

Parsing Graphs

Applying Parser Combinators to Graph Traversals

D. Kröni R. Schweizer

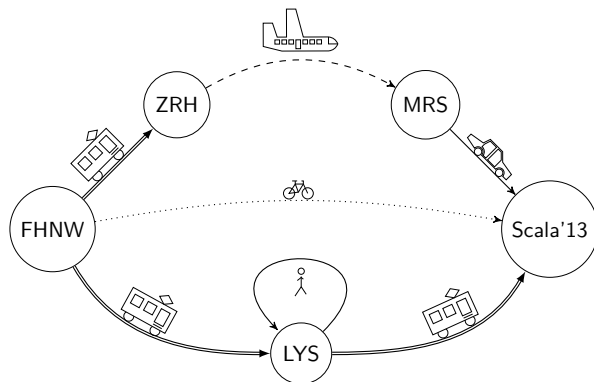
Institute of Mobile and Distributed Systems
University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland

Scala 2013, the Fourth Annual Scala Workshop
Montpellier, France

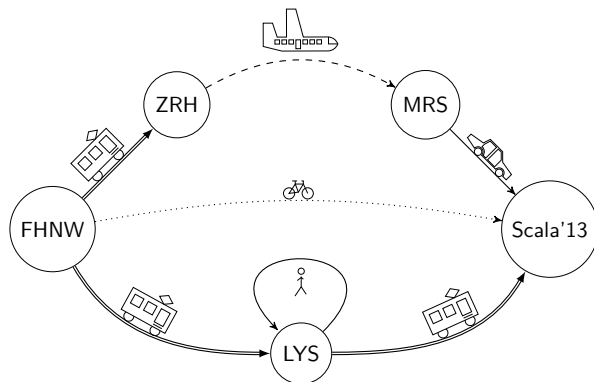


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Travel to Montpellier

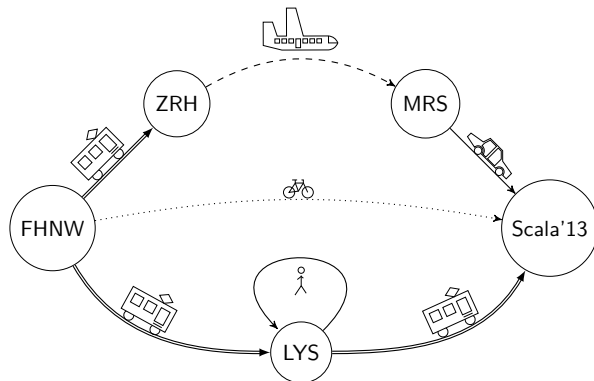


Travel to Montpellier



```
val journey = ( (FHNW ~ train ~ ZRH ~ plane ~ truck)
                | (FHNW ~ train ~ LYS ~ person.* ~ train) )
```

Travel to Montpellier



```
val journey = FHNW ~ train ~ ((plane ~ truck) | (person.* ~ train))
```

The Type of a Traverser

```
type Tr[E,I,O,A] = E => I => Stream[(O,A)]
```

- Environment (graph)
- State $I \Rightarrow O$ (current position, ...)
- An arbitrary result (e.g. property value)
- Stream (many results)

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Primitives

– Start

$V(): \text{Tr}[G, \text{Any}, N, N]$

$E(): \text{Tr}[G, \text{Any}, E, E]$

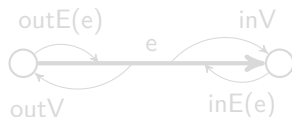
– Navigation

$\text{outE}(t: \text{String}): \text{Tr}[G, N, E, E]$

$\text{inV}(): \text{Tr}[G, E, N, N]$

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$\text{outV}(): \text{Tr}[G, E, N, N]$



– Properties

$\text{get}[A](\text{key}: \text{String}): \text{Tr}[G, E1, E1, A]$

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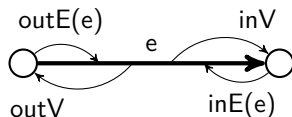
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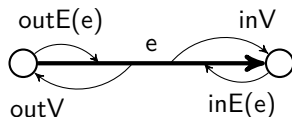
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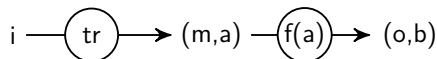


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Combinators – Building Blocks

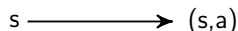
– Sequential composition



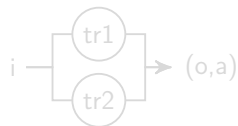
```
def flatMap[E,I,M,O,A,B]
```

```
  (tr: Tr[E,I,M,A])(f: A => Tr[E,M,O,B]): Tr[E,I,O,B]
```

```
def success[E,S,A](a: A): Tr[E,S,S,A]
```



– Parallel composition $tr1 | tr2$



```
def choice[E,I,O,A]
```

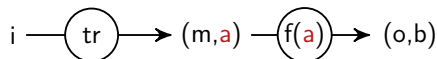
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```
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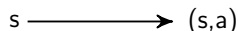
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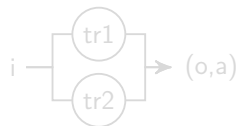
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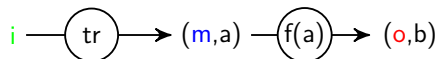
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Combinators – Building Blocks

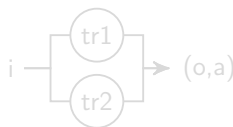
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```

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def success[E,S,A](a: A): Tr[E,S,S,A]      s  $\longrightarrow$  (s,a)
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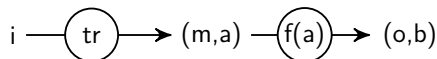


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def choice[E,I,O,A]  
  (tr1: Tr[E,I,O,A], tr2: => Tr[E,I,O,A]): Tr[E,I,O,A]
```

```
def fail[E,S,A]: Tr[E,S,S,A]      s  $\longrightarrow$   $\times$ 
```

Combinators – Building Blocks

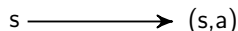
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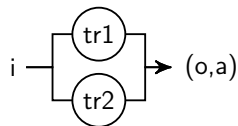
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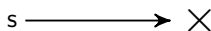
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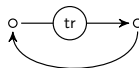
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Combinators

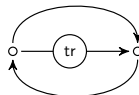
`many1(tr)`

`tr.+`



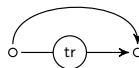
`many(tr)`

`tr.*`



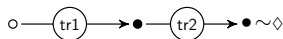
`opt(tr)`

`tr.?`



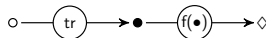
`seq(tr1, tr2)`

`tr1 ~ tr2`



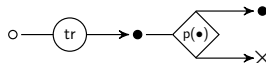
`map(tr, f)`

`tr ^^ f`

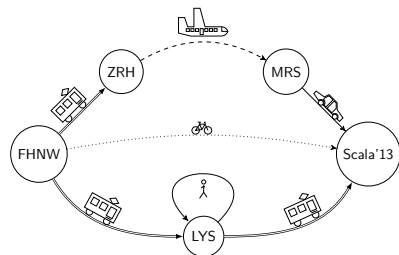


`filter(tr, p)`

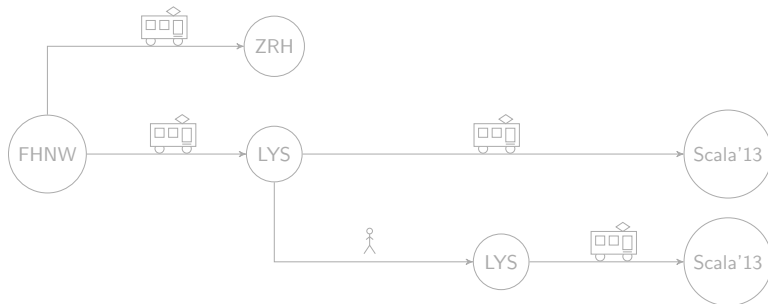
`tr.filter(p)`



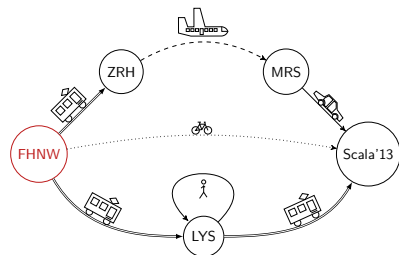
Travel to Montpellier



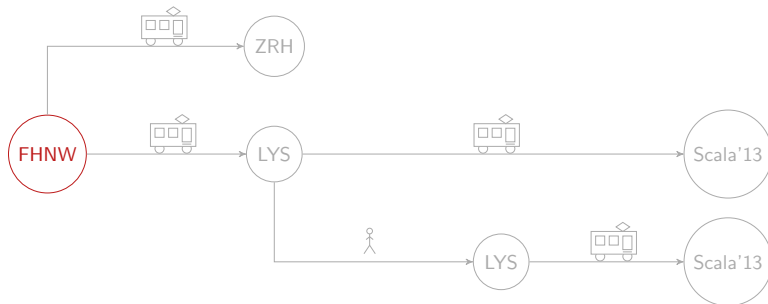
val journey =



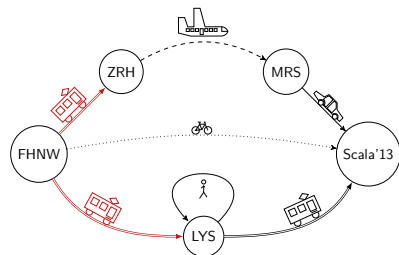
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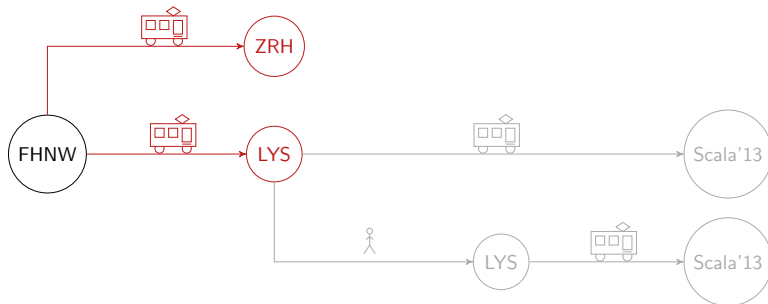
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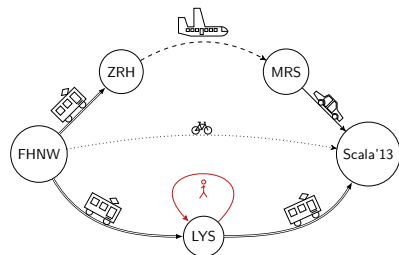
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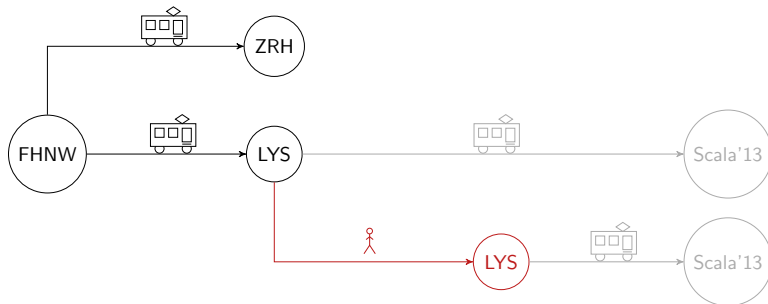
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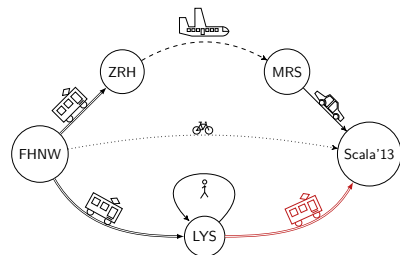
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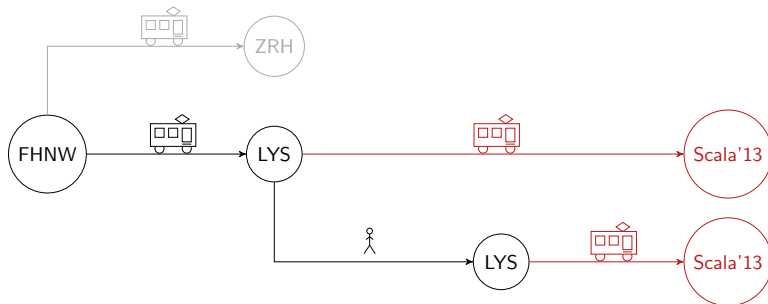
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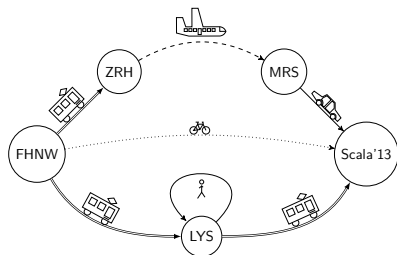
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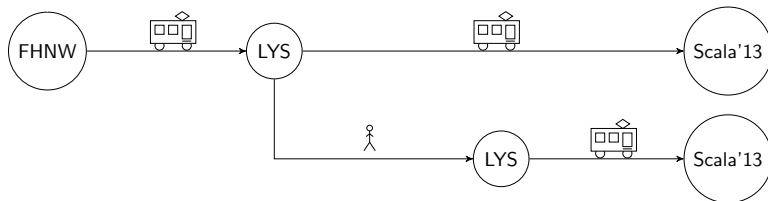
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Travel to Montpellier



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- **Cycle detection**

Repetition combinators yield every path at most once.

- **Subqueries**

Allow nested traversals without polluting the path.

- **Type safety**

Validate traversals against a static schema.

- **Labels**

Collect and name values while traversing.

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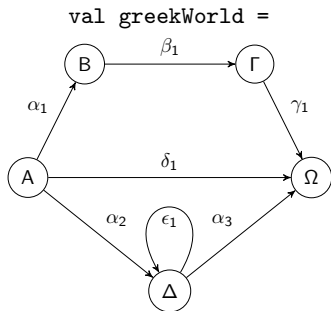
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```
val question =  
  V("A") ~ out(α) ~ out(ε).* ~> out(α)  
val answer = Tr.run(question, greekWorld)  
  
assert(answer.size === 2)  
  
assert(answer.toSet === Set(  
  (List(A, α2, Δ, α3, Ω), Ω),  
  (List(A, α2, Δ, ε1, Δ, α3, Ω), Ω)  
))
```

Summary

- Graph traversals can be described using navigation primitives and grammar constructions.
- We have shown how to implement this idea as a purely functional combinator library.

Outlook

- Breadth first traversals
- Performance optimizations

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