

Lesson 3

defining functions

In this lesson we see many ways to define functions

1. composition of old functions to define new ones

`even :: Integral a => a -> Bool`

`even n = n `mod` 2 == 0`

`splitAt :: Int -> [a] -> ([a], [a])`

`splitAt n xs = (take n xs, drop n xs)`

2. Conditional

$\text{abs} :: \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

$\text{abs } n = \text{if } n \geq 0 \text{ then } n \text{ else } -n$

$\text{signum} :: \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

$\text{signum } n = \text{if } n < 0 \text{ then } -1 \text{ else}$
 $\qquad \qquad \text{if } n == 0 \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } 1$

always if then exp1 else exp2

$\text{exp1} :: T \quad \text{exp2} :: T$

no dangling else

3. Guarded equations

$\text{abs } n \mid n \geq 0 = n$
 $\mid \text{otherwise} = -n$

easier to read when there are more than 2 choices

$\text{signum } n \mid n < 0 = -1$
 $\mid n == 0 = 0$
 $\mid \text{otherwise} = 1$

4. Pattern matching

`not :: Bool -> Bool`

`not False = True`

`not True = False`

`(&&) :: Bool -> Bool -> Bool`

`True && True = True`

`True && False = False`

`False && True = False`

`False && False = False`

`True && True = True`

`_ && _ = False`

`True && b = b`

`False && _ = False`

wrong!

not linear because B is present multiple times in guard

`b && b = b`

`_ && _ = False`

no multiple occurrences of
variables in pattern

only linear pattern accepted

but one can write :

```
b && c | b == c      = b
      | otherwise = False
```

Tuple patterns

```
fst :: (a,b) -> a
```

```
fst (x,_) = x
```

```
snd :: (a,b) -> b
```

```
snd (_,y) = y
```

List patterns

are not necessary, syntactic sugar of guards

```
test :: [Char] -> Bool
```

```
test ['a',_,_] = True
```

```
test _         = False
```

`[1,2,3] = 1 : (2 : (3 : []))` -- `(:)` è detto Cons

```
test :: [Char] -> Bool
```

```
test ('a' : _) = True
```

```
test _         = False
```

Lambda expressions

$\backslash x \rightarrow x+x$

they express naturally curried functions:

$\text{add} :: \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

$\text{add} = \backslash x \rightarrow (\backslash y \rightarrow x+y)$

const function

$\text{const} :: a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$

$\text{const } x _ = x$

$\text{const } x = _ \rightarrow x$


```
odds :: Int -> [Int]
odds n = map f [0..n-1]
        where f x = x*2+1
```

```
map :: (a->b) -> [a] -> [b]    -- higher-order function
```

```
map  [] = []
```

`_` is a Wildcard: i don't care value (whichever)

```
map f (x: xs) = (f x) : map f xs
```

```
odds n = map (\x -> x*2+1) [0..n-1]
```

function with no name used only locally

operators and sections

infix functions, like +, are called operators

any binary function can be used infix with 'op', like 7 'div' 2

but we can do also the opposite (+) is a binary function

(+) 2 3

5

and also

(2+) 3 = 5

(+3) 2 = 5

(+) :: Int -> Int -> Int

if # is an operator, then (#), (x #) and (# y) are called sections

$(1 +) = \lambda x \rightarrow 1 + x$

$(1 /) = \lambda x \rightarrow 1 / x$

$(/2) = \lambda x \rightarrow x / 2$

sections are necessary when asking the type

useful in expressions such as;

`dl :: [Num] -> [Num]`

`dl xs = map (2*) xs`

Exercises

2) define the function `third` in 3 ways:

- a) with `head` and `tail`
- b) with `!!`
- c) pattern matching

3) define `safetail :: [a] -> [a]` that behaves like `tail` except that with `[]`, instead of failing, answers `[]`. We can use `tail` and `null :: [a] -> Bool` that answers `True` iff the input is an empty list, define `safetail` using:

- a) a conditional expression
- b) guarded equations
- c) pattern matching