Type Classes

Induction, Data Types and Type Classes

Liam O'Connor CSE, UNSW (and Data61) Term 2 2019

Recap: Induction

Suppose we want to prove that a property P(n) holds for all natural numbers n.

Remember that the set of natural numbers \mathbb{N} can be defined as follows:

Definition of Natural Numbers

- 0 is a natural number.
- 2 For any natural number n, n+1 is also a natural number.

Recap: Induction

Therefore, to show P(n) for all n, it suffices to show:

- \bullet P(0) (the base case), and
- 2 assuming P(k) (the *inductive hypothesis*), $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ (the *inductive case*).

Example

Show that $f(n) = n^2$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where:

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0\\ 2n - 1 + f(n - 1) & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

(done on iPad)

Induction on Lists

Haskell lists can be defined similarly to natural numbers.

Definition of Haskell Lists

- ① [] is a list.
- 2 For any list xs, x:xs is also a list (for any item x).

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This means, if we want to prove that a property P(1s) holds for all lists 1s, it suffices to show:

- P([]) (the base case)
- **2** P(x:xs) for all items x, assuming the inductive hypothesis P(xs).

Induction on Lists: Example

```
sum :: [Int] -> Int
sum [] = 0
sum (x:xs) = x + sum xs -- 2
foldr :: (a -> b -> b) -> b -> [a] -> b
foldr f z \Pi = z
foldr f z (x:xs) = x \hat{f} foldr f z xs --B
```

Example

Induction

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Prove for all 1s:

$$sum ls == foldr (+) 0 ls$$

(done on iPad)

So far, we have seen type synonyms using the type keyword. For a graphics library, we might define:

```
type Point = (Float, Float)
type Vector = (Float, Float)
type Line = (Point, Point)
type Colour = (Int, Int, Int, Int) -- RGBA
movePoint :: Point -> Vector -> Point
movePoint (x,y) (dx,dy) = (x + dx, y + dy)
```

But these definitions allow Points and Vectors to be used interchangeably, increasing the likelihood of errors.

We can define our own compound types using the data keyword:

```
Constructor
            Constructor
Type name
                           argument types
               name
data Point = Point Float Float
           deriving (Show, Eq)
data Vector = Vector Float Float
            deriving (Show, Eq)
movePoint :: Point -> Vector -> Point
movePoint (Point x y) (Vector dx dy)
   = Point (x + dx) (y + dy)
```

Records

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data Colour = Colour Int Int Int Int

But this has so many parameters, it's hard to tell which is which.

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But this has so many parameters, it's hard to tell which is which. Haskell lets us declare these types as *records*, which is identical to the declaration style on the previous slide, but also gives us projection functions and record syntax:

```
data Colour = Colour { redC :: Int
                               :: Int
                    , greenC
                    . blueC :: Int
                    , opacityC :: Int
                    } deriving (Show, Eq)
```

Here, the code redC (Colour 255 128 0 255) gives 255.

Similar to enums in C and Java, we can define types to have one of a set of predefined values:

```
data LineStyle = Solid
                 Dashed
                 Dotted
               deriving (Show, Eq)
data FillStyle = SolidFill | NoFill
```

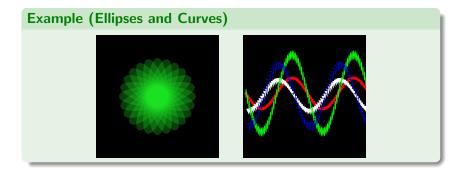
deriving (Show, Eq) Types with more than one constructor are called *sum types*. Just as the Point constructor took two Float arguments, constructors for sum types can take parameters too, allowing us to model different kinds of shape:

```
data PictureObject
```

```
= Path [Point] Colour LineStyle
| Circle Point Float Colour LineStyle FillStyle
| Polygon [Point] | Colour LineStyle FillStyle
 Ellipse Point Float Float Float
         Colour LineStyle FillStyle
deriving (Show, Eq)
```

type Picture = [PictureObject]

Live Coding: Cool Graphics



Recursive and Parametric Types

Type Classes

Data types can also be defined with parameters, such as the well known Maybe type, defined in the standard library:

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data Maybe a = Just a | Nothing
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data List a = Nil | Cons a (List a)
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We can even define natural numbers, where 2 is encoded as Succ(Succ Zero):

```
data Natural = Zero | Succ Natural
```

Types in Design

Sage Advice

An old adage due to Yaron Minsky (of Jane Street) is:

Make illegal states unrepresentable.

Choose types that *constrain* your implementation as much as possible. Then failure scenarios are eliminated automatically.

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```
Example (Contact Details)
data Contact = C Name (Maybe Address) (Maybe Email)
is changed to:
data ContactDetails = EmailOnly Email
                         PostOnly Address
                         Both Address Email
data Contact = C Name ContactDetails
What failure state is eliminated here? Liam: also talk about other famous screwups
```

Partial Functions

Failure to follow Yaron's excellent advice leads to partial functions.

Definition

A *partial function* is a function not defined for all possible inputs.

Examples: head, tail, (!!), division

Partial functions are to be avoided, because they cause your program to crash if undefined cases are encountered.

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To eliminate partiality, we must either:

• enlarge the codomain, usually with a Maybe type:

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safeHead :: [a] -> Maybe a -- Q: How is this safer?
safeHead (x:xs) = Just x
safeHead [] = Nothing
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```

• Or we must constrain the domain to be more specific:

```
safeHead' :: NonEmpty a -> a -- Q: How to define?
```

Type Classes •000000000

You have already seen functions such as:

- compare
- (==)
- (+)
- show

that work on multiple types, and their corresponding constraints on type variables Ord, Eq. Num and Show.

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that work on multiple types, and their corresponding constraints on type variables Ord, Eq. Num and Show.

These constraints are called *type classes*, and can be thought of as a set of types for which certain operations are implemented.

Show

The Show type class is a set of types that can be converted to strings. It is defined like:

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class Show a where -- nothing to do with OOP
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We can also define instances that depend on other instances:

```
instance Show a => Show (Maybe a) where
 show (Just x) = "Just " ++ show x
 show Nothing = "Nothing"
```

Fortunately for us, Haskell supports automatically deriving instances for some classes, including Show.

Read

Type classes can also overload based on the type returned, unlike similar features like Java's interfaces:

```
class Read a where
  read :: String -> a
Some examples:
```

• read "34" :: Int

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• show (read "34") :: String

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  • show (read "34") :: String Type error!
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Semigroup

Type Classes 000000000

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Associativity is defined as, for all a, b, c:

$$(a \bullet (b \bullet c)) = ((a \bullet b) \bullet c)$$

Haskell has a type class for semigroups! The associativity law is enforced only by programmer discipline:

class Semigroup s where

What instances can you think of?

Lets implement additive colour mixing:

```
instance Semigroup Colour where
  Colour r1 g1 b1 a1 <> Colour r2 g2 b2 a2
      = Colour (mix r1 r2)
               (mix g1 g2)
               (mix b1 b2)
               (mix a1 a2)
   where
      mix x1 x2 = min 255 (x1 + x2)
```

Observe that associativity is satisfied.

Type Classes 0000000000

Monoids

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For colours, the identity element is transparent black:

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For each of the semigroups discussed previously:

- Are they monoids?
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In Haskell, this is done with the newtype keyword.

A newtype declaration is much like a data declaration except that there can be only one constructor and it must take exactly one argument:

```
newtype Score = S Integer
```

```
instance Semigroup Score where
  S \times <> S y = S (x + y)
```

```
instance Monoid Score where
 mempty = S 0
```

Here, Score is represented identically to Integer, and thus no performance penalty is incurred to convert between them.

In general, newtypes are a great way to prevent mistakes. Use them frequently!

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Relations that satisfy these four properties are called *total orders*. Without the fourth (totality), they are called *partial orders*.

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Relations that satisfy these are called equivalence relations.

Some argue that the Eq class should be only for *equality*, requiring stricter laws like:

If x == y then f x == f y for all functions f

But this is debated.

Homework

- Do the first programming exercise, and ask us on Piazza if you get stuck. It will be due in exactly 1 week from the start of this lecture.
- 2 Last week's quiz is due this friday. Make sure you submit your answers.
- This week's quiz is also up, due next friday (10 days away).