

Don't Drive on the Railroad Tracks



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Two Claims

In the small, you know this.
It is no big deal.

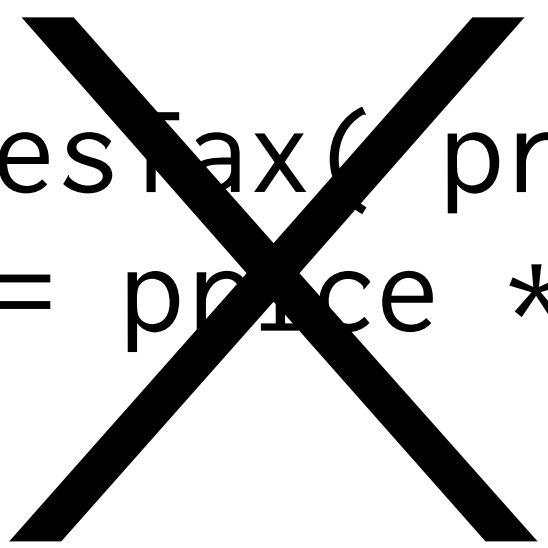
In the large, this is different.
It changes how you think
about problems and data.

you know this

```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    price * 1.07  
end
```

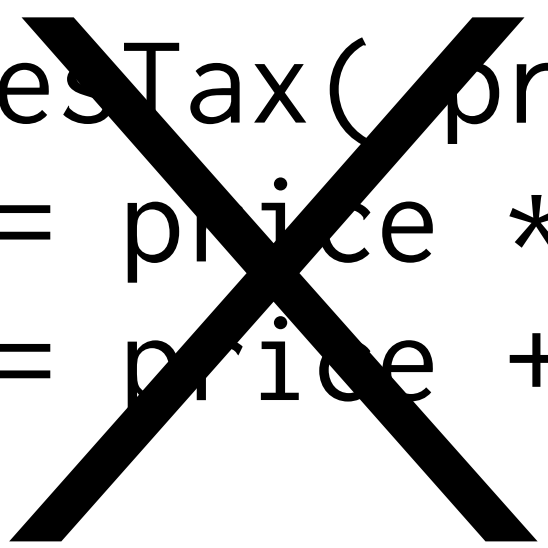
```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    price = price * 1.07  
end
```

```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    price = price * 1.07  
end
```



```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    tax      = price * 0.07  
    price = price + tax  
end
```

```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    tax      = price * 0.07  
    price    = price + tax  
end
```



side effects

~~side effects~~







```
def addSalesTax( price )  
    price * 1.07  
end
```

```
sort -m access01-ips access02-ips \
    | uniq -d \
    | wc -l
```

```
wc("-l",  
    uniq("-d",  
        sort("-m",  
            access01-ips,  
            access02-ips)))
```


[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]
["a", "b", "c", "d"]

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]
["a" , "b" , "c" , "d"]

```
[ 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 ].  
  zip( [ "a", "b", "c", "d" ] )
```

```
[[1, "a"],  
 [2, "b"],  
 [3, "c"],  
 [4, "d"]]
```

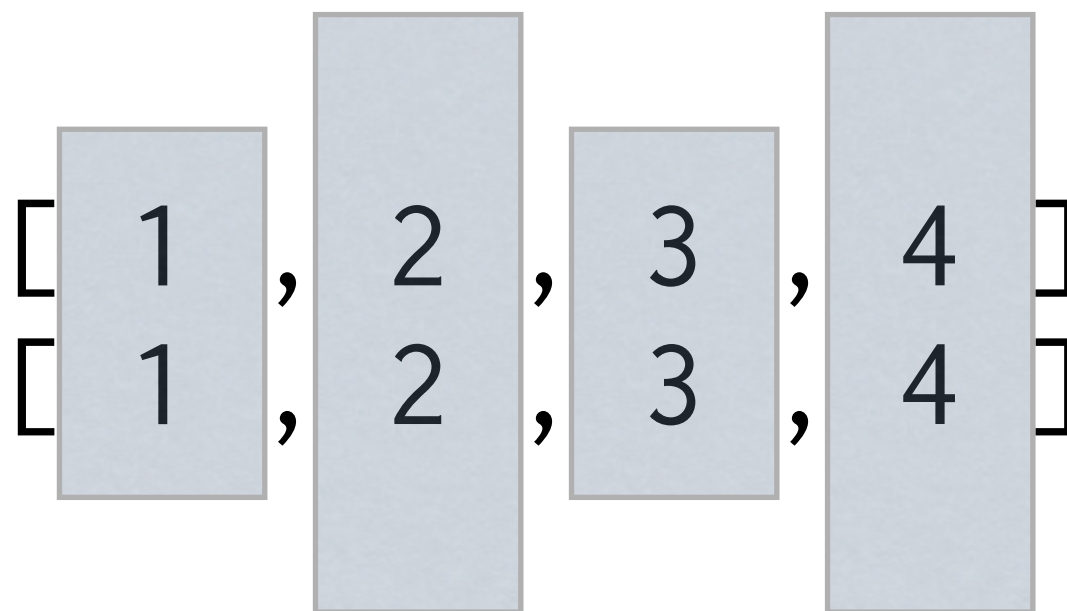
[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]
{ |x| x.odd? }

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]
[1 , 3]

```
[ 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 ].  
  select { |x| x.odd? }
```

[1, 3]

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]
{ |x| x.odd? }



[1 , 2 , 3 , 4].
partition { |x| x.odd? }

[[1, 3], [2, 4]]

$$\begin{array}{c} [1 , 2 , 3 , 4] \\ \{ |x| \ x \ * \ x \} \end{array}$$

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]



[1 , 4 , 9 , 16]

```
[ 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 ].  
  map { |x| x * x }
```

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]

\downarrow^2 \downarrow^2 \downarrow^2 \downarrow^2

[1 , 4 , 9 , 16]

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4]

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 \Rightarrow 10$$

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4$$

$==$

$$((1 + 2) + 3) + 4$$

[1 , 2 , 3 , 4].
inject { |x,y| x + y }

```
[ 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 ].  
  inject { |x,y| x + y }
```

fold the list with **+**

$\{ \mid x \mid \quad x.\text{odd?} \}$

$\{ \mid x \mid \quad x * x \}$

$\{ \mid x, y \mid \quad x + y \}$

functions
are
first-class values

```
# Python
```

```
for item in iterable_collection:  
    # do something with item
```

```
# Ruby
```

```
set.each do |item|  
    # do something with item  
end
```

next steps

implies
recursion
over
persistent
data structures

number ::= 0
 | 1 + number

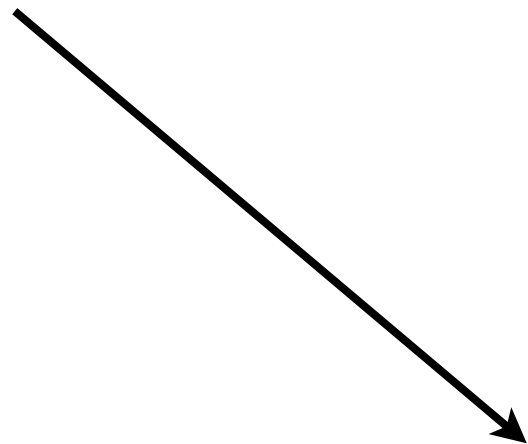
```
list ::= empty  
      | item + list
```

```
tree ::= empty  
      | item + tree + tree
```

induction
implies
recursion

**what
versus
how**

number ::= 0
 | 1 + number



```
if n = 0
    do something
else
    solve for 1
    solve for n-1
    combine
```

number ::= 0
 | 1 + number

number ::= 0
 | 1 + number

decrease and conquer

number ::= 0
 | 1 + number

sequential

number ::= 0
 | number/2
 +
 number/2

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \text{number} & ::= & \emptyset \\ & | & \text{number}/2 \\ & + & \\ & & \text{number}/2 \end{array}$$

divide and conquer

number ::= 0
 | number/2
 +
 number/2

parallel

```
tree ::= empty  
      | item + tree + tree
```

divide and conquer

parallel

MapReduce

map an operator
over each item

reduce (fold)
the resulting list

[8, 4, 1, 6, 7, 2, 5, 3]

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]

[8, 4, 1, 6, 7, 2, 5, 3].
map { |x| [x] }



make a list of each item

[[8], [4], [1], [6],
[7], [2], [5], [3]]

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

`inject { |x,y| merge(x,y) }`



merge the sorted lists, pairwise

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

```
[ 8, 4, 1, 6, 7, 2, 5, 3 ]  
  .map    { |x| [x] }  
  .inject { |x,y| merge(x,y) }
```

↓ *map/reduce*

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

Implications for Parallelism

$\text{merge}(a, b) == \text{merge}(b, a)$

$\&\&$

$\text{merge}(a, \text{merge}(b, c))$

$==$

$\text{merge}(\text{merge}(a, b), c)$

*merges can be done **independently***



really getting it

```
class Proc
  def self.compose(f, g)
    lambda { |*args| f[g[*args]] }
  end
end
```

```
class Proc
  def self.compose(f, g)
    lambda { |*args| f[g[*args]] }
  end
end
```



```
class Proc
```

```
  def self.compose(f, g)
```

```
    lambda { |*args| f[g[*args]] }
```

```
  end
```

```
end
```

```
class Proc
```

```
  def self.compose(f, g)
```

```
    lambda { |*args| f[g[*args]] }
```

```
  end
```

```
end
```

combinator

A **combinator** is a function
that takes functions as input
and computes its result
by composing those functions. *

* *and nothing else.*
There are no free variables.

combinator is to functional programming

as

framework is to object-oriented programming

combinator is to functional programming

as

framework is to object-oriented programming

the next level of abstraction

A Common Pattern...

```
widget.collection
  .select { |a_table|
    a_table.widgets_column_name =~ regex }
  .map    { |a_table|
    widget.attribute_present?(a_table.widgets_column_name) &&
    { a_table.label
      => widget.send(a_table.widgets_column_name) }
    || {} }
  .inject(&:merge)
```

Combinators in Action

suppose we want to find
the square of the sum
of all the odd numbers
between 1 and 100

(1..100)


```
(1..100).select(&:odd?)
```

```
(1..100).select(&:odd?).inject(&:+)
```

```
lambda { |x| x * x }.call(  
  (1..100).select(&:odd?).inject(&:+))
```

```
lambda { |x| x * x }.call(  
  (1..100).select(&:odd?).inject(&:+))
```

A permuting combinator
composes two functions
in reverse order.

Instead of $f(g(x))$, we want $g(f(x))$.

```
(1..100).select(&:odd?).inject(&:+)  
  .callWithSelf(lambda { |x| x * x })
```

```
(1..100).select(&:odd?).inject(&:+)  
      .into (lambda { |x| x * x })
```

```
(1..100)
  .select(&:odd?)
  .inject(&:+)
  .into(lambda { |x| x * x })
```



```
class Object
  def into expr = nil
    expr.nil? ? yield(self) : expr.to_proc.call(self)
  end
end
```

Um, what about Scala?

```
case class Thrush[A](x: A) {  
  def into[B](g: A => B): B = {  
    g(x)  
  }  
}
```

```
Thrush((1 to 100)
  .filter(_ % 2 != 0)
  .foldLeft(0)(_ + _))
  .into((x: Int) => x * x)
```

```
accounts
  .filter(_ belongsTo "John S.")
  .map(_.calculateInterest)
  .filter(_ > threshold)
  .foldLeft(0)(_ + _)
  .into {x: Int =>
    updateBooks journalize
      (Ledger.INTEREST, x)
  }
```



more?

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion
Interface Procedure

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion

Interface Procedure

Mutual Recursion

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion
Interface Procedure
Mutual Recursion
Accumulator Passing

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion
Interface Procedure
Mutual Recursion
Accumulator Passing
Local Procedure

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion
Interface Procedure
Mutual Recursion
Accumulator Passing
Local Procedure
Program Derivation

functional design patterns

Structural Recursion

Interface Procedure

Mutual Recursion

Accumulator Passing

Local Procedure

Program Derivation

Tail-Recursive State Machine

Continuation Passing

Control Abstraction

***Isn't all this recursion
so inefficient
as to be impractical?***

This is the 21st century.

garbage collection

tail-call elimination

```
def foo(...) = {  
    if (n is base case)  
        return some value  
    else  
        foo(...)  
}
```

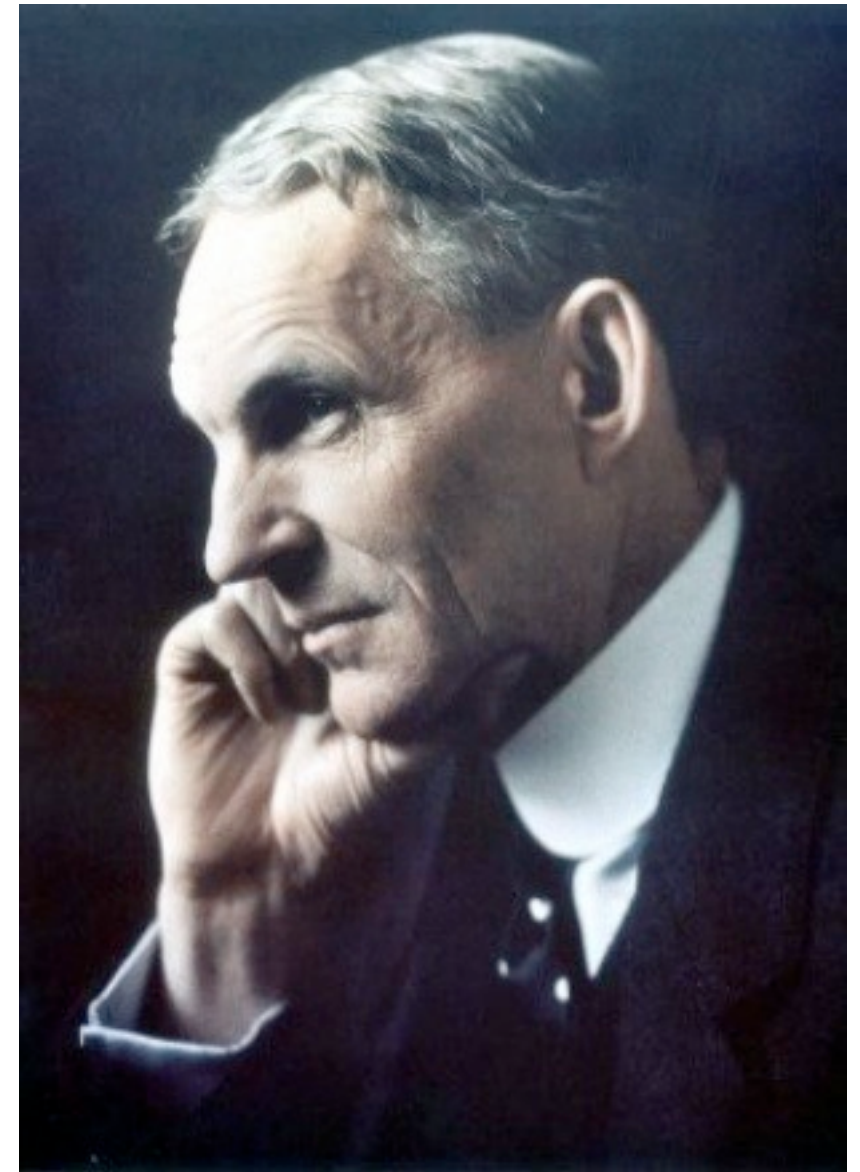
<*Scheme indulgence*>

```
def factorial(n: Int) = {  
  def loop(n: Int, acc: Int): Int =  
    if (n <= 0)  
      acc  
    else  
      loop(n - 1, acc * n)  
  
  loop(n, 1)  
}
```

return 'done'

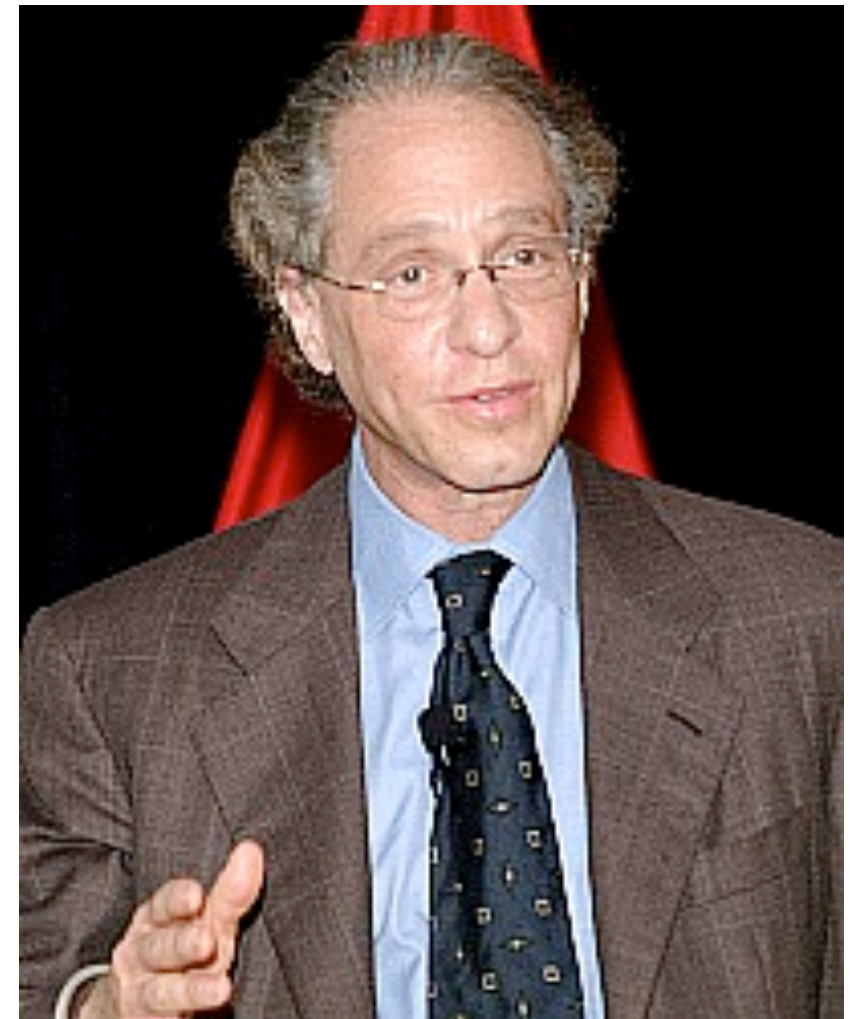
If I had asked people
what they wanted,
they would have said
'faster horses'.

Henry Ford



An invention has to make
sense in the world
in which it is finished,
not the world
in which it was started.

Ray Kurzweil



resources to study

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_5GpBgsang

<http://weblog.raganwald.com/2008/01/no-detail-too-small.html>

<http://debasishg.blogspot.com/2009/09/thrush-combinator-in-scala.html>

<http://fupeg.blogspot.com/2009/04/tail-recursion-in-scala.html>

<http://www.cs.uni.edu/~wallingf/patterns/recursion.html>

<http://www.cs.uni.edu/~wallingf/patterns/envoy.pdf>

<http://mitpress.mit.edu/sicp/>

<http://sicpinclojure.com/>