

Getting recursive definitions off their bottoms


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THE SLOTHS OF THE WORLD
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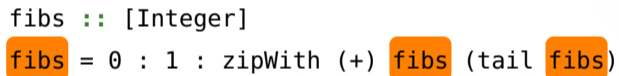
Let's tie a knot!

A famous example

```
fibs :: [Integer]
fibs = 0 : 1 : zipWith (+) fibs (tail fibs)
```

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fibs :: [Integer]  
fibs = 0 : 1 : zipWith (+) fibs (tail fibs)
```

The diagram shows the Haskell code for the Fibonacci sequence. The variable 'fibs' is defined as a list starting with 0 and 1, followed by a list comprehension. The list comprehension uses 'zipWith (+) fibs (tail fibs)'. The 'fibs' variable is highlighted in orange in three places: at the start of the type signature, at the start of the list comprehension, and at the end of the list comprehension. Two orange arrows originate from the 'fibs' in the list comprehension and point back to the 'fibs' in the type signature, illustrating the recursive dependency.

A programming puzzle

```
import qualified Data.Map as M
```

```
type Graph = M.Map Int [Int]
```

```
transitive :: Graph -> Graph
```

```
transitive g = ...
```

Let's step through it

```
transitive graph1
```

```
graph1 = M.fromList [(1,[3]),(2,[1,3]),(3,[ ] )]
```

```
transitive g = M.map S.toList reaches
```

```
where
```

```
reaches = M.mapWithKey f g
```

```
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.mapWithKey f g
```

```
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

```
g = M.fromList [(1,[3]),(2,[1,3]),(3,[ ] )]
```


Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.mapWithKey f (M.fromList [(1,[3]),(2,[1,3]),(3,[ ] )])  
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,f 1 [3]),(2,f 2 [1,3]),(3,f 3 [] )]  
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

```
s1 = f 1 [3]
```

```
s2 = f 2 [1,3]
```

```
s3 = f 3 []
```

Let's step through it

```
M.map S.toList reaches
```

```
where
```

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- [3] ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- [1,3] ])
```

```
s3 = S.insert 3 (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- [ ] ])
```

Let's step through it

```
M.map S.toList reaches
```

```
where
```

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ reaches M.! 3 ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ reaches M.! 1, reaches M.! 3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.insert 3 (S.unions [ ] )
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ s3 ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ s1, s3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.insert 3 (S.unions [ ] )
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ s3 ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ s1, s3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.fromList [3]
```

Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.fromList [1,3]
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ s1, s3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.fromList [3]
```


Let's step through it

M.map S.toList reaches


where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.fromList [1,3]
```

```
s2 = S.fromList [1,2,3]
```

```
s3 = S.fromList [3]
```



So far so good...

A vicious cycle

transitive graph2

```
graph2 = M.fromList [(1,[2,3]),(2,[1,2,3]),(3,[3])]
```

```
transitive g = M.map S.toList reaches
```

where

```
reaches = M.mapWithKey f g
```

```
f v vs = S.insert v (S.unions [ reaches M.! v' | v' <- vs ])
```

A vicious cycle

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ s2, s3 ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ s1, s3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.insert 3 (S.unions [ ] )
```

A vicious cycle

M.map S.toList reaches

where

```
reaches = M.fromList [(1,s1),(2,s2),(3,s3)]
```

```
s1 = S.insert 1 (S.unions [ s2, s3 ])
```

```
s2 = S.insert 2 (S.unions [ s1, s3 ])
```

```
s3 = S.insert 3 (S.unions [ ])
```



This does not work . . . could it?

The set API

```
import Data.Set as S
data Set a
S.insert  :: Ord a => a -> Set a -> Set a
S.unions  :: Ord a => [Set a] -> Set a
```

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S.insert  :: Ord a => a -> Set a -> Set a
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```

```
import Data.Recursive.Set as RS
data RSet a
RS.insert :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.unions :: Ord a => [RSet a] -> RSet a
RS.get    :: RSet a -> Set a
```


The set API

```
import Data.Set as S
data Set a
S.insert  :: Ord a => a -> Set a -> Set a
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```
import Data.Recursive.Set as RS
data RSet a
RS.insert :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.unions :: Ord a => [RSet a] -> RSet a
RS.get    :: RSet a -> Set a
```

Let's try!



It worked!

(And there are more examples, but not today...)



<https://hackage.haskell.org/package/rec-def>

Solves every set of equations!

```
RS.mk           :: Set a -> RSet a
RS.insert       :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.delete       :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.union        :: Ord a => RSet a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.intersection :: Ord a => RSet a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.member       :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RBool
RB.&&           :: RBool -> RBool -> RBool
```

Solves every set of equations!

```
RS.mk           :: Set a -> RSet a
RS.insert      :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
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RS.intersection :: Ord a => RSet a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RS.member      :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RBool
RB.&&          :: RBool -> RBool -> RBool
```

... because we do not have:

```
RS.difference  :: Ord a => RSet a -> RSet a -> RSet a
RB.not        :: RBool -> RBool
```



So how does it work?

Breaking down the problem

1. A monadic “propagator”
(declare cells, declare relationships, solves, read values)
2. The pure wrapping
3. Some issues we gloss over today

Breaking down the problem

1. A monadic “propagator”
(declare cells, declare relationships, solves, read values)
2. The pure wrapping
3. Some issues we gloss over today

Our (simplified) goal:

```
data RSet a  
insert :: a -> RSet a -> RSet a  
get    :: RSet a -> Set a
```


The propagator – the API

```
data Cell a
```

```
newC    :: IO (Cell a)
```

```
insertC :: Ord a => Cell a -> a -> Cell a -> IO ()
```

```
getC    :: Cell a -> IO (Set a)
```

The propagator – a naive(!) implementation

```
data Cell a = C (IORef (Set a)) (IORef [IO ()])
newC      :: IO (Cell a)
newC = C <$> newIORef S.empty <*> newIORef []
insertC :: Ord a => Cell a -> a -> Cell a -> IO ()
insertC (C s0 ws0) x (C s1 ws1) = do
  let update = do
        new <- S.insert x <$> readIORef s1
        old <- readIORef s0
        unless (old == new) $ do
          writeIORef s0 new
          readIORef ws0 >>= sequence_
      modifyIORef ws1 (update :)
  update
getC      :: Cell a -> IO (Set a)
getC (C s1 _) = readIORef s1
```

The pure wrapper – the API

```
data RSet a
```

```
insert :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
```

```
get :: RSet a -> Set a
```

The pure wrapper – let's get dirty

```
unsafePerformIO :: IO a -> a
```

A thinking data structure

```
data DoOnce
```

```
later :: IO () -> IO DoOnce
```

```
doNow :: DoOnce -> IO ()
```

A thinking data structure

```
data DoOnce = DoOnce (IO ()) (IORef Bool)
```

```
later :: IO () -> IO DoOnce
```

```
later act = DoOnce act <$> newIORef False
```

```
doNow :: DoOnce -> IO ()
```

```
doNow (DoOnce act done) = do  
  is_done <- readIORef done  
  unless is_done $ do  
    writeIORef done True  
  act
```

The pure wrapper – a naive(!) implementation

```
data RSet a = RSet (Cell a) DoOnce

insert :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RSet a
insert x r2 = unsafePerformIO $ do
  c1 <- newC
  todo <- later $ do
    let (RSet c2 todo2) = r2
    insertC c1 x c2
    doNow todo2
  return (RSet c1 todo)

get :: RSet a -> Set a
get (RSet c todo) = unsafePerformIO $ do
  doNow todo >> getC c
```

Simplified for your viewing pleasure

- Other data types
RBool with (RB.&&) etc.
- Mixing different data types
RS.member :: Ord a => a -> RSet a -> RBool
- Concurrency and reentrancy issues (unsafePerformIO!)
- Space leaks (watchers!)



Is this still Haskell?

Queasy about unsafePerformIO?

that is why the function is unsafe.

However “unsafe” is not the same as “wrong”. It simply means that the programmer, not the compiler, must undertake the proof obligation that the program’s semantics is unaffected [...]

“Stretching the Storage Manager: Weak Pointers and Stable Names in Haskell”
Simon Peyton Jones, Simon Marlow, and Conal Elliott

Is this still Haskell?

- Type safety ✓
- Independence of evaluation order ✓

(At least if the *ascending chain conditions* holds, else unclear.)

- Equational reasoning ✓

`let x = E1[x] in E2[x]` \equiv `let x = E1[x] in E2[E1[x]]`

`let x = E1[x] in E2[x]` \equiv `let x = E1[y]; y = E1[x] in E2[x]`

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- Lambda lifting ✗

`let x = E1[x,e] in E2[x]` $\not\equiv$ `let x y = E1[x y,y] in E2[x e]`

Transformations that break *sharing* can prevent termination!

(So far: can only increase costs, but otherwise unobservable)

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Transformations that break *sharing* can prevent termination!

(So far: can only increase costs, but otherwise unobservable)

... and how to prove it?

Summary

- Laziness is key to describing recursive problems declaratively.
- Let us allow more partial orders than Haskell's "normal one"!
- Open question: Is this still pure, and how to prove it?
- Not discussed today:
The **let** $x = x$ problem, thread safety, avoiding leaks, performance.

Thank you for your attention!



Backup slides



Theory

All involved functions must be *monotone*

For sets:

If $s_1 \subseteq s_2$ then $f(s_1) \subseteq f(s_2)$.

For Bool:

If $b_1 \leq b_2$ then $f(b_1) \leq f(b_2)$.

where $\text{False} \leq \text{True}$.

Finding the least fixed-point

Let X be partially ordered by \sqsubseteq , $\perp \in X$ be its least element, and $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a continuous function (i.e. $x \sqsubseteq y \implies f(x) \sqsubseteq f(y)$).

Finding the least fixed-point

Let X be partially ordered by \sqsubseteq , $\perp \in X$ be its least element, and $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a continuous function (i.e. $x \sqsubseteq y \implies f(x) \sqsubseteq f(y)$).

Then the sequence

$$\perp \sqsubseteq f(\perp) \sqsubseteq f(f(\perp)) \sqsubseteq \dots$$

either diverges (all elements are different), or eventually finds a least fixed-point $x \in X$ of f , where

$$x = f(x).$$

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Then the sequence

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either diverges (all elements are different), or eventually finds a least fixed-point $x \in X$ of f , where

$$x = f(x).$$

If X has the *Ascending Chain Condition* (i.e. no infinite chain $x_0 \sqsubseteq x_1 \sqsubseteq \dots$ exists), then the fixed-point will always be found.



It worked!

Let's try another example...

A small programming language

```
type Var = String
```

```
data Exp
```

```
= Var Var
```

```
| Lam Var Exp
```

```
| App Exp Exp
```

```
| Throw
```

```
| Catch Exp
```

```
| Let Var Exp Exp
```

A small analysis

```
canThrow1 :: Exp -> Bool
```

```
canThrow1 = go M.empty where
```

```
go :: M.Map Var Bool -> Exp -> Bool
```

```
go env (Var v)      = env M.! v
```

```
go env Throw       = True
```

```
go env (Catch e)   = False
```

```
go env (Lam v e)   = go (M.insert v False env) e
```

```
go env (App e1 e2) = go env e1 || go env e2
```

```
go env (Let v e1 e2) = go env' e2 where
```

```
env_bind = M.fromList [ (v, go env e1) ]
```

```
env' = M.union env_bind env
```

Let's add recursion

data Exp

...

| LetRec [(Var, Exp)] Exp

Let's add recursion

```
data Exp
  ...
  | LetRec [(Var, Exp)] Exp

canThrow1 :: Exp -> Bool
canThrow1 = go M.empty where
  go :: M.Map Var Bool -> Exp -> Bool
  ...
  go env (LetRec binds e) = go env' e where
    env_bind = M.fromList [ (v, go env' e) | (v,e) <- binds ]
    env' = M.union env_bind env
```

Let's add recursion

```
data Exp
```

```
...
```

```
| LetRec [(Var, Exp)] Exp
```

```
canThrow1 :: Exp -> Bool
```

```
canThrow1 = go M.empty where
```

```
go :: M.Map Var Bool -> Exp -> Bool
```

```
...
```

```
go env (LetRec binds e) = go env' e where
```

```
env_bind = M.fromList [ (v, go env' e) | (v,e) <- binds ]
```

```
env' = M.union env_bind env
```

Again, this fails with cyclic values

```
λ> someVal = Lam "y" (Var "y")  
λ> prog = LetRec [("x", App (Var "x") someVal), ("y", Throw)] (Var "x")  
λ> canThrow1 prog  
^CInterrupted.
```

Data.Recursive.Bool to the rescue!

```
λ> someVal = Lam "y" (Var "y")  
λ> prog = LetRec [("x", App (Var "x") someVal), ("y", Throw)] (Var "x")  
λ> canThrow1 prog  
^CInterrupted.  
λ> canThrow2 prog  
False
```

Data.Recursive.Bool API

```
import Data.Recursive.Bool as RB

RB.true  :: RBool
RB.false :: RBool
RB.&&    :: RBool -> RBool -> RBool
RB.||    :: RBool -> RBool -> RBool
RB.and  :: [RBool] -> RBool
RB.or   :: [RBool] -> RBool
...
RB.get  :: RBool -> Bool
```

JFR: The full code

```
canThrow2 :: Exp -> Bool
canThrow2 = RB.get . go M.empty where
  go :: M.Map Var RBool -> Exp -> RBool
  go env (Var v)      = env M.! v
  go env Throw       = RB.false
  go env (Catch e)   = RB.true
  go env (Lam v e)    = go (M.insert v RB.false env) e
  go env (App e1 e2) = go env e1 RB.|| go env e2
  go env (Let v e1 e2) = go env' e2 where
    env_bind = M.singleton v (go env e1)
    env'     = M.union env_bind env
  go env (LetRec binds e) = go env' e where
    env_bind = M.fromList [ (v, go env' e) | (v,e) <- binds ]
    env'     = M.union env_bind env
```