

# Making EDSLs fly

TechMesh London 2012-Dec-05

Lennart Augustsson  
Standard Chartered Bank

[lennart@augustsson.net](mailto:lennart@augustsson.net)

# Plan

- A simple EDSL
- Shallow embedding
- Deep embedding
- LLVM code generation

# A simple EDSL

- valuation of exotic equity trading, taken from the paper Going functional on exotic trades, by Frankau, Nassuphis, and Burgard from Barclay Capital.

```
data Date      -- type of dates
data Asset     -- type of assets
data List a    -- lists

(+), (-), (*) , (/)   :: EDouble -> EDouble -> EDouble
min, max              :: EDouble -> EDouble -> EDouble
abs, log, exp         :: EDouble -> EDouble
(<)                  :: EDouble -> EDouble -> EBool
observe               :: Asset -> Date -> EDouble
cond                  :: EBool -> a -> a -> a
foldl1                :: (a->a->a) -> List a -> a
map                  :: (a->b) -> List a -> List b
```

# Some examples

- Best performing asset.

```
bestOf :: List Asset -> Date -> Date -> EDouble
```

```
bestOf assets startDate endDate =
```

```
foldl1 max $
```

```
map (perf startDate endDate) assets
```

```
perf :: Date -> Date -> Asset -> EDouble
```

```
perf t1 t2 asset =
```

```
observe asset t2 / observe asset t1 - 1
```

# Some examples

- cliquet.

```
cliquet ::  
  (Asset, EDouble, EDouble, EDate, List Date) -> EDouble  
cliquet (asset, floor, cap, initDate, dates) =  
  max floor $ min cap val  
  where cliquetPerf (prevDate, prevSum) currDate =  
        (currDate, prevSum + currPerf)  
          where currPerf = perf prevDate currDate asset  
(_ , val) = foldl cliquetPerf (initDate, 0) dates
```

# Shallow embedding

- Shallow embedding means that each of the EDSL functions is implemented directly by a Haskell function that does the job.
- Advantages: easy, reasonably efficient
- Disadvantage: less flexible

# Date and Asset

- The date type is simply days from some start.

```
newtype Date = Date { unDate :: Word32 }
```

- The asset type is used to get the value of an asset at a specific date. Let's make it a list for simplicity.

```
data Asset = Asset [ (Date, Double) ]
```

# Shallow embedding

- The types can simply be the Haskell types, and most operations are existing Haskell functions.

```
type EDouble = Double
```

```
type EBool = Bool
```

```
type List a = [a]
```

```
-- +, -, *, /, min, max, <, foldl1, map
```

```
-- from Haskell
```

```
observe :: Asset -> Date -> EDouble
```

```
observe (Asset dvs) d = lookupObs d dvs
```

```
cond :: EBool -> a -> a -> a
```

```
cond c t e = if c then t else e
```

```
lookupObs :: Date -> [(Date, Double)] -> Double
```

```
lookupObs d dvs = fromMaybe 0 $ lookup d dvs
```

# Shallow embedding

- That's it! We're done.
- Boring

# Deep embedding

- Deep embedding means that each of the EDSL functions builds a syntactic representation.
- Advantages: flexible, can be very efficient
- Disadvantage: more work, can be very inefficient
- Flexibility means we can do other things than execute the EDSL, e.g., pretty print, analyze, compile, ...

# Deep embedding

- First, “untyped” expressions (could be typed using, e.g., GADTs):

```
data Expr
    -- Functions
    = Add Expr Expr | Sub Expr Expr
    | Mul Expr Expr | Div Expr Expr
    | Log Expr | Exp Expr
    | Less Expr Expr
    | Cond Expr Expr Expr
    | Observe Expr Expr
    -- Constants
    | EDouble Double | EBool Bool
    | EAsset Asset | EDate Date
```

- This type will never be exposed to users.

# Deep embedding

- Instead, a phantom typed version will be exposed.

```
data E a = E Expr
```

```
(+) , . . . :: E Double -> E Double -> E Double  
(<) :: E Double -> E Double -> E Double  
observe :: E Asset -> E Date -> E Double  
cond :: E Bool -> a -> a -> a
```

```
type EDouble = E Double
```

```
type EBool = E Bool
```

# Deep embedding

- Many functions can use overloading.

```
instance Num EDouble where
```

```
  (+) = binOp Add
```

```
  (-) = binOp Sub
```

```
  (*) = binOp Mul
```

```
  abs x = cond (x < 0) (-x) x
```

```
  fromInteger = E . EDouble . fromInteger
```

```
  signum x = cond (x < 0) (-1) (cond (0 < x) 1 0)
```

```
binOp :: (Expr -> Expr -> Expr) -> E a -> E b -> E c
```

```
binOp op (E x) (E y) = E (op x y)
```

```
unOp :: (Expr -> Expr) -> E a -> E
```

```
unOp op (E x) = E (op x)
```

# Deep embedding

- Many functions can use overloading.

```
instance Fractional EDouble where
    (/) = binOp Div
    fromRational = E . EDouble . fromRational
```

```
instance Floating EDouble where
    exp = unOp Exp
    log = unOp Log
```

# Deep embedding

□ And some regular functions.

```
import Prelude hiding ((<))
```

```
...
```

```
observe :: E Asset -> E Date -> EDouble
observe = binOp Observe
```

```
infix 4 <
(<) :: E Double -> E Double -> E Bool
(<) = binOp Less
```

```
cond :: E Bool -> E a -> E a -> E a
cond (E c) (E t) (E e) = E (Cond c t e)
```

# Deep embedding

- Converting to and from the embedding.

```
class Value a where
    lift :: a -> E a
    down :: E a -> a
```

```
instance Value Double where
    lift = E . EDouble
    down (E (EDouble x)) = x
```

```
instance Value Date where
    lift = E . EDate
    down (E (EDate x)) = x
```

```
instance Value Bool where
    lift = E . EBool
    down (E (EBool x)) = x
```

```
instance Value Asset where
    lift = E . EAsset
    down (E (EAsset x)) = x
```

# Deep embedding

□ For example

```
ghci> 1 + 2 :: EDouble  
E (Add (EDouble 1.0) (EDouble 2.0))
```

```
ghci> cond (1 < 2) (exp 1.1) (2 * 3.2) :: EDouble  
E (Cond (Less (EDouble 1) (EDouble 2)) (Exp (EDouble 1.1)) (Mul  
(EDouble 2.0) (EDouble 3.2)))
```

```
ghci> 1 + (1 < 2) :: EDouble
```

```
<interactive>:0:6:  
  Couldn't match expected type `Double' with actual type `Bool'  
  Expected type: EDouble  
  Actual type: E Bool  
  In the second argument of `(+)', namely `(1 < 2)'  
  In the expression: 1 + (1 < 2) :: EDouble
```

# Neritic embedding

(between shallow and deep)

□ What about the list type?

□ Deep

```
type List a = E [a]
```

□ Shallow

```
type List a = [a]
```

# Neritic embedding

- An example, expanding the list type.
- It's a matter of staging, i.e., when we want the list to exist.
- The list exists at "compile time"  
`bestOf :: [E Asset] -> E Date -> E Date -> EDouble`
- The list exists at "run time"  
`bestOf :: E [Asset] -> E Date -> E Date -> EDouble`

# Deep embedding

## □ Expressions.

```
data Expr
  -- Functions
  = Add Expr Expr | Sub Expr Expr
  | Mul Expr Expr | Div Expr Expr
  | Log Expr | Exp Expr
  | Less Expr Expr
  | Cond Expr Expr Expr
  | Observe Expr Expr
  | EFoldl1 (Expr->Expr->Expr) Expr
  | EMap (Expr->Expr) Expr
  -- Constants
  | EDouble Double | EBool Bool
  | EAsset Asset | EDate Date
  | EList [Expr]
```

# An Expr evaluator

```
eval :: Expr -> Expr
eval (Add e1 e2) = case (eval e1, eval e2) of
                      (EDouble x1, EDouble x2) -> EDouble (x1 + x2)
eval (Sub e1 e2) = case (eval e1, eval e2) of
                      (EDouble x1, EDouble x2) -> EDouble (x1 - x2)
eval (Mul e1 e2) = case (eval e1, eval e2) of
                      (EDouble x1, EDouble x2) -> EDouble (x1 * x2)
eval (Div e1 e2) = case (eval e1, eval e2) of
                      (EDouble x1, EDouble x2) -> EDouble (x1 / x2)
eval (Less e1 e2) = case (eval e1, eval e2) of
                      (EDouble x1, EDouble x2) -> EBool (x1 < x2)
eval (Log e) = case eval e of EDouble x -> EDouble (log x)
eval (Exp e) = case eval e of EDouble x -> EDouble (exp x)
eval (Cond c t e) = case eval c of
                      EBool b -> if b then eval t else eval e
eval (Observe e1 e2) =
  case (eval e1, eval e2) of
    (EAsset (Asset dvs), EDate d) -> EDouble (lookupObs d dvs)
eval e = e      -- constants
```

# An E evaluator

- Note that the `eval` function can fail in many places.
- It never fails on a well-typed `Expr`.
- We only expose functions that create well-typed `Expr`, so evaluation will not fail.

```
evalE :: (Value a) => E a -> a
evalE (E e) = down $ E $ eval e
```

# A test

## □ A simple test

```
d1, d2 :: Date  
d1 = Date 100  
d2 = Date 200
```

```
a1, a2 :: Asset  
a1 = Asset [(d1, 5), (d2, 5)]  
a2 = Asset [(d1, 4), (d2, 6)]
```

```
t :: Double  
t = evalE $ bestOf [lift a1, lift a2] (lift d1) (lift d2)
```

## □ Testing, testing

```
ghci> t  
0.5
```

# LLVM

- What is LLVM?
  - Low Level Virtual Machine
  - Assembly code for a VM
- Batch and JIT for many architectures
  - x86, x86\_64, ARM, SPARC, ...
- Accessible from many languages
  - C++, C, Haskell, OCaml

# LLVM, cont

- using the LLVM JIT:
  - Build instruction sequence
  - callJIT
  - Returns a pointer to the code
- LLVM normally uses C calling conventions.
- (There is GHC backend for LLVM.)

# A simple LLVM example

- A simple test of LLVM: fcn x y = (x+x) \* y

```
import LLVM.Core
import LLVM.ExecutionEngine

-- \ x y -> (x+x) * y
mkFcn ::

  CodeGenModule (Function (Double -> Double -> IO Double))
mkFcn = createFunction InternalLinkage $ \ x y -> do
  x2 <- add x x
  tmp <- mul x2 y
  ret tmp

main :: IO ()
main = do
  initializeNativeTarget
  fcnIO <- simpleFunction mkFcn
  let fcn :: Double -> Double -> Double
      fcn = unsafePurify fcnIO
  print $ fcn 2 3
```

# Efficient EDSLs

- Idea: Instead of interpreting the code we will translate the EDSL code into code in some other language. The latter code will subsequently be run.
- Example: translate to C, run later.
- Example: translate to LLVM, JIT, run
- Two-level language, i.e., two execution times. Cf. macros, C++ templates.

# Code generation for Expr

- We will translate (type correct) Expr to LLVM machine code.
- The translation will be type driven, i.e., one code generation function for each type:

```
genDouble :: Expr -> Gen Double  
genBool   :: Expr -> Gen Bool  
genDate   :: Expr -> Gen GDate
```

# Code generation Double

- Double is pretty easy, except for Cond and Observe.

```
genDouble :: Expr -> Gen Double
genDouble (Add e1 e2) = genOpDD fadd e1 e2
genDouble (Sub e1 e2) = genOpDD fsub e1 e2
genDouble (Mul e1 e2) = genOpDD fmul e1 e2
genDouble (Div e1 e2) = genOpDD fdiv e1 e2
genDouble (Cond e1 e2 e3) =
    genCond (genBool e1) (genDouble e2) (genDouble e3)
genDouble r (Observe e1 e2) = do
    ??? x1 <- genAsset r e1
    x2 <- genDate r e2
    ???
genDouble r (EDouble d) = do
    return $ valueOf d
```

# Helper function genOpDD

- Generate code for an arithmetic operation.

```
genOpDD :: (Value Double -> Value Double -> Gen a) ->  
          Expr -> Expr -> Gen a
```

```
genOpDD op e1 e2 = do  
  x1 <- genDouble e1  
  x2 <- genDouble e2  
  op x1 x2
```

- (The type is scarier than the function.)

# Conditionals

- Conditionals are a big difficult in LLVM, because it uses SSA form. Basically, you need three new basic blocks.

```
genCond :: (IsFirstClass a) =>
            Gen Bool -> Gen a -> Gen a -> Gen a
genCond g1 g2 g3 = do
    tb <- newBasicBlock
    eb <- newBasicBlock
    jb <- newBasicBlock

    x1 <- g1
    condBr x1 tb eb

    defineBasicBlock tb
    x2 <- g2
    tb' <- getCurrentBasicBlock
    br jb

    defineBasicBlock eb
    x3 <- g3
    eb' <- getCurrentBasicBlock
    br jb

    defineBasicBlock jb
    phi [(x2, tb'), (x3, eb')]
```

# Code generation Bool

- ☐ Bool is also easy.

```
genBool :: Expr -> Gen Bool
genBool (Less e1 e2) = genOpDD (fcmp FPOLT) e1 e2
genBool (Cond e1 e2 e3) =
    genCond (genBool e1) (genBool e2) (genBool e3)
genBool (EBool b) = do
    return $ valueOf b
```

# Code generation Date

- Date is even easier easy.
- use Word32 for the LLVM Date type.

```
type GDate = Word32
```

```
genDate :: Expr -> GDate
genDate (Cond e1 e2 e3) =
    genCond (genBool e1) (genDate e2) (genDate e3)
genDate (EDate d) = do
    return $ valueOf $ unDate d
```

# Code generation Asset

- What about Asset?

```
type GAsset = ???
```

```
genAsset :: Expr -> Gen GAsset
genAsset (Cond e1 e2 e3) =
    genCond (genBool e1) (genDate e2) (genDate e3)
genAsset (EAsset d) = do
    ???
```

# The Asset type again

- This is what we have:

```
data Asset = Asset [ (Date, Double) ]
```

- We need to look up a run-time date and return the corresponding value.

# Filling the ???

- First, let's modify genAsset

```
genAsset :: Expr -> Value GDate -> Gen Double
```

...

```
genAsset (EAsset (Asset dvs)) d = genLookup d dvs
where genLookup d [] = return $ valueOf 0
      genLookup d ((Date d',v) : dvs) =
        genCond (cmp CmpEQ d (valueOf d'))
                  (return $ valueOf v)
                  (genLookup d dvs)
```

- And, genDouble

```
genDouble :: Expr -> Gen Double
```

...

```
genDouble (Observe e1 e2) = do
  x2 <- genDate e2
  genAsset e1 x2
```

# The big picture

- We want to evaluate for bestOf:

`bestOf :: [E Asset] -> E Date -> E Date -> E Double`

- The first argument is “static”, so what we really want code for is:

`E Date -> E Date -> E Double`

- So we need this:

`genDateDateDouble ::  
(E Date -> E Date -> E Double) ->  
CodeGenModule (Function (GDate -> GDate -> IO Double))`

# Embedded functions

- How do we generate code for a function?  
 $\text{E Date} \rightarrow \text{E Date} \rightarrow \text{E Double}$
- We know how to handle **E Double**, since that just **Expr**, but not functions.
- The standard trick is to augment the abstract syntax with variables. So

```
data Expr = ...  
           | Var String
```

# Embedded functions

- This means that all code generation functions need a new case. How do we handle variables? We need an environment to look them up.

```
genDouble :: GenEnv -> Expr -> Gen Double
```

```
...
```

```
genDouble r (Var x) = do
    return $ glookup x r
```

- The other functions are extended the same way.

# Embedded functions

- Now we can deal with code generation for functions by inventing some variables, and building an environment.

```
genDateDateDouble ::  
  (E Date -> E Date -> E Double) ->  
  CodeGenModule (Function (GDate -> GDate -> IO Double))  
genDateDateDouble fcn =  
  createFunction InternalLinkage $ \ x y -> do  
    let E efcn = fcn (E (Var "x")) (E (Var "y"))  
      env = [ ("x", x), ("y", y) ]  
    r <- genDouble env efcn  
    ret r
```

# Putting it all together

- A test.

```
a1, a2, a3 :: Asset  
d1, d2 :: Date
```

```
main = do  
    initializeNativeTarget  
  
    let bestOfA = bestOf [a1, a2, a3]  
    bestOfAIO <-  
        simpleFunction $ genDateDateDouble bestOfA  
    let bestOfA' :: Word32 -> Word32 -> Double  
        bestOfA' = unsafePurify bestOfAIO  
    print $ bestOfA' (unDate d1) (unDate d2)
```

# A simple benchmark

- One benchmark (top level loop in C for LLVM).
- call bestOf 10,000,000 times, with a list of 3 assets.

Shallow embedding 3.7 s

Deep embedding 15.6 s

LLVM 0.3 s

# Conclusions

- Haskell is very good to make typed EDSLs
- Shallow embedding is easier
- Deep embedding is much more flexible
- Deep embedding can be made more efficient

# Questions

