

Functional Programming

#OddU 2020-06-24



A strangely human digital agency

<https://github.com/oddballteam/oddu-functional-programming>

How is **Functional Programming** different than **Object Oriented**?

Thinking in OOP

What are the 'Things'

and

How do I represent them

Thinking in FP

'What am I doing'

and

'What order am I doing them in'

Change The Approach

Imperative Approach

I need a Cart,
The Cart needs a Customer,
The Cart needs Products,
Products need Variations,
It should return a subtotal

vs

Declarative Approach

I should be able to add products to a list (cart),
I should be able to associate a list with a customer,
I should be able to total a given list of products,

Thinking in FP

Do one thing, and do it well (tested)

doOneThingWell(withSomething);

This should always work because
it does not rely on external influences

Thinking in FP

Think small.

Reusable small 'black boxes' that return

testable values

passed to the next 'black box'



Terminology and Examples

<https://github.com/oddballteam/oddu-functional-programming>

Mutability

Avoid mutants (in FP) !!!

Mutations are untrustworthy and unpredictable

Mutables CAN be changed and can cause unpredictable results.

Immutable CAN'T be changed and are predictable/constant.

Counters and loops are a smell test...

```
let subTotal = 0;  
foreach(products as p) {  
  subTotal += p.price;  
}
```



Pure Functions

- A function where output is derived solely from it's input.
- It must never modify external data or state.
- It will always work, and always return the same response with the same input regardless of environment, runtime, session, user state, etc.
- This makes it prime for testing!



```
const multiple = (x,y) => x * y;
```

Pointfree

- **Pointfree** code doesn't explicitly mention it's arguments, even though they exist and are being used.
- **Pointful** code does explicitly mention it's arguments, and how they are being used.

```
//Pointful  
map(x => x + 1)  
  
//Pointfree  
map(add)
```

Pointlessfree Example:



Higher Order Functions

- Accepts function as argument
- Returns function

```
const withTotal = fn => {  
  return (...args) => {  
    return fn(...args);  
  }  
}
```



Currying

- To transform a function with multiple arguments into a sequence of nesting functions

```
const multiplyBy = (x,y) => x * y;
```

vs

```
const multiplyBy = x => y => x * y;
```



Partial Application

- A **partial application** is a function which has been applied to some, but not yet all of its arguments.

In other words, it's a function which has some arguments *fixed* inside its closure scope. A function with some of its parameters fixed is said to be *partially applied*.

Didn't get that? Don't worry - demo is up next!



Composition

- Combining multiple simple/pure functions to build more complex ones



```
repeat(exclaim(scream('Oddball Rocks')));
```

Ok... Now What?

First - Don't be a purist.

Today:

Write new code avoiding mutations

Later:

Start using Higher Order Functions and Currying

Eventually:

Write an app without state or classes

