

IA014: Advanced Functional Programming

5. Type Classes

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Polymorphism III

Polymorphism – recap

Types of polymorphism

- *parametric* polymorphism
 - “all types”
 - Allows single piece of code to be typed parametrically, i.e. using type variables, and instantiated when needed.
 - All instances behave the same.
 - *HM type system*
- *ad-hoc* polymorphism
 - “some types”
 - *overloading*: one function has many implementations (differing by the types of the arguments)
 - May behave differently for different types of arguments.

Goal: To *extend* System HM with overloading

Motivation

- parametric functions work for *any type*
- but not all similar functions are parametric:
 - `member :: [a] -> a -> Bool`
makes sense only if `a` can be tested for equality
 - `sort :: [a] -> [a]`
makes sense only if `a` can be tested for ordering
 - `sumOfSquares :: [a] -> a`
makes sense only if `a` supports arithmetic operations

Overloading arithmetic

Two approaches:

- ① operations are overloaded, but not user defined functions
 - `3*3 :: Int`, `3.14*3.14 :: Float`
 - however `square x = x*x :: Int -> Int`
`square 3.14*3.14` is *illegal*
 - used by STANDARDML
- ② different function for each input type
 - `square x = x*x` defines *two versions*
one `Int -> Int` and one `Float -> Float`
 - but consider:
`squares(x,y,z) = (square x, square y, square z)`
 - *8 different versions!*

Overloading equality

Three approaches:

- 1 equality can be overloaded on any *monotype* that *admits equality* (i.e. not function type!)

- problem: cannot define

```
member [] x = False;
member (y:ys) x | x==y = True
                | otherwise = member ys x
```

- original STANDARDML

- 2 make equality *fully polymorphic*

- `(==) :: a -> a -> Bool`
- problem: *run-time error* if applied to functions

- 3 polymorphic in limited way

- `(==) :: "a -> "a -> Bool`
- "a – type that admits equality (eqtype)
- STANDARDML

Solution: Type Classes

- allow users to define overloaded functions `square`, `squares`, `member`
- generalize eqtypes of SML to arbitrary types
- no exponential blowup in the number of versions
- there is nothing special about equality and arithmetic
user can define new collections of overloaded functions
- type inference works
- can be translated to System HM

Type Classes

Type classes by example: Num

```
class Num a where  
  (+), (*) :: a -> a -> a  
  negate :: a -> a
```

```
instance Num Int where  
  (+) = addInt  
  (*) = mulInt  
  negate = negInt
```

```
instance Num Float where  
  (+) = addFloat  
  (*) = mulFloat  
  negate = negFloat
```

```
square :: Num a => a -> a  
square x = x * x
```

Type classes lingo

type class declaration

```
class Num a where  
  (+), (*) :: a -> a -> a  
  negate :: a -> a
```

- defines a new class Num with three operations

instance declaration

```
instance Num Int where  
  (+) = addInt  
  (*) = mulInt  
  negate = negInt
```

- starts by assertion “Int is an instance of Num”
- justifies the assertion by giving the function definitions

Implementing a type class

```
data NumD a = NumDict (a -> a -> a) (a -> a -> a) (a -> a)
add (NumDict a m n) = a
mul (NumDict a m n) = m
neg (NumDict a m n) = n
```

```
numDInt :: NumD Int
numDInt = NumDict addInt mulInt negInt
```

```
numDFloat :: NumD Float
numDFloat = NumDict addFloat mulFloat negFloat
```

```
square' :: NumD a -> a -> a
square' numDa x = mul numDa x x
```

Translation described

- for each *class* we introduce
 - new type (“method dictionary”)
`data NumD a = NumDict (a -> a -> a) (a -> a -> a) (a -> a)`
 - NumD is a *type constructor*
 - NumDict is a *value constructor*
 - methods to access this dictionary
`add (NumDict a m n) = a`
- each *class instance*
 - is translated to a value of the “dictionary type”
`numDInt = NumDict addInt mulInt negInt`
- each *term*
 - is replaced by the corresponding “access method” term
`3.14 + 3.14 \longrightarrow add numDFloat 3.14 3.14`
- similarly for defined *functions*
`square 3 \longrightarrow square' numDInt 3`

Functions with multiple dictionaries

definition

```
squares :: (Num a, Num b, Num c) => (a,b,c) -> (a,b,c)
squares (x, y, z) = (square x, square y, square z)
```

- parameters of class Num
- completely natural syntax

translation

```
squares' :: (NumD a, NumD b, NumD c) -> (a,b,c) -> (a,b,c)
squares' (numDa, numDb, numDc) (x, y, z) =
    (square' numDa x, square' numDb y, square' numDc z)
```

- *succinct*: we need just *one version* of the function, not eight

Type Classes by example: Eq

```
class Eq a where
  (==) :: a -> a -> Bool
instance Eq Int where
  (==) = eqInt
instance Eq Char where
  (==) = eqChar
member      :: Eq a => [a] -> a -> Bool
member [] y    = False
member (x:xs) y = (x == y) || member xs y
```

translation

```
data EqD a      = EqDict (a -> a -> Bool)
eq (EqDict e)   = e
eqDInt          :: EqD Int
eqDInt          = EqDict eqInt
eqDChar         :: EqD Char
eqDChar         = EqDict eqChar
member'         :: EqD a -> [a] -> a -> Bool
member' eqDa [] y      = False
member' eqDa (x:xs) y = eq eqDa x y || member' eqDa xs y
```

Subclasses

For testing membership of a square, we need both *equality* and *arithmetic*:

```
memsq :: (Eq a, Num a) => [a] -> a -> Bool
memsq xs x = member xs (square x)
```

- natural assumption: every datatype having (+), (*) and negate defined has also (==) defined
- i.e. Num is a *subclass* of Eq

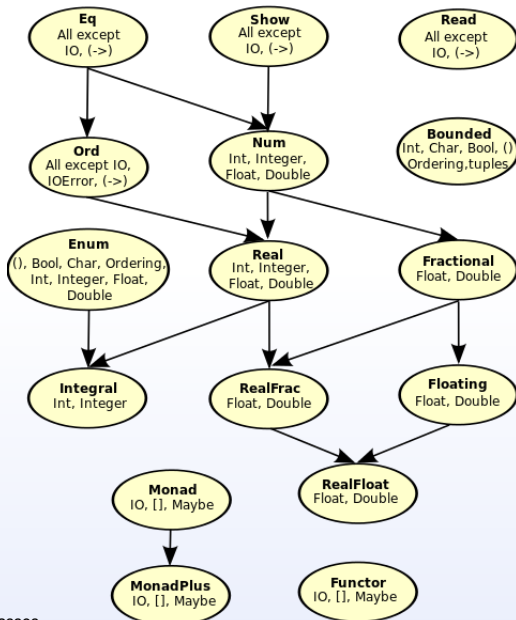
```
class Eq a => Num a where
  (+)      :: a -> a -> a
  (*)      :: a -> a -> a
  negate   :: a -> a
```

We then can write just

```
memsq :: Num a => [a] -> a -> Bool
```

Restriction: no cyclic dependency

Haskell Class Hierarchy



Numeric literals

What is the type of 3?

- can be e.g. `Integer` or `Float`
- ML: `Integer`
- HASKELL: `Num!`

Literals as type classes

```
class (Eq a, Show a) => Num a where
  (+), (-), (*)  :: a -> a -> a
  negate        :: a -> a
  abs, signum   :: a -> a
  fromInteger   :: Integer -> a
```

Even literals are overloaded:

```
Prelude> :t 1
1 :: Num a => a
```

```
inc :: Num a => a -> a
inc x = x + 1
```

Numeric classes in Haskell

```
class (Num a, Ord a) => Real a where
    toRational :: a -> Rational
```

```
class (Real a, Enum a) => Integral a where
    quot, rem, div, mod :: a -> a -> a
    quotRem, divMod     :: a -> a -> (a,a)
    toInteger           :: a -> Integer
```

```
class (Num a) => Fractional a where
    (/)           :: a -> a -> a
    recip        :: a -> a
    fromRational :: Rational -> a
```

```
class (Fractional a) => Floating a where
    pi           :: a
    exp, log, sqrt :: a -> a
    (**), logBase :: a -> a -> a
    sin, cos, tan :: a -> a
    asin, acos, atan :: a -> a
    sinh, cosh, tanh :: a -> a
    asinh, acosh, atanh :: a -> a
```

Extending Eq

```
class Eq a where
```

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

```
instance (Eq a) => Eq [a] where
```

```
  [] == [] = True
```

```
  (x:xs) == (y:ys) = x == y && xs == ys
```

```
  _xs == _ys = False
```

```
instance Eq Integer where
```

```
  (==) = eqInteger
```

```
instance (Eq a, Eq b) => Eq(a,b) where
```

```
  (u,v) == (x,y) = (u == x) && (v == y)
```

Default implementation

In the class declaration we can define *default implementation* for methods:

From GHC.Classes

```
-- | The 'Eq' class defines equality ('==') and inequality ('/=').
-- All the basic datatypes exported by the "Prelude" are instances of
-- and 'Eq' may be derived for any datatype whose constituents are all
-- instances of 'Eq'.
--
-- Minimal complete definition: either '==' or '/='.
--
class Eq a where
    (==), (/=)           :: a -> a -> Bool

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

Instances can redefine the behaviour.

Deriving

For Eq, Ord, Enum, Bounded, Show, or Read, the compiler can generate instance declarations automatically:

```
data Tree a = Leaf a | Branch (Tree a) (Tree a)
  deriving (Eq, Ord)
```

```
instance (Eq a) => Eq (Tree a) where
  (Leaf x)      == (Leaf y)      = x == y
  (Branch l r) == (Branch l' r') = l == l' && r == r'
  _             == _             = False
```

```
instance (Ord a) => Ord (Tree a) where
  (Leaf _)      <= (Branch _)    = True
  (Leaf x)      <= (Leaf y)     = x <= y
  (Branch _)    <= (Leaf _)     = False
  (Branch l r) <= (Branch l' r') = l == l' && r <= r' || l <= l'
```

Qualified types

Qualified types

polymorphic types:

$\forall \alpha. f(\alpha)$ can be treated as having any of the types in the set

$$\{f(T) \mid T \text{ is a type}\}$$

Restricting polymorphism:

- allow only *some of the types*
- e.g. those satisfying a predicate π
- we write $\forall \alpha. \pi(\alpha) \Rightarrow f(\alpha)$ for the set

$$\{f(T) \mid T \text{ is a type} \wedge \pi(T) \text{ holds}\}$$

qualified types

- types of the form $\pi \Rightarrow S$

Entailing relation

- each type system is given by the choice of *predicates* π
- properties are described by the *entailment relation* \Vdash between finite sets of predicates P and Q
- predicates are of the form $\pi = pT_1 \dots T_n$, where p is a n -ary predicate symbol and T_i types
- the relation \Vdash must satisfy the following properties:
 - **monotonicity:** $P \Vdash Q'$ whenever $P \supseteq Q$
 - **transitivity:** if $P \Vdash Q$ and $Q \Vdash R$, then $P \Vdash R$
 - **closure:** if $P \Vdash Q$ then also $\theta P \Vdash \theta Q$ for any substitution θ
- we write $P \Vdash \pi$ for $P \Vdash \{\pi\}$, and P, π for $P \cup \{\pi\}$

Type classes as qualified types

- *predicates*: $C \ T$
- *meaning*: T is an instance of the class named C
- additional axioms (examples of):
 - $\emptyset \Vdash Eq \ Int$
 - $Eq \ a \Vdash Eq \ [a]$
- typing rules

$$\frac{P \Vdash \pi \quad \text{class } Q \Rightarrow \pi}{P \Vdash Q} \text{ (super)} \quad \frac{P \Vdash Q \quad \text{instance } Q \Rightarrow \pi}{P \Vdash \pi} \text{ (inst)}$$

- example

$$\frac{\text{Ord } a \Vdash \text{Ord } a \quad \text{class } Eq \ a \Rightarrow \text{Ord } a}{\text{Ord } a \Vdash Eq \ a} \text{ (super)}$$

Validity of class hierarchy

$$\frac{\text{class } Q \Rightarrow \pi \quad P \Vdash \theta Q}{\text{instance } P \Rightarrow \theta \pi \text{ is valid}} \text{ (valid)}$$

example

```
class (Eq a, Show a) => Num a
class Foo a => Bar a
class Foo a
instance (Eq a, Show a) => Foo [a]
instance Num a => Bar [a]
```

$$\frac{\mathbf{c} \text{ Foo } a \Rightarrow \text{Bar } a \quad \frac{\dots}{\text{Num } a \Vdash \text{Foo } [a]}}{\mathbf{i} \text{ Num } a \Rightarrow \text{Bar } [a] \text{ is valid}} \text{ (valid)}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\mathbf{c} (\text{Eq } a, \text{Show } a) \Rightarrow \text{Num } a}{\text{Num } a \Vdash (\text{Eq } a, \text{Show } a)} \text{ (class)} \quad \mathbf{i} (\text{Eq } a, \text{Show } a) \Rightarrow \text{Foo } [a]}{\text{Num } a \Vdash \text{Foo } [a]}$$

Extending HM with qualified types

type syntax

$T ::= \alpha \mid T \rightarrow T$	monotypes
$R ::= P \Rightarrow T$	qualified types
$S ::= \forall \vec{\alpha}. R$	type schemes

typing rules

- of the form $P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : T$
- meaning: assuming predicates in P and context Γ , t is of type T

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \pi \Rightarrow R \quad P \Vdash \pi}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : R} \text{ (T-PRed)}$$

$$\frac{P, \pi \mid \Gamma \vdash t : R}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \pi \Rightarrow R} \text{ (T-PInt)}$$

Modified HM Typing rules

$$\frac{x : S \in \Gamma}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash x : S} \text{ (T-Var)}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma, x : T_1 \vdash t : T_2}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash \lambda x. t : T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \text{ (T-Abs)}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \quad P \mid \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_1}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : T_2} \text{ (T-App)}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad Q \mid \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : T}{P \cup Q \mid \Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = t_1 \text{ in } t_2 : T} \text{ (T-Let)}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : S' \quad S' \sqsubseteq S}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : S} \text{ (T-Inst)}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : S \quad \alpha \notin FV(\Gamma) \cup FV(P)}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \forall \alpha. S} \text{ (T-Gen)}$$

Type inference

- by combining the rules we can again produce syntax-directed type system (in the same way as for HM)
- we extend Algorithm W in the same fashion

example

example `x [] = False;`

example `x (y:ys) | y > x = True`
`| otherwise = (y == x && ys == [x])`

- the type is $T = a \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow \text{Bool}$
- constraints: $Q = \{\text{Ord } a, \text{Eq } a, \text{Eq } [a]\}$
 - $\text{Ord } a$: from `y > x`
 - $\text{Eq } a$: from `y == x`
 - $\text{Eq } [a]$: from `ys == [x]`

Type inference II

The set $Q = \{\text{Ord } a, \text{Eq } a, \text{Eq } [a]\}$ can be *simplified*:

- using *instance declaration* `instance Eq a => Eq [a]`
`{Eq a, Eq [a]}` simplifies to `{Eq a}`
- using *class declaration* `class Eq a => Ord a`
`{Eq a, Ord a}` simplifies to `{Ord a}`
- therefore `{Ord a, Eq a, Eq [a]}` simplifies to `{Ord a}`

The resulting type is $Q \Rightarrow P$, where

- `T = a -> [a] -> Bool`
- `Q = {Ord a}`

Therefore

```
example :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> Bool
```

```
example x [] = False;
```

```
example x (y:ys) | y > x = True
```

```
                | otherwise = (y == x && ys == [x])
```

Detecting errors

```
Prelude> 'a' + 1
```

```
<interactive>:18:5:
```

```
  No instance for (Num Char) arising from a use of '+'
```

```
  Possible fix: add an instance declaration for (Num Char)
```

```
  In the expression: 'a' + 1
```

```
  In an equation for 'it': it = 'a' + 1
```

Type class extensions

- *constructor classes*
 - parametrising class over a type constructor (instead of a type)
 - higher-kinded polymorphism
 - directly supports monads
- *multi-parameter type classes*
- *functional dependencies*

Constructor classes

Overloading map

map on lists

```
map                :: (a->b) -> [a] -> [b]
map _ []          = []
map f (x:xs)      = f x : map f xs
```

map on Maybe

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

```
mapMay            :: (a->b) -> Maybe a -> Maybe b
mapMay _ Nothing = Nothing
mapMay f (Just x) = Just (f x)
```

map on trees

```
data Tree a      = Leaf a | Branch (Tree a) (Tree a)
```

```
mapTree          :: (a->b) -> Tree a -> Tree b
mapTree f (Leaf x) = Leaf (f x)
mapTree f (Branch xl xr) = Branch (mapTree f xl) (mapTree f xr)
```

Comparing maps

- [], Tree and Maybe are *type constructors* (functions from types to types)
- map, mapTree and mapMay have the “same” type $(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow t\ a \rightarrow t\ b$
where t can be [], Tree or Maybe
- the correct map to be applied can be easily determined from the context
e.g. map (1+) [1,2,3] vs. map (1+) (Just 1)

however

- such universal map is not typeable in HM
- there is no way of extending map to other similar structures

type classes do not help

- remember: `class Name a where ...`
(a is a type here)

Functor class

```
class Functor f where
  fmap      :: (a -> b) -> f a -> f b
```

```
instance Functor [] where
  fmap = map
```

```
instance Functor Tree where
  fmap f (Leaf x)      = Leaf (f x)
  fmap f (Branch xl xr) = Branch (fmap f xl) (fmap f xr)
```

```
instance Functor Maybe where
  fmap _ Nothing      = Nothing
  fmap f (Just a)     = Just (f a)
```

constructor classes

- Functor is an example of a *constructor class*
- parameter of Functor is a type constructor, not a type

Kinding

Can Functor be applied to any type?

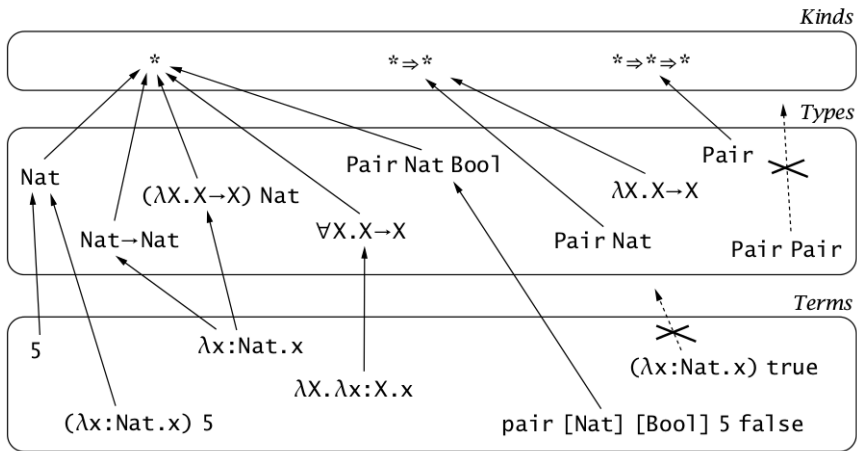
- for `Functor Int` we would get
`fmap :: (a->b) -> Int a -> Int b`
- obviously ill-formed, does not “typecheck”

Kinds (“types of types”)

- monomorphic types have kind $*$
- unary type constructor, which takes a type of kind κ_1 and returns a type of kind κ_2 has kind $\kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2$.
- examples:

```
Int, Float      :: *
List, Maybe     :: * -> *
(->), (,)      :: * -> * -> *
```

Kinds: examples



(Taken from [Pierce].)

Implementing constructor classes

For each kind κ we have a collection of constructors C^κ

$C^\kappa ::=$	χ^κ	constants
	$ \alpha^\kappa$	variables
	$ C^{\kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2} C^{\kappa_1}$	applications

Extending HM

Surprisingly straightforward:

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \forall \alpha^\kappa . S \quad C \in C^\kappa}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \{C/\alpha^\kappa\} S} \text{ (T-Inst')}$$

$$\frac{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : S \quad \alpha^\kappa \notin FV(\Gamma) \cup FV(P)}{P \mid \Gamma \vdash t : \forall \alpha^\kappa . S} \text{ (T-Gen)}$$

- kinded unification
- effective type inference

Kind inference

Kind annotations are actually not needed – can be *inferred*:

- for class definitions:

```
class Functor f where
  fmap      :: (a -> b) -> f a -> f b
```

- `->` has kind `* -> * -> *`
- therefore both `a` and `b` must have kind `*`, and
- `f` must have kind `* -> *`, therefore
- the type of `fmap` must be

$$\forall f^{* \rightarrow *}. \forall a^*. \forall b^*. \text{Functor } f \Rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (f\ a \rightarrow f\ b)$$

- for datatype definitions:

```
data tConst a1 ... am = vConst1 | ... | vConstn
```

- `tConst` has kind $\kappa_1 \rightarrow \dots \kappa_m \rightarrow *$, where
- $\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_m$ are the inferred kinds for `a1, ..., am`
- inference is easy thanks to having no kind abstraction

Multiparameter type classes

Motivation

- in HASKELL98, a class can only qualify a single type:

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

- however multiple types may be useful

Example: uniform interface to collection types

```
class Collects e s where
  empty    :: s
  insert   :: e -> s -> s
  member   :: e -> s -> Bool
```

some instances

```
instance Eq e => Collects e [e] where ...
instance Eq e => Collects e (e -> Bool) where ...
instance Collects Char BitSet where ...
instance (Hashable e, Collects e s)
  => Collects e (Array Int s) where ...
```

Collections

Type `s` is a collection of elements of type `e`:

```
class Collects e s where
  empty   :: s
  insert  :: e -> s -> s
  member  :: e -> s -> Bool
```

Problems

① ambiguity:

```
empty :: Collects e s => s
```

② dropping `empty` does not help either:

```
f x y col = insert x (insert y col)
f :: (Collects a c, Collects b c) => a -> b -> c -> c
```

```
g c = f True 'a' col
g :: (Collects Bool c, Collects Char c) => c -> c
```

Constructor class approach

Abstract over the type constructor `c`:

```
class Collects e c where
  empty    :: c e
  insert   :: e -> c e -> c e
  member   :: e -> c e -> Bool
```

- `f :: (Collects e c) => e -> e -> c e -> c e`
- `g` is rejected
- works well for lists
`c e` instantiates to `[] e` in this case
- for others either impossible (`BitSet`) or requires tricks:

```
newtype CharFun e = MkCharFun (e -> Bool)
instance Eq e => Collects e CharFun where ...
```

Functional dependencies

Key idea: s uniquely determines e

`class` Collects e s | $s \rightarrow e$ `where`

`empty` :: s

`insert` :: $e \rightarrow s \rightarrow s$

`member` :: $e \rightarrow s \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

- $s \rightarrow e$ above is a *functional dependency*
- some examples:

`class` C a b `where` ...

`class` D a b | $a \rightarrow b$ `where` ...

`class` E a b | $a \rightarrow b, b \rightarrow a$...

- either of these declarations is fine on its own:

`instance` D `Bool` `Int` `where` ...

`instance` D `Bool` `Char` `where` ...

- together they are rejected
- following is not allowed at all:

`instance` D [a] b `where` ...

Another example

```
class Mult a b c where
```

```
  (*) :: a -> b -> c
```

```
instance Mult Matrix Matrix Matrix where ...
```

```
instance Mult Matrix Vector Vector where ...
```

```
m1, m2, m3 :: Matrix
```

```
(m1 * m2) * m3           -- type error; type of (m1*m2) is ambiguous
```

```
(m1 * m2) :: Matrix * m3 -- this is ok
```

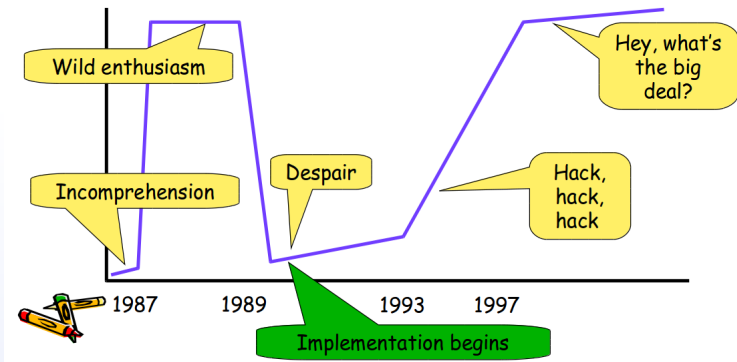
Solution:

```
class Mult a b c | (a,b) -> c where
```

```
  (*) :: a -> b -> c
```

Type classes over time

- Type classes are the most unusual feature of Haskell's type system



S. Peyton Jones: Wearing the Hair Shirt. A retrospective on Haskell.

Reading list

primary papers

- P. Wadler, S. Blott: *How to make ad-hoc polymorphism less ad hoc*. POPL'89.
- M. Jones: *A theory of qualified types*. ESOP'92.
- M. Jones: *A system of constructor classes*. FPCA'93.
- M. Jones: *Type Classes with Functional Dependencies*. ESOP'00.

further reading

- M. Jones: *Functional Programming with Overloading and Higher-Order Polymorphism*. AFPT Spring School 1995.
- *A History of Haskell: Being Lazy With Class*. 2007. (Section 6)
- J. Peterson and M. Jones: *Implementing Type Classes*. PLDI'93.
- C. Hall, K. Hammond, S. Peyton Jones, P. Wadler: *Type classes in Haskell*. ESOP'94.