Jacinda - Functional Stream Processing Language

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Tutorial

Jacinda is well-suited to processing the output of Unix tools: regular expressions scan for relevant output and one can split on separators.

There is additionally support for filters, maps and folds that are familiar to functional programmers.

Language

Patterns + Implicits, Streams

In Jacinda, one writes a pattern and an expression defined on matching lines, viz.

```
{% <pattern>}{<expr>}
```

This defines a stream of expressions.

One can search a file for all occurrences of a string:

```
ja '{% /Bloom/}{`0}' -i ulysses.txt
```

‘`0` here functions like `$0` in AWK: it means the whole line. So this would print all lines that match the pattern `Bloom`.

We could imitate fd with, say:

```
ls -1 -R | ja '{% /\.hs$/}{`0}'
```

This would print all Haskell source files in the current directory.

There is another form,

```
{<expr>}{<expr>}
```

where the initial expression is of boolean type, possibly involving the line context. An example:

```
{#`0>110}{`0}
```

This defines a stream of lines that are more than 110 bytes (`#` is ‘tally’, it returns the length of a string).

There is also a syntax that defines a stream on all lines,

```
{|<expr>}
```

So `{| ‘0 }` would define a stream of text corresponding to the lines in the file.

Fold

To count lines with the word “Bloom”:

```
ja '(+)|0 {% /Bloom/}{1}' -i ulysses.txt
```

Note the *fold*, `|`. It is a ternary operator taking `(+)`, `0`, and `{%/Bloom/}{1}` as arguments. The general syntax is:

```
<expr>|<expr> <expr>
```

It takes a binary operator, a seed, and a stream and returns an expression.

There is also `▷`, which folds without a seed.

Custom Field Separators

Like AWK, Jacinda allows us to define custom field separators:

```
printenv | ja -F= '{% /^PATH/}{`2}'
```

This splits on `=` and matches lines beginning with `PATH`, returning the second field—in this case, the value of `PATH`.

Map

Suppose we wish to count the lines in a file.

```
(+)|0 {|1}
```

This uses aforementioned `{|<expr>}` syntax. It this defines a stream of `1`s for each line, and takes its sum.

We could also do the following:

```
(+)|0 [:1"$0
```

`$0` is the stream of all lines. `[:` is the constant operator, `a → b → a`, so `[:1` sends anything to `1`.

`"` maps over a stream. So the above maps `1` over every line and takes the sum.

Functions

We could abstract away `sum` in the above example like so:

```
let val
  sum := [(+)|0 x]
in sum {% /Bloom/}{1} end
```

In Jacinda, one can define functions with a dfn syntax in, like in APL. We do not need to bind `x`; the variables `x` and `y` are implicit. Since `[(+)|0 x]` only mentions `x`, it is treated as a unary function.

`[y]` is treated as binary. Thus, `[y]▷$0` prints the last line.

Note also that `:=` is used for definition. The general syntax is

```
let (val <name> := <expr>)* in <expr> end
```

Lambdas There is syntactical support for lambdas;

```
\x. (+)|0 x
```

would be equivalent to `[(+)|0 x]`.

Zips

The syntax is:

```
, <expr> <expr> <expr>
```

One could (for instance) calculate population density:

```
, (%) $5: $6:
```

The postfix `:` parses the column based on inferred type; here it parses as a float.

Scans

The syntax is:

```
<expr> ^ <expr> <expr>
```

Scans are like folds, except that the intermediate value is tracked at each step. One could define a stream containing line numbers for a file with:

```
(+)^0 [:1"$0
```

(this is the same as `{|ix}`)

Prior

Jacinda has a binary operator, `\.`, like q's each prior or J's dyadic infix. One could write:

```
succDiff := [(-) \. x]
```

to track successive differences.

Currying Jacinda allows partially applied (curried) functions; one could write

```
succDiff := ((-)\.)
```

Deduplicate

Jacinda has stream deduplication built in with the `~.` operator.

```
~.$0
```

This is far better than `sort | uniq` as it preserves order; it is equivalent to `!a[$0]++` in AWK.

Filter

We can filter an extant stream with `#.`, viz.

```
(>110) #. $1:i
```

`#.` takes as its left argument a unary function returning a boolean.

```
[#x>110] #. $0
```

would filter to those lines >110 bytes wide.

Formatting Output

One can format output with `sprintf`, which works like `printf` in AWK or C.

As an example,

```
{|sprintf '%i: %s' (ix.`0)}
```

would display a file annotated with line numbers. Note the atypical syntax for tuples, we use `.` as a separator rather than `,`.

Reporting

One can print a stream and a summary value (usually the result of a fold):

```
$1 $> (+)|0 $1:
```

Try:

```
seq 10000 | ja '$1 $> (+)|0 $1:'
```

Libraries

There is a syntax for functions:

```
fn sum(x) :=
  (+)|0 x;

fn drop(n, str) :=
  let val l := #str
    in substr str n l end;
```

Note the `:=` and also the semicolon at the end of the expression that is the function body.

Since Jacinda has support for higher-order functions, one could write:

```
fn any(p, xs) :=
  (||)|#f p"xs;

fn all(p, xs) :=
  (&)|#t p"xs;
```

File Includes One can `@include` files.

As an example, one could write:

```
@include'lib/string.jac'

fn path(x) :=
  intercalate '\n' (splitc x ':');

path"$0
```

`intercalate` is defined in `lib/string.jac`.

In-Place File Modification We could trim whitespace from lines with:

```
(sub1 /\s+$/ 0)"$0
```

`sub1` is like AWK's `sub` and only substitutes the first occurrence. `0` is zilde, and can be used to represent an empty string or vector.

Jacinda does not modify files in-place so one would need to use sponge, viz.

```
ja '(sub1 /\s+$/ 0)¨$0' -i FILE | sponge FILE
```

Prelude

```
or := [(||)|#f x]

and := [(&)|#t x]

count := [(+)|0 [:1"x]
```

`#t` and `#f` are boolean literals.

System Interaction

Jacinda ignores any line beginning with `#!`, thus one could write a script like so:

```
#!/usr/bin/env -S ja run
```

```
fn path(x) :=
  ([x+'\n'+y])|> (splitc x ':');

path"$0
```

Define Values on the Command-Line

We can jerry-rig a PubMed to .bib converter:

```
:set fs:=/  -\s*/;

fn bib(ty) :=
   ?ty='JOUR';'article'
  ;?ty='BOOK';'book'
  ;?ty='CONF';'inproceedings'
  ;'misc';

fn field(r) :=
   ?r='AU';Some 'author'
  ;?r='PY';Some 'year'
  ;?r='TI';Some 'title'
  ;?r='VL';Some 'volume'
  ;?r='JO';Some 'journal'
  ;?r='DO';Some 'doi'
  ;None;

.?{| ?`1='TY';Some ('@'+bib `2+'{'+name+',')
    ;?`1='ER';Some '}'
    ;?`1='UR';Some ('    url={\\url{'+`2+'}},')
    ;['    '+x+'={'+`2+'},']¨(field `1)}
```

Running this on its own will fail:

```
ja: 22:36 'name' is not in scope.
```

We can specify `name` per-invocation like so:

```
> ja run ris2bib.jac -i shannon.ris -Dname='shannon1948'
@article{shannon1948,
    author={Shannon, Claude E.},
    year={1948},
    title={A Mathematical Theory of Communication},
    volume={27},
}
```

Learning Examples

To get a flavor of Jacinda, see how it can be used in place of familiar tools:

wc

To count lines:

```
(+)|0 [:1"$0
```

or

```
[y]|0 {|ix}
```

To count bytes in a file:

```
(+)|0 [#x+1]"$0
```

or

```
(+)|0 {|#`0+1}
```

head

To emulate `head -n60`, for instance:

```
{ix⩽60}{`0}
```

basename

```
fn fileName(x) :=
  x ~* 2 /([^\/]*\/)*(.*)/;
```

will remove the directory part of a filename. It has type `Str → Option Str`.

tr

We can present the `PATH` with

```
echo $PATH | tr ':' '\n'
```

To do so in Jacinda, we use `:` as field separator, viz.

```
echo $PATH | ja -F: "{|[x+'\n'+y]|>\`$}"
```

‘`$` is all fields in a line, as a list.

uniq

```
fn step(acc, this) :=
  if this = acc->1
    then (this . None)
    else (this . Some this);

(->2):?step^(''.None) $0
```

This tracks the previous line and only adds the current line to the stream if it is different.

nl

We can emulate `nl -b a` with:

```
{|sprintf '    %i  %s' (ix.`0)}
```

To count only non-blank lines:

```
fn empty(str) :=
  #str = 0;

fn step(acc, line) :=
  if empty line
    then (acc->1 . '')
    else (acc->1 + 1 . line);

fn process(x) :=
  if !empty (x->2)
    then sprintf '    %i\t%s' x
    else '';

process"step^(0 . '') $0
```

We could write `process` as

```
fn process(x) :=
  ?!empty (x->2); sprintf '    %i\t%s' x; '';
```

using the laconic syntax for conditionals, `?<bool>;<expr>;<expr>`

Practical Examples

File Sizes

To find the total size of files in a directory:

```
ls -l | ja '(+)|0 {ix>1}{`5:}'
79769
```

We can define `prettyMem` as a library function, viz.

```
fn prettyMem(x) :=
  ?x⩾1073741824.0
  ;sprintf'%f.2 GB' (x%1073741824.0)
  ;?x⩾1048576.0
   ;sprintf'%f.2 MB' (x%1048576.0)
   ;?x⩾1024.0
    ;sprintf'%f.2 kB' (x%1024.0)
    ;sprintf'%f.0 b' x;
```

The `%f.2` format specifier limits output to two digits after the decimal point.

Then:

```
ls -l | ja "@include'lib/prefixSizes.jac' prettyMem((+)|0.0 {ix>1}{\`5:})"
77.89 kB
```

Vim Tags

Suppose we wish to generate vim tag files for our Jacinda programs. According to `:help tags-file-format` the desired format is

```
{tagname}       {TAB} {tagfile} {TAB} {tagaddress}
```

where `{tagaddress}` is an ex command. In fact, addresses defined by regular expressions are preferable as they become outdated less quickly.

As an example, suppose we have the function declaration

```
fn sum(x) :=
  (+)|0 x;
```

Then we need to extract `sum` and give a regex that points to where it is defined.

To do so:

```
fn mkEx(s) :=
  '/^' + s + '$/;';

fn processStr(s) :=
  let
    val line := split s /[ \(]+/
    val outLine := sprintf '%s\t%s\t%s' (line.2 . fp . mkEx s)
  in outLine end;

processStr"{%/fn +[[:lower:]][[:latin:]]*.*:=/}{`0}
```

Note the builtin `split`; according to the manpages it has type

```
split : Str -> Regex -> List Str
```

`.2` is the syntax for accessing a list; `line.2` extracts the second element.

Error Span

Suppose we wish to extract span information from compiler output for editor integration. Vim ships with a similar script, `mve.awk`, to present column information in a suitable format.

```
src/Jacinda/Backend/TreeWalk.hs:319:58: error:
    • The constructor ‘TyArr’ should have 3 arguments, but has been given 4
    • In the pattern:
        TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ (TyApp _ (TyB _ TyStream) _)) _
      In the pattern:
```

```
        TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ (TyApp _ (TyB _ TyStream) _)) _)
      In the pattern:
        TBuiltin (TyArr _ _
                        (TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ (TyApp _ (TyB _ TyStream) _)) _))
                 Fold
    |
319 | eWith re i (EApp _ (EApp _ (EApp _ (TBuiltin (TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ _ (TyArr _ (TyApp _ (TyB _ TySt
    |                                                           ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
```

To get what we want, we use `match`, which returns indices that match a regex - in our case, `/\^+/`, which spans the error location.

From the manpages, we see it has type

```
match : Str -> Regex -> Option (Int . Int)
```

```
:set fs:=/\|/;

fn printSpan(str) :=
  (sprintf '%i-%i')"(match str /\^+/);

printSpan:?{% /\|/}{`2}
```

Our program uses `|` as a field separator, thus `'2` will present us with:

```
                                                ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
```

which is exactly the relevant bit.

First, note that `"` is used to map `(sprintf '%i-%i')` over `(match ...)`. This works because `match` returns an `Option`, which is a functor. The builtin `:?` is `mapMaybe`. Thus, we define a stream

```
printSpan:?{% /\|/}{`2}
```

which only collects when `printSpan` returns a `Some`.

Extract Source from Cabal

We can use

```
ja -F'\s*:\s*' '{%/hs-source-dirs/}{`2}' -i jacinda.cabal
```

to extract all source directories from a `.cabal` file: executables, test suites, &c.

This can be combined with `fd` to search for all Haskell source files defined by a `.cabal` file, viz.

```
fd '\.(cpphs|hs)$' $(ja -F'\s*:\s*' '{%/hs-source-dirs/}{`2}' -i jacinda.cabal)
```

Make Recipe: Format

We can define a make recipe `fmt` to format all Haskell files:

```
fmt:
	fd '\.(cpphs|hs)$$' $$(ja -F'\s*:\s*' '{%/hs-source-dirs/}{`2}' -i apple.cabal) -x stylish-has
```

Fixity Declarations for HLint

To extract fixity declarations and present them in a format suitable for HLint:

```
ja "{%/infix(r|l)? \d+/}{sprintf '- fixity: %s' \`0}" -i src/FILE.hs
```

We can define a recipe `fix` to extract all fixity definitions:

```
fix:
	fd '\.(cpphs|hs|x|y|hsc)$$' $$(ja -F'\s*:\s*' '{%/hs-source-dirs/}{`2}' -i apple.cabal) -x ja
```

Note that this works on Happy, Alex, etc. source files.

Data Processing

CSV Processing

Vaccine Effectiveness As an example, NYC publishes weighted data on vaccine breakthroughs.

We can download it:

```
curl -L https://raw.githubusercontent.com/nychealth/coronavirus-data/master/latest/now-weekly-breakthrough.csv -o /tmp/now-weekly-breakthrough.csv
```

And then process its columns using CSV mode:

```
ja --csv ',[1.0-x%y] {ix>1}{`5:} {ix>1}{`11:}' -i /tmp/now-weekly-breakthrough.csv
```

As of writing:

```
0.8793436293436293
0.8524501884760366
0.8784741144414169
0.8638045891931903
0.8644207066557108
0.8572567783094098
0.8475274725274725
0.879263670817542
0.8816131830008673
0.8846732911773563
0.8974564390146205
0.9692181407757029
```

This extracts the 5th and 11th columns (discarding headers), and then computes effectiveness.

Inflation We start with New Zealand's food price index:

```
curl https://www.stats.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Food-price-index/Food-price-index-September-2023/Download-data/food-price-index-september-2023-weighted-average-prices.csv -o nz-food-prices.csv
```

Then:

```
ja --csv '(%)\. {%/Apple/}{`3:}' -i nz-food-prices.csv
```

```
1.0634920634920635
1.0696517412935325
1.0511627906976744
1.1637168141592922
1.0608365019011408
1.17921146953405
1.182370820668693
0.7326478149100257
⋮
```

Machinery

Typeclasses

Under the hood, Jacinda has typeclasses, inspired by Haskell. They are used to disambiguate operators and witness with an implementation.

User-defined typeclasses are not allowed.

Functor

The map operator `"` works on all functors, not just streams. `Stream`, `List`, and `Option` are instances.

IsPrintf

The `IsPrintf` typeclass is used to type `sprintf`; strings, integers, floats, booleans, and tuples of such are members.

```
sprintf '%i' 3
```

and

```
sprintf '%s-%i' ('str' . 2)
```

are both valid.

Row Types

The →n accessors work on all applicable tuples, so

`(a.b.c)->2`

and

`(a.b)->2`

are both valid.

Moreover,

`(a.b)->3`

will be caught during typechecking.