

# An Investigation of Lesser-Known Programming Languages

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## Abstract

In the software industry today most systems are implemented with C-like, imperative or object-oriented languages. Many functional languages claim improved programmer productivity with higher expressiveness and safety, resulting in shorter programs and fewer bugs.

This project seeks to verify these claims of shorter programs and higher safety by systematically comparing C and Python, two commonly used languages, with Clojure, Haskell, and Factor, three lesser-known languages.

After studying them to be able to produce as idiomatic code as possible, I write a simulator of the dice game Farkle in each language. I also compare the languages feature-by-feature.

In the end, I find that Clojure, Haskell, and Factor offer compelling reasons for their use over C and Python. Features like immutable variables, higher-order functions, extensive type systems, macros, and laziness save the programmer time and effort. The functional languages require fewer lines of code to write the same program.

## 1 Introduction

Most computer science majors and software developers have used Java and C. According to the TIOBE Index [1], these two languages have consistently been among the most popular for general use. They are both established, well understood, and use the object-oriented or imperative paradigm.

Most of the other top languages are similar to Java and C. Languages like C#, PHP, Python, Perl, and Objective-C all use some combination of the procedural and object-oriented paradigms. But are procedural and object oriented languages the best computer science has to offer for creating reliable, high performing software on a budget?

A number of lesser-known languages, many influenced by the functional paradigm, claim increased programmer productivity, fewer bugs, and shorter programs.

## 2 Research Goals

This project investigates languages that have the potential to be compelling alternatives to the common procedural and object-oriented languages used most often in today’s commercial environments. I want to know if they live up to the hype generated by their communities.

In the two semesters of this project I investigated three lesser-known languages and two common languages as a comparison. The two common languages are C and Python, and the three lesser-known languages are Clojure, Haskell, and Factor.

## 3 Literature Survey of Previous Work

Two kinds of research in the literature compare programming languages: feature-by-feature comparisons and comparisons of small programs.

### 3.1 Feature Comparisons

Feuer and Gehani [9] take a conceptual approach when they compare C and Pascal. They begin with a history of the languages and discuss design decisions, followed by a step-by-step walk through each language’s major features. They also evaluate C and Pascal for different problem domains. This paper is more of an informative overview than a hard empirical evaluation. The only actual code they show is a single function implementing binary search.

In a comparison of Ada 95 and Java, Brosgol [8] takes a similar approach, going feature-by-feature through the two languages. He provides sample code snippets throughout. He arrives at a table of features, highlighting differences in syntax, program organization features, memory management, and OO features like inheritance, polymorphism, and encapsulation.

Nami [15] presents a factual comparison of Eiffel, C++, Java, and Smalltalk. He gives a brief introduction to each language, describing design decisions and history. He then classifies each language based on static vs. dynamic typing, compiled vs. interpreted build methods, built-in quality assurance facilities, automatic documentation generators, multiple vs. single inheritance, and concludes with a brief discussion on each language’s efficacy for building infrastructure.

Tang [19] does a similar comparison of Ada and C++ using many of the same methods as the other studies.

Many of these studies are a high level overview of various languages. They compare features, but do not give in-depth examples.

### 3.2 Program Comparisons

Perhaps more useful and interesting are those comparisons done by inspecting the same program written in different languages. These give concrete examples of the differences between languages.

The method I follow for this project is closely related to the method used by Prechelt [18]. He compares C, C++, Java, Perl, Python, Rexx, and Tcl by having various computer science masters students and volunteers from online newsgroups write the same small program in one of the languages. He then compared the programs based on program execution time, memory consumption, lines of code, program reliability (based on whether the program crashes or not), the amount of time it took each programmer to write the program, and program structure. The program he had the participants write was a simple string processing program that consisted of converting telephone numbers into sentences based on a large dictionary and mapping scheme. Most of the programs he received were fairly small, taking a median of 3.1 hours to write, and averaging 200-300 line of code.

Some of the more interesting results from Prechelt's study include the observation that in lower-level languages, a lot of code is dedicated to writing the data structures, while the higher-level languages, the programmer usually takes advantage of the language's built-in capabilities. He also found that the scripting languages (Perl, Python, Rexx, and Tcl) tend to require about twice as much memory as C and C++, with Java taking 3-4 times as much, and that C and C++ are about twice as fast as Java and several times faster still than the scripting languages.

Prechelt discusses the validity of his evaluations. He acknowledges the potential problems of asking for self-reported data from the Internet, as well as potential differences in programmer ability and working conditions. He suggests that because 80 programmers contributed code, this large sample size balances out many of these problems. Though the results should not be trusted for small differences, he asserts that large differences are likely to be accurate.

Henderson and Zorn [12] perform a similar study. They compare C++, a well known language, with four lesser-known languages: Oberon-2, Modula-3, Sather, and Self. They also write a short program in each of the languages, a simple database for university personnel information. These are all object-oriented languages, and as such, the comparison is weighted specifically towards OO features. Henderson and Zorn compare the languages based on capabilities for inheritance, dynamic dispatch, code reuse, and information hiding. In addition to OO features, they also compare execution time, lines of code, and compile time. Henderson and Zorn explicitly state that one of the goals of their survey is to increase programmer awareness of lesser-known languages.

In a less formal study, Floyd [10] compares C++, Smalltalk, Eiffel, Sather, Objective-C, Parasol, Beta, Turbo Pascal, C+@, Liana, Ada, and, Drool. He collects an implementation of a linked-list structure from various people and then summarizes the results in a table that compares garbage collection schemes, inheritance (single or multiple), binding time, compilation (compiled vs. interpreted), exception handling features, and lines of code. He simply enumerates the implementations and does not do further analysis.

## 4 My Work

I combine the two approaches discussed in section 3 – program comparisons and feature comparisons. The deliverables for my project, like Prechelt’s, include implementations of the same program in multiple languages. I also include high-level feature comparisons among the languages.

The primary way I compare them is by writing the same program in each language. I also choose a system that is more complicated than that of Prechelt, as I felt the program he (and many of the others) used to compare the languages lacked substance.

One day at family game night we played a dice game called Farkle [2]. The game is simple but has a fair amount of decision making. For each language, I implement a system that plays Farkle through a command line interface. Such a system involves many different aspects that explore each language’s potential and features, including symbol manipulation abilities, available data structures, and capabilities for abstraction. For an overview of the rules of Farkle, see Appendix A.

## 5 Methodology

I first implemented the Farkle system in Python, the language I know best, to serve as a basis for comparison. I then rewrote the system in Clojure. Clojure is a language I have not had experience with, although I have used other LISP dialects. Next, I wrote the system in Haskell, a purely functional language. I then took a respite and wrote the system in C, another language I know well, to give another standard of comparison. I finished out with an implementation in Factor, a relatively unknown stack-based language.

Having completed the system in all five of these languages, I ran performance tests by timing how long each language takes to have four simplistic AI players compete in 10,000 games.

I also wrote a short Python script to compare the number of lines, number of tokens, average line length, and average tokens per line of each program.

I also recorded observations made as I programmed each system. In the following sections, I outline my findings for each.

## 6 Python

Since I already knew Python, there was no major learning involved in its implementation. As I implement the system in other languages, I have noticed instances where I could have made the Python implementation shorter. Python had the disadvantage of going first. If I were to rewrite the Python system after having finished the others, I would do it differently, using fewer object-oriented features and more functional features.

I consider the Python implementation to be the standard for comparison. I give it a “normal” difficulty in terms of learning, shortness of programs, and

concurrency. Python can support procedural, object-oriented, and functional styles, and programming in a different style might have made the program longer or shorter.

## 7 Clojure

Clojure is the youngest of the languages I considered in this project, but it has grown rapidly since its conception. It combines the expressiveness of LISP with the ubiquity of the Java Virtual Machine, making it a unique choice for software development.

### 7.1 Ease of Learning

To begin the process of learning Clojure, I read the book *Programming Clojure* by Stuart Halloway [11]. After going through this book, I also utilized a very well-written Clojure tutorial by R. Mark Volkmann [21], the official Clojure website [3], the PeepCode screencast on Clojure [4], and the very helpful community question and answer site *Stack Overflow* [5].

Clojure has three new major concepts to learn: the functional paradigm, laziness, and the LISP style of syntax. For those coming from a mostly procedural and object-oriented background, Clojure will definitely be a stretch.

The most striking difference is the functional paradigm. Clojure is not purely functional like Haskell in that it allows side effects like printing to the screen anywhere in the code. However, local variables cannot be changed once they have been given a value. All procedural programming involves changing state, so those without a functional background will have to completely adjust their thinking. Idiomatic Clojure makes heavy use of recursion and higher-order functions. Because Clojure discourages side effects, unit testing is much easier.

Another major difference is Clojure's laziness. It does not evaluate expressions unless it has to, causing great speedups in some cases, and allowing for infinite data structures. This is a powerful feature, but it takes some getting used to.

The syntax of Clojure is also very different from most other languages. Its syntax of parentheses and brackets allows for powerful macros, but it is definitely not C-like, so programmers who have never seen syntax like this will have to make an adjustment.

### 7.2 Advantages of Clojure

Clojure's lack of mutable variables might seem like a hindrance, but after using the language for a while, this becomes a powerful feature. Immutable variables make a whole host of bugs caused by accidentally modifying a variable impossible. Recursion, higher-order functions, and laziness prove to be even more expressive and powerful than iteration in other languages.

Being a LISP, Clojure inherits all of LISP's advantages, including the ability to treat code as data and powerful compile-time macros.

Clojure also has excellent support for parallel processing. In the simplest case, a program can be made to perform parallel computations by replacing a call to `map` (a function that calls a function on each element of a list) with a call to `pmap` (a parallel version of `map`). The `pmap` function has a larger overhead than `map`, so it is not effective for simple calculations. However, if processing one element of the list using `pmap` is free of side effects and computationally intensive, Clojure can use multiple cores automatically. This is much simpler than the manual, thread-based approach using in Python, Java, and C.

Note that `pmap` is only effective if the calculations are free from side effects and if each part of the calculation is independent. If the program needs to share state between threads or cores, Clojure offers an extensive system known as *Software Transactional Memory*. Clojure implements a system similar to a database transaction that allows for easily sharing state in a thread-safe manner.

### 7.3 Disadvantages of Clojure

Clojure has a small number of disadvantages. One of the aspects of the language that is both a blessing and a curse is its close integration with Java. While its seamless Java interoperability allows the use of any Java library in Clojure code, it also inherits some of Java's problems. Clojure is not a very good language for scripts or anything that requires fast startup: a cold start takes on the order of 10 seconds. For this reason, the developers recommend starting one running Clojure instance and continuously sending commands to it. This works well for the most part, but I found myself having to start new instances more than was comfortable through the process of programming.

The second major problem with Clojure is its youth. The language is only a few years old, and it is rapidly evolving and getting better. However, even some core features of the language have been implemented just this year.

Because the language is so young, the development tools available are not very mature. Slime, the flagship LISP editing environment for Emacs does not support Clojure nearly as well as the more mature LISPs. A case in point is that the `read-line` function, the primary way to get command line input, simply doesn't work in Slime. This created a problem for my command-line program. The Slime debugger is also not very helpful when working with Clojure. Stack traces show 100 levels of Java method calls and a single location in code where the error occurred.

There is a system being developed to write Clojure in Vim called VimClojure, but I could not figure out how to install it completely. After spending multiple hours on it, I eventually went back to Emacs. There are also Eclipse and Netbeans plugins that I did not investigate.

## 8 Haskell

From what I have gathered on the Internet, Haskell is considered by those who fully understand it to be the Zen of programming languages. Many claim learning it to be an enlightening experience, and once you understand the Haskell way, you can rapidly write amazingly beautiful, bug-free code.

Until you understand it, though, Haskell can be a mystery. I have had some experience with this language in the past, but I definitely did not grok it. Haskell has more new and difficult concepts to master than any of languages I have considered.

### 8.1 Ease of Learning

There are a number of excellent online resources for learning Haskell, and because the language is so complicated, it was helpful to read a variety of explanations of important concepts. The two major resources I used were the books *Learn You A Haskell For Great Good!* [14] and *Real World Haskell* [17], both available for free online. I also read *A Gentle Introduction to Haskell* [13]. Haskell makes heavy use of a difficult concept called monads, so I also read several of the many monad tutorials on the web, including *All About Monads* [16] and *Yet Another Monad Tutorial* [20]. *Stack Overflow* [5] again proved very helpful as well.

Learning Haskell is difficult. I made more progress than in a previous attempt, but I still did not learn or use everything Haskell has to offer. Whereas Clojure presented a few challenges, Haskell requires learning the functional paradigm, a new syntax, laziness, type classes, immutability of variables, monads, monad transformers, arrows, currying, and probably other things I don't even know about.

What makes writing idiomatic Haskell code difficult is that in order to do so, you must understand almost all of these concepts well. Otherwise, the language seems cumbersome and unnecessarily complex.

The syntax of the language takes a while to get used to. For those coming from languages of a C-like syntax, operator precedence issues pose a particular challenge. This is a specific instance of a common theme in Haskell: almost everything is done in a different way.

One of the greatest challenges in Haskell is managing side effects. Most languages are impure by default, but Haskell is pure by default. In order to perform IO (an impure operation), you must tag values with the `IO` type. Pure code cannot call impure code without being “polluted” by the impure code. Sometimes this leads to awkward code gymnastics to isolate the impure code, but this is one of the important skills that Haskell teaches.

The other thing that throws most people for a loop is the lack of variable updates. As such, there can be no loops because an iteration variable can't be changed. Instead, everything is done with recursion and higher-order functions. This takes some getting used to, although it does open your eyes to new solutions.



## 8.2 Advantages of Haskell

If the brave learner can overcome its challenges, Haskell offers many powerful features. Like Clojure, functions without side effects exhibit referential transparency; given the same inputs, the function will always return the same outputs. This allows for easy unit testing and fewer bugs.

Learning Haskell definitely changed my outlook on programming and gave me new ways of approaching problems. I noticed that my programming style has tended to favor returning new values from pure functions over mutating existing variables. Haskell gave me more “a ha!” moments than any of the other languages in this project.

Haskell’s strict type system promises increased safety in writing code. Functions and expressions have specific types that go beyond the simple `int` and `string` of many languages. Monads even allow the compiler to type check the combination of code. This is one of the parts of Haskell I understand the least, and proponents of Haskell agree that monads are one of the most difficult aspects of the language to learn.

Perhaps one of the reasons Haskell is so enlightening is precisely because it forces the programmer to do things its own way. If you really want to write code with variable updates in Clojure you can, but Haskell does not allow this rule to be broken. I would not have been forced to learn to partition off code with side effects if it was not enforced by the type system.

## 8.3 Disadvantages of Haskell

However, the goal of this investigation was to determine if Haskell would be suitable for real-world projects. Many seem to think so, including the authors of *Real World Haskell*, but I am not so sure. Haskell seems to have a proportionately higher number of PhD’s in its community as compared to other languages, and makes much more use of complex mathematical theory (especially category theory). If it requires a PhD to learn the language, a large company may not be able to effectively train its employees. A company may have to pay more for Haskell programmers because it is such a difficult skill to learn. But, if Haskell really does offer the benefits its proponents claim, it may be worth it. The strict type system promises a great benefit for programming in the large of the programmers can fully utilize it.

## 9 C

After Haskell, I turned to C to serve as another standard of comparison. I already knew C, and so I was able to write the program fairly quickly. As I coded the C implementation, I began to miss many of the features I had in the other languages. Returning multiple values is difficult in C, so I used global variables instead. String handling in C is also difficult, so I avoided doing it as much as possible.

C's `for` loops have their details oozing out all over the place. The most common line that I wrote was `for(i=0; i<6; i++)` for iterating over the six dice used in Farkle. Python has `for/in` loops and the other languages have `map` or some other abstraction and do not have to worry about off-by-one errors.

Not only that, but there are many nasty bugs you can create in C that are impossible in the other languages. Things like dereferencing a null pointer, going out of the bounds of an array, or corrupting allocated memory cannot happen in any of the other languages considered.

As an illustration, as I was coding the C implementation I made an unrelated change and noticed that the number of players was then changing. None of my code after the beginning of the program changes the number of players. I finally tracked the bug down to this `for` loop:

```
for (i=0; i<6; i++){
    die_counts[dice[i]]++;
}
```

Here I count how many of each die are in a roll and store the results in the `die_counts` array. Because there are at most six dice in a roll, and because arrays are hard to resize in C, I always use an array of length six to represent a collection of dice. If there are fewer than six dice, I put a `-1` in the unused slots. I had forgotten to check for dice with values of `-1`, so this code was overwriting the value at `die_counts[-1]`, which happened to be the location in memory where the number of players was stored. This sort of bug would not happen in Haskell or even Python.

If performance is not of utmost importance, avoid C. Programmer speed is often more valuable than program speed and fast enough is usually good enough for any non-CPU bound program.

## 10 Factor

For my last language, I wanted to try one of a completely different paradigm and found Factor. Like almost all the others languages I have considered, proponents of Factor say you can use it to write shorter programs more quickly with fewer bugs.

### 10.1 Ease of Learning

Factor lives in its own little world. The only real resources for learning it are the official wiki at [Concatenative.org](http://Concatenative.org) [6] and the included documentation. Nevertheless, the Factor distribution is fairly comprehensive. It comes with its own environment that includes a REPL, hypertext documentation browser, profiler, and debugger. The distribution includes editor support for Vim, Emacs, and Textmate.

The best way I found to learn Factor is to read the included tutorial and documentation, and the plethora of code that comes with the distribution. These

few resources are thorough, but when they are inadequate for understanding something there is currently nowhere else to look.

I was pleased to see that Factor is a very simple language, at least on the outside. It is a *concatenative* or *stack-based* language. All programs consist of whitespace separated words (the Factor name for functions) and literal values. Programs are read left-to-right and one token at a time. If the token is a literal, that value is pushed onto a global stack. If it is a word, execution continues in its definition. Words can manipulate values on the stack. Programming around this stack is the hard and interesting part about the language.

## 10.2 Advantages of Factor

Factor brings a lot to the table. It supports the functional style, it has LISP-style macros (a feature I have never seen in a language outside of LISP), it lets you modify the parser so that you can add new syntax to the language, and much more.

A side effect of its very simple execution model and simple, postfix syntax is that any printable character can be used in identifiers. You can put question marks on predicates (`even?`) and put exclamation marks at the end of words that mutate their argument (`sort!`). Many built-in words also make use of the at-sign, asterisk, and ampersand.

Because words get their parameters off of the stack, there are no named parameters at all, and every word is able to be curried like Haskell functions. Blocks of code can be passed as arguments and stored for later execution by surrounding them in square brackets. Control flow is handled not by special syntax like in most other languages, but by combinator words. These are normal words that take blocks of code as arguments. For example, `if` is simply a combinator that takes a Boolean value and two code blocks, executing the first if the Boolean is true and the second if it is false.

Factor claims to be able to remove all duplication from code. This is a tall order, and in some senses one of the Holy Grails of programming. The often repeated mantra of DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself) is attainable to some degree in mainstream languages like C and Python, but Factor's unique abilities to use higher-order functions and metaprogramming take refactoring to the next level.

For example, on the Concatenative.org wiki, the following code is said to be a "pattern:"

```
x = 0;
y = foo(x);
z = bar(x);
```

That is, passing a single variable to more than one function and getting two different values. The Factor solution to this redundancy is to use the `bi` combinator:

```
0 [ foo ] [ bar ] bi
```

We push the initial value and two code blocks on the stack, and then the `bi` combinator calls both code blocks and preserves the value for both of them.

### 10.3 Disadvantages of Factor

There are several reasons that Factor is not used more than it is. Perhaps the key reason is simply that it is so different from any language most programmers have experienced. All of the code is written “backwards” compared to other languages. Users of Factor’s predecessor, Forth, even coined the phrase “FORTH LOVE? IF HONK THEN”.

Not only is the code often “backwards,” but it can also be terse to the point of unreadability. The DRY principle is a good one, but pushing it to the point of not repeating language syntax removes clues as to what the program is doing.

For example, consider the this code sample:

```
[ score-dice 1000 > ] [ length 6 = ] bi and
```

This code is the test in a conditional for the `if` combinator. Rewritten in C, it might look like this:

```
score_dice(dice) > 1000 && length(dice) == 6
```

In the Factor code, there are no visual cues or named variables to tell us what data is being operated on, and we have to look ahead *after* the operands to see the next operation. Perhaps reading Factor code gets easier with practice, but C code reads more like English, and the redundancy of repeating the variable name adds readability.

Another aspect of Factor that is both an advantage and a disadvantage is the ability to extend the language syntax. This feature gives the programmer great flexibility, but it also requires anyone reading your code to understand your new syntax. This ability to create new syntax is of great benefit for the language implementors. However when a normal program is written in Factor that changes the syntax, maintainers will have to learn both Factor and the new syntax specific to that program. Any version of LISP can have this same problem with macros.

As I wrote Factor code, it always seemed hard to understand what code did, even code that I had just written a few hours ago. The code was also hard to change for this reason. I would make a change and then the compiler would complain that I was now pushing the wrong number of elements onto the stack, so I would have to go back and trace through the code to see what I had done. Perhaps this was also because I do not have much familiarity with the language.

## 11 Code Comparisons

After I finished the Farkle game for each of the five languages, I generated some descriptive statistics on the source files. The results are summarized in Table 1 and illustrated in Figures 1, 2, and 3.

Table 1: Source File Descriptive Statistics, ordered by total lines of code.

Aspect	C	Python	Clojure	Haskell	Factor
Total Lines of Code	506	308	213	169	133
Total Tokens	1627	1243	771	1142	1164
Average Tokens Per Line	3	4	3	6	8

How did the lesser-known languages do in terms of producing shorter programs? Looking at total lines of code, C is the longest at over 500 lines. Reading Table 1 left-to-right, each language after improves on the previous. Note that these numbers were generated after removing all blank and comment lines. Figure 1 shows total lines of code graphically.

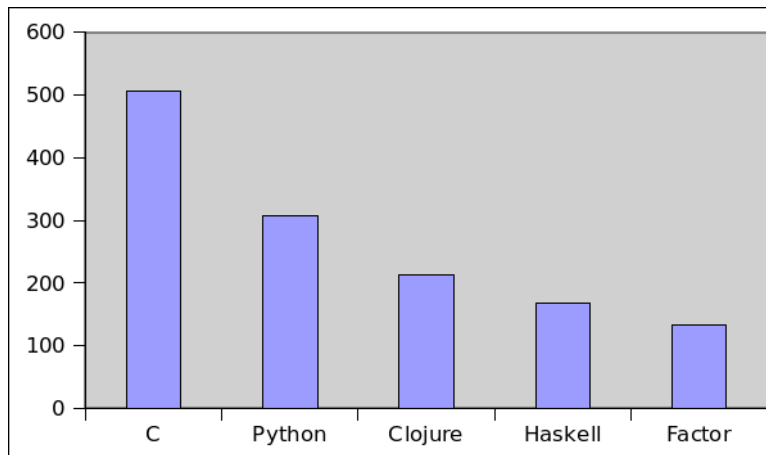


Figure 1: Total Lines of Code

Some languages pack more onto one line of source code than others. In addition to total lines, I calculated the number of tokens of each program, where a token is any whitespace-separated string of characters (See Table 1 and Figure 2). This gives a measure of the program’s “density,” that is, how much syntax is required to express the total program.

I was surprised to see that Clojure, though 3rd in line count, had the fewest tokens. Perhaps Clojure is the real winner in terms of expressiveness.

Average tokens per line, seen in Figure 3, is very telling as well. Factor, though it has the fewest lines, is by far the densest program. It sacrifices readability in some cases for compactness of code. Clojure manages to be tied for first in token density and still have the fewest tokens overall, as seen in Figure 3.

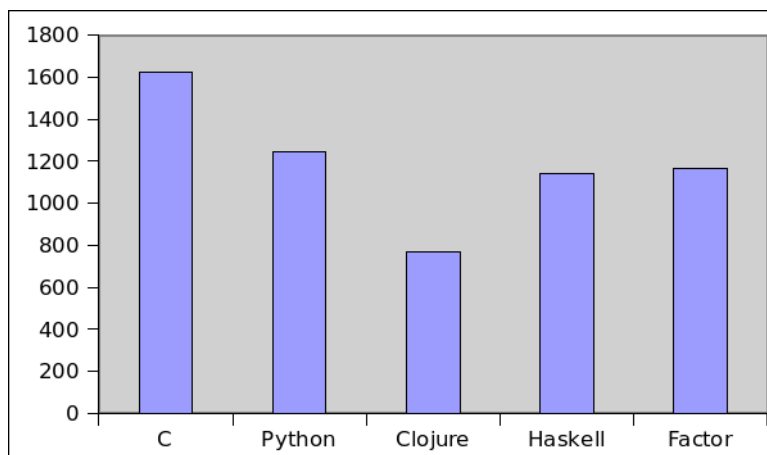


Figure 2: Total Tokens

## 12 Performance Comparisons

To compare the performance of each language, I benchmarked each system playing 10,000 games of Farkle with four players on a 1.66 GHz netbook with 2 GB of RAM. The operating system is Ubuntu 10.10. The results are summarized in Table 2 and Figure 4. Not surprisingly, C performed best, taking around 13 seconds to complete. Python was the slowest at just over 10 minutes.

Table 2: Performance Summary

Language	C	Python	Clojure	Haskell	Factor
Execution Time	0:13	10:10	3:50	3:15	5:30

I was surprised by the performance of the other three languages. Clojure claims to be as fast or faster than Java, its host language, and Haskell claims to be comparable in speed to C. Factor compiles to machine code. While each language outperforms Python by quite a lot, none of them even approach C's speed. Either I am not writing idiomatic code (which is a very real possibility), or the languages are not as fast as they claim. Of course, all of the benchmarks I've seen have been for toy problems, and the Farkle game is more of an actual application. The C code also doesn't do nearly as much as the rest of the implementations. The others are creating objects and allocating memory, but the C code allocates memory once at the beginning and frees it at the end.

Note that these times are for long runs of the programs. On my netbook C, Python, and Haskell start quickly, but Clojure takes a full 10 seconds to start, mostly due to it having to starting a new JVM instance. Factor takes about five seconds to reload code into its execution environment.

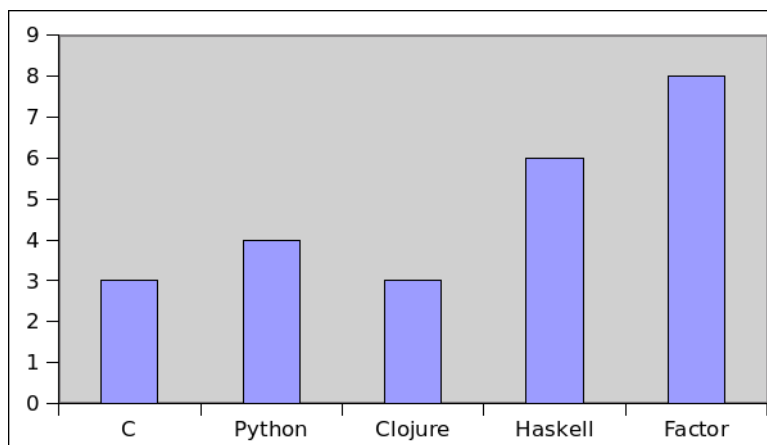


Figure 3: Average Tokens Per Line

## 13 Conclusions

This project supports the idea that functional languages are more powerful than procedural and object-oriented languages in terms of number of lines and tokens required to express the same ideas. However, some of the functional languages may be suffering from idealism.

Haskell’s quarantining of side effects enforces good programming practice, but in the real world sometimes side effects make code simpler. The Haskell code required special constructs, but the Clojure code can simply do IO as needed anywhere in the code.

Another very helpful thing for a language is a strong community. The more a language is used, the more resources there will be for learning and the more useful libraries that will be available. Factor has many powerful features, but it currently has a very small community. There are almost no questions about it on *Stack Overflow*, there are no books on Factor, and there is limited documentation. In contrast, the C and Python communities are vast. The Haskell and Clojure communities are small but increasing in size.

Python has always had as one of its big selling points that it is “Batteries Included:” it comes with many useful libraries. As the first or second language on the TIOBE Index, C has libraries for anything due to its popularity and age. Haskell is coming closer to having the status of “Batteries Included” as its community members continuously add to Hackage, the Haskell library repository. Clojure, already running on the JVM, made interfacing with Java libraries seamless, allowing access to the huge amount of available Java libraries. Though Clojure is very young, Java interop gives it a running start.

The purely functional programs are much easier to test than those with side effects. I am confident in the reliability of the Clojure and Haskell code that I wrote. This experience encourages me to write in a style that uses as few side

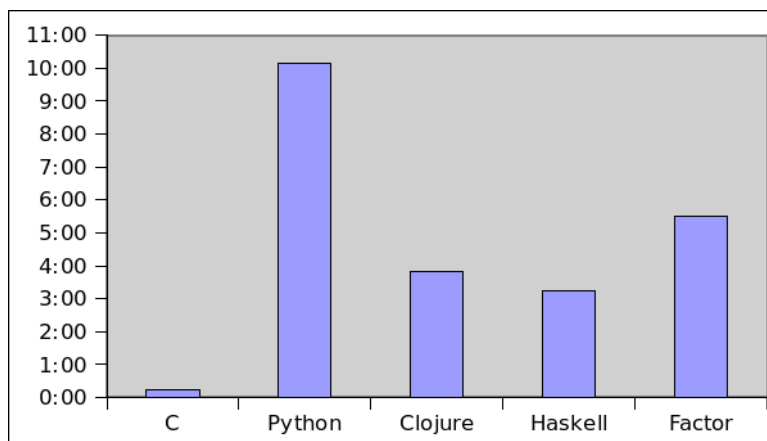


Figure 4: Execution Time for 10,000 4-Player Farkle Games

effects as possible — even in procedural and object-oriented languages.

With concurrency being as easy as it is in Clojure, I am reluctant to try to implement a concurrent program in a language like Python. Because Clojure can automatically parallelize programs, it is an obvious choice for parallel development.

I have learned a lot about different programming languages by doing this project. It is an exercise that I would recommend to any serious computer scientist. The more languages that I am exposed to, the more concepts that I see being repeated and the more new concepts I learn. This allows me to approach problems in novel ways more often than if I only knew one language.

I have come to see that learning a new language in a paradigm I already know is easy. Once you know C++ you can then learn Java and C and PHP easily. But it is difficult to learn a language in a paradigm with which you do not have experience. LISP-style languages and Haskell have taken me the most time to learn of any other language simply because of the number of new features and their new ways to do common tasks. Some of these concepts, like Haskell’s monads and LISP’s macros simply take time to absorb. I spent 10 weeks on Haskell and I still don’t understand everything.

Therefore, if I was going to choose a language for my next project, it would probably be Clojure. Of the languages I surveyed, it has the highest gain in expressive power for the least amount of new concepts to learn. I was very impressed by Clojure’s low total token count. It is concise, but not so concise that it is unreadable (like Factor). It also is not so idealistic that it is hard to use (like Haskell).

However, I have had experience with the functional paradigm. If a team of programmers are going to start a new project and they don’t know the functional paradigm, I would be reluctant to recommend Clojure. Because learning a new paradigm is hard, I would recommend using the most powerful language in the



paradigms known by the team. For this, I would recommend Python. It is still procedural and object-oriented, but it is much more expressive than C, and makes many common mistakes harder to do, e.g., off-by-one errors in loops.

The results of this investigation are summarized in table 3.

Table 3: Summary of Language Features

Aspect	C	Python	Clojure	Haskell	Factor
Total Lines of Code	506	308	213	169	133
Total Tokens	1627	1243	771	1142	1164
Average Line Length	31	40	36	47	44
Average Tokens Per Line	3	4	3	6	8
10,000 Game Execution Time	0:13	10:10	3:50	3:15	5:30
Ease of Learning	Easy	Easy	Moderate	Difficult	Difficult
Purity	Impure	Impure	Encourages Pure	Pure	Encourages Pure
Supported Paradigms	Procedural	Procedural, Object-Oriented, Functional	Functional	Functional	Stack-based, Object-Oriented
Evaluation Strategy	Eager	Eager	Lazy	Lazy	Eager
Execution Method	Compiled	Interpreted	Byte-code Compiled	Compiled	Compiled

## 14 Plans for Future Work

I would like to see programs completed in Java, Erlang, and J. I would also be interested in seeing implementations in Scala, F#, OCaml, Lua, and Groovy. The more languages in the comparison, the more useful and informative it will be.

One of the greatest flaws of my project is the fact that I was the only one writing programs for comparison. As such, my sample size is one. I would love to enlist the skills of prominent community members in each of these languages

and ask them to write the Farkle program. Because I was just learning some of these languages, my implementation may be much slower and longer than what a master would produce. I know that I did not make use of all the advanced features of every language. It would also be better if there were more than one of each program. Prechelt compiled many programs from various programmers. It would be an improvement to do the same for the Farkle game.

It might be interesting for me to come back to this project in a few years after I have matured as a programmer. I have been trying to learn the functional paradigm for several years now, and while I am getting better, I am nowhere near fluent. As I said above, learning a new language is easy, but learning a new paradigm is hard.

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## A Farkle Rules

Farkle requires six dice. On each turn, the player rolls all six dice and removes combinations that are worth points. The following combinations are worth points:

- One 5 - 50 points
- One 1 - 100 points
- Three 1s - 300 points
- Three 2s - 200 points
- Three 3s - 300 points
- Three 4s - 400 points
- Three 5s - 500 points
- Three 6s - 600 points
- Four of a kind - 1000 points
- 1-6 Straight - 1500 points
- Three pairs - 1500 points
- Five of a kind - 2000 points
- Two triples - 2500 points

- Six of a kind - 3000 points

To score, the combination must be removed all on the same turn. As long as the player can remove at least one die that scores, he or she can then continue to roll. If the player cannot remove at least one die, they “Farkle” and lose all points for that turn. The strategy in the game comes from knowing when to stop rolling and which dice to set aside.

## B Source Code Listings

The Farkle programs for each language, as well as the notes I took while learning them, can be found online in my Github repository [7].

### B.1 C Code

```

1  #include <stdio.h>
2  #include <stdlib.h>
3  #include <time.h>
4  #include <assert.h>
5
6  #define HUMANPLAYER 0
7  #define GREEDY_AIPLAYER 1
8
9  #define E -1 //for empty
10
11 typedef struct {
12     int type;
13     int turn_score;
14     int id;
15     int threshold;
16     int win_count;
17 } player;
18
19 player* create_player(int type, int id, int threshold);
20 void take_turn(player* p);
21 void query_human_setAside(player* p, int* remaining,
22                          int* setAside, int* proposed_setAside);
23 int query_human_stop(player* p, int* remaining, int* setAside);
24
25 void query_greedy_player_setAside(player* p, int* remaining,
26                                  int* setAside, int* proposed_setAside);
27 int query_greedy_player_stop(player* p, int* remaining, int* setAside);
28
29 int have_farkle(int* dice);
30 void roll_dice(int* dice);
31 int score_dice(int* dice);
32 void drop_n_dice(int* dice, int count);
33 void copy_dice(int* dice, int* copy);
34 int compare_dice_freqs(const void *a, const void *b);
35 void sort_by_frequency(int* dice);
36 int dice_contains(int* container, int* containee);
37 int remove_die(int* dice, int die);
38 int num_active_dice(int* dice);

```

```

39 void print_dice(char* msg, int* dice);
40
41 void run_tests();
42
43 int num_players = 4;
44 int cur_player = 0;
45 int total_scores[4] = {0, 0, 0, 0};
46 int die_counts[7] = {E, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0};
47 int have_leftovers = 0;
48
49 int main()
50 {
51     srand(time(0));
52     player* players[4];
53     int i, c;
54
55     for (i=0; i<10000; i++){
56
57         players[0] = create_player(GREEDY_AIPLAYER, 0, 300);
58         players[1] = create_player(GREEDY_AIPLAYER, 1, 500);
59         players[2] = create_player(GREEDY_AIPLAYER, 2, 800);
60         players[3] = create_player(GREEDY_AIPLAYER, 3, 1000);
61
62         for (c=0; c<num_players; c++){
63             total_scores[c] = 0;
64         }
65         while(1){
66             take_turn(players[cur_player]);
67             if (total_scores[players[cur_player]->id] >= 10000){
68                 break;
69             }
70             cur_player += 1;
71             if (cur_player == num_players){
72                 cur_player = 0;
73             }
74         }
75         if (i%1000==0) printf("Done with game %d\n", i);
76         players[cur_player]->win_count++;
77
78         for(c=0; c<num_players; c++){
79             free(players[c]);
80         }
81     }
82 }
83
84 for(c=0; c<num_players; c++){
85     printf("Player %d had %d wins.\n", players[c]->id, players[c]->win_count);
86 }
87
88 return 0;
89 }
90
91 void take_turn(player* p)
92 {
93     int i,c;
94     int stop;

```

```

96     p->turn_score = 0;
97     int remaining[6] = {0,0,0,0,0,0};
98     int set_aside[6] = {E,E,E,E,E,E};
99     int proposed_set_aside[6] = {E,E,E,E,E,E};
100    for(i=0; i<6; i++){
101        remaining[i] = 0;
102        set_aside[i] = E;
103    }
104    while(1){
105        roll_dice(remaining);
106
107        if(have_farkle(remaining)){
108            print_dice("You got a farkle!\nDice:", remaining);
109            return;
110        }
111        switch (p->type) {
112            case HUMAN_PLAYER:
113                query_human_set_aside(p, remaining,
114                                     set_aside, proposed_set_aside);
115                break;
116            case GREEDY_ALPLAYER:
117                query_greedy_player_set_aside(p, remaining,
118                                              set_aside, proposed_set_aside);
119                break;
120        }
121
122        p->turn_score += score_dice(proposed_set_aside);
123
124        /* copy the user's choice into the set aside */
125        int start = num_active_dice(set_aside);
126        int end = start + num_active_dice(proposed_set_aside);
127        for (i=start, c=0; i<end; i++, c++){
128            set_aside[i] = proposed_set_aside[c];
129        }
130        /* and remove the user's choice from remaining */
131        for (i=0; i<num_active_dice(proposed_set_aside); i++){
132            remove_die(remaining, proposed_set_aside[i]);
133        }
134
135        /* if they set aside all dice, activate them all again */
136        if(num_active_dice(remaining) == 0){
137            for (i=0; i<6; i++){
138                remaining[i] = 0;
139            }
140        }
141
142        switch (p->type) {
143            case HUMAN_PLAYER:
144                stop = query_human_stop(p, remaining, set_aside);
145                break;
146            case GREEDY_ALPLAYER:
147                stop = query_greedy_player_stop(p, remaining, set_aside);
148                break;
149        }
150        if (stop){
151            total_scores[p->id] += p->turn_score;
152            return;

```

```

153     }
154 }
155 }
156
157 int have_farkle(int* dice)
158 {
159     return score_dice(dice) == 0;
160 }
161
162 void query_human_setAside(player* p, int* remaining,
163                           int* setAside, int* proposed_setAside){
164     int i;
165     char choice;
166 retry:
167     for (i=0; i<6; i++) proposed_setAside[i] = E;
168
169     printf("Scores:\n");
170     for(i=0; i<num_players; i++){
171         printf("Player %d: %d\n", i, total_scores[i]);
172     }
173
174     printf("Turn score: %d\n", p->turn_score);
175
176     print_dice("\nSet Aside: ", setAside);
177
178     print_dice("\nYou roll the dice: ", remaining);
179
180     /* read in the set aside from the keyboard, retrying if it is invalid */
181     for (i=0; i<6; i++) proposed_setAside[i] = E;
182
183     for (i=0; i<num_active_dice(remaining); i++){
184         choice = getc(stdin);
185         if(!(choice >= 49 && choice <= 54)){
186             printf("That set aside is not valid! not real number\n");
187             goto retry;
188         }
189         proposed_setAside[i] = choice - 48;
190         choice = getc(stdin); /* eat the space */
191         if(choice == '\n'){
192             break;
193         }
194     }
195     if(choice != ' ') {
196         printf("That set aside is not valid! not a space\n");
197         printf("%d", choice);
198         goto retry;
199     }
200 }
201 if(num_active_dice(proposed_setAside) == 0 ||
202    num_active_dice(proposed_setAside) > num_active_dice(remaining)){
203     printf("That set aside is not valid! too many dice or zero\n");
204     goto retry;
205 }
206
207 if(!dice_contains(remaining, proposed_setAside)){
208     printf("That set aside is not valid! dice not in set aside\n");
209     goto retry;

```

```

210     }
211
212     int score = score_dice(proposed_setAside);
213     if(have_leftovers || score == 0){
214         printf("That set aside is not valid! has leftovers or score is 0\n");
215         goto retry;
216     }
217 }
218
219 int query_human_stop(player* p, int* remaining, int* setAside)
220 {
221     char choice;
222     printf("You have %d points. Hit enter to continue rolling,
223           or type 's' to end your turn.\n", p->turn_score);
224
225     choice = getc(stdin);
226     if (choice == '\n'){
227         return 0;
228     } else {
229         while ( (choice = getc(stdin)) != '\n');
230         return 1;
231     }
232 }
233
234 void query_greedy_player_setAside(player* p, int* remaining,
235                                  int* setAside, int* proposed_setAside)
236 {
237     int i, c;
238     print_dice("\nAI player rolled:", remaining);
239
240     for (c=0; c<6; c++){
241         proposed_setAside[c] = E;
242     }
243
244     if (num_active_dice(remaining) == 6 && score_dice(remaining) > 1000){
245         copy_dice(remaining, proposed_setAside);
246     }
247     sort_by_frequency(remaining);
248     c = 0;
249     for(i=0; i<6; i++){
250         if (remaining[i] == 1 || remaining[i] == 5 ||
251             die_counts[remaining[i]] >= 3){
252             proposed_setAside[c] = remaining[i];
253             c++;
254         }
255     }
256 }
257 }
258
259 int query_greedy_player_stop(player* p, int* remaining, int* setAside)
260 {
261     return (p->turn_score >= p->threshold);
262 }
263
264
265 /* sets the global flag have_leftovers if there are unused dice */
266 int score_dice(int* dice)

```



```

267 {
268     int score = 0;
269     int i;
270
271     int dice_copy[6];
272     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
273         dice_copy[i] = dice[i];
274     }
275
276     sort_by_frequency(dice_copy);
277
278     if (num_active_dice(dice_copy) == 6){
279         /* six of a kind */
280         if(dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2] &&
281            dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[3] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[4] &&
282            dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[5]){
283             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 6);
284             score += 3000;
285         }
286
287         /* two sets of three */
288         if(dice_copy[0] != E && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] &&
289            dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2] && dice_copy[3] == dice_copy[4] &&
290            dice_copy[3] == dice_copy[5]){
291             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 6);
292             score += 2500;
293         }
294
295         /* a set of four and a set of two */
296         if(dice_copy[0] != E && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] &&
297            dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[3] &&
298            dice_copy[4] == dice_copy[5]){
299             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 6);
300             score += 1500;
301         }
302
303         /* three sets of two */
304         if(dice_copy[0] != E && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] &&
305            dice_copy[2] == dice_copy[3] && dice_copy[4] == dice_copy[5]){
306             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 6);
307             score += 1500;
308         }
309
310         /* straight */
311         if(dice_copy[0] != E && dice_copy[0] == 1 && dice_copy[3] == 4 &&
312            dice_copy[1] == 2 && dice_copy[4] == 5 &&
313            dice_copy[2] == 3 && dice_copy[5] == 6){
314             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 6);
315             score += 1500;
316         }
317     }
318
319     if (num_active_dice(dice_copy) >= 5){
320         /* five of a kind */
321         if(dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2] &&
322            dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[3] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[4]){
323             drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 5);

```

```

324         score += 2000;
325     }
326 }
327
328 if (num_active_dice(dice_copy) >= 4){
329     /* four of a kind */
330     if(dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2] &&
331        dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[3]){
332         drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 4);
333         score += 1000;
334     }
335 }
336
337 if (num_active_dice(dice_copy) >= 3){
338     /* three of a kind */
339     if(dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[1] && dice_copy[0] == dice_copy[2]){
340         if(dice_copy[0] == 1)
341             score += 300;
342         else
343             score += dice_copy[0] * 100;
344         drop_n_dice(dice_copy, 3);
345     }
346 }
347
348 /* ones and fives */
349 for (i=0; i<6; i++){
350     if (dice_copy[i] == 1){
351         dice_copy[i] = E;
352         score += 100;
353     }
354     if (dice_copy[i] == 5){
355         dice_copy[i] = E;
356         score += 50;
357     }
358 }
359
360 have_leftovers = 0;
361 for (i=0; i<6; i++){
362     if (dice_copy[i] != E){
363         have_leftovers = 1;
364     }
365 }
366
367 return score;
368 }
369
370 void drop_n_dice(int* dice, int count)
371 {
372     int i;
373     for (i=0; i<count; i++){
374         remove_die(dice, dice[i]);
375     }
376 }
377
378 void copy_dice(int* dice, int* copy)
379 {
380     int i;

```

```

381     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
382         copy[i] = dice[i];
383     }
384 }
385
386 int compare_dice_freqs(const void *a, const void *b)
387 {
388     int die1 = *(const int *)a;
389     int die2 = *(const int *)b;
390     /* if we hit an E, the other is larger, if there is a tie,
391      * sort by dot number, otherwise sort of die count */
392     if(die1 == E) return 1;
393     else if(die2 == E) return E;
394     else if(die_counts[die1] == die_counts[die2]) return die2 - die1;
395     else return die_counts[die2] - die_counts[die1];
396 }
397
398
399 void sort_by_frequency(int* dice)
400 {
401     int i;
402     /* find the counts of each die, referencing a global so
403      * we can use them in the comparison function */
404     for (i=1; i<=6; i++){
405         die_counts[i] = 0;
406     }
407     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
408         if(dice[i] != E)
409             die_counts[dice[i]]++;
410     }
411
412     qsort(dice, 6, sizeof(int), compare_dice_freqs);
413 }
414
415
416
417 int dice_contains(int* container, int* containee)
418 {
419     int container_copy[6];
420     int containee_copy[6];
421     int i;
422     int die;
423     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
424         container_copy[i] = container[i];
425         containee_copy[i] = containee[i];
426     }
427
428     while (num_active_dice(containee_copy) > 0) {
429         die = containee_copy[0];
430         remove_die(containee_copy, die);
431         if(!remove_die(container_copy, die)){
432             return 0;
433         }
434     }
435     return 1;
436 }
437

```

```

438 /* returns true if it removed a die, otherwise false */
439 int remove_die(int* dice, int die)
440 {
441     int i;
442     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
443         if(dice[i] == die){
444             for (; i<5; i++){
445                 dice[i] = dice[i+1];
446             }
447             dice[5] = E;
448             return 1;
449         }
450     }
451     return 0;
452 }
453
454 int num_active_dice(int* dice)
455 {
456     int i;
457     for (i=0; i<6; i++){
458         if(dice[i] == E){
459             return i;
460         }
461     }
462     return 6;
463 }
464
465 void print_dice(char* msg, int* dice)
466 {
467     printf("%s", msg);
468     int i;
469     for(i=0; i<6; i++){
470         if(dice[i] != E){ /* don't print out the die if it is inactive */
471             printf("%d ", dice[i]);
472         }
473     }
474     printf("\n");
475 }
476
477 void roll_dice(int* dice)
478 {
479     int i;
480     for(i=0; i<6; i++){
481         if(dice[i] != E){
482             dice[i] = rand() % 6 + 1;
483         }
484     }
485 }
486
487 player* create_player(int type, int id, int threshold)
488 {
489     player *p = (player*) malloc(sizeof(player));
490
491     p->type = type;
492     p->turn_score = 0;
493     p->id = id;

```

```

495     p->threshold = threshold;
496
497     return p;
498 }

```

## B.2 Python Code

```

1  import random
2
3  class GreedyAIPlayer(object):
4
5      def __init__(self, stop_threshold):
6          self.stop_threshold = stop_threshold
7
8      def query_set_aside(self, remaining, set_aside, turn_score, total_scores):
9
10         dice_score = remaining.get_score()
11         if remaining.count() == 6 and dice_score >= 1500 and dice_score != 2000:
12             return remaining.get_values()
13
14         result = []
15         counts = remaining.get_counts()
16         for die, count in counts.iteritems():
17             if die == 1 or die == 5 or count >= 3:
18                 result.extend([die] * count)
19         return result
20
21     def query_stop(self, remaining, set_aside, turn_score, total_scores):
22         if turn_score >= self.stop_threshold:
23             return True
24         else:
25             return False
26
27     def warn_invalid_set_aside(self):
28         pass # the AI should never set aside invalidly
29
30     def warn_farkle(self, roll):
31         pass
32
33 class HumanPlayer(object):
34
35     def query_set_aside(self, remaining, set_aside, turn_score, total_scores):
36         print "\n\nScores:\n"
37         for i, score in enumerate(total_scores):
38             print "Player {0}: {1}".format(i, score)
39
40         print "Turn score: ", turn_score
41
42         print "\nSet Aside:"
43         print set_aside.get_values_as_string()
44
45         print "\nYou roll the dice:"
46         print remaining.get_values_as_string()
47
48         choices = raw_input("\nIndicate the dice you want to set aside by
49                             entering their numbers separated by spaces.\n")
50

```

```

51         try:
52             return [int(choice) for choice in choices.split()]
53         except ValueError:
54             return ''
55
56     def query_stop(self, remaining, set Aside, turn_score, total_scores):
57         choice = raw_input("You have {0} points. Hit enter to continue rolling,
58                             or type 'stop' to end your turn.\n".format(turn_score))
59         if choice == '':
60             return False
61         else:
62             return True
63
64     def warn_invalid_set Aside(self):
65         print "That set Aside is invalid!"
66
67     def warn_farkle(self, roll):
68         print "You got a farkle!"
69         print "Dice: " + roll.get_values_as_string()
70
71     class InvalidSetAsideException(Exception):
72         pass
73
74     class GotFarkleException(Exception):
75         pass
76
77     class BadDieException(Exception):
78         pass
79
80     class DiceFactory(object):
81
82         @staticmethod
83         def rolled_dice(count):
84             dice = Dice()
85             dice.values = [random.randint(1, 6) for die in range(count)]
86             return dice
87
88         @staticmethod
89         def set_as(values):
90             for die in values:
91                 if not (1 <= die <= 6):
92                     raise BadDieException()
93             dice = Dice()
94             dice.values = list(values)
95             return dice
96
97
98     class Dice(object):
99
100     def __init__(self):
101         self.counts = None
102
103     def count(self):
104         return len(self.values)
105
106     def get_most_valuable_single_die(self):
107         counts = self.get_counts()

```

```

108         if counts[1] > 0:
109             return (1,)
110         elif counts[5] > 0:
111             return (5,)
112         else:
113             return None
114
115     def get_most_valuable_setAside(self):
116         counts = self.get_counts()
117
118         # 4 of a kind with a pair and 3 pairs
119         # are the only scoring combinations with a pair of dice
120         if counts.values().count(4) and counts.values().count(2):
121             return self.get_values()
122         if counts.values().count(2) == 3:
123             return self.get_values()
124
125         result = []
126         for die, count in counts.iteritems():
127             if count >= 3 or die == 1 or die == 5:
128                 result.extend([die]*count)
129         return tuple(result)
130
131
132     def all_dice_score(self):
133         counts = self.get_counts()
134         if (((counts[2] >= 3 or counts[2] == 0) and
135             (counts[3] >= 3 or counts[3] == 0) and
136             (counts[4] >= 3 or counts[4] == 0) and
137             (counts[6] >= 3 or counts[6] == 0))
138             or
139             (counts.values().count(4) and
140              counts.values().count(2))):
141             return True
142         else:
143             return False
144
145     def contains_three_of_a_kind_and_two_others(self, i):
146         counts = self.get_counts()
147
148         if i == 1 and counts[1] == 3 and counts[5] == 2: return True
149         if i == 5 and counts[5] == 3 and counts[1] == 2: return True
150
151         if ((i == 2 and counts[2] == 3 and counts[3] < 3
152             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
153             (i == 3 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] == 3
154             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
155             (i == 4 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] < 3
156             and counts[4] == 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
157             (i == 6 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] < 3
158             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] == 3)):
159
160             if (counts[1] == 2 and counts[5] == 0) or
161                 (counts[5] == 2 and counts[1] == 0) or
162                 (counts[1] == 1 and counts[5] == 1):
163                 return True
164             else:

```

```

165         return False
166     else:
167         return False
168
169     def contains_three_of_a_kind_and_one_other(self, i):
170         counts = self.get_counts()
171
172         if i == 1 and counts[1] == 3 and counts[5] == 1: return True
173         if i == 5 and counts[5] == 3 and counts[1] == 1: return True
174
175         if ((i == 2 and counts[2] == 3 and counts[3] < 3
176             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
177             (i == 3 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] == 3
178             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
179             (i == 4 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] < 3
180             and counts[4] == 3 and counts[6] < 3) or
181             (i == 6 and counts[2] < 3 and counts[3] < 3
182             and counts[4] < 3 and counts[6] == 3)):
183
184             if (counts[1] == 1 and counts[5] == 0) or
185                 (counts[5] == 1 and counts[1] == 0):
186                 return True
187             else:
188                 return False
189         else:
190             return False
191
192     def contains_n_or_more_of_a_kind(self, n):
193         return any(map(lambda (die, count): count >= n,
194             self.get_counts().iteritems()))
195
196     def contains_only_three_of_a_kind(self):
197         die_counts = self.get_counts()
198         if ((die_counts[1] == 0 or die_counts[1] == 3) and
199             (die_counts[5] == 0 or die_counts[5] == 3) and
200             (any(map(lambda (die, count): count==3, die_counts.iteritems())))):
201             return True
202         else:
203             return False
204
205     def contains_one_scoring_die(self):
206         if self.contains_n_or_more_of_a_kind(3):
207             return False
208
209         die_counts = self.get_counts()
210         if die_counts[1] == 1 and die_counts[5] == 0 or
211            die_counts[1] == 0 and die_counts[5] == 1:
212             return True
213         else:
214             return False
215
216     def get_counts(self):
217         if self.counts == None:
218             die_counts = {1:0, 2:0, 3:0, 4:0, 5:0, 6:0}
219             for die in self.values:
220                 die_counts[die] += 1
221             self.counts = die_counts

```



```

222         return self.counts
223
224
225     def get_values(self):
226         return tuple(self.values)
227
228     def have_one_of_each(self):
229         counts = self.get_counts()
230         return all([counts[die] > 0 for die in range(1, 7)])
231
232     def get_values_as_string(self):
233         return ' '.join([str(die) for die in self.get_values()])
234
235     def is_valid_setAside(self, remaining):
236         if not remaining.contains_values(self):
237             return False
238         if self.get_score(zero_for_extra=True) == 0:
239             return False
240         return True
241
242     def contains_values(self, dice):
243         proposed_dice = list(dice.get_values())
244         for die in self.get_values():
245             if die in proposed_dice:
246                 proposed_dice.remove(die)
247         return len(proposed_dice) == 0
248
249     def is_farkle(self):
250         return self.get_score() == 0
251
252     def find_n_of_a_kind(self, n):
253         matches = []
254         die_counts = self.get_counts()
255         for i in range(1, 7):
256             if die_counts[i] >= n:
257                 matches.append(i)
258         return tuple(matches)
259
260     def add(self, new_dice):
261         self.values.extend(new_dice.get_values())
262
263     def remove(self, dice):
264         for die_value in dice.get_values():
265             self.values.remove(die_value)
266
267     def get_score(self, zero_for_extra=False, return_extra=False):
268         score = 0
269         die_counts = self.get_counts()
270
271         # four with a pair, two triplets, three pairs, strait,
272         # and 6 of a kind can all just return their point value
273         # because they use all the dice
274         if die_counts.values().count(4) and die_counts.values().count(2):
275             return 1500
276         if die_counts.values().count(3) == 2:
277             return 2500
278         if die_counts.values().count(2) == 3:

```

```

279         return 1500
280     if self.have_one_of_each():
281         return 1500
282     if die_counts.values().count(6):
283         return 3000
284
285     #3, 4, and 5 of a kind
286     if die_counts.values().count(5):
287         score += 2000
288         if die_counts[1] == 1: score += 100
289         if die_counts[5] == 1: score += 50
290         if zero_for_extra and (die_counts[2] == 1 or
291                                die_counts[3] == 1 or
292                                die_counts[4] == 1 or
293                                die_counts[6] == 1):
294             score = 0
295         return score
296
297     if die_counts.values().count(4):
298         score += 1000
299         if die_counts[1] <= 2: score += 100 * die_counts[1]
300         if die_counts[5] <= 2: score += 50 * die_counts[5]
301         if zero_for_extra and (1 <= die_counts[2] <= 2 or
302                                1 <= die_counts[3] <= 2 or
303                                1 <= die_counts[4] <= 2 or
304                                1 <= die_counts[6] <= 2):
305             score = 0
306         return score
307
308     for die in range(1,7):
309         if die_counts[die] == 3:
310             if die == 1:
311                 score += 300
312             else:
313                 score += die * 100
314         if 1 <= die_counts[1] <= 2: score += 100 * die_counts[1]
315         if 1 <= die_counts[5] <= 2: score += 50 * die_counts[5]
316         if zero_for_extra and (1 <= die_counts[2] <= 2 or
317                                1 <= die_counts[3] <= 2 or
318                                1 <= die_counts[4] <= 2 or
319                                1 <= die_counts[6] <= 2):
320             score = 0
321         return score
322
323     class NotEnoughPlayersException(Exception):
324         pass
325
326     class Farkle(object):
327
328         def __init__(self):
329             self.players = []
330             self.scores = []
331             self.turn_index = 0
332
333         def add_player(self, player):
334             self.players.append(player)
335             self.scores.append(0)

```

```

336
337 def play(self):
338     if len(self.players) == 0: raise NotEnoughPlayersException()
339
340     while True:
341         score = self.take_turn()
342         self.scores[self.turn_index] += score
343
344         if self.scores[self.turn_index] > 10000: break
345         self.turn_index += 1
346         if self.turn_index > len(self.players) - 1: self.turn_index = 0
347
348     return self.turn_index
349
350 def take_turn(self):
351     player = self.players[self.turn_index]
352     turn_score = 0
353     set_aside = DiceFactory.set_aside(())
354     #junk value to initialize the number of dice
355     remaining = DiceFactory.set_aside((1,1,1,1,1,1))
356
357     while True:
358         remaining = DiceFactory.rolled_dice(remaining.count())
359         if remaining.is_farkle():
360             player.warn_farkle(remaining)
361             return 0
362
363         while True:
364             proposed_set_aside =
365                 DiceFactory.set_aside(player.query_set_aside(remaining,
366                                                             set_aside,
367                                                             turn_score,
368                                                             tuple(self.scores)))
369
370             if proposed_set_aside.is_valid_set_aside(remaining):
371                 remaining.remove(proposed_set_aside)
372                 set_aside.add(proposed_set_aside)
373                 break
374             else:
375                 player.warn_invalid_set_aside()
376
377         turn_score += proposed_set_aside.get_score()
378         if player.query_stop(remaining, set_aside, turn_score, tuple(self.scores)):
379             return turn_score
380         if remaining.count() == 0:
381             remaining = DiceFactory.set_aside((1,1,1,1,1,1))
382             set_aside = DiceFactory.set_aside(())
383
384 def lists_are_same(lst1, lst2):
385     for e1, e2 in zip(lst1, lst2):
386         if e1 != e2:
387             return False
388     return True
389
390 def main():
391     wins = [0, 0, 0, 0]
392     for i in range(10000):

```

```

393         if i % 100 == 0:
394             print "Game", i
395             farkle = Farkle()
396             farkle.add_player(GreedyAIPlayer(300))
397             farkle.add_player(GreedyAIPlayer(500))
398             farkle.add_player(GreedyAIPlayer(800))
399             farkle.add_player(GreedyAIPlayer(1000))
400             winner = farkle.play()
401             wins[winner] += 1
402         for i, win in enumerate(wins):
403             print "Player", i, "had", win, "wins."
404
405 if __name__ == "__main__":
406     main()

```

### B.3 Clojure Code

```

1  (ns farkle.core
2    (:use clojure.contrib.str-utils)
3    (:use clojure.test clojure.set)
4    (:gen-class)
5  )
6
7  (defn third [x]
8    (first (next (next x))))
9
10 (defn sort-by-frequency [lst]
11   (let [counts (seq (frequencies lst))]
12     (sort
13      (fn [a b]
14        (let [comp (compare (second b)
15                             (second a))]
16          (if (= comp 0)
17              (compare (first a)
18                       (first b))
19              comp)))
19     counts)))
20
21
22 (defn value-of-extra-1s-and-5s [dice]
23   (let [freqs (frequencies dice)]
24     (+ (if (<= (freqs 1) 0) 2)
25        (* (freqs 1) 100)
26        0)
27     (if (<= (freqs 5) 0) 2)
28     (* (freqs 5) 50)
29     0))))
30
31 (defn have-straight? [dice]
32   (= (sort dice)
33      (range 1 7)))
34
35 (defn roll-has-nonscoring-dice [dice]
36   (let [die-map (frequencies dice)]
37     (not
38      (every? true? (map #(or (or (= (val %) 0)
39                                (<= 3 (val %) 6))
40                             (= (key %) 1)

```

```

41                                     (= (key %) 5))
42                                   die-map))))))
43
44 (defn get-score
45   ([dice] (get-score dice false))
46   ([dice zero-for-extra]
47    (if (= (count dice) 0)
48        0
49        (let [die-counts (sort-by-frequency dice)
50              [fst-die fst-cnt] (first die-counts)
51              [snd-die snd-cnt] (second die-counts)
52              [trd-die trd-cnt] (third die-counts)
53              single-dice-value (value-of-extra-1s-and-5s dice)]
54          (cond
55            (and (= fst-cnt 4) (= snd-cnt 2)) 1500
56            (and (= fst-cnt 3) (= snd-cnt 3)) 2500
57            (and (= fst-cnt 2) (= snd-cnt 2) (= trd-cnt 2)) 1500
58            (have-straight? dice) 1500
59            (= fst-cnt 6) 3000
60            (and zero-for-extra (roll-has-nonscoring-dice dice)) 0
61            (= fst-cnt 5) (+ single-dice-value 2000)
62            (= fst-cnt 4) (+ single-dice-value 1000)
63            (= fst-cnt 3) (+ single-dice-value
64                            (if (= fst-die 1)
65                                300
66                                (* fst-die 100)))
67            :else single-dice-value))))))
68
69 (defn contains-values [first-vals second-vals]
70   (loop [container (sort first-vals)
71         containee (sort second-vals)]
72     (if (= (count containee) 0)
73         true
74         (if (= (count container) 0)
75             false
76             (if (= (first container)
77                   (first containee))
78                 (recur (rest container)
79                        (rest containee))
80                 (recur (rest container)
81                        containee))))))
82
83 (defn is-valid-set-aside [remaining new-set-aside]
84   (and (contains-values remaining new-set-aside)
85        (> (get-score new-set-aside true) 0)))
86
87 (defn is-farkle [dice]
88   (= (get-score dice) 0))
89
90 (defn contains-one-scoring-die [dice]
91   (let [freqs (frequencies dice)]
92     (and (< (freqs 2) 3)
93          (< (freqs 3) 3)
94          (< (freqs 4) 3)
95          (< (freqs 6) 3)
96          (or (and (= (freqs 1) 1)
97                   (= (freqs 5) 0))
98              (= (freqs 5) 0)))

```

```

98         (and (= (freqs 1) 0)
99               (= (freqs 5) 1))))))
100
101 (defn contains-only-three-of-a-kind [dice]
102   (let [freqs (frequencies dice)]
103     (and (not (<= 1 (freqs 1) 2))
104          (not (<= 1 (freqs 5) 2))
105          (= (reduce + (map #(if (= (val %) 3) 1 0) freqs)) 1))))
106
107 (defprotocol FarklePlayer
108   (get-name [this])
109   (query-set-aside [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores])
110   (query-stop [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores])
111   (warn-invalid-set-aside [this])
112   (warn-farkle [this roll]))
113
114 (deftype GreedyAIPlayer [name stop-threshold]
115   FarklePlayer
116   (get-name [this]
117     name)
118   (query-set-aside [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores]
119     (let [dice-score (get-score remaining)]
120       (if (and (= (count remaining) 6)
121               (or (= dice-score 1500)
122                   (= dice-score 2500)
123                   (= dice-score 3000)))
124         remaining
125         (let [freqs (frequencies remaining)
126               new-set-aside (filter #(or (>= (freqs %) 3)
127                                           (= % 1)
128                                           (= % 5))
129                                     remaining)]
130           new-set-aside))))
131
132   (query-stop [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores]
133     (> turn-score stop-threshold))
134
135   (warn-invalid-set-aside [this]
136     )
137
138   (warn-farkle [this roll]
139     )
140   )
141
142 (deftype HumanPlayer [name]
143   FarklePlayer
144   (get-name [this]
145     name)
146   (query-set-aside [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores]
147     (println "\n\nScores:\n")
148     (doseq [[i score] (map-indexed vector total-scores)]
149       (println (format "Player %d: %d" i score)))
150     (println "Turn score:" turn-score))
151
152   (println "Set Aside:")
153   (println set-aside)
154

```

```

155     (println "You roll the dice:")
156     (println remaining)
157     (println "Indicate the dice you want to set aside
158             by entering their numbers separated by spaces.")
159
160     (let [choices (read-line)]
161         (map #(Integer/parseInt %) (re-split #" " choices))))
162
163     (query-stop [this remaining set-aside turn-score total-scores]
164         (println
165             (format
166                 "You have %d points. Hit enter to continue rolling,
167                 or type 'stop' to end your turn."
168                 turn-score)))
169     (let [choice (read-line)]
170         (if (= choice "")
171             false
172             true)))
173
174     (warn-invalid-set-aside [this]
175         (println "That set aside is invalid!"))
176
177     (warn-farkle [this roll]
178         (println "You got a farkle!")
179         (println "Dice:" roll))
180 )
181
182 (defn roll-dice [num-to-roll]
183     (for [die (range num-to-roll)]
184         (inc (rand-int 6))))
185
186 (defn get-validated-set-aside [player remaining set-aside
187                               turn-score total-scores]
188     (loop [new-set-aside (query-set-aside player remaining set-aside
189                                           turn-score total-scores)]
190         (if (is-valid-set-aside remaining new-set-aside)
191             new-set-aside
192             (do
                 (warn-invalid-set-aside player)
                 (recur (query-set-aside player remaining set-aside
193                                         turn-score total-scores))))))
193
194 (defn take-turn [player total-scores]
195     (loop [turn-score 0
196            set-aside []
197            remaining (roll-dice 6)]
198         (if (is-farkle remaining)
199             (do
                 (warn-farkle player remaining)
                 0)
200             (let [new-set-aside (get-validated-set-aside player remaining set-aside
201                                                           turn-score total-scores)
202                   new-turn-score (+ turn-score (get-score new-set-aside))]
203                 (if (query-stop player remaining set-aside
204                                 new-turn-score total-scores)
205                     new-turn-score
206                     (recur new-turn-score
207                             new-set-aside
208                             remaining
209                             total-scores))))))

```

```

212         (concat set-aside new-set-aside)
213         (roll-dice (let [die-count (- (count remaining)
214                                     (count new-set-aside))]
215                     (if (> die-count 0)
216                         die-count
217                         6)))))))))
218
219 (defn play-farkle [players]
220   (if (= (count players) 0)
221       (println "Not enough players!")
222       (loop [rotation (cycle players)
223             scores (zipmap players (repeat 0))]
224         (let [player (first rotation)
225               updated-score (+ (scores player)
226                                (take-turn player (take (count players)
227                                                         (vec
228                                                            (map val scores))))))]
229           (if (>= updated-score 10000)
230               player
231               (recur (rest rotation)
232                      (assoc scores player updated-score)))))))))
233
234 (defn -main [& args]
235   (loop [times 10000]
236     (let [winner (play-farkle [(GreedyAIPlayer. "Greedy Player 1" 300)
237                               (GreedyAIPlayer. "Greedy Player 2" 500)
238                               (GreedyAIPlayer. "Greedy Player 3" 800)
239                               (GreedyAIPlayer. "Greedy Player 4" 1000)])]
240       (do
241         (if (= (mod times 1000) 0) (println times " games left."))
242         (if (> times 0)
243             (recur (- times 1))
244             (println "Done"))))))))

```

## B.4 Haskell Code

```

1 {-# LANGUAGE TypeSynonymInstances #-}
2 module Main where
3
4 import Data.List
5 import Debug.Trace
6 import Data.Monoid
7 import Text.Printf
8 import System.Random
9
10 data Player = Player { name :: String
11                      , score :: Int
12                      , threshold :: Int
13                      , kind :: PlayerType
14                      } deriving (Show)
15
16 --maybe this should be in the state monad eh?
17 data TurnState = TurnState { remaining :: [Int]
18                           , setAside :: [Int]
19                           , turnScore :: Int }
20
21 data PlayerType = HumanPlayer | GreedyAIPlayer | GAPlayer deriving (Show)

```



```

22
23 main :: IO ()
24 main = do putStrLn "Purely functional Farkle in Haskell!"
25         repeatFarkle 10000
26
27 repeatFarkle :: Int -> IO ()
28 repeatFarkle times = do
29     let players = [Player {name = "AI Player 1", score = 0,
30                          threshold = 300, kind = GreedyAIPlayer}
31                  ,Player {name = "AI Player 2", score = 0,
32                          threshold = 500, kind = GreedyAIPlayer}
33                  ,Player {name = "AI Player 3", score = 0,
34                          threshold = 800, kind = GreedyAIPlayer}
35                  ,Player {name = "AI Player 4", score = 0,
36                          threshold = 1000, kind = GreedyAIPlayer}
37                  ]
38
39     winner <- playFarkle players
40     if times > 0
41     then do
42         if times `mod` 1000 == 0
43         then putStrLn (show times ++ " games left.")
44         else return ()
45         repeatFarkle (times - 1)
46     else return ()
47
48
49 playFarkle :: [Player] -> IO Player
50 playFarkle players@(curPlayer:otherPlayers) = do
51     newCurPlayer <- takeTurn curPlayer (getScores players)
52     if score newCurPlayer >= 10000
53     then return newCurPlayer
54     else do
55         playFarkle $ otherPlayers ++ [newCurPlayer]
56
57 getScores :: [Player] -> [Int]
58 getScores players =
59     map score players
60
61 —It would appear that the game structure, being very procedural in nature,
62 —does not benefit from a purely functional model
63 takeTurn :: Player -> [Int] -> IO Player
64 takeTurn player totalScores = do
65     initialDice <- rollDice [0,0,0,0,0,0]
66     turnLoop TurnState {remaining = initialDice, setAside = [], turnScore = 0}
67     where turnLoop turnState
68         | isFarkle $ remaining turnState = do
69             warnFarkle (kind player) (remaining turnState)
70             return player
71         | otherwise = do
72             newSetAside <- querySetAside (kind player) turnState totalScores
73             newRoll <- rollDice
74                 (if length (setAside turnState) + length newSetAside == 6
75                  then [0,0,0,0,0,0]
76                  else removeElems newSetAside (remaining turnState))
77             let newTurnState =
78                 TurnState { remaining = newRoll

```

```

79         , setAside = (if length newRoll == 6
80                       then []
81                       else setAside turnState ++
82                           newSetAside)
83         , turnScore = turnScore turnState +
84             fst (findScore newSetAside) }
85     choice <- queryStop (kind player) (threshold player)
86     newTurnState totalScores
87     if choice == True
88     then do return $ player { score =
89         score player + turnScore newTurnState }
90     else do turnLoop newTurnState
91
92 removeElems :: (Eq a) => [a] -> [a] -> [a]
93 removeElems [] lst = lst
94 removeElems (x:xs) lst = removeElems xs (delete x lst)
95
96 rollDice :: [Int] -> IO [Int]
97 rollDice dice = do
98     newDice <- sequence $ replicate (length dice) $ getStdRandom $ randomR (1,6)
99     return newDice
100
101 isFarkle :: [Int] -> Bool
102 isFarkle dice = fst (findScore dice) == 0
103
104 querySetAside :: PlayerType -> TurnState -> [Int] -> IO [Int]
105 querySetAside HumanPlayer turnState totalScores = do
106     putStrLn "\n\nScores:\n"
107     --uncurry: convert a two argument function to a
108     --one argument function that operates on a pair
109     mapM (uncurry $ printf "Player %d: %d\n") ((zip ([1..] :: [Int]) totalScores))
110
111     putStrLn $ "Turn score: " ++ show (turnScore turnState)
112     putStrLn "\nSet Aside:"
113     putStrLn $ show $ setAside turnState
114
115     putStrLn "\nYou roll the dice:"
116     putStrLn $ show $ remaining turnState
117     putStrLn "\nIndicate the dice you want to set aside by
118         entering their numbers separated by spaces.\n"
119     choice <- getLine
120     let setAside = map read (words choice)
121     if (length setAside > 0) &&
122         containsValues setAside (remaining turnState) &&
123         length (snd (findScore setAside)) == 0
124     then return setAside
125     else do
126         putStrLn "That set aside is not valid!"
127         querySetAside HumanPlayer turnState totalScores
128
129 querySetAside GreedyAIPlayer turnState totalScores = do
130     if length (remaining turnState) == 6 && fst (findScore (remaining turnState)) > 1000
131     then return $ remaining turnState
132     else do
133         let newSetAside = filter isScoringDie (remaining turnState)
134         return newSetAside
135     where isScoringDie die =

```

```

136         die == 1 || die == 5 ||
137         (length (filter (== die) (remaining turnState))) == 3)
138
139 containsValues :: (Eq a, Ord a) => [a] -> [a] -> Bool
140 containsValues firstVals secondVals =
141     containsValues' (sort firstVals) (sort secondVals)
142     where containsValues' [] _ = True
143           containsValues' _ [] = False
144           containsValues' (x:xs) (y:ys)
145               | x == y = containsValues' xs ys
146               | otherwise = containsValues' (x:xs) ys
147
148 queryStop :: PlayerType -> Int -> TurnState -> [Int] -> IO Bool
149 queryStop HumanPlayer threshold turnState totalScores = do
150     putStrLn $ "You have " ++ (show $ turnScore turnState) ++
151         ". Hit enter to continue rolling, or type 'stop' to end your turn.\n"
152     choice <- getLine
153     if choice == "" then do return False else do return True
154
155 queryStop GreedyAIPlayer threshold turnState totalScores = do
156     return $ turnScore turnState > threshold
157
158 warnFarkle :: PlayerType -> [Int] -> IO ()
159 warnFarkle HumanPlayer dice = do
160     putStrLn $ "You got a farkle!\nDice: " ++ show dice
161
162 warnFarkle GreedyAIPlayer dice = do
163     return ()
164
165 sortByFrequency :: (Ord a, Eq a) => [a] -> [a]
166 sortByFrequency lst = sortBy moreInList lst
167     where moreInList x y = ((numInList y) 'compare' (numInList x))
168                           'mappend' (x 'compare' y)
169           --use the Ord monoid to sort by different criteria;
170           --if the first gives an EQ, the second applies
171           numInList e = length $ filter (== e) lst
172
173 --not sure if I could use a monad here?
174 --Chaining score and remaining dice filtering functions
175 findScore :: [Int] -> (Int, [Int])
176 findScore dice =
177     remove5s . (removeNOFAKind 3) . (removeNOFAKind 4) . (removeNOFAKind 5)
178     . remove222 . remove33 . remove42 . removeStraight . (removeNOFAKind 6)
179     $ (0, sortByFrequency dice)
180
181 -- Expects the dice to be sorted by frequency
182 remove42 :: (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
183 remove42 (score, dice)
184     | length dice /= 6 = (score, dice)
185     | all (== head first4) first4 && all (== head last2) last2 = (score + 1500, [])
186     | otherwise = (score, dice)
187     where (first4, last2) = splitAt 4 dice
188
189 remove33 :: (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
190 remove33 (score, dice)
191     | length dice /= 6 = (score, dice)
192     | all (== head first3) first3 && all (== head last3) last3 = (score + 2500, [])

```

```

193     | otherwise = (score, dice)
194     where (first3, last3) = splitAt 3 dice
195
196 remove222 :: (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
197 remove222 (score, dice)
198     | length dice /= 6 = (score, dice)
199     | all (== head first2) first2 && all (== head mid2) mid2 &&
200       all (== head last2) last2 = (score + 2500, [])
201     | otherwise = (score, dice)
202     where (first2, rest) = splitAt 2 dice
203           (mid2, last2) = splitAt 2 rest
204
205 remove5s :: (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
206 remove5s (score, dice) =
207     let (onesAndFives, rest) = partition (\x -> x == 1 || x == 5) dice
208     in (score + sum $ map getScore onesAndFives
209        , score + valOf5s, rest)
210     where getScore 1 = 100
211           getScore 5 = 50
212
213 removeStraight :: (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
214 removeStraight (score, dice)
215     | sort dice == [1,2,3,4,5,6] = (score + 1500, [])
216     | otherwise = (score, dice)
217
218 removeNoFAKind :: Int -> (Int, [Int]) -> (Int, [Int])
219 removeNoFAKind n (score, dice)
220     | length dice < n = (score, dice)
221     | all (== head dice) firstN = (score + scoreNoFAKind firstN, drop n dice)
222     | otherwise = (score, dice)
223     where firstN = take n dice
224           scoreNoFAKind dice =
225             case length dice of
226               6 -> 3000
227               5 -> 2000
228               4 -> 1000
229               3 -> if head dice == 1 then 300 else (head dice) * 100
230             otherwise -> error "Should not try to take another n of a kind"

```

## B.5 Factor Code

```

1 USING: kernel random math sequences prettyprint io formatting
2 accessors fry locals math.order sorting splitting math.parser
3 combinators tools.continuations ;
4 IN: farkle
5
6 : rotate ( seq — seq ) dup first suffix 0 swap remove-nth ;
7
8 : roll-dice ( x — seq ) [ 6 random 1 + ] replicate ;
9
10 : count ( elt seq — cnt ) swap '[ - = ] filter length ;
11
12 :: sort-by-frequency ( arr — seq )
13     arr [ 2dup [ arr count ] bi@ >=
14         dup +eq+ = [ drop <=> ] [ 2nip ] if
15         ] sort ;
16

```

```

17 : all-eq? ( seq — ? ) dup first '[ _ = ] all? ;
18
19 : must-have ( seq score block count — seq score )
20   [ over ] 2dip rot length <= swap when ; inline
21
22
23 : (score-6) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over all-eq?
24   [ 3000 [ 6 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 6 must-have ;
25
26 : (score-42) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over
27   [ 4 head all-eq? ] [ 4 tail all-eq? ] bi and
28   [ 1500 [ 6 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 6 must-have ;
29
30 : (score-33) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over
31   [ 3 head all-eq? ] [ 3 tail all-eq? ] bi and
32   [ 2500 [ 6 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 6 must-have ;
33
34 : (score-222) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over
35   [ 2 head all-eq? ] [ 2 4 rot subseq all-eq? ]
36   [ 4 tail all-eq? ] tri and and
37   [ 1500 [ 6 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 6 must-have ;
38
39 : (score-straight) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over
40   { 1 2 3 4 5 6 } =
41   [ 1500 [ 6 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 6 must-have ;
42
43 : (score-5) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over 5 head all-eq?
44   [ 2000 [ 5 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 5 must-have ;
45
46 : (score-4) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over 4 head all-eq?
47   [ 1000 [ 4 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 4 must-have ;
48
49
50 : (3s-score) ( seq — score ) first dup 1 =
51   [ drop 300 ] [ 100 * ] if ;
52
53 : (score-3) ( seq score — seq score ) [ over 3 head all-eq?
54   [ over (3s-score) [ 3 tail ] 2dip ] [ 0 ] if + ] 3 must-have ;
55
56
57 : (score-1s5s) ( seq score — seq score ) swap
58   [ [ [ 1 = not ] [ 5 = not ] bi and ] filter ]
59   [ [ 1 = ] filter length 100 * ]
60   [ [ 5 = ] filter length 50 * ] tri + swap [ + ] dip swap ;
61
62
63 : score-dice ( seq — leftovers score )
64   sort-by-frequency 0 (score-6) (score-42)
65   (score-33) (score-222) (score-straight)
66   (score-5) (score-4) (score-3) (score-1s5s) ;
67
68 : farkle? ( seq — ? )
69   score-dice 0 = nip ;
70
71
72 : string>array ( str — arr ) " " split [ string>number ] map ;
73

```

```

74 : array>string ( arr — str ) [ number>string ] map " " join ;
75
76 : (contains-values?) ( container containee — ? )
77 {
78     { [ dup length 0 = ] [ 2drop t ] }
79     { [ over length 0 = ] [ 2drop f ] }
80     { [ 2dup [ first ] bi@ = ]
81       [ [ rest ] bi@ (contains-values?) ] }
82     [ [ rest ] dip (contains-values?) ]
83 } cond ;
84
85 : contains-values? ( container containee — ? )
86 [ [ <=> ] sort ] bi@ (contains-values?) ;
87
88
89 TUPLE: turn-state remaining set-aside turn-score ;
90 : <turn-state> ( — turn-state ) 6 roll-dice { } 0 turn-state boa ;
91
92 TUPLE: human-player name score win-count ;
93
94 : <human-player> ( name — human-player ) 0 0 human-player boa ;
95
96 TUPLE: greedy-ai-player threshold name score win-count ;
97
98 : <greedy-ai-player> ( threshold name — greedy-ai-player )
99   0 0 greedy-ai-player boa ;
100
101 GENERIC: query-set-aside ( state player — set-aside )
102 M: human-player query-set-aside ( state player — set-aside )
103   swap dup remaining>> "You roll the dice:\n" write
104   dup array>string write
105   "\nIndicate the dice you want to set aside by entering
106   their numbers separated by spaces.\n" write
107   readln string>array dup score-dice
108   0 > [ length 0 = ] dip [ 2dup contains-values? ] 2dip
109   and and [ [ 3drop ] dip ] [ 2drop swap query-set-aside ] if ;
110
111
112 M.: greedy-ai-player query-set-aside ( state player — set-aside )
113   state remaining>> dup [ score-dice nip 1000 > ] [ length 6 = ] bi and
114   [ ]
115   [ [ [ 1 = ] [ 5 = ] [ state remaining>> count 3 >= ] tri or or ] filter ] if ;
116
117 GENERIC: query-stop ( state player — ? )
118 M: human-player query-stop ( state player — ? )
119   swap "You have " write
120   turn-score>> number>string write
121   " points. Hit enter to continue rolling, or type 'stop' to
122   end your turn.\n" write
123   readln " " = [ f ] [ t ] if nip ;
124
125 M: greedy-ai-player query-stop ( state player — ? )
126   2dup threshold>> [ turn-score>> ] dip >=
127   [ 2drop t ]
128   [ 2drop f ] if ;
129
130 GENERIC: warn-farkle ( state player — state player )

```

```

131 M: human-player warn-farkle ( state player — state player )
132     "You got a farkle!\n" write
133     "Dice: " write over remaining>> array>string write
134     "\n" write ;
135
136 M: greedy-ai-player warn-farkle ( state player — state player )
137     ;
138
139 : set-aside-dice ( state set-aside — state )
140     [ score-dice nip '[ - + ] change-turn-score ]
141     [ '[ - append ] change-set-aside ]
142     [ '[ length - length - roll-dice ] change-remaining ]
143     2tri 2drop ;
144
145 : reset-dice-if-empty ( state — state )
146     dup remaining>> length 0 = [
147         [ drop 6 roll-dice ] change-remaining
148         [ drop { } ] change-set-aside
149     ] when ;
150
151 : (take-turn) ( player state — player state )
152     dup remaining>> farkle? [ swap warn-farkle swap ] [
153         2dup swap query-set-aside
154         set-aside-dice reset-dice-if-empty
155         2dup swap query-stop [ ] [ (take-turn) ] if
156     ] if ;
157
158 : take-turn ( player — player score )
159     <turn-state> (take-turn) turn-score>> ;
160
161
162 : play-farkle ( players — player )
163     dup first take-turn '[ - + ] change-score
164     dup score>> 10000 >= [ nip [ 1 + ] change-win-count ]
165     [ drop rotate play-farkle ] if ;
166
167 : main ( — )
168     "Concatenative Farkle in Factor!" print
169     { }
170     300 "Greedy Player 300" <greedy-ai-player> suffix
171     500 "Greedy Player 500" <greedy-ai-player> suffix
172     800 "Greedy Player 800" <greedy-ai-player> suffix
173     1000 "Greedy Player 1000" <greedy-ai-player> suffix
174     10000 [ dup play-farkle drop [ [ drop 0 ] change-score ] map ] times
175     [ [ name>> write " had " write ]
176         [ win-count>> number>string write " wins.\n" write ] bi ] each ;
177
178 MAIN: main

```