Haskell Workshop Writing your first Haskell programm

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RELEX Solutions Dev Day

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The Goal

Develop a complete Haskell program that converts CSV data to JSON.



The Data

```
1 "Constituency", "Party", "Sex", "Average age"
 2 "Helsinki constituency", "KOK", "Men", 47.6
 3 "Helsinki constituency", "KOK", "Women", 49.4
 4 "Helsinki constituency", "SDP", "Men", 48.0
 5 "Helsinki constituency", "SDP", "Women", 46.1
 6 "Helsinki constituency", "PS", "Men", 46.9
7 "Helsinki constituency", "PS", "Women", 43.1
8 "Helsinki constituency", "KESK", "Men", 44.0
 9 "Helsinki constituency", "KESK", "Women", 46.8
10 "Helsinki constituency", "VAS", "Men", 40.3
11 "Helsinki constituency", "VAS", "Women", 37.0
12 "Helsinki constituency", "VIHR", "Men", 41.8
13 "Helsinki constituency", "VIHR", "Women", 40.5
14 "Helsinki constituency", "RKP", "Men", 39.7
15 "Helsinki constituency", "RKP", "Women", 42.3
16 "Helsinki constituency", "KD", "Men", 42.8
17 "Helsinki constituency", "KD", "Women", 47.1
```

The Plan

- 1) Haskell Development Environment
- 2) Hello World and some Syntax
- 3) The Data Model
- 4) Data Transformation
- 5) Connecting to the Outside
- 6) Conclusion



The Haskell Development Environment

Setting up your environment

- Go to the Github repo for the workshop (https://github.com/relex/haskell-workshop)
- Clone it locally
- Go to workshop1/Exercise.md
- Complete "Set up tooling" section



Stack

- One of Haskell's build tools.
- To build a project: stack build
- To access the REPL: stack repl

```
Note: Enabling Nix integration, as it is required under NixOS
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Building all executables for `workshopl' once. After a successful build of all of them, only specifi
ed executables will be rebuilt.
workshop1-0.1.0.0: initial-build-steps (exe)
The following GHC options are incompatible with GHCi and have not been passed to it: -threaded
Configuring GHCi with the following packages: workshop1
Using main module: 1. Package `workshop1' component exe:workshop1-exe with main-is file: /home/nic/D
ocuments/haskell-workshop/workshop1/src/Main.hs
GHCi, version 8.4.4: http://www.haskell.org/ghc/ :? for help
[1 of 1] Compiling Main (/home/nic/Documents/haskell-workshop/workshop1/src/Main.hs, in
terpreted )
Ok, one module loaded.
Loaded GHCi configuration from /run/user/1000/haskell-stack-ghci/3a980dcd/ghci-script
*Main>
```

Hello Syntax



Playing with the REPL

- Useful tool to try out parts of your program
- Extensively used in the workshop



Hello World

- Open src/Main.hs
- Run in the REPL by typing :main

```
main :: IO ()
main = putStrLn "Hello World!"
```

- main is special:
 - Present in every Haskell executable
 - No function arguments
 - Entry point for all IO action
- Change the text and run it in the REPL



Functions and Types

- The primary way of defining computation is with functions
- Types describe the inputs and outputs of functions
- Types are **enforced** by the compiler

```
identity :: Int -> Int
identity x = x

hello :: String -> String
hello name = "Hello, " ++ name

addInt :: Int -> Int -> Int
addInt x y = x + y
```

Add these ^ to a file and try them out!

A First Function

- A function that converts (some) integers to words
- Pattern matching

```
intToWord :: Int -> String
intToWord 1 = "one"
intToWord 2 = "two"
intToWord 3 = "three"
intToWord _ = "dunno"
```

- _ means "for every other value"
- Try and write wordToInt :: String -> Int

Polymorphic Types

- Some functions have the same behaviour for values of different types
 - E.g. the identity function
- Can generalise functions by using type variables

```
identity :: a -> a
identity x = x
```

Can also constrain the type variables

```
add :: Num a => a -> a -> a add x y = x + y
```

These constraints can be defined using type classes



Composition

- Using the output of one function as the input of another function:
 "chaining functions together"
- Use the dot operator for composition
- $h(x) = g(f(x)) \Longrightarrow g \circ f$

```
f :: Int -> String
f x = intToWord x
g :: String -> Int
g x = wordToInt x
h :: Int. -> Int.
h = g \cdot f
(.) :: (b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow c
(.) fgx = g(fx)
```

The Data Model



Goal

- Create a data structure that accurately models the data
- Introduce Maybe
- Introduce Lists

Approach

- Define a model for a single row of data (an average candidate)
- Apply this model to all the rows



A Single Candidate

```
1 "Constituency", "Party", "Sex", "Average age"
2 "Helsinki constituency", "KOK", "Men", 47.6
3 "Helsinki constituency", "KOK", "Women", 49.4
4 "Helsinki constituency", "SDP", "Men", 48.0
5 "Helsinki constituency", "SDP", "Women", 46.1
6 "Helsinki constituency", "PS", "Men", 46.9
7 "Helsinki constituency", "PS", "Women", 43.1
8 "Helsinki constituency", "KESK", "Men", 44.0
```

- A candidate has 4 attributes:
 - constituency
 - party
 - sex
 - average age
- Need a way of grouping these together



Data Types

A simple data type:

```
data Person = MakePerson
{ name :: String
, age :: Int
} deriving Show
```

- Person is the type being defined
- MakePerson is the constructor function
 - Usually the same as the type
- name, age are fields with associated types
- deriving Show allows the use of the show function
 - show converts structure to a string

Working with Data Types

Creating a new data type:

```
MakePerson :: String -> Int -> Person
```

Accessing the data type:

name :: Person -> String
age :: Person -> Int

```
*Main> let neo = MakePerson "Neo (The One)" 34
*Main> neo
MakePerson {name = "Neo (The One)", age = 34}
*Main> name neo
"Neo (The One)"
*Main> age neo
34
*Main>
```

The Maybe Type

- What happens if we cannot parse a candidate?
- Need some way to represent an invalid row:

```
data Maybe a = Nothing | Just a
```

- Maybe is the type being defined
- a is a type variable (could be any type)
- Nothing, Just are both constructors
 - Nothing :: Maybe a
 - Just :: a -> Maybe a



The List Type

- How do we represent a list of candidates?
- Use singly-linked lists:
 - [] is the empty list
 - : lets you append values to the front
 - [a,b,c] == (a : b : c : [])

```
*Main> (1 : 2 : 3 : [])
[1,2,3]

*Main> 10 : [1,2,3]
[10,1,2,3]

*Main> [1 .. 10]
[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]

*Main> ("I'm" : "in" : "a" : "list" : [])
["I'm","in","a","list"]

*Main> |
```

• Define our basic candidate type

```
data Candidate = Candidate
{ ...
} deriving Show
```

```
"Constituency", "Party", "Sex", "Average age"
"Helsinki constituency", "KOK", "Men", 47.6
```

Define our basic candidate type

```
data Candidate = Candidate
  { constituency :: String
  , party :: String
  , sex :: String
  , averageAge :: Double
  } deriving Show
```

Define our basic candidate type

```
data Candidate = Candidate
{ constituency :: String
, party :: String
, sex :: String
, averageAge :: Double
} deriving Show
```

Add a notion of failure

• Define our basic candidate type

Add a notion of failure

```
type DataModel = Maybe Candidate
```

Define our basic candidate type

Add a notion of failure

```
type DataModel = Maybe Candidate
```

Create a list of candidates

Define our basic candidate type

Add a notion of failure

```
type DataModel = Maybe Candidate
```

Create a list of candidates

```
type DataModel = [Maybe Candidate]
```

Data Transformation

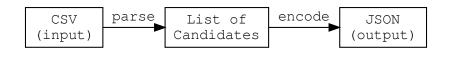


Goal

- Write some functions to:
 - Convert CSV into data model
 - Convert data model into JSON
- Demonstrate power of Generic
- Introduce map

Approach

- Write a function parseLine :: CSVLine -> Maybe Candidate
- Write a function parseFile :: CSV -> DataModel
- Specialise a function encode :: DataModel -> JSONByteString
- Apply these to every row



Writing parseLine :: CSVLine -> Maybe Candidate

```
type CSVLine = String -- type alias
parseLine :: CSVLine -> Maybe Candidate
parseLine line = makeCandidate undefined
makeCandidate :: [String] -> Maybe Candidate
makeCandidate fields = undefined
```

fromMaybeAge

- :: (Double -> Candidate)
- -> Maybe Double
- -> Maybe Candidate

fromMaybeAge partialCandidate maybeAge = undefined

Hints:

- Data.List.Split.split0n splits a list on the specified character
- readMaybe decodes a double from a string (may fail) Nicolas Audinet (RELEX Solutions Dev Day)

Writing parseLine :: CSVLine -> Maybe Candidate

Our solution:

```
parseLine :: CSVLine -> Maybe Candidate
parseLine line = makeCandidate (splitOn ',' line)
makeCandidate :: [String] -> Maybe Candidate
makeCandidate [c, p, s, a] =
  fromMaybeAge (Candidate c p s) (readMaybe a)
makeCandidate = Nothing
fromMaybeAge
  :: (Double -> Candidate)
  -> Maybe Double
  -> Maybe Candidate
fromMaybeAge partialCandidate Nothing = Nothing
fromMaybeAge partialCandidate (Just a) = Just (partialCandidate a)
```

Stripping Quotes

```
stripQ :: String -> String
stripQ = undefined
where
   leftStrip :: String -> String
   leftStrip ('"' : xs) = xs
   leftStrip xs = xs

rightStrip :: String -> String
   rightStrip = undefined
```

Hints:

- Use leftStrip and reverse to implement rightStrip
- Use leftStrip and rightStrip to implement stripQ
- reverse reverses items in a list
- where used to define local functions



Stripping Quotes

Our solution:

```
stripQ :: String -> String
stripQ = leftStrip . rightStrip
where
   leftStrip :: String -> String
   leftStrip ('"' : xs) = xs
   leftStrip xs = xs

rightStrip :: String -> String
   rightStrip = reverse . leftStrip . reverse
```

• Point-free style: composition FTW!

Improving parseLine

Using stripQ to improve makeCandidate

```
makeCandidate :: [String] -> Maybe Candidate
makeCandidate [c, p, s, a] =
  fromMaybeAge (Candidate c' p' s') (readMaybe a)
  where
    c' = stripQ c
    p' = stripQ p
    s' = stripQ s
makeCandidate = Nothing
```

The map function

- How do we apply parseLine to every row?
- Use map, a higher-order function
 - Takes two inputs: a function and a list.
 - Applies the function to every item in the list

```
map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
map f [] = []
map f (x:xs) = f x : map f xs
```

Defined using recursion



Writing parseFile :: CSV -> DataModel

We are ready to write the full parser function:

```
type CSV = String
type DataModel = [Maybe Candidate]
parseFile :: CSV -> DataModel
parseFile = undefined
```

Try and use point-free style

Writing parseFile :: CSV -> DataModel

Our solution:

```
parseFile :: CSV -> DataModel
parseFile = map parseLine . tail . lines
```



Specializing encode :: DataModel -> JSONByteString

```
{-# LANGUAGE DeriveGeneric #-}
main Main where
import GHC.Generics
import qualified Data.Aeson as JSON
import qualified Data.ByteString.Lazy as B
data Candidate = Candidate
 { . . .
 } deriving (Show, Generic)
instance Aeson, ToJSON Candidate
```

- Language extensions expand the Haskell language
- Data. Aeson provides encoding to and from JSON
- Data.ByteString.Lazy provides efficient binary strings



Specializing encode :: DataModel -> JSONByteString

type JSONByteString = ByteString

- encode outputs efficient binary strings
- Try it out in the REPL!

```
> :set -XDeriveGeneric
> import qualified Data.Aeson as JSON
> import qualified Data.ByteString.Lazy as BL
> let candidate = Candidate "Helsinki" "KOK" "Women" 49.4
> B.putStr (JSON.encode candidate)
{"constituency":"Helsinki","averageAge":49.4,"party":"KOK","sex":"Women"}
```

Connecting to the Outside

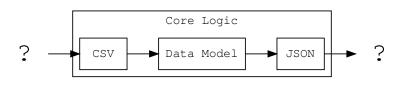


Goal

- Write a complete program!
- Introduce IO and do notation

Approach

- Introduce purity and impurity
- Write main function

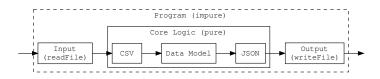


Purity in Haskell

- All functions we have written in the previous section are pure
- A pure function always returns the same output when given the same input
- This behaviour is enforced by the compiler
- Whv?
 - Code is easier to refactor and reason about
 - Interactions with the outside world are more explicit
 - Easy to test
- Pure functions cannot interact with the world
- So how do we communicate with the outside world?



- Communication with the outside handled through IO
- Impurity is **always** explicitly encoded in the types



Do notation

```
askName :: IO ()
askName = do
  putStrLn "Enter your name:"
  name <- getLine
  let reversedName = reverse name
  putStrLn ("Your name reversed: " ++ reversedName)</pre>
```

- putStrLn prints a string
- getLine gets a line of input from the user
- Do blocks are a special Haskell syntax impure programming
 - Always start with the do keyword
 - Functions executed top-to-bottom
 - Return values stored in local variables using (<-)
 - let used for pure computation



Read / Write

```
convert :: String -> IO ()
convert filename = do
  undefined
```

- readFile returns the contents of a file as a String
- B.writeFile writes a ByteString to a file

Read / Write

Our Solution:

```
convert :: String -> I0
convert filename = do
    csv <- readFile filename
    let json = JSON.encode (parseFile csv)
    B.writeFile "output.json" json</pre>
```

The Complete App

Get the filename from the arguments:

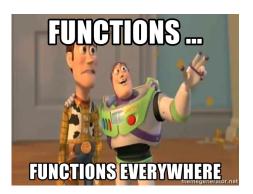
• And we have a complete Haskell app!! :D

Conclusion

Conclusion



Conclusion



- Types are useful to keep track of functions
- Abstraction makes things easier to think about
- Split problem into data model and data transformation
- Keep core logic pure, minimize IO and impurity



Challenges



Further Reading





