FizzBuzz In Haskell

Owen Lynch

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- Haskell is for academic ivory-towerists who do too much category theory for their own good
  - Haskell is actually a very practical language for all sorts of tasks, and it has been battletested in industry for decades

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However. . .

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- This is a silly tour of some neat features in Haskell.
- I am not expecting all of this talk to make sense to you right away.
- When you see something you don't understand, don't think "Agghhh Haskell is way to hard", think "Cool, I have something to figure out!"

Introducing FizzBuzz

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  - For every number divisible by 5 and 3, put “FizzBuzz” instead
- How would you solve FizzBuzz?

Lists in Haskell

How can we make a list until we know what a list *is*?

```haskell
data [a] = [] | a : [a]
-- data List a = Empty | Cons a (List a)
-- (:) x xs == x : xs
-- ([]) a = [a]
```

- New Stuff:

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- New Stuff:
  - Data Declarations
  - Parametric data declarations
  - Special syntax for stuff

What does it look like?

```haskell
firstFourPrimes :: [Int]
firstFourPrimes = 2:(3:(5:(7:[])))

type String = [Char]
-- "abc" = ['a', 'b', 'c']

everFlavoredBeanFlavors :: [String]
everFlavoredBeanFlavors =
  ["earwax", "vomit", "marmalade", "spinach"]
```

How do we work with it?

Recursion!

Our first step is generating all of the numbers from 1 to 100.

```
range :: Int -> Int -> [Int]
range n m
  | n == m    = [n]
  | otherwise = n:(range (n+1) m)
-- range n m == [n..m]
```

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- New stuff:
  - Currying
  - Guard Notation

List Transformations

Now, we need to do something to each of those numbers.

```
map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
map f [] = []
map f (x:xs) = (f x):(map f xs)
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```

- New stuff:
  - Functions applied to functions!

The first solution

```haskell
fizzbuzz1 :: Int -> String
fizzbuzz1 n
  | rem n 15 == 0 = "FizzBuzz"
  | rem n  5 == 0 = "Buzz"
  | rem n  3 == 0 = "Fizz"
  | otherwise     = show n

sol1 :: [String]
sol1 = map fizzbuzz1 [1..100]
```

Discuss first solution

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- What did we not like?

Discuss first solution

- What did we like?
  - Recursion!
  - Combinators that allowed us to not do recursion!
  - Case syntax!
- What did we not like?
  - Not extensible enough! (What about Bazz??)

FizzBuzzBazz

```haskell
fizzbuzzbazz1 :: Int -> String
fizzbuzzbazz1 n
  | rem n 105 == 0 = "FizzBuzzBazz"
  | rem n  35 == 0 = "BuzzBazz"
  | rem n  21 == 0 = "FizzBazz"
  | rem n  15 == 0 = "FizzBuzz"
  | rem n   7 == 0 = "Bazz"
  | rem n   5 == 0 = "Buzz"
  | rem n   3 == 0 = "Fizz"
  | otherwise      = show n
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```

This is terrible!

How should we solve this?

- We need to be able to compose different “zz”s

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- We need to be able to compose different “zz”s
- To do this, we will use a very common structure… monoids!

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– Real World Haskell

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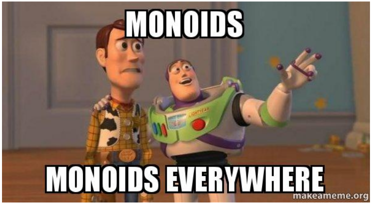

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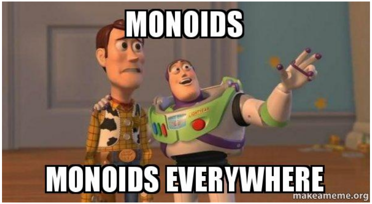

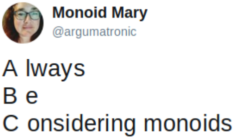

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  - `a <> (b <> c) == (a <> b) <> c`
  - `a <> mempty == a == mempty <> a`

You already know lots of monoids!

Take a couple minutes and think of monoids

- Any type of number ($\mathbb{N}$, $\mathbb{Z}$, $\mathbb{Q}$, $\mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{C}$) along with addition

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- Matrices with addition

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- Any type of number along with multiplication
- Matrices with addition
- Matrices with multiplication (non-commutative!)
- Any ordered set along with max and a “negative infinity” element as identity
- Any ordered set along with min and a “positive infinity” element as identity

Some nitty-gritties. . .

In Haskell, we write the definition of a Monoid like this

```
class Monoid m where
  mempty :: m
  (<>) :: m -> m -> m
```

Unfortunately, we can't write down the laws. . . we just have to trust that whenever someone implements a Monoid they make sure they satisfy them!

List Monoid

```
instance Monoid [a] where
  mempty = []
  [] <> ys = ys
  (x:xs) <> ys = x:(xs <> ys)
```

Maybe Monoid

```
data Maybe a = Just a | Nothing

instance (Monoid a) => Monoid (Maybe a) where
  mempty = Nothing
  Nothing <> Nothing = Nothing
  (Just a) <> Nothing = Just a
  Nothing <> (Just b) = Just b
  (Just a) <> (Just b) = Just (a <> b)
```

Working with Maybes

```
fromMaybe :: a -> Maybe a -> a
fromMaybe def Nothing = def
fromMaybe _ (Just y) = y
```

Combining lists

```haskell
foldl :: (a -> b -> a) -> a -> [b] -> a
foldl f acc [] = acc
foldl f acc (x:xs) = foldl f (f acc x) xs
-- sum == foldl (+) 0
-- length == foldl (\n _ -> n + 1) 0

mconcat :: (Monoid m) => [m] -> m
mconcat = foldl (<>) mempty
-- mconcat ["tweedle", "dee"] == "tweedledee"
```

FizzBuzz Revisited

```haskell
fizzbuzz2 :: [(Int, String)] -> Int -> String
fizzbuzz2 conds n = fromMaybe (show n) mdesc
  where
    mdesc = mconcat (map maybeWord conds)
    maybeWord (k, word)
      | rem n k == 0 = Just word
      | otherwise    = Nothing

sol2 :: [String]
sol2 = map (fizzbuzz2 conds) [1..100]
  where conds = [(3, "Fizz"), (5, "Buzz")]
```

Reflections on take 2

- What do we like?

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Reflections on take 2

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  - Currying!
  - Much more extensible!
- What do we not like?
  - Still not extensible enough!

FizzBuzz: Hard Mode

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FizzBuzz: Hard Mode

- FizzBuzz, but...
  - For every prime number, put “Buzz” instead
  - For every fibonacci number, put “Fizz” instead
  - For every number that is a fibonacci number and a prime number, put “FizzBuzz” instead

Infinity and Beyond!

```
repeat :: a -> [a]
repeat x = x:(repeat x)
-- take 3 (repeat 1) = [1,1,1]

primes :: [Int]
primes = from 2
  where
    from k = k:(filter (ndiv k) (from (k+1)))
    ndiv k n = rem n k /= 0
-- take 4 primes == [2,3,5,7]
```

Zipping Lists

```
zipWith :: (a -> b -> c) -> [a] -> [b] -> [c]
zipWith _ [] _ = []
zipWith _ _ [] = []
zipWith f (x:xs) (y:ys) =
  (f x y):(zipWith f xs ys)

fibs :: [Int]
fibs = 1:2:(zipWith (+) fibs (tail fibs))
-- This one's a braintwister!
```

Lists as Monoids Revisited

```
newtype Stream a = S [a]

unS :: Stream a -> [a]
unS (S xs) = xs

instance Monoid a => Monoid (Stream a) where
  mempty = S []
  (S []) <> (S ys) = S ys
  (S xs) <> (S []) = S xs
  (S (x:xs)) <> (S (y:ys)) = S ((x <> y):rest)
    where (S rest) = (S xs) <> (S ys)
```

Conceptually, when the list ends, we treat the rest as an infinite stream of `mempty`s (this might make more sense in the context of the next slide)

Thoughts on Streams

`Stream Double` is a vector space, where Double is the type of real numbers (OK, floating point numbers) in Haskell.

```
scalarMult :: Double -> Stream Double -> Stream Double
scalarMult r (S xs) = S (map (r*) xs)

addV :: Stream Double -> Stream Double -> Stream Double
addV = (<>)
-- The monoid instance for Double uses addition

negV :: Stream Double -> Stream Double
negV = scalarMult (-1)
```

This is the same thing as the vector space of polynomials of one variable over $\mathbb{R}$.

$[1, 0, \pi] \approx 1 + \pi x^2$

FizzBuzz: The Final Showdown

```haskell
spacer :: [Int] -> a -> [Maybe a]
spacer (n:ns) s = loop (n-1) (n:ns)
  where
    loop 0 (k1:k2:ns) =
      (Just s):(loop (k2-k1-1) (k2:ns))
    loop k ns = Nothing:(loop (k-1) ns)

combine :: (Monoid a) => [([Int], a)] -> [Maybe a]
combine = unS . mconcat . map (S . uncurry spacer)

sol3 :: [String]
sol3 = zipWith fromMaybe (map show [1..100]) descs
  where descs = combine [(primes,"Fizz"), (fibs,"Buzz")]
```

Reflecting on the Final Showdown

- What we liked

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- What we liked
  - Really really extensible!

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Reflecting on the Final Showdown

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  - Really really extensible!
  - Argument-free function definition!
- What we didn't like
  - Really hard to understand!
- There should always be a balance, no matter what your programming language is. The difference is, in Haskell you have many more choices about how you balance.

Resources

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  - haskell.org, the center of all things Haskell
  - hoogle, a search engine for functions, data types, etc. (REALLY USEFUL)

Thank You

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Shout out to my beta testers Max, Megan and Shelley, who (will) give me valuable feedback.

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Thank you all for coming and being curious!