

CODE BEAM SF MAR 2018

**UNDERSTANDING
ERLANG TERMS**

MYTH

- ▶ Tail-recursive functions are much faster than body-recursive functions

HOW TO IMPLEMENT ERLANG'S TYPE SYSTEM?

- ▶ Dynamic typing

INFORMATION = BITS + CONTEXT

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|0x68 |0x69 |0x6c |0x6c |0x6f |0x00 |0x00 |0x00 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|0x100|0x101|0x102|0x103|0x104|0x105|0x106|0x107|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|  h  |  e  |  l  |  l  |  o  | \0  | \0  | \0  |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|0x100|0x101|0x102|0x103|0x104|0x105|0x106|0x107|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|  26984  |  27756  |  111  |  0  |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|0x100|0x101|0x102|0x103|0x104|0x105|0x106|0x107|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|          1819044200          |          111          |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|0x100|0x101|0x102|0x103|0x104|0x105|0x106|0x107|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

ERLANG'S BUILDING BLOCK(PARTIALLY)

▶ Numbers

- ▶ 1, 2, 100
- ▶ 1.0, 3.14

▶ Atoms

- ▶ ok, true, false

▶ Tuples

- ▶ {}, {1, 2, 3}, {ok, 100}

▶ Lists

- ▶ [], [1, 2, 3]

▶ Maps

- ▶ #{name => "Jon Snow", job => "King"}

▶ Binaries

- ▶ <<"hello">>, <<1, 2, 3>>

A NAIVE IMPLEMENTATION

XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx000	integer
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx001	float
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx010	atom
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx011	tuple
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx100	list
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx101	map
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx110	binary
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxx111	*not in use

ERLANG TERM

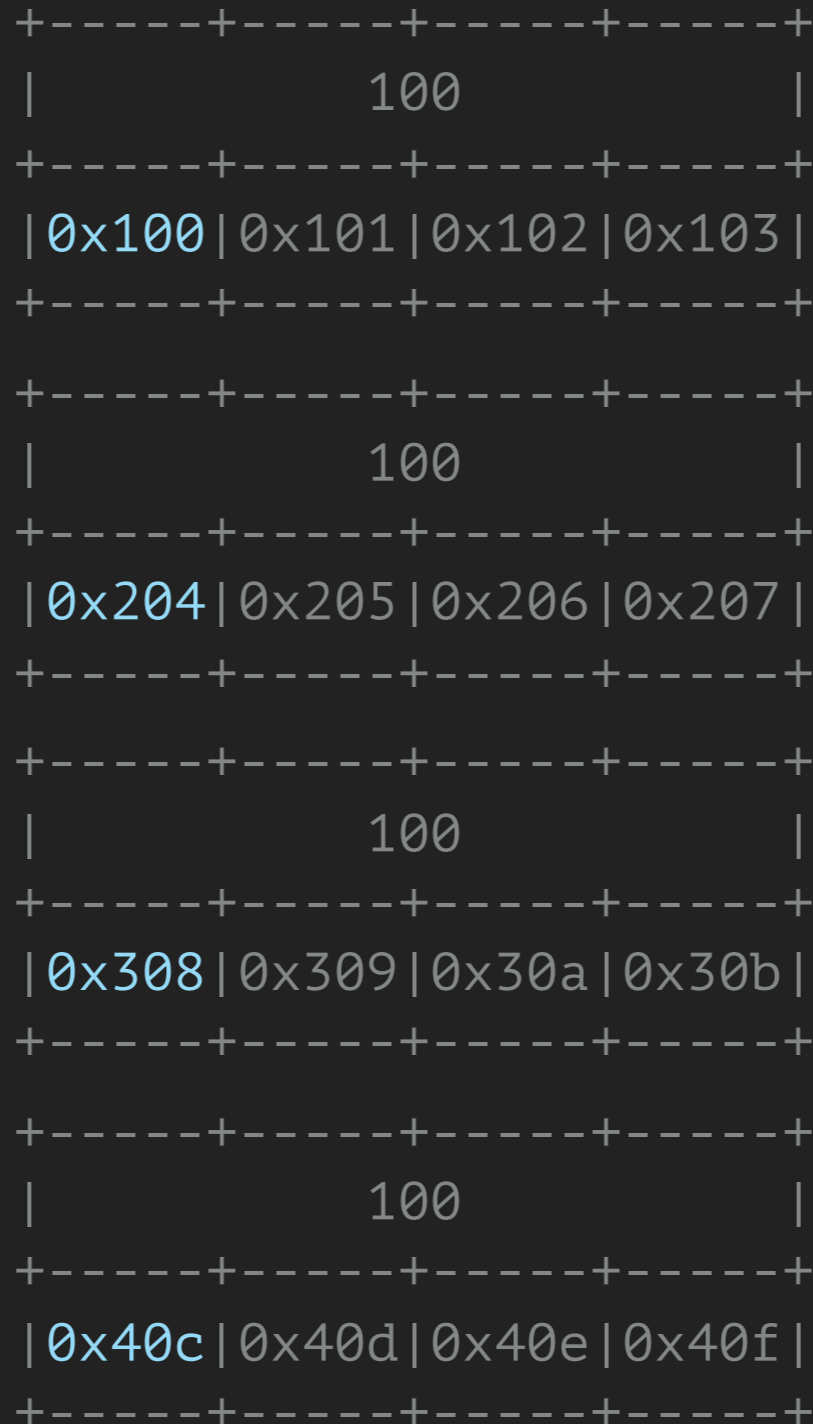
```
/* erts/emulator/beam/sys.h */  
typedef unsigned long Eterm erts_align_attribute(sizeof(long));
```

```
XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX 32-bits
```

```
XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX 64-bits
```

DATA ALIGNMENT PROPERTY

```
int i = 100;  
printf("%p", &i);
```



0001 0000 0000

0010 0000 0100

0011 0000 1000

0100 0000 1100

A STAGED TAG SCHEME FOR ERLANG

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx01	list
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx10	boxed
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx00	header
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx11	immediate 1
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx0011	pid
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx0111	port
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx1111	small int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx1011	immediate 2
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001011	atom
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011011	catch
11111111	11111111	11111111	11111011	nil

BOXED HEADER

XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xxxxxx00	header
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx000000	tuple
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx000100	binary match context
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx001000	pos big int
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx001100	neg big int
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx010000	reference
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx010100	function
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx011000	float
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx011100	export
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx100000	refc binary
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx100100	heap binary
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx101000	sub binary
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx101100	*not used
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx110000	external pid
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx110100	external port
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx111000	external reference
XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	xx111100	map

IMMEDIATE 1

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx11	immediate 1
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx1111	small int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx0011	pid
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx0111	port

IMMEDIATE 1

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx11 immediate 1

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx1111 small int

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx0011 pid

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx0111 port

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

SMALL INT

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xxxx1111

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xxxx1111 32-bits

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xxxx1111 64-bits

01111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 TMAX 32

10000000 00000000 00000000 00001111 TMIN 32

-134,217,728 - 134,217,727

01111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 TMAX 64

10000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00001111 TMIN 64

-576,460,752,303,423,488 - 576,460,752,303,423,487

IMMEDIATE 2

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxx1011	immediate 2
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001011	atom
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011011	catch
11111111	11111111	11111111	11111011	nil

IMMEDIATE 2

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx1011 immediate 2

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xx001011 atom

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xx011011 catch

11111111 11111111 11111111 11111011 nil

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

ATOM

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xx001011

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xx001011 32-bits

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xx001011 64-bits

11111111 11111111 11111111 11001011 MAX 32

67,108,863

00000000 00000000 00000000 00011111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11001011 MAX 64

2,147,483,647

- ▶ Default $2^{20} = 1,048,576$
- ▶ Min 8192

IMMEDIATE 2

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xxxx1011 immediate 2

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xx001011 atom

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx xx011011 catch

11111111 11111111 11111111 11111011 nil

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

NIL

11111111 11111111 11111111 11011011

11111111 11111111 11111111 11001011 32-bits

11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11001011 64-bits

▶ []

▶ Not `nil` in Elixir

PRIMARY TAG

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx01	list
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx10	boxed
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx00	header

PRIMARY TAG

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx01 list

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx10 boxed

xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx00 header

LIST(CONS)

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXX01

▶ car	[1]		
	0x100	0x0000000000000001f	car: 1
▶ cdr	0x108	0xfffffffffffffffffb	cdr: []
▶ [car cdr]			
	[1, 2]		
	0x200	0x0000000000000002f	car: 2
	0x208	0xfffffffffffffffffb	cdr: []
	0x210	0x0000000000000001f	car: 1
	0x218	0x00000000000000201	cdr: [2]
	[]		
	0x300	0xfffffffffffffffffb	

PRIMARY TAG

```
xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx01 list
xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx10 boxed
xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxx00 header
```

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BOXED

```
XXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXX10
```

```
XXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXX10
```

```
XXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXX00
```

BOXED HEADER

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx00	header
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx000000	tuple
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx000100	binary match context
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001000	pos big int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001100	neg big int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx010000	reference
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx010100	function
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011000	float
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011100	export
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx100000	refc binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx100100	heap binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx101000	sub binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx101100	*not used
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx110000	external pid
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx110100	external port
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx111000	external reference
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx111100	map

BOXED HEADER

xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxx00	header
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx000000	tuple
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx000100	binary match context
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001000	pos big int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx001100	neg big int
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx010000	reference
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx010100	function
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011000	float
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx011100	export
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx100000	refc binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx100100	heap binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx101000	sub binary
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx101100	*not used
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx110000	external pid
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx110100	external port
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx111000	external reference
xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxx	xx111100	map

TUPLE

XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX xx000000

{}

0x100	0x00000000000000000000
-------	------------------------

{1}

0x200	0x00000000000000000040	
0x208	0x0000000000000000001f	1

{1,2}

0x300	0x00000000000000000080	
0x308	0x0000000000000000001f	1
0x310	0x0000000000000000002f	2

MYTH WALKTHROUGH

- ▶ Tail-recursive functions are much faster than body-recursive functions

TAIL-RECURSIVE VS BODY-RECURSIVE

```
-module(foo).  
-export([add1_tail/1, add1_body/1]).  
  
add1_tail(List) ->  
    add1_tail(List, []).  
  
add1_tail([], Acc) -> lists:reverse(Acc);  
add1_tail([H|T], Acc) -> add1_tail(T, [H+1|Acc]).  
  
add1_body([]) -> [];  
add1_body([H|T]) -> [H+1|add1_body(T)].
```

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae49
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede830

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[1,2,3,4,5]
BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

H E A P	
Address	Contents

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae59	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0xfffffffffffffb	[2,3,4,5]
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000001f	[]
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede830	1
		BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

H E A P	
Address	Contents

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae69	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[3,4,5]
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000002f	[2]
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede830	2
		BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2
Address	Contents	
H E A P		

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae79	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[4,5]
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000003f	[3,2]
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede830	3
		BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[2]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2
Address	Contents	
H E A P		

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae89	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000015ac13e9	[5]
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000004f	[4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede830	4
		BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

0x0000000015ac13f0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[3,2]
0x0000000015ac13e8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[2]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2
Address	Contents	
H E A P		

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0xfffffffffffffffffb	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000015ac13f9	[]
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000005f	[5,4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede830	5
		BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

0x0000000015ac1400	0x0000000015ac13e9	[4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac13f8	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac13f0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[3,2]
0x0000000015ac13e8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[2]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2
Address	Contents	
H E A P		

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000015ac1409
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede830

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[6,5,4,3,2]
BEAM PC foo:run1/0 + 0x5

0x0000000015ac1410	0x0000000015ac13f9	[5,4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac1408	0x000000000000006f	6
0x0000000015ac1400	0x0000000015ac13e9	[4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac13f8	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac13f0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[3,2]
0x0000000015ac13e8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[2]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2

Address Contents

H E A P

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

TAIL-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
0x0000000015ac1b08	0x0000000015ac1459
0x0000000015ac1b00	0x000000001525a148

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[2,3,4,5,6]
BEAM PC normal-process-exit

0x0000000015ac1460	0x0000000015ac1449	[3,4,5,6]
0x0000000015ac1458	0x000000000000002f	2
0x0000000015ac1450	0x0000000015ac1439	[4,5,6]
0x0000000015ac1448	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac1440	0x0000000015ac1429	[5,6]
0x0000000015ac1438	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac1430	0x0000000015ac1419	[6]
0x0000000015ac1428	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac1420	0xfffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac1418	0x000000000000006f	6
0x0000000015ac1410	0x0000000015ac13f9	[5,4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac1408	0x000000000000006f	6
0x0000000015ac1400	0x0000000015ac13e9	[4,3,2]
0x0000000015ac13f8	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac13f0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[3,2]
0x0000000015ac13e8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[2]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000002f	2

Address Contents

H E A P

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x0000000042fcae59
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x000000000000001f
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x0000000019ede8b0

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[2,3,4,5]
1
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5

Address	Contents
H E A P	

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x000000000000002f
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede8b0
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x0000000042fcae69
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x000000000000002f
0x0000000015ac1ad8	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
2
BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[3,4,5]
2
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12

H E A P	
Address	Contents
-----	-----
-----	-----

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x00000000000000002f
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede8b0
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x00000000000000003f
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ad8	0x0000000042fcae79
0x0000000015ac1ad0	0x00000000000000003f
0x0000000015ac1ac8	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
2
BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
3
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[4,5]
3
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12

Address	Contents
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----

H E A P

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x000000000000002f
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede8b0
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000003f
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ad8	0x000000000000004f
0x0000000015ac1ad0	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----
0x0000000015ac1ac8	0x0000000042fcae89
0x0000000015ac1ac0	0x000000000000004f
0x0000000015ac1ab8	0x0000000019ede000
-----	-----

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
2
BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
3
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
4
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[5]
4
BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12

H E A P	
Address	Contents
-----	-----
-----	-----

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x000000000000002f	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede8b0	2
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000003f	BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ad8	0x000000000000004f	3
0x0000000015ac1ad0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
0x0000000015ac1ac8	0x000000000000005f	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ac0	0x0000000019ede000	4
0x0000000015ac1ab8	0xfffffffffffffb	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
0x0000000015ac1ab0	0x000000000000005f	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1aa8	0x0000000019ede000	5
		[]
		BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12

Address	Contents
	H E A P

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK		
Address	Contents	
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1af8	0x000000000000002f	2
0x0000000015ac1af0	0x0000000019ede8b0	BEAM PC foo:run2/0 + 0x5
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ae8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac1ae0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ad8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac1ad0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ac8	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac1ac0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1ab8	0x000000000000006f	6
0x0000000015ac1ab0	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
-----	-----	BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
0x0000000015ac1aa8	0x0000000019ede000	BEAM PC foo:add1_body/1 + 0x12
-----	-----	

Address	Contents
H E A P	

UNDERSTANDING ERLANG TERMS

BODY-RECURSIVE

BEAM STACK	
Address	Contents
0x0000000015ac1b08	0x0000000015ac1409
0x0000000015ac1b00	0x000000001525a148

BEAM ACTIVATION RECORD
[2,3,4,5,6]
BEAM PC normal-process-exit

0x0000000015ac1410	0x0000000015ac13f9	[3,4,5,6]
0x0000000015ac1408	0x000000000000002f	2
0x0000000015ac1400	0x0000000015ac13e9	[4,5,6]
0x0000000015ac13f8	0x000000000000003f	3
0x0000000015ac13f0	0x0000000015ac13d9	[5,6]
0x0000000015ac13e8	0x000000000000004f	4
0x0000000015ac13e0	0x0000000015ac13c9	[6]
0x0000000015ac13d8	0x000000000000005f	5
0x0000000015ac13d0	0xfffffffffffffb	[]
0x0000000015ac13c8	0x000000000000006f	6

Address Contents

H E A P

TAIL-RECURSIVE VS BODY-RECURSIVE

```
-module(foo).  
-export([add1_tail/1, add1_body/1]).  
  
add1_tail(List) ->  
    add1_tail(List, []).  
  
add1_tail([], Acc) -> lists:reverse(Acc);  
add1_tail([H|T], Acc) -> add1_tail(T, [H+1|Acc]).  
  
add1_body([]) -> [];  
add1_body([H|T]) -> [H+1|add1_body(T)].
```

MYTH DEMYSTIFY

- ▶ Use the version that makes your code cleaner (hint: it is usually the body-recursive version)
- ▶ A tail-recursive function that does not need to reverse the list at the end is faster than a body-recursive function

```
map(F, [H|T]) ->  
    [F(H) | map(F, T)];  
map(F, []) when is_function(F, 1) -> [].
```

RESOURCES

- ▶ The Seven Myths of Erlang Performance
 - ▶ http://erlang.org/doc/efficiency_guide/myths.html
- ▶ A Staged Tag Scheme for Erlang(2000)
 - ▶ <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.142.2827>
- ▶ The Erlang Type System and Tags(The BEAM Book)
 - ▶ <https://happi.github.io/theBeamBook/#CH-TypeSystem>
- ▶ Data Types Memory Layout(BEAM-WISDOM)
 - ▶ <http://beam-wisdoms.clau.se/en/latest/indepth-memory-layout.html>
- ▶ Erlang/OTP source code
 - ▶ https://github.com/erlang/otp/blob/master/erts/emulator/beam/erl_term.h
- ▶ ETerm library
 - ▶ <https://github.com/sunboshan/eterm>

THANK YOU

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