

Currying & Higher-Order Functions

fun plus (x: int): int → int = fun (y: int) ⇒ x + y

plus: int → (int → int)

int → int → int implicit right-associativity of parentheses for type arrows

basically syntactic sugar for

val plus: int → int → int = fun (x: int) ⇒ fun (y: int) ⇒ x + y

plus 3: int → int

a function value [3/x] fun (y: int) ⇒ x + y \cong fun (y: int) ⇒ 3 + y

(plus 3) 4: int → 7

line up

Could have written plus 3 4 function application is left associative

val p3 = plus 3

p3 10 → 13

p3 2 → 5

fun plus (x: int) (y: int): int = x + y

val p4 = plus 4

p4 10 → 14

plus 4 10 → 14

fun plus x y = x + y plus: int → int → int

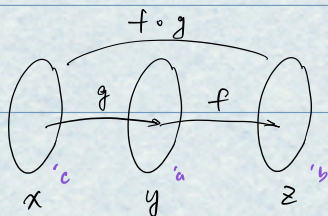
(turn + to →)

fun add (x, y) = x + y add: int * int → int

always to supply pairs

plus is known as the curried version of add

after Haskell Curry



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

fun o (f, g) = fun x ⇒ f(g(x))

infix o op o: ('a → 'b) * ('c → 'a) → 'c → 'b

fun o (f, g) = f(g(x)) o is an example of a higher-order function

fun (f ∘ g) x = f(g(x))

Order

$\text{ord } () = 0$ for basic types

$\text{ord } (t_1 \rightarrow t_2) = \max(\text{ord } (t_1) + 1, \text{ord } (t_2))$ A function is higher order if its types has order at least 2

$\text{ord } (\text{int} * \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}) = 1$

$\text{ord } (\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}) = 1$ $\text{max } (0+1, 1) = 1$

$\text{ord } 0$ $\text{ord } 1$

$\text{fun incr } x = x + 1$ $\text{incr } o \text{ double} \cong \text{fn } x \Rightarrow 2x + 1$

$\text{fun double } x = 2 * x$ $\text{double } o \text{ incr} \cong \text{fn } x \Rightarrow 2x + 2$

(* filter : ('a → bool) → 'a list → 'a list

REQUIRES: p is total

ENSURES: filter p l returns all elements in l for which the predicate returns true, in the original order

*)

$\text{fun filter } p \text{ []} = []$

| filter p (x::xs) = (case p(x) of
 true ⇒ x::(filter p xs)
 | false ⇒ filter p xs)

$\text{fun filter } p =$

let

$\text{fun f []} \Rightarrow []$

 | f (x::xs) ⇒ (case p(x) of
 true ⇒ x::(f xs) no need to pass the recursive call
 | false ⇒ f xs)

in

f

end

$\text{val keep evens} = \text{filter } (\text{fn } n \Rightarrow (n \bmod 2) = 0)$
 int → bool

$\text{keep evens } [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] \rightarrow [2, 4, 6]$

$\text{filter } (\text{fn } n \Rightarrow (n \bmod 2) = 0) [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] \rightarrow [2, 4, 6]$

(* map : ('a → 'b) → 'a list → 'b list

map of [x₁, ..., x_n] ≅ [f(x₁), ..., f(x_n)]

*)

$\text{fun map } f \text{ []} = []$

| map f (x::xs) = (f x)::(map f xs)

$\text{map Int.toString } [1, 2, 3] \rightarrow ["1", "2", "3"]$
int → string int list string list

(* folder : ('a * 'b → 'b) → 'b → 'a list → 'b *)

$\text{fun folder } f \ z \text{ []} = z$

| folder f z (x::xs) = f(x, folder f z xs)

$\text{folder } f \ z \text{ [x}_1, \dots, \text{x}_n] = f(x_1, \dots, f(x_n, f(x_{n-1}, \dots, f(x_1, z))))$

(*) foldl: ('a * 'b → 'b) → 'b → 'a list → 'b
 foldl f z [x₁, ..., x_n] = f(x_n, ..., f(x₂, f(x₁, z)))

(*)

fun foldl = z [x] = z

| foldl f z (x::xs) = foldl (f(x, z)) xs

foldl (op +) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → 10

foldl (op +) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → 10

foldl (op -) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → 1 - (2 - (3 - (4 - 0))) = -2

foldl (op -) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → 4 - (3 - (2 - (1 - 0))) = 2

foldl (op ::) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → [1, 2, 3, 4]

foldl (op ::) 0 [1, 2, 3, 4] → [4, 3, 2, 1]

'a * ('b) list → 'a list

foldl (op ::) [] : 'a list → 'a list

≅ fn (L: 'a list) => L

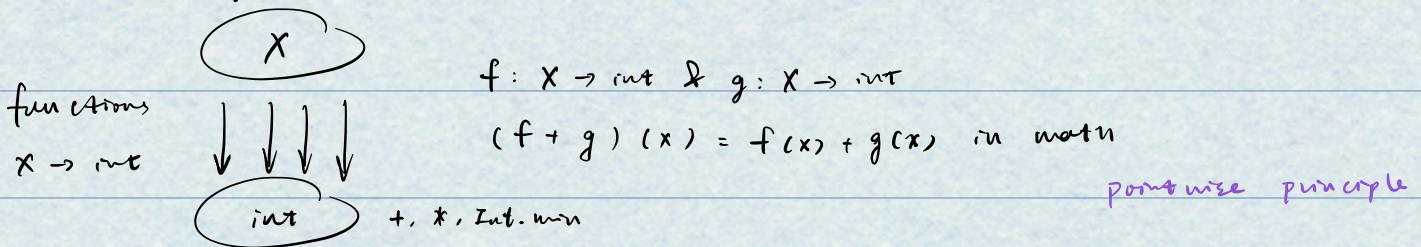
foldl (op ::) [] ≅ rev

Combinators

Informally, these are functions that combine "fragments of code into other fragments of code".

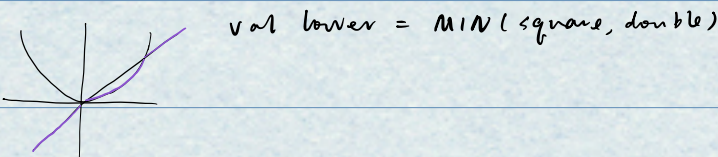
I think of them as hofs that expect functions & return a function. e.g. o, map

There is a particular class of combinators that I like:



In SML infix ++ syntax sugar
 fun (f ++ g) x = f(x) + g(x) infix **
 fun (f ** g) x = f(x) * g(x)
 fun MIN(f, g) x = Int.min(f x, g x)
 fun f ++ g = fn x => f(x) + g(x)

fun square x = x * x fun double x = 2 * x
 val quadratize = square ++ double ≅ fn x => x ** x + 2 * x



infix ++
 fun (f ++ g) = f(x) + g(x) (op ++): ('a → int) * ('a → int) → ('a → int)

fun (f ++ g) = fn x => f(x) + g(x)

Staging

int * int → int int → int → int
 fun f(x: int, y: int): int = fun g(x: int)(y: int): int =


```

let
  val z: int = horrible computation (x)
in
  y + z
end

```

fun (x, 10) → 10 years

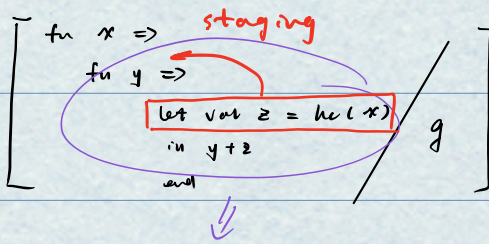
```

let
  val z: int = horrible computation (x)
in
  y + z
end

```

val g' = g ↦ → takes ε time

g' 10 → takes 10 yrs i



this whole lambda express is a value, return instantly

int → int → int

```

fun h (x: int) : int → int =
  let
    val z: int = hc(x)
  in
    fn y => y + z
  end

```

val h' = h ↦ → takes 10 yrs

h' 10 → takes ε time

f $\xrightarrow{\text{avg}}$ g $\xrightarrow{\text{staged}}$ h

datatype 'a tree = Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a * 'a tree

(* treemap : ('a → 'b) → 'a tree → 'b tree *)

fun treemap f map = Empty

| treemap f (Node (l, x, r)) = Node (treemap f l, f x, treemap f r)

(* treefilter : ('a → bool) → 'a tree → 'a tree *)

fun treefilter p Empty = Empty

| treefilter p (Node (l, x, r)) =

if (p x) then Node (treefilter p l, x, treefilter p r)

else combine (treefilter p l, treefilter p r)

fun combine (Empty, t₂) = t₂

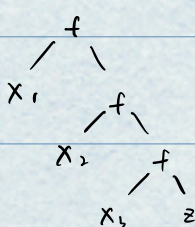
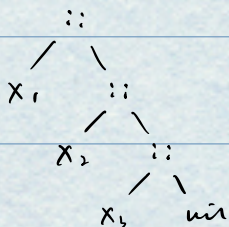
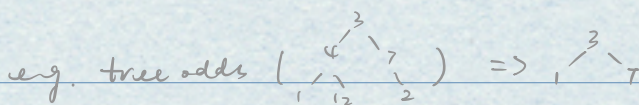
| combine (t₁, Empty) = t₁

| combine (Node (l, x, r), t₂) = Node (combine (l, t₂), x, r)

put everything on the left

val keepodds = treefilter (fn n => not (n mod 2 = 0)) : int tree → int tree

int → bool



Node (l, x, r) ~ f (..., ..., ...)
Empty ~ z

fun tfold f z Empty = z ('b * 'a * 'b → 'b) → 'b → 'a tree → 'b

| tfold f z (Node(l, x, r)) = f (tfold f z l, x, tfold f z r)

SOME of \sim f fun ofold f z NONE = z

NONE \sim z | ofold f z (SOME x) = f(x)

'a * 'a → 'a Suppose this associative operation with a zero ($g(x, z) \cong x \cong g(z, x)$)

fun gfold g z Empty = z

| gfold g z (Node(l, x, r)) = g (gfold g z l, g(x, gfold g z r))

$g(x, g(y, z)) \cong g(g(x, y), z)$