

# Lambda Calculus Functional Programming and



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# **Group E -xcellent**

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What is a Closure?

- A closure is the local variables for a function - kept alive after the function has returned.
- A function saves its context (referencing environment)

class function which takes a function as an argument returns a function as a result

JavaScript and Closures

Abstract class function which takes a function as an argument returns a function as a result



# *In the Beginning*

18 years ago  
1995  
Brendan Eich  
Lambda Calculus  
Functional Programming



## *What is JavaScript*

- Created to formalize the concept of computability
- Interpreted programming language
- Supports functions as arguments
- Prototyped-based scripting language
- Uses dynamic and duck typing
- Functional language that uses call-by-value
- Imperative
- Mostly Non Lazy
- But there are libraries that are implemented with lazy evaluation

## *JavaScript And Functional Programming*

- Support for anonymous (lambda) functions
- Complex algorithms can be implemented from simple algorithms (composition)
- Formula (calculations)
- Recursion using higher-order functions
- The return value of a function depends solely on its arguments, if at all (referential transparency)
- No side effects

# *Who is Brendan Eich?*



- CTO of Mozilla Corporation
- Rust programming language
- Creator of JavaScript
- Helped found mozilla.org

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# JavaScript And Lazy Evaluation

- JavaScript is imperative, procedural, functional and call-by-value
- JavaScript does not have lazy Evaluation
- But now there are libraries that are implemented with lazy evaluation

## What is Lazy Evaluation?

- A policy that delays evaluation of expressions and only does them on demand
- In other words, expressions that are not necessary to compute in a function will not be computed
- Also known as normal order, delayed/deferred execution, call-by-need
- Found in languages like Haskell and Scheme
- Was introduced by Christopher Wadsworth in 1971

## Pros / Cons of Being Lazy

### Pros

• Only need to evaluate arguments when they are needed.

• Can defer computation until it is needed.

• Can reduce memory usage.

• Can make code more readable.

### Cons

• Can make code slower if not used correctly.

• Can make code harder to understand.

• Can make code harder to debug.

• Can make code harder to maintain.

## Lazy implementation

- Stream.js
  - Is a module that contains the data structure 'Stream' that is essentially an infinite list.
- Lazy.js
  - Is a module that is similar to Underscore, which is a framework for developing web applications.
- Lazy.js
  - Implements all ES6 methods and supports extensions.



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stream.  
-Is a mo  
'Stream'  
  
lazy.js  
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# Pros / Cons of Being Lazy

## Pros

- Can be used to reduce loading times on web pages
- Loading only necessary images and other images as needed
- The ability to construct potentially infinite data structures

## Cons

- Lots of overhead with lazy evaluation
- Improper use causes undefined behavior
- Must track object was previously referenced
- Difficult with imperative programming
- Exception handling and I/O - Exception handling is difficult to integrate with lazy evaluation

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# *Lazy implementation*

## stream.js

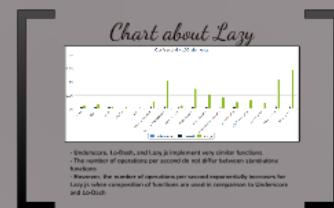
-Is a module that contains the data structure 'Streams' that is essentially an infinite list

## lazy.js

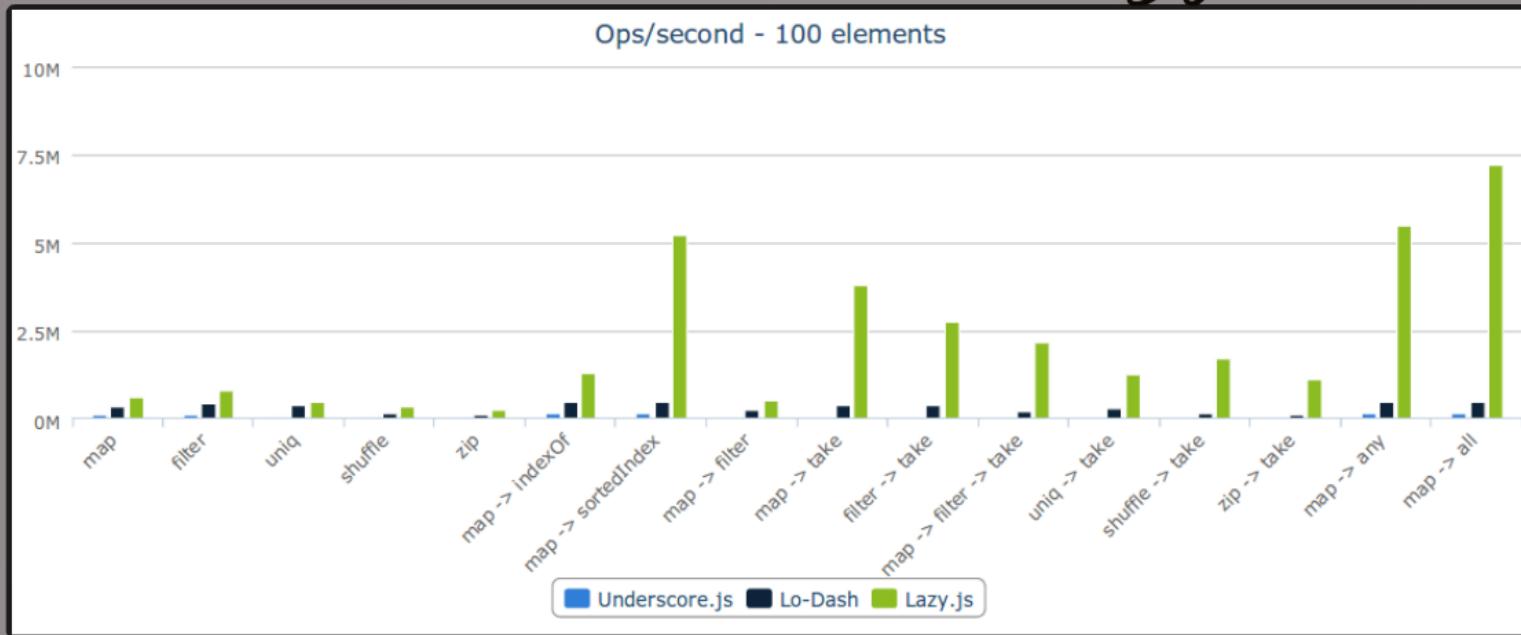
-Is a module that is similar to Underscore, which is a framework for developing web applications.

## linq.js

-Implements all .NET 4.0 methods and supports extensions

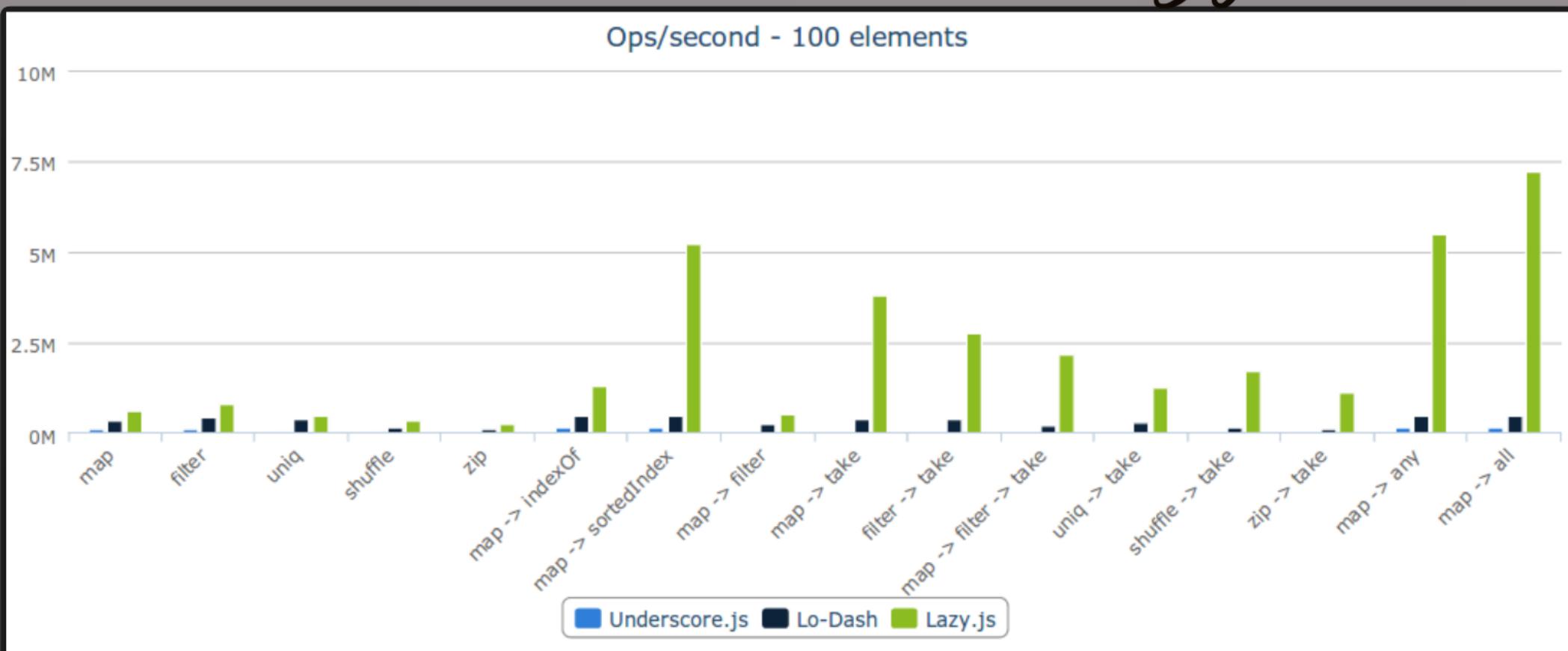


# Chart about Lazy



- Underscore, Lo-Dash, and Lazy.js implement very similar functions
- The number of operations per second do not differ between stand-alone functions
- However, the number of operations per second exponentially increases for Lazy.js when composition of functions are used in comparison to Underscore and Lo-Dash

# Chart about Lazy



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However, the number of operations per second exponentially increases for

### Haskell List Comprehension

- Matrix multiplication notation
- Iteration and Recursion

$S = (2 \times 4 \times \dots \times 2) = [2]$

$S = (2^2 \times 1 \times \dots \times 1) = [2^2 \times 1 \times \dots \times 1]$

# Functional Programming And JavaScript

## What is a Closure?

- A closure is the local variables for a function - kept alive after the function has returned.
- A function saves its context (referencing environment)



## What is a higher order Function?

A higher-order function is a first-class function which takes a function as an argument and returns a function as a result.

## JavaScript and Closures

- JavaScript creates an activation object for each scope.  
- Each object maintains all function arguments and variables within that scope.  
- The activation objects become part of a scope chain that JavaScript will traverse back up to the global object.  
- All of method functions have to do to create a closure is carry a reference to this activation object, which will keep all the variables and arguments in the scope chain alive.  
- Closures in JavaScript can also be used to implement the notion of private data.  
Let's write this with a example.



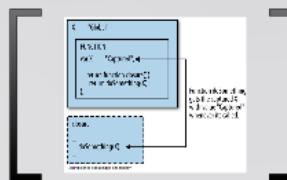
## JavaScript and Higher Order

- JavaScript implemented map(), reduce() and filter() functions as a part of their Array class in JavaScript 1.6.
- Since there is no lazy evaluation in JavaScript, these operations are limited to finite arrays.



# *What is a Closure?*

- A closure is the local variables for a function - kept alive after the function has returned.
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JavaScript

- JavaScript creates an activation object
- Each object references all functions
- The activation objects become environments when trying to find a variable
- All a nested function has to do is return to its activation object, which will keep the chain alive

```
X "Global";
```

```
FUNCTION
```

```
var X "Captured";  
return function closure(){  
    return doSomething(X);  
};
```

```
closure
```

```
...  
doSomething(X);  
...
```

*...telling stories about magic and fantasy.*

Function doSomething gets the captured X with value "Captured" whenever its called.

# *JavaScript and Closures*

- JavaScript creates an activation object for each scope
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- All a nested function has to do to create a closure is carry a reference to its activation object, which will keep all the variables and arguments in the scope chain alive
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Let's exhibit this with a fairytale:



**Once upon a time:**

There was a princess...

```
function princess() {
```

She lived in a wonderful world full of adventures. She met her Prince Charming, rode around her world on a unicorn, battled dragons, encountered talking animals, and many other fantastical things.

```
var adventures = [];

function princeCharming() { /* ... */ }

var unicorn = { /* ... */ },
dragons = [ /* ... */ ],
squirrel = "Hello!";
```

But she would always have to return back to her dull world of chores and grown-ups.

```
return {
```

And she would often tell them of her latest amazing adventure as a princess.

```
    story: function() {
        return adventures[adventures.length - 1];
    }
};
```

But all they would see is a little girl...

```
var littleGirl = princess();

...telling stories about magic and fantasy.

littleGirl.story();
```

And even though the grown-ups knew of real princesses, they would never believe in the unicorns or dragons because they could never see them. The grown-ups said that they only existed inside the little girl's imagination.

But we know the real truth; that the little girl with the princess inside...

...is really a princess with a little girl inside.

# *What is a higher order Function?*

A higher-order function is a first-class function which takes a function as an argument and returns a function as a result.

JavaS

- JavaScript's `reduce()` is part of the `Array` object

## *JavaScript and Higher Order*

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# Array and List Comprehension

## What is List / Array Comprehension?

- Creating a list from existing lists
- Syntactic Sugar
- Mathematical set-builder notation
- Well-understood and popular language feature
- Found in Languages like Python, Haskell



## JavaScript Array Comprehension

- Pythonic generators along with iterators were first introduced in the 1.7 version of JavaScript
- A drawback of array comprehension is that they create an entire new array to be constructed in memory.

## Haskell List Comprehension

- Math set-builder notation
- Intuitive and flexible

$S = \{x \mid x \in N, x^2 > 3\}$

$S = [x^2 \mid x \in [0 \dots], x^2 > 3]$



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```
boomBangs xs = [ if x < 10 then "BOOM!" else "BANG!" | x <- xs, odd x]
```

The last part of the comprehension is the predicate. The function `odd` returns `True` on an odd number and `False` on an even one. The element is included in the list only if all the predicates evaluate to `True`.

```
ghci> boomBangs [7..13]
["BOOM!","BOOM!","BANG!","BANG!"]
```

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