

Functional programming

Introduction

- High level of abstraction
- Based on lambda calculus
- Language of choice: Haskell
- Functional programming -> expressions > statements.

Example:

```
--Add the first ten numbers together  
sum[1..10]
```

- Install Hugs, Haskell interpreter (ghci is another interpreter)

First steps

- Start hugs in terminal

Examples:

```
> head[1,2,3,4] --take first element  
1  
> tail[1,2,3,4] --remove first element  
[2,3,4]  
> [1,2,3,4] !! 2 --element #2  
3  
> take 3 [1,2,3,4] -- generalization of head  
[1,2,3]  
> drop 3 [1,2,3,4,5] --generalization of tail  
[4,5]  
> [1,2,3]++[4,5] --append  
[1,2,3,4,5]
```

- First element in list has index 0
- List different to array -> indexing bad idea, not in constant time but in linear

Function application: function application is denoted by space. Higher priority

```
f a b + c*d --f(a,b) + c d from math
f a + b --f(a) + b from math
```

- Haskell file (script) -> **.hs**
- Define function in script, then open Hugs with script as argument so that functions are available. If script is changed use **:reload**. Also possible to load using **:load script**
- *Infix operator*: **xfy --> f x y**
- *Naming*:
- function and parameter name must begin with lowercase
- can use quotes (*prime*)
- type has to start with uppercase
- convention -> **s** at the end means list, **ss** list of lists
- Indentation like Python, implicit grouping
- Useful commands -> **:load script**, **:reload**, **:edit script**, **:type expression, :?**
- Comments: one line **--comment**, nested:

```
{-
very long
comment goes
here
-}
```

Types and classes

- **Type**: name for a collection of related values. Example **Bool**
- Applying a function to a wrong type makes a *type error*
- **e :: t -> e** has type **t**
- *Type inference*: compiler calculates type of expression prior to execution. Haskell programs are *type safe*, type error never happens in run time
- **:type <exp>** to calculate type of expression

Table 1: Different types in Haskell

Type	Explanation
Bool	Logical value: True or False
Char	Single character, enclosed in single quotes: 'a'
String	String of characters, double quotes: "abc"
Int	Fixed precision integer
Integer	Arbitrary precision integer, doesn't overflow
Float	Single precision floating point number

- **List:** sequence of values with same type. Can be infinite. Examples:

```
[False, True, False] :: [Bool] -- list of elements type Bool
['a', 'b'] :: [Char] -- list of elements type char
```

- **Tuple:** sequence of values of different type. Number of elements is called *arity*. Finite number of elements because type of all have to be calculated. Example:

```
(False, 'a') :: (Bool, Char) -- length appears in type
```

- **Function:** mapping from values of a type to values of another type. Examples:

```
not :: Bool -> Bool
isDigit :: Char -> Bool
```

```
function :: t1 -> t2 -- from domain to range in general
```

- *Curried function:* functions that return arguments one at a time (functions can return functions): $a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow a)$ equivalent to $a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$, arrow associates to the right. Any function that returns more than one values can be curried. Useful for *partially applying functions*. **Most** functions applied in curried form, if tuples are not explicitly declared.
- *Polymorphic function:* functions not defined for a particular type. Example:

```
length :: [a] -> Int
```

- Price for polymorphism: type variables start with lowercase and types with uppercase
- *Overloaded function:* functions with same name but different types. In Haskell overloading means that there is a restriction in the type class. Example:

```
sum :: Num [a] => [a] -> Int -- only numeric values allowed
```

Defining functions

Conditional expressions

Example:

```
abs :: Int -> Int
abs n = if n >= 0 then n else -n
```

- Can be nested
- Conditional expressions **must** have an **else** branch

Guarded equation:

- Sequence of logical expressions
- Alternative to conditional (Haskell people prefer this)

```
abs n | n >= 0    = n -- /= such that
      | otherwise = -n
```

- Can be used to make definitions involving multiple conditions

Pattern matching

```
(&&) :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool
True && True = True
_    && _    = False --anything but True&&True
```

More efficient way using wildcard + lazy evaluation:

```
(&&) :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool
True  && b = b -- True && something --> something
False && _ = False -- always False
```

- Order is important
- Patterns may not repeat variables: all the variables inside the pattern have to be different
- *Lists in pattern matching*: use *cons* definition $(:)$ ¹. Only matches not empty list. These pattern must be parenthesized because function application has higher priority.

```
head :: [a] -> a
head (x : _) = x
```

¹Lists are constructed one element at a time from the empty list using *cons operator*
 $[1,2,3] = 1:(2:(3:[])) = 1:2:3:[]$