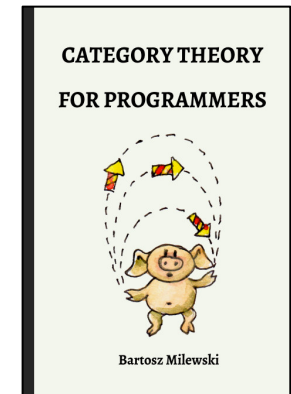
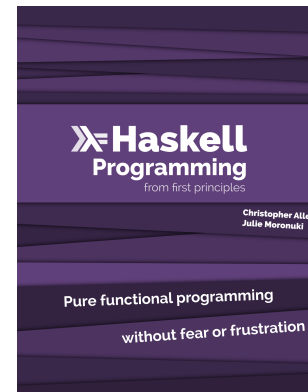
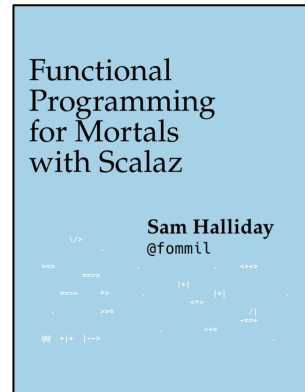
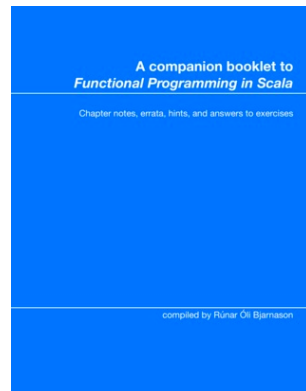
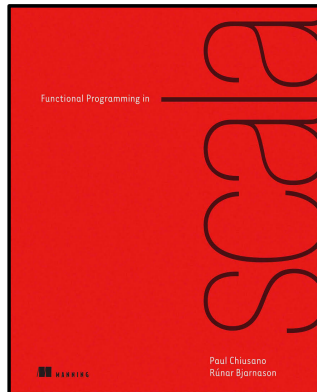


# Monoids

with examples using Scalaz and Cats

based on



Part 1

slides by



 @philip\_schwarz

## What is a monoid?

Let's consider the algebra of **string concatenation**. We can add "foo" + "bar" to get "foobar", and the **empty string** is an **identity element** for that operation. That is, if we say (s + "") or (" " + s), the result is always s.

```
scala> val s = "foo" + "bar"
s: String = foobar

scala> assert( s == s + "" )

scala> assert( s == "" + s )

scala>
```

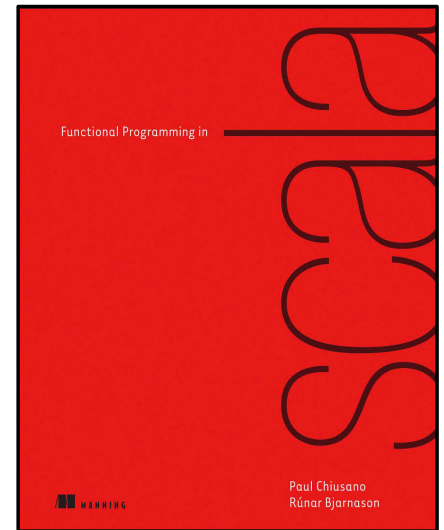
Furthermore, if we combine three strings by saying (r + s + t), the operation is **associative** —it doesn't matter whether we parenthesize it: ((r + s) + t) or (r + (s + t)).

```
scala> val (r,s,t) = ("foo","bar","baz")
r: String = foo
s: String = bar
t: String = baz

scala> assert( ( ( r + s ) + t ) == ( r + ( s + t ) ) )

scala> assert( ( ( r + s ) + t ) == "foobarbaz" )

scala>
```



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The exact same rules govern **integer addition**. It's **associative**, since  $(x + y) + z$  is always equal to  $x + (y + z)$

```
scala> val (x,y,z) = (1,2,3)
x: Int = 1
y: Int = 2
z: Int = 3

scala> assert( ( ( x + y ) + z ) == ( x + ( y + z ) ) )

scala> assert( ( ( x + y ) + z ) == 6 )

scala>
```

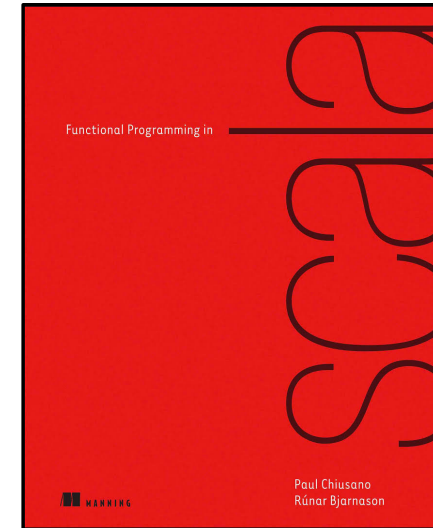
and it has an **identity element, 0**, which “does nothing” when added to another integer

```
scala> val s = 3
s: Int = 3


scala> assert( s == s + 0 )

scala> assert( s == 0 + s )

scala>
```



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Ditto for **integer multiplication**

```
scala> val (x,y,z) = (2,3,4)
x: Int = 2
y: Int = 3
z: Int = 4

scala> assert( ( ( x * y ) * z ) == ( x * ( y * z ) ) )

scala> assert( ( ( x * y ) * z ) == 24 )

scala>
```

whose **identity element** is **1**


```
scala> val s = 3
s: Int = 3

scala> assert( s == s * 1 )

scala> assert( s == 1 * s )

scala>
```



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The **Boolean** operators **&&** and **||** are likewise **associative**

```
scala> val (p,q,r) = (true,false,true)
p: Boolean = true
q: Boolean = false
r: Boolean = true

scala> assert( ( ( p || q ) || r ) == ( p || ( q || r ) ) )

scala> assert( ( ( p || q ) || r ) == true )

scala> assert( ( ( p && q ) && r ) == ( p && ( q && r ) ) )

scala> assert( ( ( p && q ) && r ) == false )

scala>
```

and they have **identity elements true** and **false**, respectively

```
scala> val s = true
s: Boolean = true

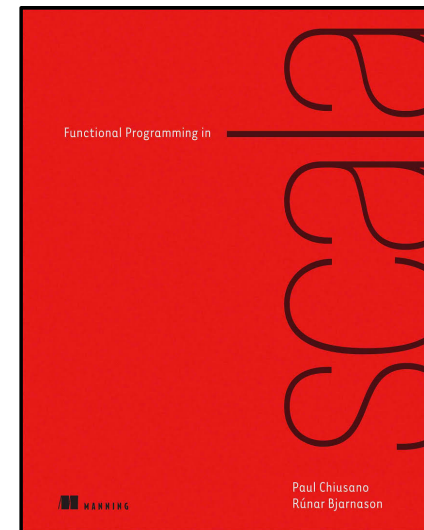
scala> assert( s == ( s && true ) )

scala> assert( s == ( true && s ) )

scala> assert( s == ( s || false ) )

scala> assert( s == ( false || s ) )

scala>
```



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These are just a few simple examples, but **algebras like this are virtually everywhere**. The term for this kind of **algebra** is **monoid**.

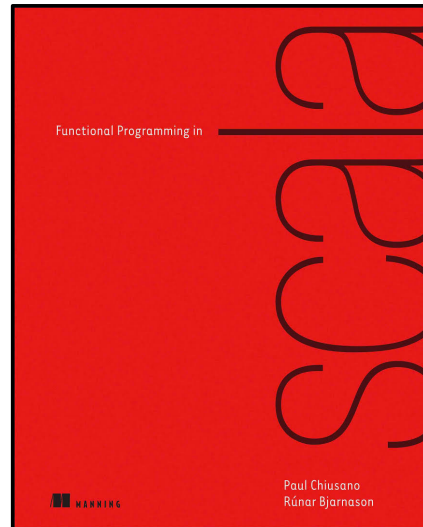
The **laws** of **associativity** and **identity** are collectively called the **monoid laws**.

A **monoid** consists of the following:

- Some type **A**
- An **associative binary operation**, **op**, that takes two values of type **A** and combines them into one:  $\text{op}(\text{op}(x, y), z) == \text{op}(x, \text{op}(y, z))$  for any choice of  $x: A, y: A, z: A$
- A **value**, **zero**: **A**, that is an **identity** for that operation:  $\text{op}(x, \text{zero}) == x$  and  $\text{op}(\text{zero}, x) == x$  for any  $x: A$

We can express this with a **Scala** trait:

```
trait Monoid[A] {  
  def op(a1: A, a2: A): A  
  def zero: A  
}
```



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An example instance of this trait is the **String monoid**:

```
val stringMonoid = new Monoid[String] {  
  def op(a1: String, a2: String) = a1 + a2  
  val zero = ""  
}
```

**String** concatenation function

**List** concatenation also forms a **monoid**:

```
def listMonoid[A] = new Monoid[List[A]] {  
  def op(a1: List[A], a2: List[A]) = a1 ++ a2  
  val zero = Nil  
}
```

**List** function returning a new list containing the elements from the left hand operand followed by the elements from the right hand operand

**Monoid** instances for **integer addition** and **multiplication** as well as the **Boolean operators**

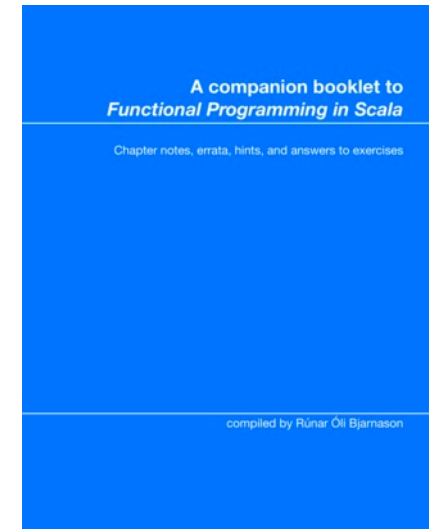
```
val intAddition: Monoid[Int] = new Monoid[Int] {  
  def op(x: Int, y: Int) = x + y  
  val zero = 0  
}  
  
val intMultiplication: Monoid[Int] = new Monoid[Int] {  
  def op(x: Int, y: Int) = x * y  
  val zero = 1  
}
```

```
val booleanOr: Monoid[Boolean] = new Monoid[Boolean] {  
  def op(x: Boolean, y: Boolean) = x || y  
  val zero = false  
}  
  
val booleanAnd: Monoid[Boolean] = new Monoid[Boolean] {  
  def op(x: Boolean, y: Boolean) = x && y  
  val zero = true  
}
```

Just what is a **monoid**, then? It's simply a type **A** and an implementation of **Monoid[A]** that satisfies the **laws**.

Stated tersely, a **monoid** is a **type** together with a **binary operation** (**op**) over that type, satisfying **associativity** and having an **identity element** (**zero**).

What does this buy us? **Just like any abstraction, a monoid is useful to the extent that we can write useful generic code assuming only the capabilities provided by the abstraction.** Can we write any interesting programs, knowing nothing about a **type** other than that it forms a **monoid**? **Absolutely!**



(by Runar Bjarnason)  
[@runarorama](https://twitter.com/runarorama)



Functional Programming in Scala  
(by Paul Chiusano and Runar Bjarnason)  
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Here is a very simple, contrived example of a **generic function** called **combine** that operates on any three values of a type **A** for which an **implicit monoid** is available.

It takes each of three pairs of values and produces a **combined** value for the pair by applying the **monoid's binary operation** to the pair's elements, returning a tuple of the resulting **combined** values.

 @philip\_schwarz

```
def combine[A](a: A, b: A, c: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): (A,A,A) =
  ( m.op(a,b), m.op(a,c), m.op(b,c) )
```



```
implicit val stringMonoid = new Monoid[String] ...
implicit def listMonoid[A] = new Monoid[List[A]] ...
implicit val intAddition = new Monoid[Int] ...
```

If we now revisit some of the **monoid instances** we defined earlier and declare them to be **implicit**, we can then invoke our generic **combine** function multiple times, each time passing in values of a different type, and each time implicitly passing in a **monoid instance** associated with that type.

```
scala> assert( combine("a","b","c") == ("ab","ac","bc") )
scala> assert( combine(List(1,2),List(3,4),List(5,6)) == (List(1,2,3,4),List(1,2,5,6),List(3,4,5,6)) )
scala> assert( combine(1,2,3) == (3,4,5) )
scala>
```

What about **Scalaz**? **Scalaz** provides a predefined **Monoid** trait whose **binary operation** is called **append**, rather than **op**, and provides **predefined implicit instances**, e.g. for **String**, **List** and integer addition. So all we have to do is add a couple of imports and we can then define **combine** as follows:

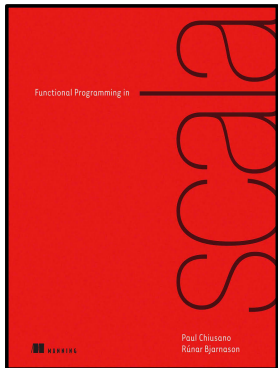
```
import scalaz.Scalaz._
import scalaz._

def combine[A](a: A, b: A, c: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): (A,A,A) =
  ( m.append(a,b), m.append(a,c), m.append(b,c) )
```





```
trait Monoid[A] {
  def op(a1: A, a2: A): A
  def zero: A
}
```

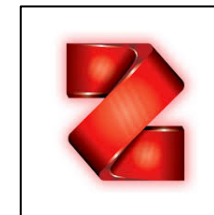


FP in Scala

In **Scalaz** the **binary operation** is called **append**, rather than **op** and it is not defined in the **Monoid** trait, but in the **Semigroup** trait, which the **Monoid** trait extends.



@philip\_schwarz



```
trait Semigroup[F] { self =>
  def append(f1: F, f2: => F): F
  ...
}
```

```
trait Monoid[F] extends Semigroup[F] { self =>
  def zero: F
  ...
}
```

```
final class SemigroupOps[F]...(implicit val F: Semigroup[F]) ... {
  final def |+|(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)
  final def mappend(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)
  final def ⚡(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)
  ...
}
```

and the **SemigroupOps** class defines three aliases of **append** that are infix operators: **|+|**, **mappend**, **⚡**



So our **combine** function can just take an implicit **Semigroup** rather than an implicit **Monoid**

```
def combine[A](a: A, b: A, c: A)(implicit sg: Semigroup[A]): (A,A,A) = ???
```



and we can write the body of our **combine** function in any of the following ways:

```
( sg.append(a,b), sg.append(a,c), sg.append(b,c) )
( a |+| b, a |+| c, b |+| c )
( a ⚡ b, a ⚡ c, b ⚡ c )
( a mappend b, a mappend c, b mappend c )
```

```
trait Monoid[A] {
  def op(a1: A, a2: A): A
  def zero: A
}
```



FP in Scala

```
implicit val stringMonoid: Monoid[String] = new Monoid[String] {
  def op(a1: String, a2: String) = a1 + a2
  val zero = ""
}
```

```
implicit def listMonoid[A]: Monoid[List[A]] = new Monoid[List[A]] {
  def op(a1: List[A], a2: List[A]) = a1 ++ a2
  val zero = Nil
}
```

```
implicit val intAddition: Monoid[Int] = new Monoid[Int] {
  def op(x: Int, y: Int) = x + y
  val zero = 0
}
```

```
def f[A](a: A, b: A, c: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): (A,A,A) =
  ( m.op(a, b), m.op(a, c), m.op(b, c) )
```

```
assert( f("a","b","c") == ("ab","ac","bc"))
assert( f(List(1,2), List(3,4), List(5,6)) == (List(1, 2, 3, 4),List(1, 2, 5, 6),List(3, 4, 5, 6)) )
assert( f(1,2,3) == (3,4,5) )
```

```
trait Semigroup[F] { self =>
  def append(f1: F, f2: => F): F
  ...
```



```
trait Monoid[F] extends Semigroup[F] { self =>
  def zero: F
  ...
```



```
final class SemigroupOps[F]...(implicit val F: Semigroup[F]) ... {
  final def |+|(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)
```

```
trait StringInstances {
  implicit object stringInstance extends Monoid[String] with ...
  ...
```

```
trait ListInstances extends ListInstances0 {
  ...
  implicit def listMonoid[A]: Monoid[List[A]] = ...
  ...
```

```
trait AnyValInstances {
  ...
  implicit val intInstance: Monoid[Int] with ...
  ...
```

```
import scalaz.Scalaz._
import scalaz._
```

```
def f[A](a: A, b: A, c: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): (A,A,A) =
  ( a |+| b, a |+| c, b |+| c )
```

# Appendable Things

```
import simulacrum.typeclass
import simulacrum.{op}

@typeclass trait Semigroup[A] {
  @op("|+|") def append(x: A, y: => A): A

  def multiply1(value: A, n: Int): A
}

@typeclass trait Monoid[A] extends Semigroup[A] {
  def zero: A

  def multiply(value: A, n: Int): A =
    if (n <= 0) zero else multiply1(value, n - 1)
}
```

`|+|` is known as the **TIE Fighter operator**. There is an **Advanced TIE Fighter** in an upcoming section, which is very exciting.



A **Semigroup** should exist for a type if two elements can be **combined** to produce another element of the same type. The operation must be **associative**, meaning that the order of nested operations should not matter, i.e.

`(a |+| b) |+| c == a |+| (b |+| c)`

`(1 |+| 2) |+| 3 == 1 |+| (2 |+| 3)`

A **Monoid** is a **Semigroup** with a **zero** element (also called **empty** or **identity**). Combining **zero** with any other `a` should give `a`.

`a |+| zero == a`

`a |+| 0 == a`

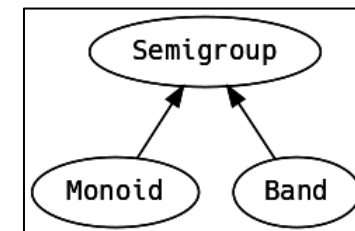
There are implementations of **Monoid** for all the primitive numbers, but the concept of **appendable** things is useful beyond numbers.

```
scala> "hello" |+| " " |+| "world!"
res: String = "hello world!"
```

```
scala> List(1, 2) |+| List(3, 4)
res: List[Int] = List(1, 2, 3, 4)
```

```
@typeclass trait Band[A] extends Semigroup[A]
```

**Band** has the law that the **append** operation of the same two elements is **idempotent**, i.e. gives the same value. Examples are **anything that can only be one value**, such as **Unit**, least upper bounds, or a **Set**. **Band** provides no further methods yet users can make use of the guarantees for performance optimisation.



Functional Programming for Mortals with Scalaz

Sam Halliday  
@fommil

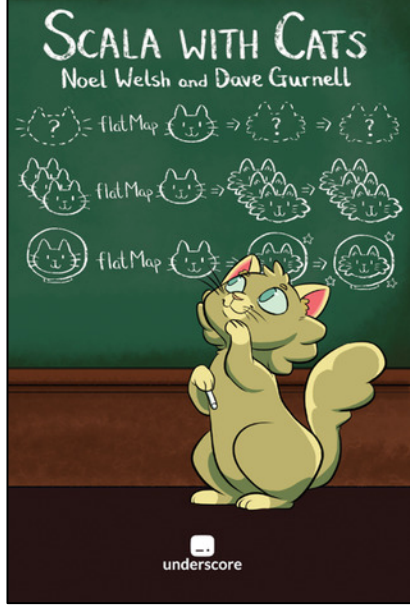
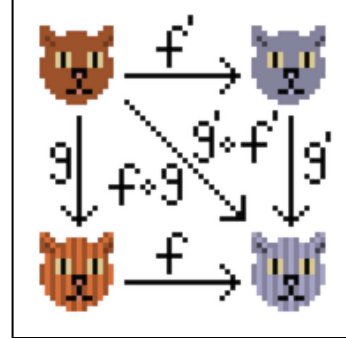
Sam Halliday  
 @fommil



Here is a simplified version of the **Monoid** definition from **Cats**

```
trait Monoid[A] {
  def combine(x: A, y: A): A
  def empty: A
}
```

In **Cats** the **binary operation** is called neither **op** nor **append**, but rather **combine** and the **identity** value is not called **zero** but **empty**.



In addition to providing the **combine** and **empty** operations, **monoids** must formally obey several **laws**. For all values x, y, and z, in A, combine must be **associative** and **empty** must be an **identity element**

```
def associativeLaw[A](x: A, y: A, z: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): Boolean = {
  m.combine(x, m.combine(y, z)) == m.combine(m.combine(x, y), z)
}

def identityLaw[A](x: A)(implicit m: Monoid[A]): Boolean = {
  (m.combine(x, m.empty) == x) && (m.combine(m.empty, x) == x)
}
```

Integer subtraction, for example, is not a **monoid** because subtraction is not **associative**

```
scala> (1 - 2) - 3
res0: Int = -4

scala> 1 - (2 - 3)
res1: Int = 2
```



A **semigroup** is just the **combine** part of a **monoid**. While many **semigroups** are also **monoids**, there are some **data types for which we cannot define an empty element**. For example, we have just seen that sequence concatenation and integer addition are **monoids**. However, if we restrict ourselves to non-empty sequences and positive integers, we are no longer able to define a sensible **empty element**. **Cats** has a **NonEmptyList** data type that has an implementation of **Semigroup** but no implementation of **Monoid**.

```
import cats.Monoid
import cats.instances.int._

scala> Monoid[Int].combine(32, 10)
res4: Int = 42

scala> Monoid[Int].empty
res5: Int = 0
```

A more accurate (though still simplified) definition of **Cats' Monoid** is:

```
trait Semigroup[A] {
  def combine(x: A, y: A): A
}

trait Monoid[A] extends Semigroup[A] {
  def empty: A
}
```

In **Cats**, as in **Scalaz**, the **binary operation** is defined in **Semigroup** rather than in **Monoid**.



```
import cats.Monoid
import cats.instances.string._
```

```
scala> Monoid[String].combine("Hi ", "there")
res2: String = Hi there

scala> Monoid[String].empty
res3: String = ""
```

As we know, **Monoid** extends **Semigroup**. If we don't need **empty** we can equivalently write:

```
import cats.Semigroup
import cats.instances.string._
```

```
scala> Semigroup[String].combine("Hi ", "there")
res6: String = Hi there
```



In **Cats** (as in **Scalaz**) **SemigroupOps** defines infix operator aliases for **Semigroup**'s associative operation, i.e. **combine** (**append**).

```
final class SemigroupOps[A: Semigroup](lhs: A) {
  def |+|(rhs: A): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]
  def combine(rhs: A): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]
  def combineN(rhs: Int): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]
}
```

Given context and an expression, this method rewrites the tree to call the "desired" method with the **lhs** and **rhs** parameters.

```
import cats.Monoid
import cats.instances.string._ // for String Monoid
import cats.instances.int._   // for Int Monoid
```

```
scala> val stringResult = "Hi " combine "there" combine Monoid[String].empty
stringResult: String = Hi there
```

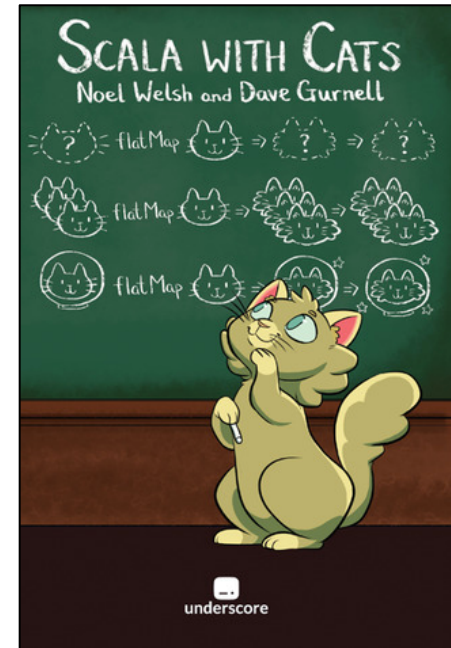
```
scala> val intResult = 1 combine 2 combine Monoid[Int].empty
intResult: Int = 3
```

**Cats** provides syntax for the **combine** method in the form of the **|+| operator**. Because **combine** technically comes from **Semigroup**, we access the syntax by importing from `cats.syntax.semigroup`

```
import cats.syntax.semigroup._ // for |+|
```

```
scala> val stringResult = "Hi " |+| "there" |+| Monoid[String].empty
stringResult: String = Hi there
```

```
scala> val intResult = 1 |+| 2 |+| Monoid[Int].empty
intResult: Int = 3
```



by Noel Welsh and Dave Gurnell

[@noelwelsh](#) [@davegurnell](#)





we saw the three infix operator aliases that **Scalaz** provides for **Semigroup**'s **append** function

 @philip\_schwarz

```
final class SemigroupOps[F]...(implicit val F: Semigroup[F]) ... {  
  final def |+|(other: => F): F      = F.append(self, other)  
  final def mappend(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)  
  final def ⚡(other: => F): F       = F.append(self, other)  
  ...  
}
```

And we looked at **|+|**, aka the **TIE Fighter operator**.

What about **mappend**?



**Monoid** is an embarrassingly simple but amazingly powerful concept. It's the concept behind basic arithmetics: Both addition and multiplication form a monoid. **Monoids** are ubiquitous in programming. They show up as strings, lists, foldable data structures, futures in concurrent programming, events in functional reactive programming, and so on.

...

In **Haskell** we can define a type class for **monoids** — a type for which there is a **neutral element** called **mempty** and a **binary operation** called **mappend**:

```
class Monoid m where
  mempty  :: m
  mappend :: m -> m -> m
```

...

As an example, let's declare **String** to be a **monoid** by providing the implementation of **mempty** and **mappend** (this is, in fact, done for you in the standard Prelude):

```
instance Monoid String where
  mempty  = ""
  mappend = (++)
```

Here, we have reused the **list concatenation operator** **(++)**, because a **String** is just a list of characters.

A word about **Haskell** syntax: Any infix operator can be turned into a two-argument function by surrounding it with parentheses. Given two strings, you can **concatenate** them by inserting **++** between them:

```
"Hello " ++ "world!"
```

or by passing them as two arguments to the parenthesized **(++)**:

```
(++) "Hello " "world!"
```

## CATEGORY THEORY FOR PROGRAMMERS



Bartosz Milewski

 [@BartoszMilewski](https://twitter.com/BartoszMilewski)



In **Scalaz**, **mappend** is defined in **Semigroup**.

In **Haskell**, **mappend** is defined in **Monoid**.

# Monoid

A monoid is a **binary associative operation** with an **identity**.

...

For **lists**, we have a **binary operator**, (`++`), that joins two lists together. We can also use a function, **mappend**, from the **Monoid** type class to do the same thing:

```
Prelude> mappend [1, 2, 3] [4, 5, 6]
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

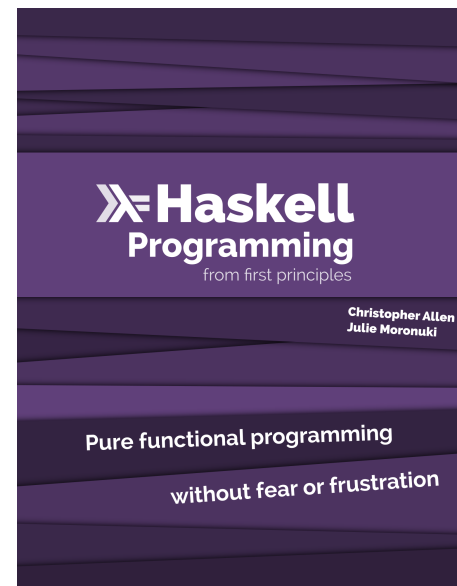
For **lists**, the empty list, `[]`, is the **identity** value:

```
mappend [1..5] [] = [1..5]
mappend [] [1..5] = [1..5]
```

We can rewrite this as a more general rule, using **mempty** from the **Monoid** type class as a **generic identity value** (more on this later):

```
mappend x mempty = x
mappend mempty x = x
```

In plain English, a **monoid** is a function that takes two arguments and follows two laws: **associativity** and **identity**. **Associativity** means the arguments can be regrouped (or reparenthesized, or reassociated) in different orders and give the same result, as in addition. **Identity** means there exists some value such that when we pass it as input to our function, the operation is rendered moot and the other value is returned, such as when we add zero or multiply by one. **Monoid** is the type class that generalizes these **laws** across types.



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and Julie Moronuki

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Again, in **Haskell**,  
**mappend** is defined  
in **Monoid**



The type class **Monoid** is defined:

```
class Monoid m where
  mempty  :: m
  mappend :: m -> m -> m
  mconcat :: [m] -> m
  mconcat = foldr mappend mempty
```

**mappend** is how any two values that inhabit your type can be **joined** together. **mempty** is the **identity** value for that **mappend** operation. There are some laws that all **Monoid** instances must abide, and we'll get to those soon. Next, let's look at some examples of **monoids** in action!

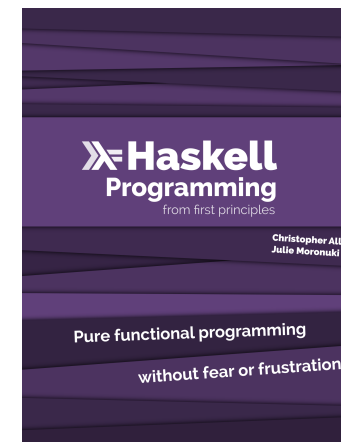
## Examples of using Monoid

The nice thing about **monoids** is that they are familiar; they're all over the place. The best way to understand them initially is to look at examples of some common **monoidal** operations and remember that this type class abstracts the pattern out, giving you the ability to use the operations over a larger range of types.

### List

One common type with an instance of **Monoid** is **List**. Check out how **monoidal** operations work with lists:

```
Prelude> mappend [1, 2, 3] [4, 5, 6]
[1,2,3,4,5,6]
Prelude> mconcat [[1..3], [4..6]]
[1,2,3,4,5,6]
Prelude> mappend "Trout" " goes well with garlic"
"Trout goes well with garlic"
```



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This should look familiar, because we've certainly seen this before:

```
Prelude> (++) [1, 2, 3] [4, 5, 6]
[1,2,3,4,5,6]
Prelude> (++) "Trout" " goes well with garlic"
"Trout goes well with garlic"
Prelude> foldr (++) [] [[1..3], [4..6]]
[1,2,3,4,5,6]
Prelude> foldr mappend mempty [[1..3], [4..6]]
[1,2,3,4,5,6]
```

Our old friend (++)! And if we look at the definition of Monoid for lists, we can see how this all lines up:

```
instance Monoid [a] where
  mempty = []
  mappend = (++)
```

For other types, the instances would be different, but the ideas behind them remain the same.

## Semigroup

Mathematicians play with **algebras** like that creepy kid you knew in grade school who would pull legs off of insects. Sometimes, they glue legs onto insects too, but in the case where we're going from **Monoid** to **Semigroup**, we're pulling a leg off.

In this case, the leg is our **identity**. To get from a **monoid** to a **semigroup**, we simply no longer furnish nor require an **identity**. The **core operation** remains **binary** and **associative**. With this, our definition of **Semigroup** is:

```
class Semigroup a where
  (<>) :: a -> a -> a
```

And we're left with one law:

```
(a <> b) <> c = a <> (b <> c)
```

**Semigroup** still provides a **binary associative operation**, one that typically **joins two things together** (as in **concatenation** or **summation**), but doesn't have an **identity** value. In that sense, it's a weaker **algebra**.

...

### NonEmpty, a useful datatype

One useful datatype that can't have a **Monoid** instance but does have a **Semigroup** instance is the **NonEmpty** list type. It is a list datatype that can never be an empty list...

We can't write a **Monoid** for **NonEmpty** because it has no **identity** value by design! There is no empty list to serve as an **identity** for any operation over a **NonEmpty** list, yet there is still a **binary associative operation**: two **NonEmpty** lists can still be **concatenated**.

A type with a canonical **binary associative operation** but no **identity** value is a natural fit for **Semigroup**.

 **Haskell**  
Programming  
from first principles

Christopher Allen  
Julie Moronuki

Pure functional programming

without fear or frustration

By Christopher Allen  
and Julie Moronuki

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In **Scalaz** there is a predefined implicit **NonEmptyList Semigroup**

```
implicit def nonEmptyListSemigroup[A]: Semigroup[NonEmptyList[A]] = new Semigroup[NonEmptyList[A]] {
  def append(f1: NonEmptyList[A], f2: => NonEmptyList[A]) = f1 append f2
}
```

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so if we write a function that operates on values of type **A** for which an **implicit Semigroup**, is available e.g. a function **foo** that appends two such values



```
def foo[A](x: A, y: A)(implicit sg: Semigroup[A]) =
  sg.append(x, y)
```

we are then able to use the function to append two non-empty lists



```
scala> foo( NonEmptyList(1,2,3), NonEmptyList(4,5,6) )
res2: scalaz.NonEmptyList[Int] = NonEmpty[1,2,3,4,5,6]
scala>
```



and since we saw before that there are infix operator aliases for the append method of a **Semigroup**, the body of **foo** can be written in any of the following ways

```
sg.append(x, y)
x |+| y
x ÷ y
x mappend y
```

## Strength can be weakness

When **Haskellers** talk about the **strength of an algebra**, they usually mean the number of operations it provides which in turn expands **what you can do with any given instance of that algebra without needing to know specifically what type you are working with.**

The reason we cannot and do not want to make all of our **algebras** as big as possible is that there are datatypes which are very useful representationally, but which do not have the ability to satisfy everything in a larger **algebra** that could work fine if you removed an operation or law.

This becomes a serious problem if **NonEmpty** is the right datatype for something in the domain you're representing. If you're an experienced programmer, think carefully. **How many times have you meant for a list to never be empty? To guarantee this and make the types more informative, we use types like NonEmpty.**

The problem is that **NonEmpty** has no **identity** value for the **combining operation** (**mappend**) in **Monoid**. So, we keep the **associativity** but drop the **identity** value and its **laws of left and right identity**. This is what introduces the need for an idea of **Semigroup** from a datatype.

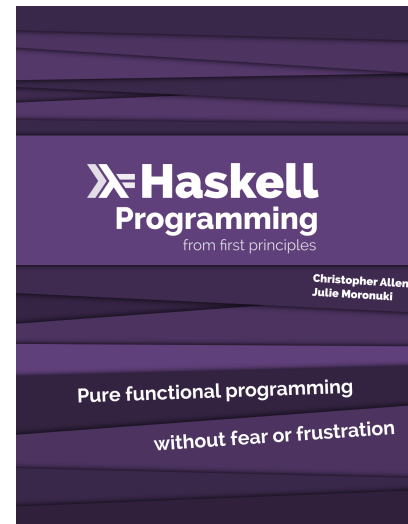
The most obvious way to see that a **monoid** is stronger than a **semigroup** is to observe that it has a **strict superset of the operations and laws that Semigroup provides**. Anything which is a **monoid** is by definition also a **semigroup**.

It is to be hoped that **Semigroup** will be made a **superclass** of **Monoid** in an upcoming version of GHC.

```
class Semigroup a => Monoid a where
  ...
```



actually **Semigroup** has been made a superclass of **Monoid** – see next slide



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```
class Semigroup a => Monoid a where
```

The class of monoids (types with an associative binary operation that has an identity). Instances should satisfy the following laws:

- `x <> mempty = x`
- `mempty <> x = x`
- `x <> (y <> z) = (x <> y) <> z` (Semigroup law)
- `mconcat = foldr '(<>)' mempty`

The method names refer to the monoid of lists under concatenation, but there are many other instances.

Some types can be viewed as a monoid in more than one way, e.g. both addition and multiplication on numbers. In such cases we often define newtypes and make those instances of `Monoid`, e.g. `Sum` and `Product`.

**NOTE:** `Semigroup` is a superclass of `Monoid` since *base-4.11.0.0*.

Minimal complete definition

```
mempty
```

Methods

```
mempty :: a
```

Identity of `mappend`

```
mappend :: a -> a -> a
```

An associative operation

**NOTE:** This method is redundant and has the default implementation `mappend = '(<>)'` since *base-4.11.0.0*.

```
mconcat :: [a] -> a
```

Fold a list using the monoid.

For most types, the default definition for `mconcat` will be used, but the function is included in the class definition so that an optimized version can be provided for specific types.

So in Haskell, `Monoid`'s `mappend` is actually just another name for `Semigroup`'s associative operation `<>`, so maybe that's why in `Scalaz`, `mappend` is not defined in `Monoid` but is instead an infix operator that is an alias for `Semigroup`'s associative function `append`.



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The **Option[A] Monoid** and the notion that every **Monoid** has a **dual**

### EXERCISE 10.1

Give a **Monoid** instance for combining **Option** values.

```
def optionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]]
```

Notice that we have a choice in how we implement **op**. We can compose the options in **either order**.

Both of those implementations satisfy the **monoid laws**, but they are not equivalent. This is true in general – that is, every **monoid** has a **dual** where the **op** combines things in the **opposite order**.

**Monoids** like **booleanOr** and **intAddition** are equivalent to their **duals** because their **op** is **commutative** as well as **associative**.

```
def optionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = new Monoid[Option[A]] {
  def op(x: Option[A], y: Option[A]) = x orElse y
  val zero = None
}
```

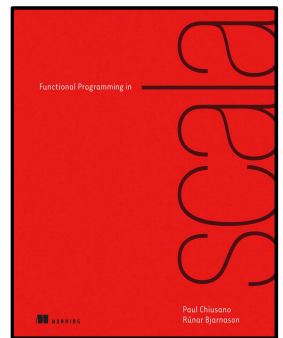
returns x if it is nonempty, otherwise returns the result of evaluating y

// We can get the dual of any monoid just by flipping the `op`.

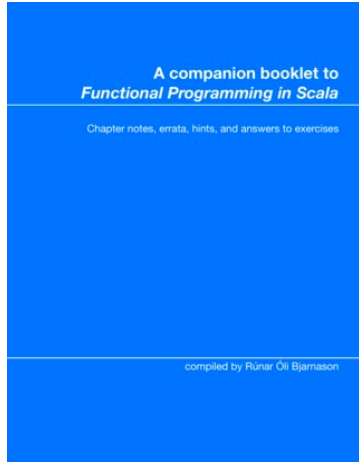
```
def dual[A](m: Monoid[A]): Monoid[A] = new Monoid[A] {
  def op(x: A, y: A): A = m.op(y, x)
  val zero = m.zero
}
```

// Now we can have both monoids on hand:

```
def firstOptionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = optionMonoid[A]
def lastOptionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = dual(firstOptionMonoid)
```



FP in Scala



A Companion booklet to FP in Scala

```
scala> firstOptionMonoid.op(Some(2), Some(3))
res0: Option[Int] = Some(2)
```

```
scala> firstOptionMonoid.op(None, Some(3))
res1: Option[Int] = Some(3)
```

```
scala> firstOptionMonoid.op(Some(2), None)
res2: Option[Int] = Some(2)
```

```
scala> firstOptionMonoid.op(None, None)
res3: Option[Nothing] = None
```

```
scala> lastOptionMonoid.op(Some(2), Some(3))
res0: Option[Int] = Some(3)
```

```
scala> lastOptionMonoid.op(None, Some(3))
res1: Option[Int] = Some(3)
```

```
scala> lastOptionMonoid.op(Some(2), None)
res2: Option[Int] = Some(2)
```

```
scala> lastOptionMonoid.op(None, None)
res3: Option[Nothing] = None
```

The results of the **op associative operations** of **firstOptionMonoid** and **lastOptionMonoid** only differ when neither of the arguments is **None**.



```
val stringMonoid = new Monoid[String] {
  def op(a1: String, a2: String) = a1 + a2
  val zero = ""
}
def firstStringMonoid: Monoid[String] = stringMonoid
def lastStringMonoid: Monoid[String] = dual(firstStringMonoid)
```

Unlike the **op** of **monoids** like **booleanOr**, **booleanAnd**, **intAddition**, **intMultiplication**, which is **commutative**, the **op** of **monoids** like **stringMonoid** and **listMonoid** is **not commutative**, so these **monoids** are **not equivalent** to their **duals**.



```
scala> firstStringMonoid.op( "Hello, ", "World!" )
res0: String = Hello, World!

scala> lastStringMonoid.op( "Hello, ", "World!" )
res1: String = "World!Hello, "

scala> assert( firstStringMonoid.op("Hello, ", "World!") equals lastStringMonoid.op("World!", "Hello, ") )

scala>
```

```
def listMonoid[A] = new Monoid[List[A]] {
  def op(a1: List[A], a2: List[A]) = a1 ++ a2
  val zero = Nil
}
def firstListMonoid[A]: Monoid[List[A]] = listMonoid
def lastListMonoid[A]: Monoid[List[A]] = dual(firstListMonoid)
```

```
scala> firstListMonoid[Int].op( List(1,2,3), List(4,5,6) )
res15: List[Int] = List(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

scala> lastListMonoid[Int].op( List(1,2,3), List(4,5,6) )
res16: List[Int] = List(4, 5, 6, 1, 2, 3)
```



sealed trait **Dual** extends AnyRef

Type tag to choose a [Monoid](#) instance that inverts the operands to append before calling the natural [Monoid](#) for the type.

Example:

```
import scalaz.{@@, Tag, Tags, Dual}
import scalaz.std.string._
import scalaz.syntax.monoid._
import scalaz.Dual._
Dual("World!") |+| Dual("Hello, ") // "Hello, World!"
```

```
scala> "Hello, " |+| "World!"
res0: String = Hello, World!

scala> Dual("Hello, ") |+| Dual("World!")
res1: String @@ scalaz.Tags.Dual = "World!Hello, "

scala> Dual("World!") |+| Dual("Hello, ")
res2: String @@ scalaz.Tags.Dual = Hello, World!

scala> assert( ("Hello, " |+| "World!") equals (Dual("World!") |+| Dual("Hello, ")) )
```

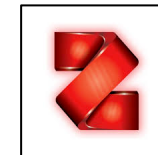
```
scala> List(1,2,3) |+| List(4,5,6)
res3: List[Int] = List(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

scala> Dual(List(1,2,3)) |+| Dual(List(4,5,6))
res4: List[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Dual = List(4, 5, 6, 1, 2, 3)
```

It looks like In **Scalaz** there is a **Dual tag** that we can apply to the operands of a **monoid's associative operation** so that we get the same effect as using the **associative operation** of the **monoid's dual**.



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Using the **Dual tag** with the **String monoid**



and with the **List monoid**



## The canonicity of a Scala monoid

In **Scala**, it's possible to have multiple **Monoid** instances associated with a type. For example, for the type **Int**, we can have a **Monoid[Int]** that uses **addition** with **0**, and another **Monoid[Int]** that uses **multiplication** with **1**.

```
val intAddition: Monoid[Int] = new Monoid[Int] {  
  def op(x: Int, y: Int) = x + y  
  val zero = 0  
}
```

```
val intMultiplication: Monoid[Int] = new Monoid[Int] {  
  def op(x: Int, y: Int) = x * y  
  val zero = 1  
}
```

This can lead to certain problems since **we cannot count on a Monoid instance being canonical in any way**. To illustrate this problem, consider a “suspended” computation like the following:

```
case class Suspended(acc: Int, m: Monoid[Int], remaining: List[Int])
```

This represents an addition that is “in flight” in some sense. It's an accumulated value so far, represented by **acc**, a monoid **m** that was used to accumulate **acc**, and a list of remaining elements to add to the accumulation using the **monoid**.

Now, if we have two values of type **Suspended**, how would we add them together? We have no idea whether the two **monoids** are the same. And when it comes time to add the two **acc** values, which **monoid** should we use? There's no way of inspecting the **monoids** (since they are just functions) to see if they are equivalent. **So we have to make an arbitrary guess, or just give up.**

...

The **Scalaz** library takes the same approach [as **Haskell**], where **there is only one canonical monoid per type**. However, since **Scala** doesn't have type constraints, the **canonicity** of **monoids** is more of a convention than something enforced by the type system. And since **Scala** doesn't have newtypes, we use phantom types to add tags to the underlying types.

This is done with scalaz.**Tag**...

There can only be one implementation of a typeclass for any given type parameter, a property known as **typeclass coherence**.

**Typeclass coherence** is primarily about **consistency**, and the **consistency** gives us the confidence to use implicit parameters. It would be difficult to reason about code that performs differently depending on the implicit imports that are in scope. **Typeclass coherence** effectively says that imports should not impact the behaviour of the code.

## Tagging

In the section introducing **Monoid** we built a **Monoid**[TradeTemplate] and realised that scalaz does not do what we wanted with **Monoid**[Option[A]]. This is not an oversight of scalaz: **often we find that a data type can implement a fundamental typeclass in multiple valid ways and that the default implementation doesn't do what we want, or simply isn't defined.**

Basic examples are **Monoid**[Boolean] (**conjunction** && vs **disjunction** ||) and **Monoid**[Int] (**multiplication** vs **addition**).

To implement **Monoid**[TradeTemplate] we found ourselves either **breaking typeclass coherence**, or using a different typeclass.

**scalaz.Tag** is designed to address the multiple typeclass implementation problem without breaking **typeclass coherence**.

The definition is quite contorted, but the syntax to use it is very clean. This is how **we trick the compiler into allowing us to define an infix type A @@ T that is erased to A at runtime:**

...  
<not shown here – too involved>



...  
i.e. we tag things with **Princess Leia hair buns @@**.

Some useful tags are provided in the **Tags** object.

**First** / **Last** are used to select **Monoid** instances that pick the first or last non-zero operand. **Multiplication** is for numeric multiplication instead of addition. **Disjunction** / **Conjunction** are to select **&&** or **||**, respectively.

Using **scalaz.Tag** to distinguish between different **monoids** for the same type



Functional Programming for Mortals with Scalaz

Sam Halliday  
@fommil

Sam Halliday @fommil



```
object Tags {  
  
  sealed trait First  
  val First = Tag.of[First]  
  
  sealed trait Last  
  val Last = Tag.of[Last]  
  
  sealed trait Multiplication  
  val Multiplication = Tag.of[Multiplication]  
  
  sealed trait Disjunction  
  val Disjunction = Tag.of[Disjunction]  
  
  sealed trait Conjunction  
  val Conjunction = Tag.of[Conjunction]  
  
  ...  
}
```

Type tags that are used to discriminate between alternative type class instances.

**Source** [Tags.scala](#)

**See also** [scalaz.Tag](#) and, @@ in the package object [scalaz](#) .

trait **Conjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs conjunction (&&)

trait **Disjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs disjunction (| |)

trait **First**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the first non-zero operand to append.

trait **Last**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the last non-zero operand to append.

trait **Multiplication**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance for a numeric type that performs multiplication, rather than the default monoid for these types which by convention performs addition.

## Type Members

sealed trait **Conjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs conjunction (&&)

sealed trait **Disjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs disjunction (| |)

sealed trait **Dual**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that inverts the operands to append before calling the natural [scalaz.Monoid](#) for the type.

sealed trait **First**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the first non-zero operand to append.

sealed trait **FirstVal**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Semigroup](#) instance that selects the first operand to append.

sealed trait **Last**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the last non-zero operand to append.

sealed trait **LastVal**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Semigroup](#) instance that selects the last operand to append.

sealed trait **Max**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the greater of two operands, ignoring zero.

sealed trait **MaxVal**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Semigroup](#) instance that selects the greater of two operands.

sealed trait **Min**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that selects the lesser of two operands, ignoring zero.

sealed trait **MinVal**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Semigroup](#) instance that selects the lesser of two operands.

sealed trait **Multiplication**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance for a numeric type that performs multiplication, rather than the default monoid for these types which by convention performs addition.

sealed trait **Parallel**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Applicative](#) instance that runs `scalaz.concurrent.Futures` in parallel.

sealed trait **Zip**

Type tag to choose as [scalaz.Applicative](#) instance that performs zipping.

```
scala> // use default Scalaz Int monoid, i.e. (Int,+,0)
```

```
scala> 2 |+| 3  
res0: Int = 5
```

```
scala> import scalaz.Tags.Multiplication  
import scalaz.Tags.Multiplication
```

```
scala> // use alternative Scalaz Int monoid, i.e. (Int,*,1)
```

```
scala> Multiplication(2) |+| Multiplication(3)  
res1: Int @@ scalaz.Tags.Multiplication = 6
```

```
scala> import scalaz.Scalaz._  
import scalaz.Scalaz._  
scala> import scalaz.Tags.{Conjunction,Disjunction}  
import scalaz.Tags.{Conjunction, Disjunction}
```

```
scala> Conjunction(true)  
res0: Boolean @@ scalaz.Tags.Conjunction = true  
scala> Disjunction(true)  
res1: Boolean @@ scalaz.Tags.Disjunction = true
```

```
scala> // use monoid (Boolean,OR,false)  
scala> assert( (Disjunction(false) |+| Disjunction(false)) === Disjunction(false) )  
scala> assert( (Disjunction(false) |+| Disjunction(true)) === Disjunction(true) )  
scala> assert( (Disjunction(true) |+| Disjunction(false)) === Disjunction(true) )  
scala> assert( (Disjunction(true) |+| Disjunction(true)) === Disjunction(true) )
```

```
scala> // use monoid (Boolean,AND,true)  
scala> assert( (Conjunction(false) |+| Conjunction(false)) === Conjunction(false) )  
scala> assert( (Conjunction(false) |+| Conjunction(true)) === Conjunction(false) )  
scala> assert( (Conjunction(true) |+| Conjunction(false)) === Conjunction(false) )  
scala> assert( (Conjunction(true) |+| Conjunction(true)) === Conjunction(true) )
```



## trait **Multiplication**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance for a numeric type that performs multiplication, rather than the default monoid for these types which by convention performs addition.

Examples of using **scalaz.Tag** to distinguish between different **Int monoids** and **Boolean monoids**



Princess Leia hair buns @@

## trait **Disjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs disjunction (| |)

## trait **Conjunction**

Type tag to choose a [scalaz.Monoid](#) instance that performs conjunction (&&)

## Picking a particular Boolean **semigroup** or **monoid** in **Scalaz**



There is a way of doing this, e.g. picking (**Boolean**, AND, **true**)

```
scala> import scalaz.Monoid
import scalaz.Monoid

scala> implicit val booleanMonoid: Monoid[Boolean] = scalaz.std.anyVal.booleanInstance.conjunction
booleanMonoid: scalaz.Monoid[Boolean] = scalaz.std.AnyValInstances$booleanInstance$conjunction$@4d2667fc

scala> import scalaz.syntax.semigroup._
import scalaz.syntax.semigroup._

scala> true |+| false
res0: Boolean = false

scala> booleanMonoid.zero
res3: Boolean = true
```

or picking (**Boolean**, OR, **false**)

```
scala> import scalaz.Monoid
import scalaz.Monoid

scala> implicit val booleanMonoid: Monoid[Boolean] = scalaz.std.anyVal.booleanInstance.disjunction
booleanMonoid: scalaz.Monoid[Boolean] = scalaz.std.AnyValInstances$booleanInstance$disjunction$@794091e3

scala> import scalaz.syntax.semigroup._
import scalaz.syntax.semigroup._

scala> true |+| false
res0: Boolean = true

scala> booleanMonoid.zero
res3: Boolean = false
```

but as Travis Brown explains in his answer to <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/34163121/how-to-create-semigroup-for-boolean-when-using-scalaz> this is somewhat at odds with the **Scalaz** philosophy

```
def optionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = new Monoid[Option[A]] {
  def op(x: Option[A], y: Option[A]) = x orElse y
  val zero = None
}
```

returns x if it is nonempty, otherwise returns the result of evaluating y

// We can get the dual of any monoid just by flipping the `op`.

```
def dual[A](m: Monoid[A]): Monoid[A] = new Monoid[A] {
  def op(x: A, y: A): A = m.op(y, x)
  val zero = m.zero
}
```

// Now we can have both monoids on hand:

```
def firstOptionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = optionMonoid[A]
def lastOptionMonoid[A]: Monoid[Option[A]] = dual(firstOptionMonoid)
```



FP in Scala



Remember the two definitions of **Monoid[Option[A]]** we saw in **FP in Scala**, i.e. **optionMonoid** and its **dual**?

When **firstOptionMonoid** combines two **Option** arguments the result is the first non-zero argument, i.e. the first argument that is not **None**.

When **lastOptionMonoid** combines two **Option** arguments the result is the last non-zero argument, i.e. the last argument that is not **None**.

 @philip\_schwarz



In **Scalaz**, the above two **Option monoids** are called **optionFirst** and **optionLast** and are considered alternative **Option monoids**.

In **Scalaz** the default **Option monoid** is a third one called **optionMonoid**. It operates on **Option[A]** values such that a **Semigroup[A]** instance is defined.

When **optionMonoid** combines two **Option** arguments, the result is the result of combining the **A** values of the two options with the **associative operation** of the **Semigroup[A]** instance.

e.g. while the result of combining **Some(2)** and **Some(3)** with **optionFirst** is **Some(2)** and the result of combining them with **optionLast** is **Some(3)**, the result of combining them with **optionMonoid** is **Some(5)**, if **Semigroup (Int,+)** is chosen, or **Some(6)** if **Semigroup (Int,\*)** is chosen.

```
implicit def optionMonoid[A: Semigroup]: Monoid[Option[A]] =
  new OptionSemigroup[A] with Monoid[Option[A]] {
    override def B = implicitly
    override def zero = None
  }

private trait OptionSemigroup[A] extends Semigroup[Option[A]] {
  def B: Semigroup[A]
  def append(a: Option[A], b: => Option[A]): Option[A] = (a, b) match {
    case (Some(aa), Some(bb)) => Some(B.append(aa, bb))
    case (Some(_), None) => a
    case (None, b2@Some(_)) => b2
    case (None, None) => None
  }
}
```

```
scala> Option(2) |+| Option(3)
res0: Option[Int] = Some(5)
scala> import scalaz.Tags.Multiplication
import scalaz.Tags.Multiplication
scala> Option(Multiplication(2)) |+| Option(Multiplication(3))
res1: Option[Int @@ scalaz.Tags.Multiplication] = Some(6)
```

Examples of `optionMonoid[A: Semigroup]: Monoid[Option[A]]` where `A` is `(Int,+)`, `(String,++)` and `(List[Int],++)`

gaining access to `|+|` using `Option(...)` and `None`

```
scala> Option(2) |+| Option(3)
res0: Option[Int] = Some(5)
scala> Option(2) |+| None
res1: Option[Int] = Some(2)
scala> (None:Option[Int]) |+| Option(3)
res2: Option[Int] = Some(3)

scala> Option("Hello, ") |+| Option("World!")
res3: Option[String] = Some(Hello, World!)
scala> Option("Hello, ") |+| None
res4: Option[String] = Some(Hello, )
scala> (None:Option[String]) |+| Option("World!")
res5: Option[String] = Some(World!)

scala> Option(List(1,2,3)) |+| Option(List(4,5))
res6: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3,4,5))
scala> Option(List(1,2,3)) |+| None
res7: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
scala> (None:Option[List[Int]]) |+| Option(List(1,2,3))
res8: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
```

using the more convenient `some` and `none` methods provided by `OptionFunctions`

```
scala> some(2) |+| some(3)
res0: Option[Int] = Some(5)
scala> some(2) |+| none
res1: Option[Int] = Some(2)
scala> none[Int] |+| some(3)
res2: Option[Int] = Some(3)

scala> some("Hello, ") |+| some("World!")
res3: Option[String] = Some(Hello, World!)
scala> some("Hello, ") |+| none
res4: Option[String] = Some(Hello, )
scala> none[String] |+| some("World!")
res5: Option[String] = Some(World!)

scala> some(List(1,2,3)) |+| some(List(4,5))
res6: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3,4,5))
scala> some(List(1,2,3)) |+| none
res7: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
scala> none[List[Int]] |+| some(List(1,2,3))
res8: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
```



```
trait OptionFunctions {
  final def some[A](a: A): Option[A] = Some(a)
  final def none[A]: Option[A] = None
  ...
}
```

Even more convenient: using the **some** method provided by **OptionIdOps**

```
scala> 2.some |+| 3.some
res0: Option[Int] = Some(5)
scala> 2.some |+| none
res1: Option[Int] = Some(2)
scala> none[Int] |+| 3.some
res2: Option[Int] = Some(3)

scala> "Hello, ".some |+| "World!".some
res3: Option[String] = Some(Hello, World!)
scala> "Hello, ".some |+| none
res4: Option[String] = Some(Hello, )
scala> none[String] |+| "World!".some
res5: Option[String] = Some(World!)

scala> List(1,2,3).some |+| List(4,5).some
res6: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3,4,5))
scala> List(1,2,3).some |+| none
res7: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
scala> none[List[Int]] |+| List(1,2,3).some
res8: Option[List[Int]] = Some(List(1,2,3))
```



```
final class OptionIdOps[A](val self: A) extends AnyVal {
  def some: Option[A] = Some(self)
}
```





How **Scalaz** alternative **Option monoids** **optionFirst** and **optionLast** are implemented using **FirstOption[A]** and **LastOption[A]**, which are just aliases



Choosing the **optionFirst monoid** or the **optionLast monoid** by using the **First** and **Last** tags

```
implicit def optionFirst[A]: Monoid[FirstOption[A]] with Band[FirstOption[A]] =
  new Monoid[FirstOption[A]] with Band[FirstOption[A]] {

    def zero: FirstOption[A] = Tag(None)

    def append(f1: FirstOption[A], f2: => FirstOption[A]) =
      Tag(Tag.unwrap(f1).orElse(Tag.unwrap(f2)))
  }
```

```
implicit def optionLast[A]: Monoid[LastOption[A]] with Band[LastOption[A]] =
  new Monoid[LastOption[A]] with Band[LastOption[A]] {

    def zero: LastOption[A] = Tag(None)

    def append(f1: LastOption[A], f2: => LastOption[A]) =
      Tag(Tag.unwrap(f2).orElse(Tag.unwrap(f1)))
  }
```

```
type FirstOption[A] = Option[A] @@ Tags.First
type LastOption[A] = Option[A] @@ Tags.Last
```

trait **First**  
Type tag to choose a scalaz.Monoid instance that selects the first non-zero operand to append.

trait **Last**  
Type tag to choose a scalaz.Monoid instance that selects the last non-zero operand to append.

```
final class OptionOps[A](self: Option[A]) {
  ...
  final def first: Option[A] @@ First = Tag(self)
  final def last: Option[A] @@ Last = Tag(self)
  ...
}
```

Choosing the **optionFirst monoid** or the **optionLast monoid** by using the more convenient **first** and **last** methods provided by **OptionOps**



```
scala> import scalaz.Tags.{First, Last}
import scalaz.Tags.{First, Last}

scala> First(2.some) |+| First(3.some)
res0: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(2)
scala> First(2.some) |+| First(none)
res1: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(2)
scala> First(none[Int]) |+| First(3.some)
res2: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(3)
scala> First(none[Int]) |+| First(none)
res3: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> Last(2.some) |+| Last(3.some)
res4: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(3)
scala> Last(2.some) |+| Last(none)
res5: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(2)
scala> Last(none[Int]) |+| Last(3.some)
res6: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(3)
scala> Last(none[Int]) |+| Last(none)
res7: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```

```
scala> 2.some.first |+| 3.some.first
res0: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(2)
scala> 2.some.first |+| none.first
res1: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(2)
scala> none[Int].first |+| 3.some.first
res2: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(3)
scala> none[Int].first |+| none.first
res3: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> 2.some.last |+| 3.some.last
res4: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(3)
scala> 2.some.last |+| none.last
res5: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(2)
scala> none[Int].last |+| 3.some.last
res6: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(3)
scala> none[Int].last |+| none.last
res7: Option[Int] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```



Same as in previous slide, but instead of looking at (**Int**,**+**) we look at (**String**,**++**) and (**List[Int]**,**++**)

using the **First** and **Last** tags

```
scala> First("Hello, ".some) |+| First("World!".some)
res0: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(Hello, )
scala> First("Hello, ".some) |+| First(none)
res1: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(Hello, )
scala> First(none[String]) |+| First("World!".some)
res2: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(World!)
scala> First(none[String]) |+| First(none)
res3: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> Last("Hello, ".some) |+| Last("World!".some)
res4: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(World!)
scala> Last("Hello, ".some) |+| Last(none)
res5: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(Hello, )
scala> Last(none[String]) |+| Last("World!".some)
res6: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(World!)
scala> Last(none[String]) |+| Last(none)
res7: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```

```
scala> First(List(1,2,3).some) |+| First(List(4,5).some)
res0: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> First(List(1,2,3).some) |+| First(none)
res1: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> First(none[List[Int]]) |+| First(List(1,2,3).some)
res2: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> First(none[List[Int]]) |+| First(none)
res3: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> Last(List(1,2,3).some) |+| Last(List(4,5).some)
res4: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(4, 5))
scala> Last(List(1,2,3).some) |+| Last(none)
res5: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> Last(none[List[Int]]) |+| Last(List(1,2,3).some)
res6: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> Last(none[List[Int]]) |+| Last(none)
res7: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```

using the more convenient **first** and **last** methods provided by **OptionOps**

```
scala> "Hello, ".some.first |+| "World!".some.first
res0: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(Hello, )
scala> "Hello, ".some.first |+| none.first
res1: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(Hello, )
scala> none[String].first |+| "World!".some.first
res2: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(World!)
scala> none[String].first |+| none.first
res3: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> "Hello, ".some.last |+| "World!".some.last
res4: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(World!)
scala> "Hello, ".some.last |+| none.last
res5: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(Hello, )
scala> none[String].last |+| "World!".some.last
res6: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(World!)
scala> none[String].last |+| none.last
res7: Option[String] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```

```
scala> List(1,2,3).some.first |+| List(4,5).some.first
res0: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> List(1,2,3).some.first |+| none.first
res1: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> none[List[Int]].first |+| List(1,2,3).some.first
res2: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> none[List[Int]].first |+| none.first
res3: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.First = None

scala> List(1,2,3).some.last |+| List(4,5).some.last
res4: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(4, 5))
scala> List(1,2,3).some.last |+| none.last
res5: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> none[List[Int]].last |+| List(1,2,3).some.last
res6: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = Some(List(1, 2, 3))
scala> none[List[Int]].last |+| none.last
res7: Option[List[Int]] @@ scalaz.Tags.Last = None
```

## The Option Monoid in Cats

We saw earlier that in **Scalaz** there are three types of **Option monoid**: alternative **monoids** **optionFirst** and **optionLast**, plus a default one called **optionMonoid**, which operates on **Option[A]** values such that a **Semigroup[A]** instance is defined. In **Cats** there is only one **Option monoid** and it has the same characteristics as the **optionMonoid** in **Scalaz**.



# The Option monoid

There are some types that can form a **Semigroup** but not a **Monoid**. For example, the following **NonEmptyList** type forms a semigroup through **++**, but has no corresponding identity element to form a monoid.

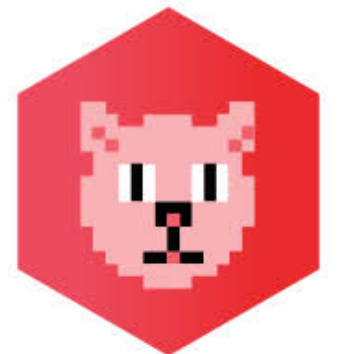
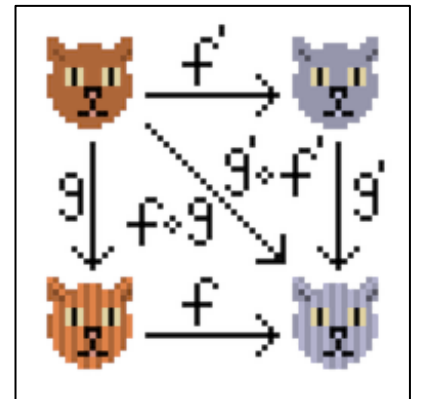
```
import cats.Semigroup

final case class NonEmptyList[A](head: A, tail: List[A]) {
  def ++(other: NonEmptyList[A]): NonEmptyList[A] = NonEmptyList(head, tail ++ other.toList)

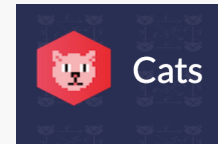
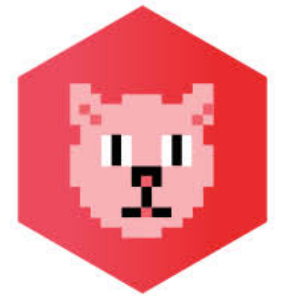
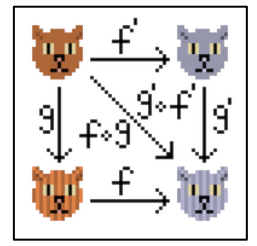
  def toList: List[A] = head :: tail
}

object NonEmptyList {
  implicit def nonEmptyListSemigroup[A]: Semigroup[NonEmptyList[A]] =
    new Semigroup[NonEmptyList[A]] {
      def combine(x: NonEmptyList[A], y: NonEmptyList[A]): NonEmptyList[A] = x ++ y
    }
}
```

<https://typelevel.org/cats/typeclasses/monoid.html>



The **Cats** implementation of `optionMonoid[A: Semigroup]: Monoid[Option[A]]`



How then can we collapse a `List[NonEmptyList[A]]` ? For such types that only have a `Semigroup` we can lift into `Option` to get a `Monoid`.

```
import cats.syntax.semigroup._

implicit def optionMonoid[A: Semigroup]: Monoid[Option[A]] = new Monoid[Option[A]] {
  def empty: Option[A] = None

  def combine(x: Option[A], y: Option[A]): Option[A] =
    x match {
      case None => y
      case Some(xv) =>
        y match {
          case None => x
          case Some(yv) => Some(xv |+| yv)
        }
    }
}
```

<https://typelevel.org/cats/typeclasses/monoid.html>

```
implicit def optionMonoid[A: Semigroup]: Monoid[Option[A]] =
  new OptionSemigroup[A] with Monoid[Option[A]] {
    override def B = implicitly
    override def zero = None
  }

private trait OptionSemigroup[A] extends Semigroup[Option[A]] {
  def B: Semigroup[A]
  def append(a: Option[A], b: => Option[A]): Option[A] = (a, b) match {
    case (Some(aa), Some(bb)) => Some(B.append(aa, bb))
    case (Some(_), None) => a
    case (None, b2@Some(_)) => b2
    case (None, None) => None
  }
}
```



This is the `Monoid` for `Option`: for any `Semigroup[A]`, there is a `Monoid[Option[A]]`.

Comparing the **Cats** implementation of `optionMonoid` with the **Scalaz** implementation.



## Example of using the **Option Monoid** in **Cats**



We can assemble a **Monoid**[**Option**[**Int**]] using instances from `cats.instances.int` and `cats.instances.option`

```
import cats.Monoid
import cats.instances.int._ // for Monoid
import cats.instances.option._ // for Monoid

val a = Option(22)
// a: Option[Int] = Some(22)

val b = Option(20)
// b: Option[Int] = Some(20)

Monoid[Option[Int]].combine(a, b)
// res6: Option[Int] = Some(42)
```

With the correct instances in scope, we can set about adding anything we want

```
import cats.instances.int._ // for Monoid
import cats.instances.option._ // for Monoid

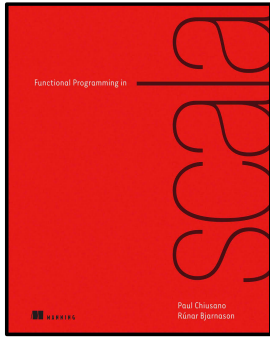
Option(1) |+| Option(2)
// res1: Option[Int] = Some(3)
```



by Noel Welsh and Dave Gurnell

[@noelwelsh](#) [@davegurnell](#)

# Summary of the naming and location of a **Monoid**'s **associative binary operation** and **identity element** - simplified



FP in Scala

```
trait Monoid[A] {  
  def op(a1: A, a2: A): A  
  def zero: A  
}
```

```
trait Semigroup[F] { self =>  
  def append(f1: F, f2: => F): F  
  ...  
}
```



```
final class SemigroupOps[F]...(implicit val F: Semigroup[F]) ... {  
  final def |+|(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)  
  final def mappend(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)  
  final def +(other: => F): F = F.append(self, other)  
  ...  
}
```

```
trait Monoid[F] extends Semigroup[F] { self =>  
  def zero: F  
  ...  
}
```



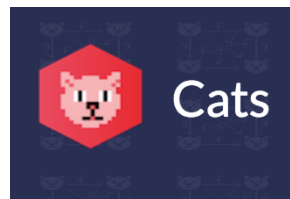
```
class Semigroup m where  
  (<>) :: m -> m -> m  
  
class Semigroup m => Monoid m where  
  mempty :: m  
  mappend :: m -> m -> m  
  mconcat :: [m] -> m  
  mconcat = foldr mappend mempty
```

The **mappend** method is redundant and has the default implementation **mappend** = '(<>)'

```
trait Semigroup[A] {  
  def combine(x: A, y: A): A  
  ...  
}
```

```
final class SemigroupOps[A: Semigroup](lhs: A) {  
  def |+|(rhs: A): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]  
  def combine(rhs: A): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]  
  def combineN(rhs: Int): A = macro Ops.binop[A, A]  
}
```

```
trait Monoid[A] extends Semigroup[A] {  
  def empty: A  
  ...  
}
```



to be continued in part 2