

Chapter 20: Functional JavaScript

Section 20.1: Higher-Order Functions

In general, functions that operate on other functions, either by taking them as arguments or by returning them (or both), are called higher-order functions.

A higher-order function is a function that can take another function as an argument. You are using higher-order functions when passing callbacks.

```
function iAmCallbackFunction() {
    console.log("callback has been invoked");
}

function iAmJustFunction(callbackFn) {
    // do some stuff ...

    // invoke the callback function.
    callbackFn();
}

// invoke your higher-order function with a callback function.
iAmJustFunction(iAmCallbackFunction);
```

A higher-order function is also a function that returns another function as its result.

```
function iAmJustFunction() {
    // do some stuff ...

    // return a function.
    return function iAmReturnedFunction() {
        console.log("returned function has been invoked");
    }
}

// invoke your higher-order function and its returned function.
iAmJustFunction()();
```

Section 20.2: Identity Monad

This is an example of an implementation of the identity monad in JavaScript, and could serve as a starting point to create other monads.

Based on the [conference by Douglas Crockford on monads and gonads](#)

Using this approach reusing your functions will be easier because of the flexibility this monad provides, and composition nightmares:

```
f(g(h(i(j(k(value), j1), i2), h1, h2), g1, g2), f1, f2)
```

readable, nice and clean:

```
identityMonad(value)
    .bind(k)
    .bind(j, j1, j2)
    .bind(i, i2)
```

```
.bind(h, h1, h2)
.bind(g, g1, g2)
.bind(f, f1, f2);
```

```
function identityMonad(value) {
  var monad = Object.create(null);

  // func should return a monad
  monad.bind = function (func, ...args) {
    return func(value, ...args);
  };

  // whatever func does, we get our monad back
  monad.call = function (func, ...args) {
    func(value, ...args);

    return identityMonad(value);
  };

  // func doesn't have to know anything about monads
  monad.apply = function (func, ...args) {
    return identityMonad(func(value, ...args));
  };

  // Get the value wrapped in this monad
  monad.value = function () {
    return value;
  };

  return monad;
};
```

It works with primitive values

```
var value = 'foo',
    f = x => x + ' changed',
    g = x => x + ' again';

identityMonad(value)
  .apply(f)
  .apply(g)
  .bind(alert); // Alerts 'foo changed again'
```

And also with objects

```
var value = { foo: 'foo' },
    f = x => identityMonad(Object.assign(x, { foo: 'bar' })),
    g = x => Object.assign(x, { bar: 'foo' }),
    h = x => console.log('foo: ' + x.foo + ', bar: ' + x.bar);

identityMonad(value)
  .bind(f)
  .apply(g)
  .bind(h); // Logs 'foo: bar, bar: foo'
```

Let's try everything:

```
var add = (x, ...args) => x + args.reduce((r, n) => r + n, 0),
    multiply = (x, ...args) => x * args.reduce((r, n) => r * n, 1),
```

```

divideMonad = (x, ...args) => identityMonad(x / multiply(...args)),
log = x => console.log(x),
subtract = (x, ...args) => x - add(...args);

identityMonad(100)
  .apply(add, 10, 29, 13)
  .apply(multiply, 2)
  .bind(divideMonad, 2)
  .apply(subtract, 67, 34)
  .apply(multiply, 1239)
  .bind(divideMonad, 20, 54, 2)
  .apply(Math.round)
  .call(log); // Logs 29

```

Section 20.3: Pure Functions

A basic principle of functional programming is that it **avoids changing** the application state (statelessness) and variables outside its scope (immutability).

Pure functions are functions that:

- with a given input, always return the same output
- they do not rely on any variable outside their scope
- they do not modify the state of the application (**no side effects**)

Let's take a look at some examples:

Pure functions must not change any variable outside their scope

Impure function

```

let obj = { a: 0 }

const impure = (input) => {
  // Modifies input.a
  input.a = input.a + 1;
  return input.a;
}

let b = impure(obj)
console.log(obj) // Logs { "a": 1 }
console.log(b) // Logs 1

```

The function changed the `obj.a` value that is outside its scope.

Pure function

```

let obj = { a: 0 }

const pure = (input) => {
  // Does not modify obj
  let output = input.a + 1;
  return output;
}

```

```
let b = pure(obj)
console.log(obj) // Logs { "a": 0 }
console.log(b) // Logs 1
```

The function did not change the object obj values

Pure functions must not rely on variables outside their scope

Impure function

```
let a = 1;

let impure = (input) => {
  // Multiply with variable outside function scope
  let output = input * a;
  return output;
}

console.log(impure(2)) // Logs 2
a++; // a becomes equal to 2
console.log(impure(2)) // Logs 4
```

This **impure** function relies on variable `a` that is defined outside its scope. So, if `a` is modified, `impure`'s function result will be different.

Pure function

```
let pure = (input) => {
  let a = 1;
  // Multiply with variable inside function scope
  let output = input * a;
  return output;
}

console.log(pure(2)) // Logs 2
```

The `pure`'s function result **does not rely** on any variable outside its scope.

Section 20.4: Accepting Functions as Arguments

```
function transform(fn, arr) {
  let result = [];
  for (let el of arr) {
    result.push(fn(el)); // We push the result of the transformed item to result
  }
  return result;
}

console.log(transform(x => x * 2, [1,2,3,4])); // [2, 4, 6, 8]
```

As you can see, our `transform` function accepts two parameters, a function and a collection. It will then iterate the collection, and push values onto the result, calling `fn` on each of them.

Looks familiar? This is very similar to how `Array.prototype.map()` works!

```
console.log([1, 2, 3, 4].map(x => x * 2)); // [2, 4, 6, 8]
```