

Welcome to the Functional Programming Power Monday! This first lecture in the series begins not with functional programming per se, but a bit of background context.

Introduction to Programming Paradigms And the Myths Thereof

FULLSTACK

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

Today we're going to begin by discussing broad categories or styles of programming languages, called paradigms.

You may have heard terms like this...

Programming paradigms



Perhaps you felt like this...

Programming paradigms

Programming paradigms



paradigm

noun | par·a·digm | \'per-ə-,dīm , 'pa-rə- also -,dim\

"...3. a philosophical and theoretical framework of a scientific school or discipline..."

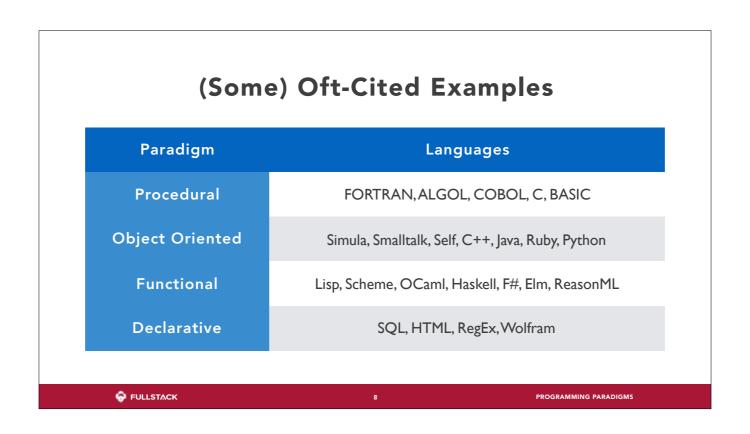
MERRIAM WEBSTER

- Broad categories of programming languages
- Traditionally viewed as competing styles
- May have very different syntax, capabilities, goals, and concepts

FULLSTACK

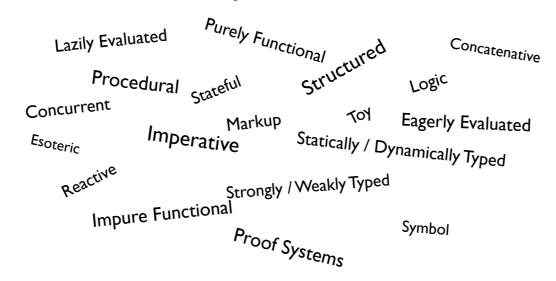
PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

We consider these buzzwords to be examples of *paradigms*.



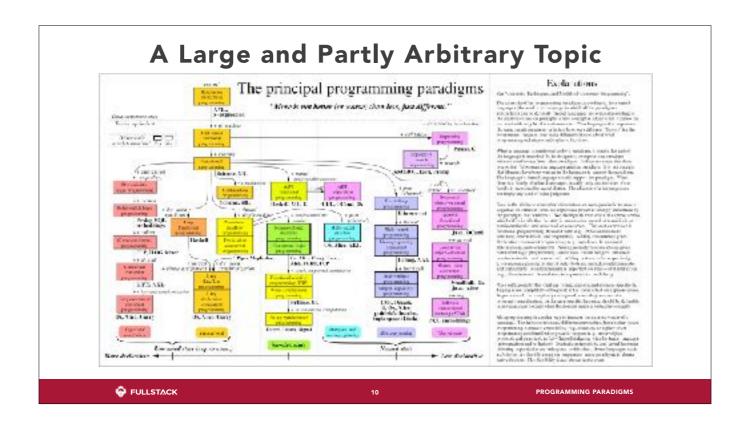
Some languages were either built for, or considered to be archetypes of, particular paradigms.

But Wait, There's More!™



FULLSTACK

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Before we really get into what a paradigm is, a disclaimer – classifying programming languages into neat little boxes is doomed to failure, as the boxes are not perfectly defined, and the languages don't play by such rigid rules. (Image from Peter Van Roy's book "Concepts, Techniques, and Models of Computer Programming".

WHAT ABOUT S?



"JavaScript is a prototype-based, multiparadigm, dynamic language, supporting object-oriented, imperative, and declarative (e.g. functional programming) styles."

ИDN

FULLSTACK

2

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

...literally the first paragraph on the MDN page introducing JS.



Multi-Paradigm

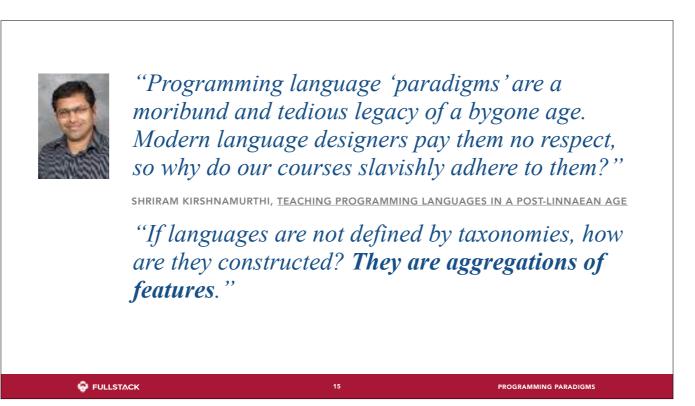


- In fact, many modern languages cannot be easily placed into sharply-delineated paradigms.
- JS, Java, C++, Python, Swift, and many others blur the lines and / or support multiple approaches.
- Paradigms themselves are hard to define and mean different things to different sources.

FULLSTACK

14

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Real languages are specific mixtures of certain features / capabilities rather than easily classifiable entities. (Side note, this is actually similar to how some programming trends favor mixins over class inheritance.)

A Random Set of Language Features

Garbage Collection

Significant Whitespace

Closures

Blocks

First-Class Functions

Lazy Evaluation

Type Inference

Static Typing

Dynamic Typing

Memory Access

Try-Finally

Pattern Matching

If Expressions

• Currying

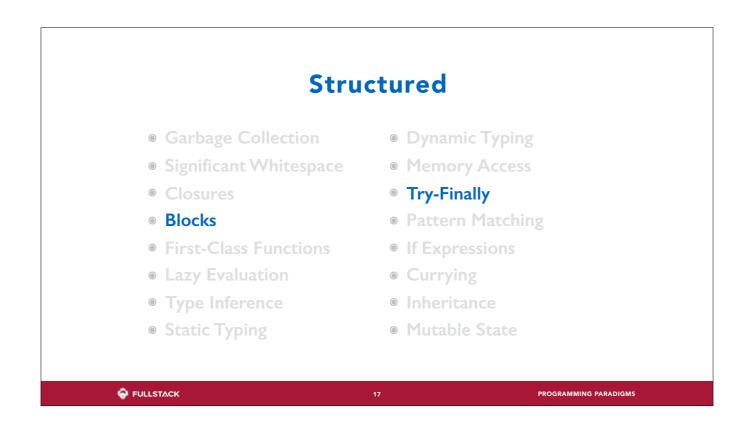
• Inheritance

• Mutable State

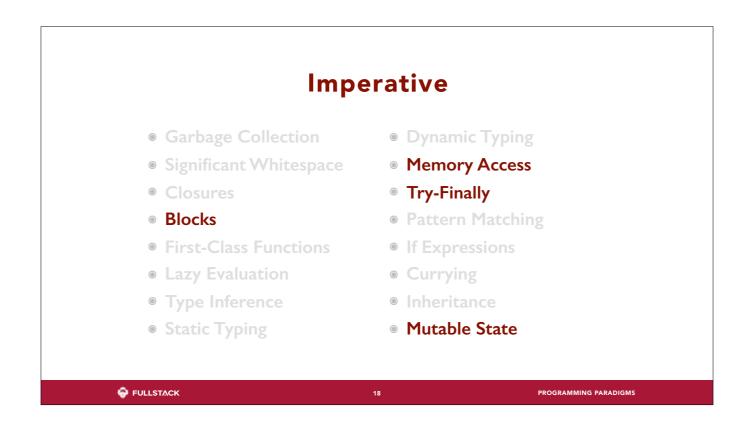
FULLSTACK

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

Here is a random collection of features...



Some of these features might be considered to fall within a given paradigm



But a given feature might be often found across multiple paradigms

Object-Oriented

- Garbage Collection
- Significant Whitespace
- Closures
- Blocks
- First-Class Functions
- Lazy Evaluation
- Type Inference
- Static Typing*

- Dynamic Typing
- Memory Access*
- Try-Finally
- Pattern Matching
- If Expressions
- Currying
- Inheritance
- Mutable State*

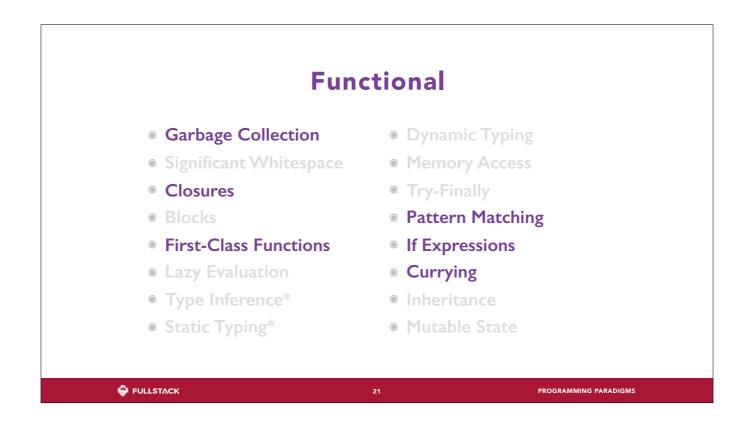
FULLSTACK

9

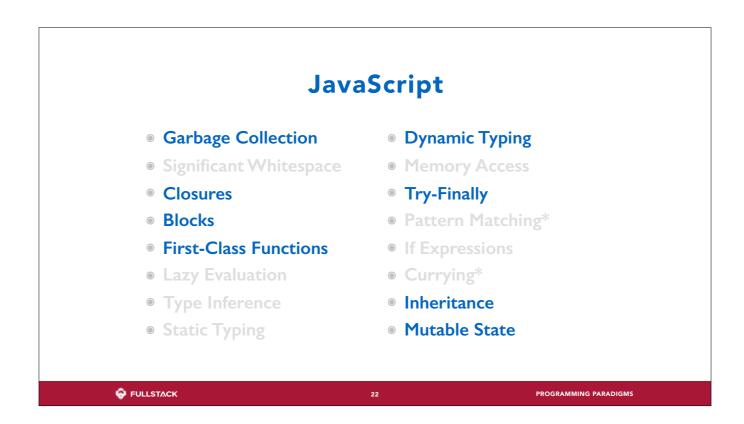
PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



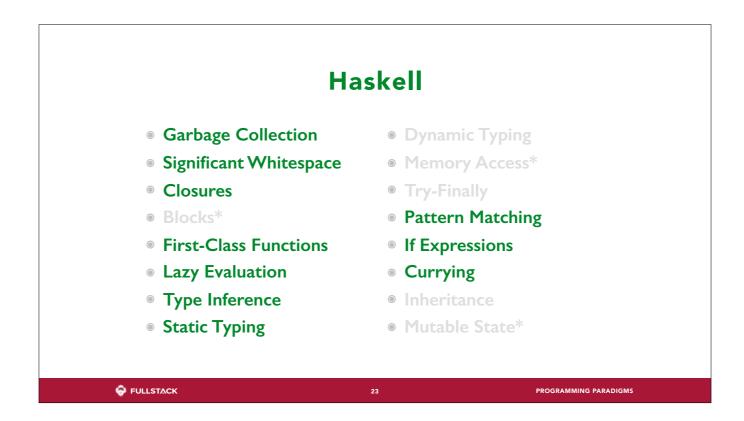
Is significant whitespace declarative? What about if-expressions (which produce a value)? These features may be found in non-declarative contexts.



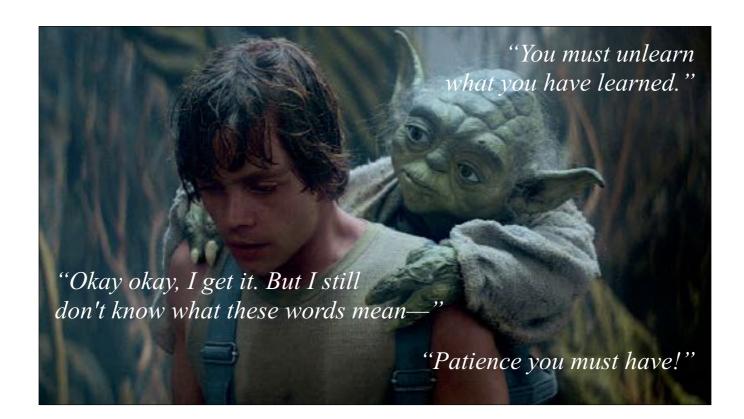
If a programming language lacks pattern matching, is it no longer functional? Trying to define paradigms in terms of features is a flawed approach.



In contrast, languages definitely **DO** or **DO NOT** have a certain feature, or **CAN** emulate a feature (asterisks). This makes it a lot more concrete to classify a language via features.



Notice that Haskell and JS share some features, typically considered functional. But they definitely have differences too. And Haskell has things beyond the "functional" features.

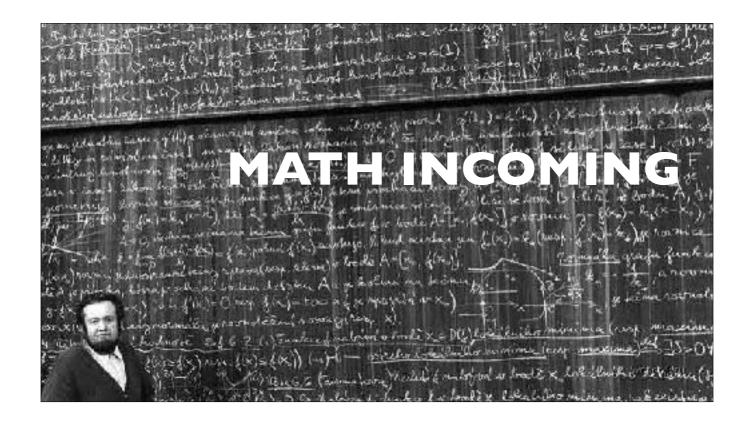


Paradigms: Imperative, Structured, Procedural

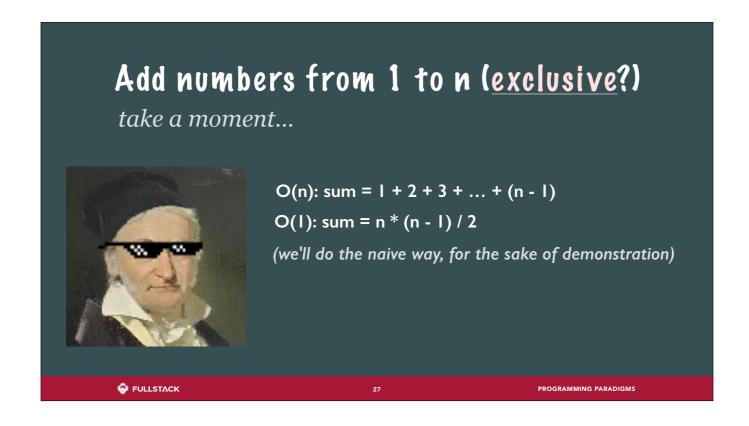
FULLSTACK

25

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



To help us understand how computers and by extension computer languages work, let's use a small example algorithm.



This is a straightforward problem. The mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855) famously solved it as a young boy in primary school. We'll use a more naive solution for demonstration purposes.

Example JS Program (Fragment)



FULLSTACK

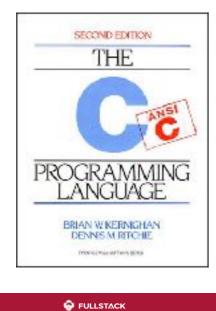
```
function sumSeries (n) {
    let sum = 0;
    for (let i = 1; i !== n; i++) {
        sum += i;
    }
    return sum;
}

const res = sumSeries(4)
// do something with res (= 6)
```

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

Here's how one might code the naive solution in JS.

Example C Program (Fragment)

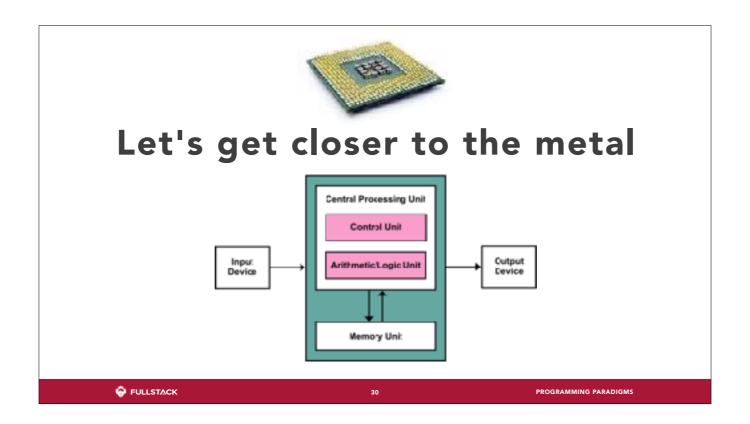


```
int sumSeries(int n) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 1; i != n; i++) {
        sum += i;
    }
    return sum;
}

int main(void) {
    int res = sumSeries(4);
    // use res (= 6) somehow
}
```

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

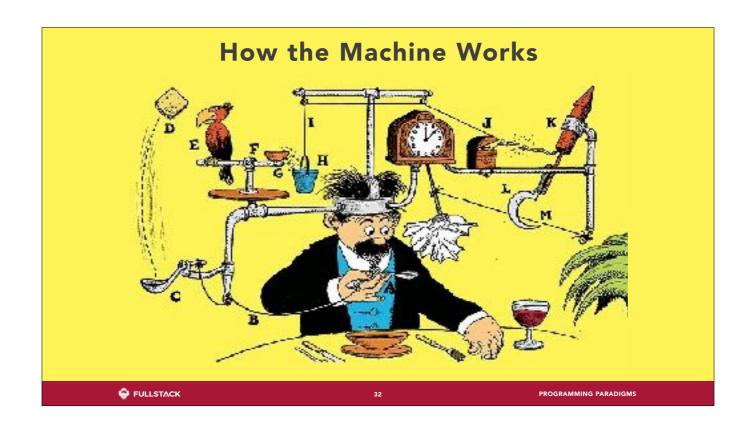
...and here is an equivalent solution in C. Note that JS borrowed its syntax from Java, which borrowed its syntax from C. So it's no wonder that the two snippets are almost identical.



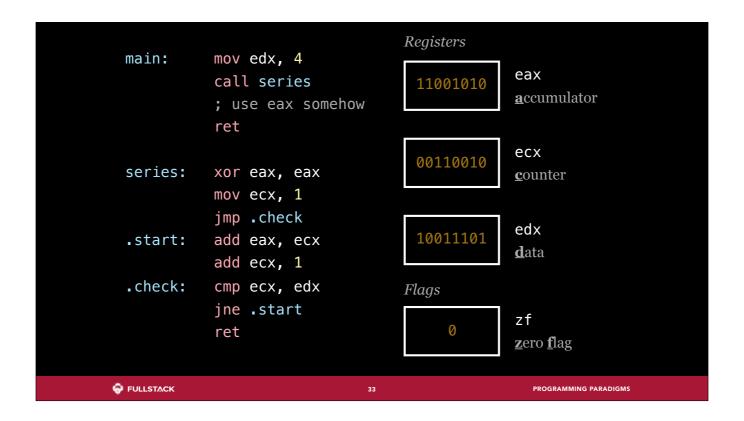
"The metal" refers the CPU. Virtually all commercial computers use the Von Neumann Architecture, in which the CPU accesses addressable memory – fetching data, computing results, and storing data.

```
x86 Assembly
                                                 C
series:
         mov ecx, 1
                                 int sumSeries(int n) {
         xor eax, eax
                                     int sum = 0;
         jmp .check
                                     for (int i = 1; i != n; i++) {
         add eax, ecx
.start:
                                         sum += i;
         add ecx, 1
                                     return sum;
.check:
         cmp ecx, edx
         jne .start
         rep ret
                                 int main(void) {
         mov edx, 4
main:
                                     int res = sumSeries(4);
                                     // use res (= 6) somehow
         call series
         ; use eax somehow
         ret
      FULLSTACK
                                                    PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

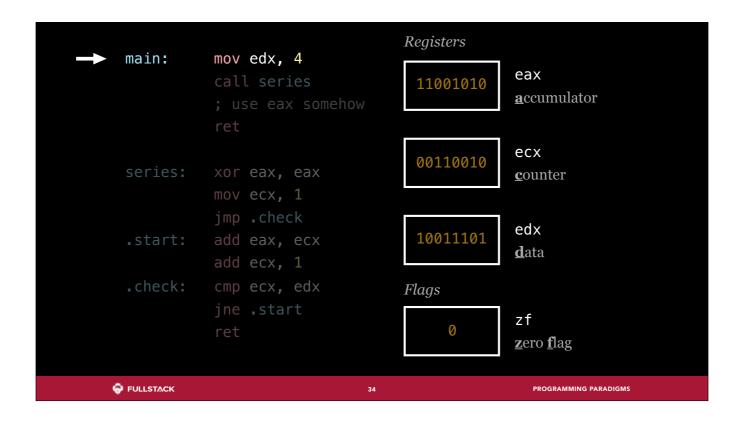
C is a high-level language which gets compiled to *machine code* – the actual signals which direct the computer to perform actions. We can express the same concepts using textual *assembly language* which is a 1-1 mapping of human-readable commands to machine code.



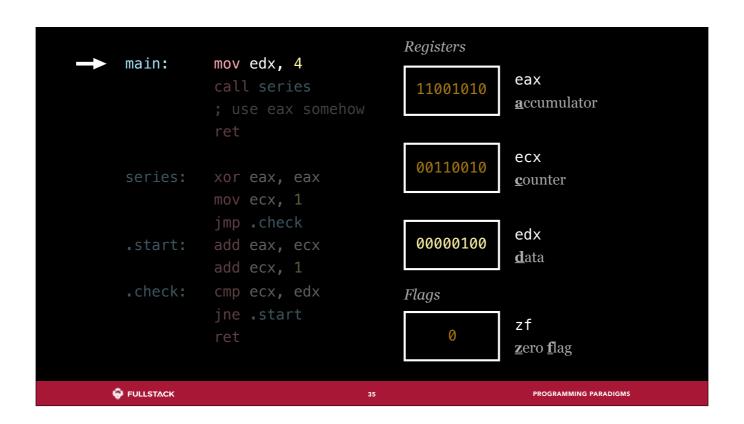
Let's see a simulated computer run this code to get a sense for what is really happening.



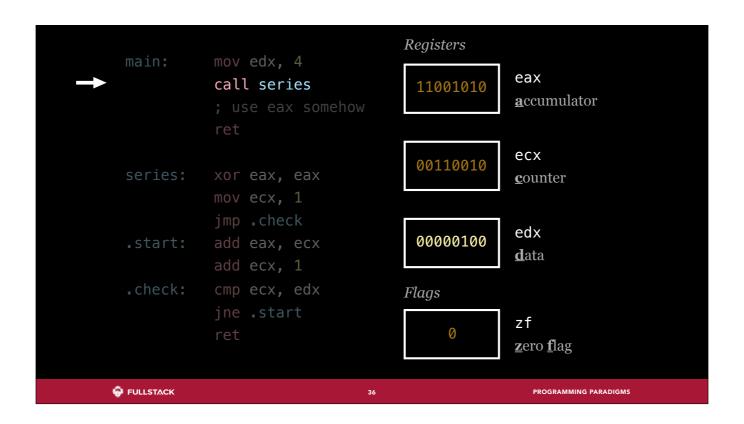
A CPU has a limited set of named *registers*, physical storage buckets which hold a little bit of data at a time. It also has a *flag* (actually one digit from a flags register) for storing the results of (in)equality checks.



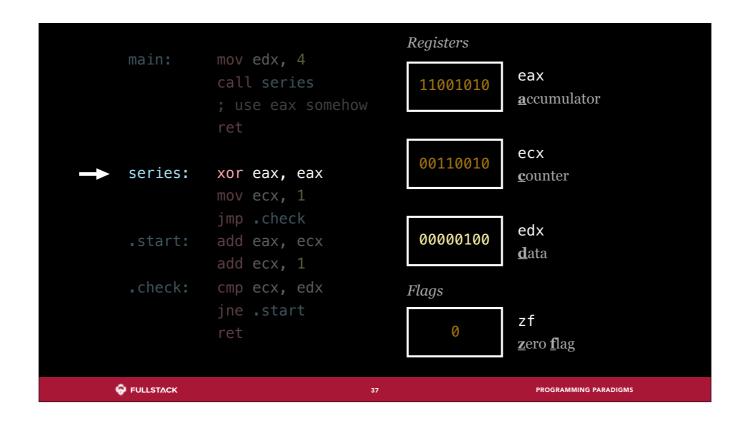
The program is stepped through in order according to a *program counter* which simply increments through the commands one by one. This command is "move (i.e. store) the number 4 in the register edx".



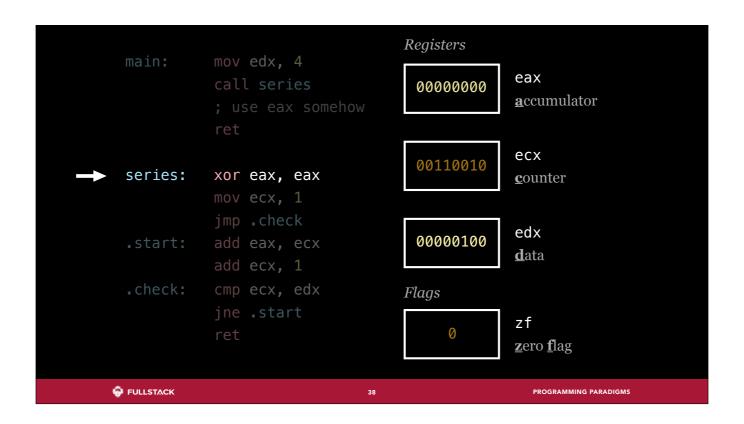
We will use edx (the "data" register) as our function argument / loop limit.



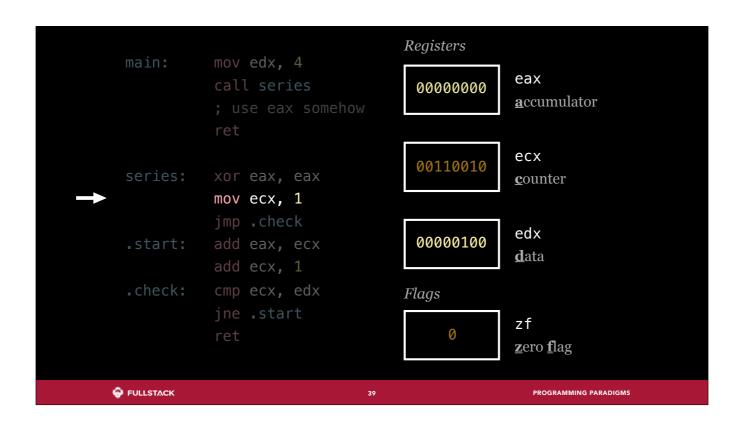
`call` invokes a *subroutine*. Subroutines are functions, but much less capable than JS functions – they are better considered *procedures* and are used primarily for control flow, not as data.



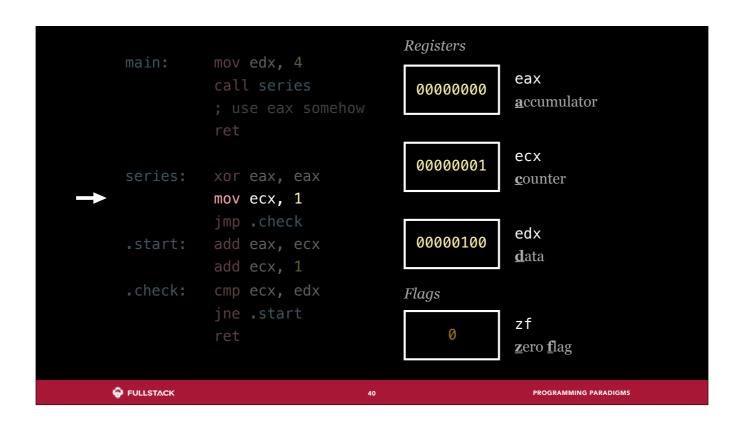
We're going to zero out the accumulator register, which we will use as our "sum".



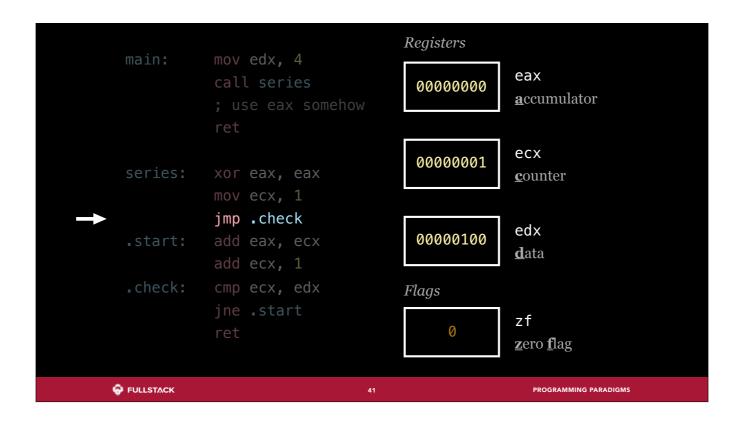
`xor`-ing a value against itself yields 0. We could have also `mov`ed 0, but xor is faster.



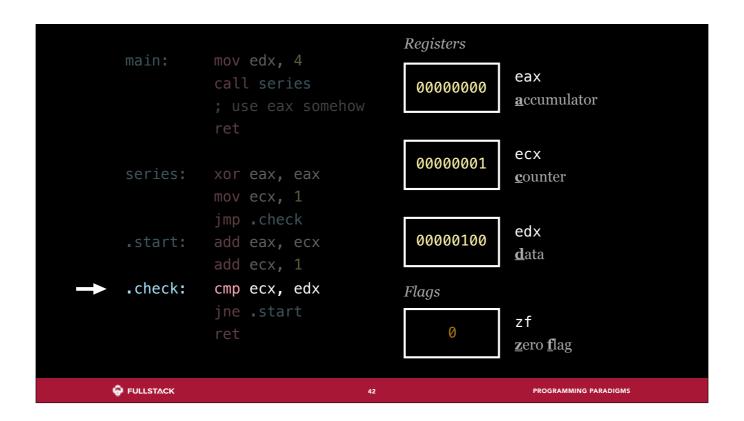
Move the number 1 into ecx (counter). Ecx will be our i value.



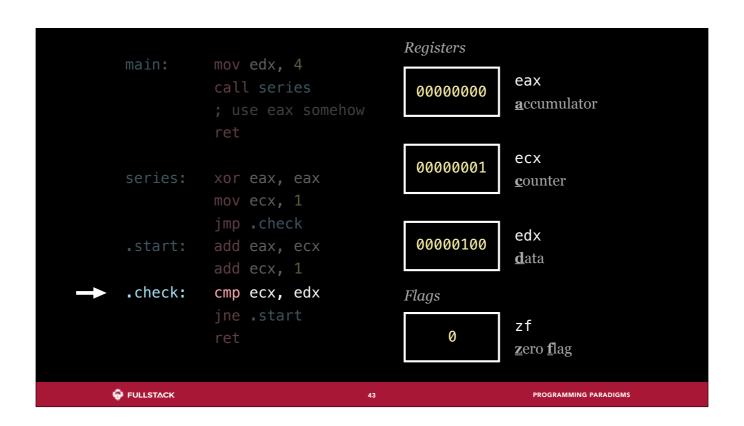
We initialized the counter i to 1.



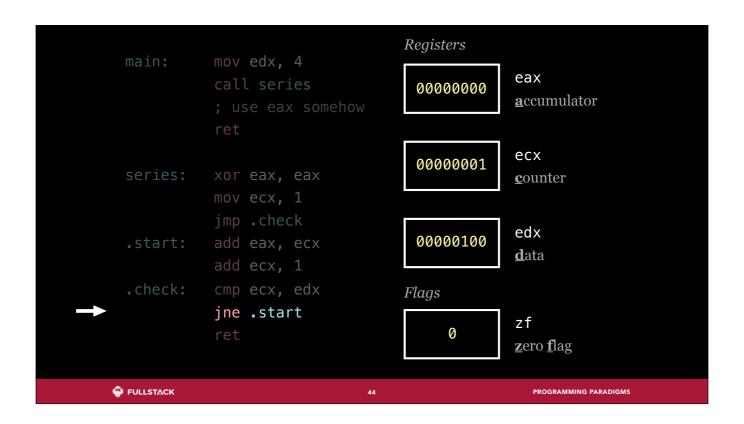
Jump commands, i.e. GOTO statements, tell the program counter to be moved to a different address.



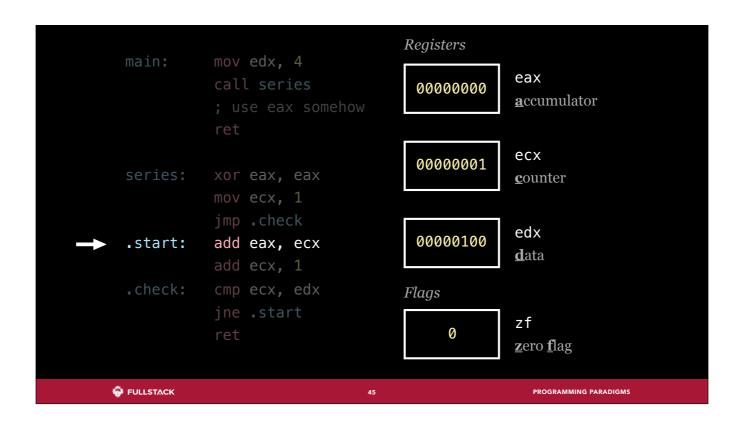
Here we compare (cmp') our counter and limit. If they are equal, the zero flag will be set to 1.



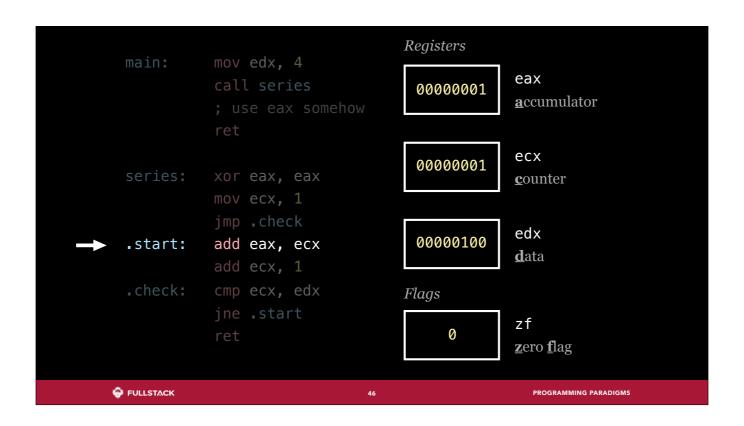
Not equal yet...



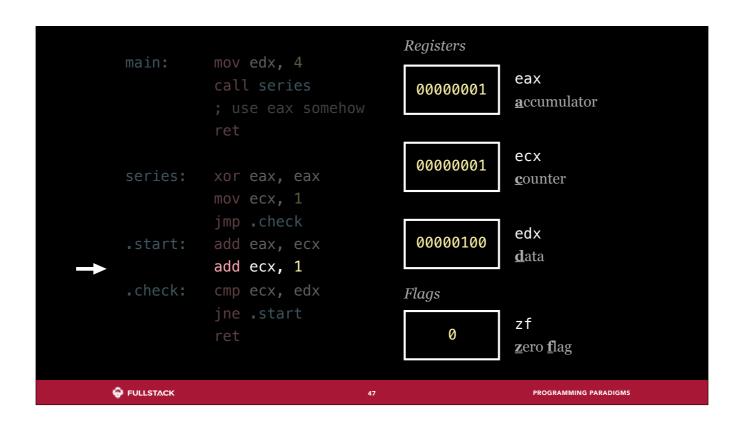
This is a conditional jump (Jump if Not Equal). It jumps if the zero flag is still off.



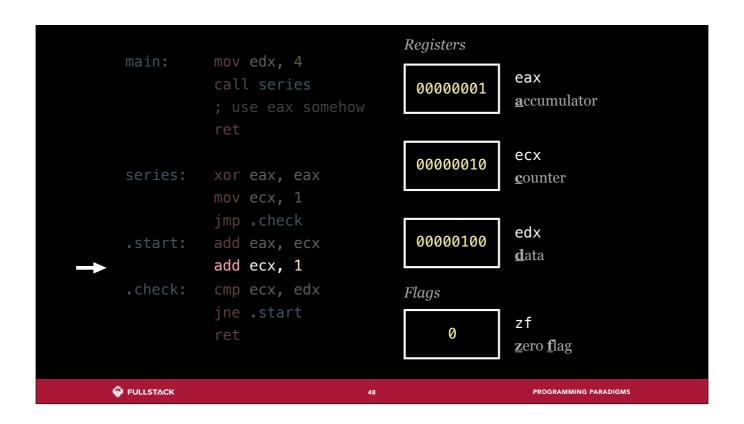
The loop is allowed to progress! We add the counter to the sum.



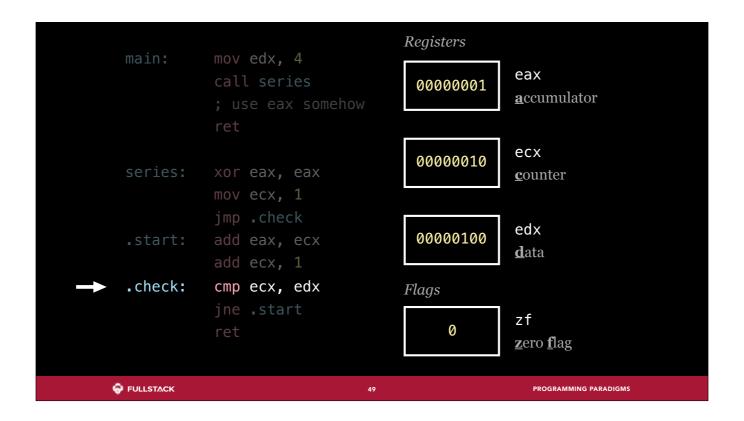
Added.



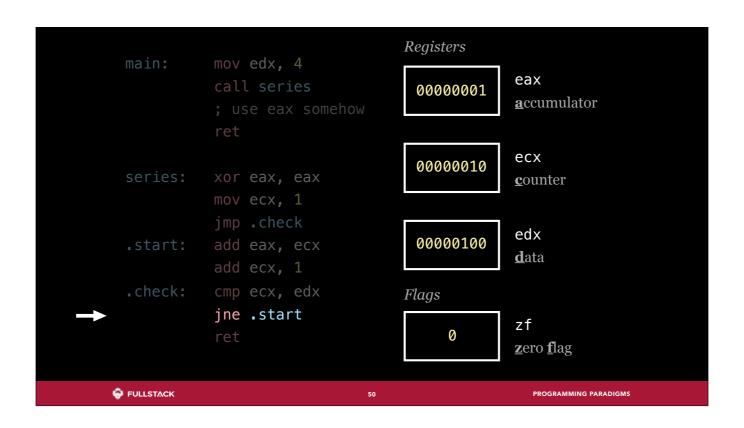
We increment the counter...



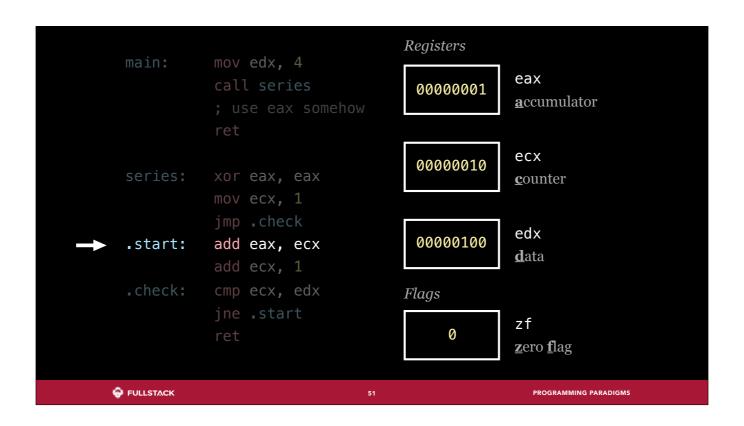
...to 2.



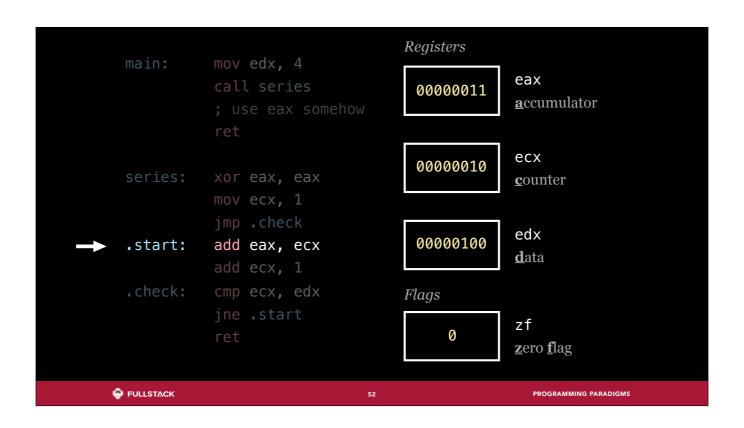
And run the loop check again. The counter and limit are still not equal, so the ZF is still 0...



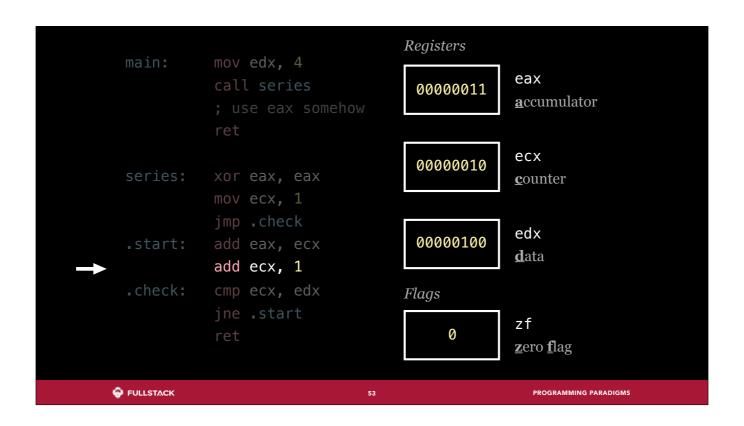
...which means the jump occurs again.



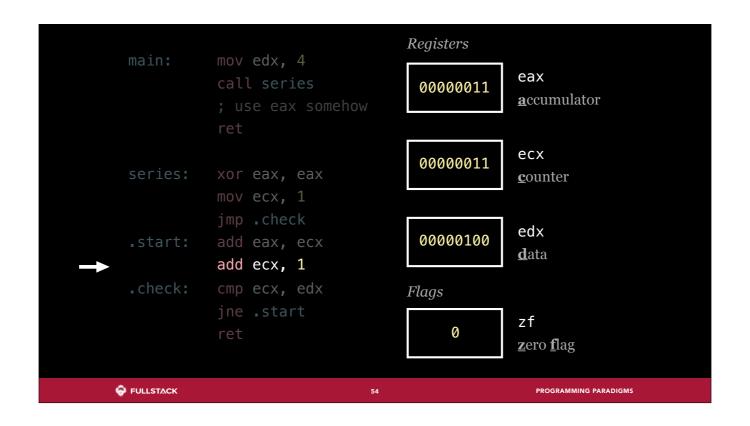
Adding i to sum...



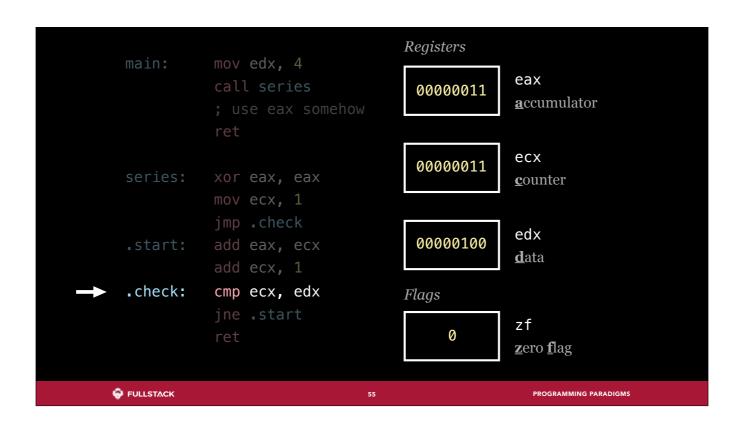
...sum is now 3.



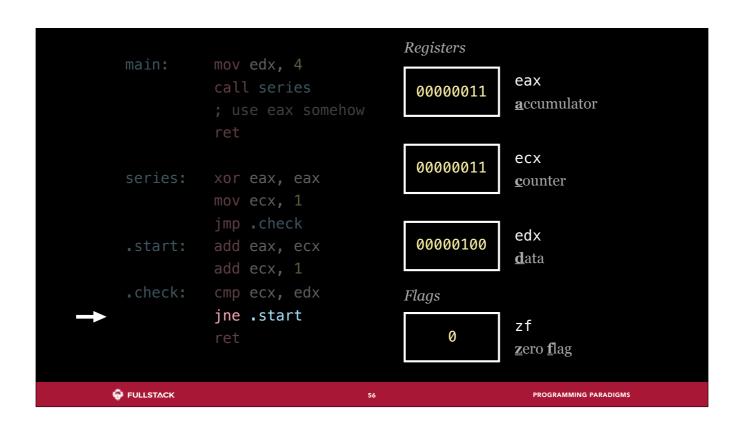
Increment i...



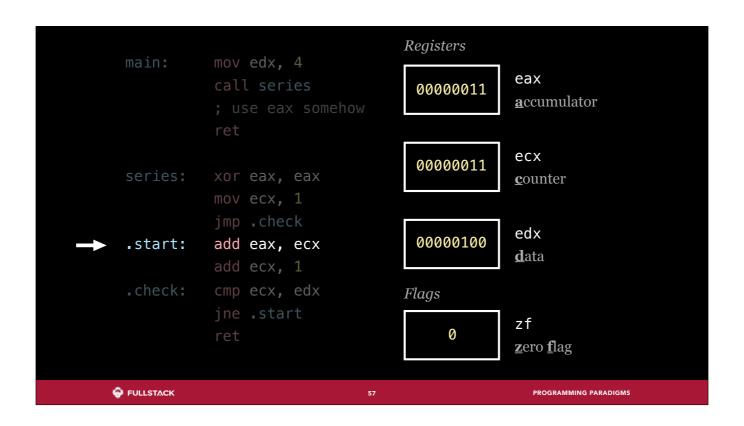
...to 3. There is also an `inc` command, but `add ____, 1` is faster.



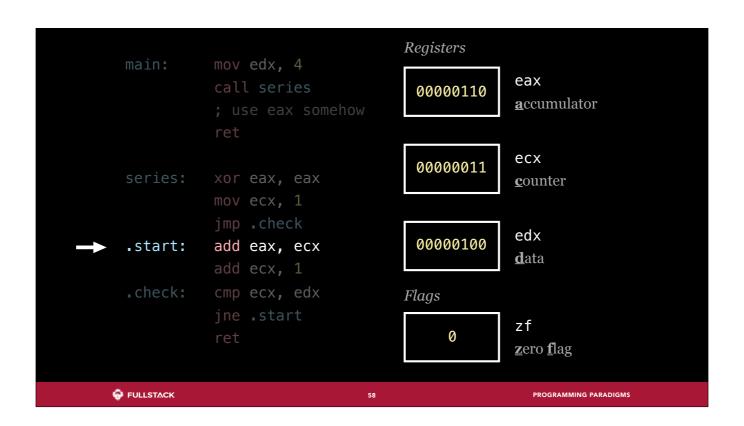
Check if i == n. Not yet.



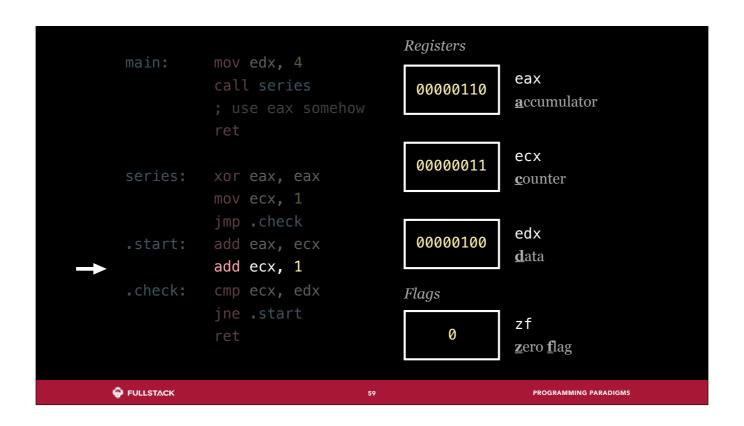
So jump again!



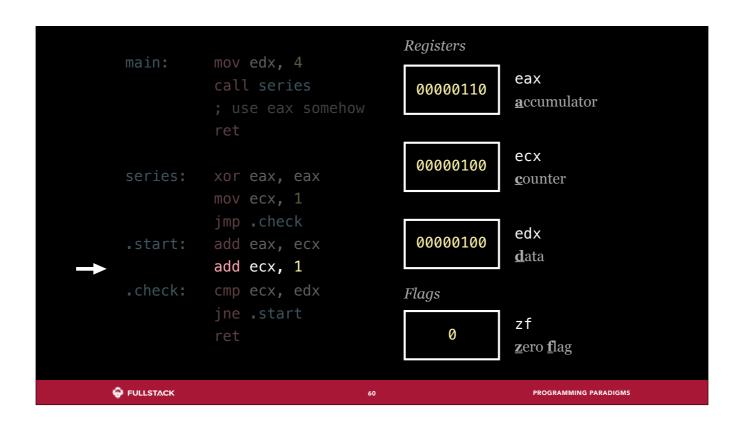
Adding i to sum,



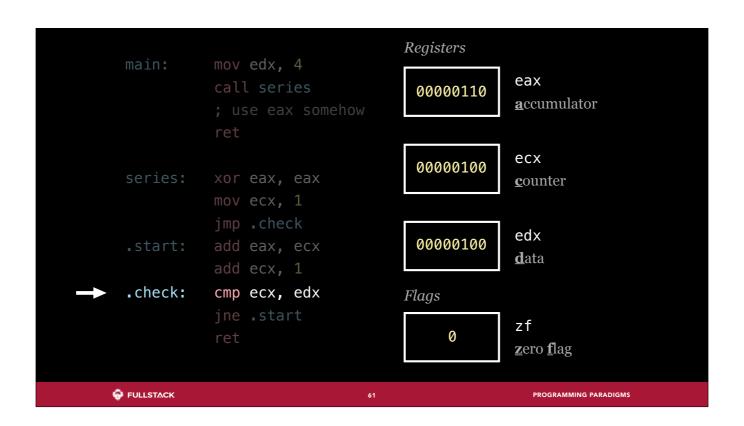
we now have 6 in sum.



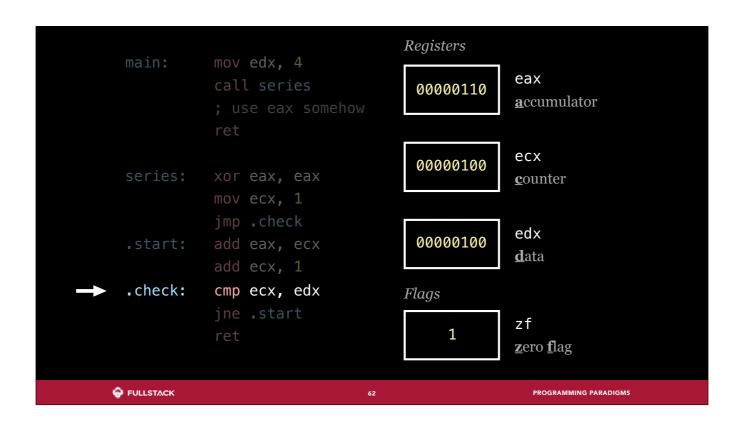
Incrementing i...



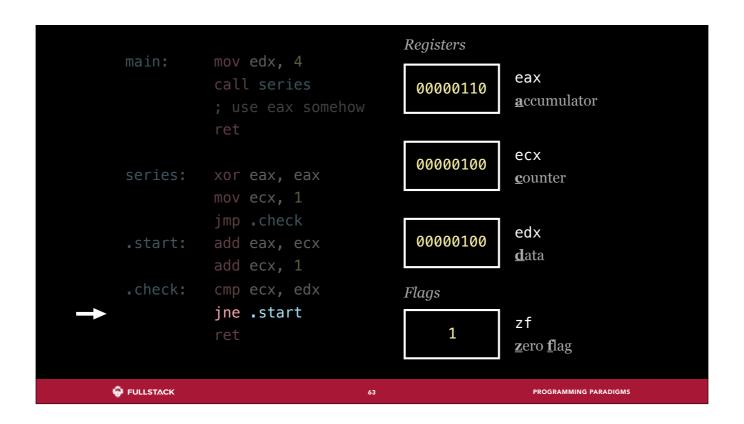
which is now 4.



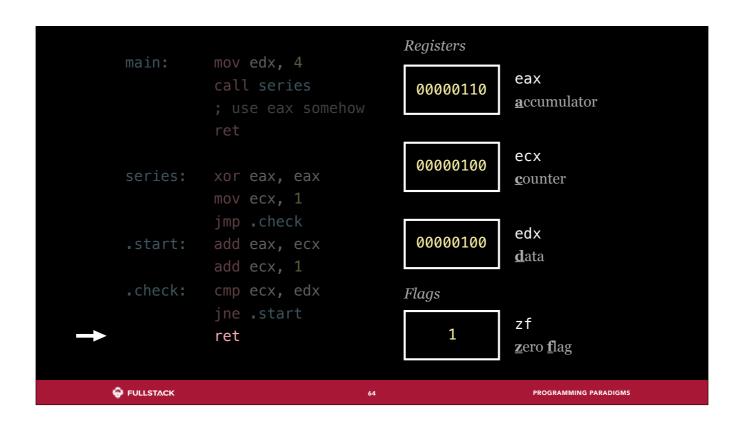
Uh oh, i == n, so...



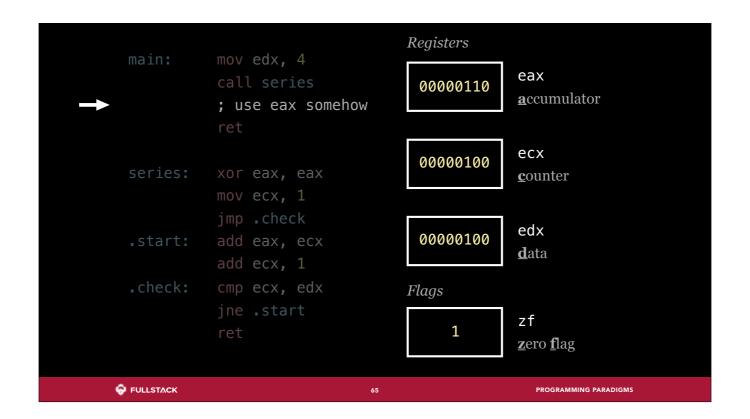
...the zero flag is turned on.



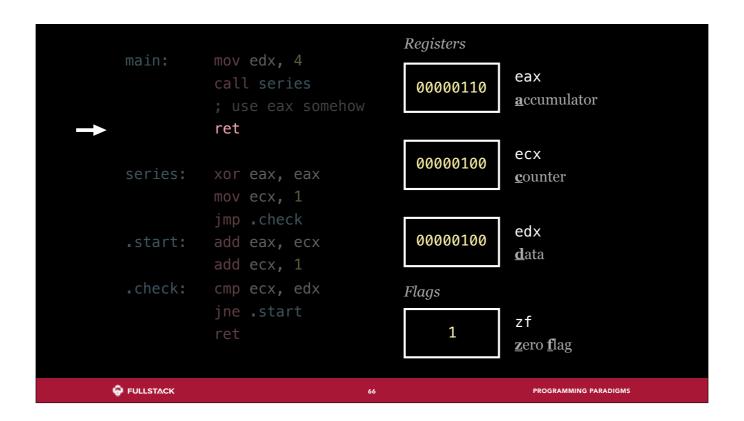
This time the jump doesn't occur!



And our series function ends.



We set the accumulator register with the results of the function call, so our calling function can use it. Maybe it'll print it to STDOUT? Who knows.



Eventually, the program terminates, yielding control to the OS.

```
x86 Assembly
                                 int series(int n) {
series: xor eax, eax
                                     int sum = 0;
         mov ecx, 1
                                     for (int i = 1; i != n; i++) {
         jmp .check
         add eax, ecx
                                         sum += i;
.start:
         add ecx, 1
.check:
         cmp ecx, edx
                                     return sum;
         jne .start
         ret
                                 int main(void) {
         mov edx, 4
main:
                                     int res = series(4);
         call series
                                     // use res (= 6) somehow
         ; use eax somehow
                                 }
         ret
      FULLSTACK
                                                    PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

```
x86 Assembly
                                                  C
                                 int series(int n) {
series:
         xor eax, eax
                                     int sum = 0;
         mov ecx, 1
         jmp .check
         add eax, ecx
                                         sum += i;
.start:
         add ecx, 1
.check:
         cmp ecx, edx
                                     return sum;
         jne .start
         ret
         mov edx, 4
                                 int main(void) {
main:
                                     int res = series(4);
         call series
                                     // use res (= 6) somehow
         ; use eax somehow
         ret
      FULLSTACK
                                                     PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

Here we color-code how each C statement can be expressed via one or more assembly statements.

- * What part of the C code requires the most assembly code to express?
- * What are some things C gives you that assembly evidently does not?

```
Variables are scoped
                                                         Blocks for control flow
          Registers are global
                                    int series(int n) {
series:
          xor eax, eax ◀
                                        int sum = 0;
          mov ecx, 1
                                         for (int i = 1; i != n; i++) {
          jmp .check ←
          add eax, ecx
                                          ▶ sum += i;
.start:
          add ecx, 1
          cmp ecx, edx
.check:
                                         return sum;
          jne .start ←
          ret 6010 for control flow
                                    int main(void) {
          mov edx, 4
main:
                                        int res = series(4);
          call series
                                        // use res (= 6) somehow
         ; use eax somehow
                                             - Types for correctness
          ret
      FULLSTACK
                                                         PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

Some differences: in assembly, you have access to all the memory, all the time. C introduces scopes which prevent access to out-of-scope variables. C also has types to enforce correctness, and blocks for easier control flow.

```
Mutate State
                                   int series(int n) {
series:
          xor eax, eax
          mov ecx, 1
                                       int sum = 0;
          jmp .check
                                       for (int i = 1; i != n; i++) {
          add eax, ecx 🔸
                                        → sum += i;
.start:
          add ecx, 1 👉
          cmp ecx, edx
.check:
                                       return sum;
          jne .start ⁴
                      Specify Op Order
          ret
                                   int main(void) {
          mov edx, 4
main:
                                       int res = series(4);
          call series
                                       // use res (= 6) somehow
          ; use eax somehow
                                   }
          ret
      FULLSTACK
                                                       PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

Some similarities: in both Assembly and C you can (and do) mutate stateful memory in-place. You also have to do things in a particular order – changing the order of statements affects the meaning of the program since the code is stateful.



Dijkstra is credited with very many things in CS, including coining "structured programming" and influencing its adoption. His letter on GOTO was published under the heading "go-to statement considered harmful", the origin of that popular expression in programming.

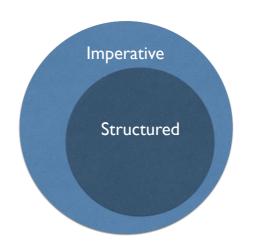
...its title, which became a cornerstone of my fame by becoming a template: we would see all sorts of articles under the title "X considered harmful" for almost any X, including one titled "Dijkstra considered harmful". But what had happened? I had submitted a paper under the title "A case against the goto statement", which, in order to speed up its publication, the editor had changed into a "letter to the Editor", and in the process he had given it a new title of his own invention! The editor was Niklaus Wirth.

Imperative

- Instruct the machine what to do
- Specify exact order of operations
- Mutate state (often direct memory)

Structured

- Blocks for control flow
- Branching: if/then/else, switch/case
- teration: do/while/for

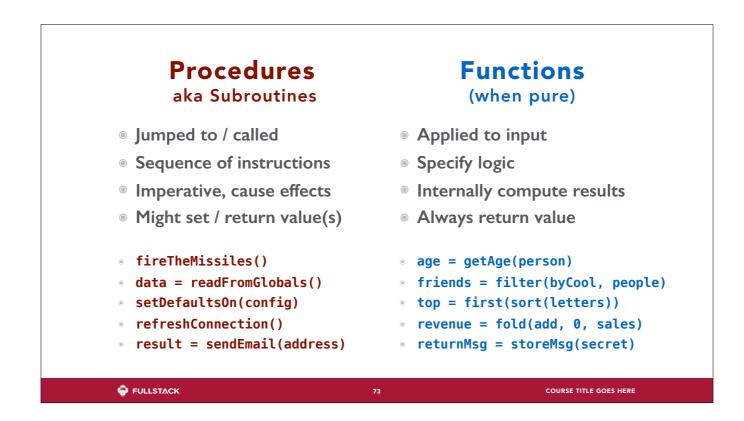


*These are simplifications, and many definitions vary in scope & detail

FULLSTACK

72

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Functions are form of procedure. But pure functions are usually contrasted with procedures on the basis of being declarative and effect-free, vs. imperative and effect-causing. Notice that a pure function **must** receive input(s) and **must** return result(s). Whereas, a procedure might not do either, since it can read from and write to the environment.



We are going to take a (very quick!) look at two other paradigms: declarative & object-oriented.

Declare What/Logic (Not How/Sequence) Example **Omitted Implementation** Layer How does this get rendered as formatted text? <h1>Hello, World</h1> **HTML** How is the size / position / color calculated? How transmitted? Where is the data stored? GET /api/users/1 **HTTP** What sequence of steps to retrieve it? Loop? Filter columns? Where is "users" in GET name, age FROM users LIMIT 10 SQL memory? How is this optimized? How does this actually work? What would the /^.+@.+\$/ (too-simple email regex) RegEx code look like that finds this match? What is the algorithm to compute this? Does it Pure function call nthFibonacci(99) use recursion? Loops? Lookup table? Which sub-expressions need to be calculated -3 + 7 * 2 / (1 - 9)Math expression first? What temp vars are needed? FULLSTACK PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

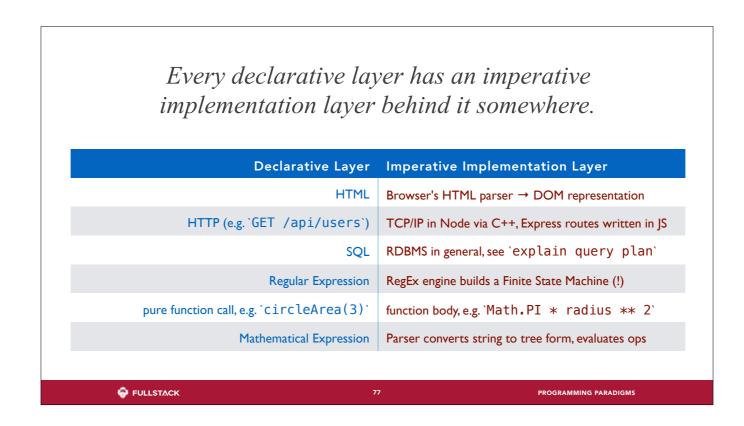
Declarative languages break completely away from instructions. Declarations instead specify logical relationships or desired results, but none of the implementation details per se.

Every declarative layer has an imperative implementation layer behind it somewhere.



76

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Human beings are much better at expressing what we want than rigorously figuring out how to make it happen. Declarative languages support that, but only because some system somewhere is capable of digesting the declaration and transforming it into a sequence of steps to perform.

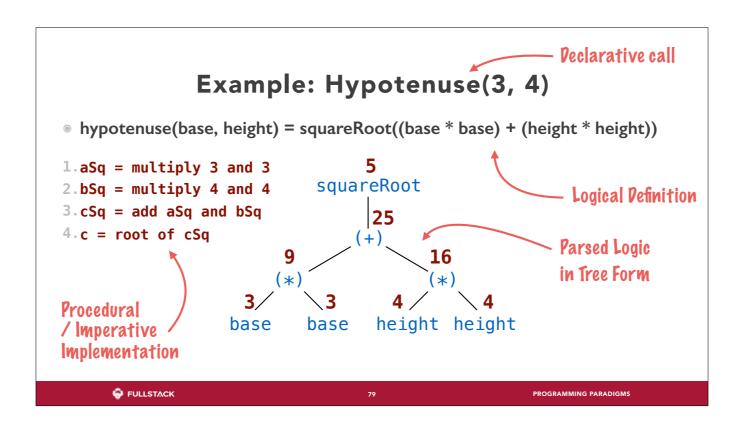
Programs as Evaluations of a Tree

- System figures out order of operations for you
- No direct mutation of state, only descriptions of relationships
- BUT HOW DOES IT WORK? ...Someone wrote a fancy compiler, that's how. It all becomes step-by-step instructions in the end.

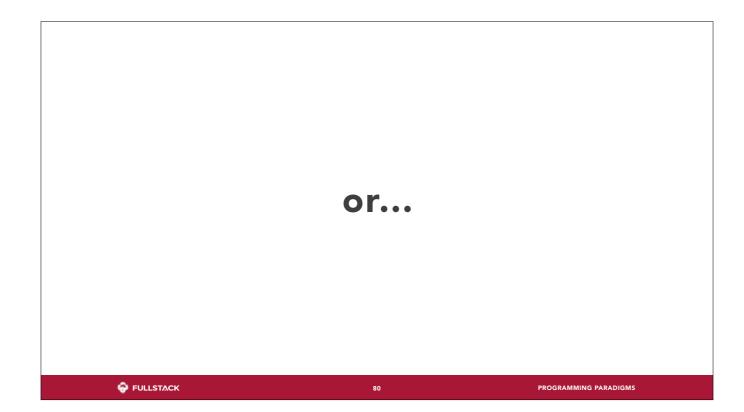
FULLSTACK

78

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Let's see a quick concrete example.



Example: Hypotenuse(3, 4)

• hypotenuse(base, height) = squareRoot((base * base) + (height * height))

```
1.aSq = multiply 4 and 4
2.bSq = multiply 3 and 3
3.cSq = add aSq and bSq
4.c = root of cSq

9

16

(*)

3

4

base base height height
```

FULLSTACK

81

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

function call

function definition

procedural implementation

$$sqrt(3^2 + 4^2)$$
(parsed as)

$$3 \cdot cSq = add aSq and bSq$$

$$4.c = root of cSq$$

(or)

$$3.cSq = add aSq and bSq$$

$$4 \cdot c = root \ of \ cSq$$

Paradigm: Object-Oriented

(super-duper condensed version)



83

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

In Short: Data + Methods = Object

- © Combine state and behavior into a template for values
- Solves issues of code organization and message passing
- & Object-Oriented = Objects + Inheritance & Polymorphism
- We Huge field with many sub-fields & variations
- Many patterns ("Gang of Four") and best practices / pitfalls
- Marketed as reflecting real world interactive entities
- Traditionally seen as contrary to functional, but partly because OOP is associated with mutable state

S FULLSTACK 84 PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

We are not going to focus on OOP for this lecture as it is a giant topic which won't really be necessary to appreciate or contrast against upcoming FP topics. A bigger split is FP vs. Imperative, hence why we focused on it.



What about doing this in a (drumroll) FUNCTIONAL way?

Introduction to Functional Programming

Equational Reasoning · Pure Functions · Composition



Today we're going to begin by discussing broad categories or styles of programming languages, called paradigms.

FP in a Nutshell

- M Functions everywhere (naturally)
- Pure functions only (input → function → output, no effects)
- Equational reasoning / referential transparency (easier to use)
- First-class / higher-order functions (code uses / produces code)
- ♥ Currying and partial application (general-purpose → specific)
- \(\lambda\) Mathematical foundations (lambda calculus, category theory)

FULLSTACK

.

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

We will see more on these, this is to give you a taste of what's to come.

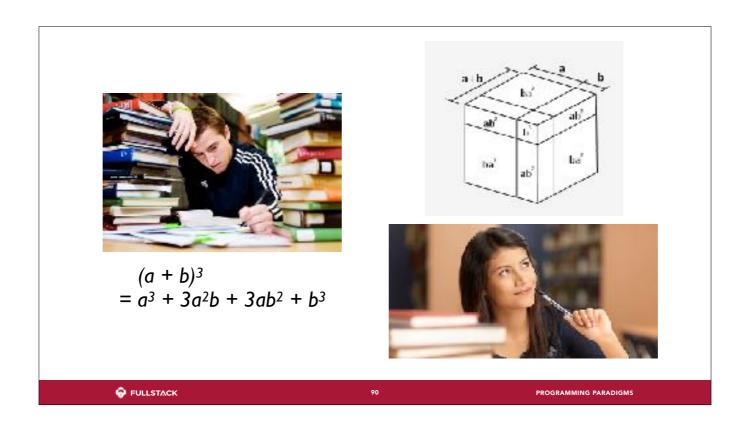
- * Composition = seamlessly combining small things into bigger things
- * Purity = same output for same input + no effects
- * Referential transparency = function call can be replaced with value, no change in meaning
- * First-class / HoF = functions are values, and functions can take and/or return functions
- * Currying / partial application = give function only some args, returns a "prebaked" function waiting for more
- * Immutable = cannot alter, can only generate new versions (which may share data)
- * Lambda calc = basis of FP, category theory = wellspring of applicable composition patterns

FP Motivations

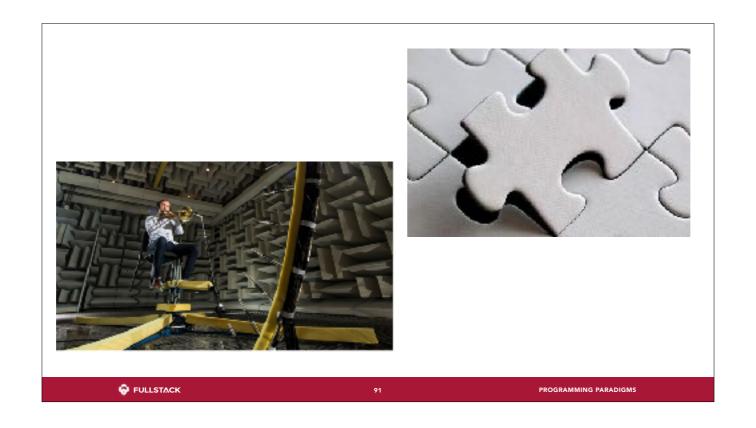
Feature(s)	Benefit(s)
Many functions, composition, higher-order, currying	Seamlessly derive new code from old, maximum interop btw. program pieces
Pure functions, immutability, no side effects, no state mutation	Equational reasoning, reduce mental scope, make bugs impossible, enable optimizations
Mathematical underpinnings (lambda calculus, category theory)	Universal concepts, provable approaches, static analysis tools, clever tech
	8 PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS



Now, some fair warning...



Most people learn to code imperatively. C, C++, Java, Python, Ruby, JavaScript etc. all support or even emphasize it. FP often therefore seems like a weird "alternative" different from "normal" code. This is due to <u>unfamiliarity</u>, not intrinsic truth. FP in some ways predates imperative code, & many functional languages (e.g. Lisp/Scheme, F#, OCaml, Haskell) are used in practice. With familiarity, FP makes as much (some might say more) sense than imperative code.



FP makes it easier to think about just one problem at a time, because a function only ever take in input and returns output. That makes the function usable everywhere and anywhere, and you can change its implementation at will. FP also makes it easier to assemble programs by combining small pieces together into larger, more complicated pieces.

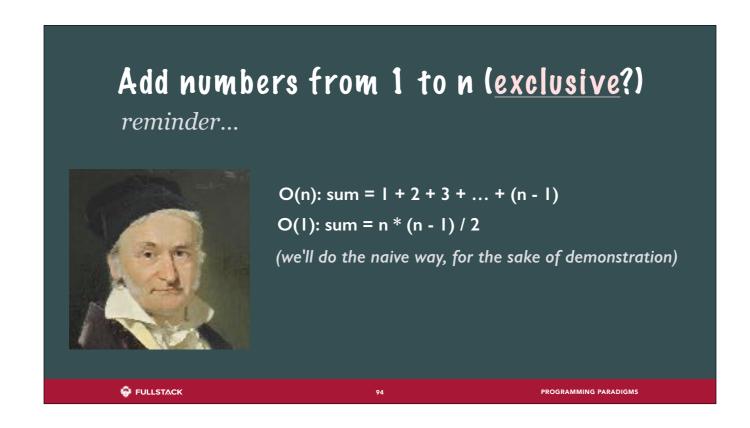
Is this code imperative or declarative?

Are there any bugs?

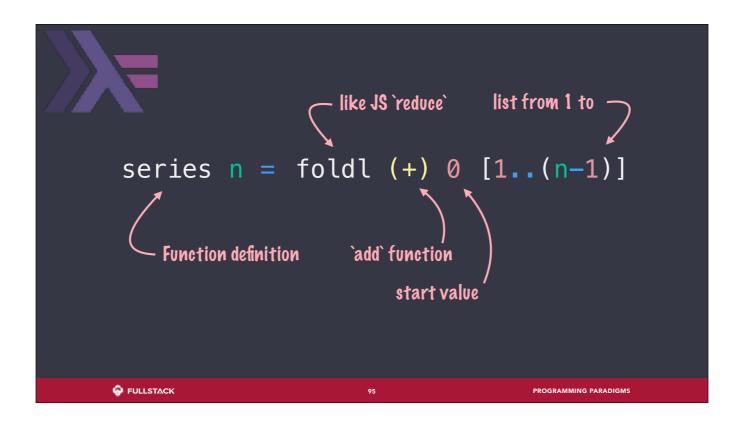
What does this code actually do? Does it sort ascending or descending? Whats' the purpose of `seenAlready`?

```
const R = require('ramda')
const processEntriesFunctional = R.pipe(
    R.sort(R.descend(R.prop('Date Created'))),
    R.uniqBy(R.prop('Your Name'))
)
```

Is this code imperative or declarative?
Are there any bugs?
What does this code actually do?



Just as a reminder, we tackled this problem earlier.



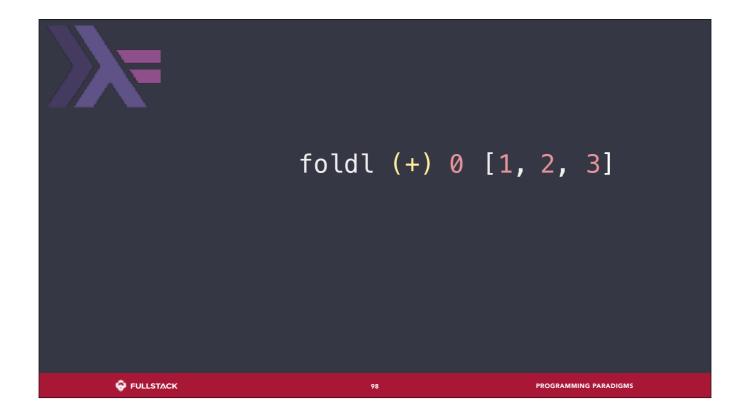
Here is an example of the "series" function written in Haskell (a lazily evaluated pure functional language with type inference).

```
series 4 = foldl(+) 0 [1..(4-1)]

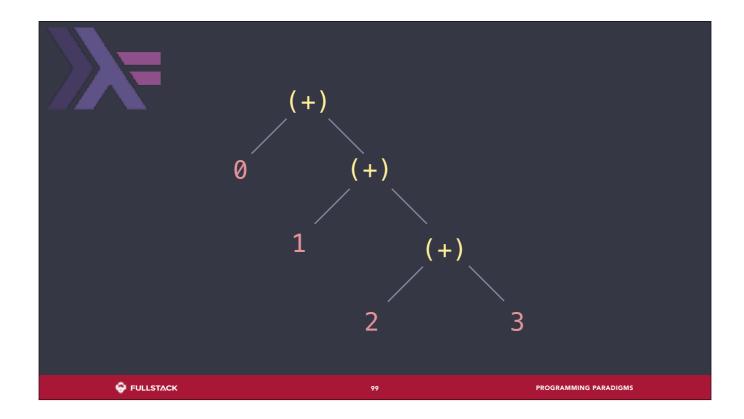
PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS
```

When we substitute `4` in as our argument, (next page)

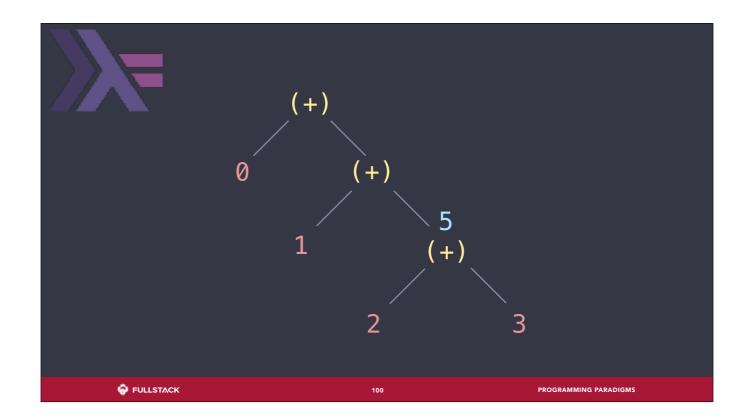
...our list expands...



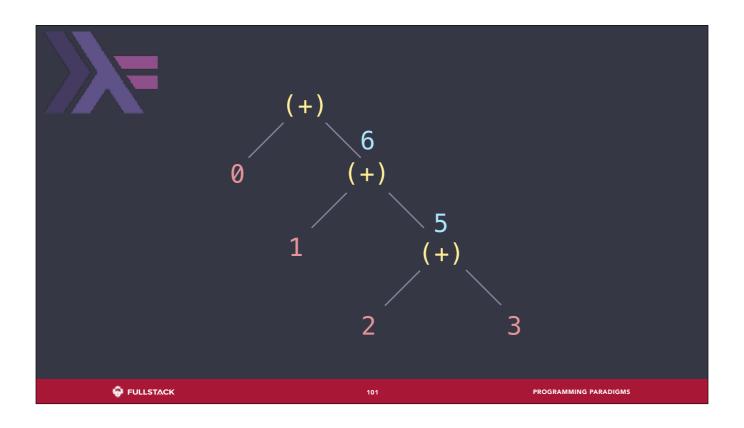
...and our function application looks like this. `foldl` is a left-associative list fold – that is, very similar to JS `reduce`.

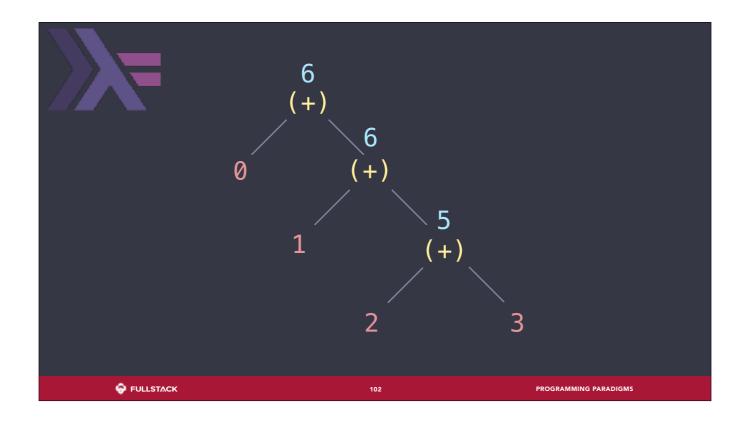


Expanded out, it uses a start value (0) as an accumulation, and recursively applies a function (+) to elements of the list.

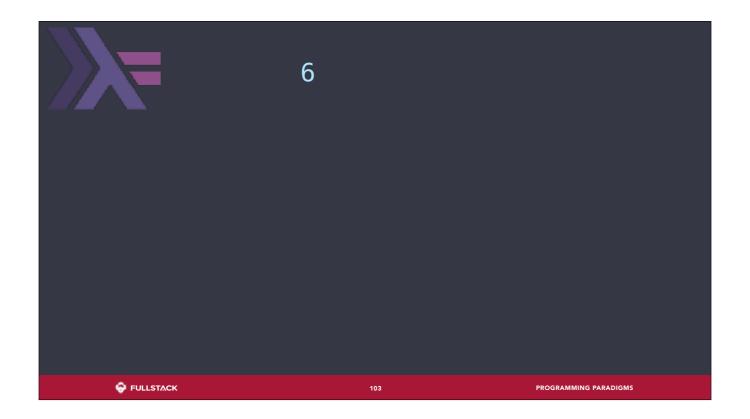


It can then evaluate this tree from the bottom nodes up,





...producing the final value for this expression: 6.



And that's the result of our function call!

Case Study: Mergesort

- Split list in half
- Recursively sort each half
- Merge sorted halves into sorted list
 - Take smaller of the two leading elements
 - Keep doing that until nothing left to take

FULLSTACK

104

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

Merge sort! You remember this, right? Here it is in Haskell. It's not important to fully understand Haskell syntax, but try to get a sense of the flavor.

```
mergesort [] = []
mergesort [x] = [x]
mergesort xs = merge (mergesort left) (mergesort right)
where (left, right) = splitAt midpoint xs
midpoint = length xs 'quot' 2

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorting anything else =
'merge' sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge sorted left' with sorted right'

Merge
```

```
mergesort [] = [] 'left' and 'right' are results of splitting at 'midpoint'

mergesort [x] = [x]

mergesort xs = merge (mergesort left) (mergesort right)

where (left, right) = splitAt midpoint xs

midpoint = length xs 'quot' 2

Built-in, but not hard to define

merge [] ys = ys

merge xs [] = xs

merge (x:xs) (y:ys) = if x <= y

then x : merge xs (y:ys)

else y : merge (x:xs) ys

sorted = mergesort [4, 2, 6, 9, 1] -- [1, 2, 4, 6, 9]
```

So why show you this snippet of Haskell?

Functional programming uses lots of **functions** (obviously). Even some things you may not think of as functions, e.g. operators (==, <) are actually functions.

```
mergesort [] = []
mergesort [x] = [x]

mergesort xs = merge (mergesort left) (mergesort right)
where (left, right) = splitAt midpoint xs
midpoint = length xs `quot` 2

merge [] ys = ys
merge xs [] = xs
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) = if x <= y
then x : merge xs (y:ys)
else y : merge (x:xs) ys

sorted = mergesort [4, 2, 6, 9, 1]
```

Functions **produce values**. They **do not** "do actions" or cause things to change; every expression yields some data, and effects nothing else. This separates **functions** from **procedures**. Even "if-then-else" produces a value, i.e. it's the same as a ternary in JS. Expressions are built out of nested sub-expressions.

Things are specified more in terms of <u>what they are</u> or <u>their relationships</u>, less in terms of <u>instructions to perform</u>. This gives **functional** programming a lot of overlap with **declarative** programming.

```
mergesort [] = []
mergesort [x] = [x]
mergesort xs = merge (mergesort left) (mergesort right)
where (left, right) = splitAt midpoint xs
midpoint = length xs `quot` 2

merge [] ys = ys
merge xs [] = xs
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) = if x <= y
then x : merge xs (y:ys)
else y : merge (x:xs) ys

sorted = mergesort [4, 2, 6, 9, 1]
```

When everything is defined in terms of its relationships, the order of code doesn't matter nearly as much – the compiler reads the entire source and figures out what order to do things in for you. In pure FP you also never change a value after it is defined; all data is immutable.

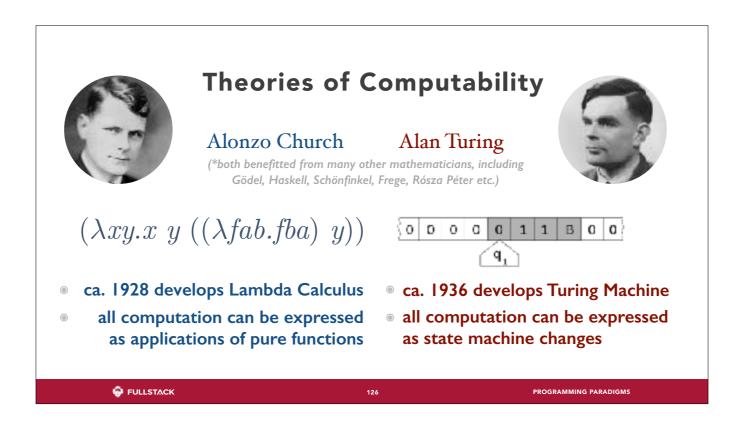
So we can modify this...

...to this...

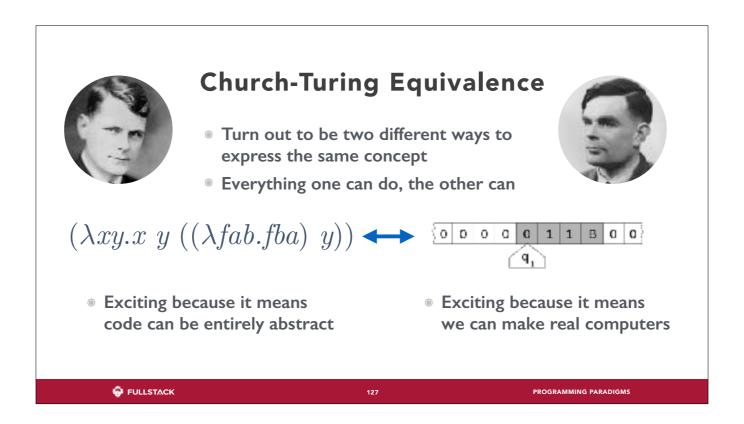
```
sorted = mergesort [4, 2, 6, 9, 1] -- [1, 2, 4, 6, 9]
                                               ...this. Still works!
merge (x:xs) (y:ys) = if x \le y
                     then x : merge xs (y:ys)
                     else y : merge (x:xs) ys
merge []
                  = ys
            ys
merge xs
           [] = xs
mergesort [x] = [x]
mergesort [] = []
mergesort xs = merge (mergesort left) (mergesort right)
               where midpoint
                                  = length xs `quot` 2
                     (left, right) = splitAt midpoint xs
```

...and even this, and it all still works perfectly. (Note, some order still matters, e.g. arguments & pattern matching – but it is still a lot less order).



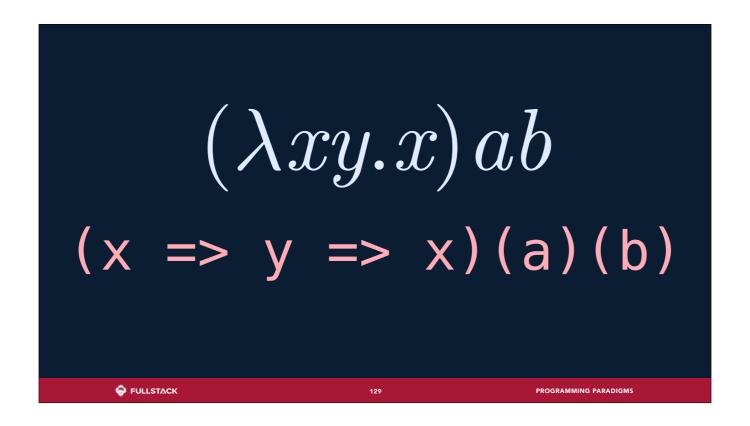


In the 1920s/30s, mathematicians were building on earlier efforts to define the very foundations of rigorous logic. One branch, computability theory, was more or less defined by Alonzo Church and Alan Turing. Church first developed Lambda Calculus, and Turing later published Turing Machines.



It turned out that both were identically powerful / totally equivalent systems, expressed quite differently. Turing Machines get a lot of press because they are a hypothetical machine which can compute anything; from his work, people developed real computers. LC however is exciting because it has no concept of state; it is entirely abstracted away from any notion of machine.

LC has been called the world's smallest programming language. Here it is, in its entirety. This alone is capable of computing anything – including arithmetic and branching logic.



Lambda calculus has only a few rules. Everything in it is functions. No numbers, no booleans, no nothing. Only functions (and purely abstract variables, which might stand for functions). A "lambda" really just means a **unary**, **anonymous pure first-class function**.



Gabriel L. says: I have a talk on this which I do sometimes (or it is also recorded on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VQ382QG-y4).

LISP (Began in 1950s!)

• Later dialects include Common LISP, Scheme, Clojure etc.

FULLSTACK

131

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS

(remaining code was live demo'd) (slides still under construction)



132

PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS