# Basic types in Haskell

#### **Contents**

Why types?

Bool

Char

String

Numerical types

Type synonyms

## Functional programming

Types play the role of sets. They can consist of numbers, pictures, or even functions!

- ► Function type f :: Int -> Int
- Sum type (next lecture)
- Product type (next lecture)

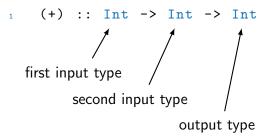
Programs inhabit types, so they are like the elements of sets

- programs usually have function type
- but they can also be a function without input (without ->)
- ▶ these functions are partial, so they can crash or fail to return an output

## Functional programming

A function accepts inputs from particular types and gives a result of a particular type

### Example



## Some types

#### There are lots of built-in types

- ▶ Bool True, False
- ▶ Char 'h', 'c'
- ▶ String "hello"
- ▶ Int 42, -123
- ▶ Double 3.14

### We can also define custom types

- ▶ Triangle
- ▶ Picture



## Static typing

- ▶ helps clarify the program structure
- serves as a form of documentation
- turns run-time errors into compile-time errors

#### In Haskell

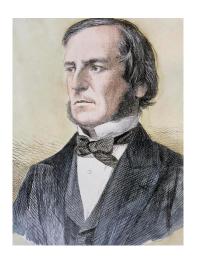
- every expression has a type
- types are checked at compile-time
- programs with type errors will not compile

Boolean values (Thompson: §3.1)

#### Named after George Boole

- ▶ Lived in the 1800s
- ► English Mathematician/philosopher/logician
- ► Founder of the information age

In Haskell Bool is defined by



Some operators on Boolean values are && (and), || (or), not (negation)

a	Ъ	a && b	a    b	not a
True	True	True	True	False
True	False	False	True	False
False	True	False	True	True
False	False	False	False	True

#### In Haskell

- ▶ && :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool
- ▶ if a :: Bool and b :: Bool then a && b :: Bool
- ► Similar for || and not

#### Suppose we want to define

```
exOr :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool
```

a	b	exOr a b
True	True	False
True	False	True
False	True	True
False	False	False

#### We can define this as follows:

```
exOr :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool -- type
exOr a b = (a || b) && not (a && b) -- definition
```

```
equal to
/= not equal to
strictly greater than
greater than or equal to
strictly less than
less than or equal to
```

## Example Let 2 :: Int and 4 :: Int, then

- $\triangleright$  (2 == 4) = False
- $\triangleright$  (2 /= 4) = True
- $\triangleright$  (2 > 4) = False

#### The type Char consists of literal characters

'a',..., 'z', 'A',..., 'Z'

#### as well as escape characters

- '\t' tab
- '\n' newline
- '\\' backslash (\)
- > '\''
  single quote (')
- ▶ '\"' double quote (")

The type String consists of lists of characters, written as "string"

```
ghci > "This is a string!"
This is a string!"
ghci > "blue" ++ "tongue"
bluetongue"
ghci > head "blue"
'b'
ghci > tail "blue"
"lue"
```

Integer represents whole numbers of any size, limited by the machine's memory

Int represents integers in a fixed amount of space

- At least  $[-2^{29}, \dots, 2^{29} 1]$ , but sometimes more
- ▶ Find minimum and maximum via minBound :: Int and maxBound :: Int

### Operations on Integer (for Int they work between minBound and maxBound)

<b>&gt;</b> +, *, -	add, multiply, subtract	2 + 2
^	exponentiation (raise integer to a power)	2^3
► div	integer division (rounded down)	div 11 5
► mod	remainder of integer division	mod 11 5
▶ abs	absolute value of an integer	abs (-5)
▶ negate	change the sign of an integer	negate (-5)

Double

Double is used to represent numbers with fractional parts

- double-precision floating point numbers
- fixed amount of space to represent number, may cause imprecise arithmetics (follow this link for more info)

### **Example**

```
ghci > 10/3 :: Double
3.333333333333333333
```

We can use all the **operations** mentioned, and more:

<b>&gt;</b> /	fractional division	432.1 / 1357.9
**	floating-point exponentiation	3.2 ** 4.5
► sqrt	square root	sqrt 2.6
▶ sin, cos, tan	sine, cosine and tangent	cos 43

Some functions between numeric types

```
► fromIntegral :: Int -> Double converts integer to floating point works from Int and Integral to any other numeric type
```

```
round :: Double -> Int rounds to closest integer
floor :: Double -> Int rounds down
ceiling :: Double -> Int rounds up
```

The last three also work as Double -> Integer

### **Example** We may have non-numeric results

```
ghci > 1/0
Infinity
```

### **Example** Integral and Double do not automatically interact

```
ghci > (floor 5.6) + 6.7

interactive >: 8:1: error: ...

ghci > fromIntegral (floor 5.6) + 6.7

11.7
```

There are many more numerical types

- ► Float is like Double but uses less space
- ▶ Rational for rational numbers, is precise (unlike Double) but slow
- Word is for natural numbers, bounded like Int

There are many more in basic libraries

- ► Complex
- Natural
- **>** ...

### Type synonyms can give existing types new names via

```
type newName = Int
```

#### **Example** Convert fahrenheit to celcius

```
fahrToCel :: Double -> Double
fahrToCel x = (x - 32)/1.8
```

#### Now using type synonyms

```
type Fahrenheit = Double
type Celcius = Double
fahrToCel :: Fahrenheit -> Celcius
fahrToCel x = (x - 32)/1.8
```

## Summary

#### Haskell ...

- has many built-in types
- has many built-in functions
- lets us define type synonyms
- allows us to define our own types

#### **Next lectures**

- Thursday: Algebraic datatypes
- ► Next week: Cases, lists and recursion