

Generalizing Generic Functions

Andres Löh

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Motivation

Despite “dependency style” Generic Haskell, generic functions have a number of restrictions:

- ▶ only one type argument
- ▶ no higher-order type-indexed functions
- ▶ only flat type patterns
- ▶ complicated types for generic functions of higher arity
- ▶ no inference of type arguments



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Not all of the restrictions pose difficult problems, but all of them are “remaining work”.

Type classes (+extensions) solve many of these problems. Arjan has shown how to encode “dependency style” using type classes.



Getting Rid of Type Classes

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More motivation

There are many similarities between type classes and type-indexed functions.

But type-indexed functions are better because:

- ▶ Type classes create a separate programming language on top of Haskell.
- ▶ Type classes seem to have the need of several extensions to acquire their full power.
- ▶ Type classes are not first-class either. They are “fixed”.
- ▶ Type classes force implicit passing of dictionaries.



Long-term goals

- ▶ Extend Haskell language with a type abstraction and type application construct, and a **typecase**.
- ▶ Type-indexed types take the role of functional dependencies.
- ▶ Type system and translation are similar to “dependency style” and type classes: use of qualified types, dictionary passing.
- ▶ Type arguments can be inferred in special cases.
- ▶ Type arguments can always be specified explicitly.
- ▶ Typecases can be open and closed.
- ▶ Type-indexed functions are first class.



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- ▶ Generic functions come (almost) for free.



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- ▶ Type arguments can always be specified explicitly.
- ▶ Typecases can be open and closed.
- ▶ Type-indexed functions are first class.
- ▶ Generic functions come (almost) for free.
- ▶ This talk: a few small steps.



Pattern Matching for Type-indexed Functions

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Current situation (Dependency-style)

Patterns are flat.

$$x \langle T \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k \rangle = e$$

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} x \langle [\alpha] \rangle &= \dots \\ x \langle \text{Fix } \varphi \rangle &= \dots \\ x \langle \text{GRose } \varphi \alpha \rangle &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

Forbidden:

$$\begin{aligned} x \langle [\text{Int}] \rangle &= \dots \\ x \langle [[\alpha]] \rangle &= \dots \\ x \langle \text{Either } \alpha \alpha \rangle &= \dots \end{aligned}$$



Historical reasons (MPC-style)

In MPC-style, type patterns are (unapplied) type constructors:

$$\begin{array}{l} x \langle [] \rangle = \dots \\ x \langle \text{Fix} \rangle = \dots \\ x \langle \text{GRose} \rangle = \dots \end{array}$$

corresponds to

$$\begin{array}{l} x \langle [\alpha] \rangle = \dots \\ x \langle \text{Fix } \varphi \rangle = \dots \\ x \langle \text{GRose } \varphi \alpha \rangle = \dots \end{array}$$

in Dependency-style.



Deep patterns are useful

show $\langle [Char] \rangle x = "\\\" + x + "\\\""$

show $\langle [\alpha] \rangle x = \text{"["}$

$\text{++ concat (intersperse ", " (map show } \langle \alpha \rangle x))}$

++ "]"

flatten $\langle [[\alpha]] \rangle x = [\textit{flatten} \langle [\alpha] \rangle \textit{concat } x]$

flatten $\langle [\alpha] \rangle x = x$



Deep patterns are useful

```
show <[Char]> x = "\" + x + "\"  
show <[α]>     x =    "["  
                ++ concat (intersperse ", " (map show <α> x))  
                ++ "]"
```

```
flatten <[[α]]> x = [flatten <[α]> concat x]  
flatten <[α]>   x = x
```

The order of cases becomes relevant (currently irrelevant):

```
x <<(Int, α)>>    = 1  
x <<(α, Int)>>   = 2
```



The plan

First, we liberalize the notion of dependencies.

Then, we present a translation of a type-indexed function with deep patterns to

- ▶ multiple type-indexed functions
- ▶ using only flat patterns
- ▶ with fallthrough cases (new)
- ▶ possibly with multiple type arguments (new)



Liberalized dependencies

Dependencies are currently fixed *per function*. We want to track dependencies *by function case*.

Example (from my thesis):

$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{equal } \langle \text{Int} \rangle & & & = (==) \\ \text{equal } \langle \text{Unit} \rangle \quad \text{Unit} \quad \text{Unit} & & & = \text{True} \\ \text{equal } \langle \text{Sum } \alpha \ \beta \rangle \ (\text{Inl } x) \ (\text{Inl } y) & & & = \text{equal } \langle \alpha \rangle \ x \ y \\ \text{equal } \langle \text{Sum } \alpha \ \beta \rangle \ (\text{Inr } x) \ (\text{Inr } y) & & & = \text{equal } \langle \beta \rangle \ x \ y \\ \text{equal } \langle \text{Sum } \alpha \ \beta \rangle \ - \quad - & & & = \text{False} \\ \text{equal } \langle \text{Prod } \alpha \ \beta \rangle \ (x_1 \times x_2) \ (y_1 \times y_2) & & & = \text{equal } \langle \alpha \rangle \ x_1 \ x_2 \wedge \text{equal } \langle \beta \rangle \ y_1 \ y_2 \\ \text{equal } \langle \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rangle \ fx \quad fy & & & = \text{equal } \langle [\beta] \rangle \ (\text{map } fx \ (\text{enum } \langle \alpha \rangle)) \\ & & & \quad (\text{map } fy \ (\text{enum } \langle \alpha \rangle)) \end{array}$$

Only one case (for functions) depends on *enum*, but the whole function depends on it.



Liberalized dependencies – contd.

Currently, this means that a local redefinition for *equal* must redefine *enum* as well:

```
let equal ⟨ $\alpha$ ⟩ x y = toUpper x == toUpper y  
    enum ⟨ $\alpha$ ⟩      = enum ⟨Char⟩  
in equal ⟨[ $\alpha$ ]⟩ "lAMBdA" "Lambda" .
```

- ▶ Liberalized dependencies make dependencies variable from case to case.
- ▶ In the above redefinition, *enum* would not be needed.
- ▶ Only if *equal* is called on function types, *enum* dependencies are passed.
- ▶ This is very similar to type classes, which can have different context for different instances.



Liberalized dependencies – contd.

Liberalized dependencies have disadvantages as well:

- ▶ Type signatures are needed for every case (modulo type inference, which is future work as well).
- ▶ The qualified type of a function call depends on all dependencies of all cases, whereas now one need only know the type signature of the function.



Nested pattern example: *flatten*

flatten $\langle a \rangle$:: (*flatten* $\langle a \rangle$) $\Rightarrow a \rightarrow a$

flatten $\langle [[\alpha]] \rangle$ $x = [\textit{flatten} \langle [\alpha] \rangle (\textit{concat } x)]$

flatten $\langle [\alpha] \rangle$ $x = x$

Usage:

flatten $\langle [[[\textit{Int}]]] \rangle$ $[[[1,2,3], [4,5,6]], [[7,8,9]]]$
 $\rightsquigarrow [[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9]]$

A more interesting variant that always returns a list of depth 1 could be written using a type-indexed type.



Example: *flatten* – contd.

$flatten \langle a \rangle \quad :: (flatten \langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a$

$flatten \langle [\alpha] \rangle x = [flatten \langle [\alpha] \rangle (concat x)]$

$flatten \langle [\alpha] \rangle \quad x = x$

becomes

$flatten \langle a \rangle \quad :: (flatten \langle a \rangle, flatten_1 \langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a$

$flatten \langle [\beta] \rangle \quad = flatten_1 \langle \beta \rangle$

$flatten_1 \langle a \rangle \quad :: (flatten \langle a \rangle, flatten_1 \langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a]$

$flatten_1 \langle [\beta] \rangle \quad x = [flatten \langle [\beta] \rangle (concat x)]$

$flatten_1 \langle \beta \rangle \quad x = x$

Note the fallthrough case in $flatten_1$.



New concept: Fallthrough cases

- ▶ We allow a single dependency variable as a type pattern.
- ▶ For a fallthrough case, one component is generated, as for any other case.
- ▶ A fallthrough case matches always.
- ▶ The translation is similar to the one for generic abstractions.
- ▶ In fact, fallthrough cases can be seen as integrating generic abstractions with typecase-based generic definitions.



Fallthrough cases – contd.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{flatten}_1 \langle a \rangle \quad :: (\text{flatten} \langle a \rangle, \text{flatten}_1 \langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a] \\ \text{flatten}_1 \langle [\beta] \rangle x = [\text{flatten} \langle [\beta] \rangle (\text{concat } x)] \\ \text{flatten}_1 \langle \beta \rangle \quad x = x \end{array}$$

becomes

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, []) \quad \text{cp}(\text{flatten}, \beta) \text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, \beta) x = \dots \\ \text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, \text{Any}) \text{cp}(\text{flatten}, \beta) \text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, \beta) x = x \end{array}$$

The call $\text{flatten}_1 \langle \text{Char} \rangle$ is translated to

$$\text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, \text{Any}) \text{cp}(\text{flatten}, \text{Char}) \text{cp}(\text{flatten}_1, \text{Char})$$



Example: *flatten* – contd.

| *flatten* $\langle[[[Int]]]\rangle x$



Example: *flatten* – contd.

flatten $\langle[[[Int]]]\rangle x$
== { expansion of type application }
let { *flatten* $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten} \langle[[Int]]\rangle$; *flatten*₁ $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten}_1 \langle[[Int]]\rangle$ }
in *flatten* $\langle[\beta]\rangle x$



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]] > x  
== { expansion of type application }  
  let { flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>; flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]> }  
  in flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > x  
== { flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }  
  flatten1 <[[Int]] > x
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]]> x
== { expansion of type application }
  let { flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>; flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]> }
  in flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]]> x
== { flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]]> == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }
  flatten1 <[[Int]]> x
== { expansion of type application }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]>
  in flatten1 <[[ $\beta$ ]]> x
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]] > x
== { expansion of type application }
  let { flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>; flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]> }
  in flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > x
== { flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }
  flatten1 <[[Int]] > x
== { expansion of type application }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]>
  in flatten1 <[[ $\beta$ ]] > x
== { flatten1 <[[ $\beta$ ]] > x == [flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > (concat x)] }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[[Int]]>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[[Int]]>
  in [flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]] > (concat x)]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

flatten $\langle[[[Int]]]\rangle x$

\equiv { previous slide }

let *flatten* $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten} \langle[Int]\rangle$

*flatten*₁ $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten}_1 \langle[Int]\rangle$

in [*flatten* $\langle[\beta]\rangle$ (*concat* x)]



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]]> x  
== { previous slide }  
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[Int]>  
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[Int]>  
  in [flatten <[ $\beta$ ]> (concat x)]  
== { flatten <[ $\beta$ ]> == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }  
  [flatten1 <[Int]> (concat x)]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

flatten $\langle[[[Int]]]\rangle x$

\equiv { previous slide }

let *flatten* $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten} \langle[Int]\rangle$

*flatten*₁ $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten}_1 \langle[Int]\rangle$

in [*flatten* $\langle[\beta]\rangle$ (*concat* x)]

\equiv { *flatten* $\langle[\beta]\rangle = \textit{flatten}_1 \langle\beta\rangle$ }

[*flatten*₁ $\langle[Int]\rangle$ (*concat* x)]

\equiv { expansion of type application }

let *flatten* $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten} \langle Int \rangle$

*flatten*₁ $\langle\beta\rangle = \textit{flatten}_1 \langle Int \rangle$

in *flatten*₁ $\langle[\beta]\rangle x$



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]]> x
== { previous slide }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <[Int]>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <[Int]>
  in [flatten <[ $\beta$ ]>] (concat x)
== { flatten <[ $\beta$ ]> == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }
  [flatten1 <[Int]>] (concat x)
== { expansion of type application }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <Int>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <Int>
  in flatten1 <[ $\beta$ ]> x
== { flatten1 <[ $\beta$ ]> x == [flatten <[ $\beta$ ]>] (concat x) }
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <Int>
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <Int>
  in [[flatten <[ $\beta$ ]>] (concat (concat x))]]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]] > x  
== { previous slide }  
let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <Int>  
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <Int>  
in [[flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]]> (concat (concat x))]]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]] > x  
== { previous slide }  
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <Int>  
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <Int>  
  in [[flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]]> (concat (concat x))]]  
== { flatten <[[ $\beta$ ]]> == flatten1 < $\beta$ > }  
  [[flatten1 <Int> (concat (concat x))]]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

```
flatten <[[[Int]]] > x  
== { previous slide }  
  let flatten < $\beta$ > = flatten <Int>  
      flatten1 < $\beta$ > = flatten1 <Int>  
  in [[flatten <[ $\beta$ ]] (concat (concat x))]]  
== { flatten <[ $\beta$ ]] == flatten1 < $\beta$  }  
  [[flatten1 <Int> (concat (concat x))]]  
== { flatten1 < $\beta$  > x == x }  
  [[(concat (concat x))]]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

The translation of *flatten* depends on *flatten*₁. What happens with local redefinitions?

```
let flatten < $\alpha$ > x = reverse x  
in flatten <[ $\alpha$ ]> [[[1,2,3],[4,5,6]], [[7,8,9]]]
```



Example: *flatten* – contd.

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```
let flatten < $\alpha$ > x = reverse x  
in flatten <[ $\alpha$ ]> [[[1,2,3],[4,5,6]], [[7,8,9]]]
```

This is translated to:

```
let flatten < $\alpha$ > x = reverse x  
    flatten1 < $\alpha$ > x = x  
in flatten <[ $\alpha$ ]> [[[1,2,3],[4,5,6]], [[7,8,9]]]
```

The fallthrough case of *flatten*₁ is added. The result is

```
[[[7,8,9]], [[1,2,3],[4,5,6]]] .
```



New concept: Multiple type arguments

In the general case, we need multiple type arguments.

<i>poly</i>	$\langle \text{Int}, \text{Int} \rangle$	(x, y)	$= x + y$
<i>poly</i>	$\langle \text{Int}, \text{Char} \rangle$	$(x, -)$	$= x$
<i>poly</i>	$\langle \alpha, [\text{Int}] \rangle$	$(-, ys)$	$= \text{maximum } ys$
<i>poly</i>	$\langle \text{Int}, \alpha \rangle$	(x, y)	$= x + \text{poly } \langle \alpha \rangle y$
<i>poly</i>	$\langle \text{Char} \rangle$	x	$= \text{ord } x$



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$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{poly } \langle \text{Int}, \text{Int} \rangle & (x, y) = x + y \\ \text{poly } \langle \text{Int}, \text{Char} \rangle & (x, -) = x \\ \text{poly } \langle \langle \alpha, [\text{Int}] \rangle \rangle & (-, ys) = \text{maximum } ys \\ \text{poly } \langle \text{Int}, \alpha \rangle & (x, y) = x + \text{poly } \langle \alpha \rangle y \\ \text{poly } \langle \text{Char} \rangle & x = \text{ord } x \end{array}$$

becomes

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{poly } \langle \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \rangle & = \text{poly}_1 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle \\ \text{poly } \langle \text{Char} \rangle & x = \text{ord } x \\ \text{poly}_1 \langle \text{Int} \rangle \langle \text{Int} \rangle & (x, y) = x + y \\ \text{poly}_1 \langle \text{Int} \rangle \langle \text{Char} \rangle & (x, -) = x \\ \text{poly}_1 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle [\beta] \rangle & = \text{poly}_2 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle \\ \text{poly}_1 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle & = \text{poly}_3 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle \\ \text{poly}_2 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \text{Int} \rangle & (-, ys) = \text{maximum } ys \\ \text{poly}_2 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle & = \text{poly}_3 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle [\beta] \rangle \\ \text{poly}_3 \langle \text{Int} \rangle \langle \alpha \rangle & (x, ys) = x + \text{poly } \langle \alpha \rangle y \end{array}$$


Multiple type arguments – contd.

How do multiple type arguments work?



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In each case of the definition,

- ▶ each of the type patterns must be flat,
- ▶ all type variables of all patterns must be distinct.



Multiple type arguments – contd.

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When applied,

- ▶ all type arguments have to be provided.



Multiple type arguments – contd.

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In each case of the definition,

- ▶ each of the type patterns must be flat,
- ▶ all type variables of all patterns must be distinct.

When applied,

- ▶ all type arguments have to be provided.

Furthermore,

- ▶ Multiple type arguments interact with fallthrough cases.
- ▶ Multiple type arguments require per-case dependencies.
- ▶ Multiple type arguments allow to get rid of higher-arity generic functions. For instance, *map* can be written with two type arguments.



Implementation of multiple type arguments

Once we have liberalized dependencies, they are easy to add.

- ▶ Each case of the definition is translated to a component.
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Once we have liberalized dependencies, they are easy to add.

- ▶ Each case of the definition is translated to a component.
- ▶ Components are parametrized by multiple type constructors now.

However:

- ▶ Specializations are also parametrized by multiple type constructors.
- ▶ Potential explosion of specializations required, bounded by d^n , where d is the number of datatypes and n is the number of type arguments.
- ▶ In connection with fallthrough cases, code explosion does not occur.



Implementation of multiple type arguments – contd.

$$\begin{array}{l} poly_1 \langle Int \rangle \langle Int \rangle \quad (x, y) \quad = x + y \\ poly_1 \langle Int \rangle \langle Char \rangle \quad (x, -) \quad = x \\ poly_1 \langle \alpha \rangle \quad \langle [\beta] \rangle \quad = poly_2 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle \\ poly_1 \langle \alpha \rangle \quad \langle \beta \rangle \quad = poly_3 \langle \alpha \rangle \langle \beta \rangle \end{array}$$

becomes

$$\begin{array}{l} cp(poly_1, Int \times Int) \quad (x, y) \quad = x + y \\ cp(poly_1, Int \times Char) \quad (x, -) \quad = x \\ cp(poly_1, Any \times []) \quad cp(poly_2, \alpha) \quad (\beta) = cp(poly_2, \alpha) \quad (\beta) \\ cp(poly_1, Any \times Any) \quad cp(poly_3, \alpha) \quad (\beta) = cp(poly_3, \alpha) \quad (\beta) \end{array}$$

Call translation:

$$poly_1 \langle Int \rangle \langle [Char] \rangle \rightsquigarrow cp(poly_1, Any \times []) (poly_2 \langle Int \rangle \langle Char \rangle)$$



Conclusions

Liberalized dependencies

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- ▶ are yet another concept next to generic abstraction (allows higher-kinded abstractions) and default cases (allows redirection of dependencies)



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Generic functions with multiple type arguments

- ▶ are necessary to implement deep patterns
- ▶ with liberalized dependencies, allow simplification of type system



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More to come ... Comments?



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