

Programming in Haskell

Starting Haskell

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Let's get started!

Haskell Demo

- Let's say we want to buy a game in the USA and we have to convert its price from USD to EUR
- A **definition** gives a name to a value
- Names are case-sensitive, must start with lowercase letter
- Definitions are put in a text file ending in `.hs`

Examples.hs

```
dollarRate = 1.3671
```

Using the definition

- Start the Haskell interpreter GHCi

```
> stack ghci
```

Configuring GHCi with the following packages:

GHCi, version 8.0.1: <http://www.haskell.org/ghc/> :? for help

Loaded GHCi configuration from /private/var/folders/f1/7mm

```
Prelude>
```

- Load the file

```
Prelude> :l Examples.hs
```

```
[1 of 1] Compiling Main
```

```
( Examples.hs, interpreted )
```

```
Ok, modules loaded: Main.
```

```
*Main>
```

- Use the definition

```
*Main> dollarRate
```

```
1.3671
```

```
*Main> 53 * dollarRate
```

```
72.4563
```

A function to convert EUR to USD

Examples.hs

```
dollarRate = 1.3671
```

```
-- |convert EUR to USD
```

```
usd euros = euros * dollarRate
```

- line starting with `--`: comment
- `usd`: function name (defined)
- `euros`: argument name (defined)
- `euros * dollarRate`: expression to compute the result

Using the function

- load into GHCi
 - ▶ as before or
 - ▶ use `:r` to reload

```
*Main> usd 1  
1.3671  
*Main> usd 73  
99.7983
```

Converting back

Write a function `euro` that converts back from USD to EUR!

```
*Main> euro (usd 73)
```

```
73.0
```

```
*Main> euro (usd 1)
```

```
1.0
```

```
*Main> usd (euro 100)
```

```
100.0
```

Converting back

Write a function `euro` that converts back from USD to EUR!

```
*Main> euro (usd 73)
```

```
73.0
```

```
*Main> euro (usd 1)
```

```
1.0
```

```
*Main> usd (euro 100)
```

```
100.0
```

Your turn

Testing properties

Is this function correct?

A reasonable property of `euro` and `usd`

```
prop_EuroUSD x = euro (usd x) == x
```

`==` is the equality operator

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD 79
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD 1
```

```
True
```

Testing properties

Is this function correct?

A reasonable property of `euro` and `usd`

```
prop_EuroUSD x = euro (usd x) == x
```

`==` is the equality operator

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD 79
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD 1
```

```
True
```

Does it hold?

Aside: Writing Properties

Convention

Function names beginning with `prop_` are properties we expect to be `True`

Writing properties in a file

- Tells us how functions should behave
- Tells us what has been tested
- Lets us repeat tests after changing a definition

Testing

At the beginning of Examples.hs

```
import Test.QuickCheck
```

A widely used Haskell library for automatic random testing

Running tests

```
*Main> quickCheck prop_EuroUSD  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 10 tests and 1 shrink):  
7.0
```

- Runs 100 randomly chosen tests
- Result: The property is wrong!
- It fails for input 7.0

Running tests

```
*Main> quickCheck prop_EuroUSD  
*** Failed! Falsifiable (after 10 tests and 1 shrink):  
7.0
```

- Runs 100 randomly chosen tests
- Result: The property is wrong!
- It fails for input 7.0

Check what happens for 7.0!

What happens for 7.0

```
*Main> usd 7
```

```
9.5697
```

```
*Main> euro 9.5697
```

```
6.9999999999999999
```

The Problem: Floating Point Arithmetic

- There is a very tiny difference between the initial and final values

```
*Main> euro (usd 7) - 7
-8.881784197001252e-16
```
- Calculations are only performed to about 15 significant figures
- The property is wrong!

Fixing the problem

- NEVER use equality with floating point numbers!
- The result should be *nearly* the same
- The difference should be small – smaller than $10E-15$

Comparing Values

```
*Main> 2<3
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> 3<2
```

```
False
```

Defining “Nearly Equal”

- Can define new operators with names made up of symbols

In Examples.hs

```
x ~== y = abs(x - y) < 10e-15 * abs x
```

```
*Main> 3 ~== 3.0000001
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> 3 ~== 4
```

```
True
```

Fixing the property

In Examples.hs

```
prop_EuroUSD' x = euro (usd x) ~== x
```

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD' 3
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD' 56
```

```
True
```

```
*Main> prop_EuroUSD' 7
```

```
True
```

Name the price

Let's define a name for the price of the game we want in Examples.hs

```
price = 79
```

Name the price

Let's define a name for the price of the game we want in Examples.hs

```
price = 79
```

After reload: Ouch!

```
*Main> euro price
```

```
<interactive>:57:6:
```

```
Couldn't match expected type 'Double' with actual type 'Int'
```

```
In the first argument of 'euro', namely 'price'
```

```
In the expression: euro price
```

```
In an equation for 'it': it = euro price
```

Every Value has a type

The `:i` command prints information about a name

```
*Main> :i price
price :: Integer
      -- Defined at ...
*Main> :i dollarRate
dollarRate :: Double
           -- Defined at ...
```

More types

```
*Main> :i True
data Bool = ... | True  -- Defined in 'GHC.Types'
*Main> :i False
data Bool = False | ...  -- Defined in 'GHC.Types'
*Main> :i euro
euro :: Double -> Double
      -- Defined at...
*Main> :i prop_EuroUSD'
prop_EuroUSD' :: Double -> Bool
      -- Defined at...
```

- True and False are **data constructors**

Types matter

- Types determine how computations are performed
- A type annotation specifies which type to use

```
*Main> 123456789*123456789 :: Double  
1.524157875019052e16  
*Main> 123456789*123456789 :: Integer  
15241578750190521
```

- Double: double precision floating point
- Integer: exact computation
- GHCi must know the type of each expression before computing it.

Type checking

- Infers (works out) the type of every expression
- Checks that all types match — before running the program

Our example

```
*Main> :i price
price :: Integer
      -- Defined at...
```

```
*Main> :i euro
euro :: Double -> Double
      -- Defined at...
```

```
*Main> euro price
```

```
<interactive>:70:6:
```

```
Couldn't match expected type 'Double' with actual type 'Integer'
In the first argument of 'euro', namely 'price'
In the expression: euro price
In an equation for 'it': it = euro price
```

Why did it work before?

- Numeric literals are **overloaded**
- Giving the number a name fixes its type

```
*Main> euro 79
```

```
57.78655548240802
```

```
*Main> 79 :: Integer
```

```
79
```

```
*Main> 79 :: Double
```

```
79.0
```

```
*Main> price :: Integer
```

```
79
```

```
*Main> price :: Double
```

```
<interactive>:76:1:
```

```
Couldn't match expected type 'Double' with actual type 'Integer'
```

```
In the expression: price :: Double
```

```
In an equation for 'it': it = price :: Double
```

Fixing the problem

A definition can be given a **type signature** which specifies its type

In Examples.hs

```
-- |price of the game in USD
price' :: Double
price' = 79
```

```
*Main> :i price'
price' :: Double
      -- Defined at...
*Main> euro price'
57.78655548240802
```

Break Time — Questions?

