

Named and Typed Homoiconicity

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Metaprogramming

In Haskell, write a function that, given a tuple of arguments that implement a common typeclass, maps a function in that typeclass over the tuple

Metaprogramming

```
mapT (a, b) f = (f a, f b)
```

```
> mapT (1,1) (+1)  
(2,2)
```

Metaprogramming

```
mapT (a, b) f = (f a, f b)
```

```
> mapT (1::Int, 1::Double) (+1)
```

```
Couldn't match expected type 'Int'  
  with actual type 'Double'  
(...)
```

Metaprogramming



```
{-# LANGUAGE RankNTypes #-}  
mapT :: (Num a, Num b) => (a, b) ->  
    (forall x. Num x => x -> x) ->  
    (a, b)  
mapT (a, b) f = (f a, f b)  
  
> mapT (1::Int, 1::Double) (+1)  
(2, 2.0)
```

Metaprogramming



Now, generalize over tuple arity and typeclass

Metaprogramming

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Tuple arity:

- ▶ Functional dependencies
- ▶ Heterogeneous lists

Metaprogramming

Now, generalize over tuple arity and typeclass

Tuple arity:

- ▶ Functional dependencies
- ▶ Heterogeneous lists

Typeclass:

- ▶ ... Dragons here

Metaprogramming

This works with no fuss:

```
> ((+1) (1::Int), (+1) (1::Double))  
(2,2.0)
```

Doesn't seem very elegant...

Metaprogramming

Template Haskell lets us generalize that

We should understand:

- ▶ Quasiquote: converts code to formal representation
- ▶ Splice: converts formal representation to code

Metaprogramming

```
> runQ [| ((+1) 1, (+1) 1) |]  
TupE [AppE  
  (InfixE Nothing  
    (VarE GHC.Num.+)  
    (Just (LitE (IntegerL 1))))  
  (LitE (IntegerL 1)),  
  (...)]
```

Metaprogramming

```
mapT :: Int -> Q Exp -> Q Exp
mapT n f =
  f >>= \f ->
    replicateM n (newName "x") >>= \xs ->
      return (LamE [TupP (map VarP xs)]
        (TupE (map (AppE f . VarE) xs)))
```

```
> $(mapT 2 [|(+1)|]) (1::Int,2::Double)
(2,3.0)
```

```
> $(mapT 3 [|show|]) (1,'a',"hello")
("1","'a'", "\"hello\"")
```

Metaprogramming

Metaprogramming means code generation

This includes type inference and expression generation

Metaprogramming



Peano numerals:

$$Z \equiv 0$$

$$S\ n \equiv n + 1$$

$$S\ S\ S\ Z \equiv 3$$

Metaprogramming



Haskell

```
{-# LANGUAGE FlexibleContexts, FlexibleInstances,  
      FunctionalDependencies, UndecidableInstances #-}
```

```
data Z  
data S n
```

```
class Add a b r | a b -> r, a r -> b  
instance Add Z m m  
instance Add n m r => Add (S n) m (S r)
```

```
add :: Add n m r => n -> m -> r  
add _ _ = undefined
```

```
> :t add (undefined::S Z) (undefined::S (S Z))  
add (undefined::S Z) (undefined::S (S Z)) :: S (S (S Z))
```

Prolog

```
add(0, M, M).  
add(s(N), M, s(K)) :- add(N, M, K).
```

Metaprogramming

Type Level

- ▶ Discipline
- ▶ Premade abstractions
- ▶ Paradigm lock
- ▶ Tricky interop

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Expression Level

- ▶ Flexible
- ▶ User-made abstractions
- ▶ Lots of rope
- ▶ Can be portable

Metaprogramming



Why not both? Well...

Lisp



Lisp formal language contains three elements:

- ▶ Symbols
- ▶ Literals
- ▶ S-expressions

Lists are quasiquoted S-expressions

`car` and `cdr` are both programming and metaprogramming constructs

The true elegance of Lisp is homoiconicity:

- ▶ Syntax is S-expressions
- ▶ Formal language is S-expressions

Lisp programming and metaprogramming is
S-expression manipulation

Lisp



Lisp is great, but:

Lisp



Lisp is great, but:

- ▶ Interpreted

Lisp



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- ▶ Interpreted
- ▶ Dynamically typed
- ▶ Hetero-list-based, so offset-based

... So we're making a programming language

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- ▶ Records instead of lists
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How do we make name-based homoiconicity?

- ▶ Records instead of lists
 - ▶ JSON syntax
 - ▶ Considered, not ideal
- ▶ Hybrid dictionary-stack
 - ▶ A bit weird
 - ▶ Surprisingly elegant

Stack-based?

- ▶ Good support for multiple returns
- ▶ Composition of multiple returns
- ▶ Composition of named returns
- ▶ No parentheses

8 3 divMod + => 4

How do we make statically-typed
homoiconicity?

Treat the compiler as single-pass interpreter:

- ▶ Statically type literals
- ▶ No pointers, just first-class names
- ▶ Aggressive inlining, no recursion
- ▶ Mangle-by-macro

Core language provides:

```
{condition} {body})+ {body}? if
```

```
"hello "
```

```
  { false } { "world" }
```

```
  { true } { "place" }
```

```
  { "thing" } if ++
```

```
    => "hello place"
```


Let's make:

```
val (case {body})+ {body}? switch
```

```
({val case =} {body})+ {body}? if
```

- ▶ generate unique name val
- ▶ if second item on stack is a block:
 - ▶ move top of stack to scratch
- ▶ while there's a block at top of stack:
 - ▶ move top of stack to scratch
 - ▶ fuse top of stack and val onto $\{ = \}$
 - ▶ move top of stack to scratch
- ▶ bind type at top of stack to ty
- ▶ move all blocks from scratch to stack
- ▶ push literal of type ty
- ▶ push symbols: if bind 'val

Conclusion

Rio metaprogramming is about
understanding compiler dynamics

Stack-based promotes point-free style

Homoiconicity lowers the metaprogramming
barrier-to-entry

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Stack-based promotes point-free style

Homoiconicity lowers the metaprogramming barrier-to-entry

Is it functional? Who knows

Conclusion



<http://rio-lang.org>

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