# Introduction to Type-Level and Generic Programming in Haskell

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# Datatype-generic programming

Express algorithms that make use of the structure of datatypes



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$$eq_A :: A \rightarrow A \rightarrow Bool$$



#### A class

```
class Generic a where
  type Rep a
  from :: a -> Rep a
  to :: Rep a -> a
```

where from and to are inverses.



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```
eq :: Generic a => a -> a -> Bool
eq x y = geq (from x) (from y)
```



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In this tutorial: generics-sop.



# **Applications**

- ► (De-)serialization
- Data generation
- Data traversals
- Data navigation
- ▶ ...

The generics-sop view on data, informally

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```
C_i x_0 \dots x_{n_i-1}
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# The plan

$$C_i x_0 \dots x_{n_i-1}$$

- ► Choice between constructors modelled as an *n*-ary sum.
- ► Sequence of fields modelled as an *n*-ary product.



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```
SOP (S...Z (I x_0 : * ... : * I x_{n_i-1} : * Nil))
```



#### Extensions, extensions

DataKinds PolyKinds ConstraintKinds **GADTs** TypeFamilies MultiParamTypeClasses FlexibleInstances FlexibleContexts **UndecidableInstances** RankNTypes DefaultSignatures StandaloneDeriving TypeOperators ScopedTypeVariables



### Overall plan

- ► Learn about *n*-ary products and *n*-ary sums.
- Example generic functions.
- ► Explain internals, discuss type-level programming features.
- More generic functions.
- Handling metadata.