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— Oskar Wickstrom, *Property-Based Testing in a Screencast Editor*

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2. Testing that those properties hold against a large variety of inputs.

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Has its roots in Haskell, but PBT is not specific to functional programming.

We don't use property-based testing very much in our codebase, so hopefully by the end of this, we'll be able to:

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# Goals

We don't use property-based testing very much in our codebase, so hopefully by the end of this, we'll be able to:

- Identify some common properties and how to test them
- Get some familiarity with the fast-check API



## Example: algebraic properties

Proving basic algebraic laws for xor  
(packages/monorail/src/sharedHelpers/fp-ts-  
ext/\_\_tests\_\_/Array.jest.ts):

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ext/\_\_tests\_\_/Array.jest.ts):

- identity
- inverse
- associativity
- (*pseudo*-) commutativity

## Example: algebraic properties

Probably won't come up too often, but usually when defining type class instances for `Semigroup`, `Monoid`, `Functor`, `Applicative`, `Monad`, you might also want to test the corresponding type class laws.

(Or when defining optics, there are laws for those too!)

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Already had an existing

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parseBytes: (formatted: string) => Option<number>  
(src/catalog/attackDesigner/common/formatBytes.ts)
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(units such as "B", "KB", "MB", etc.).

I can combine a number and a ByteUnit to get a "formatted byte" by converting to string and using string concatenation, but how do I combine an Arbitrary<number> and an Arbitrary<ByteUnit>?

## Combining Arbitrarys

Normally we would use `sequenceT` and `map`

```
pipe(  
  sequenceT(Arb.arbitrary)(fc.nat(), arbByteUnit()),  
  Arb.map([nat, byteUnit]) => `${nat} ${byteUnit}`  
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...but `Arbitrary` doesn't have an `Apply/Applicative` instance  
(so can't use with `sequenceT`) :sad-face:



# Combining Arbitrarys

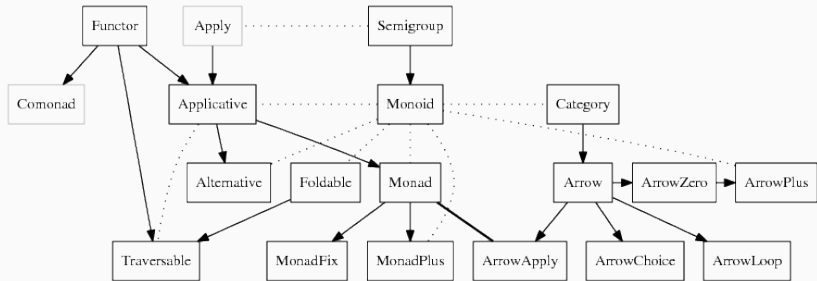
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...but `Arbitrary` doesn't have an `Apply/Applicative` instance  
(so can't use with `sequenceT`) :sad-face:

...but there is a `chain`

# Type classes



**Figure 1:** Type classes

## Example: reference implementation

A more general `Array.prototype.every` that works on *all* Foldables

```
(packages/monorail/src/sharedHelpers/fp-ts-ext/__tests__/Foldable.jest.ts)
```

Summary of common scenarios I've come across:

- Testing some thing with obvious algebraic properties
- Encoding/decoding (or parsing/formatting)
- Reference implementation (oracle)

More examples here:

- Choosing properties for property-based testing (Scott Wlaschin)

## GSM-7: A case study

Text encoding for SMS that packs a 7-bit character set into 8-bit bytes (so a 140-byte text message can contain 160 characters)

Wikipedia page: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GSM\\_03.38](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GSM_03.38)

An encoding/decoding pair fails *rarely*, and there is no solution for it

### Videos

- Code Checking Automation - Computerphile (with John Hughes, author of QuickCheck, and uses the GSM-7 encoding as an example)
- The Magic of Generative Testing: Fast-Check in JavaScript (lightning talk by Gabriel Lebec, more introductory material)
- Property-Based Testing for Better Code (Jessica Kerr)

### Articles

- Choosing properties for property-based testing (Scott Wlaschin)