

Folding Implicit Parameters Partially Applied Functions and Currying

Folding

Another common operation is to combine the elements of a list using a given operator.

$$\text{sum}(\text{List}(x1, \dots, x_n)) = 0 + x1 + \dots + x_n$$
$$\text{product}(\text{List}(x1, \dots, x_n)) = 1 * x1 * \dots * x_n$$

We can implement this with the usual recursive schema:

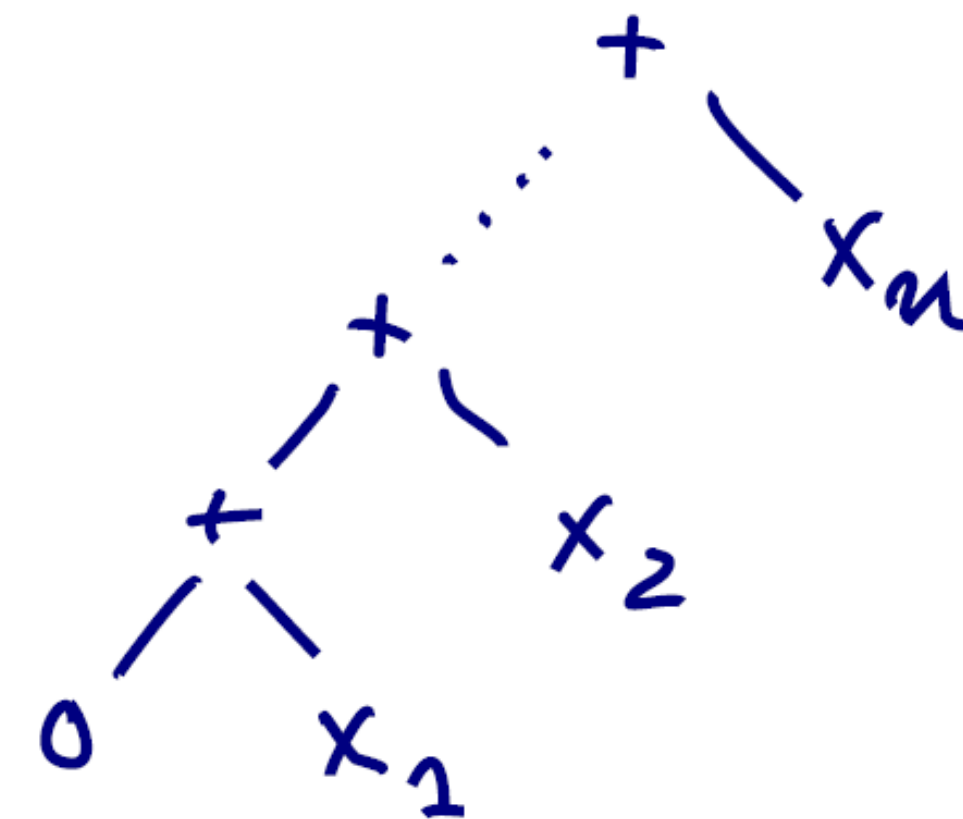
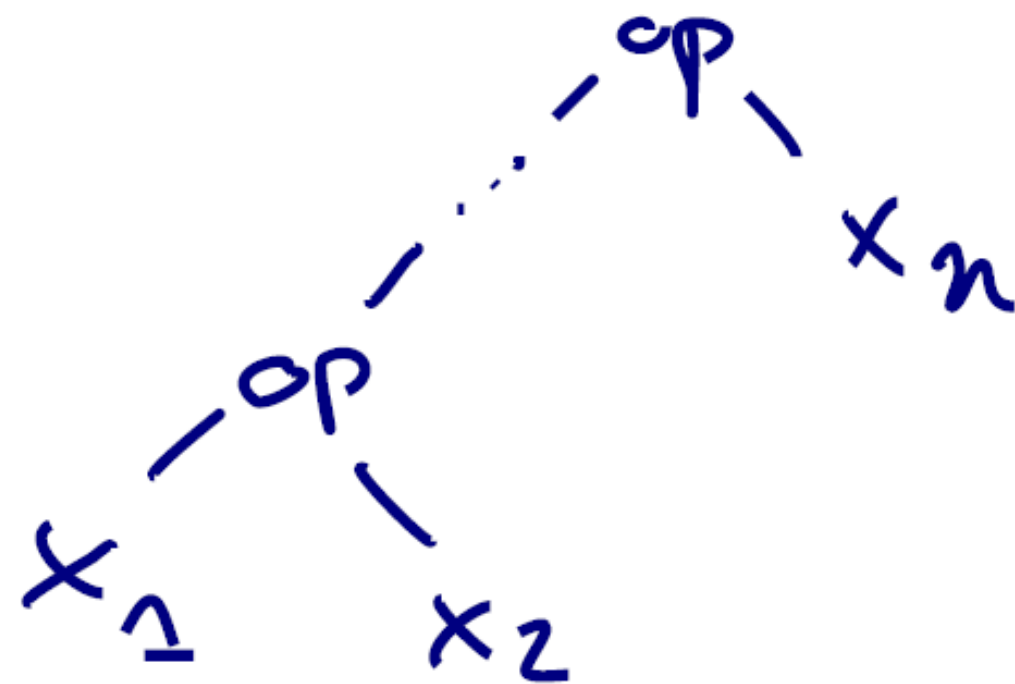
```
def sum(xs: List[Int]): Int = xs match {  
  case Nil      => 0  
  case y :: ys => y + sum(ys)  
}
```

ReduceLeft

This pattern can be abstracted out using the generic method `reduceLeft`:

`reduceLeft` inserts a given binary operator between adjacent elements of a list:

$$\text{List}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ reduceLeft } \text{op} = (\dots (x_1 \text{ op } x_2) \text{ op } \dots) \text{ op } x_n$$



Using `reduceLeft`, we can simplify:

```
def sum(xs: List[Int])      = (0 :: xs) reduceLeft ((x, y) => x + y)
def product(xs: List[Int]) = (1 :: xs) reduceLeft ((x, y) => x * y)
```

ReduceLeft – shorter way

Instead of $((x, y) \Rightarrow x * y)$ one can write:

$(_ * _)$

Every $_$ represents a new parameter, going from left to right.

The parameters are defined at the next outer pair of parentheses (or the whole expression if there are no enclosing parentheses).

So, sum and product can also be expressed like this:

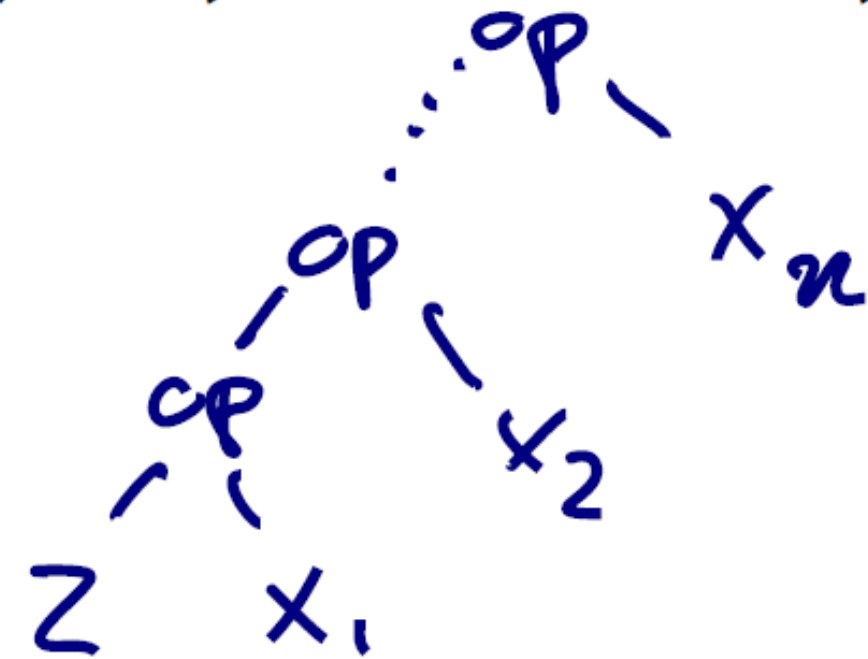
```
def sum(xs: List[Int])      = (0 :: xs) reduceLeft (_ + _)
def product(xs: List[Int]) = (1 :: xs) reduceLeft (_ * _)
```


FoldLeft

The function `reduceLeft` is defined in terms of a more general function, `foldLeft`.

`foldLeft` is like `reduceLeft` but takes an *accumulator*, `z`, as an additional parameter, which is returned when `foldLeft` is called on an empty list.

$$(\text{List}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ foldLeft } z)(\text{op}) = (\dots(z \text{ op } x_1) \text{ op } \dots) \text{ op } x_n$$



So, `sum` and `product` can also be defined as follows:

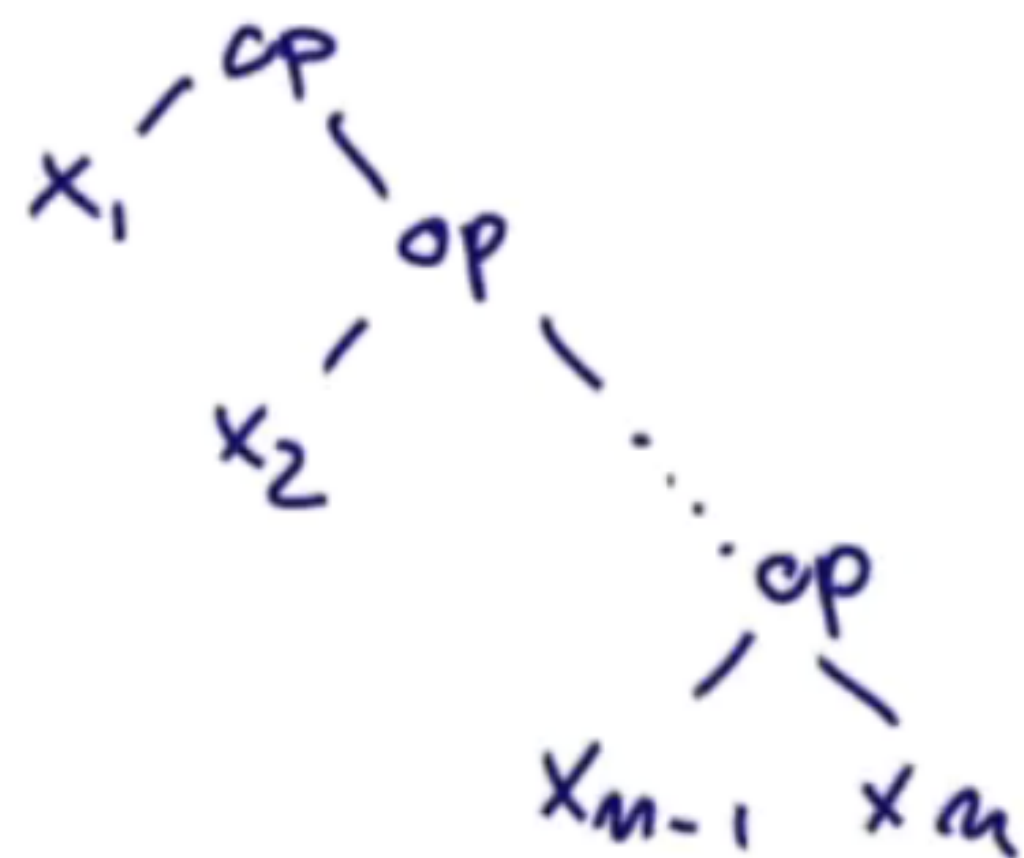
```
def sum(xs: List[Int])      = (xs foldLeft 0) (_ + _)
def product(xs: List[Int])  = (xs foldLeft 1) (_ * _)
```

FoldRight and ReduceRight

Applications of foldLeft and reduceLeft unfold on trees that lean to the left.

They have two dual functions, foldRight and reduceRight, which produce trees which lean to the right, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{List}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) \text{ reduceRight } op &= x_1 \text{ op } (\dots (x_{n-1} \text{ op } x_n) \dots) \\ (\text{List}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ foldRight } acc)(op) &= x_1 \text{ op } (\dots (x_n \text{ op } acc) \dots) \end{aligned}$$



Exercise

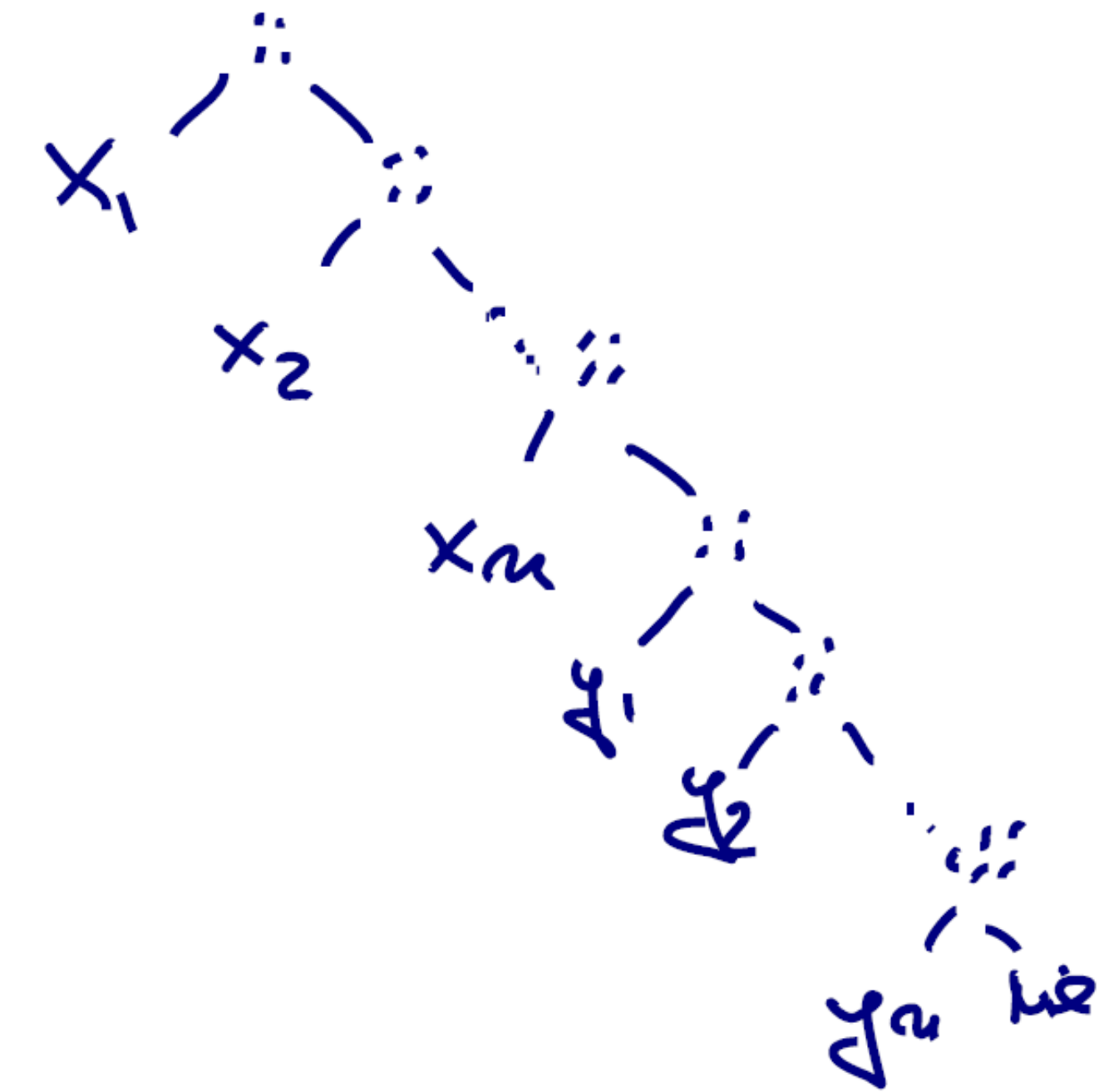
Here is another formulation of concat:

```
def concat[T](xs: List[T], ys: List[T]): List[T] =  
  (xs foldRight ys) (_ :: _)
```

Here, it isn't possible to replace foldRight by foldLeft. Why?

- ☐ The types would not work out
- ☐ The resulting function would not terminate
- ☐ The result would be reversed

How to solve it?



Exercise

Complete the following definitions of the basic functions `map` and `length` on lists, such that their implementation uses `foldRight`:

```
def mapFun[T, U](xs: List[T], f:T => U): List[U] =  
  (xs foldRight List[U]()) ( ??? )
```

```
def lengthFun[T](xs: List[T]): Int =  
  (xs foldRight 0) (???)
```

and using `foldLeft`?

Implicit Parameters

Sorting Lists – merge sort

```
def mSort(seq: List[Int]): List[Int] = seq match {  
  case Nil => Nil  
  case xs::Nil => List(xs) //or: case List(xs) => List(xs)  
  case _ =>  
    val (left, right) = seq splitAt seq.length/2  
    merge(mSort(left), mSort(right))  
}
```

splitAt - returns 2 sublists:
- the elements up the given index,
- the elements from that index

```
def merge(seq1: List[Int], seq2: List[Int]): List[Int] =  
  (seq1, seq2) match {  
    case (Nil, _) => seq2  
    case (_, Nil) => seq1  
    case (x::xs, y::ys) =>  
      if(x<y) x::merge(xs, seq2)  
      else y::merge(seq1, ys)  
  }
```

Making Sort more General

Problem: How to parameterize `msort` so that it can also be used for lists with elements other than `Int`?

```
def msort[T](xs: List[T]): List[T] = ...
```

does **not** work, because the comparison `<` in `merge` is not defined for arbitrary types `T`.

Idea: Parameterize `merge` with the necessary comparison function.

Parameterization of Sort

The most flexible design is to make the function `sort` polymorphic and to pass the comparison operation as an additional parameter:

```
def msort[T](xs: List[T])(lt: (T, T) => Boolean) = {  
  ...  
  merge(msort(fst)(lt), msort(snd)(lt))  
}
```

Merge then needs to be adapted as follows:

```
def merge(xs: List[T], ys: List[T]) = (xs, ys) match {  
  ...  
  case (x :: xs1, y :: ys1) =>  
    if (lt(x, y)) ...  
    else ...  
}
```


Calling Parameterized Sort

We can now call `msort` as follows:

```
val xs = List(-5, 6, 3, 2, 7)
val fruit = List("apple", "pear", "orange", "pineapple")

merge(xs)((x: Int, y: Int) => x < y)
merge(fruit)((x: String, y: String) => x.compareTo(y) < 0)
```

Or, since parameter types can be inferred from the call `merge(xs)`:

```
merge(xs)((x, y) => x < y)
```

Parameterization with Ordered

There is already a class in the standard library that represents orderings.

```
scala.math.Ordering[T]
```

provides ways to compare elements of type `T`. So instead of parameterizing with the `lt` operation directly, we could parameterize with `Ordering` instead:

```
def msort[T](xs: List[T])(ord: Ordering) =
```

```
  def merge(xs: List[T], ys: List[T]) =  
    ... if (ord.lt(x, y)) ...
```

```
  ... merge(msort(fst)(ord), msort(snd)(ord)) ...
```

Ordered Instances

Calling the new `msort` can be done like this:

```
import math.Ordering  
  
msort(nums)(Ordering.Int)  
msort(fruits)(Ordering.String)
```

This makes use of the values `Int` and `String` defined in the `scala.math.Ordering` object, which produce the right orderings on integers and strings.

Implicit Parameters

Problem: Passing around `lt` or `ord` values is cumbersome.

We can avoid this by making `ord` an implicit parameter.

```
def msort[T](xs: List[T])(implicit ord: Ordering) =
```

```
  def merge(xs: List[T], ys: List[T]) =  
    ... if (ord.lt(x, y)) ...
```

```
    ... merge(msort(fst), msort(snd)) ...
```

Then calls to `msort` can avoid the ordering parameters:

```
msort(nums)  
msort(fruits)
```

The compiler will figure out the right implicit to pass based on the demanded type.

Implicit Parameters (only works with multiple parameter groups)

```
def printIntIfTrue(a: Int)(implicit b: Boolean) = if (b) println(a)
```

```
scala> printIntIfTrue(42)(true)  
42
```

```
scala> printIntIfTrue(1)  
<console>:12: error ...
```

```
scala> implicit val boo = true  
boo: Boolean = true
```

```
scala> printIntIfTrue(33)  
33
```

Implicit Parameters - Benefits

when referring to a shared resource several times, and you want to keep your code clean.

Example:

- need to reference a database connection several times
- an implicit connection can clean up your code

Rules: in a method or constructor

- only one implicit parameter
- must be the last parameter

Partially Applied Functions (PAF) Currying

Partially Applied Functions (PAF) and Currying

PAF enable creation of specific functions from the general function

```
def wrap(prefix: String)(html: String)(suffix: String) =  
{  
    prefix + html + suffix  
}
```

```
val hello = "Hello, world"  
val result = wrap("<div>")(hello)("</div>")
```

```
val wrapWithDiv = wrap("<div>")(_: String)("</div>")
```

```
scala> wrapWithDiv("<p>Hello, world</p>")  
res0: String = <div><p>Hello, world</p></div>
```


PAF - without multiple parameter groups

```
def wrap(prefix: String, html: String, suffix: String) =  
{  
    prefix + html + suffix  
}
```

```
val wrapWithDiv = wrap("<div>", _: String, "</div>")  
or  
def wrapWithDiv = wrap("<div>", _: String, "</div>")
```

```
scala> wrapWithDiv("Hello, world")  
res1: String = <div>Hello, world</div>
```

Currying

(only works with multiple parameter groups)

A practical use for **currying** is to specialize functions

```
scala> def multiplier(i: Int)(factor: Int) = i * factor  
multiplier: (i: Int)(factor: Int)Int
```

```
scala> val byFive = multiplier(5) _  
byFive: Int => Int = <function1>
```

```
scala> val byTen = multiplier(10) _  
byTen: Int => Int = <function1>
```

```
scala> byFive(2)  
res8: Int = 10
```

```
List(1,2,3) map byTen // ???
```

Currying

```
def msort[T](less: (T, T) => Boolean)
  (xs: List[T]): List[T] = {

  def merge(xs: List[T], ys: List[T]): List[T] =
    (xs, ys) match {
      case (Nil, _) => ys
      case (_, Nil) => xs
      case (x :: xs1, y :: ys1) =>
        if (less(x, y)) x :: merge(xs1, ys)
        else y :: merge(xs, ys1)
    }

  val n = xs.length / 2
  if (n == 0) xs
  else {
    val (ys, zs) = xs splitAt n
    merge(msort(less)(ys), msort(less)(zs))
  }
}
```

Currying

```
scala> msort((x: Int, y: Int) => x < y)(List(5, 7, 1, 3))  
res28: List[Int] = List(1, 3, 5, 7)
```

Currying makes it **easy to specialize the function** for particular comparison functions:

```
scala> val intSort = msort((x: Int, y: Int) => x < y) _  
intSort: (List[Int]) => List[Int] = <function>
```

```
scala> val reverseIntSort = msort((x: Int, y: Int) => x > y) _  
reverseIntSort: (List[Int]) => List[Int] = <function>
```

```
scala> intSort(List(3,1,9))  
scala> reverseSort(List(3,1,9))
```


PAF vs Currying

Currying: a function that takes multiple arguments can be translated into a series of function calls that each take a single argument.
Every function technically has one argument.

PAF: a function that you manually create by supplying fewer parameters than the initial function defines.

Currying - exercise

Considering:

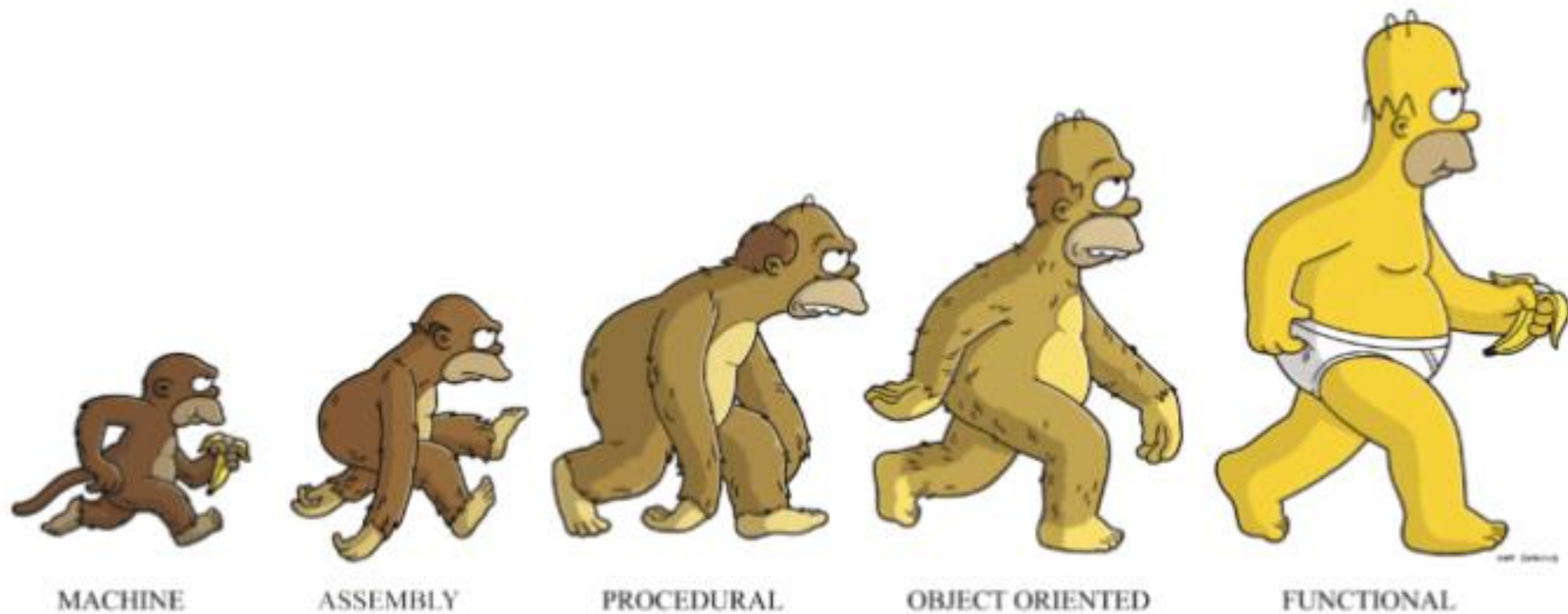
```
def add(a: Int, b: Int) = a + b
```

How do you specialize the add function to become an increment function to be used to increment the elements of a list?

```
List(1,2,3) map ((x) => x+1) // List(2,3,4)
```

```
List(1,2,3) map add(1) // List(2,3,4)
```

```
List(1,2,3) map add(10) // List(11,12,13)
```



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