

# **Functional Programming? Haskell?**

**Functional Programming** 

**Utrecht University** 

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```
import Data.Char(toUpper)
mkWelcome
                          :: (String -> String)
                         -> Int -> Int -> String
mkWelcome stylize year n = concat
    [ stylize "Welcome"
    , " to INFOFP in " ++ show year ++ "!\n\n"
    . "We have " ++ show n ++ " students.\n\n"
    , "So we will have to grade " ++
      show (numExams n) ++ " exams...."
  where numExams m = 2 * m
capitalize s = map toUpper s
```

welcomeMsg = mkWelcome capitalize 2022 312

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  where numExams m = 2 * m
capitalize s = map toUpper s
```

welcomeMsg = mkWelcome capitalize 2022 312

WELCOME to INFOFP in 2022!

We have 312 students.

So we will have to grade 624 exams....

# **What is Functional Programming?**

## **What is Functional Programming?**

• A way of thinking about problems:

Define what something is rather than how to compute it.

## Imperative (C#) vs. Functional (Haskell)

```
int sumUpTo(int n) {
  int total = 0;
  for (int i = n; n > 0; i--)
    total += i;
  return total;
sumUpTo 0 = 0
sumUpTo n = n + sumUpTo (n-1)
```

#### Our aim is to

#### Teach you functional programming techniques

- · Using functions as first-class values
- Separating pure and impure computations
- Reasoning about your programs
- Use strong types

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- · Separating pure and impure computations
- Reasoning about your programs
- Use strong types
- ...

You can write "functional code" in almost any language!

# Why Functional Programming?

#### To create better software

- 1. Short term: fewer bugs
  - · Purity means fewer surprises when programming
    - A function can no longer mutate a global state
  - Purity makes it easier to reason about programs
    - Reasoning about OO ⇒ master/PhD course
    - Reasoning about FP  $\implies$  this course
  - Higher-order functions remove lots of boilerplate
    - Also, less code to test and fewer edge cases
  - *Types* prevent the "stupid" sort
    - What does True + "1" mean?

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    - Also, less code to test and fewer edge cases
  - *Types* prevent the "stupid" sort
    - What does True + "1" mean?
- 2. Long term: more maintainable
  - Types are always updated documentation
  - Types help a lot in refactoring
    - Change a definition, fix everywhere the compiler tells you there is a problem

# How?

#### Lectures:

- Tuesday, 9.00 to 10.45
- Thursday, 13.15 to 15.00

Instructions !!!!!: Once a week

• Tuesday, 11.00 to 12.45

#### Practicals

• Thursday, 17.15 to 19.00

#### Who?

Matthijs Vakar and Frank Staals (me) in the lectures

- Contact us through email
- We both speak Dutch

10 teaching assistants in the labs

• Most of them are Dutch speakers

Guest lecture at the end of the course

#### Resources

- 1. Slides contain most of the content
  - In some cases, supplemented by additional material
- 2. Pen-and-paper **exercises** 
  - There's more than programming in this course
  - · Ask questions during instruction sessions
  - Remember: there is *no compiler* at the exam
- 3. Book: Programming in Haskell (2nd edition) by Graham Hutton
  - The course follows it, except for chapters 13 and 17
  - · More resources can be found in the website

#### **Midterm & Final Exam**

- 'Pen-and-Paper' style exam questions
  - Closed book
  - · No compiler
- Remindo-based

## **Practical assignments**

- 1. The first one helps you getting started
- 2. Three small ones with DOMJudge, one per week
- 3. One bigger project at the end

## **DOMJudge assignments**

- Submissions are individual
  - Do not plagiarize!
- Graded automatically: Pass vs Fail
  - correct = Pass, not fully correct = Fail
- You need to pass at least 2 out of 3 DOMJudge Assignments

## **Style**

- Hints in DOMJudge for good style
- Ask TAs for advice during practicals
- Important part of the final project grade

## **Final project**

#### Develop your own game in Haskell

- Work in **pairs** is allowed and recommended
- Submission in two parts
  - 1. Preliminary design document
  - 2. Code of the project

### **Optional bonus assignment**

Learn and explain a Haskell library or language feature

- Up to additional 0.5 points for the final grade
- Work in groups of at most three
- · More details after mid-term exam

## **Grading**

Linear combination of three grades

- Theory  $T = 0.3 \times \text{midterm} + 0.7 \times \text{final}$
- *Practical* = Final project
- Optional assignment O

Final grade 
$$F = 0.5 \times T + 0.5 \times P + 0.05 \times O$$

To pass the course, you essentially need

- F >= 5.5, T >= 5, P >= 5
- Pass at least two DOMJudge assignments

See website for details.

## If you did the course last year

- Resubmit your DOMJudge assignments
- Redo the **final project** 
  - Using the same code as last year is not allowed
- · Redo all the exams

#### **Communication channels**

- Teams
  - For questions about any of the material.
- E-mail
  - Check your UU-mail regularly
- Blackboard
  - As a means to access your grades.

#### **Course Website**

### http://www.cs.uu.nl/docs/vakken/fp

- · All important information is found there
- Schedule, slides, assignments, exercises

# **Getting Started:**

## **Functional Programming Features?**

#### Some distinguishing **features** of FP:

- 1. Recursion instead of iteration
- 2. Pattern matching on values
- 3. Expressions instead of statements
- 4. Functions as first-class citizens

## Try it!

- 1. Go to http://repl.it/languages/haskell
- 2. Write your definitions on the left pane

```
sumUpTo 0 = 0
sumUpTo n = n + sumUpTo (n-1)
```

- 3. Click Run
- 4. Load your your code with "ghci main.hs"
- 5. Execute your functions on the right pane

```
> sumUpTo 3
6
```

6. Update the example to compute n! = n\*(n-1)\*(n-2)\*..\*1 instead.

#### **Recursion instead of iteration**

**Iteration** = repeating a process a number of times

```
int sumUpTo(int n) {
  int total = 0;
  for (int i = n; n > 0; i--)
    total += i;
  return total;
}
Recursion = defining something in terms of itself
```

## **Pattern matching on values**

#### A function is defined by a series of **equations**

- The value is compared with each left side until one "fits"
- In sumUpTo, if the value is zero we return zero, otherwise we fall to the second one

```
sumUpTo 0 = 0
sumUpTo n = n + sumUpTo (n-1)
```

## **Expressions instead of statements**

#### What code does versus what code is

- Statements manipulate the **state** of the program
- Statements have an inherent order
- · Variables name and store pieces of state

```
int sumUpTo(int n) {
  int total = 0;
  for (int i = n; n > 0; i--)
    total += i;
  return total;
}
```

#### **Expressions instead of statements**

#### What code does versus what code is

- Value of a whole expr. depends only on its subexpr.
- Easier to compose and **reason** about
  - We will learn how to reason about programs

```
sumUpTo 3 --> 3 + sumUpTo 2
--> 3 + 2 + sumUpTo 1
--> ...
```

## The factorial example:

6. Update the example to compute n! = n\*(n-1)\*(n-2)\*..\*1 instead.

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```
fac :: Int -> Int
fac 0 = 1
fac n = n * fac (n-1)
```

### The factorial example:

6. Update the example to compute n! = n \* (n-1) \* (n-2) \* .. \* 1 instead.

```
fac :: Int -> Int
fac 0 = 1
fac n = n * fac (n-1)
```

- Each equation goes into its own line
- · Equations are checked in order
  - If n is 0, then the function equals 1
  - If n is different from 0, then it goes to the second
- Good style: always write the type of your functions

### Question

What happens if we write?

```
fac :: Int -> Int
fac n = n * fac (n-1)
fac 0 = 1
```

#### **Functions as first-class citizens**

**Function** = mapping of arguments to a result

```
-- In the left pane
greet name = "Hello, " ++ name ++ "!"
```

- Functions can be parameters of another function
- Functions can be returned from functions

```
-- In the right pane
> map greet ["Mary", "Joe"]
["Hello, Mary!", "Hello, Joe!"]
```

map applies the function greet to each element of the list

### Try it yourself!

### Build greet with two arguments

```
> greet "morning" "Paul"
"Good morning, Paul!"
-- Here is the version with one argument
greet name = "Hello, " ++ name ++ "!"
```

# Why Haskell?

Haskell can be defined with four adjectives

- Functional
- Statically typed
- Pure
- Lazy

### Haskell is statically typed

- Every expression and function has a type
- The compiler *prevents* wrong combinations

**Inference** = if no type is given for an expression, the compiler *guesses* one

# Haskell is pure

- You cannot use statement-based programming
  - · Variables do not change, only give names
  - Program is easy to compose, understand and paralellize
- Functions which interact with the "outer world" are marked in their type with IO
  - This prevents unintended side-effects

```
readFile :: FilePath -> IO ()
```

# **Haskell is lazy**

We shall get to this one...

# **Why Haskell?**

#### From a pedagogical standpoint

- Haskell forces a functional style
  - In contrast with imperative and OO languages
  - · We can do equational reasoning
- Haskell teaches the value of static types
  - · Compiler finds bugs long before run time
  - We can express really detailed invariants

# How do I "run" Haskell?

#### **GHC**

- We are going to use GHC in this course
  - The (Glorious) Glasgow Haskell Compiler
  - State-of-the-art and open source
- Installing
  - Go to https://www.haskell.org/ghcup
  - Follow the installation instructions for installing 'ghcup' and 'ghc' on your OS.

### **Compiler versus interpreter**

- · Compiler (ghc)
  - Takes one or more files as an input
  - Generates a library or complete executable
  - There is no interaction
  - How you do things in *Imperatief/Mobiel/Gameprogrammeren*
- Interpreter (ghci)
  - · Interactive, expressions are evaluated on-the-go
  - Useful for testing and exploration
  - · You can also load a file
    - · Almost as if you have typed in the entire file
  - repl.it is web-based ghci

# GHC interpreter, ghci

- 1. Open a command line, terminal or console
  - Right now, just repl.it
- 2. Write ghci and press ←

```
GHCi, version 8.10.2: http://www.haskell.org/ghc/ :? for help
Prelude>
```

3. Type an expression and press ← to evaluate

Prelude>

4. Ctrl + D ( $\Re + D$  in Mac) or : q  $\hookleftarrow$  to quit

# **First examples**

```
> length [1, 2, 3]
> sum [1 .. 10]
55
> reverse [1 .. 10]
[10.9.8.7.6.5.4.3.2.1]
> replicate 10 3
[3,3,3,3,3,3,3,3,3,3]
> sum (replicate 10 3)
30
```

- Integer numbers appear as themselves
- [1 .. 10] creates a list from 1 to 10
- Functions are called (applied) without parentheses
  - In contrast to replicate(10, 3) in other languages

### **More about parentheses**

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 Parentheses delimit subexpressions • sum (replicate 10 3): sum takes 1 parameter • sum replicate 10 3: sum takes 3 parameters > sum replicate 10 3 <interactive>: error: • Couldn't match type '[t0]' with 't1 -> t' Expected type: Int -> t0 -> t1 -> t Actual type: Int -> t0 -> [t0] > sum (replicate 10 3)

# First examples of types

```
> :t reverse
reverse :: [a] -> [a]
> :t replicate
replicate :: Int -> a -> [a]
```

- -> separates each argument and the result
- Int is the type of (machine) integers
- [Something] declares a list of Somethings
  - For example, [Int] is a list of integers
- [a] means list of anything
  - · Note that a starts with a lowercase letter
  - a is called a *type variable*

### **Operators**

```
> [1, 2] ++ [3, 4]
[1, 2, 3, 4]
> (++) [1, 2] [3, 4]
> :t (++)
(++) :: [a] -> [a] -> [a]
```

- Some names are completely made out of symbols
  - Think of +, \*, &&, | |, ...
  - They are called operators
- Operators are used *between* the arguments
  - Anywhere else, you use parentheses

# Question

What happens if we do?

### Question

What happens if we do?

Type error!

# **Define a function in the interpreter**

```
> average ns = sum ns `div` length ns
> average [1,2,3]
2
> :t average
average :: Foldable t => t Int -> Int
```

- Functions are defined by one or more equations
- You turn a function into an operator with backticks
- Naming requirements
  - · Function names must start with a lowercase
  - Arguments names too
- GHC has *inferred* a type for your function

#### Define a function in a file

You can write this definition in a file

```
average :: [Int] -> Int
average ns = sum ns `div` length ns
and then load it in the interpreter
> :load average.hs
[1 of 1] Compiling Main ( average.hs, interpreted )
> average [1,2,3]
or even work on it an then reload
> :r
[1 of 1] Compiling Main ( average.hs, interpreted )
```

### **More basic types**

- Bool: True or False (note the uppercase!)
  - Usual operations like && (and), | | (or) and not
  - Result of comparisons with ==, /=, <, ...
  - **Warning!** = defines, == compares

#### False

> 1 < 2 && 3 < 4

#### True

- > nand x y = not (x && y)
- > nand True False

#### True

### **More basic types**

- Char: one single symbol
  - Written in single quotes: 'a', 'b', ...
- String: a sequence of characters
  - Written in double quotes: "hello"
  - They are simply [Char]
    - All list functions work for String

```
> ['a', 'b', 'c'] ++ ['d', 'e', 'f']
"abcdef"
> replicate 5 'a'
"aaaaa"
```

# First example of higher-order function

```
> map fac [1 .. 5]
[1,2,6,24,120]
> map not [True, False, False]
[False, True, True]
> :t map
map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
   • map takes two arguments
        • The first argument is a function a -> b
        • The second argument is a list [a]

    map works for every pair of types a and b you choose
```

• We say that map is *polymorphic* 

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#### **Homework**

- 1. Install GHC in your machine
- 2. Try out the examples
- 3. Define some simple functions
  - Sum from m to n
  - Build greeter with two arguments

```
> greeter "morning" ["P", "Z"]
["Good morning, P!", "Good morning, Z!"]
```

- 4. Think about the types of those functions
- 5. Do Practical Assignment 0.

### Three pieces of advice

#### 1. Get yourself a good editor

- · At the very least, with syntax highlighting
- Visual Studio Code and Atom are quite nice
  - Available at code.visualstudio.com and atom.io
  - Install Haskell syntax highlighting afterwards
- · vi or Emacs for the adventurous

#### 2. Get comfortable with the command line

https://tutorial.djangogirls.org/en/intro\_to\_command\_line/

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#### 3. Go to the Instruction sessions !!!

And do the pen-and-paper exercises !!!