

Informatics 1A  
Functional Programming Lecture 8

Lambda expressions

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Part I

Currying

# How to add two numbers

```
add :: Int -> Int -> Int
add x y = x + y
```

```
add 3 4
=
3 + 4
=
7
```

# How to add two numbers

```
add :: Int -> (Int -> Int)
(add x) y = x + y
```

```
(add 3) 4
=
3 + 4
=
7
```

A function of two numbers  
is the same as  
a function of the first number that returns  
a function of the second number.

# Currying

```
add :: Int -> (Int -> Int)
```

```
add x = g
```

```
  where
```

```
    g :: Int -> Int
```

```
    g y = (x + y)
```

```
(add 3) 4
```

```
=
```

```
g 4 where g y = 3 + y
```

```
=
```

```
3 + 4
```

```
=
```

```
7
```

This idea is named for *Haskell Curry* (1900–1982).

It also appears in the work of *Moses Schönfinkel* (1889–1942),

and *Gottlob Frege* (1848–1925).

# Partial evaluation

```
foldr :: (a -> a -> a) -> a -> [a] -> a
foldr f u []           = u
foldr f u (x:xs)      = f x (foldr f u xs)
```

```
sum :: [Int] -> Int
sum xs = foldr (+) 0 xs
```

*is equivalent to*

```
foldr :: (a -> a -> a) -> a -> ([a] -> a)
foldr f u []           = u
foldr f u (x:xs)      = f x (foldr f u xs)
```

```
sum :: [Int] -> Int
sum = foldr (+) 0
```

# Sum, Product, Concat, And, Or

```
sum      :: [Int] -> Int
sum xs   = foldr (+) 0 xs
```

```
product  :: [Int] -> Int
product xs = foldr (*) 1 xs
```

```
concat   :: [[a]] -> [a]
concat xs = foldr (++) [] xs
```

```
and      :: [Bool] -> Bool
and xs   = foldr (&&) True xs
```

```
or       :: [Bool] -> Bool
or xs    = foldr (||) False xs
```

# Sum, Product, Concat, And, Or: simplified

```
sum      :: [Int] -> Int
sum      = foldr (+) 0

product  :: [Int] -> Int
product  = foldr (*) 1

concat   :: [[a]] -> [a]
concat   = foldr (++) []

and      :: [Bool] -> Bool
and      = foldr (&&) True

or       :: [Bool] -> Bool
or       = foldr (||) False
```



## Part II

# Lambda expressions

## A failed attempt to simplify

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0 (map sqr (filter pos xs))
  where
    sqr x = x * x
    pos x = x > 0
```

The above *cannot* be simplified to the following:

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0 (map (x * x) (filter (x > 0) xs))
```

## A successful attempt to simplify

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0 (map sqr (filter pos xs))
  where
    sqr x = x * x
    pos x = x > 0
```

The above *can* be simplified to the following:

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0
      (map (\x -> x * x)
         (filter (\x -> x > 0) xs))
```

# Lambda calculus

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0
      (map (\x -> x * x)
         (filter (\x -> x > 0) xs))
```

The character `\` stands for  $\lambda$ , the Greek letter *lambda*.

Logicians write

`\x -> x > 0` as  $\lambda x. x > 0$

`\x -> x * x` as  $\lambda x. x \times x$ .

Lambda calculus is due to the logician *Alonzo Church* (1903–1995).

# Evaluating lambda expressions

```
(\x -> x > 0) 3  
=  
3 > 0  
=  
True
```

```
(\x -> x * x) 3  
=  
3 * 3  
=  
9
```

# Lambda expressions and currying

$$\begin{aligned} & (\lambda x \lambda y \rightarrow x + y) \ 3 \ 4 \\ = & \\ & ((\lambda x \rightarrow (\lambda y \rightarrow x + y)) \ 3) \ 4 \\ = & \\ & (\lambda y \rightarrow 3 + y) \ 4 \\ = & \\ & 3 + 4 \\ = & \\ & 7 \end{aligned}$$

# The beta rule

The general rule for evaluating lambda expressions is called the  $\beta$  rule, after the Greek letter beta:

$$(\lambda x. N) M = N[x := M]$$

Here  $N$  and  $M$  are arbitrary expressions, and  $N[x := M]$  is  $N$  with each free occurrence of  $x$  replaced by  $M$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & (\lambda x y. x + y) 3 4 \\ = & ((\lambda x. (\lambda y. x + y)) 3) 4 \\ = & ((\lambda y. x + y)[x := 3]) 4 \\ = & (\lambda y. 3 + y) 4 \\ = & (3 + y)[y := 4] \\ = & 3 + 4 \\ = & 7 \end{aligned}$$

Part III

Sections



# Sections

$(> 0)$  *stands for*  $(\backslash x \rightarrow x > 0)$

$(2 *)$  *stands for*  $(\backslash x \rightarrow 2 * x)$

$(+ 1)$  *stands for*  $(\backslash x \rightarrow x + 1)$

$(2 ^)$  *stands for*  $(\backslash x \rightarrow 2 ^ x)$

$(^ 2)$  *stands for*  $(\backslash x \rightarrow x ^ 2)$

# Sections

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0
      (map (\x -> x * x)
       (filter (\x -> x > 0) xs))
```

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0 (map (^ 2) (filter (> 0) xs))
```

Part IV

Composition

# Composition

$$\begin{aligned} (\cdot) &:: (b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow c) \\ (f \cdot g) \ x &= f (g \ x) \end{aligned}$$

# Evaluating composition

```
(.) :: (b -> c) -> (a -> b) -> (a -> c)
(f . g) x = f (g x)
```

```
sqr :: Int -> Int
sqr x = x * x
```

```
pos :: Int -> Bool
pos x = x > 0
```

```
(pos . sqr) 3
=
pos (sqr 3)
=
pos 9
=
True
```

# Compare and contrast

```
possqr :: Int -> Bool
possqr x = pos (sqr x)
```

```
    possqr 3
=
    pos (sqr 3)
=
    pos 9
=
    True
```

```
possqr :: Int -> Bool
possqr = pos . sqr
```

```
    possqr 3
=
    (pos . sqr) 3
=
    pos (sqr 3)
=
    pos 9
=
    True
```

# Composition is associative

$$(f \cdot g) \cdot h = f \cdot (g \cdot h)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & ((f \cdot g) \cdot h) x \\ = & (f \cdot g) (h x) \\ = & f (g (h x)) \\ = & f ((g \cdot h) x) \\ = & (f \cdot (g \cdot h)) x \end{aligned}$$

# Thinking functionally

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f xs = foldr (+) 0 (map (^ 2) (filter (> 0) xs))
```

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f = foldr (+) 0 . map (^ 2) . filter (> 0)
```



# Applying the function

```
f :: [Int] -> Int
f = foldr (+) 0 . map (^ 2) . filter (> 0)
```

```
f [1, -2, 3]
=
(foldr (+) 0 . map (^ 2) . filter (> 0)) [1, -2, 3]
=
foldr (+) 0 (map (^ 2) (filter (> 0) [1, -2, 3]))
=
foldr (+) 0 (map (^ 2) [1, 3])
=
foldr (+) 0 [1, 9]
=
10
```