

Quickcheck: recap

- `let rec rev = function`
 - `| [] -> []`
 - `| x :: xs -> append (rev xs, [x])`
- `let prop_revIsOrig (xs:int list) =`
 - `rev xs = xs`
- `do Check.Quick prop_revIsOrig`
 - `> Falsifiable, after 3 tests (5 shrinks)`
 - `[1; 0]`

Quickcheck: how

- Checking $\forall \mathbf{x} : \tau. C(\mathbf{x})$ means trying to see if there is an assignment $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}$ at type τ such that $\neg C(\mathbf{a})$ holds
 - e.g. checking $\forall xs : \text{int list}. \text{rev } xs = xs$ means finding $xs \rightarrow [1;0]$, for which $\text{rev } xs \neq xs$
- Quickcheck generates *pseudo-random* values up to size k (*EndSize*) and stops when
 - a counterexample is found, or
 - the maximum size of test values has been reached (*MaxTest*), or
 - a default timeout expires (*MaxFail*)

Conditional laws

- More interesting are *conditional laws*:
 - `ordered xs \implies ordered (insert x xs)`
- Here we generate random lists that may or may not be sorted and then check if insertion preserves ordered-ness
- If a candidate list does not satisfies the condition it is discarded
 - *Coverage is an issue*: what's the likelihood of randomly generating lists (of length > 1) that are *sorted*?
- Quickcheck gives combinator to *monitor* test data distribution – but in the end one has to write an ad-hoc generator, here yielding only ordered lists