## 1 Programming with expressions and values

**Exercise 1.1.** Describe what each of the following Haskell functions mean:

```
f1
               :: Int
f1
               = 1 + 5
f2
               :: Int \rightarrow Int \rightarrow Int
f2 m n
| m < n
               = m
otherwise = n
f3
               :: String \rightarrow Int \rightarrow String
f3 s n
\mid n \leq 0
\mid otherwise = s ++ f3 s (n-1)
f4
               :: Int \rightarrow Int \rightarrow Int
f4 x 0
               = X
f4 x y
               = f4 y (x mod y)
f5
               :: (Int,Int) \rightarrow Int
f5 x
               = fst x + snd x
f6
               :: (a,b) \rightarrow (b,a)
f6 (a,b)
               = (b,a)
f7
               :: (a,a) \rightarrow (a,a)
f7 x
               = f6 (f6 x)
```

**Exercise 1.2.** Determine the result of the expressions below by rewriting. First add parentheses () in the expressions illustrating the priorities of the operations correctly. Then apply rewrites as shown in the lecture: place every rewrite step on a new line, and <u>underline</u> the part of the expression that you rewrite (the *redex*, *reducible expression*).

```
e1 = 42

e2 = 1 + 125 * 8 / 10 - 59

e3 = not True || True && False

e4 = 1 + 2 == 6 - 3

e5 = "1 + 2" == "6 - 3"

e6 = "1111 + 2222" == "1111" ++ " + " ++ "2222"
```

**Exercise 1.3** (Warm-up: definitions, Database.hs). Consider the following definitions, which introduce a type of persons and some sample data.

```
frits = ("Frits", 33, "Algorithms and Data Structures")
peter = ("Peter", 57, "Imperative Programming")
ralf = ("Ralf", 33, "Functional Programming")
students :: [Person]
students = [frits, peter, ralf]
```

- 1. Add your own data and/or invent some additional entries. In particular, add yourself to the list of students.
- 2. The function age defined below extracts the age from a person, e.g. age ralf = 33. (In case you wonder why some variables have a leading underscore see the hint)

```
age :: Person \rightarrow Age age (_n, a, _c) = a
```

Define functions

```
name :: Person \rightarrow Name favouriteCourse :: Person \rightarrow FavouriteCourse
```

that extract name and favourite course, respectively.

- 3. Define a function showPerson :: Person → String that returns a string representation of a person. You may find the predefined operator ++ useful, which concatenates two strings e.g. "hello, " ++ "world" = "hello, world". *Hint*: show converts a value to a string e.g. show 4711 = "4711".
- 4. Define a function twins :: Person → Person → Bool that checks whether two persons are twins. (For lack of data, we agree that two persons are twins if they are of the same age.)
- 5. Define a function increaseAge :: Person  $\rightarrow$  Person which increases the age of a given person by one e.g.

```
» increaseAge ralf
("Ralf",34,"Functional Programming")
```

6. The function map takes a function and a list and applies the function to each element of the list e.g.

```
\Rightarrow map age students [33,57,33] \Rightarrow map (\ p \rightarrow (age p, name p)) students [(33,"Frits"),(57,"Peter"),(33,"Ralf")]
```

The function filter applied to a predicate and a list returns the list of those elements that satisfy the predicate e.g.

```
\Rightarrow filter (\ p → age p > 50) students [("Peter",57,"Imperative Programming")] \Rightarrow map (\ p → (age p, name p)) (filter (\ p → age p > 50) students) [(57,"Peter")]
```

Create expressions to solve the following tasks:

- increment the age of all students by two;
- promote all of the students (attach "dr " to their name);
- find all students named Frits;
- find all students whose favourite course is Functional Programming;
- find all students who are in their twenties;
- find all students whose favourite course is Functional Programming and who are in their twenties;
- find all students whose favourite course is Imperative Programming or who are in their twenties.

**Exercise 1.4** (Pencil and paper: evaluation). 1. Recall the implementation of Insertion Sort from §0.4 (listed below, with some minor modifications).

```
insertionSort :: [Integer] → [Integer]
insertionSort [] = []
insertionSort (x : xs) = insert x (insertionSort xs)

insert :: Integer → [Integer] → [Integer]
insert a [] = a : []
insert a (b : xs)
  | a ≤ b = a : b : xs
  | a > b = b : insert a xs
```

The function insert takes an element and an ordered list and inserts the element at the appropriate position e.g.

```
insert 7 (2 : (9 : []))

⇒ {definition of insert and 7 > 2}
2 : (insert 7 (9 : []))

⇒ {definition of insert and 7 ≤ 9}
2 : (7 : (9 : []))
```

Recall that Haskell has a very simple computational model: an expression is evaluated by repeatedly replacing equals by equals. Evaluate the expression

```
insertionSort (7: (9: (2:[])))
```

by hand, using the format above. (We have not yet discussed lists in any depth, but I hope you will be able to solve the exercise anyway. The point is that evaluation is a purely mechanical process - this is why a computer is able to perform the task.)

2. The function twice applies its first argument twice to its second argument.

```
twice f x = f (f x)
```

(Like map and filter, it is an example of a higher-order function as it takes a function as an argument.) Evaluate twice (+ 1) 0 and twice twice (\* 2) 1 by hand. Use the computer to evaluate

```
twice ("|" ++) ""
twice twice ("|" ++) ""
twice twice twice ("|" ++) ""
twice twice twice twice ("|" ++) ""
twice (twice twice) ("|" ++) ""
twice twice (twice twice) ("|" ++) ""
```

Is there any rhyme or rhythm? Can you identify any pattern?

**Exercise 1.5** (Pencil and paper:  $\lambda$ -expressions). 1. An alternative definition of twice builds on  $\lambda$ -expressions.

```
twice' = \ \ f \rightarrow \ \ x \rightarrow f \ (f \ x)
```

Re-evaluate twice (+ 1) 0 and twice twice (\* 2) 1 using this definition. You need to repeatedly apply the evaluation rule for  $\lambda$ -expressions (historically known as the  $\beta$ -rule).

```
(\ x \rightarrow body) arg \Rightarrow body \{x := arg\}
```

A function applied to an argument reduces to the body of the function where every occurrence of the formal parameter is replaced by the actual parameter e.g.

```
(\ X \rightarrow X + X) \ 47 \Rightarrow X + X \ \{ \ X := 47 \} \Rightarrow 47 + 47 \Rightarrow 94.
```

2. It is perhaps slightly worrying that you can apply a function to itself (as in twice twice (\* 2) 1 = ((twice twice) (\* 2)) 1). Can you guess the type of twice?

Exercise 1.6 (Worked example: prefix and infix notation).

- 1. Haskell features both alphabetic identifiers, written *prefix* e.g. sin pi, and symbolic identifiers, written *infix* e.g. 2 + 7. The use of infix notation for addition is traditional. (The symbol "+" is a simplification of "et", Latin for "and".) Most programming languages (with the notable exception of LISP) have adopted infix notation. But is this actually a wise thing to do? What are the advantages and disadvantages of infix over prefix (or postfix) notation. Discuss!
- 2. Infix notation is inherently ambiguous: x ⊗ y ⊗ z. What does this mean: (x ⊗ y) ⊗ z or x ⊗ (y ⊗ z)? To disambiguate without parentheses, operators may associate to the left or to the right. Subtraction associates to the left: 5 4 2 = (5 4) 2. Why? Concatenation of strings associates to the right: "F" ++ "P" ++ "1" = "F" ++ ("P" ++ "1"). Why? Haskell allows the programmer to specify the association of an operator using a fixity declaration:

```
infixl -
infixr ++
```

Function application can be seen as an operator ("the space operator") and associates to the left: f a b means (f a) b. (On the other hand, the "function type" operator associates

to the right: Integer  $\rightarrow$  Integer  $\rightarrow$  Integer means Integer  $\rightarrow$  (Integer  $\rightarrow$  Integer).) Haskell also features an explicit operator for function application, which associates to the right: f \$ g \$ a means f \$ (g \$ a) = f (g a). Can you foresee possible use-cases?

3. The operator

```
infix1 **
a ** b = 2 * a + b
```

can be used to capture binary numbers e.g.  $1 ** 0 ** 1 ** 1 \Rightarrow 11$  and  $(1 ** 1 ** 0) + 4711 \Rightarrow 4717$ . The fixity declaration determines that \*\* associates to the left. Why this choice? What happens if we declare infixr \*\*?

4. Association does not help when operators are mixed: x ## y \*\* z. What does this mean: (x ## y) \*\* z or x ## (y \*\* z)? To disambiguate without parentheses, there is a notion of *precedence* (or binding power), e.g. \* has higher precedence (binds more tightly) than +.

```
infixl 7 *
infixl 6 +
```

The precedence level ranges between 0 and 9. Function application ("the space operator") has the highest precedence (ie 10), so square 3 + 4 = (square 3) + 4. Find out about the precedence levels of the various operators and *fully* parenthesize the expression below.

```
f x \ge 0 \& a \mid \mid g x y * 7 + 10 == b - 5
```

## **Exercise 1.7** (Programming). Define the string

```
thisOldMan :: String
```

that produces the following poem (if you type putStr thisOldMan).

This old man, he played one, He played knick-knack on my thumb; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played two, He played knick-knack on my shoe; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played three, He played knick-knack on my knee; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played four,

He played knick-knack on my door; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played five, He played knick-knack on my hive; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played six,
He played knick-knack on my sticks;
With a knick-knack paddywhack,
Give the dog a bone,
This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played seven,
He played knick-knack up in heaven;
With a knick-knack paddywhack,
Give the dog a bone,
This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played eight, He played knick-knack on my gate; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played nine, He played knick-knack on my spine; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played ten, He played knick-knack once again; With a knick-knack paddywhack, Give the dog a bone, This old man came rolling home.

Try to make the program as short as possible by capturing recurring patterns. Define a suitable function for each of those patterns.

**Exercise 1.8** (Programming, Shapes.hs). The datatype Shape defined below captures simple geometric shapes: circles, squares, and rectangles.

data Shape

= Circle Double

-- radius

```
| Square Double -- length
| Rectangle Double Double -- length and width
deriving (Show)
```

Examples of concrete shapes include Circle (1/3), Circle 2.1, Square pi, and Rectangle 2.0 4.0.

The function showShape illustrates how to define a function that consumes a shape. A shape is one of three things. Correspondingly, showShape consists of three equations, one for each kind of shape.

```
showShape :: Shape \rightarrow String showShape (Circle r) = "circle of radius " ++ show r showShape (Square 1) = "square of length " ++ show 1 showShape (Rectangle 1 w) = "rectangle of length " ++ show u ++ " and width " ++ show w
```

Use the same definitional scheme to implement the functions

```
area :: Shape \rightarrow Double perimeter :: Shape \rightarrow Double center :: Shape \rightarrow (Double, Double) -- |x|- and |y|-coordinates boundingBox :: Shape \rightarrow (Double, Double) -- width and height (The names are hopefully self-explanatory.)
```

**Exercise 1.9.** The *greatest common divisor* function is defined in roughly the following way:

```
gcd :: Int \rightarrow Int \rightarrow Int
gcd x y = gcd' (abs x) (abs y)
where gcd' a 0 = a
gcd' a b = gcd' b (a 'rem' b)
```

Rewrite the following expressions using this definition:

```
gcd -42 0
gcd 0 -42
gcd 18 42
gcd 123456789 987654321
```

**Exercise 1.10** (Strings, Strings.hs). The standard environment of Haskell provides various functions for working with texts of type String. In this exercise you are only allowed to use the following functions as String operations:

```
    length: returns the number of characters of the given String.
    Example: length "" returns 0.
    Example: length "0123456789" returns 10.
```

• !!: returns the Char value on the given Int index in a string. The indices of a non-empty string s go from 0 up to and including (size s)-1. The empty string "" does not have any valid indices.

```
Example: "0123456789" !! 4 returns '4'.

Example: "0123456789" !! -1 returns *** Exception: Prelude.!!: negative index.

Example: "0123456789" !! 10 returns *** Exception: Prelude.!!: index too large.
```

Using only the above functions, write the following ones:

1. Write your own implementation of head :: String → Char and tail :: String → String that given a non-empty String return the first and the remaining elements of the String respectively. If the argument is the empty String, it should show an error.

Example: head "Madam, I'm Adam" = 'M'.
Example: tail "Madam, I'm Adam" = "adam, I'm Adam".

- 2. Write a function is\_equal that determines the equality of two String arguments. This means that for every pair  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$  of type String the following should hold: is\_equal  $s_1$   $s_2$  =  $s_1 == s_2$ .
- 3. Write a function is\_substring that returns a Bool when given two String arguments. The result should be True if and only if the first argument is a substring of the second argument. Example: is\_substring "there" "Is there anybody out there?"¹ returns True, after all: "Is there anybody out there?".
  Example: is\_substring "there" "Just for the record"² returns False because there is

**Example:** is\_substring "there" "Just for the record" returns False because there is a space between the and re.

4. Write a function is\_sub that returns a Bool when given two String arguments. The results should be true True if and only if the characters of the first argument appear in the same order in the second argument. Characters of the second argument may be skipped.

**Example:** is\_sub "there" "Just for the record" returns True because the space will be skipped.

**Example:** is\_sub "she and her" "Is there anybody in there?" returns True, after all: "Is\_there\_anybody\_in there?".

**Example:** is\_sub "There there" <sup>3</sup> "Is there anybody in there?" returns False because T is no part of the second String.

- 5. Write a recursive function is\_match that returns a Bool when given two String arguments (pattern and source). The function determines whether the pattern can be applied on the source (the pattern matches the source). The pattern may contain wildcard characters:
  - .: this matches the next, arbitrary single character in the *source*.
  - \*: this matches zero or more consecutive characters in the *source*.

All other characters in the *pattern* have to match exactly with the corresponding characters in the *source*.

Example: is\_match "here" "here" returns True.

**Example:** is\_match "here" " here" returns False because the first characters of the two strings do not match.

**Example:** is\_match "here" "here " returns False because the second text has one extra character.

Example: is\_match ".." "AB" returns True because the second text consists of exactly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Pink Floyd – The Wall (1979)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Marillion – Clutching at straws (1987)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Radiohead – Hail to the thief (2003)

two characters.

**Example:** is\_match "\*?" "Is there anybody in there?" returns True because the second text ends with a '?' character.

**Example:** is\_match "\*?\*!\*?\*!" "Answers? Questions! Questions? Answers!" <sup>4</sup> returns

Example: is\_match "\*.here\*.here\*." "Is there anybody in there?" returns True. Example: is\_match ".here.here." "Is there anybody in there?" returns False.

## **Exercise 1.11** (Determining prime numbers). Write the *recursive* function

```
isPrime :: Int \rightarrow Bool
```

that determines whether the argument is a prime number. A prime number is a positive integer divisible by exactly two *different* positive integers; namely itself and 1 (hence the reason why 1 is not a prime itself). Test the function with  $[x \mid x \leftarrow [1 .. 1000]$ , isPrime x]. This should return all primes in the range of one up to and including a thousand. The result should be:

```
[2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, 97, 101, 103, 107, 109, 113, 127, 131, 137, 139, 149, 151, 157, 163, 167, 173, 179, 181, 191, 193, 197, 199, 211, 223, 227, 229, 233, 239, 241, 251, 257, 263, 269, 271, 277, 281, 283, 293, 307, 311, 313, 317, 331, 337, 347, 349, 353, 359, 367, 373, 379, 383, 389, 397, 401, 409, 419, 421, 431, 433, 439, 443, 449, 457, 461, 463, 467, 479, 487, 491, 499, 503, 509, 521, 523, 541, 547, 557, 563, 569, 571, 577, 587, 593, 599, 601, 607, 613, 617, 619, 631, 641, 643, 647, 653, 659, 661, 673, 677, 683, 691, 701, 709, 719, 727, 733, 739, 743, 751, 757, 761, 769, 773, 787, 797, 809, 811, 821, 823, 827, 829, 839, 853, 857, 859, 863, 877, 881, 883, 887, 907, 911, 919, 929, 937, 941, 947, 953, 967, 971, 977, 983, 991, 997]
```

**Note:** Use the function rem for integer division with remainder. The function mod is practically an alias of this function.

**Exercise 1.12** (Prime factors). Every integer x > 1 can be decomposed in prime factors in a canonical way. This means that you can find a range of prime numbers  $p_0 \dots p_k$  where  $k \ge 0$  for which  $p_i < p_j$  for all i < j and as many positive numbers  $n_0 \dots n_k$  in such a way that:

$$x = p_0^{n_0} \cdot \cdots \cdot p_k^{n_k} = \prod_{i=0}^k p_i^{n_i}$$

**Examples:** 
$$36$$
 =  $2^2 \cdot 3^2$   
 $52$  =  $2^2 \cdot 13$   
 $133$  =  $7 \cdot 19$   
 $123456789$  =  $3^2 \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ 

Write the function primeFactors :: Int  $\rightarrow$  String that decomposes an integer into its prime factors. The prime factors found should be glued together in the resulting String.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Focus – Focus III (1973)

```
Examples: primeFactors 52 = "2*2*13" primeFactors 36 = "2*2*3*3" primeFactors 133 = "7*19" primeFactors 123456789 = "3*3*3607*3803"
```

Use the function isPrime from one of the previous exercises.

The following operations on Strings and Ints are useful:  $s_1 ++ s_2$  glues String  $s_2$  to String  $s_1$ ; to String  $s_2$  to String value from an Int.

**Exercise 1.13** (Adding numbers). Write the function numberSum :: Int  $\rightarrow$  Int that sums the digits of a positive integer.

```
Example: numberSum 9876543 = 9+8+7+6+5+4+3 = 42.
```

**Example:** numberSum 1000 = 1+0+0+0 = 1.

**Exercise 1.14** (O Tannenbaum). Write the function triangle that receives an Int argument n. This function will draw a triangle as shown on the right with n = 5. The drawing is actually returning a String of which every line ends with a newline.

Hence, the string corresponding with the image to the right is:

The output will be:



Write the function christmasTree that receives an Int argument n. This function draws a Christmas tree as a String (as shown on the right with n = 4). For every sub triangle the function should use a generalized version of the above defined triangle function.

The following operations on Strings and Chars are useful:  $s_1 ++ s_2$  glues String  $s_2$  to String  $s_1$ ; to String c creates a String value from a Char c. '\n' is the newline character.

**Exercise 1.15** (Trajectory). An object, such as a ball, which is shot away from a flat surface with an angle of  $\theta_0(0 < \theta_0 \le \frac{\pi}{2})^5$  and initial velocity  $v_0(0 < v_0)$ , follows an arclike trajectory influenced by gravitational acceleration <sup>6</sup>. If we ignore effects such as air resistance and wind, the trajectory of the ball is a curve defined in a vertical flat surface in which the x-axis shows the distance to the starting position on the ground and the x-axis shows the height of the ball.

Because we ignore air resistance, the velocity of the ball in the x-direction  $(v_x(t))$  is constant. The velocity of the ball in the x-direction  $(v_y(t))$  depends on the time t and the gravitational acceleration  $g = 9.81 \frac{m}{c^2}$ :

$$v_x(t) = v_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0)$$
  
 $v_y(t) = v_0 \cdot \sin(\theta_0) - g \cdot t$ 

You can calculate the distance x(t) and the height y(t) of the ball on time t as follows:

$$x(t) = v_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0) \cdot t$$
  

$$y(t) = v_0 \cdot \sin(\theta_0) \cdot t - \frac{1}{2} \cdot g \cdot t^2$$

Height h, expressed in distance x is:

$$h(x) = \tan(\theta_0) \cdot x - \frac{g}{2 \cdot (\upsilon_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0))} \cdot x^2$$

The ball reaches the highest point at time  $t_{\text{max }y}$ :

$$t_{\max y} = \frac{v_0 \cdot \sin(\theta_0)}{g}$$

Thus you can find the maximal height reached at that time by plugging  $t_{maxy}$  into y(t). The ball takes just as much time to reach the highest point as it takes to get back on the ground. Therefore the ball is airborne for  $t_2 = 2 \cdot t_{maxy}$  seconds. You can find the distance the ball travels by plugging  $t_2$  into x(t). The velocity of the ball when touching the ground can be found by plugging  $t_2$  into  $v_x(t)$  and  $v_y(t)$ . Then, the combined value is:

$$v_1 = \sqrt{v_x(t_2)^2 + v_y(t_2)^2}$$

**Functions** Implement the aforementioned functions  $v_x$ ,  $v_y$ , x, x and h in Haskell with the respective names v\_x, v\_y, x\_at, y\_at and h. The equations given above are parameterized with the initial velocity  $v_0$  and angle  $\theta_0$  and need to be passed as parameters to the Haskell functions.

**Best angle** Write a *recursive* function best\_angle that, given an initial velocity  $v_0$ , calculates the angle  $\theta \in \{\frac{1}{100}\pi, \frac{2}{100}\pi \dots \frac{50}{100}\pi\}$  in such a way that when the ball is shot away with velocity  $v_0$  and angle  $\theta$  it travels the *greatest* distance.

Experiment with different values for  $v_0$ . Does this result in the same return value?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Angle in radians.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Source: Halliday, Resnick. *Physics, Parts I and II, combined edition*, Wiley International Edition, 1966, ISBN 0 471 34524 5

**Exercise 1.16** (Stringnum, Stringnum.hs). In the module Stringnum you develop functions to work with Strings representing arbitrarily large non-negative integers. The functions are:

- is AString Numtests whether the given String represents a correct positive integer (including zero).
- The functions smaller, bigger and equal implement the operations <, > and ==.
- The functions plus, decrement, times and divide implement the operations +, -, \* and /, where decrement a b = "0" if bigger b a.

The following functions on Strings and Chars are useful (they are in module Data.Char): isDigit c tests whether a Char c is a digit; digitToInt c returns the ASCII-code of Char c; size s returns the length of the String s; ++ glues two Strings together; s!! i returns the character from s at index i:

**Exercise 1.17** (Stringnum2, Stringnum.hs). If you can calculate with arbitrarily large nonnegative integers, then, using these operations, you can also construct the implementations for all arbitrarily large integers (negative, positive, and 0). In this implementation, use the exported functions from Stringnum to create a new module Stringnum2 implementing the same operations for all integers. Add the following operations besides the existing ones:

- isNegative tests whether the given number is negative (< 0).
- absolute calculates the absolute value of the argument.
- changeSign flips the sign of the number.

**Exercise 1.18** (Time, Time.hs). The length of movies and music is often displayed in the  $m^+$ : ss format where  $m^+$  is the number of minutes and ss the number of seconds. For example, the length of the movie "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" is 178:00, i.e. two hours and 58 minutes. The length of the song "Tea" of Sam Brown on the album "Stop!" is 0:41, i.e. 41 seconds. Moreover, time in between songs (silence) is often indicated via negative time. For instance, three seconds of silence is -0:03. Implement the following two functions:

- showTime *n*: with *n* the number of seconds (positive or negative), this function shows the time as explained in the above format;
- parseTime x: with x a string, this function attempts to extract the format explained above
  and return the corresponding (positive or negative) number of seconds. If x is ill formatted,
  then the result should be zero.

**Hints to practitioners 1.** Functional programming folklore has it that a functional program is correct once it has passed the type-checker. Sadly, this is not quite true. Anyway, the general message is to exploit the compiler for *static* debugging: compile often, compile soon. (To trigger a re-compilation after an edit, simply type :reload or :r in GHCi.)

We can also instruct the compiler to perform additional sanity checks by passing the option -Wall to GHCi e.g. call ghci -Wall (turn all warnings on). The compiler then checks, for

example, whether the variables introduced on the left-hand side of an equation are actually used on the right-hand side. Thus, the definition  $k \times y = x$  will provoke the warning "Defined but not used: y". Variables with a leading underscore are not reported, so changing the definition to  $k \times y = x$  suppresses the warning.