

Lab Task 2: Types and Type classes

1) What are the types for the following expressions? Write the answer on this sheet and confirm your answer using Haskell [Hint: use the command `:type.`]

```
('a','b','c')  
['a','b','c']  
[( '1', False), ( '0', True)]  
([True,False], [ '0','1'])
```

2) Types: Char, Int and Bool

- a) Write a function that takes as input two lists of type `Char`, and checks whether the two lists are equal.
- b) Modify the function so that it checks whether the two lists are equal at a given index `n`. You may assume that the user enters a "sensible" index, i.e. does not produce an error here.)
- c) Now improve your solution to b) so that it works on all inputs. [i.e. checks first whether the index `n` given is less than the lengths of the two lists.] (If this is not the case, the function should return `False`.)

3) What are the (most general) types for the following functions: Write and test the completed functions in Haskell.

- a) `middle (x,y,z) = y`
- b) `swap (x,y) = (y,x)`

Example: the most general type for the head of a list is: `head :: [a] -> a` (where `a` is a variable for an arbitrary type).

For the functions below you also need to check which of the constraints: `Num a`, `Ord a`, `Eq a` you need to add.

Example: The most general type of the function `double x = x+x` is

```
double :: (Num a) => a -> a.
```

Explanation: `double` works for an arbitrary type `a`, as long as `a` is in class `Num` (i.e., is a numerical type such as `Int`, `Float`, etc...). We write this constraint by adding the `“(Num a) =>”` at the beginning of its type.

- c) `add (x, y, z) = x + y + z`
- d) `ordered x y z = x<=y && y<=z`
- e) `palindrome xs = (xs == reverse xs)`

Optional task: **safetail** Consider the function **safetail** that behaves in the same way as **tail**, except that **safetail** maps the empty list to the empty list, whereas **tail** gives an error in this case. Give variants **safetail1**, **safetail2** using

- i) a conditional expression
- ii) guarded equations

Hint for question 2 and challenge task: Syntax of an if-statement:

```
isZero :: Int -> Bool
isZero n = if n==0
            then True
            else False
```

Of course this function can be written more concise without if-statement:

```
isZero :: Int -> Bool
isZero n = n==0
```

It is intended that you complete this sheet in week 2. [At least you need to get it started in week 2, and get some questions signed off.]