

# Lecture 5. Data types and type classes

## Functional Programming



# Goal of typed purely functional programming: programs that are easy to reason about

So far:

- ▶ data-flow only through function arguments and return values
  - ▶ no hidden data-flow through mutable variables/state
  - ▶ instead: tuples!



# Goal of typed purely functional programming: programs that are easy to reason about

## So far:

- ▶ data-flow only through function arguments and return values
  - ▶ no hidden data-flow through mutable variables/state
  - ▶ instead: tuples!
- ▶ function call and return as only control-flow primitive
  - ▶ no loops, `break`, `continue`, `goto`
  - ▶ instead: higher-order functions!



# Goal of typed purely functional programming: programs that are easy to reason about

## Today:

- ▶ (almost) unique types
  - ▶ no inheritance hell
  - ▶ instead of classes + inheritance: variant types!
  - ▶ (almost): type classes



# Goal of typed purely functional programming: programs that are easy to reason about

## Today:

- ▶ (almost) unique types
  - ▶ no inheritance hell
  - ▶ instead of classes + inheritance: variant types!
  - ▶ (almost): type classes
- ▶ high-level declarative data structures
  - ▶ no explicit reference-based data structures
  - ▶ instead: (immutable) algebraic data types!



# Goals for today

- ▶ Define your own algebraic data types:
  - ▶ tuples (recap), variants, and recursive
- ▶ Define your own type classes and instances
- ▶ Understand the difference between parametric and ad-hoc polymorphism
- ▶ Understand the value and limitations of algebraic data types

Chapter 8 (until 8.6) from Hutton's book



# Data types



Universiteit Utrecht

[Faculty of Science  
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# Types and logic – Curry-Howard

## Observe

- ▶ Tuples are like AND
  - ▶  $(A, B)$  holds pairs of an expression of type A AND one of type B





# Types and logic – Curry-Howard

## Observe

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  - ▶  $(A, B)$  holds pairs of an expression of type A AND one of type B
- ▶ Functions are like IMPLIES
  - ▶  $A \rightarrow B$  holds expressions which produce one of type B, IF we supply one of type A



# Types and logic – Curry-Howard

## Observe

- ▶ Tuples are like AND
  - ▶  $(A, B)$  holds pairs of an expression of type A AND one of type B
- ▶ Functions are like IMPLIES
  - ▶  $A \rightarrow B$  holds expressions which produce one of type B, IF we supply one of type A
- ▶ New today: variants/sum types are like OR – to hold expressions that are either of type A OR of type B



# In the previous lectures...

... we have only used built-in types!

- ▶ Basic data types
  - ▶ Int, Bool, Char...
- ▶ Compound types parametrized by others
  - ▶ Some with a definite number of elements, like tuples
  - ▶ Some with an indefinite number of them, like lists

It's about time to define our own!



# Direction

```
data Direction = North
                | South
                | East
                | West
```

- ▶ data declares a new data type
- ▶ The name of the type must start with Uppercase
- ▶ Then we have a number of **constructors** separated by |
  - ▶ Each of them also starting by uppercase
  - ▶ The same constructor cannot be used for different types
- ▶ Such a simple data type is called an **enumeration**



# Building a list of directions

Each constructor defines a **value** of the data type

```
> :t North  
North :: Direction
```

You can use Direction in the same way as Bool or Int

```
> :t [North, West]  
[North, West] :: [Direction]  
> :t (North, True)  
(North, True) :: (Direction, Bool)
```



# Pattern matching over directions

To define a function, you proceed as usual:

1. Define the type

```
directionName :: Direction -> String
```

2. Enumerate the cases

► The cases are each of the constructors

```
directionName North = _
```

```
directionName South = _
```

```
directionName East = _
```

```
directionName West = _
```



# Pattern matching over directions

## 3. Define each of the cases

```
directionName North = "N"
```

```
directionName South = "S"
```

```
directionName East = "E"
```

```
directionName West = "W"
```

```
> map directionName [North, West]  
["N", "W"]
```



# Built-in types are just data types

- ▶ Bool is a simple enumeration

```
data Bool = False | True
```

- ▶ Int and Char can be thought as very long enumerations

```
data Int  = ... | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | ...
```

```
data Char = ... | 'A' | 'B' | ...
```

- ▶ The compiler treats these in a special way





# Points

Data types may store information within them

```
data Point = Pt Float Float
```

- ▶ The name of the constructor is followed by the list of types of each argument
- ▶ Constructor and type names may overlap

```
data Point = Point Float Float
```



# Using points

- ▶ To create a point, we use the name of the constructor followed by the value of each argument

```
> :t Pt 2.0 3.0  
Pt 2.0 3.0 :: Point
```

- ▶ To pattern match, we use the name of the constructor and further matches over the arguments

```
norm :: Point -> Float  
norm (Pt x y) = sqrt (x*x + y*y)
```

- ▶ Do not forget the parentheses!

```
> norm Pt x y = x * x + y * y
```

```
<interactive>:2:6: error:
```

- The constructor 'Pt' should have 2 arguments, but has been given none



# Constructors are functions

Each constructor in a data type is a function which build a value of that type given enough arguments

```
> :t North
North :: Direction  -- No arguments
> :t Pt
Pt :: Float -> Float -> Point  -- 2 arguments
```

They can be arguments or results of higher-order functions

```
zipPoint :: [Float] -> [Float] -> [Point]
zipPoint xs ys = map (uncurry Pt) (zip xs ys)
               -- = [Pt x y | (x, y) <- zip xs ys]
```



# Try it yourself!

Define the `uncurry` function:

```
uncurry :: (a -> b -> c) -> (a, b) -> c
```



# Try it yourself!

Define the uncurry function:

```
uncurry :: (a -> b -> c) -> (a, b) -> c
```

```
-- Choose your own style
```

```
uncurry f (x, y) = f x y
```

```
uncurry f      = \ (x, y) -> f x y
```



# Shapes

A data type may have zero or more **constructors**, each of them holding zero or more **arguments**

```
data Shape = Rectangle Point Float Float
           | Circle      Point Float
           | Triangle    Point Point Point
```



# Pattern matching over shapes

The function `perimeter` returns the length of the boundary of a shape

```
perimeter :: Shape -> Float
```



# Pattern matching over shapes

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```
perimeter :: Shape -> Float
```

Gentle basic geometry reminder

$$P_{\text{rect}} = 2w + 2h$$

$$P_{\text{circle}} = 2\pi r$$

$$P_{\text{triang}} = \text{dist}(a, b) + \text{dist}(b, c) + \text{dist}(c, a)$$

Try it yourself!





# Pattern matching over shapes

Each case starts with a constructor – in uppercase – and matches the arguments

```
area :: Shape -> Float
area (Rectangle _ w h) = w * h
area (Circle _ r)      = pi * r ^ 2
area (Triangle x y z) = sqrt (s*(s-a)*(s-b)*(s-c))
                        -- Heron's formula

where a = distance x y
      b = distance y z
      c = distance x z
      s = (a + b + c) / 2
```

```
distance (Pt u1 u2) (Pt v1 v2)
  = sqrt ((u1-v1)^2+(u2-v2)^2)
```



# ADTs versus object-oriented classes

```
abstract class Shape {  
    abstract float area();  
}  
class Rectangle : Shape {  
    public Point corner;  
    public float width, height;  
    public float area() { return width * height; }  
}
```

*// More for Circle and Triangle*

- ▶ There is no **inheritance** involved in ADTs
- ▶ Constructors in an ADT are **closed**, but you can always add **new subclasses** in a OO setting
- ▶ Classes bundle **methods**, functions for ADTs are defined **outside** the data type



# Nominal versus structural typing

```
data Point = Pt Float Float
```

```
data Vector = Vec Float Float
```

- ▶ These types are **structurally** equal
  - ▶ They have the same number of constructors with the same number and type of arguments
- ▶ But for the Haskell compiler, they are unrelated
  - ▶ You cannot use one in place of the other
  - ▶ This is called **nominal** typing

```
> :t norm
```

```
norm :: Point -> Float
```

```
> norm (Vec 2.0 3.0)
```

```
Couldn't match 'Point' with 'Vector'
```



# Lists and trees of numbers

Data types may refer to themselves

- ▶ They are called recursive data types; for example

```
data IntList  
  = EmptyList | Cons Int IntList
```

```
data IntTree  
  = EmptyTree | Node Int IntTree IntTree
```



# Lists and trees of numbers

Data types may refer to themselves

- ▶ They are called recursive data types; for example

```
data IntList  
  = EmptyList | Cons Int IntList
```

```
data IntTree  
  = EmptyTree | Node Int IntTree IntTree
```

- ▶ Let's visualize an example!



# Cooking elemList

1. Define the type

```
elemList :: Int -> IntList -> Bool
```

2. Enumerate the cases

- One equation per constructor

```
elemList x EmptyList = _  
elemList x (Cons y ys) = _
```

3. Define the cases

```
elemList x EmptyList = False  
elemList x (Cons y ys)  
  | x == y           = True  
  | otherwise        = elemList x ys
```



# Cooking elemTree

Try it yourself!

```
elemTree :: Int -> IntTree -> Bool
```



# Cooking elemTree

1. Define the type

```
elemTree :: Int -> IntTree -> Bool
```

2. Enumerate the cases

- ▶ Each constructor needs to come with as many variables as arguments in its definition

```
elemTree x EmptyTree      = _  
elemTree x (Node y rs ls) = _
```

3. Define the simple (base) cases

```
elemTree x EmptyTree = False
```





# Cooking elemTree

## 4. Define the other (recursive) cases

- ▶ Each recursive appearance of the data type as an argument usually leads to a recursive call in the function

```
elemTree x (Node y rs ls)
  | x == y      = True
  | otherwise = elemTree x rs || elemTree x ls
```

*-- Or simpler*

```
elemTree x (Node y rs ls)
  = x == y || elemTree x rs || elemTree x ls
```



# Cooking treeHeight

The function `treeHeight` computes the height of a tree, that is, the length of the maximum path from the root to an `EmptyTree`.

```
> treeHeight (Node 42 (Node 1 EmptyTree EmptyTree)
                    EmptyTree)
```

```
2
```

```
> treeHeight EmptyTree
```

```
0
```

Try it yourself!



# Tree height and size

- ▶ The tree **height** is the length of the maximum path from the root to an `EmptyTree`.
- ▶ The tree **size** is the number of nodes it has.

## Question

Can you write a single higher-order function which can be instantiated to both?



# Cooking treeToList

1. Define the type

```
treeToList :: IntTree -> IntList
```

2. Enumerate the cases

```
treeToList EmptyTree      = _
```

```
treeToList (Node x ls rs) = _
```

3. Define the simple (base) cases

```
treeToList EmptyTree      = EmptyList
```

How do we proceed now?



# Cooking treeToList

4. Define the other (recursive) cases

```
treeToList (Node x ls rs)
  = Cons x (concatList ls' rs')
  where ls' = treeToList ls
        rs' = treeToList rs
```

*-- Left as an exercise to the audience*

```
concatList :: IntList -> IntList
            -> IntList
concatList xs = _
```



# Polymorphic data types

We have seen examples of types which are parametric

- ▶ Lists like `[Int]`, `[Bool]`, `[IntTree]`...
- ▶ Tuples `(A, B)`, `(A, B, C)` and so on

Functions over these data types can be polymorphic

- ▶ They work regardless of the parameter of the type

```
(++) :: [a] -> [a] -> [a]
```

```
zip  :: [a] -> [b] -> [(a, b)]
```



# Optional values

Maybe T represents a value of type T which might be absent

```
data Maybe a = Nothing  
             | Just a
```

- ▶ In the declaration of a polymorphic data type, the name `Maybe` is followed by one or more type variables
  - ▶ Type **variables** start with a lowercase letter
- ▶ The constructors may refer to the type variables in their arguments
  - ▶ In this case, `Just` holds a value of type `a`



# Optional values

```
> :t Just True
Maybe Bool
> :t Nothing
Maybe a
```

Note that `Nothing` has a polymorphic type, since there is no information to fix what `a` is





# Cooking `find`

`find p xs` finds the first element in `xs` which satisfies `p`

- ▶ Such an element may not exist
  - ▶ Think of `find even [1,3]`, or `find even []`
- ▶ Other languages resort to `null` or magic `-1` values
- ▶ Haskell always marks a possible absence using `Maybe`

1. Define the type

```
find :: (a -> Bool) -> [a] -> Maybe a
```

2. Enumerate the cases

```
find p [] = _
```

```
find p (x:xs) = _
```



# Cooking find

3. Define the simple (base) cases

```
find _ [] = Nothing
```

4. Define the other (recursive) cases

```
find p (x:xs) | p x      = Just x  
              | otherwise = find p xs
```



## elem in terms of find

Let's define a small utility function

```
isJust :: Maybe a -> Bool
isJust Nothing = False
isJust (Just _) = True
```

Then we can define elem as a composition of other functions

```
elem :: Eq a => a -> [a] -> Bool
elem x = isJust . find (== x)
```



# Trees for any type

We can generalize our `IntTree` data type

- ▶ This is a polymorphic and recursive data type
- ▶ Mind the parentheses around the arguments

```
data Tree a = EmptyTree
            | Node a (Tree a) (Tree a)
```

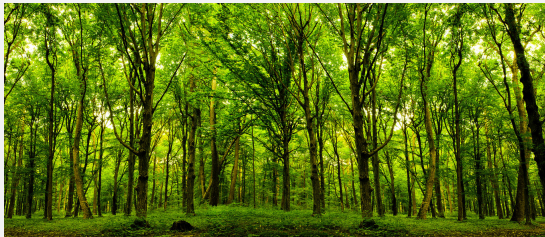


# More recipes with trees

## Next lecture

Many more operations over trees!

► Including **search** trees



# Benefits and downsides of ADTs

- + Immutable and persistent
- + Pattern matching and recursion
- Limited to directed, acyclic data types
- Incur complexity cost for persistence



# Type classes



# Polymorphism: definitions across many types

## Parametric polymorphism - Generics

- ▶ Define once, not inspecting type
- ▶ Works at every instance of parametric data type (infinitely many)

```
reverse :: [a] -> [a]
```





# Polymorphism: definitions across many types

## Parametric polymorphism - Generics

- ▶ Define once, not inspecting type
- ▶ Works at every instance of parametric data type (infinitely many)

`reverse :: [a] -> [a]`

## Ad-hoc polymorphism - Overloading

- ▶ Define many times, inspecting types
- ▶ Works at finitely many types, called **instances** of **type class**, e.g. `Num`, `Eq`

`(+) :: Num a => a -> a -> a`

- ▶ Warning! Terminology conflict with other languages



# Polymorphism

## Mixing polymorphism

- ▶ Mixing 2 type classes

```
\x -> x == 7 :: ???
```

```
\f -> f 0 == f 1 :: ???
```

- ▶ Mixing ad-hoc and parametric polymorphism

```
\f x -> f (x + 1) :: ???
```



# Polymorphism

## Mixing polymorphism

- ▶ Mixing 2 type classes

```
\x -> x == 7  :: (Eq a, Num a) => a -> Bool  
\f -> f 0 == f 1 :: ???
```

- ▶ Mixing ad-hoc and parametric polymorphism

```
\f x -> f (x + 1) :: ???
```



# Polymorphism

## Mixing polymorphism

- Mixing 2 type classes

```
\x -> x == 7  :: (Eq a, Num a) => a -> Bool
```

```
\f -> f 0 == f 1 :: (Eq b, Num a) => (a -> b) -> Bool
```

- Mixing ad-hoc and parametric polymorphism

```
\f x -> f (x + 1) :: ???
```



# Polymorphism

## Mixing polymorphism

- Mixing 2 type classes

```
\x -> x == 7  :: (Eq a, Num a) => a -> Bool
```

```
\f -> f 0 == f 1 :: (Eq b, Num a) => (a -> b) -> Bool
```

- Mixing ad-hoc and parametric polymorphism

```
\f x -> f (x + 1) :: Num a => (a -> b) -> a -> b
```



# Class definition

```
class Eq a where  
  (==)  :: a -> a -> Bool  
  (/=)  :: a -> a -> Bool
```

- ▶ The name of the type class starts with Uppercase
- ▶ We declare a type variable – a in this case – to stand for the overloaded type in the rest of the declaration
- ▶ Each type class defines one or more methods which must be implemented for each instance
  - ▶ We do **not** write the constraint in the methods



# Missing instances

```
> Pt 2.0 3.0 == Pt 2.0 3.0
```

```
<interactive>:2:1: error:
```

- No instance for (Eq Point)  
arising from a use of '=='

- ▶ You have to give the instance declaration for your own data types, even for built-in type classes
  - ▶ In some cases, the compiler can write them for you



# Instance declarations

```
instance Eq Point where
```

```
Pt x y == Pt u v = x == u && y == v
```

```
Pt x y /= Pt u v = x /= u || y /= v
```

- ▶ Almost like the class declaration, except that
  - ▶ The type variable is substituted by a real type
  - ▶ Instead of method types, you give the implementation

```
> Pt 2.0 3.0 == Pt 2.0 3.0
```

```
True
```





# Conditional and recursive instances

Type class instances for polymorphic types may depend on their parameters

- ▶ For example, equality of lists, tuples, and trees
- ▶ These requisites are listed in front of the declaration

```
instance (Eq a, Eq b) => Eq (a, b) where
    (x, y) == (u, v) = x == u && y == v
```

```
instance Eq a => Eq [a] where
    []      == []      = True
    []      == _       = False
    _       == []      = False
    (x:xs) == (y:ys) = x == y && xs == ys
```



# Overlapping instances

Imagine that I want tuples of `Ints` to work slightly different

```
instance Eq (Int, Int) where  
    (x, y) == (u, v) = x * v == y * u
```

You **cannot** do this! This instance overlaps with the other one given for generic tuples



# Recursive instances

Write the Eq instance for the Tree data type:

```
data Tree a = EmptyTree  
            | Node a (Tree a) (Tree a)
```



# Recursive instances

Write the Eq instance for the Tree data type:

```
data Tree a = EmptyTree
            | Node a (Tree a) (Tree a)

instance Eq a => Eq (Tree a) where
    EmptyTree == EmptyTree
        = True
    (Node x1 l1 r1) == (Node x2 l2 r2)
        = x1 == x2 && l1 == l2 && r1 == r2
    _ == _
        = False
```



# Superclasses

A class might demand that other class is implemented

- ▶ We say that such a class has a superclass
- ▶ For example, any class with an ordering – `Ord` – has to implement equality – `Eq`

```
class Eq a => Ord a where
  (<), (>), (<=), (>=) :: a -> a -> Bool
  min, max             :: a -> a -> a

instance (Ord a, Ord b) => Ord (a, b) where
  (x, y) < (u, v) | x == u    = y < v
                  | otherwise = x < u
```



# The meanings of $\Rightarrow$

- ▶ In a type, it constrains a polymorphic function  
`elem :: Eq a => a -> [a] -> Bool`
- ▶ In a class declaration, it introduces a superclass  
`class Eq a => Ord a where ...`
  - ▶ All instances of `Ord` must be instances of `Eq`
- ▶ In an instance declaration, it defines a requisite  
`instance Eq a => Eq [a] where ...`
  - ▶ A list `[T]` supports equality only if `T` supports it

Before  $\Rightarrow$  you write an **assumption** or **precondition**



# Default definitions

We could also write the following instance `Eq Point`

```
instance Eq Pt where
    Pt ... == Pt ... = _    -- as before
    p /= q = not (p == q)
```

In fact, this definition of `(/=)` works for **any** type

- ▶ You can include a **default** definition in `Eq`
- ▶ If an instance does not have an explicit definition for that method, the default one is used

```
class Eq a where
    (==), (/=) :: a -> a -> Bool
    x /= y = not (x == y)
```



# Default definitions

- ▶ You could have also defined (/=) **outside** of the class

```
(/=) :: Eq a => a -> a -> Bool
```

```
x /= y = not (x == y)
```

- ▶ This definition cannot be overridden in each instance
- ▶ Why do we prefer (/=) to live in the class?
  - ▶ Performance! For some data types it is cheaper to check for disequality than for equality





# Automatic derivation

- ▶ Writing equality checks is boring
  - ▶ Go around all constructors and arguments
- ▶ Writing order checks is even more boring
- ▶ Turning something into a string is also boring

Let the compiler work for you!

```
data Point = Pt Float Float
           deriving (Eq, Ord, Show)
```

**Historical note:** many of the advances in automatic derivation of type classes were done here at UU



# Example: scalable things

Both shapes and vector have a notion of **scaling**

- Scale the size or scale the norm

```
class Scalable s where  
  scale :: Float -> s -> s
```



# Example: scalable things

Both shapes and vector have a notion of **scaling**

- Scale the size or scale the norm

```
class Scalable s where
  scale :: Float -> s -> s
```

```
instance Scalable Vector where
  scale s (Vec x y) = Vec (s*x) (s*y)
```

```
instance Scalable Shape where
  scale s (Rectangle p w h) = Rectangle p (s*w) (s*h)
  scale s (Circle p r)      = Circle p (s*r)
  scale s (Triangle x y z)  = ... -- This is hard
```



# Generic functions for scalable things

- ▶ Some functions now work over any scalable thing

```
double :: Scalable s => s -> s  
double = scale 2.0
```

- ▶ We may generic instances for composed scalables

```
instance Scalable s => Scalable [s] where  
    scale s = map (scale s)
```



# Exercise

1. Think about a generic notion (like scaling)
2. Define a type class with the least primitive operations
3. Think of instances for that type class
4. Think of derived operations using the type class



# Summary



**Universiteit Utrecht**

[Faculty of Science  
Information and Computing  
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# Define your own data types!

Data types in Haskell are simple and cheap to define

- ▶ Introduce one per concept in your program

*-- the following definition*

```
data Status = Stopped | Running
```

```
data Process = Process ... Status ...
```

*-- is better than*

```
data Process = Process ... Bool ...
```

*-- what does 'True' represent here?*

- ▶ Use type classes to share commonalities



# Important concepts

- ▶ Algebraic data types: tuples, variants, recursive (e.g., trees!)
  - ▶ how to write functions on them using pattern matching





# Important concepts

- ▶ Algebraic data types: tuples, variants, recursive (e.g., trees!)
  - ▶ how to write functions on them using pattern matching
- ▶ Parameterized data types:
  - ▶ parametric polymorphism



# Important concepts

- ▶ Algebraic data types: tuples, variants, recursive (e.g., trees!)
  - ▶ how to write functions on them using pattern matching
- ▶ Parameterized data types:
  - ▶ parametric polymorphism
- ▶ Type classes and their instances:
  - ▶ ad-hoc polymorphism



# Overloaded syntax



# Numeric constants' weird type

What is going on?

```
> :t 3
```

```
3 :: Num t => t
```

Numeric constants can be turned into any `Num` type

```
> 3 :: Integer
```

```
3
```

```
> 3 :: Float
```

```
3.0
```

```
> 3 :: Rational  -- Type of fractions
```

```
3 % 1            -- Numerator % Denominator
```



# Range syntax

The range syntax `[n .. m]` is a shorthand for

```
enumFromTo n m
```

`enumFromTo` lives in the class `Enum`

► `Bool` and `Char` are instances, among others

```
> ['a' .. 'z']
```

```
"abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
```



# More range syntax

```
enumFrom      :: a -> [a]
enumFromThenTo :: a -> a -> a -> [a]
```

- ▶ `enumFrom` does not specify a bound for the range
  - ▶ The list is possibly infinite

```
> take 5 [1 ..]
[1,2,3,4,5]
```

- ▶ `enumFromThenTo` generates a list where each pair of adjacent elements has the same distance

```
> [1.0, 1.2 .. 2.0]
[1.0,1.2,1.4,1.5999999999999999,
 1.7999999999999998,1.9999999999999998]
```



# Deriving Enum

enumFromTo can be automatically derived for enumerations

- ▶ Data types without data in their constructors

```
data Direction = North | South | East | West
               deriving (Eq, Ord, Show, Enum)
```

```
> [South .. West]
[South, East, West]
```

