



AC21007: Haskell Lecture 6

Tail Recursion, Algebraic Data Types, Type Classes

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Recapitulation



- ▶ Sorting algorithms
 - ▶ Selection Sort
 - ▶ Insertion Sort
 - ▶ Bubble Sort

Tail recursion

- ▶ A recursive function is tail recursive iff the final result of the recursive call is the final result of the function itself
- ▶ I.e. the outermost function applied in an RHS expression.
- ▶ Non-tail recursive sum:

```
sum  :: [Int] -> Int
sum []      = 0
sum (x:xs)  = x + (sum xs)
```

- ▶ A tail-recursive version - we use an additional accumulator `acc`:

```
sumAux :: [Int] -> Int -> Int
sumAux []      acc = acc {- + 0 -}
sumAux (x:xs)  acc = sumAux xs (acc + x)

sum  :: [Int] -> Int
sum xs = sumAux xs 0
```

Tail recursion - Fibonacci numbers



► Fibonacci numbers: $F_n = \begin{cases} = 0 & n = 0 \\ = 1 & n = 1 \\ = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...

- Haskell implementation is straightforward:

```
fib :: Integer -> Integer
```

```
fib 0 = 0
```

```
fib 1 = 1
```

```
fib n = fib (n - 1) + fib (n - 2)
```

- Can we turn this into a tail-recursive function?

Tail recursion - Fibonacci numbers (cont.)



- ▶ Observation: recursive step performs two recursive calls
- ▶ ...in `sum` it performs one r.c. and uses one `acc` ...
- ▶ ...we are going to use two intermediate values!
- ▶ An implementation:

```
fibHelper :: Int -> Int -> Int -> Int
fibHelper 0 val1      val2      = val1
fibHelper 1 val1      val2      = val2
fibHelper n val1      val2      =
    fibHelper (n - 1) val2 (val1 + val2)

fib :: Int -> Int
fib n = fibHelper n 0 1
```

Tail recursion and folds



- ▶ We already saw folds - “schemes” of recursive functions
- ▶ We know that e.g. `sum` can be expressed as a fold:

```
sum  :: [Int] -> Int
sum xs = foldl (+) 0 xs
```

or

```
sum'  :: [Int] -> Int
sum' = foldr (+) 0
```

- ▶ Is either of these tail-recursive?

Tail recursion and folds (cont.)



- recall recursive steps of `foldr` and `foldl`:

$$\mathbf{foldr} \ f \ z \ (x:xs) = f \ x \ (\mathbf{foldr} \ f \ z \ (x:xs))$$

...

$$\mathbf{foldl} \ f \ z \ (x:xs) = \mathbf{let} \ z' = z \ 'f' \ x \\ \mathbf{in} \ \mathbf{foldl} \ f \ z' \ xs$$

- `foldr` is *not* tail-recursive but `foldl` is tail recursive!

Algebraic Data Types



- ▶ We define our own data types by stating data type name and it's *constructors* – both identifiers types and constructors begin with an uppercase letter
- ▶ We already know Bool:

```
data Bool = False | True
```

Bool is a type with two constructors: True and False.

- ▶ Similarly we can define e.g.:

```
data Suits = Spades  
           | Hearts  
           | Diamonds  
           | Clubs
```


Algebraic Data Types (cont.)



- ▶ We also saw tuples and a constructor `(,)` – e.g.:

`(1, 'c') :: (Int, Char)`

- ▶ Constructors may contain *fields* of certain type, e.g.:

`data MyPair = MyPair Int Char`

Note that the name of a type and a name of its constructor can be the same. A value of type `MyPair`:

`myPairVal :: MyPair`
`myPairVal = MyPair 1 'c'`

- ▶ Values of algebraic data types are constructed in the same way as values of lists and tuples.

Algebraic Data Types (cont.)



- ▶ We can also pattern-match on data type values in function definitions and let-bindings in the very same way as with lists and tuples:

```
incMyPair :: MyPair -> MyPair
incMyPair (MyPair i c) = MyPair (i + 1) c
```

- ▶ ...but tuple type is more general – (a, b) for any types a and b

Algebraic Data Types (cont.)



- ▶ Data types may be polymorphic in fields of constructors,

```
data Pair a b = Pair a b
```

we can specify type variables after the name of type and use them as types of constructor fields.

- ▶ And we can combine all of the above:

```
data CrazyType a b c
    = NoParamCtor
    | MonoMorphicCtor1 Int
    | MonoCtor2 String [Char] Bool
    | MonoCtor3 MyPair
    | PolyCtor1 a b
    | PolyCtor2 a Int
    | PolyCtor3 (Pair c Int)
    | PolyCtor4 (c -> a, Int)
```

- ▶ We call these data types *Algebraic Data Types* (ADT's)

Some old ADT's ...

- ▶ The list type is just an ordinary type, the only special thing is syntactic sugar for “[]” and “(:)”:

```
data List a = Nil | Cons a (List a)
```

```
length ' :: List a -> Int
```

```
length ' Nil = 0
```

```
length ' (Cons _ xs) = 1 + length ' xs
```

- ▶ And the same for tuples, as we already saw:

```
data Pair a b = Pair a b
```

```
fst ' :: Pair a b -> a
```

```
fst ' (Pair x _) = x
```

```
snd ' :: Pair a b -> b
```

```
snd ' (Pair _ y) = y
```



...and some new



- Sometimes, we need an extra value:

```
data Maybe a = Nothing | Just a
```

```
safeHead :: [a] -> Maybe a
```

```
safeHead [] = Nothing
```

```
safeHead (x:_) = Just x
```

- ADT representing binary trees (values are only in leafs):

```
data BinTree a
```

```
    = Leaf a
```

```
    | Node (BinTree a) (BinTree a)
```

```
myTree :: BinTree Char
```

```
myTree = Node (Leaf 'a') (Leaf 'b')
```

Type Classes



- ▶ So far we saw monomorphic functions, e.g. `neg`, `and`, and polymorphic functions, e.g. `fst`, `head`.
- ▶ What if we want a function, that is polymorphic only for some types (ad-hoc polymorphism), e.g. `sort` for `Int`, `Integer`, and `Float`?

```
sort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
sort = ... {- (<=) for a-values -}
```

We need to constrain type variable *a* to types, that can be ordered.

- ▶ `Ord a` is a type class *constraint*.

Type Classes (cont.)



- ▶ We can define a *class* of types and specify which functions (called class *methods*) are available for types of this class (i.e. type class behaves as an interface), e.g.:

```
class Ord a where  
  (<=) :: a -> a -> Bool
```

- ▶ We can specify, that a type is an *instance* of a class – we provide an implementation of class functions for this type:

```
instance Ord Int where  
  x <= y = primitiveIntComparison x y
```

```
instance Ord Float where  
  x <= y = primitiveFloatComparison x y
```

Type Classes (cont.)



- ▶ Instance definitions can itself be constrained and do recursively compose. Recall our ADT List:

```
instance Ord a => Ord (List a) where  
  Nil <= _      = True  
  (List x xs) <= (List y ys) =  
    if (x <= y)  
      then if (x == y)  
        then xs <= ys  
        else True  
      else False
```

- ▶ And there is a similar instance for [a]
- ▶ That means that if we provide instance Ord OurData we get Ord [OurData] for free.

Type Classes (cont.)



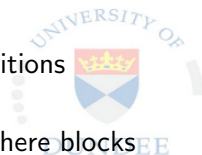
- ▶ Some standard Haskell type classes:
 - ▶ `Eq a` – types with equality, `(==)`
 - ▶ `Ord a` – ordered types, `(<)`, `(<=)`
 - ▶ `Show a` – types that can be pretty printed using `show`
 - ▶ `Num a` – numeric types - `(+)`, `(-)`, `(*)`, `abs`, `signum`
 - ▶ And many more ...
- ▶ Now we can fully understand type of e.g. `(+)`:

GHCi, version 7.10.3:

```
Prelude> :t (+)
```

```
(+) :: Num a => a -> a -> a
```

Strong Static Typing



- ▶ So far, we always provided a type of top-level definitions (functions)
- ▶ ... we did not provide a type of functions in e.g. where blocks
- ▶ Compiler *infers* the **most generic** type of any expression automatically and in fact we do not need to provide even types of top level definitions, e.g. for

```
-- mySum :: ???  
mySum = foldr (+) 0 xs
```

compiler infers the following type:

```
GHCi, version 7.10.3:  
Prelude> :t mySum  
mySum :: (Num b, Foldable t) => t b -> b
```

- ▶ **Best Practice:** Do provide top-level types – types document functions, and help compiler produce simpler error messages

Next time



- ▶ Monday the the 22th of February, 2-3PM, Dalhousie 3G05 LT2
- ▶ More sorting algorithms
 - ▶ Quick Sort
 - ▶ Merge Sort
- ▶ IO in Haskell (Monads)