

# Testing

Fast Track to Haskell

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# What is testing about?

- ▶ Gain confidence in the correctness of your program.
- ▶ Show that common cases work correctly.
- ▶ Show that corner cases work correctly.

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- ▶ Show that corner cases work correctly.
- ▶ Testing cannot prove the absence of bugs.
- ▶ Exception: Exhaustive testing.

- ▶ When is a program correct?

- ▶ When is a program correct?
- ▶ What is a specification?
- ▶ How to establish a relation between the specification and the implementation?
- ▶ What about bugs in the specification?

# Testing versus types

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Do types free us from the need to test?

In general, no.

- ▶ There are limits to what the type system can express.
- ▶ While Haskell's type system is quite expressive, expressing advanced invariants of programs in the types is often a lot of work.
- ▶ There's usually a natural balance between compile-time type checking and run-time properties that should be tested.
- ▶ However, the presence of types means that we can concentrate on testing the interesting properties.



# Testing in Haskell

There are a quite a number of tools and libraries.

Some noteworthy examples:

- ▶ [HUnit](#) – a classic unit testing library;
- ▶ [QuickCheck](#) – type-driven testing with random test case generation;
- ▶ [smallcheck](#) – a variant of QuickCheck supporting exhaustive testing of “small” test cases;
- ▶ [test-framework](#) – integrating different testing libraries into a common framework and Cabal packages;
- ▶ [hspec](#) and [doctest](#) – integrating testing with documentation.

# Making a choice

We obviously don't have time to look at them all, so we focus on one rather remarkable library:

QuickCheck

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We obviously don't have time to look at them all, so we focus on one rather remarkable library:

## QuickCheck

Type-driven testing with random test case generation.

QuickCheck shares with other Haskell testing libraries the feature that tests are themselves Haskell programs, and as such they are type checked.

# History of QuickCheck

- ▶ Developed in 2000 by Koen Claessen and John Hughes.
- ▶ Copied to other programming languages: Common Lisp, Scheme, Erlang, Python, Ruby, SML, Clean, Java, Scala, F#.
- ▶ Erlang version is sold by a company, QuviQ, founded by the authors of QuickCheck.

Example: specifying and testing sorting

# A first version of the code

An attempt at insertion sort in Haskell:

```
sort :: [Int] → [Int]
sort []      = []
sort (x : xs) = insert x xs

insert :: Int → [Int] → [Int]
insert x []      = [x]
insert x (y : ys) | x ≤ y      = x : ys
                  | otherwise = y : insert x ys
```

(This is an example – if you spot errors immediately, ignore them for now ...)

# How to specify sorting?

A good specification is

- ▶ as precise as necessary,
- ▶ no more precise than necessary.

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A good specification is

- ▶ as precise as necessary,
- ▶ no more precise than necessary.

If we want to specify sorting, we should give a specification that distinguishes sorting from all other operations, but does not force us to use a particular sorting algorithm.



# A first approximation

Certainly, sorting a list should not change its length.

```
sortPreservesLength :: [Int] → Bool  
sortPreservesLength xs = length xs == length (sort xs)
```

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Certainly, sorting a list should not change its length.

```
sortPreservesLength :: [Int] → Bool  
sortPreservesLength xs = length xs == length (sort xs)
```

We can test by invoking the function `quickCheck`:

```
> quickCheck sortPreservesLength  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 4 tests and 2 shrinks):  
[0,0]
```

# Correcting the bug

```
sort :: [Int] → [Int]
sort []      = []
sort (x : xs) = insert x xs

insert :: Int → [Int] → [Int]
insert x []      = [x]
insert x (y : ys) | x ≤ y      = x : ys
                  | otherwise = y : insert x ys
```

# Correcting the bug

```
sort :: [Int] → [Int]
sort []      = []
sort (x : xs) = insert x xs
insert :: Int → [Int] → [Int]
insert x []      = [x]
insert x (y : ys) | x ≤ y      = x : y : ys
                  | otherwise = y : insert x ys
```

## A new attempt

```
> quickCheck sortPreservesLength  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

Looks better. But have we tested enough?

# Properties are first-class objects

Note that we can define our own testing-inspired abstractions:

```
(f 'preserves' p) x = p x == p (f x)  
sortPreservesLength = sort 'preserves' length
```

Is sorting the only list function preserving length?

# Properties are first-class objects

Note that we can define our own testing-inspired abstractions:

```
(f 'preserves' p) x = p x == p (f x)  
sortPreservesLength = sort 'preserves' length
```

Is sorting the only list function preserving length?

```
idPreservesLength = id 'preserves' length
```

```
> quickCheck idPreservesLength  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

Clearly, the identity function does not sort the list.

# When is a list sorted?

```
sorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sorted []      = True  
sorted (x : xs) = ...
```



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sorted []      = True  
sorted (x : []) = True  
sorted (x : y : ys) = ...
```

# When is a list sorted?

```
sorted :: [Int] → Bool
sorted []      = True
sorted (x : []) = True
sorted (x : y : ys) = x < y && sorted (y : ys)
```

## Testing again

```
sortEnsuresSorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sortEnsuresSorted xs = sorted (sort xs)
```

# Testing again

```
sortEnsuresSorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sortEnsuresSorted xs = sorted (sort xs)
```

Or:

```
(f 'ensures' p) x = p (f x)  
sortEnsuresSorted = sort 'ensures' sorted
```

# Testing again

```
sortEnsuresSorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sortEnsuresSorted xs = sorted (sort xs)
```

Or:

```
(f 'ensures' p) x = p (f x)  
sortEnsuresSorted = sort 'ensures' sorted
```

```
> quickCheck sortEnsuresSorted  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 4 tests and 1 shrink):  
[1,1]  
> sort [1,1]  
[1,1]
```

But this is correct. So what went wrong?

# Specifications can have bugs, too!

```
> sorted [2, 2, 4]  
False
```



# Specifications can have bugs, too!

```
> sorted [2, 2, 4]  
False
```

```
sorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sorted []      = True  
sorted (x : []) = True  
sorted (x : y : ys) = x < y && sorted (y : ys)
```

# Specifications can have bugs, too!

```
> sorted [2, 2, 4]  
False
```

```
sorted :: [Int] → Bool  
sorted []           = True  
sorted (x : [])     = True  
sorted (x : y : ys) = x ≤ y && sorted (y : ys)
```

## Another attempt

```
> quickCheck sortEnsuresSorted  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 5 tests and 4 shrinks):  
[0, 0, - 1]
```

There still seems to be a bug.

## Another attempt

```
> quickCheck sortEnsuresSorted  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 5 tests and 4 shrinks):  
[0, 0, - 1]
```

There still seems to be a bug.

```
> sort [0, 0, - 1]  
[0, 0, - 1]
```

# Correcting again

```
sort :: [Int] → [Int]
sort []      = []
sort (x : xs) = insert x xs

insert :: Int → [Int] → [Int]
insert x []                = [x]
insert x (y : ys) | x ≤ y  = x : y : ys
                  | otherwise = y : insert x ys
```

# Correcting again

```
sort :: [Int] → [Int]
sort []      = []
sort (x : xs) = insert x (sort xs)
insert :: Int → [Int] → [Int]
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# Correcting again

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sort :: [Int] → [Int]
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insert x []                = [x]
insert x (y : ys) | x ≤ y  = x : y : ys
                  | otherwise = y : insert x ys
```

```
> quickCheck sortEnsuresSorted
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

# Are we done yet?

Is sorting specified completely by saying that

- ▶ sorting preserves the length of the input list,
- ▶ the resulting list is sorted?



# No, not quite

```
evilNoSort :: [Int] → [Int]  
evilNoSort xs = replicate (length xs) 0
```

This function fulfills both specifications, but still does not sort.

We need to make the relation between the input and output lists precise: both should contain the same elements – or one should be a permutation of the other.

# Specifying sorting

```
f 'permutes' xs = f xs 'elem' permutations xs  
sortPermutes xs = sort 'permutes' xs
```

Our sorting function fulfills this specification, but `evilNoSort` does not.

# How QuickCheck works

# How to use QuickCheck

To use QuickCheck in your program:

```
import Test.QuickCheck  -- from package QuickCheck
```

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Define properties.

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To use QuickCheck in your program:

```
import Test.QuickCheck  -- from package QuickCheck
```

Define properties.

Then call `quickCheck` to test the properties.

```
quickCheck :: Testable prop  $\Rightarrow$  prop  $\rightarrow$  IO ()
```

# The type of `quickCheck`

The type of `quickCheck` is an *overloaded* type:

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quickCheck :: Testable prop  $\Rightarrow$  prop  $\rightarrow$  IO ()
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```
quickCheck :: Testable prop ⇒ prop → IO ()
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- ▶ The argument of `quickCheck` is a property of type `prop`.
- ▶ The only restriction on the type `prop` is that it is in the `Testable` type class.

# The type of `quickCheck`

The type of `quickCheck` is an *overloaded* type:

```
quickCheck :: Testable prop ⇒ prop → IO ()
```

- ▶ The argument of `quickCheck` is a property of type `prop`.
- ▶ The only restriction on the type `prop` is that it is in the `Testable` type class.
- ▶ When executed, `quickCheck` prints the results of the test to the screen – hence the `IO ()` result type.

# Which properties are Testable?

So far, all our properties have been of type  $[Int] \rightarrow Bool$ :

```
sortPreservesLength :: [Int] → Bool
sortEnsuresSorted   :: [Int] → Bool
sortPermutes        :: [Int] → Bool
```

When used on such properties, QuickCheck generates random integer lists and verifies that the result is **True**.

- ▶ If the result is **True** for 100 cases, this success is reported in a message.
- ▶ If the result is **False** for a case, the test case triggering the result is printed.

## Other forms of properties

All these properties can be tested with `quickCheck` :

```
appendLength :: [a] → [a] → Bool
appendLength xs ys = length xs + length ys == length (xs ++ ys)

plusIsCommutative :: Int → Int → Bool
plusIsCommutative m n = m + n == n + m

takeDrop :: Int → [Int] → Bool
takeDrop n xs = take n xs ++ drop n xs == xs

dropTwice :: Int → Int → [Int] → Bool
dropTwice m n xs = drop m (drop n xs) == drop (m + n) xs
```

## Other forms of properties (contd.)

```
> quickCheck takeDrop
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
> quickCheck dropTwice
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 2 tests and 1 shrink):
1
-1
[0]
> drop (-1) [0]
[0]
> drop 1 (drop (-1) [0])
[]
> drop (1 + (-1)) [0]
[0]
```

## Other forms of properties (contd.)

```
> quickCheck takeDrop  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

```
> quickCheck dropTwice  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 2 tests and 1 shrink):
```

```
1  
-1  
[0]
```

```
> drop (-1) [0]  
[0]
```

```
> drop 1 (drop (-1) [0])  
[]
```

```
> drop (1 + (-1)) [0]  
[0]
```

# Nullary properties

A property without arguments is also possible:

```
lengthEmpty :: Bool
lengthEmpty = length [] == 0

wrong :: Bool
wrong = False

> quickCheck lengthEmpty
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.

> quickCheck wrong
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 1 test):
```

# Nullary properties

A property without arguments is also possible:

```
lengthEmpty :: Bool
lengthEmpty = length [] == 0

wrong :: Bool
wrong = False

> quickCheck lengthEmpty
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.

> quickCheck wrong
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 1 test):
```

No random test cases are involved for nullary properties.

QuickCheck subsumes unit tests.



# Properties

Recall the type of `quickCheck` :

```
quickCheck :: Testable prop => prop -> IO ()
```

We can now say more about when types are in `Testable` :

- ▶ testable properties usually are functions (with arbitrarily many arguments) resulting in a `Bool`

# Properties

Recall the type of `quickCheck` :

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Are arbitrary argument types admissible?

# Properties

Recall the type of `quickCheck` :

```
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We can now say more about when types are in `Testable` :

- ▶ testable properties usually are functions (with arbitrarily many arguments) resulting in a `Bool`

Are arbitrary argument types admissible?

No – QuickCheck has to know how to produce random test cases of such types.

## Properties (contd.)

We can express the idea in Haskell using the type class language.

```
class Testable prop where  
  property :: prop → Property
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  ...
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## Properties (contd.)

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```
class Testable prop where  
  property :: prop → Property
```

A `Bool` is testable:

```
instance Testable Bool where  
  ...
```

If a type is testable, we can add another function argument, as long as we know how to generate and print test cases:

```
instance (Arbitrary a, Show a, Testable b) ⇒  
  Testable (a → b) where  
  ...
```

Analyzing the test data

# Obtaining information about the test data

## Question

Why is it important to know what data we actually test on?



# Obtaining information about the test data

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Why is it important to know what data we actually test on?

A simple way is to use

```
verboseCheck :: Testable prop  $\Rightarrow$  prop  $\rightarrow$  IO ()
```

rather than

```
quickCheck  :: Testable prop  $\Rightarrow$  prop  $\rightarrow$  IO ()
```

# Observations about QuickCheck test data

- ▶ First test cases seem to be rather small.
- ▶ Test cases seem to increase in size over time.
- ▶ Duplicate test cases occur.

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- ▶ First test cases seem to be rather small.
- ▶ Test cases seem to increase in size over time.
- ▶ Duplicate test cases occur.

Often, `verboseCheck` is too much. We want to get information on the distribution of test cases according to a certain property.

# The function `collect`

```
collect :: (Testable prop, Show a) => a -> prop -> Property
```

The function `collect` gathers statistics about test cases. This information is displayed when a test passes:

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`collect :: (Testable prop, Show a) => a -> prop -> Property`

The function `collect` gathers statistics about test cases. This information is displayed when a test passes:

```
> let sPL = sortPreservesLength  
> quickCheck (\xs -> collect (null xs) (sPL xs))  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests:  
97% False .  
3% True .
```

## The function `collect` (contd.)

```
> quickCheck ( $\lambda$ xs  $\rightarrow$  collect (length xs 'div' 10) (sPL xs))
```

+++ OK, passed 100 tests:

29% 0

23% 1

14% 2

11% 3

7% 4

6% 5

4% 9

4% 6

2% 7

# The type `Property`

Recall the type of `collect` :

```
collect :: (Testable prop, Show a) => a -> prop -> Property
```

The type `Property` is QuickCheck-specific. It holds more structural information about a property than a plain `Bool` ever could.

```
instance Testable Property where ...
```

Like `Bool`, a `Property` is testable, so for us, not much changes.

# Conditions in properties



# Implications

The function `insert` preserves an ordered list.

```
implies :: Bool → Bool → Bool  
implies x y = not x || y
```

A problematic property

```
insertPreservesOrdered :: Int → [Int] → Bool  
insertPreservesOrdered x xs =  
    sorted xs 'implies' sorted (insert x xs)
```

Can you imagine why?

## Implications (contd.)

```
> quickCheck insertPreservesOrdered  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

## Implications (contd.)

```
> quickCheck insertPreservesOrdered  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

But:

```
> let iPO = insertPreservesOrdered  
> quickCheck ( $\lambda x\ xs \rightarrow \text{collect (sorted xs) (iPO x xs)}$ )  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests:  
88% False  
12% True
```

For 88 test cases, `insert` has not actually been relevant for the result.

# Implications (contd.)

The solution is to use the QuickCheck implication operator:

```
( $\impl$ ) :: (Testable prop)  $\Rightarrow$  Bool  $\rightarrow$  prop  $\rightarrow$  Property
```

We see `Property` again – this type allows us to encode not only `True` or `False`, but also to reject the test case.

```
iPO :: Int  $\rightarrow$  [Int]  $\rightarrow$  Property  
iPO x xs = sorted xs  $\impl$  sorted (insert x xs)
```

Now, lists that are not sorted are discarded and do not contribute towards the goal of 100 test cases.

## Implications (contd.)

We can now easily run into a new problem:

```
> quickCheck ( $\lambda x xs \rightarrow \text{collect (sorted xs) (iPO x xs)}$ )  
*** Gave up! Passed only 41 tests (100% True ).
```

The chance that a random list is sorted is extremely small.

QuickCheck will give up after a while if too few test cases pass the precondition.

# Custom generators

# Generators

- ▶ Generators belong to an abstract data type **Gen**.
- ▶ We can define our own generators using another domain-specific language. The default generators for datatypes are specified by defining instances of class **Arbitrary**:

```
class Arbitrary a where  
  arbitrary :: Gen a  
  ...
```

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```
class Arbitrary a where  
  arbitrary :: Gen a  
  ...
```

Think of a **Gen a** as an abstract set of information on how to produce values of type **a** randomly.



# Running generators

QuickCheck has internal functions to extract random values from generators.

For end users, two debugging functions are offered:

```
sample :: Show a => Gen a -> IO ()  
sample' :: Show a => Gen a -> IO [a]
```

These produce a number of random values generated by the given `Gen a`, and print them in the case of `sample`, or return them in the case of `sample'`.

# Building new generators

QuickCheck includes a library for the construction of new generators:

```
choose    :: Random a => (a, a) -> Gen a
oneof     :: [Gen a] -> Gen a
frequency :: [(Int, Gen a)] -> Gen a
elements  :: [a] -> Gen a
sized     :: (Int -> Gen a) -> Gen a
```

# Simple generators

For enumeration types, defining generators is easy:

```
instance Arbitrary Bool where  
  arbitrary = elements [False, True]
```

```
instance Arbitrary Dir where  
  arbitrary = elements [North, East, South, West]
```

# Generating numbers

A simple possibility:

```
instance Arbitrary Int where  
  arbitrary = choose (- 20, 20)
```

Better:

```
instance Arbitrary Int where  
  arbitrary = sized ( $\lambda n \rightarrow$  choose (- n, n))
```

QuickCheck automatically increases the size gradually, up to the configured maximum value.

# How to generate sorted lists

Idea: Adapt the default generator for lists.

The following function turns a list of integers into a sorted list of integers:

```
mkSorted :: [Int] → [Int]
mkSorted []      = []
mkSorted [x]     = [x]
mkSorted (x : y : ys) = x : mkSorted (x + abs y : ys)
```

# How to generate sorted lists

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The following function turns a list of integers into a sorted list of integers:

```
mkSorted :: [Int] → [Int]
mkSorted []      = []
mkSorted [x]     = [x]
mkSorted (x : y : ys) = x : mkSorted (x + abs y : ys)
```

Example

```
> mkSorted [1, 3, - 4, 0, 2]
[1, 4, 8, 8, 10]
```

## How to generate sorted lists (contd.)

The original generator can be adapted as follows:

```
genSorted :: Gen [Int]
genSorted = fmap mkSorted arbitrary
```

Yes, `Gen` is an instance of `Functor` !

# Using a custom generator

There is another function to construct properties provided by QuickCheck:

```
forall :: (Show a, Testable b) => Gen a -> (a -> b) -> Property
```

This is how we use it:

```
iPO :: Int -> Property  
iPO x = forall genSorted  
  (\xs -> sorted xs ==> sorted (insert x xs))
```



# Using a custom generator

There is another function to construct properties provided by QuickCheck:

```
forAll :: (Show a, Testable b) => Gen a -> (a -> b) -> Property
```

This is how we use it:

```
iPO :: Int -> Property
iPO x = forAll genSorted
  (\xs -> sorted xs ==> sorted (insert x xs))
```

And it works:

```
> quickCheck iPO
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

# Modifiers

The module `Test.QuickCheck.Modifiers` defines a number of **`newtype`** wrappers:

```
newtype Positive a      = Positive a
newtype NonNegative a  = NonNegative a
newtype NonZero a     = NonZero a
newtype NonEmptyList a = NonEmpty [a]
newtype OrderedList a = Ordered [a]
```

These types have different **`Arbitrary`** instances than their underlying types, implementing a number of frequently required additional invariants.

# Using modifiers

So, instead of hand-writing our own generator for sorted lists, we could have used:

```
iPO :: Int → OrderedList [Int] → Bool  
iPO x (Ordered xs) = sorted (insert x xs)
```

# Using modifiers

So, instead of hand-writing our own generator for sorted lists, we could have used:

```
iPO :: Int → OrderedList [Int] → Bool  
iPO x (Ordered xs) = sorted (insert x xs)
```

The **newtype** wrapper technique for non-standard class instances is also applicable for your own generators, and also applicable in completely different situations.

All lists are sorted?

```
> quickCheck sorted  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

# GHCi pitfall

All lists are sorted?

```
> quickCheck sorted  
+++ OK, passed 100 tests.
```

Use type signatures in GHCi to make sure a sensible type is used!

```
> quickCheck (ordered :: [Int] → Bool)  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 3 tests and 2 shrinks):  
[0, - 1]
```

QuickCheck is a great tool:

- ▶ A domain-specific language for writing properties.
- ▶ Test data is generated automatically and randomly.
- ▶ Another domain-specific language to write custom generators.
- ▶ You should use it.
- ▶ The `smallcheck` and `HUnit` libraries are also worth checking out.

However, keep in mind that writing good tests still requires training, and that tests can have bugs, too.

# Haskell Program Coverage



# Reachable uncovered code

Program code can be classified:

- ▶ **unreachable code**: code that simply is not used by the program, usually library code
- ▶ **reachable code**: code that can in principle be executed by the program

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- ▶ **covered code**: code that is actually executed during a number of program executions (for instance, tests)
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Reachable code can be classified further:

- ▶ **covered code**: code that is actually executed during a number of program executions (for instance, tests)
- ▶ **uncovered code**: code that is not executed during testing

Uncovered code is untested code – it could be executed, and it could do anything!

# Introducing HPC

- ▶ HPC (Haskell Program Coverage) is a tool – integrated into GHC – that can identify uncovered code.
- ▶ Using HPC is extremely simple:
  - ▶ Compile your program with the flag `-fhpc`.
  - ▶ Run your program, possibly multiple times.
  - ▶ Run `hpc report` for a short coverage summary.
  - ▶ Run `hpc markup` to generate an annotated HTML version of your source code.

# What HPC does

- ▶ HPC can present your program source code in a color-coded fashion.
- ▶ Yellow code is uncovered code.
- ▶ Uncovered code is discovered down to the level of subexpressions! (Most tools for imperative language only give you line-based coverage analysis.)
- ▶ HPC also analyzes boolean expressions:
  - ▶ Boolean expressions that have always been **True** are displayed in green.
  - ▶ Boolean expressions that have always been **False** are displayed in red.

QuickCheck and HPC interact well!

- ▶ Use HPC to discover code that is not covered by your tests.
- ▶ Define new test properties such that more code is covered.
- ▶ Reaching 100% can be really difficult (why?), but strive for as much coverage as you can get.