

Introduction to Haskell

Functional programming in Haskell

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What is Haskell?

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Functional

- Functions as first-class citizens
- Higher order functions
- Declarative style

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- Equational reasoning
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- Infinite data structures
- Compositional programming style
- Tricky to evaluate complexity

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Statically typed

- “If a program compiles, it probably works”
- Expressive type system
- Type inference

Anatomy of declaration

Here is sample Haskell declaration:

```
x :: Int    -- Type declaration
x = 42      -- Value declaration
```

`name = expression` is a *binding* (not assignment)

- `::` reads as “has type”
- `=` reads as “defined to be”

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What does this declaration mean?

And what is its type if any?

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y = y + 1
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y = y + 1
y :: Int
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Built-in types

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```
-- Fixed-precision integer  
i :: Int  
i = 12
```

Guaranteed¹ to be at least $[-2^{29}, 2^{29} - 1]$, but usually is machine word sized

```
-- Actual bounds  
minInt, maxInt :: Int  
minInt = minBound  
maxInt = maxBound
```

¹See [Haskell 2010 Language Report, Section 6.4 Numbers](#)

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-- Fixed-precision integer
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```
-- Actual bounds
```

```
minInt, maxInt :: Int
```

```
minInt = minBound
```

```
maxInt = maxBound
```

```
-- Arbitrary-precision integer
```

```
n :: Integer
```

```
n = 2 ^ (2 ^ (2 ^ (2 ^ 2)))
```

```
numDigits :: Int
```

```
numDigits = length (show n)
```

```
-- >>> numDigits
```

```
-- 19729
```

¹See [Haskell 2010 Language Report, Section 6.4 Numbers](#)

Built-in types

```
-- Double-precision floatint point
```

```
d1, d2 :: Double
```

```
d1 = 3.1415
```

```
d2 = 6.2831e-4
```

```
-- Boolean
```

```
b1, b2 :: Bool
```

```
b1 = True
```

```
b2 = False
```

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-- Boolean
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b1, b2 :: Bool
```

```
b1 = True
```

```
b2 = False
```

```
-- Unicode code point (character)
```

```
c1, c2, c3 :: Char
```

```
c1 = 'A'
```

```
c2 = 'λ'
```

```
c3 = '🌍'
```

```
-- String (list of characters)
```

```
s :: String
```

```
s = "Hello world! 🌍"
```


Q&A