

COMPUTER SCIENCE

COMPILER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGES ON JVM

TOMAS TAUBER
PhD Probation Talk; December 4, 2014

DISCLAIMER

- Mainly based on "From System F to Java Efficiently!" (currently under a double-blinded review process for ACM SIGPLAN PLDI'15)
- The title + abstract were rephrased and "obfuscated":
 - 2nd order / polymorphic lambda calculus = **System F**
 - "compiler infrastructure..." = **FCore**
 - "new representation of closures" = IFO

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- A big thanks to all of you who helped in this work:
 - Xuan (Jeremy) Bi
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 - Dr. Bruno C. d. S. Oliveira
 - Weixin Zhang
 - Our summer interns: Huang Li & Zhenrui (Jerry) Zhang

OUTLINE

- Motivation & Background
- System F, Closure F, Imperative Functional Objects
 (IFOs) + main formalization rules
- Tail-Call Elimination (TCE) using IFOs
- Implementation Overview & Evaluation
- Related Work, Future Plans, Conclusion with Q&A

FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING I

• "The Future is Parallel, and the Future of Parallel is **Declarative**" — Simon Peyton Jones

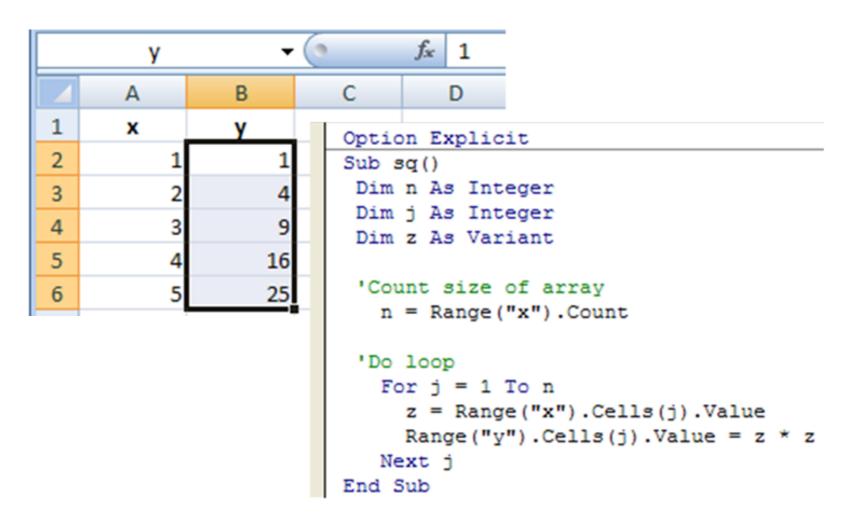
• Declarative example 1:

```
SELECT orders.order_id, orders.order_date, suppliers.supplier_name
    FROM suppliers
    RIGHT OUTER JOIN orders
    ON suppliers.supplier_id = orders.supplier_id
    WHERE orders.order_status = 'INCOMPLETE'
    ORDER BY orders.order_date DESC;
```

FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING II

• Declarative example II:

$$y = x^*x$$



FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING III

```
FP is declarative and general:
```

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

```
// To sort array a[] of size n: qsort(a,0,n-1)
void gsort(int a[], int lo, int hi)
  int h, l, p, t;
  if (lo < hi) {
    1 = 10;
    h = hi;
    p = a[hi];
    do {
      while ((1 < h) \&\& (a[1] <= p))
          1 = 1+1;
      while ((h > 1) \&\& (a[h] >= p))
         h = h-1;
      if (1 < h) {
         t = a[1];
         a[1] = a[h];
          a[h] = t;
    } while (1 < h);</pre>
    a[hi] = a[1];
    a[1] = p;
    gsort( a, lo, l-1 );
    gsort( a, 1+1, hi );
```

INDUSTRIAL FPTRENDS

New languages

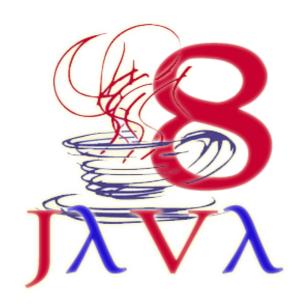






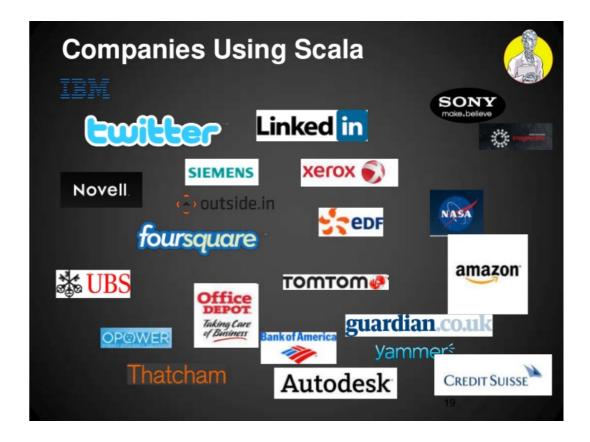
. . .

New features



C|| C++|| C++|4

. . .



PARADIGM COMPARISON

Object-Oriented (imperative)

- Data and the operations upon it are tightly coupled
- Objects hide their implementation of operations from other objects via their interfaces
- The central model for abstraction is the data itself
- The central activity is composing new objects and extending existing objects by adding new methods to them
- ★ Imperative algorithms with loops, mutable variables, ...

Functional (declarative)

- Data is only loosely coupled to functions
- Functions hide their implementation, and the language's abstractions speak to functions and the way they are combined or expressed
- The central model for abstraction is the function, not the data structure.
- The central activity is writing new functions
- **★** Declarative algorithms with recursion, pattern matching, first class functions, ...

JAVA VIRTUAL MACHINE

- Stack-based VM originally designed for Java (OO)
- Attractive target for language implementors:
 - Mature

- Multi-platform
- Many libraries and tools

FP ON JVM

- High-profile JVM languages are functional:
 - Scala, Clojure, Xtend, . . .
- Java 8 has "first-class functions" and lazy streams
- Why are functional programmers still unhappy?

- "Functions as (static) methods":
 - Straightforward and efficient, but **not general:** not 'first-class'', no higher-order functions, no partial applications / currying, ...
- "Functions as Objects" (FAO):

```
interface FAO { Object apply(Object arg);}
```

• Inefficient and avoided, unless necessary

- "Functions as (static) **methods**": (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
 - Straightforward and efficient, but **not general:** not 'first-class'', no higher-order functions, no partial applications / currying, ...
- "Functions as Objects" (FAO):
 interface FAO { Object apply (Object arg); }
 - Inefficient and avoided, unless necessary

- "Functions as (static) methods": map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
 - Straightforward and efficient, but **not general:** not ''first-class'', no higher-order functions, no partial applications / currying, ...
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 compare :: Ord a => a -> a -> Ordering
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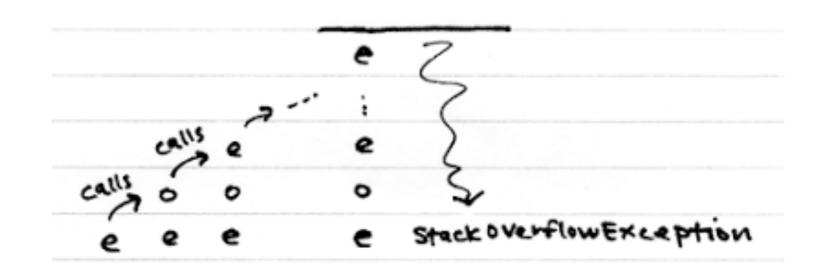
 compare :: Ord a => a -> a -> Ordering

let compareWithHundred x = compare 100 x

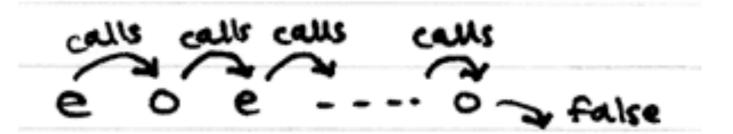
- "Functions as Objects" (FAO):
 - interface FAO { Object apply(Object arg);}
 - Inefficient and avoided, unless necessary

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION: OVERVIEW

Default JVM methods:



What we want:

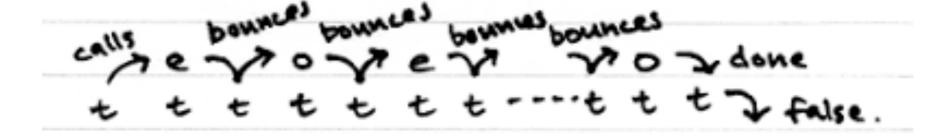


Important for:

-) correctness
- 2) time optimization
- 3) space optimization

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION: JVM APPROACHES

- TCE is fairly straightforward in C/Assembly, challenging in JVM due to its design (no control over stack, limited jumps...)
- "Put everything in one method": impractical
- Self-recursion (@tailrec in Scala): not general



• Trampolines: general, but not time and space efficient

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Due to the current encoding approaches and inefficient TCE, programmers may need to avoid idiomatic FP on JVM.
- With an alternative encoding, programmers can use idiomatic FP on JVM seamlessly without compromises:
 - Uniform function representation
 - Low time and memory performance overhead

SIMPLEST FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGES

Introduced in 1930s by Alonzo Church

• (Untyped) Lambda Calculus (basis for LISP):

e ::= x Variables $| \lambda x.e$ Functions | e e Function applications

• Equivalent to Turing Machines (yet much simpler)

EXTENSIONS

Simply Typed Lambda Calculus (Church, 1940):

Terms			
t	::=	x	Variable
		t t	Function application
		λx : $\tau . t$	Lambda abstraction
Types			
τ	::=	T	Primitive type
		$\tau \to \tau$	Function

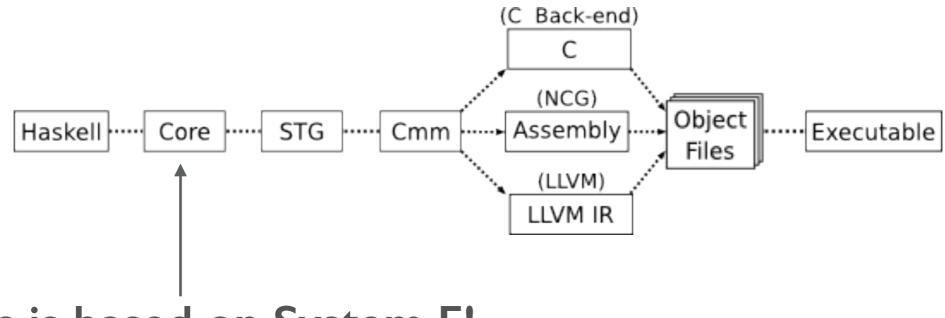
Polymorphic Lambda Calculus AKA System F
 (Girard in 1972 and Reynolds in 1974):

Types
$$au ::= \alpha \mid \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \mid \forall \alpha. \tau$$

Expressions $e ::= x \mid \lambda(x : \tau). e \mid e_1 \ e_2 \mid \Lambda \alpha. e \mid e \ \tau$

SYSTEM F

- Simple, yet expressive enough
- Compilers of statically typed functional languages use it as their intermediate form, for example:



This is based on System F!

HOW TO TRANSLATE IT TO JAVA?

No time to show the complete translation (full)

details in the paper)

Function encoding (IFO):

```
abstract class Function {
   Object arg, res;
   abstract void apply();
}
```

Example

```
id \equiv (\lambda x: Int). \, x \downarrow Function id = new Function() { void apply() { res = arg; } };
```

TWO MORE EXAMPLES

```
const \equiv \lambda A (x : A) (y : A).x
```



```
Function constant = new Function() {
  void apply() {
    res = new Function() {
     void apply() {res = constant.arg;}
  };
};
```

```
three \equiv const \ 3
```



```
constant.arg = 3;
constant.apply();
```

TRANSI ATION NOTE I

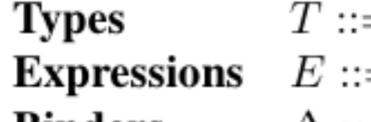
 We first translate System F to Closure F: $const \equiv \Lambda A.(\lambda x : A).(\lambda y : A).x$

 $const \equiv \lambda A (x : A) (y : A).x$

Types

$$\tau ::= \alpha \mid \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \mid \forall \alpha. \tau$$

Expressions
$$e := x \mid \lambda(x : \tau).e \mid e_1 e_2 \mid \Lambda \alpha.e \mid e \tau$$



$$\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Types} & T ::= \alpha \mid \forall \Delta.T \\ \textbf{Expressions} & E ::= x \mid \lambda \Delta.E \mid E \mid E \mid E \mid T \\ \textbf{Binders} & \Delta ::= \epsilon \mid \Delta(x:T) \mid \Delta\alpha \end{array}$$

TRANSLATION NOTE II

 Type-directed translation from Closure F to Java is defined using inductive rules, e.g.:

$$\Gamma \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S$$

```
\Gamma \vdash E_1 : \forall (x : T_2) \Delta . T_1 \leadsto J_1 \text{ in } S_1

\Gamma \vdash E_2 : T_2 \leadsto J_2 \text{ in } S_2 \qquad \Delta; T_1 \Downarrow T_3

f, x_f fresh
```

$$\Gamma \vdash E_1 E_2 : T_3 \leadsto x_f \text{ in } S_1 \uplus S_2 \uplus S_3$$

$$S_3$$
 := {
 Function f = J_1 ;
 f.arg = J_2 ;
 f.apply();
 $\langle T_3 \rangle$ x_f = ($\langle T_3 \rangle$) f.res;}

Translation Environments:

$$\Gamma ::= \epsilon \mid \Gamma (x_1 : T \mapsto x_2) \mid \Gamma \alpha$$

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION:

EXAMPLE

 $fact \equiv \lambda(n:Int)(acc:Int)$ if (n=0) then acc else fact (n-1) (n*acc)

```
// naive tail recursive factorial
class Fact extends Function
      Function fact = this;
      public void apply ()
        class FactI extends Function
          public void apply ()
            if (arq == 0) //n
              res = fact.arg;
            else
              fact.arg = fact.arg*arg;
              fact.apply();
              Function facti = fact.res;
              facti.arg = arg - 1;
              facti.apply();
              res = facti.res;
        res = new Fact();
    }
```

```
// tail call elimination
class Fact extends Function
      Function fact = this;
        class FactI extends Function
          public void apply ()
            if (arg == 0) //n
              res = fact.arg; //acc
            else
              fact.arg = arg*fact.arg;
              Function facti = fact.res;
              facti.arg = arg - 1;
              Next.next = facti;
        res = new Fact();
     public void apply ()
```

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION: FXAMPLE 2

```
even \equiv \lambda(n:Int). if (n=0) then true else odd(n-1) odd \equiv \lambda(n:Int). if (n=0) then false else even(n-1)
```

24

```
//Naive even and odd
Function even = new Function() {
 void apply() {
   Integer n = (Integer) arg;
   if (n == 0)
    res = true;
   else {
    odd.arg = n-1;
    odd.apply();
    res = odd.res;
   } }
};
Function odd = new Function() {
 void apply() {
   Integer n = (Integer) arg;
   if (n == 0)
    res = false;
   else {
    even.arg = n-1;
    even.apply();
    res = even.res;
};
```

```
// tail call elimination
Function teven = new Function() {
 void apply() {
   Integer n = (Integer) arg;
   if (n == 0)
    res = true;
   else {
    todd.arg = n-1;
    // tail call
    Next.next = todd;
   } }
} ;
Function todd = new Function() {
 void apply() {
   Integer n = (Integer) arg;
   if (n == 0)
    res = false;
   else {
    teven.arg = n-1;
    // tail call
    Next.next = teven;
};
```

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION: TRANSLATION I

We detect tail calls based on the tail call context:

$$E ::= x \mid \lambda \Delta . E \mid E \mid E \mid T$$

And modify the CJ-App rule:

$$\Gamma \vdash E_1 : \forall (x : T_2) \Delta . T_1 \leadsto J_1 \text{ in } S_1$$
 $\Gamma \vdash E_2 : T_2 \leadsto J_2 \text{ in } S_2 \qquad \Delta ; T_1 \Downarrow T_3$
 $x_f, \ f, \ c \ fresh$
 $\Gamma \vdash E_1 E_2 : T_3 \leadsto x_f \text{ in } S_1 \uplus S_2 \uplus S_3$

TAIL-CALL ELIMINATION: TRANSLATION II

TC

```
S_3 := {
    Function f = J_1;
    f.arg = J_2;
    Next.next = f;
}
```

Non-TC

```
S_3 := {
	Function f = J_1;
	f.arg = J_2;
	Next.next = f;
	Function c;
	Object x_f;
	do {
	c = Next.next;
	Next.next = null;
	c.apply();
	} while (Next.next != null);
	x_f = c.res;
```

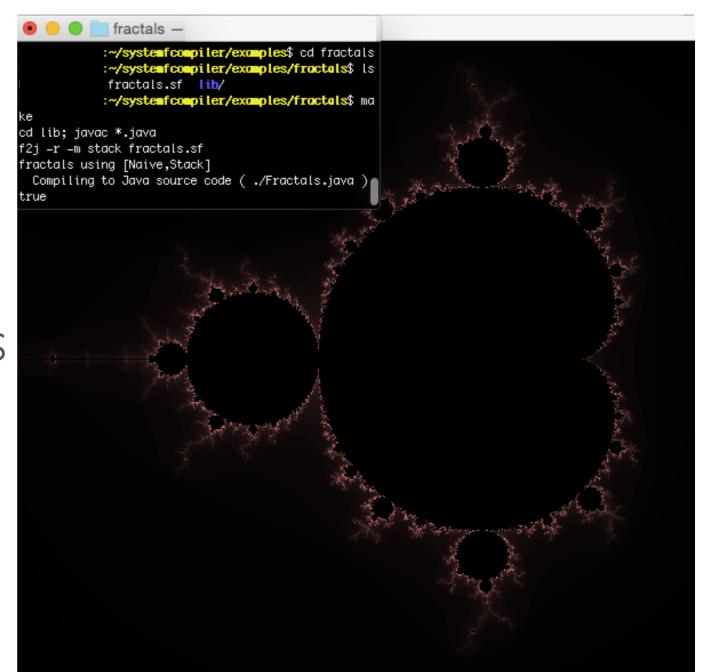
IMPLEMENTATION I

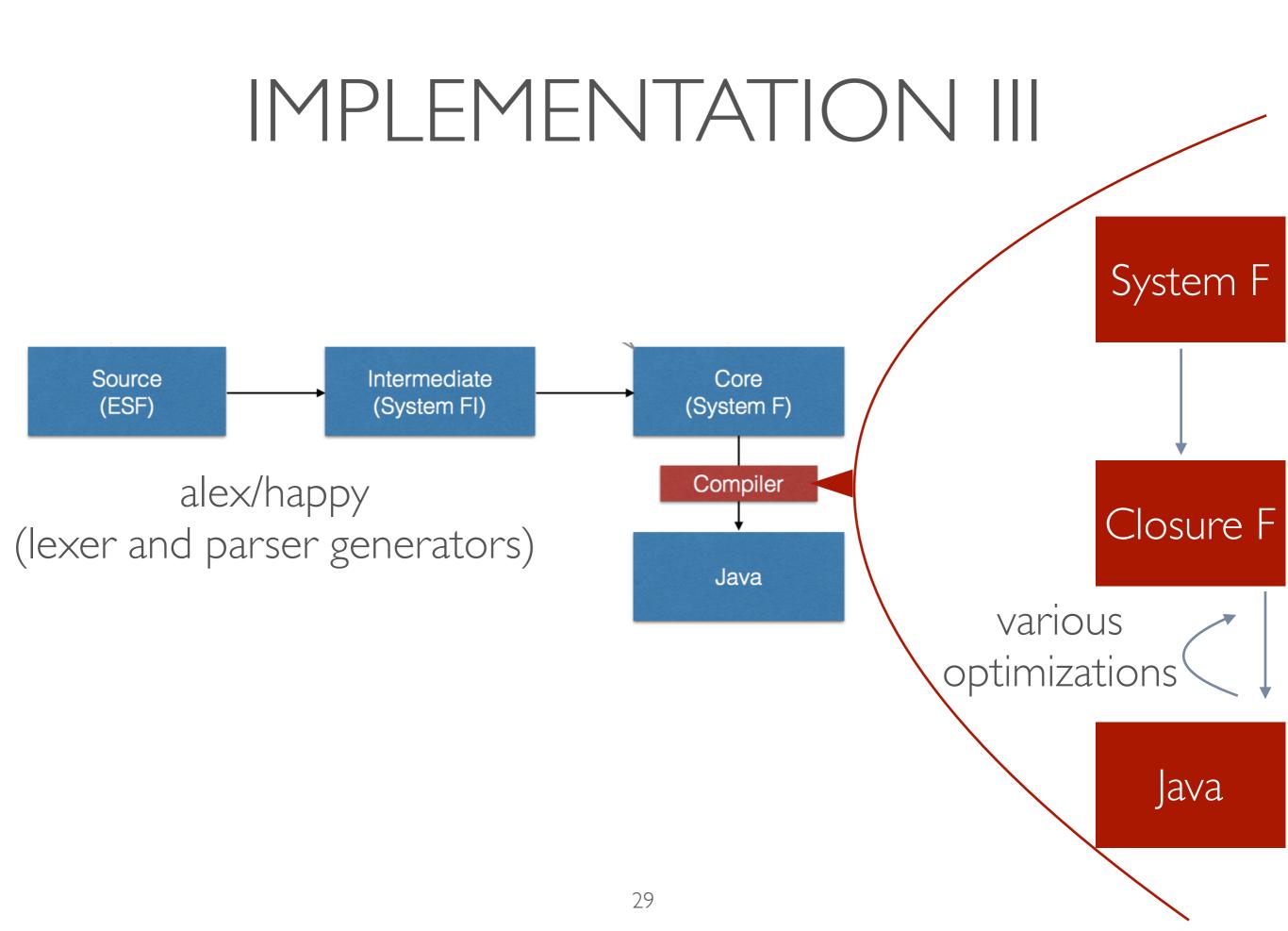
· Haskell: translation rules resemble the code in it

- System F extended with fixpoints, conditionals, primitive types and operations, tuples, let bindings, and basic Java interoperability
- Other **standard optimizations**: multi-argument functions, inlining of definitions, partial evaluation

IMPLEMENTATION II

- Test suite with 118 tests
- Example programs
- Used by all my colleagues here doing PL research
- Open-source soon!



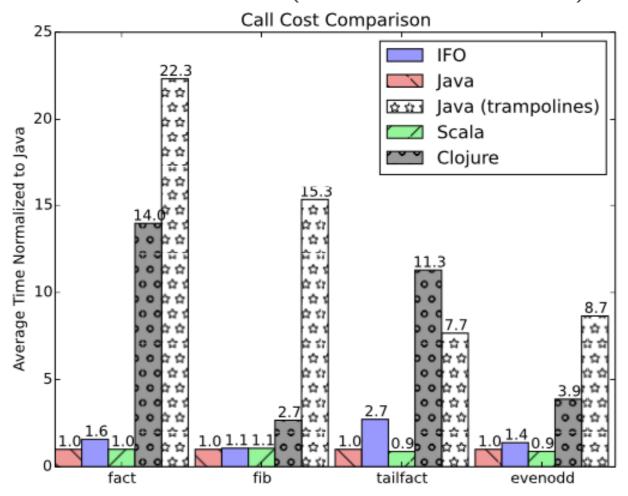


EVALUATION

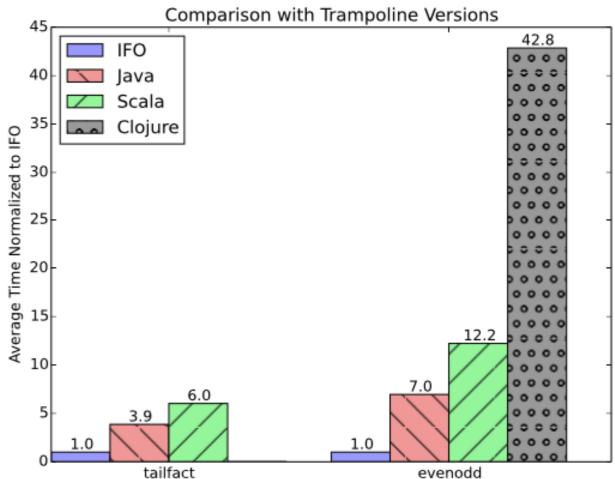
- Uniform representation of functions + TCE: does it have the claimed low overhead in time and memory?
- Two parts:
 - 1. **Micro-benchmarks**: general recursion, self tail-recursion, and mutual recursion
 - 2. Applications: encoding of Finite State Automata, and CPS-transformed (naive) 0-1 Knapsack Problem solution

EVALUATION: MICROBENCHMARKS

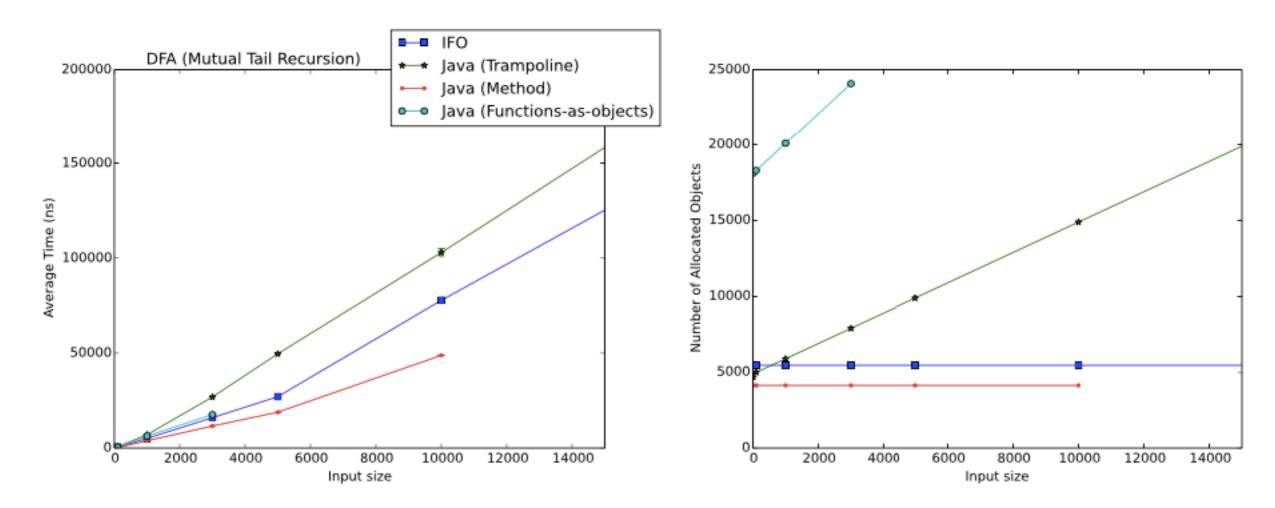
Low value (methods work)



High value (trampolines needed)



EVALUATION: DFA & CPS



CPS: method-based and FAO threw exception after input > 10

Input length (time units)	10 (μs)	20 (μs)	$40 \ (ms)$	50 (ms)	75 (ms)
Java (Trampoline-based)	17.10 ± 0.26	320.42 ± 5.88	14.84 ± 0.27	62.35 ± 1.06	1044.61 ± 12.99
IFO	11.06 ± 0.55	289.19 ± 6.52	12.70 ± 0.26	48.47 ± 1.08	805.06 ± 7.06
Relative speedup	54.6%	10.8%	16.9%	28.6%	29.8%

RELATED WORK

- "Transposing F to C#" (A. Kennedy and D. Syme)
- Guy Steele's pioneering work on Scheme
- Various ML and Haskell-to-Java compilers (MLj, Jaskell, . . .)
- JVM modifications

FUTURE WORK

- (Now) to mid-2015: additional work on the compiler backend (new optimizations, formalization, ...)
- Mid-2015 to 2016: bootstrapping compiler
- (~Now) to mid-2016: mixin-based module system combined with formalized package management / build system (extending the current compiler)
- Mid-2016 to 2017: writing up thesis

SUMMARYI

Uniform representation of function (no need for 2) + tail calls:

	correctness	space usage	time performance	supported in JVM
proper tail calls	yes	none	fast	no
methods	no	stack	normal	yes
trampolines	yes	heap*	slow	yes
our approach	yes	~none*	normal	yes

SUMMARY II

- With IFOs, programmers can use idiomatic FP on JVM seamlessly without compromises.
- Two main contributions:
 - Formalized compilation technique that can be used and adapted by others (e.g. for Python VM)
 - Its evaluated implementation that can be used by functional language designers to target JVM

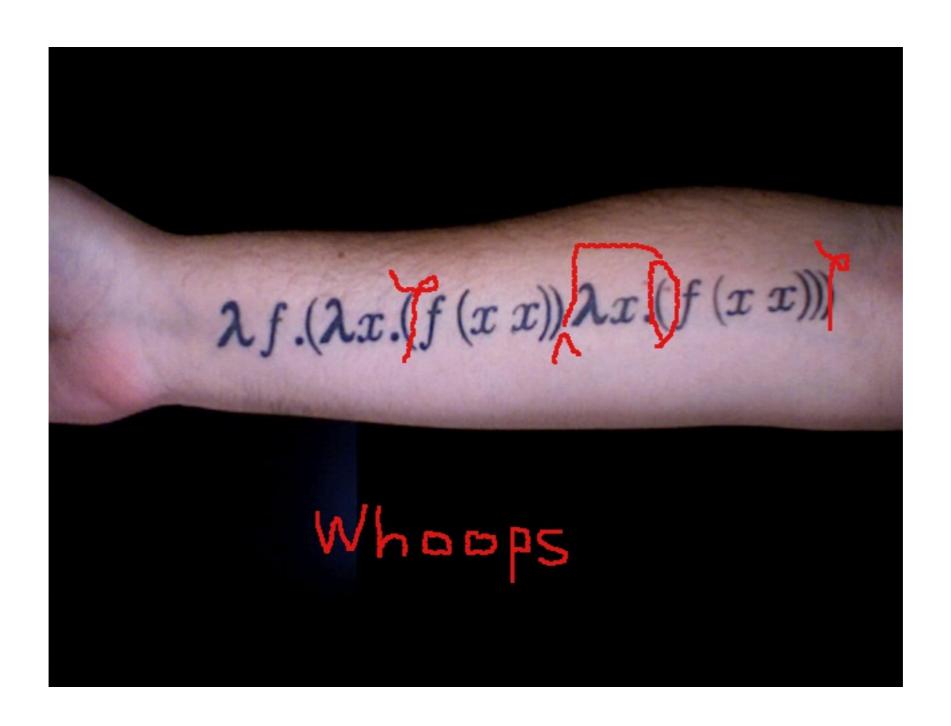
BACKUP SLIDES

- $0 := \lambda f. \lambda x. x$
- $1 := \lambda f. \lambda x. f x$
- $2 := \lambda f.\lambda x.f (f x)$
- $3 := \lambda f. \lambda x. f (f (f x))$
- SUCC := $\lambda n. \lambda f. \lambda x. f$ (n f x)
- PLUS := $\lambda m.\lambda n.m$ SUCC n
- MULT := $\lambda m.\lambda n.m$ (PLUS n) 0
- AND := $\lambda p.\lambda q.p$ q p
- OR := $\lambda p.\lambda q.p p q$
- NOT := $\lambda p.\lambda a.\lambda b.p$ b a
- IFTHENELSE := $\lambda p.\lambda a.\lambda b.p$ a b

TRUE := $\lambda x \cdot \lambda y \cdot x$

FALSE := $\lambda x \cdot \lambda y \cdot y$

FIX-POINT COMBINATOR



SYSTEM F -> CLOSURE F: DEFINITIONS

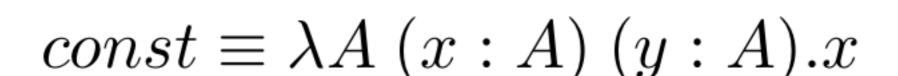
$$\begin{array}{lll} \textbf{Types} & \tau ::= \alpha \mid \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \mid \forall \alpha.\tau \\ \textbf{Expressions} & e ::= x \mid \lambda(x:\tau).e \mid e_1 \ e_2 \mid \Lambda\alpha.e \mid e \ \tau \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Types} & T ::= \alpha \mid \forall \Delta.T \\ \textbf{Expressions} & E ::= x \mid \lambda \Delta.E \mid E \mid E \mid T \\ \textbf{Binders} & \Delta ::= \epsilon \mid \Delta(x:T) \mid \Delta\alpha \end{array}$$

SYSTEM F -> CLOSURE F:

EXAMPLES

$$const \equiv \Lambda A.(\lambda x : A).(\lambda y : A).x$$



$$const \ (\forall B.B \to B) \ (\Lambda B.(\lambda z : B).z)$$

$$const\ (\forall B\ (x:B).B)\ (\lambda B\ (z:B).z)$$

SYSTEM F -> CLOSURE F: EXPRESSIONS

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda x : \tau_1 . e \end{bmatrix} (\Delta) = [e] (\Delta (x : |\tau_1|))
 [\Lambda \alpha . e] (\Delta) = [e] (\Delta \alpha)
 [e] (\Delta) = \lambda \Delta . [e]$$

SYSTEM F -> CLOSURE F: TYPES

$$|\alpha| = \alpha |\tau| = |\tau|(\epsilon)$$

$$|\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2|(\Delta) = |\tau_2| (\Delta (x : |\tau_1|))$$
 where x fresh $|\forall \alpha.\tau|(\Delta) = |\tau| (\Delta \alpha)$

$$|\tau|(\epsilon) = \tau |\tau|(\Delta) = \forall \Delta.\tau$$

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: PRELIMINARY

```
abstract class Function {
   Object arg, res;
   abstract void apply();
}
```

- No formalization of Java
- Erasure semantics of System F / Closure F
- Translation environments:

$$\Gamma ::= \epsilon \mid \Gamma (x_1 : T \mapsto x_2) \mid \Gamma \alpha$$

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: RULES IA

$$\Gamma \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S$$

$$\frac{(x_1: T \mapsto x_2) \in \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash x_1: T \leadsto x_2 \text{ in } \{\}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda \Delta . E : \forall \Delta . T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash E : \forall \alpha \Delta . T_2 \leadsto J \text{ in } S$$

$$\Delta ; T_2 \Downarrow T_3$$

$$\Gamma \vdash E T_1 : T_3[T_1/\alpha] \leadsto J \text{ in } S$$

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: RULES 1B

 $\Gamma \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S$

(CJ-App)

```
\Gamma \vdash E_1 : \forall (x:T_2)\Delta.T_1 \leadsto J_1 \text{ in } S_1
\Gamma \vdash E_2 : T_2 \leadsto J_2 \text{ in } S_2 \qquad \Delta; T_1 \Downarrow T_3
f, x_f \text{ } fresh
\Gamma \vdash E_1 E_2 : T_3 \leadsto x_f \text{ in } S_1 \uplus S_2 \uplus S_3
S_3 := \{
\text{Function } f = J_1;
\text{ } f. \text{arg } = J_2;
\text{ } f. \text{apply () };
\langle T_3 \rangle \text{ } x_f = (\langle T_3 \rangle) \text{ } f. \text{res; } \}
```

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: RULES

$$\Gamma; \Delta \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}{\Gamma; \epsilon \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \alpha; \Delta \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}{\Gamma; \alpha \Delta \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S}$$

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: RULES

HB

```
\Gamma; \Delta \vdash E : T \leadsto J \text{ in } S
                           \Gamma(y:T_1\mapsto x_2);\Delta\vdash E:T\leadsto J in S
(CJD-Bind1)
                                     FC, x_1, x_2, f fresh
                               \Gamma; (y:T_1) \Delta \vdash E:T \leadsto f \text{ in } S'
                    S' := \{
                      class FC extends Function {
                          Function x_1 = this;
                          void apply() {
                              \langle T_1 \rangle x_2 = (\langle T_1 \rangle) x1.arg;
                              S;
                              res = J;
                       };
                      Function f = new FC();}
```

CLOSURE F -> JAVA: RULES

Translation of Closure F types to Java types:

$$\langle \alpha \rangle = \mbox{Object}$$

$$\langle \forall \Delta.T \rangle = \mbox{Function}$$

DFA

```
c(ad)^*r \xrightarrow{\text{automaton init}} \\ c(ad)^*r \xrightarrow{\text{more : a -> more}} \\ \text{d -> more} \\ \text{r -> end} \\ \text{end :}
```

CPS

Method-based at 10: $9.68 \pm 0.20 \mu s$ FAO at 10: $13.79 \pm 0.22 \mu s$

we fixed the total weight to 10 and generated input values and weights lists of different sizes: we generated weights as consecutive sequences 1 to 5 and values as i × weight[i].