

Programming Languages (Coursera / University of Washington)

Assignment 0

This “assignment” is **entirely optional**. It will have no impact on your grade, even if you do not turn it in at all.

The purpose of the “fake assignment” is only to introduce you to the *mechanics* of completing and turning in assignments — to let you practice with the sometimes awkward interface before completing Homework 1. It looks like the real assignments in the course except the actual content is silly. The content will make more sense after watching the first few videos of Section 1, but you are welcome to turn in this “fake assignment” before Section 1 is available.

Note: Providing this “fake assignment” is a new feature of the course for 2014. Our goal is to reduce questions, confusion, and stress about assignment turn-in — to get you used to the process. All the real assignments have been used before, and we are confident very few problems will arise with them. We also intend that this “fake assignment” is error-free and ready-to-use, but because it is new, the probability of issues is larger. We will be quick to clarify and correct any problems.

Download `hw0provided.sml` from the course website. The provided SML code defines three functions. There is only one problem in this assignment:

1. The provided function `f` uses addition where it should use multiplication. In the line defining the function `f`, replace the `+` with `*` to fix this bug.

To test your work, you can start with the provided file `hw0test.sml` and add more tests, or you can make your own testing file. The material in Section 1 explains how to write and use test files. The page on installing and using SML and Emacs is also helpful. Of course, this “fake assignment” is so simple, you can try turning it in without writing or running tests, which is definitely a bad idea for the real assignments. For the real assignments, the provided tests are *very* minimal, designed only to help you understand the necessary format of the solution.

Summary

Evaluating a correct homework solution should generate these bindings (but for this “fake assignment” the provided code will generate these bindings whether or not you fix the bug):

```
val f = fn : int * int -> int
val double = fn : int -> int
val triple = fn : int -> int
```

Of course, generating these bindings does not guarantee that your solutions are correct. *Test your functions: Put your testing code in a separate file. We will not grade the testing file, but you must turn it in.*

Assessment

We will automatically test your functions on a variety of inputs, including edge cases. We will also ask peers to evaluate your code for simplicity, conciseness, elegance, and good formatting including indentation and line breaks. Your solution will also be checked for using only features discussed so far in class. In particular, you must not use SML’s mutable references or arrays. Do not use pattern matching until Homework 2 where we will require it.

Turn-in Instructions

Follow the instructions on the course website to submit your assignment twice. For auto-grading, you will submit your solution file and your testing file. For peer assessment, you will submit your solution file a second time using the peer-assessment interface.