

The Joy of Functional Programming



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Functional, isn't that a totally esoteric subject?!

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- ▶ ABN AMRO Amsterdam *Risk analysis in investment banking*
- ▶ AT&T *Network security: processing of internet abuse complaints*
- ▶ Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Backend data transformation and loading
- ▶ Barclays Capital Quantitative Analytics Group
Mathematical modelling of equity derivatives
- ▶ Bluespec, Inc. *Modelling & verification of integrated circuits*
- ▶ Credit Suisse *Checking, manipulating and transforming spreadsheets*
- ▶ Deutsche Bank Equity Proprietary Trading, Directional Credit Trading *All its software infrastructure*
- ▶ Facebook *Internal tools*
- ▶ Factis Research, Freiburg *Mobile solutions (backend)*
- ▶ fortytools gmbh *web-based productivity tools - REST-backend*
- ▶ Functor AB, Stockholm *static analysis*

Functional, isn't that a totally esoteric subject?!

- ▶ Galois, Inc *Security, information assurance and cryptography*
- ▶ Google *Internal projects*
- ▶ IMVU, Inc. *Social entertainment*
- ▶ JanRain *Network and web software*
- ▶ MITRE *Analysis of kryptographic protocols*
- ▶ New York Times *Image processing for the New York Fashion Week*
- ▶ NVIDIA *In-house tools*
- ▶ Parallel Scientific *High-availability cluster management system*
- ▶ Sankel Software *CAD/CAM, gaming and computer animation*
- ▶ Silk, Amsterdam *Filter and visualize large amounts of information*
- ▶ Skedge Me *Online scheduling platform*
- ▶ Standard Chartered *Wholesale banking business*
- ▶ Starling Software, Tokio *Commercial automated options trading system*
- ▶ Suite Solutions *Management of large sets of technical documentation*

(Quelle: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Haskell_in_industry)

Well-known functional languages

Scheme

Erlang

Clojure

ML

F#

Miranda

OCaml

Haskell

Lisp

Scala

Well-known functional languages

A scatter plot showing the distribution of well-known functional programming languages. The languages are plotted as text labels on a white background. The languages included are Scheme, Erlang, Clojure, ML, F#, Miranda, OCaml, Haskell, (Java 8), Lisp, Scala, and (JavaScript).

Language	Approximate X-Coordinate	Approximate Y-Coordinate
Scheme	10	30
Erlang	45	25
Clojure	75	25
ML	30	35
F#	55	35
Miranda	10	50
OCaml	85	50
Haskell	40	60
(Java 8)	60	60
Lisp	10	80
Scala	30	80
(JavaScript)	60	80

Well-known functional languages

Scheme Erlang Clojure
ML F#
Miranda OCaml
Haskell (Java 8)
Lisp Scala (JavaScript)

Now, what is so special about functional programming?

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Immutability

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Immutability

- ▶ Each variable can only be assigned to once
- ▶ Not directly supported in Java
- ▶ Can easily be put into effect:

```
class Point {  
    private int x, y;  
    public Point (int x, int y) {  
        this.x = x;  
        this.y = y;  
    }  
    // only read x and y in the remaining code  
}
```

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- ▶ “everything that changes the execution of a computer program or the outside world without being returned from a function”
 - ▶ Input and output
 - ▶ Exceptions
 - ▶ Logging
 - ▶ Dependency on (external) configurations
 - ▶ Change of state
 - ▶ Nondeterminism (e.g. use of a random number generator)

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 - ▶ Nondeterminism (e.g. use of a random number generator)
- ▶ Some languages even indicate side-effects in the type signature

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not directly supported by Java 8 either - coding rules help

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```
class SeparationOfSideEffects {  
  
    public void withSideEffect(){  
        String initialValue = System.console().readLine();  
        String result = withoutSideEffect(initialValue);  
        System.out.println("The Result: " + result);  
    }  
  
    public static String withoutSideEffect(String initialValue){  
        return /* function result */ ;  
    }  
}
```

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Functions are „first order citizens“

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Functions are „first order citizens“

Functions can be treated in the same way as strings or numbers

Functions are values

Functions are values

Java 8: Static Methods

```
class Examples { static int staticTimes (int x, int y) { return x * y; } }
```

```
IntBinaryOperator timesVar = Examples::staticTimes;
```

```
timesVar.applyAsInt(3, 5); // 15
```

Functions are values

Java 8: Object methods

```
class Examples { int times (int x, int y) { return x * y; } }
```

```
Examples examples = new Examples();
```

```
IntBinaryOperator timesVar = examples::times;
```

```
timesVar.applyAsInt(3, 5); // 15
```

Functions are values

Java 8: Lambdas

```
IntBinaryOperator times = (x, y) -> x * y;
```

```
times.applyAsInt(3, 5); // 15
```


Functions are values

Java 8: Lambdas (with self-defined function interface)

```
interface TimesFunction { int eval(int x, int y); }
```

```
TimesFunction times = (x, y) -> x * y;
```

```
times.eval(3, 5); // 15
```

Functions are values

Java 8: Lambdas (with self-defined function interface)

```
interface TimesFunction { int eval(int x, int y); }  
  
TimesFunction times = (x, y) -> x * y;  
  
times.eval(3, 5);                                // 15
```

Haskell:

```
times x y = x * y  
  
timesVar = times  
  
timesVar 3 5                                -- 15
```

Functions are function parameters

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Java 8:

```
class Examples {  
    static int apply(IntUnaryOperator func, int arg) {  
        return func.applyAsInt(arg);  
    }  
}
```

```
Examples.apply(x -> 3 * x, 5);           // 15
```

Functions are function parameters

Java 8:

```
class Examples {  
    static int apply(IntUnaryOperator func, int arg) {  
        return func.applyAsInt(arg);  
    }  
}  
  
Examples.apply(x -> 3 * x, 5);           // 15
```

Haskell:

```
apply func arg = func arg  
  
apply (\ x -> 3 * x) 5           -- 15
```

Functions are return values

Functions are return values

Java 8:

```
interface FunctionFunction { IntUnaryOperator eval(int x); }  
  
FunctionFunction times = x -> { return y -> x * y; };  
  
times.eval(3).applyAsInt(5);                // 15
```

Functions are return values

Java 8:

```
interface FunctionFunction { IntUnaryOperator eval(int x); }  
  
FunctionFunction times = x -> { return y -> x * y; };  
  
times.eval(3).applyAsInt(5);           // 15
```

Haskell:

```
times x = (\y -> x * y)  
  
times 3 5           -- 15
```


Strange... ?!

Java 8: Two different invocations

```
IntBinaryOperator times = (x, y) -> x * y;  
times.applyAsInt(3, 5);                                // 15  
  
FunctionFunction times = x -> { return y -> x * y; };  
times.eval(3).applyAsInt(5);                            // 15
```

Haskell: Two identical invocations

```
times x y = x * y  
times 3 5                                -- 15  
  
times x = (\y -> x * y)  
times 3 5                                -- 15
```

Currying! (also known as Schönfinkeling)

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In some functional languages we write:

```
times x y = x * y
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but actually the following happens:

```
times x = (\y -> x * y)
```

Because functions always take exactly one argument

Useful for partial evaluation:

```
times x y = x * y
```

```
times3 = times 3
```

```
times3 5 -- 15
```

Important library functions: filter

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Java 8:

```
Stream<Integer> filteredStream =  
    asList(1, 2, 3, 4).stream().filter(x -> x % 2 == 0);  
  
filteredStream.toArray();                // new Integer[]{2, 4}  
filteredStream.collect(Collectors.toList()); // Liste mit 2 und 4
```


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filteredStream.toArray();                // new Integer[]{2, 4}  
filteredStream.collect(Collectors.toList()); // Liste mit 2 und 4
```

Haskell:

```
filter (\x -> x `mod` 2 == 0) [1,2,3,4]           -- [2,4]
```

Important library functions: map

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Java 8:

```
Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3, 4).stream().map(x -> x + 5).toArray();  
// new Integer[]{6, 7, 8, 9}
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```

Haskell:

```
map (\x -> x + 5) [1,2,3,4]           -- [6,7,8,9]
```

Important library functions: reduce

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- ▶ reduce or foldl / foldr or inject
- ▶ Takes a collection, a function and an initial value
- ▶ Merges initial value and first collection entry using the function
- ▶ Merges the result and the next collection entry
- ▶ Continues for all collection entries, yielding a single result

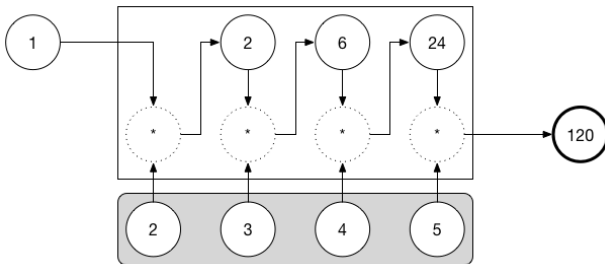
Important library functions: reduce

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Java 8:

```
Arrays.asList(2, 3, 4, 5).stream().reduce(1, (x, y) -> x*y);
```

```
// 120
```



Important library functions: reduce

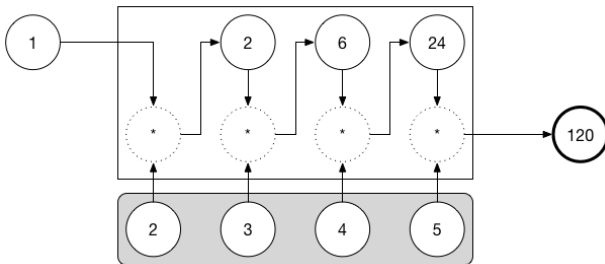
- ▶ reduce or foldl / foldr or inject

Java 8:

```
Arrays.asList(2, 3, 4, 5).stream().reduce(1, (x, y) -> x*y); // 120
```

Haskell:

```
foldl (*) 1 [2,3,4,5] -- 120
```



Type Inference

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- ▶ Lightweight use due to type inference
- ▶ Derives the most general type

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Example:

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```

Type:

```
f :: a -> a
```

a : Type variable (comparable to generics in Java etc.)

-> Function type (argument type to the left, result type to the right)

Type Inference (2)

```
f x = x + 1
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Num a : Type class: Restricts the type variable a to numerical types

Recommended: Always annotate type signature! Helps to validate your assumptions.

A simple calculation

$$sum = \sum_{i=1}^{10} i^2$$

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```
int sum = 0;
for(int i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
    sum = sum + i * i;
}
```

Excursion: Clean Code

Single Responsibility Principle

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How many responsibilities does this code have?

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Separation of Concerns

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- ▶ Calculating the square of a number
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Separation of Concerns

- ▶ Creating the sequence of numbers from 1 to 10

```
IntStream sequence = IntStream.rangeClosed(1, 10);
```

- ▶ Calculating the square of a number
- ▶ Calculating the square of each number in the sequence
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IntUnaryOperator square = x -> x*x;
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IntStream squaredSequence = sequence.map(square);
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- ▶ Calculating the sum of two numbers

```
IntBinaryOperator add = (x,y) -> x+y;
```

- ▶ Calculating the sum of all squares

```
Integer sum = squaredSequence.reduce(0, add);
```

Combining the components

Java 8:

```
IntStream.rangeClosed(1, 10).map(x -> x*x).reduce(0, (x,y) -> x+y); // 385
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Haskell:

```
foldl (+) 0 (map (\x -> x*x) [1..10]) -- 385
```


Combining the components

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```

Haskell:

```
foldl (+) 0 (map (\x -> x*x) [1..10]) -- 385
```

or

```
(>.>) x f = f x  
[1..10] >.> map (\x -> x*x) >.> foldl (+) 0 -- 385
```

Phew!

OK, everybody take a deep breath :-)

Pattern Matching

Fibonacci-Function „naïve“:

```
fib x = if x < 2 then x else fib (x-1) + fib (x-2)
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Fibonacci-Function with Pattern Matching:

```
fib 0 = 0  
fib 1 = 1  
fib x = fib (x-1) + fib (x-2)
```

Algebraic Datatypes

Binary tree:

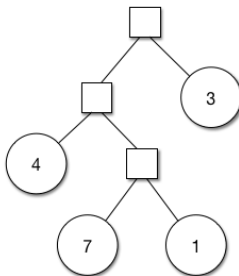
```
data Tree =  
    Node Tree Tree  
  | Leaf Int
```

Algebraic Datatypes

Binary tree:

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```
myTree = Node (Node (Leaf 4) (Node (Leaf 7) (Leaf 1))) (Leaf 3)
```



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Summary function:

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Summary function:

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treeSum (Leaf x) = x
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treeSum (Node m n) = treeSum m + treeSum n
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```

Summary function:

```
treeSum (Leaf x) = x  
treeSum (Node m n) = treeSum m + treeSum n
```

```
treeSum myTree -- 15
```

Bottom line

- ▶ Functional programming is more common than you may have expected
- ▶ Some of it can be integrated into non-functional coding
- ▶ Many languages have functional aspects or additional modules

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Reference:

- ▶ Haskell: <http://www.haskell.org>

Thank you very much!

Code & slides on GitHub:

`https://github.com
/NicoleRauch/FunctionalProgrammingForBeginners`

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Web `http://www.nicole-rauch.de`