frplib Cookbook

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This Cookbook illustrates how to perform various common tasks in frplib. These can be used either in the frp playground or in Python code that imports frplib. In the latter case, you need to import any frplib symbols you use, see Recipe 27, "Importing frplib Objects in Your Code." To show the results of some commands, we will precede the commands with the pgd> prompt and display the result after the command.

Recipe 1. Running Market Commands in the Playground

The playground preloads an object named Market that provides access to all the commands from frp market.

- Market.demo runs the 'demo' command, which activates a large number of FRPs of the same Kind and provides a summary of the results with a display of the Kind itself. This is comparable to the FRP.sample function in the playground.
- Market.buy evaluates the gains or losses from purchasing an FRP at each of the provided per unit prices over a large sample of FRPs with a specified Kind.
- Market.compare compares summaries of values for a matched sample of FRPs of two different Kinds, showing the Kinds and the summary table.
- Market.show displays a Kind. This is here for completeness only as printing a Kind in the playground will do the same thing.

Examples:

```
| Values | Count | Proportion |
|=========|
1 0
      485
                 48.5% |
         515 |
                 51.5% I
      +----+
pgd> Market.buy(1000, [0.25, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.75], either(0,1))
uying 1,000 FRPs with kind
+----+
,---- 1/2 ---- 0 |
| <> -|
| `---- 1/2 ---- 1 |
+----+
at each price
+----+
| Price/Unit ($) | Net Payoff ($) | Net Payoff/Unit ($) |
|-----|
        0.25 l
                    219 |
                                   0.219 |
        0.4 |
                    96 l
                                  0.096 |
        0.5 l
                     3 |
                                  0.003 |
        0.6 |
                                  -0.134 |
                   -134 |
        0.75 |
                    -250
                                  -0.25 |
pgd> Market.compare(1000, either(0, 1), weighted_as(0, 1, weights=['1/5', '2/5']))
Comparing 1000 activated FRPs each for two kinds, A and B.
+----+
,---- 1/2 ---- 0 |
| <> -|
| `--- 1/2 ---- 1 |
+----+
+----+
| ,--- 1/3 ---- 0 |
```

```
`---- 2/3 ---- 1 |
+----+
 Summary of Demo for Kind A
+----+
| Values | Count | Proportion |
|-----|
        488 I
               48.8% I
I 1
        512 I
               51.2% |
+----+
 Summary of Demo for Kind B
+----+
| Values | Count | Proportion |
        316 l
               31.6% |
| 1
        684 I
               68.4% |
+----+
```

Recipe 2. Constructing Kinds with Kind Factories

Although FRPs are fundamental in the sense that they represent the actual the random outputs of a system, in practice, we often work with Kinds, both to construct FRPs and for many calculations. So we start by showing how to use *Kind factories* to construct Kinds.

A Kind factory is just a function that takes as input some parameters and returns a Kind that is consistent with those parameters. The Kind factories discussed here include constant, either, binary, uniform, weighted_as, weighted_pairs, weighted_by, evenly_spaced, linear, symmetric, geometric, without_replacement, and arbitrary.

The simplest factory **constant** produces a Kind with only one possible value, which can be given as a single tuple or multiple arguments which become its components. We call it with

```
constant(value...) # produces <> ---- 1 --- <value...>
```

For example:

```
pgd> constant(0)
<> ----- 1 ---- 0
pgd> constant(1, 2, 3)
<> ----- 1 ---- <1, 2, 3>
pgd> constant((10, 20))
<> ----- 1 ---- <10, 20>
```

We often use Kinds with two values. The either Kind factory takes two values and an optional ratio of weights (first value to second), which defaults to 1. The binary factory is a special case where the values are 0 and 1 and the weight on 1 is given as 0 .

```
either(a, b, r) # r is the ratio of weights a to b binary(p) # v0.2.4+
```

For example:

A very common case is to construct a Kind with *equal weights* on all its values. This is produced by the uniform Kind factory. Like most of the Kind factories, uniform accepts either a single sequence of values (e.g., a Python list or set or other iterable) or values given as multiple arguments

```
uniform({1, 2, 3})
uniform([(0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)])
uniform(1, 2, 3)
uniform((0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1))
uniform((x, y) for x in [0, 1] for y in [0, 1])
```

In the first two cases, we give the values as a single set (enclosed in {}s) or a single list (enclosed in []s). In the third and fourth cases, the values are given as separate arguments. In the last case, we pass a Python generator expression to construct the values dynamically rather than write them out explicitly.

Like most Kind factories, scalar values passed to uniform can include a ... that extends the two values before the ... forward up to but not including the value after the ... a, b, \ldots, c gives $a, b, b + (b - a), b + 2(b - a), \ldots, c$. For example,

```
uniform(1, 2, ..., 6)

uniform(10, 20, ..., 100)

uniform(9, 8, ..., 1)

uniform(1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 13, ..., 22)
```

The latter has values 1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, and 22.

More generally, we want to specify values and weights. Three factories make this easy:

```
weighted_as(values..., weights=weight_list)
weighted_pairs([(value1, weight1), (value2, weight2), ...])
weighted_by(values..., weight_by=function)
```

The weighted_as factory is our workhorse; the weights are specified by a list or other sequence. weighted_pairs takes a Python list of pairs, containing values and their corresponding weights. And weighted_by takes the values and a function that assigns the weight to each value by calling function(value), where value is passed as is, without any translation or conversion.

The values and weights in these factories can be any *quantity*, see Recipe 29, and the weights can use . . . patterns as described above.

For example:

```
weighted_as(1, 2, ..., 6, weights=[10, 11, ..., 15])
weighted_pairs([((1, 1), 3), ((1, 0), 2), ((0, 1), 2), ((0, 0), 1)])
weighted_by(1, 2, ..., 100, weight_by=lambda v: v * v)
```

Related is the Kind factory evenly_spaced, which specifies evenly-spaced scalar values weighted with a weight_by function like weighted_by

```
evenly_spaced(0.2, 1.0, num=5, weight_by=lambda v: 1 + 5*v)
evenly_spaced(4, num=5)
```

With only one value given, it starts at 0, so evenly_spaced(4, num=5) is equivalent to uniform(0, 1, ..., 4).

There are several other specialized factories for producing Kinds on the given values with specified patterns of weights:

```
linear(1, 2, ..., 6, increment=2) # weights linear first + increment * index geometric(1, 2, ..., 6, r=0.5) # weights geometric first r^index symmetric(1, 2, ..., 6, around=3.5) # weights symmetric around around
```

Kinds can also be specified with *symbolic* values and weights. See Recipe 28.

The last of these produces a Kind on the specified values with arbitrary symbolic weights that can be named.

Finally, there are Kind factories that produce Kinds over special collections. For example, without_replacement gives the Kind of all subsets of a specified set from a collection of values.

```
pgd> without_replacement(2, [1, 2, 3, 4])

,---- 1/6 ---- <1, 2>

|---- 1/6 ---- <1, 3>

|---- 1/6 ---- <1, 4>

<> -|

|---- 1/6 ---- <2, 3>

|---- 1/6 ---- <2, 4>

`---- 1/6 ---- <3, 4>
```

Recipe 3. Constructing FRPs with FRP Factories

A frequently used method for constructing FRPs is to specify its Kind to the frp function. This takes a Kind and returns a fresh FRP with that Kind.

```
X = frp(K) # K is a Kind, kind(X) is K
```

Examples:

The special FRP factory **shuffle** returns an FRP representing a random permutation of a given collection of values. For example, the following give an FRP representing a shuffle of a standard deck of cards.

```
shuffle(k for k in irange(1, 52))
shuffle(1, 2, ..., 52) # v0.2.4+
```

Recipe 4. Cloning an FRP

If X is an FRP and

```
Y = clone(X)
```

then Y is a fresh FRP with the same Kind as X.

If S is a Conditional FRP and

```
T = clone(S)
```

then T is a Conditional FRP with the same inputs whose targets are clones of S's targets.

Recipe 5. Checking if Two Kinds are Equal

Use Kind.equal:

```
Kind.equal(kind1, kind2)
```

returns True or False if the Kinds are equal (within numerical precision). This also works with Kinds whose values or weights are symbolic.

This takes an optional argument tolerance that specifies how close two numbers need to be to be considered numerically equal

```
Kind.equal(kind1, kind2, tolerance=1e-7)
```

Recipe 6. Constructing Kinds from FRPs

The function kind is used to find the Kind of an FRP or the Conditional Kind of a Conditional FRP.

```
kind(X) # returns the Kind of FRP X
```

Note that some FRPs have Kinds that are computationally hard to compute. You can call kind on these FRPs but the computation will take a very long time. Given an FRP X.

```
X.is_kinded()
```

will give a Boolean indicating whether the Kind is available without additional computation.

```
pgd> frp(binary()).is_kinded()
True

pgd> Bits = frp(binary()) ** 100

pgd> Bits.is_kinded()

False
```

Recipe 7. Constructing Kinds from Strings

The kind function also accepts market-style strings. Do info('kinds') in the playground (or 'help kinds.' in the market) For example,

Recipe 8. Finding Dimension, Codimension, Size, and Type

The functions dim, codim, size, and typeof extract information about Kinds, FRPs, Conditional Kinds, Conditional FRPs, and Statistics.

```
k = uniform(1, 2, ..., 100)
X = frp(k) ** 3
c = conditional_kind(\{0: constant(1, 2), 1: either((2, 3), (3, 4))\})
C = conditional_frp(c)
s = Proj[1, 2, 3, 4]
size(k)
                # Size of the Kind, 100
dim(k ** 2)
               # Dimension 2
dim(X)
                # Dimension 3
dim(s)
                # Dimension 4
codim(X)
                # Codimension O for any FRP or Kind
codim(c)
                # Codimension 1
codim(C)
                # Codimension 1
codim(s)
                # Codimension 4 and up
```

```
typeof(k) # 0 -> 1 dim -> codim
typeof(c) # 1 -> 2
typeof(C) # 1 -> 2
typeof(s) # [4..) -> 1
```

Note that size applies only to Kinds and FRPs, and it forces the computation of an FRPs Kind.

Recipe 9. Running Demos of FRPs

The function FRP.sample provides the same functionality as the demo task in the frp market. It activates a large collection of fresh FRPs and tabulates their value.

```
FRP.sample(n, kind_or_frp, summary=True)
```

Accepts the size of the demo, a Kind or FRP, and an optional argument summary indicating whether to summarize the results (True) or list them individually (False).

```
FRP.sample(100, uniform(1, 2, 3))
FRP.sample(10_000, frp(geometric(0, 1, 2, ... 100, r=0.9)))
```

Recipe 10. Pruning Numerically Negligible Branches of a Kind

Some transformations with statistics can give branches with very small, numerically negligible weights, sometimes many of them. We use the clean to prune those branches and renormalize the Kind, which usually makes it nicer to view.

```
clean(k)
clean(k, tolerance=1e-7)
```

The optional argument tolerance gives the threshold for numerically negligible. By default it is small, 10^{-12} .

Recipe 11. Unfolding a Multi-dimensional Kind

A Kind with dimension > 1 can be unfolded to have width greater than 1 with the unfold function.

```
unfold(uniform(1, 2) * weighted_as(3, 4, weights=[9, 1]) * constant(5))
```

displays the unfolded tree Currently unfold does not work for Kinds with symbolic weights.

Recipe 12. Transforming FRPs and Kinds with Built-in Statistics

To transform a Kind K or FRP X with a compatible statistic **psi**, we can *either* apply the statistic or use the ^ operator:

```
psi(K) psi(X)
K ^ psi X ^ psi
```

Both forms are convenient in different situations and give the same result.

```
`---- 5/9 ---- 3
```

The @ operator is related, see Recipe 23.

We can use the same operators to transform general conditional Kinds and FRPs. In this case, the statistic gets the input and target values and produces new target values.

```
pgd> Max(conditional_kind({1: constant(1), 2: either(0, 4)}))
A conditional Kind of type 1 -> 2 with wiring:
<1>: <> ----- 1 ---- 1
          ,---- 1/2 ---- 2
<2>: <> -|
          `---- 1/2 ---- 4
pgd> conditional_kind({1: constant(1), 2: either(0, 1)}) ^ (Proj[2] + 1)
A conditional Kind of type 1 -> 3 with wiring:
<1>: <> ----- 1 ---- 2
         ,---- 1/2 ---- 1
<2>: <> -|
          `---- 1/2 ---- 2
pgd> conditional_kind({1: constant(1), 2: either(0, 1)}) ^ (__ + 1)
A conditional Kind of type 1 -> 3 with wiring:
<1>: <> ----- 1 ---- <2, 2>
          ,---- 1/2 ---- <3, 1>
<2>: <> -|
          `---- 1/2 ---- <3, 2>
```

(See the .transform_targets method to give a statistic that just receives the target values.)

Recipe 13. Using Projections

Projections are statistics that extract one or more components from the tuple passed as input. The Proj factory constructs projection statistics, specified by indices or slices in []s.

```
Proj[1](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                             # == <10>
Proj[3](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                                # == <30>
Proj[5](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                                # == <50>
Proj[3,5](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <30, 50>
Proj[1,3,5](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <10, 30, 50>
Proj[1:4](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <10, 30, 50> (item 4 excluded)
Proj[1:4:2](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <10, 50> (skip by 2)
Proj[3:](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                              \# == <30, 40, 50> (to end)
Proj[:3](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                              \# == <10, 20> (from start, 3 excluded)
Proj[-1](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <50> (-1 is last component)
Proj[-2:](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <40, 50>
Proj[:-2](10, 20, 30, 40, 50)
                             # == <10, 20, 30>
Proj[-1::-1](10, 20, 30, 40, 50) # == <50, 40, 30, 20, 10>
```

Recipe 14. Combining Built-in Statistics

Transforming a statistic with a statistic *composes* them.

```
pgd> X = uniform(1, 2, ..., 10) ** 3
An FRP with value <4, 9, 1>
pgd> X ^ Sqrt(Max)  # Computes Sqrt(Max(value))
An FRP with value <3>
pgd> X ^ Abs(Proj[1] - Proj[2])
An FRP with value <5>
```

Arithmetic operations on statistics produce statistics

```
pgd> X ^ (Proj[1] + 2 * Proj[2] + 3 * Proj[3])
An FRP with value <25>
pgd> X ^ (__ + 10)
An FRP with value <14, 19, 11>
pgd> X ^ Fork(Proj[2] - Proj[1], Proj[3] - Proj[2], Proj[1] - Proj[3])
An FRP with value <5, -8, 3>
```

Comparison operations on statistics produce conditions

```
pgd> X ^ (Proj[2] == 1)
An FRP with value <0>
pgd> X ^ (Proj[1] < 3)
An FRP with value <1>
pgd> X ^ (Proj[1] + Proj[2] > 12)
An FRP with value <1>
pgd> X ^ And(Proj[1] == 4, Proj[2] == 9, Proj[3] == 2)
An FRP with value <0>
```

Recipe 15. Defining Custom Statistics from Python Functions

We create statistics from Python functions by attaching a decorator – one of @statistic, @scalar_statistic, or @condition – before the definition. Each of these decorators accepts optional arguments (including codim and dim) that specify properties of the statistic.

```
@statistic
def got7(rolls):
    return index_of(7, rolls) # Index of first 7 or -1

@statistic(codim=1, dim=2)
def rotate90(x_y):
    x, y = x_y
    return (-y, x)

@scalar_statistic
```

```
def right_triangle_area(x, y):
    "area of right triangle with hypotenuse from origin to <x, y>"
    return (x * y) / 2
```

With two arguments, frplib infers that the codimension is 2, with one argument it allows any codimension unless specified. The @scalar_statistic decorator just ensures that the dimension is 1. The return value of a statistic is automatically converted to a vector tuple.

The @condition decorator converts a Boolean statistic into one that returns 0 (false) or 1 (true).

```
@condition
def both_even(x, y):
    return x % 2 == 0 and y % 2 == 0
```

A condition always has dimension 1.

statistic, scalar_statistic, and condition can also be used as functions that take a function as an argument.

Chapter 0, Section 2 gives many more examples of custom statistics.

Recipe 16. Creating Independent Mixtures of FRPs and Kinds

The * operator gives independent mixtures of Kinds and FRPs (as well as more general conditional Kinds and conditional FRPs).

The clone is needed when using * on FRPs, but not with ** (see below).

An independent mixture of conditional Kinds and FRPs with the same inputs produces the type of object with the same inputs where the targets are the independent mixtures of the originals' targets. For exampe,

The ** operator computes independent mixture powers

For FRPs, ** automatically clones the FRP.

Recipe 17. Computing Large Independent Mixture Powers of Kinds

Independent mixture powers of Kinds have sizes that grow exponentially in the exponent and so quickly become infeasible to compute in general. However, for some types of statistics, we can compute

```
psi(K ** n)
```

efficiently, where psi is a statistic, K is a Kind, and n is moderately large

These statistics are called "monoidal statistics" in frplib and include common statistics like Sum, Count, Max, and Min. The technique is discussed in detail in Chapter 0 Section 6.1. It is implemented in the fast_mixture_pow

```
fast_mixture_pow(stat, a_kind, n) # computes stat(a_kind ** n)
```

For example,

```
fast_mixture_pow(Sum, either(0, 1), 100)
```

takes only a few seconds; done naively it would take longer than the age of the universe. (The clean operation is often useful after computing the Kinds of large mixture powers, see Recipe 10.)

Recipe 18. Defining Conditional FRPs and Kinds

We use conditional_frp to construct Conditional FRPs. This can be passed a dictionary

```
pgd> N = frp(either(0, 1, 99))
pgd> P = frp(either(0, 1, 1/19))
pgd> T = conditional_frp({ 0: N, 1: P })
```

or a function

```
def a_func(value):
    if value == 0:
        return N
    else:
```

```
return P

# both of these give the same result
T = conditional_frp(a_func)
T = conditional_frp(lambda value: N if value == 0 else P)
```

or used as a *decorator* above a Python function definition.

```
@conditional_frp
def T(value):
    if value == 0: # Inputs are scalars when codim=1
        return N
    return P
```

In all these cases, we get a conditional FRP object to which we can pass input, look at targets, and use for mixtures.

```
pgd> T.target(0)
An FRP with value <1>
pgd> T(0)
An FRP with value <0, 1>
pgd> frp(either(0, 1, 999)) >> T
An FRP with value <0, 1>
```

conditional_frp accepts optional parameters that specify the codimension, dimension, and domain of the conditional FRP. frplib can infer these from a dictionary and can infer the codimension from a function with multiple arguments, but otherwise it is good practice to supply at least the codimension if possible as it helps with error checking. The decorator can take these arguments as well.

```
@conditional_frp(codim=1, domain={0, 1})
def T(value):
   if value == 0: # Inputs are scalars when codim=1
      return N
   return P
```

Analogously, we use conditional_kind to construct conditional Kinds with the same mechanisms: passing a dictionary

```
t = conditional_kind({
    0: either(0, 1, 99),
    1: either(0, 1, 1/19)
})
```

passing a function (named or anonymous)

or putting a decorator on a function definition

```
@conditional_kind(domain=[0, 1], target_dim=1)
def t(value):
    if value == 0:
        return either(0, 1, 99)
    return either(0, 1, 1/19)
```

If cF is a conditional FRP, then

```
cK = conditional_kind(cF)
```

is the corresponding conditional Kind. This goes in reverse as well, with conditional_frp on cK, but a better way is to use the kind function which is a bit smarter about it

```
kind(cK) # same as cF
```

Recipe 19. Building a Mixture of FRPs and Kinds

The mixture operator >> computes mixtures. The basic case is a mixture of a Kind k and conditional Kind cK k >> cK or of an FRP X and a conditional FRP cF, X >> cF. The dimension of the object on the left of the >> must be compatible with the codimension of the object on the right.

More generally, >> accepts a conditional FRP or Kind of type $m \to p$ and a conditional FRP or Kind of type $p \to n$ and produces a conditional FRP or Kind of type $m \to n$. Because an FRP or Kind of dimension m is just a conditional FRP or Kind of type $0 \to m$, this generalizes the basic case. For example:

```
|---- 1/4 ---- <4, 23>

---- 1/4 ---- <4, 24>
```

See Chapter 0, Section 4 for more on mixtures. And see Recipe 20 for the related conditioning operator //.

Recipe 20. Using the Conditioning Operator

The conditioning operator // is a combination of mixture and projection. We can think of it as an averaging operation where the target Kinds in a conditional Kind are averaged over the inputs according to the weights of a given Kind. We use it as

```
cK // K
```

where cK is a conditional Kind (or FRP) and K is a Kind (or FRP). This is equivalent to

```
K >> cK ^ Proj[(d+1):]
```

where d == dim(K).

```
pgd> door = uniform(1, 2, 3)

pgd> prize_by_door = conditional_kind({
    ...> 1: either(-10, 100),
    ...> 2: either(-50, 250),
    ...> 3: constant(-100)
    ...> })

pgd> prize_by_door // door
    ,---- 2/6 ---- -100
    |---- 1/6 ---- -50
    <> -+---- 1/6 ---- 100
    |---- 1/6 ---- 100
    |---- 1/6 ---- 250
```

This gives the Kind of the FRP representing the prize obtained. We have averaged the possibilities over different door choices.

This operator is the basis of the evolve built-in; see Recipe 21.

Recipe 21. Evolving a Random System

The evolve function is called as

```
evolve(start, next_state, n_steps=1)
```

where start is the Kind (or FRP) of an initial state, next_state is a conditional Kind (or conditional FRP) that takes in a current state and whose targets represent the next state, and n_steps is the number of steps to iterate over.

This describes a random walk through a simple maze, where move represents the next room given the current room.

Recipe 22. Applying Conditional Constraints with a Statistic

We use the | to indicate conditional constraints, with a Kind or FRP on the left and a statistic on the right side.

```
either(1, 2) ** 3 | (Proj[2] == 1)
d_kind | Fork(Id, Sum > 4)
a_kind | And(Proj[1] > 1, Proj[2] < -1, Proj[3] == 0)</pre>
```

The parentheses are required around the statistic expresssion because | has low precedence. (See Recipe 24.)

Recipe 23. Applying Conditional Constraints on a Transformed Kind

Sometimes we want to apply a constraint to a transformed FRP or Kind where the constraint refers to the original Kind or FRP. This will not work

```
Sum(X) | (Proj[2] == 1)
```

The constraint applies to X but the statistic transforms it so the original information is lost.

This is the role of the @ operator. It is a form of the transform by a statistic that remembers the original FRP or Kind. This does work

```
Sum @ X | (Proj[2] == 1)
```

Think of Sum @ X as an alternative form of Sum(X). You could also write this as Sum@(X) if you prefer.

Recipe 24. Handling Operator Precedence

The operators used by frplib follow Python precedence rules, as described at this link. In particular, from most tightly binding to least tightly binding, the frplib operators are

```
[] () # Indexing and evaluation/transformation

**

* @ //

>>

-
|
```

So, for example, we need parentheses around the statistic expression and the conditional constraint but no where else in

```
uniform(1, 2, 3) ** 2 ^ (Proj[1] + Proj[2])
uniform(1, 2, 3) >> prize_by_door ^ convert
```

```
a_kind | (Proj[2] > 4)
b_kind ^ Proj[4, 5, 6]
```

Recipe 25. Computing Expectations and Variances

The E operator computes expectations. It can be applied to a Kind, an FRP, a conditional Kind, or a conditional FRP.

```
pgd> K = uniform(1, 2, ... 11)

pgd> X = frp(K)

pgd> E(K)

6

pgd> E(X)
6
```

When applied to an FRP whose Kind is difficult to compute, E will use an approximation to the FRP instead. You can specify the tolerance of that approximation (optional argument tolerance) or even force the computation of the Kind (optional argument force_kind).

```
pgd> Y = frp(binary()) ** 16
pgd> E(Sum(Y))
Computing approximation (tolerance 0.01) as exact calculation may be costly
8.0266
pgd> E(Sum(Y), tolerance=0.001)
7.998249
pgd> E(Sum(Y), force_kind=True)
8
```

The last two commands take a little time.

When E is applied to a conditional Kind or conditional FRP, the result is a function that takes the same inputs and returns the expectation of the corresponding target.

Similarly, the Var operator computes the variance of an FRP or Kind.

```
pgd> Var(uniform(-1, 0, 1))
1
pgd> Var(uniform(-10, 0, 10))
100
```

Recipe 26. Finding frplib Objects in Modules

The object index is included in the info system:

```
info('object-index')
```

All modules are listed with

```
info('modules')
```

Each module is automatically loaded into the playground, so you can access them with the name

```
kinds.kind
utils.dim
```

```
frps.shuffle
```

In v0.2.5+, the frplib_objects dictionary will show all objects imported into the playground by module.

Recipe 27. Importing frplib Objects in Your Code

The frplib modules have the form frplib.modulename, e.g., frplib.kinds and frplib.frps. These modules are preloaded into the playground, but in your code, you need to import them or symbols from them into your environment.

For example:

```
from frplib.frps import frp

from frplib.kinds import kind, uniform, weighted_as

from frplib.statistics import statistic, condition, ___, Sum, Proj

from frplib.utils import irange, dim, codim
```

It is good practice to import only the names you need, but you can do

```
from frplib.utils import *
```

You can also import the modules and use the names qualified by the module name:

```
import frplib.utils
utils.irange(1, 6)
```

Recipe 28. Using Symbolic Quantities

The functions symbol and symbols make "symbols" that can be operated on with ordinary arithmetic operators to make expressions that can be values or weights in Kinds.

```
pgd> a = symbol('a')
pgd> (1 + a) ** 2
1 + 2 a + a^2
pgd> x, y, z = symbols('x y z')
pgd> x**2 + y**2 + 2 * z**2
```

```
x^2 + y^2 + 2 z^2
pgd> u = symbols('u0 ... u9')
pgd> u[7]
u7
```

Recipe 29. Managing High-Precision Quantities

Under the hood, frplib uses high-precision decimals, and it converts input quantities into the correct form automatically. For this reason, one can give fractions as strings that will be converted more precisely than the built-in floats

```
weighted_as(1, 2, weights=['6/7', '1/7'])
```

The output of frplib functions is also in this format, and from time to time, this can cause a conflict because the high-precision decimals are not auto-convertible into standard Python floats.

```
pgd> Decimal('0.99') * 4.2
TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for *: 'decimal.Decimal' and 'float'
```

In the rare case in which you encounter this error, you can either use float to convert the decimal quantity to a float or use as_quantity to convert the float to the right form.

```
pgd> Decimal('0.99') * as_quantity(4.2)
Decimal('4.158')
pgd> float(Decimal('0.99')) * 4.2
4.158
```

In v0.2.4+, the as_float utility will convert high-precision scalars and tuples to float form.

Recipe 30. Handling Tuples and Vector Tuples

For values, frplib uses a special type of tuple on which one can operate as vectors. These are convenient for many operations, and frplib does the translation for you in almost all cases.

If you want to produce such tuples, the functions as_vec_tuple and vec_tuple are helpful

```
pgd> vec_tuple(1, 2, 3)
<1, 2, 3>
pgd> as_vec_tuple([1, 2, 3])
<1, 2, 3>
pgd> as_vec_tuple(1)
<1>
pgd> vec_tuple(1)
<1>
```

Recipe 31. Using nothing to Pad Results

The special numeric value nothing acts like a number, but anything added to or multiplied by nothing remains nothing. This value is primarily useful for padding results in operations on components that do not necessarily provide a value for every input.

For example:

```
pgd> whenEven = IfThenElse(__ % 2 == 0, __, nothing)
pgd> filterEvens = ForEach(whenEven)
pgd> filterEvens(1, 12, 4, 20, 11)
<_, 12, 4, 20, _>
pgd> (filterEvens ^ Descending)(1, 12, 4, 20, 11)
<20, 12, 4, _, _, _>
```

where _ stands for nothing.

Recipe 32. Getting Help

There are several ways to get help on frplib. Besides this Cookbook and the frplib Cheatsheet, Chapter 0 of the text has a wide range of examples and descriptions of how to use the tools in frplib. You can search in that document for examples of any particular function. In addition, the examples from the text are all accompanied by code modules which you can both use and *look at*. See for instance the examples directory on github.

Moreover, the playground has built-in help. You can use **help** on any function or object to see documentation and often examples. This help can be a bit "Pythony" at times, so there is also the **info** facility.

```
info()  # Index
info('overview')  # A string topic
info(weighted_as)  # associated info on an objecct
info(frp)
info('kind-factories::weighted_as')  # hierarchical topic
```

It can be useful to look at both info and help.