

## Recursive function definitions

**3.1** Write your own recursive definitions for the following Prelude functions. Use different names in order to avoid clashes, e.g. define a function `myand` instead of `and`.

- (a) `and :: [Bool] -> Bool` — test if all values are true;
- (b) `or :: [Bool] -> Bool` — test if some value is true;
- (c) `concat :: [[a]] -> [a]` — concatenate a list of lists;
- (d) `replicate :: Int -> a -> [a]` — produce a list with repeated values;
- (e) `(!!) :: [a] -> Int -> a` — index the  $n$ -th value in a list (starting from zero);
- (f) `elem :: Eq a => a -> [a] -> Bool` — check if a value occurs in a list.

**3.2** In this exercise we want to implement a prime number test that is more efficient than the one in Worksheet 2.

- (a) Write a function `leastDiv :: Integer -> Integer` that computes the smallest divisor greater than 1 of a given number. We need only try candidate divisors  $d$ , i.e. numbers  $d$  such that  $n = d \times k$ . However, if  $d \geq \sqrt{n}$ , then  $k \leq \sqrt{n}$  is also a divisor. Hence the smallest divisor will always be less than or equal to  $\sqrt{n}$ .
- (b) Use `leastDiv` to define a function `isPrimeFast :: Integer -> Bool` that checks primality:  $n$  is prime if  $n > 1$  and the least divisor of  $n$  is  $n$  itself.

Test that the fast version gives the same results as the original slow one with some examples, e.g. numbers from 1 to 10.

**3.3** The function `nub :: Eq a => [a] -> [a]` from the `Data.List` module eliminates repeated occurrences of values in a list.

For example: `nub "banana" = "ban"`.

Write a recursive definition for this function; because the function is not in the Prelude, you don't need to use a different name.

**3.4** Write a definition of the function `intersperse :: a -> [a] -> [a]` from the `Data.List` module that intercalates a value between elements of a list.

Examples:

```
intersperse 0 [1,2,3] = [1,0,2,0,3]
intersperse 0 [1]    = [1]
intersperse 0 []     = []
```

*Hint:* use recursion with pattern matching; you need only consider 3 distinct cases.

### 3.5 Sorting a list using the **insertion sort** algorithm.

- (a) Write a recursive definition of the function `insert :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> [a]` that inserts a value into an ordered list maintaining the ascending order.  
Example: `insert 2 [0,1,3,5] = [0,1,2,3,5]`.
- (b) Using `insert`, write a recursive definition of the function `isort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]` that sorts the list using the insertion method:
- the empty list `[]` is trivially sorted;
  - to sort a non-empty list, we first recursively sort the tail and then insert the head into the correct position.

### 3.6 Sorting a list using the **merge sort** algorithm.

- (a) Write a recursive definition of a function `merge :: Ord a => [a] -> [a] -> [a]` that joins two sorted lists into a single sorted list. Example: `merge [3,5,7] [1,2,4,6] = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7]`. *Because the arguments lists are already sorted, you can do this with a single pass over both lists.*
- (b) Using the `merge`, write a recursive definition of the function `msort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]` that implements the *merge sort* algorithm:
- an empty list or with a single value is trivially sorted;
  - to sort a list with two or more elements, we first split the list into two halves, recursively sort both halves and join the result using `merge`.

Because we always split the list in half in each step, this algorithm has better complexity than insert sort: it runs in  $O(n \log n)$  steps rather than  $O(n^2)$ .

### 3.7 Write a definition of the function `toBits :: Int -> [Int]` that converts an integer into a binary representation, i.e. a list of bits (0 or 1). Example: `toBits 29 = [1,1,1,0,1]`. Note the bits in the result should be in most-significant to least-significant order.

*Hint:* Define an auxiliary function to obtain bits using the remainders of successive divisions by 2. To obtain the “correct” order back, just reverse the resulting list.

### 3.8 Write a definition of the function `fromBits :: [Int] -> Int` that performs the inverse transformation of the previous one, that is, converts bits in a binary representation to the corresponding integer.

*Hint:* this exercise is easier if you think about what numeric operation corresponds to a *left-shift* in binary.

## Higher order functions

**3.9** Re-write the following definition of a function to compute all positive divisors of an integer using `filter` instead of a list comprehension.

```
divisors :: Integer -> [Integer]
divisors n = [d | d <- [1..n], n `mod` d == 0]
```

**3.10** Let us write the `isPrimeFast :: Integer -> Bool` function using higher-order functions instead of recursion. Recall that  $n$  is prime if and only if  $n$  is greater than 1 and no number in the range between 2 and  $\lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor$  is a divisor of  $n$ .

Use the higher-order function `all` to express the “no number in the range...” part of the above condition. To compute the integer part of the square root you can use `floor (sqrt (fromIntegral n))`.

**3.11** Write alternative definitions for the following Prelude functions. You should give them different names to avoid clashes, e.g. `myappend` instead of `++`.

- (a) `(++) :: [a] -> [a] -> [a]`, using `foldr`;
- (b) `concat :: [[a]] -> [a]`, using `foldr`;
- (c) `reverse :: [a] -> [a]`, using `foldr`;
- (d) `reverse :: [a] -> [a]`, using `foldl`;
- (e) `elem :: Eq a => a -> [a] -> Bool`, using `any`.

Suggestion: use the diagrams in Lecture slides for understanding the fold operations as structural transformations on lists. Then all you have to do is solve for some unknown function  $f$  and initial value  $z$ .

**3.12** Define the `fromBits :: [Int] -> Int` of Exercise 3.8 that converts a list of bits into the corresponding integer using `foldl` instead of recursion.

Example: `fromBits [1,1,0,1] = 13`.

**3.13** Write a recursive definition of the function `group :: Eq a => [a] -> [[a]]` that breaks a list into groups of consecutive equal values.

Example: `group "AAABBACCC" = ["AAA", "BB", "A", "CCC"]`.

*Hint:* you may use the Prelude functions `takeWhile` and `dropWhile` to split the first consecutive run of identical elements from the argument list.

**3.14** Permutations of a list.

- (a) First define an auxiliary function `intercalate :: a -> [a] -> [[a]]` that computes all possible lists with a value in some position of the given list.  
Example: `intercalate 0 [1,2] = [[0,1,2], [1,0,2], [1,2,0]]`
- (b) Write a recursive definition of a function `permutations :: [a] -> [[a]]` that computes all permutations using the above function. Example:

```
permutations [1,2,3]
= [[1,2,3], [2,1,3], [2,3,1], [1,3,2], [3,1,2], [3,2,1]]
```