INTRODUCTION TO HASKELL

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AGENDA

- Introduction
- A taste of Haskell
- Summary

INTRODUCTION

- History
- What is Haskell?
- Functional paradigm
- Real-world Haskell

WHAT IS HASKELL (PEEK)

 Haskell is a lazy functional programming language. Philip Wadler (type theory, monads in FP)

Simon Peyton
Jones
("Father" of
GHC)



David Turner (Miranda)

John Hughes (QuickCheck)

Paul Hudak

IFIP WG2.8 OXFORD, 1992 Source: "A History of Haskell: being lazy with class"

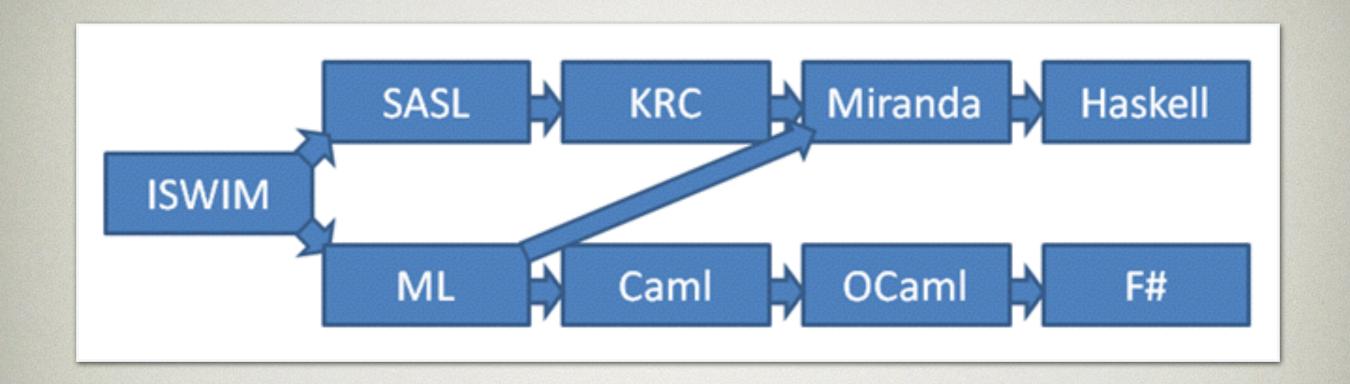
Paul Hudak, John Hughes, Simon Peyton Jones, Philip Wadler

HISTORY (1)

- '50s '70s: birth of the functional era
 - Big names involved: John Backus (BNF),
 John McCarthy (AI), Edsger Dijkstra...
 - Importance of lambda calculus
 - Lisp, Scheme, SASL, ISWIM, ML...
 - Strict (call-by-value) functional languages with imperative features

HISTORY (2)

- '80s
 - Idea of lazy (non-strict, call-by-need) evaluation
 - Lazy Lisp evaluator, lazy SASL, KRC, Miranda, Lazy ML, Orwell, Alfl, Id, Clean, Ponder, Daisy
 - A tower of Babel...



SOME CONNECTIONS

Source: Rick Minerich

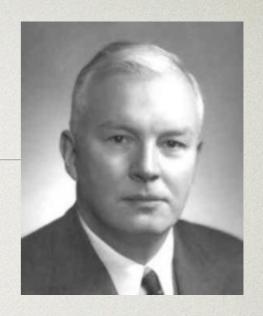
http://www.atalasoft.com/cs/blogs/rickm/

archive/2009/01/29/f-and-haskell-estranged
cousins.aspx

HISTORY (3)

- 1987, birth of Haskell
 - At FPCA conference, spontaneous meeting
 - Simon Peyton Jones, Paul Hudak,
 Philip Wadler
 - Need for a common lazy functional language

HISTORY (4)



- 1987 1997
 - Committee meetings, e-mails, design decisions, several reports
 - Naming: after Haskell Brooks Curry
 - Haskell 1.0 (April 1, 1990!) 1.4
 - February 1999: the first standard:
 The Haskell 98 Report

HISTORY (5)

- Haskell was a carefully designed committee language
- After 1999
 - Haskell 98 standard as a solid base
 - Language extensions, experimenting
 - Language (type-system) laboratory for the academia

WHAT IS HASKELL?

Haskell is a programming language, which is

- standardised,
- general-purpose,
- pure,
- functional,
- lazy evaluated,
- strongly and statically typed with type inference.

STANDARDISED

- "Freezes" the language feature-set
- Commitment to support these standards indefinitely
 - Haskell 98 (1999, revised in 2003)
 - Haskell 2010

GENERAL-PURPOSE

- Wide variety of application domains
- Not domain-specific
- Wide range of libraries, modules, tools are available for different domains

PURE

- Function is a function in the mathematical meaning of the word
- f(24) guaranteed to return the very same value every time (**no side-effects**, aka. user input, random generator, output, etc.)
- Non-pure function, or "procedure":

```
function f(int x)
    string str = getStringFromUser()
    return (stringToInt(str) + x)
```

• Now, f(24) is ...?

FUNCTIONAL

- Variables are constants, immutables, "symbols"
- Function is not special, it's like a value
- You can do fancy stuff with them easily
 - Composition: h = f · g
 - Partial application: g(x) = f(2, x)
 - Pass it as a parameter: g(f, 2, ...), where f is a function

LAZY

- "Don't calculate it until you need it"
- Compiler decides over the order of instructions
- Several advantages:
 - Makes the program declarative
 - Infinite datatypes
 - Compiler optimisations

STRONG AND STATIC TYPING WITH TYPE INFERENCE

- Only explicit type conversion
- Type system is expressive and powerful
 - Catch errors at compile time!
- Types can be inferred by the compiler
 - No need to write down explicit types
 - Conflicts between user-given and inferred types => compile-time error

FUNCTIONAL PARADIGM

Function as 1st class value

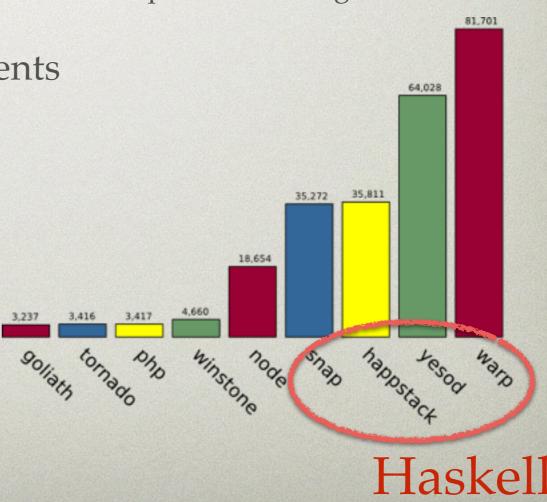
- Store functions in variables as other values
- Higher-order function: function as an argument, function as a return value
- Purity: explicit control of side effects
- Recursion: instead of loops
- Evaluation strategy: strict vs non-strict
- Type systems: Static vs Dynamic
- **Popular Languages:** Scheme, Common Lisp, ML, OCaml, F#, Clojure, Scala, ... 19

REAL-WORLD HASKELL: LANGUAGE ANALYSIS

- Haskell a.k.a. language making language
- Excellent for Abstract Syntax Tree analysis
 - Language analysis tools: ex) language-c, ecmascript
 - Compiler/Interpreter: ex) PUGS (Perl 6)
 - Domain Specific Language: ex) Kansas Lava (FPGA)
 - Embedded DSL: ex) Accelerate (GPU)
- Implementation language for more experimental type system: useful for theorem provers, ex) Agda, Idris

REAL-WORLD HASKELL: WEB FRAMEWORKS

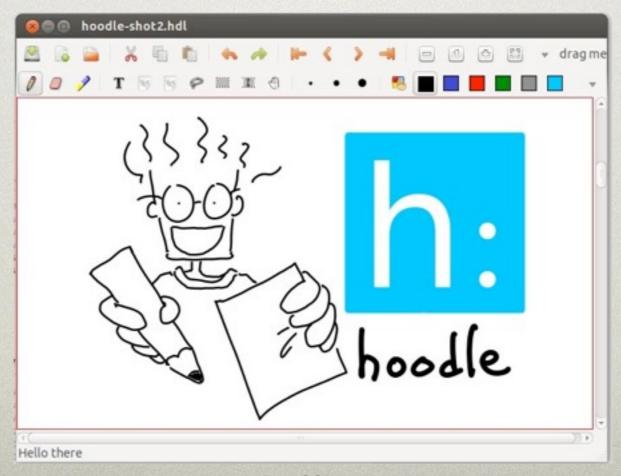
- Web server frameworks
 - Happstack
 - Snap Framework
 - Yesod
 - Many open source components
- Haskell-to-Javascript!
 - UHC, Fay, Haste, ghcjs ...
 - Static types to Javascript!
- Fast!



requests/sec Higher is better

REAL-WORLD HASKELL: APPLICATION

- Haskell is ready for general purpose app.
- Easy to make FFI to libraries, such as GUI.
- Ex) hoodle: pen note-taking program (by IWK)



DEMO: HOODLE

Youtube link

- Hoodle is written in haskell (~20k loc)
- Functionality:
 - Graphical pen note-taking functions
 - PDF annotation / asynchronous PDF rendering
 - Linking / doc database / version control
 - Web publishing
 - Tablet driver in C (~20 lines) integrated in Haskell
- External libraries: cairo, gtk, poppler, dbus
 - Haskell binding: Gtk2hs, poppler

Haskell Communities and Activities Report

http://tinyurl.com/haskcar

Twenty-Sixth Edition — May 2014

- We only skimmed a very small part of the whole haskell activities.
- One can find a more detail activity report in HCAR (still only small part)
- Industry leaders are using Haskell.



A TASTE OF HASKELL

- Basic syntax
- Types, type classes
- Performing IO
- Examples
- Ecosystem

DEFINITIONS

• Haskell definitions use =

```
-- value definition
x = 3
y = "string"
z = (1,2,3)

-- function definition
f x = x + 1
```

- = means a real value equivalence
- Haskell variables are not variable

```
x = x + 1 -- INVALID! THIS MEANS INFINITY!
```

DEFINITIONS

• Function definition:

```
-- unary function
f x = x + 1
-- binary function
f x y = x + y
-- ternary function
f x y z = (x + y) * z
```

• Lambda expression: function on the fly

$$f = \langle x - \rangle x + 1$$

Note that tuples are separate types.

$$f \times y = x + y$$

 $g (x,y) = x + y$

DATA TYPE DECLARATION

Data types are easy: Algebraic Data Types

- Multiple cases in a single data: sum type
- Record syntax

PATTERN MATCHING

• Cases are matched using case .. of

or directly using function definition

TYPE ANNOTATION AND INFERENCE

 Haskell is a strongly typed language; we simply omitted the type signature until now

• Omitted type signatures are inferred. f is Shape -> String type clearly from Dot, Circle .. and resultant expressions.

CURRYING AND PARTIAL APPLICATION

- Type signature of multi-argument function
- Multiple arguments are not multiple!

```
f:: Int -> Int
f x = x + 1

f:: Int -> Int -> Int
    -- Int -> (Int -> Int)
f x y = x + y

f:: Int -> Int -> Int -> Int
    -- Int -> (Int -> Int)
f x y z = (x + y) * z
```



Called currying named after Haskell Curry.

CURRYING AND PARTIAL APPLICATION

Partially applied functions are automatic!

```
f:: Int -> Int -> Int -> Int
    -- Int -> (Int -> (Int -> Int))
f x y z = (x + y) * z

g:: Int -> (Int -> Int)
g = f 3    -- i.e. g = \y z -> (3+y)*z

h :: Int -> Int
h = g 4    -- i.e. h = \z -> (3+4)*z
```

GUARDS

Concise definition with multiple ifs

LIST COMPREHENSION

• Haskell list definition is using [].

```
lst = [1,2,3] -- equiv to 1:(2:(3:[]))

lst = [1..5] -- [1,2,3,4,5]

lst = [1,3..9] -- [1,3,5,7,9]
```

Elegant syntax for constructing lists

```
lst = [(i,j) | i <- [1,2], j <- [1..3]]
lst = [(1,1),(1,2),(1,3),(2,1),(2,2),(2,3)]
```

Local definition using let

LET AND WHERE

Local definition inside function

```
f x y = let z = x + y
        in if x > 0 then z*z else y

-- using where
f x y = if x > 0 then z*z else y
    where z = x + y
```

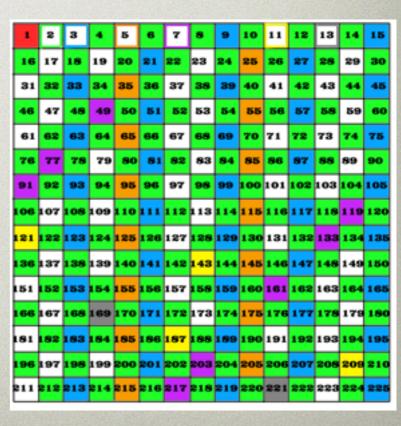
- where enables declarative programming.
- Lazy evaluation: statement order doesn't imply execution order.

DECLARATIVE STYLE EX) ERASTOTHENES SIEVE

• Find a list of all prime numbers.

```
take 1000 primes
= [2,3,5,7,11,13,...,7919]
```

Lazy evaluation, where, and list comprehension



PARAMETRISED TYPES

Types can be parameterised.

```
swap :: (a,b) \rightarrow (b,a)
swap (x,y) = (y,x)
```

```
swap (1,2) = (2,1) :: (Int,Int)
swap (1,"str") = ("str",1) :: (String,Int)
swap (1,Dot) = (Dot,1) :: (Shape,Int)
```

Detect errors by type inference.

```
x = 1

y = Circle 3

z = fst (swap (x,y)) + 1 -- Error! Circle + Int
```

PARAMETERISED DATA TYPES

Data types can also be parameterised,
 Higher-order types.

• Generic functions can be defined.

HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS

• Function can take functions as an argument and produce functions as a result.

```
map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
map f [] = []
map f (x:xs) = f x : map f xs

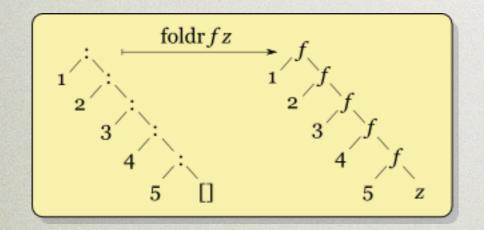
plusOne x = x + 1
map plusOne (1:(2:[])) = 2:(3:[])

plusA x = x ++ "A"
map plusA ("1":("2":[])) = "1A":("2A":[]))
```

HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS

Higher-order functions are elegantly useful!

```
foldr :: (a->b->b) -> b -> List a -> b
foldr f acc [] = acc
foldr f acc (x:xs) = f x (foldr f acc xs)
```



```
foldr f z (1:(2:(3:(4:(5:[]))))
= f 1 (foldr f z (2:(3:(4:(5:[])))))
= f 1 (f 2 (foldr f z (3:(4:(5:[])))))
= f 1 (f 2 (f 3 (foldr f z (4:(5:[])))))
= f 1 (f 2 (f 3 (f 4 (foldr f z (5:[])))))
= f 1 (f 2 (f 3 (f 4 (f 5 (foldr f z [])))))
= f 1 (f 2 (f 3 (f 4 (f 5 z))))
```

Summation of list elements

```
sum lst = foldr(+) 0 lst
```

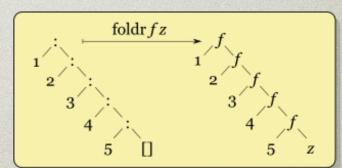
HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS

Higher-order functions are elegantly useful!

```
foldr :: (a->b->b) -> b -> [a] -> b
foldr f acc []= acc
foldr f acc (x:xs) = f x (foldr f acc xs)
```

• foldr shows generic definitions of similar operations. Many functions are in this class.

```
sum lst = foldr (+) 0 lst
product lst = foldr (*) 1 lst
concat lst = foldr (++) "" lst
```



TYPE CLASSES

• By the way, what is the type of sum?

```
foldr :: (a->b->b) -> b -> [a] -> b

-- sum :: [a] -> b ??

sum lst = foldr (+) 0 lst
```

• (+) operator can be defined only for a special class of types. Therefore, sum has the following type.

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

sum :: Num a => [a] -> a

sum lst = foldr (+) 0 lst
```

TYPE CLASSES

• Type class: a constraint requirement to types

```
class Num a where
  (+) :: a -> a -> a
  (*) :: a -> a -> a
  negate :: a -> a
  abs :: a -> a
  signum :: a -> a
  fromInteger :: a -> a
```

• Declare a type as an instance of a type class.

```
instance Num Int where
  x + y = ...
  x * y = ...
```

TYPE CLASSES EX) MONOID

```
class Monoid m where
  mempty :: m
  (<>) :: m -> m -> m

instance Monoid Int where
  mempty = 0
  (<>) = (+)
```

Define generic fold for Monoid

```
fold :: (Monoid m) => [m] -> m
fold xs = foldr (<>) mempty xs
```

-- sum = fold

 Higher-order functions and type classes are very versatile build blocks

PROGRAMMING WITH COMBINATORS EX) SORT

Generic interface to sorting

```
data Ordering = LT | EQ | GT
sortBy :: (a->a->Ordering) -> [a] -> [a]
flip f = \x y -> f y x

class Ord a where
   compare :: a -> a -> Ordering

sort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
sort xs = sortBy compare xs

reverseSort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
reverseSort xs = sortBy (flip compare) xs
```

• Usual sort is a special case of sortBy with default comparing function.

PROGRAMMING WITH COMBINATORS EX) SORT

• Sort on the 1st elements in a list of pairs.

```
data Ordering = LT | EQ | GT

sortBy :: (a -> a -> Ordering) -> [a] -> [a]
on :: (b->b->c) -> (a->b) -> a -> a -> c
g `on` f = \x y -> g (f x) (f y)

sortOnFst :: Ord a => [(a,b)] -> [(a,b)]
sortOnFst lst = sortBy (compare `on` fst) lst
```

PERFORMING I/O

• Echo with capitalising letters and return.

```
Program Specification

x <- capEcho : x is result

abc : user input
ABC : term output

print x : result

ABC : result = output
```

• Apparently, the concept of purity conflicts with the concept of side effects...

PERFORMING I/O

• Echo with capitalising letters and return.

```
capEcho = do ostr <- getLine
    let nstr = toUpper ostr
    putStrLn nstr
    return nstr</pre>
```

• It's simply doable!

PERFORMING I/O

Echo with capitalising letters and return.

getLine :: IO String

putStrLn :: String -> IO ()

return :: a -> IO a

toUpper :: String -> String

- I/O Effects are wrapped in IO a
- IO is Monad.





E. Moggi P. Wadler

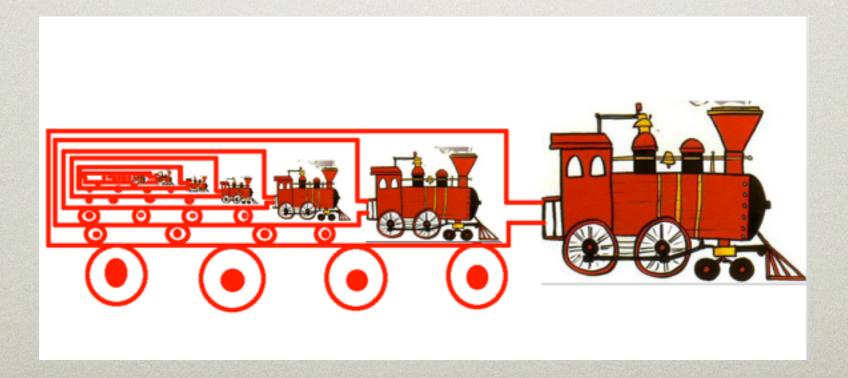
DO NOTATION

Syntatic Sugar for Monad

 Combine multiple sub-operations by chaining side effects.

MONAD SEPARATION

Capture effects in Monadic jail



MONAD IS EVERYWHERE

- Effects are everywhere...
 - Maybe a, Either r a : Success/Failure
 - State s a: Stateful operation
 - Parser a: Special state monad with string stream
 - List a ([a]): Intermediate solution space
- Monadic abstraction separates pure code from effectful code.

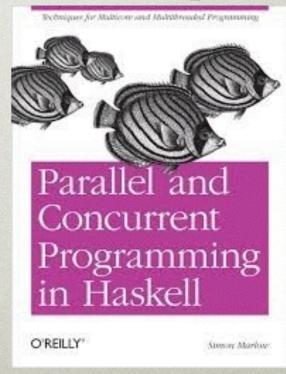
PARALLELISM/ CONCURRENCY

- Haskell is excellent in parallelism and concurrency!
- GHC Run Time System (RTS)

Lightweight threads (spark): very little overhead compared

with OS threads

- Very efficient parallel I/O management
- Constructs for concurrent operation
- Software Transactional Memory (STM)
- Full of interesting ideas!



EX) ARITHMETIC INTERPRETER (1)

- \bullet (1 + 3.5 * 2) * 2.2 + 2.0
- Cheat: right-associative infix operators
- Grammar (Backus-Naur form)

```
<expr> ::= <term> '+' <expr> | <term>
<term> ::= <factor> '*' <term> | <factor>
<factor> ::= '(' <expr> ')' | <number>
```

EX) ARITHMETIC INTERPRETER (2)

```
import Data.Attoparsec.ByteString.Char8
import Control.Applicative
-- "interpreter" part
times = (*) <$ char '*'
add = (+) < $ char '+'
-- <expr> ::= <term> '+' <expr> | <term>
expr = term <**> add <*> expr <|> term
-- <term> ::= <factor> '*' <term> | <factor>
term = factor <**> times <*> term <|> factor
-- <factor> ::= '(' <expr> ')' | <number>
parens = char '(' *> expr <* char ')'
factor = parens <|> double
```

EX) QUICKSORT

 Inefficient, but easy-to-understand implementation

```
quicksort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
quicksort [] = []
quicksort (p:xs) = (quicksort lesser) ++ [p] ++ (quicksort greater)
    where
    lesser = filter (< p) xs
    greater = filter (>= p) xs
```

Source: http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Introduction#Quicksort_in_Haskell

EX) INTUITIVE 10

```
myAction tempname temph = do
       putStrLn "Welcome to tempfile.hs"
       putStrLn ("I have a temporary file at " ++ tempname)
       pos <- hTell temph
       putStrLn ("My initial position is " ++ show pos)
       let tempdata = show [1..10] -- Creates a string "[1,2,3,4...
       putStrLn ("Writing one line containing " ++
                  show (length tempdata) ++ " bytes: " ++
                  tempdata)
       hPutStrLn temph tempdata
       pos <- hTell temph
       putStrLn ("After writing, my new position is " ++ show pos)
       putStrLn ("The file content is: ")
       hSeek temph AbsoluteSeek 0
       c <- hGetContents temph
       putStrLn c
```

BUILDING AND PACKAGING

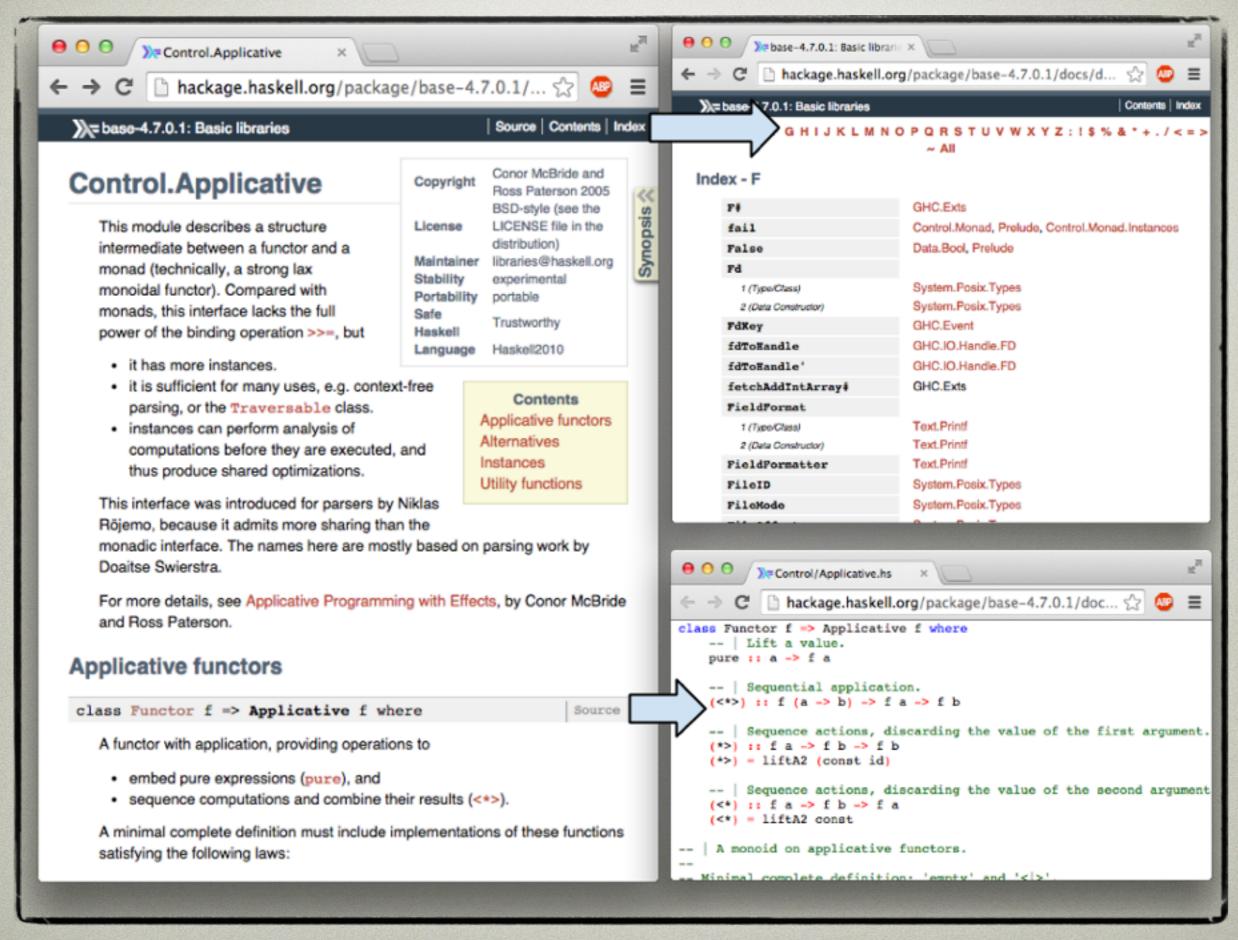
- Cabal: building and packaging Haskell libraries and programs
 - Analogy: Ruby gem, Python pip
- Features
 - Project scaffolding
 - Environments (sandbox)
 - Packaging, dependencies
 - Publishing

CABAL QUICKSTART

- Install Haskell Platform (https://www.haskell.org/platform/)
- # mkdir myproject; cd myproject
- # cabal init
- Do some coding...
- Tailor myproject.cabal
- # cabal install
- => profit :)

HACKAGE (1)

- Hackage: central package archive
 - Analogy: CPAN, pypi, <u>rubygems.org</u>
- Features
 - Easy to publish: cabal upload
 - Package, source code and documentation in one place
 - Well indexed, searchable (see also: Hoogle)



DEMO

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tF6lhqAR_L0
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4X6XHFII5w
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duKYImvXL2o

SUMMARY

- Community
- Advantages
- Conclusion

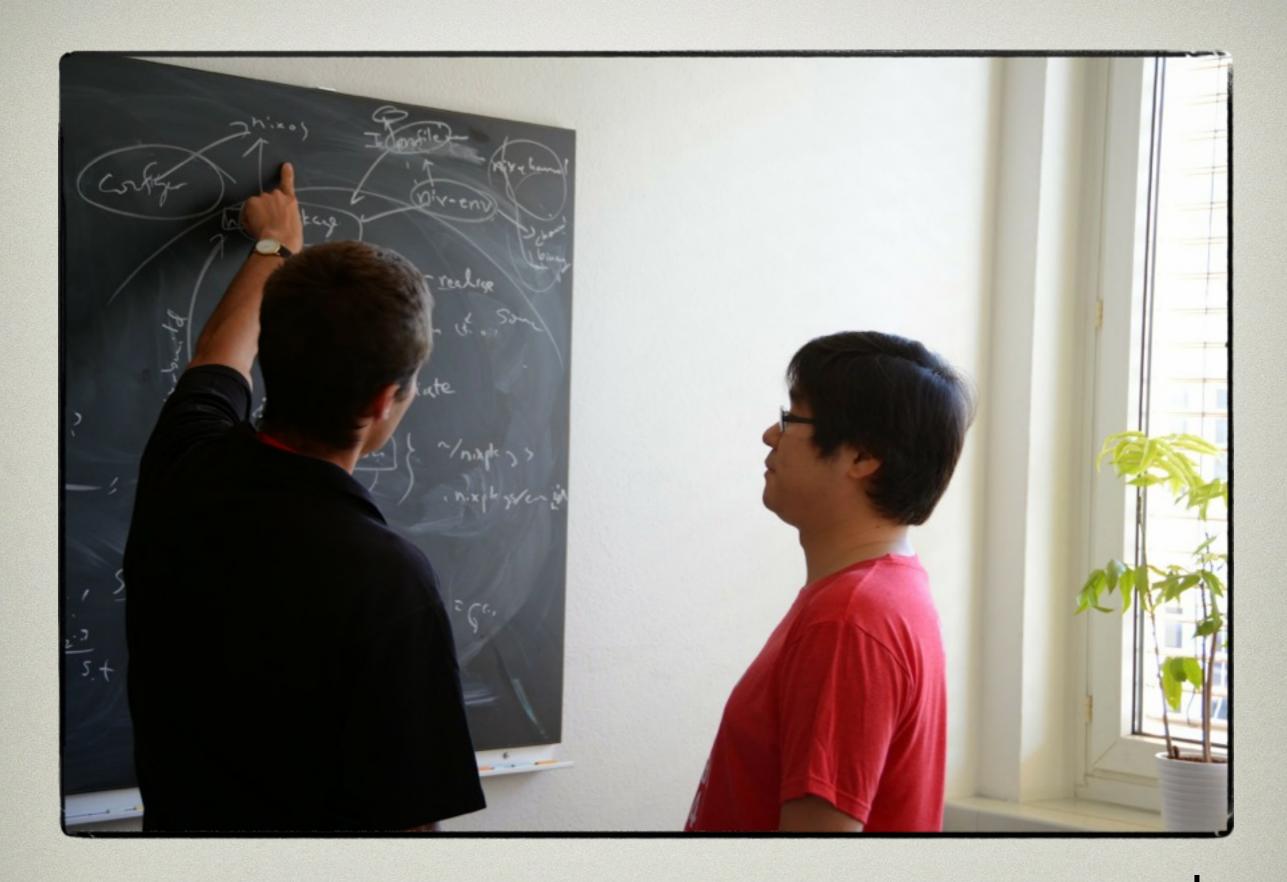
COMMUNITY

- The real power of Haskell
- Active, Academic, Approachable:)
- Many things are going on:
 - social media, meetups, hackathons, conferences, schools, IRC, mailing-lists...
 - For reference, see also the last slide



ZURIHAC 2014: BEFORE

:(



ZURIHAC 2014: DURING



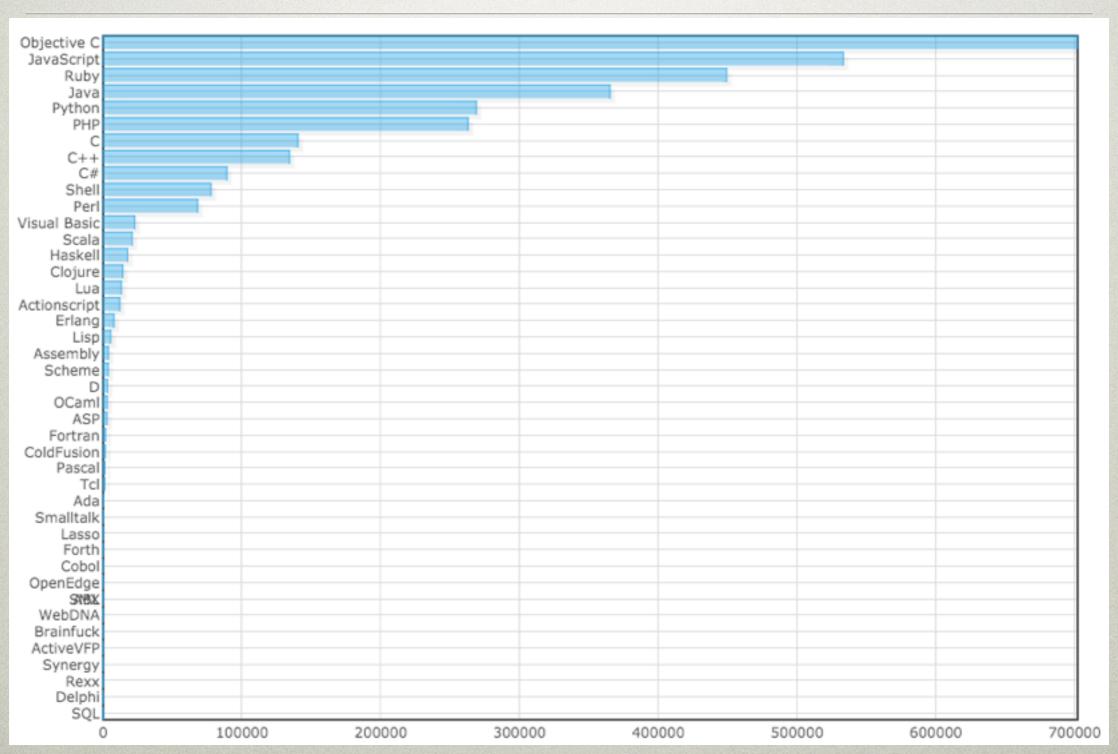
ZURIHAC 2014: AFTER

:)



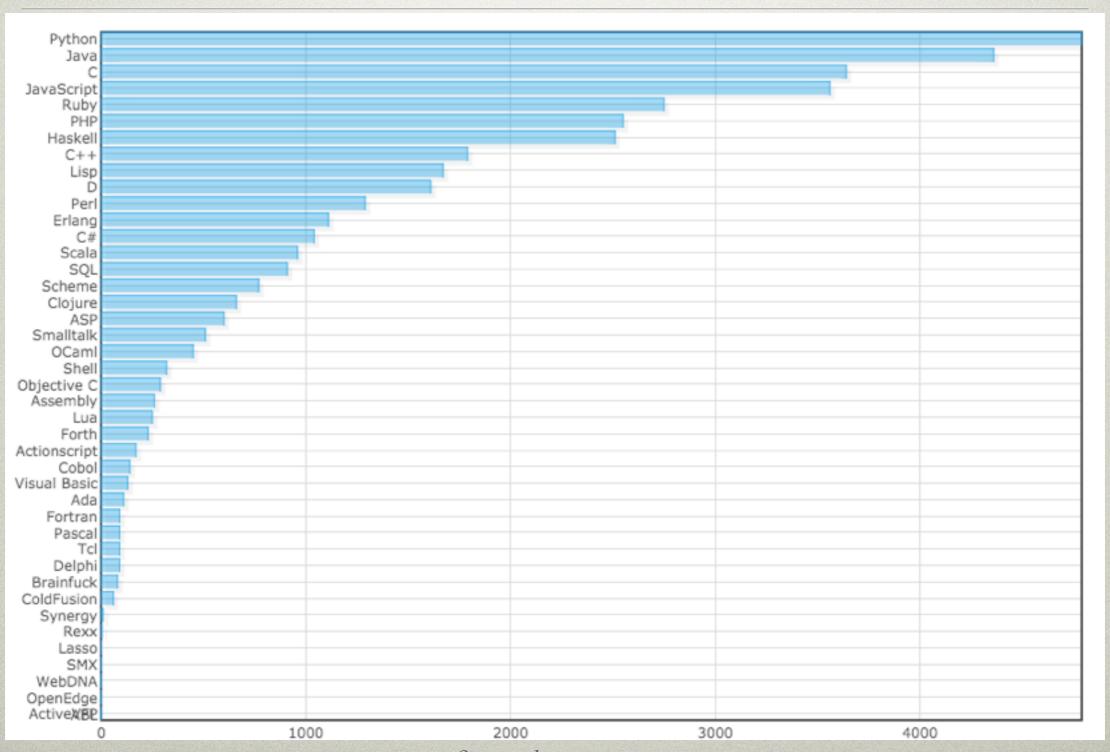
ZURIHAC 2014: CELEBRITIES
SIMON MARLOW (GHC), EDWARD KMETT (LENS)

POPULARITY - USAGE (GITHUB)



Source: langpop.com

POPULARITY - TALKED ABOUT (REDDIT)



Source: langpop.com

GENEVA HASKELL GROUP

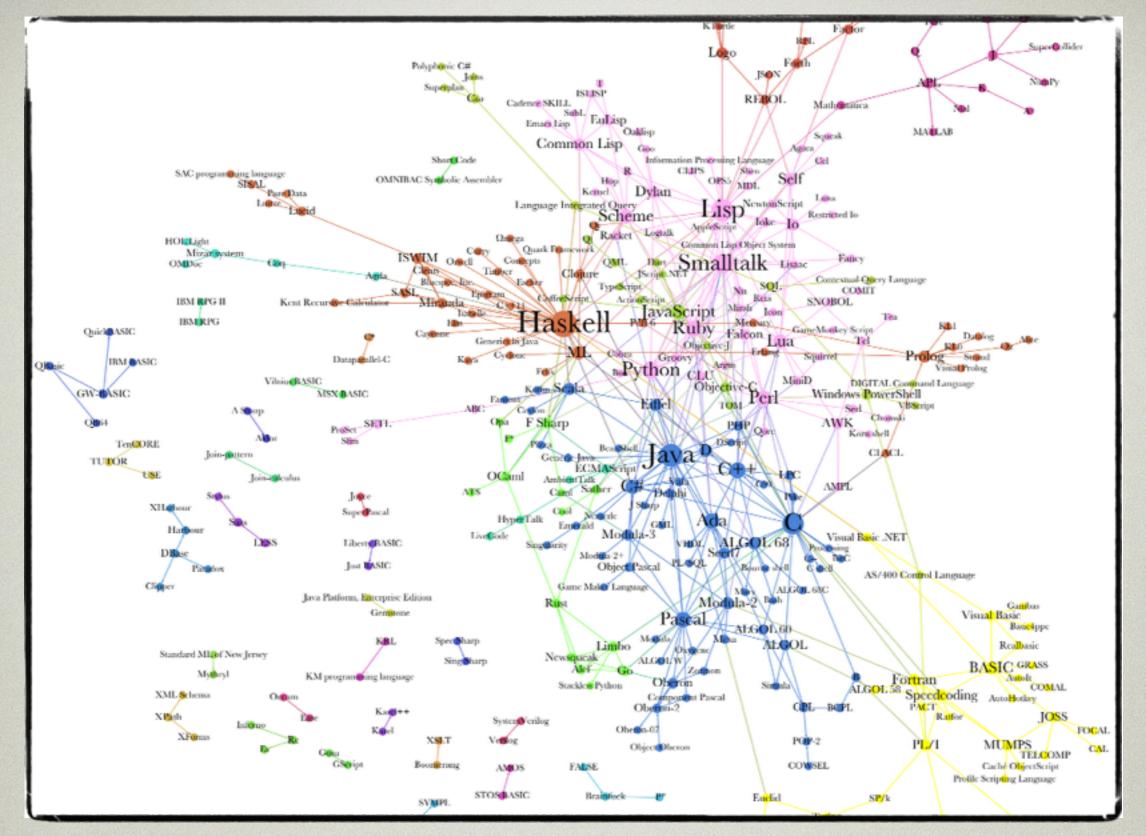
- Founded: 13 June, 2014
- ~40 members, lot of beginners
- Weekly meet-ups
 - Lectures, talks, demos, live-coding, coding puzzles, free coding, beer
- Core team: 5-7 people
- Typical attendance: 5-15 people

HASKELL ADVANTAGES

- Excellent in abstraction
- Concise, Elegant and Modular code
- Explicit Control of Side Effects
- Concurrent and Parallel Programming
 - Software Transactional Memory (STM) with type safety
 - Implicit parallelism in pure functions
 - Explicit parallelism
 - Green threads

HASKELL INFLUENCE

- Base syntax for newer languages:
 - Agda, Idris, Elm, Purescript,...
- Lazy evaluation : Flexible ordering of computation (C# ..)
- Generics: Parametric Polymorphism
 - Java Generics, C++1x library design
- Monad, List Comprehension
 - C# LINQ, F# Computation Expression ..
 - Python List Comprehension



Programming Language Influence

from Wikipedia

Source: http://brendangriffen.com/gow-programming-languages/

CONCLUSION

- Haskell is useful!
- Functional Programming is worth to learn!
- Haskell has a very active community!
- Coding is a fun!

USEFUL LINKS

- Meet-ups, user groups, community, HacBerlin2014
 - http://www.meetup.com/Geneva-Haskell-Group
 - http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/User_groups
 - http://www.haskell.org/pipermail/haskell-cafe/
 - http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/HacBerlin2014
- General information
 - http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Haskell
- Learning material
 - Haskell is Useless (YouTube): http://goo.gl/bBtLda :))
 - Learn You A Haskell: http://learnyouahaskell.com/chapters
 - Real World Haskell: http://book.realworldhaskell.org/read/
 - http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Typeclassopedia

THANK YOU!