

Function Editor

```
map :: (a -> b) -> [a]
```

λ Lessons

Pattern matching, first-class functions, and abstracting over recursion in Haskell

This is a short, interactive lesson that teaches core functional programming concepts. It was designed to transform the way you think about performing operations on lists of things, by **showing you how functions are executed**.

You can explore the way **map** and **fold** (**foldr** and **foldl**) are defined and computed. Feel free to **re-define** any of the functions used in this document in the **Function Editor**.

This document implements a small, dynamically-typed, subset of Haskell that includes integers, lists, functions, pattern matching and recursion.

Built by [Jan Paul Posma](#) & [Steve Krouse](#) at YC Hacks '14 with [React.js](#) & [PEG.js](#). Inspired by [Bret Victor](#) & [Brent Yorgey](#). Check out the [source](#).

map

map is a function that performs some operation on every element in a list.

```
map :: (a -> b) -> [a] -> [b]
map f [] = []
map f (x:xs) = f x : map f xs
```

map takes 2 inputs

- function of type (a -> b)
- list of type [a]

and returns

- list of type [b]

The base-case of **map** pattern matches on [] and returns [].

The recursive-case of **map** pattern matches on the first list element x and returns (f x) : map f xs.

```
(map addOne [1,2,3,4,5]) (edit) (clear)
((addOne 1) : (map addOne [2,3,4,5]))
```

Function Editor

fold

`fold` describes 2 functions that "summarize" the elements in a list.

- `foldr` - "fold right", applies `f` to `x` and the result of folding `f` over the rest (remember: `foldr` moves to the right as it computes with the computation on the outside)
- `foldl` - "fold left", evaluates `f x i` immediately and uses that as the new initial value for folding `f` over the rest (remember: `foldl` stays on the left as it computes with the computation on the inside)

foldr

```
foldr :: (a -> b -> b) -> b -> [a] -> b
foldr f i [] = i
foldr f i (x:xs) = f x (foldr f i xs)
```

`foldr` takes 3 inputs

- function of type `(a -> b -> b)`
- initial value of type `b`
- list of type `[a]`

and returns

- accumulated value of type `b`

The base-case of `foldr` pattern matches on `[]` and returns `i`.

The recursive-case of `foldr` pattern matches on the first list element `x` and returns `f x (foldr f i xs)`.

```
(foldr plus 0 [1,2,3,4,5]) (edit) (clear)
(plus 1 (foldr plus 0 [2,3,4,5]))
```

foldl

```
foldl :: (a -> b -> a) -> a -> [b] -> a
foldl f i [] = i
foldl f i (x:xs) = foldl f (f i x) xs
```

foldl takes 3 inputs

- function of type (a -> b -> a)
- initial value of type a
- list of type [b]

and returns

- accumulated value of type a

The base-case of foldl pattern matches on [] and returns i.

The recursive-case of foldl pattern matches on the first list element x and returns foldl f (f i x) xs.

Function Editor

```
(foldl reverseCons [] [1,2,3,4,5]) \(edit\) \(clear\)
(foldl reverseCons (reverseCons [] 1) [2,3,4,5])
```