

in-class exercise

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EECS 368 programming language paradigmns

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defining functions in haskell

consider a function `safetail` that behaves in the same way as a `tail` except that `safetail` maps the empty list to the empty list whereas `tail` gives an error in this case define `safetail` using:

- a conditional expression
- guarded equations
- pattern matching

hint use the library function `null :: [a] -> Bool` can be used to test if a list is empty.

```
{
  -- https://downloads.haskell.org/~ghc/9.4.2/docs/users_guide/9.4.2-
  notes.html
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  -- @brief       in class problems for defining haskell functions
  -- @file        main.hs
}

-- conditional expression

safetail :: [a] -> [a]
safetail xs = if null xs then [] else tail xs

-- guarded equations

safetail :: [a] -> [a]
safetail xs | null xs = []
             | otherwise = tail xs

-- pattern matching

safetail :: [a] -> [a]
safetail [] = []
safetail (_:xs) = tail xs
```