

# Types Working For You

Richard Dallaway, @d6y



Modern type system  
with lots of power



**Julio Capote**

@capotej

scala career timeline:

year 1: dope, gonna write some terse code

year 2: hmm, maybe i shouldnt use every feature

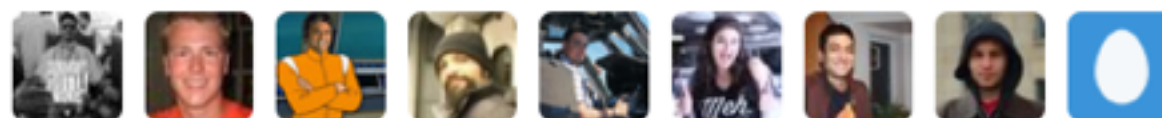
year 3: java 8 looks nice

RETWEETS

114

LIKES

175



3:47 PM - 4 Feb 2016



**Alessandro Zoffoli**

@AL333Z

"[...] We write down the type signature for an operation we want, then "follow the types" to an implementation."

[#fpinscala](#) [#scala](#) [#fp](#)

---

RETWEET

1

LIKES

4

---

10:22 AM - 15 Jan 2016

# Two Themes

Straightforward Scala

Types Working for Us

# Progression

Part 1 Straightforward Scala

Part 2 Functional Programming

Part 3 Typelevel Programming

— Part 1 —

# Straightforward Scala



The only problem was we had no idea what the code was doing at first.

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<http://jimplash.com/talk/>

The only problem was we had no idea what the code was doing at first.

We came across a strange symbol we hadn't seen in our projects before

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<http://jimplush.com/talk/>

The only problem was we had no idea what the code was doing at first.

We came across a strange symbol we hadn't seen in our projects before

The spaceship operator `<|*|>`

<http://jimplush.com/talk/>

The only problem was we had no idea what the code was doing at first.

We came across a strange symbol we hadn't seen in our projects before

The spaceship operator  $\langle | * | \rangle$

Someone said out loud "what the hell is that?"

<http://jimplash.com/talk/>



“It’s about having a maintainable code base where you can have people cross projects easily and get new hires up to speed rapidly”

# Power!

Protect the team from it

*and*

Get the benefit of it

What can we do?

1. Expressions, types, & values
2. Objects and classes
3. Algebraic data types
4. Structural recursion
5. Sequencing computation
6. Type classes



1. Expressions, types, & values
2. Objects and classes
3. Algebraic data types
4. Structural recursion
5. Sequencing computation
6. Type classes

Algebraic data types

Structural recursion

Algebraic data types

data into code

Structural recursion

transformation

Model data with logical  
*ors* and logical *ands*

# A website visitor is:

- anonymous; *or*
- logged in

A logged in user has:

- an ID; *and*
- facts we know about them

# Two Patterns

*and* (product types)  
*or* (sum types)

Sum and product together  
make algebraic data types

Structure of the code  
follows the structure of  
the data



A website visitor is:

- anonymous; *or*
- logged in

```
sealed trait Visitor
```

```
case class Anonymous()  
  extends Visitor
```

```
case class User()  
  extends Visitor
```

A logged in user has:

- an ID; *and*
- facts we know about them

An anonymous has:

- an ID

```
sealed trait Visitor
```

```
case class Anonymous()  
  extends Visitor
```

```
case class User()  
  extends Visitor
```

```
sealed trait Visitor
```

```
case class Anonymous(id: Id)  
  extends Visitor
```

```
case class User(id: Id, facts: Set[Fact])  
  extends Visitor
```

# Structural recursion

```
def serveAd(v: Visitor): Advert = ???
```

Structure of the code  
follows the structure of  
the data

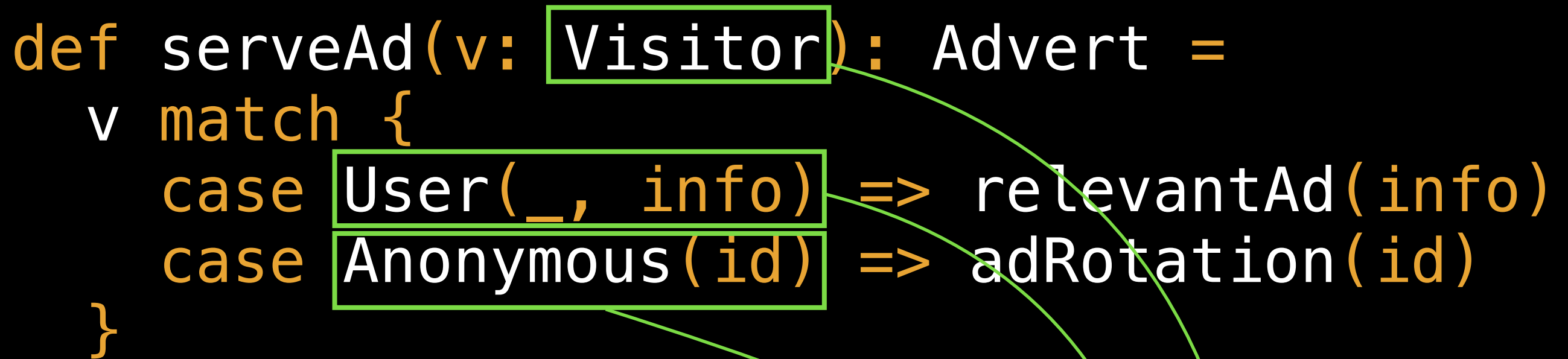


```
def serveAd(v: Visitor): Advert = ???
```

```
def serveAd(v: Visitor): Advert =  
  v match {  
    case User(_, info) =>  
    case Anonymous(id) =>  
  }
```

```
def serveAd(v: Visitor): Advert =  
  v match {  
    case User(_, info) => relevantAd(info)  
    case Anonymous(id) => adRotation(id)  
  }
```

```
def serveAd(v: Visitor): Advert =  
  v match {  
    case User(_, info) => relevantAd(info)  
    case Anonymous(id) => adRotation(id)  
  }
```

The diagram highlights the structural components of the Scala code. Three green rectangular boxes are used: one around 'Visitor' in the function signature, one around 'User(\_, info)' in the first match case, and one around 'Anonymous(id)' in the second match case. Three green curved arrows originate from these boxes and point towards the word 'Structure' at the bottom right. The first arrow starts from the 'Visitor' box and points to 'Structure'. The second arrow starts from the 'User(\_, info)' box and points to 'Structure'. The third arrow starts from the 'Anonymous(id)' box and points to 'Structure'.

Structure

# ADT & Structural Recursion

Straightforward part of Scala.

Clear, productive, occurs frequently.

Be opinionated in what you use.

Structure helps us.

— Part 2 —

# Help from FP Ideas

Combining lists

Concatenating strings

Union of sets

Combining things in a loop

Chaining logical operations

Adding numbers

Building up a JavaScript expression

Showing errors in a UI

...

A **combine** function and  
an **empty** value



# Addition

Empty	Combine
0	+

# Set

Empty	Combine
Set.empty	union

# For any T

Empty	Combine
A zero for T	A way to combine two Ts and give me back a T

A **combine** function and  
an **empty** value

# Monoid

A **combine** function and  
an **empty** value  
...and **laws**



0:36 / 2:25



# Monoids civil war - Doctor Who - The Ark - BBC



BBCClassicDoctorWho



Subscribe

4/K

6,333

# The boss asks...

What's the total visits to the web site?

```
def report(vs: List[Int]): Int = ???
```

# For any T

Empty	Combine
A zero for T	A way to combine two Ts and give me back a T



# For any T

```
trait Monoid[T] {  
  def empty: T  
  def combine(x: T, y: T): T  
}
```

```
val addition = new Monoid[Int] {  
    def empty = 0  
    def combine(x: Int, y: Int) = x+y  
}
```

fold

```
def fold(vs: List[Int]): Int =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => 0  
    case v :: rest => v + fold(rest)  
  }  
  
fold(List(1,2,3))  
// 6
```

```
fold(1,2,3)
```

fold(1,2,3)

1

`fold(1,2,3)`

`1 + fold(2,3)`

`fold(1,2,3)`

`1 + fold(2,3)`

`2`



`fold(1,2,3)`

`1 + fold(2,3)`

`2 + fold(3)`

`fold(1,2,3)`

`1 + fold(2,3)`

`2 + fold(3)`

`3 + fold()`

`0`

`0 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 6`

```
def fold(vs: List[Int]): Int =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => 0  
    case v :: rest => v + fold(rest)  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3))  
// 6
```

```
def fold(vs: List[Int], m: Monoid[Int]): Int =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => 0  
    case v :: rest => v + fold(rest)  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3), addition)  
// 6
```

```
def fold(vs: List[Int], m: Monoid[Int]): Int =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => m.empty  
    case v :: rest => m.combine(v, fold(rest, m))  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3), addition)  
// 6
```

```
def fold[T](vs: List[T], m: Monoid[T]): T =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => m.empty  
    case v :: rest => m.combine(v, fold(rest, m))  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3), addition)  
// 6
```

Split on cases,  
inspect values you have

```
def fold[T](vs: List[T], m: Monoid[T]): T =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => ???  
    case v :: rest => ???  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3), addition)  
// 6
```



```
def fold[T](vs: List[T], m: Monoid[T]): T =  
  vs match {  
    case Nil => m.empty  
    case v :: rest => ???  
  }
```

```
fold(List(1,2,3), addition)  
// 6
```

But back to Monoids...

# The boss asks...

What's the total visits to the web site?

```
def report(vs: List[Int]): Int =  
    fold(vs, addition)
```

# Benefits

Composition

Flexibility

Problem Solving

# The boss asks...

## How many distinct visitors?

```
def report(vs: List[Visitor]): Int = ???
```

# Set

Empty	Combine
Set.empty	union

The boss says...

Argh!

The servers are OutOfMemory

# HyperLogLog

Empty	Combine
<code>new HLL()</code>	<code>HLL.plus</code>

Armon Dadgar (Papers We Love, 2015)  
“Bloom Filters and HyperLogLog”



# The boss asks...

Who are the really keen  
visitors to the site?

# Count-Min Sketch

Empty	Combine
<code>new CMS()</code>	<code>CMS.plus</code>

Laura Bledaite (Scala eXchange 2015)  
“Count-Min Sketch in Real Data Applications”

We can safely run  
a parallel version  
of fold

Laws

$$a + 0 = a$$

$$(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$$

# Identity & Associativity

$a \text{ combine empty} = a$

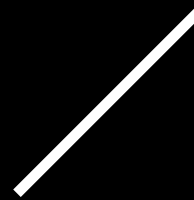
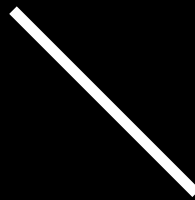
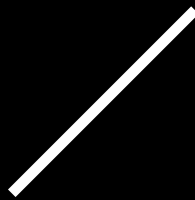
$(a \text{ combine } b) \text{ combine } c$   
 $= a \text{ combine } (b \text{ combine } c)$

a combine b



combine

combine



c

d

e

f

## users.scala

```
1 sealed trait Visitor {  
2   def id: Id  
3 }  
4  
5 final case class Anonymous(id: Id) extends Visitor  
6 final case class User(id: Id, email: Email) extends Visitor  
7  
8
```

Enzyme Errors: 10 Warnings: 0



File 0

Project 0

✓ No Issues

src/main/scala/users.scala 7:1 LF

UTF-8

Scala



The screenshot shows a Scala IDE window titled "users.scala — /Users/richard/Desktop/QCon-London-2016/code". The code in the editor is as follows:

```
1 sealed trait Visitor {  
2   def id: Id  
3 }  
4  
5 final case class Anonymous(id: Id) extends Visitor  
6 final case class User(id: Id, email: Email) extends Visitor  
7  
8
```

Lines 2, 5, and 6 are highlighted in red, each with a red circle containing an exclamation mark, indicating errors. The status bar at the bottom of the editor shows "Errors: 10 Warnings: 0". A green box highlights this status bar, and a green arrow points from it to the text "Errors: 10 Warnings: 0" below the screenshot. The status bar also includes icons for download, zoom, and close, and a tab bar at the bottom showing "File 0", "Project 0", and "No Issues".

Errors: 10 Warnings: 0

Its a monoid



I know this

...so we fold

# Summary

Types and laws give us flexibility & help lead us to solutions.

They help us every day.

— Part 3 —

# A Taste of Typelevel

```
csv(  
  List("Date", "Metric"),  
  List(  
    List("Mon", "Low"),  
    List("Tue", "High") )  
)
```

Date	Metric
Mon	Low
Tue	High

```
csv(  
  List("Date"),  
  List(  
    List("Mon", "Low"),  
    List("Tue", "High") )  
)
```

Date	
Mon	Low
Tue	High

How can we prevent that error  
happening again?



```
def csv(  
  hdrs: List[String],  
  rows: List[List[String]]  
): String = ???
```

```
import shapeless._  
import syntax.sized._
```

```
def csv[N <: Nat](  
  hdrs: List[String],  
  rows: List[List[String]]  
): String = ???
```

```
import shapeless._  
import syntax.sized._
```

```
def csv[N <: Nat](  
  hdrs: Sized[List[String], N],  
  rows: List[Sized[List[String], N]]  
): String = ???
```

```
csv(  
  Sized("Date"),  
  List(  
    Sized("Mon", "Low"),  
    Sized("Tue", "High") )  
)
```

Sized[List, 1]

csv(

Sized("Date"),

List(

Sized("Mon", "Low"),

Sized("Tue", "High") )

)

Sized[List, 2]

# How?

`Sized("Date")` constructs  
`Sized[Nat]`

`Nat` implements numbers as  
types

```
sealed trait Nat  
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat  
trait Zero extends Nat
```

Zero 0

Succ[Zero] 1

Succ[Succ[Zero]] 2

Succ[Succ[Succ[Zero]]] 3



```
sealed trait Nat  
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat  
trait Zero extends Nat
```

```
sealed trait Nat
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat
trait Zero extends Nat

type One = Succ[Zero]
type Two = Succ[One]
```

```
sealed trait Nat
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat
trait Zero extends Nat

type One = Succ[Zero]
type Two = Succ[One]

implicitly[Succ[Zero] == One]
```

```
sealed trait Nat  
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat  
trait Zero extends Nat
```

```
type One = Succ[Zero]  
type Two = Succ[One]
```

```
implicitly[Succ[Zero] == One]  
implicitly[Succ[One] == Succ[Succ[Zero]]]
```

```
sealed trait Nat  
trait Succ[P <: Nat] extends Nat  
trait Zero extends Nat
```

```
type One = Succ[Zero]  
type Two = Succ[One]
```

```
implicitly[Succ[Zero] == Two]
```

error:

Cannot prove that Succ[Zero] == Two.

# Merging Fields

```
case class User(  
  id      : Long,  
  name    : String,  
  email   : Option[String])
```

```
val user = User(  
  123L,  
  "Bruce Wayne",  
  Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

```
PATCH /user/123
```

```
{  
  "name" : "Batman"  
}
```



```
case class User(  
  id      : Long,  
  name    : String,  
  email   : Option[String])
```

```
case class Update(  
  name    : Option[String],  
  email   : Option[Option[String]])
```

```
val user = User(  
    123L,  
    "Bruce Wayne",  
    Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

```
val update = Update(  
    Some("Batman"),  
    None)
```

How do we get to...

```
User(  
    123L,  
    "Batman",  
    Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

# Bulletin

<https://github.com/davegurnell/bulletin>

# How?

User

String

Option[String]

...

Update

Option[String]

Option[  
Option[String]  
]

...

# How?

User

String

Option[String]

...

Update

Option[String]

Option[  
Option[String]  
]

...

Head

# How?

User

Update

Head

String

Option[String]

Option[String]

Option[  
Option[String]  
]

...

...

The Rest...

# How?

Type constraints

Implicit methods

HLists

Labelled generic

Macros

...

```
val user = User(  
    123L,  
    "Bruce Wayne",  
    Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

```
val update = Update(  
    Some("Batman"),  
    None)
```

```
import bulletin._
```

```
val updated = user.merge(update)
```

```
// User(  
//     123L,  
//     "Batman",  
//     Some("bruce@example.org"))
```



```
val user = User(  
    123L,  
    "Bruce Wayne",  
    Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

```
val update = Update(  
    Some("Batman"),  
    None)
```

```
import bulletin._  
  
val updated = user.merge(update)
```

```
// User(  
//     123L,  
//     "Batman",  
//     Some("bruce@example.org"))
```

# Summary

The compiler can help (maybe more than you thought).

Reduce boilerplate code.

# Using Power Tools

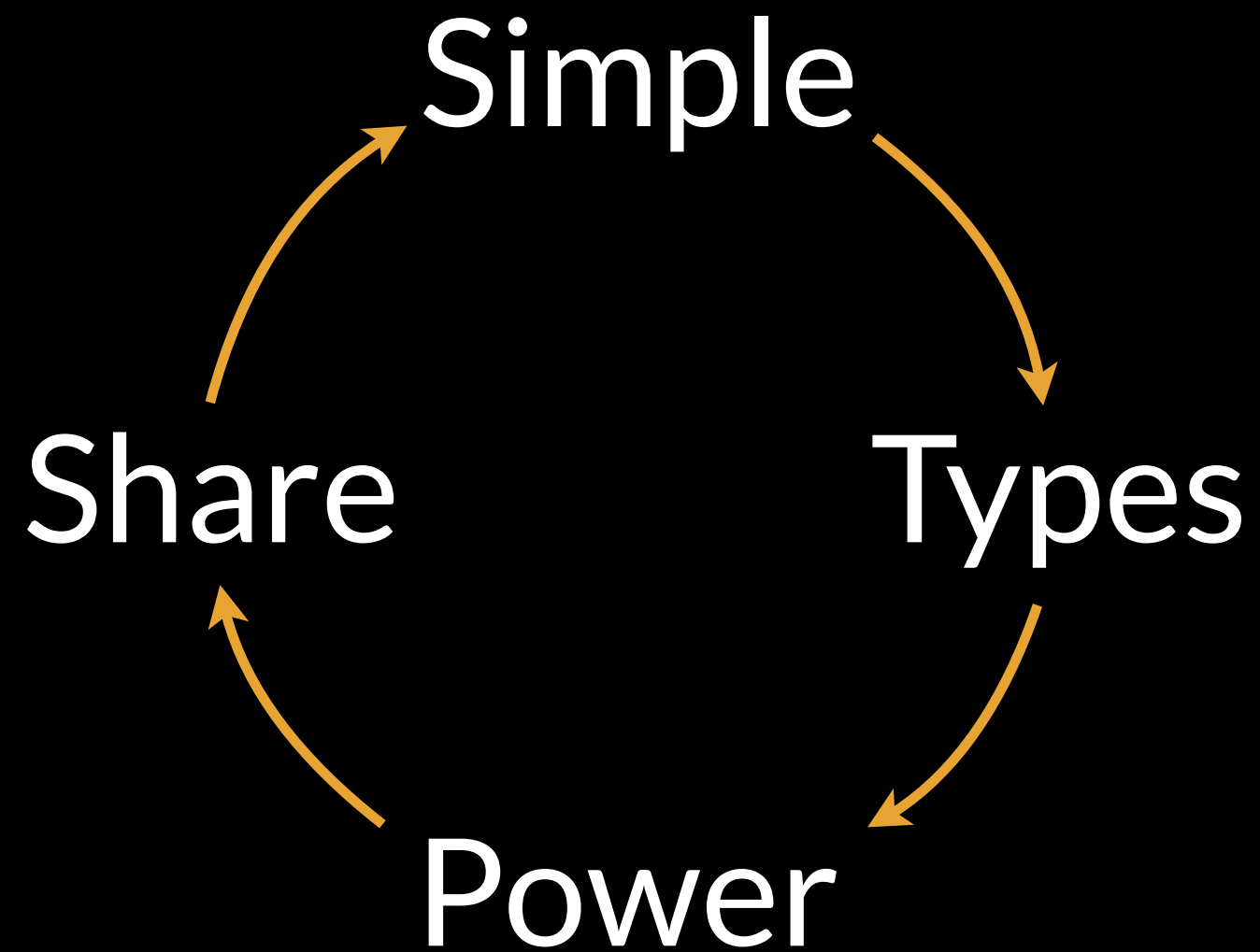
Can go one of two ways...

# Using Power Tools

Can go one of two ways...

What the hell  
is that?

It's a monoid!  
I know this



# 2008

‘The name Scala stands for  
“scalable language.”

The language is so named  
because it was designed  
to grow with the demands of its  
users.’

# What have we seen?

Some straightforward parts of Scala

- Clear, maintainable, helpful

Encoding ideas in types

- flexibility, leads us to solutions

Let the compiler do it

- when it make sense for your demands

# Summary

## Scala scaling with your needs

—be opinionated in what you use, more when needed

## Types working for us, not stopping us

—functional programming, share what you learn



# Thanks!

Richard Dallaway, @d6y

 underscore.io

# Thanks!

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 underscore.io