :*:
                Tree a
```

Familiar components

Everything is now lifted to kind * -> *:

All the extra noise

- Every ocurrence of a type as an argument is wrapped in an extra application of Rec0.
- This is to detect where the "structure" combinators end and the new type starts.

All the extra noise

- Every ocurrence of a type as an argument is wrapped in an extra application of Rec0.
- This is to detect where the "structure" combinators end and the new type starts.
- All the metadata is included a type-level information, too.
- This includes names of the datatypes, constructors and record selectors, but also fixity info for infix constructors, and strictness information.
- This is for defining generic functions that make use of this info (consider e.g. Show or Read).

Extra constructors

```
type Rec0 = K1 R
newtype K1 i c p = K1 {unK1 :: c}
```

There is no other instantiation of K1 than R actually being used anymore.

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```
type D1 = M1 D -- for datatypes
type C1 = M1 C -- for constructors
type S1 = M1 S -- for selectors
newtype M1 i (c :: Meta) f p = M1 {unM1 :: f p}
```

Used to capture various kinds of metadata.

Adapting the equality class(es)

Works on representation types:

```
class GEq' f where
geq' :: f a -> f a -> Bool
```

Works on "normal" types:

```
class GEq a where
  geq :: a -> a -> Bool
  default geq ::
    (Generic a, GEq' (Rep a)) => a -> a -> Bool
  geq x y = geq' (from x) (from y)
```

Instance for **GEq Int** and other primitive types as before.

Adapting the equality class(es) – contd.

```
instance (GEq' f, GEq' g) => GEq' (f :+: g) where
  geq' (L1 x) (L1 y) = geq' x y
  geq' (R1 x) (R1 y) = geq' x y
  geq' _ _ = False
```

Similarly for :*: and U1.

Adapting the equality class(es) – contd.

```
instance (GEq' f, GEq' g) => GEq' (f :+: g) where
  geq' (L1 x) (L1 y) = geq' x y
  geq' (R1 x) (R1 y) = geq' x y
  geq' _ _ = False
```

Similarly for :*: and U1.

An instance for constant types:

```
instance GEq a => GEq' (K1 t a) where
geq' (K1 x) (K1 y) = geq x y
```

Adapting the equality classes – contd.

For equality, we ignore all meta information:

```
instance GEq' f => GEq' (M1 t i f) where
geq' (M1 x) (M1 y) = geq' x y
```

All meta information is grouped under a single datatype, so that we can easily ignore it all if we want to, such as here.

Adapting the equality classes – contd.

For equality, we ignore all meta information:

```
instance GEq' f => GEq' (M1 t i f) where
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```

All meta information is grouped under a single datatype, so that we can easily ignore it all if we want to, such as here.

Functions such as **show** and **read** can be implemented generically by accessing meta information.

Constructor classes

To cover classes such as **Functor**, **Traversable**, **Foldable** generically, we need a way to map between a type constructor and its representation:

```
class Generic1 f where
  type Rep1 f :: * -> *
  from1 :: f a -> Rep1 f a
  to1 :: Rep1 f a -> f a
```

Use the same representation type constructors, plus

```
data Par1 p = Par1 {unPar1 :: p }
data Rec1 f p = Rec1 {unRec1 :: f p }
data (:.:) f g p = Comp1 {unComp1 :: f (g p)}
```

A short glimpse at generics-sop

GHC Generics – a summary

- It is very useful that we can extend the set of derivable type classes and add functionality that works on many datatypes.
- · Many packages on Hackage use this feature.
- For the user, this makes instantiating type classes to new types extremely easy in most cases – they can simply provide an empty instance, or, with DeriveAnyClass, include the class in a deriving clause.

GHC Generics – a summary

- It is very useful that we can extend the set of derivable type classes and add functionality that works on many datatypes.
- · Many packages on Hackage use this feature.
- For the user, this makes instantiating type classes to new types extremely easy in most cases – they can simply provide an empty instance, or, with DeriveAnyClass, include the class in a deriving clause.
- · However, there are also some disadvantages ...

Disadvantages of GHC generics

- The representations are quite complicated (extra type argument for **Generic1**, all the metadata noise).
- Types are always sums of products, but the kinds do not enforce this. E.g., empty products are represented by U1, which otherwise does not occur. The :*: constructor only occurs if there are at least two fields.
- We cannot directly express that certain functions should only be applicable to certain sub-classes of datatypes, such as datatypes with only a single constructor.
- Generic functions are always defined by defining class instances for all the representation type constructors, which does not exactly encourage code reuse among generic functions.

Introducing generics-sop

The **generics-sop** library addresses these problems:

- It uses n-ary sums and products in the representation, rather than binary sums and products.
- It enforces that there is one sum layer on top of one product layer on top of occurrences of argument types.
- Metadata is separated from the normal representation and can be ignored as long as it is not needed by a generic function.
- Higher-order functions are provided that can be reused to build generic functions by composing existing ones.
- The price is that generics-sop requires many recent type system extensions (that we already discussed).

```
class Generic a where
  type Code a :: [[*]]
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a

type Rep a = SOP I (Code a)
```

```
class Generic a where
  type Code a :: [[*]]
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a

type Rep a = SOP I (Code a)
```

The representation Rep is a SOP (for sum of products) instantiated to the identity type I and the Code – a type-level list of lists.

Sums

The choice between several constructors is expressed using the following GADT – NS is for n-ary sum:

```
data NS (f :: k -> *) :: [k] -> * where
Z :: f x -> NS f (x ': xs)
S :: NS f xs -> NS f (x ': xs)
```

Sums

The choice between several constructors is expressed using the following GADT - NS is for n-ary sum:

```
data NS (f :: k -> *) :: [k] -> * where
Z :: f x -> NS f (x ': xs)
S :: NS f xs -> NS f (x ': xs)
```

- There is no constructor targeting NS f '[].
- The Z constructor targets the first option.
- The S constructor targets any other option.

Types of the sum constructors

```
GHCi>:t Z
Z:: f x -> NS f (x ': xs)
GHCi>:t S. Z
S. Z:: f x1 -> NS f (x ': x1 ': xs)
GHCi>:t S. S. Z
S. S. Z:: f x2 -> NS f (x1 ': x ': x2 ': xs)
```

(The numbers assigned by GHCi are unfortunately not intuitive at all.)

Products

The sequence of arguments of a single constructor is expressed using the following GADT – NP is for n-ary product:

```
data NP (f :: k -> *) :: [k] -> * where
  Nil :: NP f '[]
  (:*) :: f x -> NP f xs -> NP f (x ': xs)
infixr 5 :*
```

Products

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```
data NP (f :: k -> *) :: [k] -> * where
  Nil :: NP f '[]
  (:*) :: f x -> NP f xs -> NP f (x ': xs)
infixr 5 :*
```

This type is (apart from the flipped order of type arguments) the same as **Env** that we have discussed before.

Sums of products

```
newtype SOP f xss = SOP {unSOP :: NS (NP f) xss}
```

A sum of products is an NS, where the elements are of type NP, and the elements of that are of type f.

Sums of products

```
newtype SOP f xss = SOP {unSOP :: NS (NP f) xss}
```

A sum of products is an NS, where the elements are of type NP, and the elements of that are of type f.

An **SOP** is parameterized over a type-level lists of lists. The outer list corresponds to the choice between constructors, the inner lists correspond to the arguments of each constructor.

```
instance Generic Bool where
  type Code Bool = '['[], '[]]
  from False = SOP (Z Nil )
  from True = SOP (S (Z Nil))
  to (SOP (Z Nil) ) = False
  to (SOP (S (Z Nil))) = True
```

```
data Tree a = Leaf a | Node (Tree a) (Tree a)
```

```
instance Generic (Tree a) where
  type Code (Tree a) = '['[a], '[Tree a, Tree a]]
  from (Leaf x) = SOP (Z   (I x :* Nil))
  from (Node l r) = SOP (S (Z (I l :* I r :* Nil)))
  to (SOP (Z   (I x :* Nil))) = Leaf x
  to (SOP (S (Z (I l :* I r :* Nil)))) = Node l r
```

A generic monoid instance for

products

Revisiting monoids

```
class Monoid a where
  mempty :: a
  mappend :: a -> a -> a
```

Revisiting monoids

```
class Monoid a where
  mempty :: a
  mappend :: a -> a -> a
```

We can easily derive a **Monoid** instance for all product types if their components are **Monoid** s, by lifting the **mzero** and **mappend** operations "component-wise".

Restricting to product types

We can easily express what it means to be a product type in the vocabulary of **generics-sop**:

```
type IsProductType a xs =
  (Generic a, Code a ~ '[xs])
```

This is a synonym of kind **Constraint**.

It restricts the outer list of the code to have a single element, so the type must have a single constructor.

mempty using generics-sop

```
gmempty ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs) => a
gmempty =
    to . SOP . Z
  $ cpure_NP
        (Proxy @ Monoid)
        (I mempty)
```

```
gmempty ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs) => a
gmempty =
    to . SOP . Z
    $ cpure_NP
        (Proxy @ Monoid)
        (I mempty)
```

- to turns the representation into an a,
- SOP is just wrapping the sum of products,
- · Z creates a value of the first (and only) constructor.

```
gmempty ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs) => a
gmempty =
    to . SOP . Z
  $ cpure_NP
        (Proxy @ Monoid)
        (I mempty)
```

```
cpure_NP ::
  All c xs
  => Proxy c
  -> (forall x . c x => f x) -> NP f xs
```

is a constrained form of replicate.

mempty using generics-sop

```
gmempty ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs) => a
gmempty =
    to . SOP . Z
    $ cpure_NP
        (Proxy @ Monoid)
        (I mempty)
```

The All constraint is the same we discussed in the context of environments already:

```
All c xs
```

says that **c** holds for all elements of **xs**.

mempty using generics-sop

```
gmempty ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs) => a
gmempty =
    to . SOP . Z
    $ cpure_NP
        (Proxy @ Monoid)
        (I mempty)
```

```
cpure_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (I mempty)
```

creates a product of I mempty applications, using mempty for every argument of the constructor.

mappend using generics-sop

```
gmappend ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs)
  => a -> a -> a
gmappend x y =
     to . SOP . Z
  $ go (unZ (unSOP (from x))) (unZ (unSOP (from y)))
  where
     go = czipWith_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (mapIII mappend)
```

```
gmappend ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs)
  => a -> a -> a
gmappend x y =
     to . SOP . Z
  $ go (unZ (unSOP (from x))) (unZ (unSOP (from y)))
  where
     go = czipWith_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (mapIII mappend)
```

```
unZ :: NS f '[x] -> f x
unZ (Z x) = x
```

extracts from a single-choice sum.

```
gmappend ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs)
  => a -> a -> a
gmappend x y =
    to . SOP . Z
  $ go (unZ (unSOP (from x))) (unZ (unSOP (from y)))
  where
    go = czipWith_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (mapIII mappend)
```

```
czipWith_NP ::
All c xs
=> Proxy c
-> (forall x . c x => f x -> g x -> h x)
-> NP f xs -> NP g xs -> NP h xs
```

is a constrained zipWith.

```
gmappend ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs)
  => a -> a -> a
gmappend x y =
     to . SOP . Z
  $ go (unZ (unSOP (from x))) (unZ (unSOP (from y)))
  where
     go = czipWith_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (mapIII mappend)
```

```
mapIII :: (a -> b -> c) -> I a -> I b -> I c
mapIII f (I a) (I b) = I (f a b)
```

lifts a function to I types.

mappend using generics-sop

```
gmappend ::
  (IsProductType a xs, All Monoid xs)
  => a -> a -> a
gmappend x y =
      to . SOP . Z
  $ go (unZ (unSOP (from x))) (unZ (unSOP (from y)))
  where
    go = czipWith_NP (Proxy @ Monoid) (mapIII mappend)
```

So the function $\mbox{gmappend}$ just combines corresponding constructor arguments using recursive invocations of $\mbox{mappend}$.

Testing

```
data Test = MkTest [Char] (Sum Int)
```

Testing

```
data Test = MkTest [Char] (Sum Int)
```

```
instance Monoid Test where
  mempty = gmempty
  mappend = gmappend
```

Testing

```
data Test = MkTest [Char] (Sum Int)
```

```
instance Monoid Test where
mempty = gmempty
mappend = gmappend
```

```
GHCi> mempty :: Test
MkTest [] (Sum 0)
GHCi> mappend
  (MkTest "x" (Sum 3)) (MkTest "y" (Sum 7))
MkTest "xy" (Sum 10)
```

Conclusions

- Generic programming is a powerful programming technique.
- GHC Generics is more widely used, but **generics-sop** leads perhaps to more concise programs.
- There are also many other interesting packages in the area (most notably uniplate and syb).

Outlook: Template Haskell (TH)

- · A full meta-programming extension to Haskell.
- · Has the full syntax tree. Can do much more.
- · You have to do more work to derive classes using TH.
- It's trickier to get it right. Corner cases. Name manipulation.
- Datatype-generic functions are type-checked, TH only checks the generated code.