

Lecture 4: Higher Order Functions

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November 14, 2016



HIGHER ORDER FUNCTIONS

The order of a function



Definition

- A first order function is a function whose input and output are not functions.
- A function has order n + 1 if its input or output contain a function of maximum order n
- A function with order $n \ge 2$ is a **higher order function**

The order of a function



•
$$f :: Num \ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a$$

 $f \ x = x + 5$

What order does this function have?

- is a **first order** function, since neither the input nor the output of the function is a function.
- add :: Num $a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow a)$ add x y = x + y

What order does this function have?

- It is a second order function, since it returns a first order function.
- add' :: $Num \ a \Rightarrow (a, a) \rightarrow a$ $add' \ (x, y) = x + y$

What order does this function have?

• It is a **first order** function

Why are higher order functions useful? Why are higher order functions useful?



Let's say that we want to sum all the even numbers in a list. If we have just learned about recursive list algorithms, we would likely end up with a function like

```
sumEvens :: [Int] \rightarrow Int

sumEvens [] = 0

sumEvens (x : xs) | even x = x + sumEvens xs

sumEvens (x : xs) | otherwise = sumEvens xs
```

If later, we are told to sum all the odd numbers as well

```
sumOdds :: [Int] \rightarrow Int

sumOdds [] = 0

sumOdds (x : xs) | odd x = x + sumOdds xs

sumOdds (x : xs) | otherwise = sumOdds xs
```

That's quite a lot of code for a simple problem!

Why are higher order functions useful?



A different approach is to use **higher order functions** from Haskell's standard library, to solve the problem. In this problem we use the higher order function *filter*:

```
sumEvens', sumOdds':: [Int] \rightarrow Int

sumEvens' = sum (filter even xs)

sumOdds' = sum (filter odd xs)
```

Less code to write, and less code to debug.

Why are higher order functions useful?



- A higher-order function can do much more than a "first order" one, because a part of its behaviour can be controlled by the caller.
 - We can replace many similar functions by one higher-order function, parameterised on the differences.
- Common programming idioms can be encoded as functions within the language itself.
- Domain specific languages can be defined as collections of higher-order functions.
- Algebraic properties of higher-order functions can be used to reason about programs.



LAMBDA FUNCTIONS Anonymous functions in Haskell

Lambda functions



The function definition in Haskell:

$$function param = expression$$

is internally represented by a lambda function in the compiler

function =
$$\lambda param \rightarrow expression$$

Above, the ($\lambda param \rightarrow expression$) is a lambda function. It is Haskell's way of defining *anonymous* functions, i.e. functions without a name.

When programming, we write (\param -> expression).

Lambda functions - Multiple parameters SYDDANS (UNIV.)



Several equivalent ways of defining the same function:

$$f :: Num \ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$$

$$f \ x \ y = 2 * x - y$$

$$f \ x = \lambda y \rightarrow 2 * x - y$$

$$f = \lambda x \rightarrow \lambda y \rightarrow 2 * x - y$$

$$f = \lambda x \rightarrow (\lambda y \rightarrow 2 * x - y)$$

$$f = \lambda x y \rightarrow 2 * x - y$$

Pattern matching on tuples is easily done using lambda functions also:

$$g:: Num \ a \rightarrow (a, a) \rightarrow a$$

 $g(x, y) = 2 * x - y$
 $g = \lambda(x, y) \rightarrow 2 * x - y$

Lambda functions - Pattern matching



Consider a function using pattern matching

$$sum [] = 0$$

$$sum (x:xs) = x + sum xs$$

As a lambda-function, we would define it by

$$sum = \lambda a \rightarrow \mathbf{case} \ a \ \mathbf{of}$$

$$[] \qquad \to 0$$

$$(x:xs) \to x + sum \ xs$$

This is also what the compiler does internally

Lambda functions - Guards



If you want guards

$$sign \ n \mid n < 0 = -1$$
$$\mid n \equiv 0 = 0$$
$$\mid otherwise = 1$$

but also want to write it in a lambda function, you can write

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{sign} = \lambda n \rightarrow \textbf{case} \; () \; \textbf{of} \\ \quad _ \mid n < 0 \; \rightarrow -1 \\ \quad _ \mid n \equiv 0 \rightarrow 0 \\ \quad _ \qquad \rightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

Lambda functions - Local variables



If you want local variables

roots
$$a$$
 b c | d < 0 = []
| $d \equiv 0$ = [$-b$ / ($2*a$)]
| d > 0 = [($-b$ + $sqrt$ d) / ($2*a$), ($-b$ - $sqrt$ d) / ($2*a$)]
where
 $d = b \uparrow 2 - 4*a*c$

you can use **let**-statements:





```
map :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow ([a] \rightarrow [b])
map f [] = []
map f(x:xs) = fx:map fxs
map f xs = [f x | x \leftarrow xs]
filter :: (a \rightarrow Bool) \rightarrow ([a] \rightarrow [a])
               =[]
filter p []
filter p(x:xs) \mid px = x: filter pxs
                  | otherwise = filter p xs
                               = [x \mid x \leftarrow xs, p \ x]
filter p xs
concat :: [[a]] \rightarrow [a]
concat[] = []
concat (xs : xss) = xs + concat xss
concat xss = [x \mid xs \leftarrow xss.x \leftarrow xs]
```

Identities for map



$$map \ id \ xs \equiv xs$$
 $map \ f \ (map \ g \ xs) \equiv map \ (f \circ g) \ xs$

where

$$id :: a \rightarrow a$$

 $id x = x$

and

$$(\circ) :: (b \to c) \to (a \to b) \to (a \to c)$$
$$(f \circ g) \ x = f \ (g \ x)$$

map, filter and concat: The basic primitives of list comprehensions

Just 3 functions makes it possible to express every program written using list comprehensions

$$[f \ x \mid x \leftarrow xs] \equiv map \ f \ xs$$

$$[x \mid x \leftarrow xs, p \ x] \equiv filter \ p \ xs$$

$$[e \mid Q, P] \equiv concat \ [[e \mid P] \mid Q]$$

$$[e \mid Q, x \leftarrow [d \mid P]] \equiv [e \ [x := d] \mid Q, P]$$

EXAMPLE 1

```
 [x \mid xs \leftarrow xss, \neg (null \ xs), x \leftarrow xs] 
 \equiv concat [[x \mid x \leftarrow xs] \mid xs \leftarrow xss, \neg (null \ xs)] 
 \equiv concat [xs \mid xs \leftarrow xss, \neg (null \ xs)] 
 \equiv concat (filter (\neg \circ null) \ xss)
```

map, filter and concat: The basic primitives of list comprehensions

Just 3 functions makes it possible to express every program written using list comprehensions

EXAMPLE 2

$$[y \mid xs \leftarrow xss, y \leftarrow [x * x \mid x \leftarrow xs]]$$

$$\equiv [x * x \mid xs \leftarrow xss, x \leftarrow xs]$$

$$\equiv concat [[x * x \mid x \leftarrow xs] \mid xs \leftarrow xss]$$

$$\equiv concat [map square xs \mid xs \leftarrow xss]$$

$$\equiv concat (map (map square) xss)$$

Function composition and function applications

$$(\circ) :: (b \to c) \to (a \to b) \to (a \to c)$$

$$(f \circ g) \ x = f \ (g \ x)$$

$$(\$) :: (a \to b) \to a \to b$$

$$f \$ x = f \ x$$

Identities for map



```
map (f \circ g) \equiv map f \circ map g

map f \circ concat \equiv concat \circ map (map f)

map f (xs + ys) \equiv map f xs + map f ys

map \qquad :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [b]

map \circ map \qquad :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow [[a]] \rightarrow [[b]]

map \circ map \circ map :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow [[a]] \rightarrow [[b]]
```

Identities for *filter*



```
filter p \circ filter \ q \equiv filter \ q \circ filter \ p

filter p \circ filter \ q \equiv filter \ (\lambda x \to p \ x \land q \ x)

filter p \circ concat \equiv concat \circ map \ (filter \ p)

filter p \ (xs + ys) \equiv (filter \ p \ xs) + (filter \ p \ ys)
```

The constant function *const*



$$const :: a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$$

 $const x = \setminus \rightarrow x$

Sometimes useful in combination with higher-order functions. The length-function could be defined by

$$length :: [a] \rightarrow Int$$

 $length xs = sum (map (const 1) xs)$

$$length' :: [a] \rightarrow Int$$

 $length' = sum \circ map (const 1)$

The identity function id



$$id :: a \rightarrow a$$

 $id x = x$

Sometimes useful in combination with higher-order functions.

```
or :: [Bool] \rightarrow Bool

or = \neg \circ null \circ filter id
```

```
or [True, False, False] = (\neg \circ (null \circ filter id)) [True, False, False]
= \neg ((null \circ filter id) [True, False, False])
= \neg (null (filter id [True, False, False]))
= \neg (null [True])
= \neg False
= True
```

How would we define and? $and = null \circ filter \neg$

curry, uncurry, flip



- *curry* converts a function on pairs to a curried function.
- *uncurry* converts a curried function to a function on pairs.
- *flip* flips the arguments of a function

curry
$$:: ((a,b) \to c) \to (a \to b \to c)$$

curry $f \times y = f(x,y)$
uncurry $:: (a \to b \to c) \to ((a,b) \to c)$
uncurry $f(x,y) = f \times y$
flip $:: (b \to a \to c) \to (a \to b \to c)$
flip $f \circ a \circ b = f \circ b \circ a$

We could have defined

$$zipWith f xs ys = map (uncurry f) (zip xs ys)$$

Puzzle for the break



Use only the functions above to define a function

$$swap :: (a,b) \rightarrow (b,a)$$

 $swap = ???$

Solution: (uncurry (flip (curry id)))



FOLD AND UNFOLD

Abstract away recursion



```
[] + ys = ys
                                          (x1:(x2:(x3:[]))) + ys
(x:xs) + ys = x:(xs + ys)
                                       \equiv x1 : (x2 : (x3 : ys))
concat[] = []
                                          concat (x1:(x2:(x3:[])))
concat(xs:xss) = xs + concat xss
                                       \equiv x1 + (x2 + (x3 + []))
reverse [] = []
                                          reverse (x1:(x2:(x3:[])))
reverse(x:xs) = reverse(xs + [x])
                                       \equiv (([] + [x3]) + [x2]) + [x1]
length[] = 0
                                          length (x1:(x2:(x3:[])))
length(x:xs) = 1 + length xs
                                       \equiv 1 + (1 + (1 + []))
and (x1:(x2:(x3:[])))
                                       = x1 \wedge (x2 \wedge (x3 \wedge True))
and (x:xs) = x \land and xs
```

Abstract away recursion



$$[] + ys = ys$$

$$(x:xs) + ys = x:(xs + ys)$$

$$concat [] = []$$

$$concat (xs:xss) = xs + concat xss$$

$$reverse [] = []$$

$$reverse (x:xs) = reverse xs + [x]$$

$$ion(x) = xs + concat xss$$

$$length [] = 0$$

 $length (x : xs) = 1 + length xs$

and [] = True
and
$$(x:xs) = x \land and xs$$

In general, all of the functions mentioned here are of the form

$$h[] = e$$

 $h(x:xs) = x \oplus h xs$

where e is an expression and \oplus is some binary operator. The result directly follows the structure of the list:

$$h (x1:(x2:(x3:[]))) \equiv (x1 \oplus (x2 \oplus (x3 \oplus e))))$$

Abstract away recursion



In general, all of the functions mentioned here are of the form

$$[] + ys = ys$$

$$(x:xs) + ys = x:(xs + ys)$$

$$concat [] = []$$

$$concat (xs:xss) = xs + concat xss$$

$$reverse [] = []$$

$$reverse (x : xs) = reverse xs + [x]$$

$$length [] = 0$$

 $length (x : xs) = 1 + length xs$

and [] = True
and
$$(x:xs) = x \land and xs$$

$$h[] = e$$

 $h(x:xs) = x \oplus h xs$

where e is an expression and \oplus is some binary operator.

What is e and \oplus for each of the functions on the left?

•
$$(++)$$
 :: $[a] \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a]$

• concat ::
$$[[a]] \rightarrow [a]$$

• reverse ::
$$[a] \rightarrow [a]$$

•
$$length :: [a] \rightarrow Int$$

• and ::
$$[Bool] \rightarrow Bool$$

foldr to the rescue



foldr:
$$(a \to b \to b) \to b \to [a] \to b$$

foldr f z [] = z
foldr f z (x:xs) = f x (foldr f z xs)

The functions from before become:

$$xs + ys = foldr$$
 (:) $ys xs$
 $concat xss = foldr$ (++) [] xss
 $reverse xs = foldr$ ($\lambda x ys \rightarrow ys + [x]$) [] xs
 $length xs = foldr$ ($const$ (1+)) 0 xs
 $and xs = foldr$ (\wedge) $True xs$

 $foldr (\oplus) e [x1, x2, x3] \equiv x1 \oplus (x2 \oplus (x3 \oplus e))$

Fixing reverse



Recall, that we last time defined

```
reverse :: [a] \rightarrow [a]

reverse [] = []

reverse (x : xs) = reverse \ xs + [x]
```

and that it used $O(n^2)$ reductions, due to the fact that there are n applications of (+), where the i'th application consists of i reductions.



Fixing reverse

Now we propose a new solution which avoids (#):

```
reverse :: [a] \rightarrow [a]
reverse xs = reverse' xs []
  where
     reverse'[] ys = ys
     reverse'(x:xs) ys = reverse'xs(x:ys)
reverse [1,2,3] \equiv reverse' [1,2,3] []
                  \equiv reverse' [2,3] [1]
                  \equiv reverse' [3] [2,1]
                  \equiv reverse' [] [3,2,1]
                  \equiv [3, 2, 1]
```

O(n) reductions!

Introducing foldl



We want to generalize the concept of recursive function on lists, which use an accumulating parameter. This is all functions which have the following structure:

$$h [] acc = acc$$

 $h (x : xs) acc = h xs (acc \oplus x)$

for some some binary operation \oplus and a value e. Execution results in evaluation:

$$h[x1, x2, x3] e \equiv ((e \oplus x1) \oplus x2) \oplus x3$$

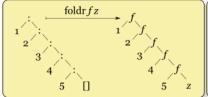
Introducing foldl

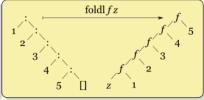


foldr::
$$(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow b$$

foldr f z [] = z
foldr f z (x:xs) = f x (foldr f z xs)
foldl:: $(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a \rightarrow [b] \rightarrow a$
foldl f z [] = z
foldl f z (x:xs) = foldl f (f z x) xs

foldr
$$(\oplus)$$
 e $[x1, x2, x3] \equiv x1 \oplus (x2 \oplus (x3 \oplus e))$
foldl (\oplus) e $[x1, x2, x3] \equiv ((e \oplus x1) \oplus x2) \oplus x3$





Examples



```
reverse xs = foldl (flip (:)) [] xs

sum xs = foldl (+) 0 xs

product xs = foldl (*) 1 xs

maximum [] = error "Empty list"

maximum (x:xs) = foldl max x xs
```

Functions using folds and their time complexities

	f	z	foldl	foldr
reverse xs	$flip (:) :: [a] \rightarrow a \rightarrow [a]$	[]	O(n)	-
reverse xs	$(\lambda x \ z \to z + [x]) :: a \to [a] \to [a]$	[]	-	$O(n^2)$
sum xs	$(+)$:: Num $a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	0	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	O(n)
product xs	$(*)$:: Num $a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	1	O(n)	O(n)
maximum (x:xs)	$max :: Ord \ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	x	O(n)	O(n)
minimum (x:xs)	$min :: Ord \ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	\boldsymbol{x}	O(n)	O(n)
xs + ys	$(:)::a\to [a]\to [a]$	ys	-	O(n)
concat xss	$(++) :: [a] \to [a] \to [a]$	[]	$O(m^2n)$	$O(mn)^1$
length xs	$const\ (1+) :: a \to Int \to Int$	0	-	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
and xs	$(\land) :: Bool \rightarrow Bool \rightarrow Bool$	True	O(n)	$O(i)^2$
or xs	(\vee) :: $Bool \rightarrow Bool \rightarrow Bool$	False	O(n)	$O(i)^3$

 $^{^{1}}m$ is length of xss, n is length of sublists

²*i* is index of first *False* occurence

³*i* is index of first *True* occurence

Elaboration on concat



concat
$$[x1, x2 ... xn] \equiv foldl (++) [] [x1, x2 ... xn]$$

 $\equiv (...([] ++ x1) ++ x2) ++ ...) ++ xn$

(#+) runs over all preceding lists when appending a new list! $\rightarrow O(m^2n)$.

concat
$$[x1, x2 ... xn] \equiv foldr (++) [] [x1, x2 ... xn]$$

 $\equiv x1 + (x2 + (...(xn ++ [])))$

This one only runs through each sublist once. $\rightarrow O(mn)$.

First duality theorem



Suppose \oplus is associative with unit e. Then

$$foldr (\oplus) e xs = foldl (\oplus) e xs$$

for all finite lists xs. **Examples:**

$$sum = foldl (+) 0$$

 $and = foldl (\land) True$
 $concat = foldl (++) []$

So: In this case, *foldr* and *foldl* gives the same result, but their performance characteristics might differ!

A type with such operations + and e is called a **Monoid**, and in Haskell, there is a corresponding type class.

How would map look like for Tree a?



Recall that for Lists, we write a *map* function like this:

```
data List a = Nil \mid Cons \ a \ (List \ a)
listMap :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow List \ a \rightarrow List \ b
listMap f Nil
                  = Nil
listMap\ f\ (Cons\ x\ xs) = Cons\ (f\ x)\ (listMap\ f\ xs)
data Tree a = Nil \mid Node \ a \ (Tree \ a) \ (Tree \ a)
treeMap :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow Tree \ a \rightarrow Tree \ b
treeMap f Nil
                  = Nil
treeMap\ f\ (Node\ x\ l\ r) = Node\ (f\ x)\ (treeMap\ f\ l)\ (treeMap\ f\ r)
instance (Functor Tree) where
  fmap f Nil
                  = Nil
  fmap \ f \ (Node \ x \ l \ r) = Node \ (f \ x) \ (fmap \ f \ l) \ (fmap \ f \ r)
```





class Functor
$$f$$
 where $fmap :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow f \ a \rightarrow f \ b$

Note that *f* in the above should be a *type constructor*. Every functor *F* should satisfy the Functor laws:

$$fmap id \equiv id$$

$$fmap (f \circ g) \equiv fmap f \circ fmap g$$

More examples:

instance
$$Functor((,) a)$$
 where $fmap f(x,y) = (x,f y)$ instance $Functor(Maybe)$ where $fmap f(Nothing = Nothing fmap f(Just(x) = Just(f(x))$

Unfolding



$$unfoldr :: (b \rightarrow Maybe (a, b)) \rightarrow b \rightarrow [a]$$

The *unfoldr* function is a 'dual' to *foldr*: While *foldr* reduces a list to a summary value, *unfoldr* builds a list from a seed value.

- The function takes the element and
 - returns Nothing if it is done producing the list or
 - returns Just(a,b), in which case, a is a prepended to the list and b is used as the next element in a recursive call.

unfoldr example: digits



$$unfoldr :: (b \rightarrow Maybe (a, b)) \rightarrow b \rightarrow [a]$$

In the first lecture, we saw

```
digits :: Integer \rightarrow [Integer]
digits n
\mid n \equiv 0 = []
\mid otherwise = n 'mod' 10 : digits (n 'div' 10)
```

This function corresponds to an "unfoldr" of the number, namely

```
digits = unfoldr \ (\lambda n \rightarrow \mathbf{case} \ n \ \mathbf{of} \ 0 \rightarrow Nothing \ \_ \rightarrow Just \ (n \ 'mod' \ 10, n \ 'div' \ 10)
```





```
unfoldr :: (b \rightarrow Maybe\ (a,b)) \rightarrow b \rightarrow [a]

digits :: Integer \rightarrow [Integer]

digits = unfoldr (\lambda n \rightarrow \mathbf{case}\ n\ \mathbf{of}
0 \rightarrow Nothing
_- \rightarrow Just\ (n\ 'mod'\ 10, n\ 'div'\ 10)
```

In this case, we can fold/unfold back and forth:

digits 1337
$$\equiv [7,3,3,1]$$

foldr $(\lambda x \ y \rightarrow x + 10 * y) \ 0 \ [7,3,3,1] \equiv 1337$

Discovering variants of the fold function working variants of the fold function



Recall the type

$$foldr :: (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow b \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow b$$

We could have given foldr a similar type to unfoldr.
 To give it a different name, the fold function is here named cata (short for catamorphism - the general name for folds over algebraic data types)

unfoldr ::
$$(b \rightarrow Maybe\ (a,b)) \rightarrow (b \rightarrow [a])$$

cata :: $(Maybe\ (a,b) \rightarrow b) \rightarrow ([a] \rightarrow b)$

where e.g. foldr (+) 0 would correspond to cata plus with

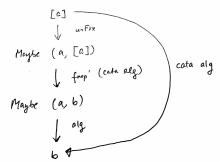
$$plus Nothing = 0$$

 $plus (Just (x,y)) = x + y$

Discovering variants of the fold function with the state of the fold function with the fold function with the state of the state of the state of the fold function with the state of the sta



```
unFix :: [a] \rightarrow Maybe (a, [a])
unFix [] = Nothing
unFix (x : xs) = Just (x, xs)
fmap' :: (b \rightarrow b') \rightarrow (Maybe (a, b) \rightarrow Maybe (a, b'))
fmap' = fmap \circ fmap
cata :: (Maybe (a, b) \rightarrow b) \rightarrow ([a] \rightarrow b)
cata \ alg = \ alg \circ fmap' (cata \ alg) \circ unFix
```



Discovering variants of the fold function SUDDANS UNIT



In general, for a recursive algebraic datatype - e.g.

$$data \ List \ a = Nil \mid Cons \ a \ (List \ a)$$

we can associate a non-recursive variant, by introducing an extra type parameter:

data
$$ListF \ a \ b = NilF \ | \ ConsF \ a \ b$$

The fold-function would then be of the type

$$cata :: (ListF \ a \ b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (List \ a \rightarrow b)$$

The types $ListF\ a\ b$ and $Maybe\ (a,b)$ are isomorphic.

- Nothing corresponds to NilF
- *Just* (*x*, *y*) corresponds to *ConsF x y*

Complete example of "general" fold on lists

```
data ListF \ a \ b = NilF \mid ConsF \ a \ b
data List a = Nil \mid Cons \ a \ (List \ a)
unFix :: List \ a \rightarrow ListF \ a \ (List \ a)
unFix Nil = NilF
unFix (Cons x xs) = ConsF x xs
instance Functor (ListF a) where
  fmap \ \_NilF = NilF
  fmap \ f \ (ConsF \ x \ xs) = ConsF \ x \ (f \ xs)
cata :: (ListF \ a \ b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (List \ a \rightarrow b)
cata alg = alg \circ fmap (cata alg) \circ unFix
```

Final example



```
data ListF \ a \ b = NilF \mid ConsF \ a \ b
newtype Fix f = Fx (f (Fix f))
type List a = Fix (ListF a)
unFix :: Fix f \rightarrow f (Fix f)
unFix (Fx x) = x
instance Functor (ListF a) where
  fmap \ \_NilF = NilF
  fmap \ f \ (ConsF \ x \ xs) = ConsF \ x \ (f \ xs)
cata :: (ListF a b \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (List a \rightarrow b)
cata alg = alg \circ fmap (cata alg) \circ unFix
```