



<http://didawiki.di.unipi.it/doku.php/magistraleinformatica/psc/>

**PSC 2020/21** (375AA, 9CFU)

Principles for Software Composition

Roberto Bruni

<http://www.di.unipi.it/~bruni/>

11 - Haskell

# Lambda notation, again

# Bound variables

```
int f(int x) { return x^2 + 2*x + 5 }
```

```
int f(int y) { return y^2 + 2*y + 5 }
```

$$f \triangleq \lambda x. x^2 + 2x + 5$$
$$f \triangleq \lambda y. y^2 + 2y + 5$$

```
let f x = x^2 + 2*x + 5
```

```
let f y = y^2 + 2*y + 5
```

they are all the same!

names of local variables are not important:

alpha-conversion

# Free variables

$$x^2 + 2x + 5$$

$$y^2 + 2y + 5$$

$$\lambda x. x^2 + 2x + 5$$


$$\lambda x. y^2 + 2y + 5$$

they are not the same!

names of global variables matter

the same enclosing context

can make a difference

$$\lambda x. t$$


we say it binds the occurrences of  $x$  in  $t$

$$\lambda x. x^2 + 2z + 5$$

$$\lambda y. y^2 + 2z + 5$$

$$\lambda z. z^2 + 2z + 5$$

are they all equivalent  
(by alpha-conversion)?

# Free variables: formally

$$t ::= x \mid \lambda x. t \mid t t \mid \dots$$

$$\text{fv} : LTerms \rightarrow \wp(Var)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fv}(x) &\triangleq \{x\} \\ \text{fv}(\lambda x. t) &\triangleq \text{fv}(t) \setminus \{x\} \\ \text{fv}(t_1 t_2) &\triangleq \text{fv}(t_1) \cup \text{fv}(t_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{fv}(\lambda x. x^2 + 2z + 5) = \{z\}$$

$$\text{fv}(\lambda y. y^2 + 2z + 5) = \{z\}$$

$$\text{fv}(\lambda z. z^2 + 2z + 5) = \emptyset$$

# Alpha-conversion, again

$$\lambda x. t \equiv \lambda y. (t^{[y/x]}) \quad \text{if } y \notin \text{fv}(\lambda x. t)$$

$$\lambda x. x^2 + 2z + 5 \equiv \lambda y. ((x^2 + 2z + 5)^{[y/x]}) = \lambda y. y^2 + 2z + 5$$

$$\lambda x. x^2 + 2z + 5 \not\equiv \lambda z. ((x^2 + 2z + 5)^{[z/x]}) \text{ because } z \in \text{fv}(\lambda x. x^2 + 2z + 5)$$

# Beta rule, again

$$(\lambda x. t) e \equiv t[e/x]$$

how is (capture-avoiding) substitution defined?  
and why is it called “capture-avoiding”?

# Capture-avoiding substitution



# Substitution, 1st try

$$y[e/x] \triangleq \begin{cases} e & \text{if } y = x \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(\lambda y. t)[e/x] \triangleq \begin{cases} \lambda y. t & \text{if } y = x \\ \lambda y. (t[e/x]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(t_1 t_2)[e/x] \triangleq t_1[e/x] (t_2[e/x])$$

$$t_1 \triangleq \lambda x. \lambda y. x^2 + 2y + 5$$

$$t_2 \triangleq y$$

$$t_1 t_2 \equiv (\lambda x. \lambda y. x^2 + 2y + 5) y$$

free

$$\equiv (\lambda y. x^2 + 2y + 5)[y/x]$$

$$\equiv \lambda y. ((x^2 + 2y + 5)[y/x])$$

$$\equiv \lambda y. y^2 + 2y + 5$$

captured variable!

# Capture-avoiding

free variables occurring in  $e$   
should remain free after the application of  $[^e/x]$

solution: alpha-convert before substituting!

$$\begin{aligned}(\lambda y. x^2 + 2y + 5)[^y/x] &\equiv (\lambda z. (x^2 + 2y + 5)[^z/y])[^y/x] \\ &\equiv (\lambda z. x^2 + 2z + 5)[^y/x] \\ &\equiv \lambda z. ((x^2 + 2z + 5)[^y/x]) \\ &\equiv \lambda z. y^2 + 2z + 5\end{aligned}$$

↙ free

# Substitution, 2nd try

$$y[e/x] \triangleq \begin{cases} e & \text{if } y = x \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(\lambda y. t)[e/x] \triangleq \begin{cases} \lambda y. t \\ \lambda z. (t[z/y][e/x]) \end{cases}$$

superfluous: no free  
if  $y = x$  occurrences to replace  
otherwise, with  
 $z \notin \text{fv}(e) \cup \text{fv}(\lambda y. t) \cup \{x\}$

$$(t_1 t_2)[e/x] \triangleq t_1[e/x] (t_2[e/x])$$

# Substitution, final

$$y[e/x] \triangleq \begin{cases} e & \text{if } y = x \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(\lambda y. t)[e/x] \triangleq \lambda z. (t[z/y][e/x]) \quad \text{with } z \notin \text{fv}(e) \cup \text{fv}(\lambda y. t) \cup \{x\}$$

$$(t_1 t_2)[e/x] \triangleq t_1[e/x] (t_2[e/x])$$

# Higher Order Functional Languages

## Haskell

# Imperative vs Functional

Imperative style

tell the machine how to compute;  
a sequence of tasks to execute;  
manipulation of mutable states

Purely functional  
style

tell the machine what to compute;  
declarative style;  
define what functions are,  
not how to compute them;  
functions have no side effects;  
can't set and change variable's content;  
manipulation of values

# Declarative style

Any experience of functional programming?

Have you ever used a spreadsheet?

The value of a cell is defined in terms of those of other cells:  
what is to be computed, not how it must be computed

we do not specify the order in which cells are calculated:  
cells are computed according to their dependencies

we do not decide how to allocate memory:  
only those cells which are in use are allocated

we specify the value of a cell by an expression:  
its parts can be evaluated in any order

# Functional style: HO

Higher-Order:

functions as values,  
functions as parameters,  
functions are returned,  
functions are composed

how many elements of a  
list will pass the test?

**length (filter test xs)**

a list in  $T^*$

a predicate in  $T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

a function in  $(T \rightarrow \text{Bool}) \rightarrow T^* \rightarrow T^*$

a function in  $T^* \rightarrow \text{Int}$



# Purity: no side effects

the result of a function is determined only by its input

a variable is just a name bound to some (HO) value:  
shorthands for expressions

variables do not vary

programs are typically shorter, maybe less efficient;  
closer to semantics, ease verification of correctness;  
more robust, easier to maintain

# Haskell: a purely functional programming language

<http://www.haskell.org/>

[Downloads](#) [Community](#) [Documentation](#)



An advanced, purely functional programming language

Declarative, statically typed code.

```
primes = filterPrime [2..]
  where filterPrime (p:xs) =
        p : filterPrime [x | x <- xs, x `mod` p /= 0]
```

## Try it!

Type Haskell expressions in here.

λ

## Got 5 minutes?

Type `help` to start the tutorial.

Or try typing these out and see what happens (click to insert):

```
23 * 36 or reverse "hello" or foldr (:) [] [1,2,3] or do line <- getLine;
putStrLn line or readFile "/welcome"
```

These IO actions are supported in this sandbox.

# Haskell: origins

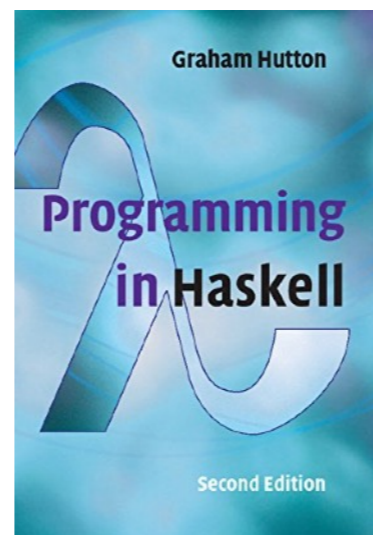
named after mathematical logician Haskell B. Curry

1987: Haskell project begun

1998: first version appear

2003: the Haskell Report was published  
(first stable version)

Graham Hutton, “Programming in Haskell”, ch.1-8,14,15



# Features

- Referential transparency    if a function is called twice with the same argument, it returns the same result; compiler can reason on program's behaviour; one can deduce a function is correct and build more complex functions by composition
- Statically typed    type inference: you don't have to label all data, their types can be figured out; many possible errors are caught at compile time
- Polymorphism    one definition of function works for many types
- Overloading    different definitions of the same function-name for different types
- Laziness    calculation starts only if some result is needed; infinite data structures can be manipulated

**I'M NOT LAZY**



**I'M JUST SAVING MY  
ENERGY FOR WHEN I  
REALLY NEED IT.**

# More features (less bugs)

Purity: no side effects

Typeful: types are pervasive, no dubious use of types

Concise: shorter programs, less typing (on the keyboard)

High level: closer to the algorithm description

Memory managed: programmers can focus on the algorithm

Compositionality: solve problems by composing functions that solve smaller problems

Data encapsulation and polymorphism not exclusive to OOP: modules and type classes

# A taste of Haskell

math. notation

$$f(x) = 2x + 3$$

$$g(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$$

$$abs(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$abs(f(g(2, 3)))$$

set comprehension

$$\{x \mid x \in X \wedge f(x) > 5\}$$

Haskell notation

$$f\ x = 2*x + 3$$

$$g\ (x, y) = x^2 + x*y + y^2$$

$$abs\ x \begin{cases} | & x \geq 0 & = & x \\ | & otherwise & = & -x \end{cases}$$

$$abs\ (f\ (g\ (3, 2)))$$

list comprehension

$$[ x \mid x \leftarrow X, f\ x > 5 ]$$

# The power of recursion

No assignments: no loops

(loops over lists exist: *list comprehension*)

Recursion is used in place of loops

```
power2 n
| n==0 = 1
| n>0  = 2 * power2(n-1)
```



# Haskell: some principles

evaluate *expressions* (syntactic terms)

to yield *values* (abstract entities regarded as answers)

every value has an associated *type*

the association is called *typing*

you can think of types as sets of values

as expressions denote values

types are denoted by type expressions

values are first-class (passed around, returned as results)

types are not first-class

# Haskell: GHCi

Interactive shell or interpreter, executing read-eval-print loop

programmers enter expressions/declarations one at a time

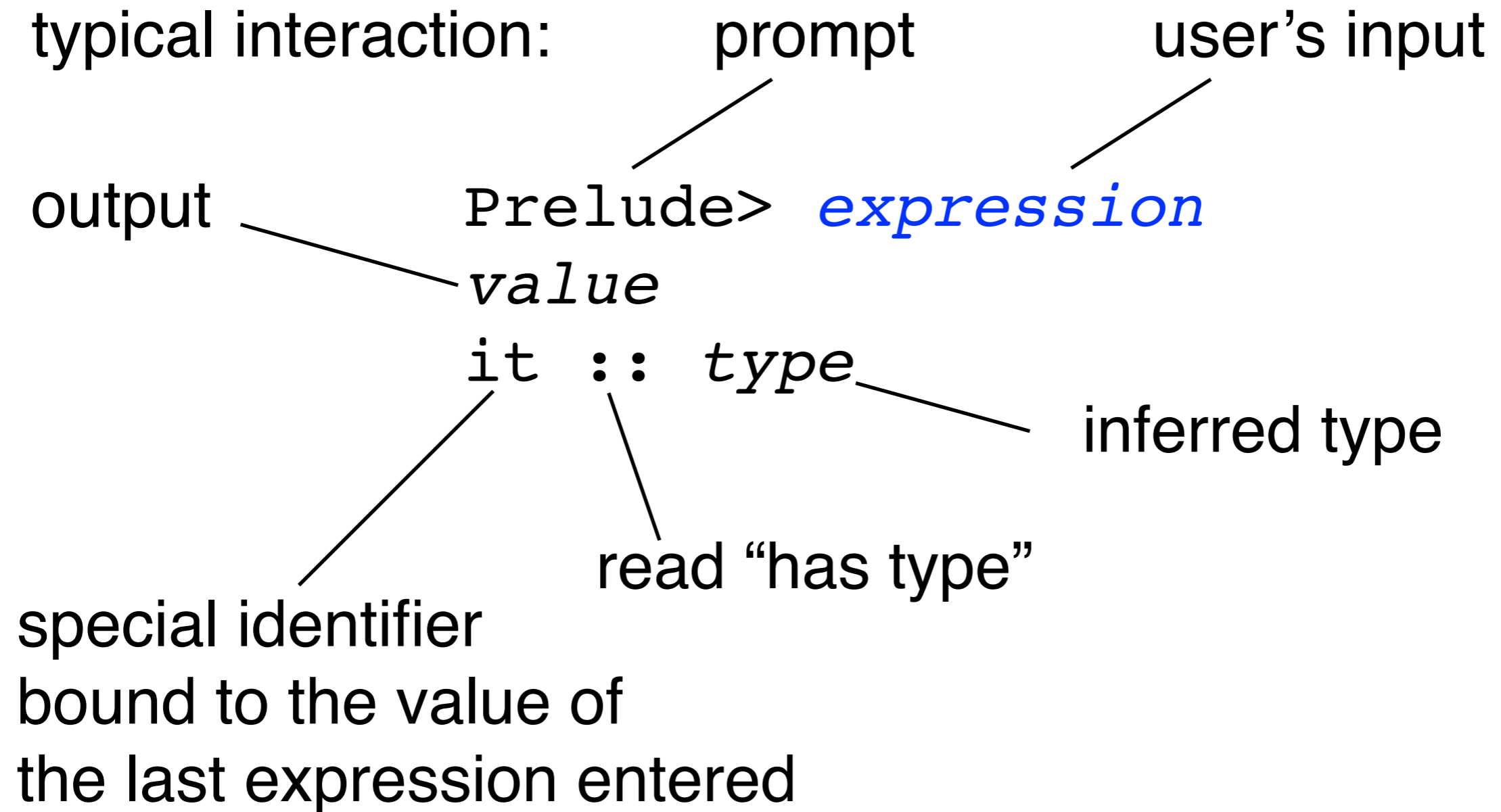
they are type checked, compiled and executed

if an expression does not parse correctly

or does not pass the type-checking phase of the compiler,  
no code is generated and no code is executed

once an identifier is defined it is available at subsequent lines

# GHCi expressions



# GHCi declarations

typical interaction:

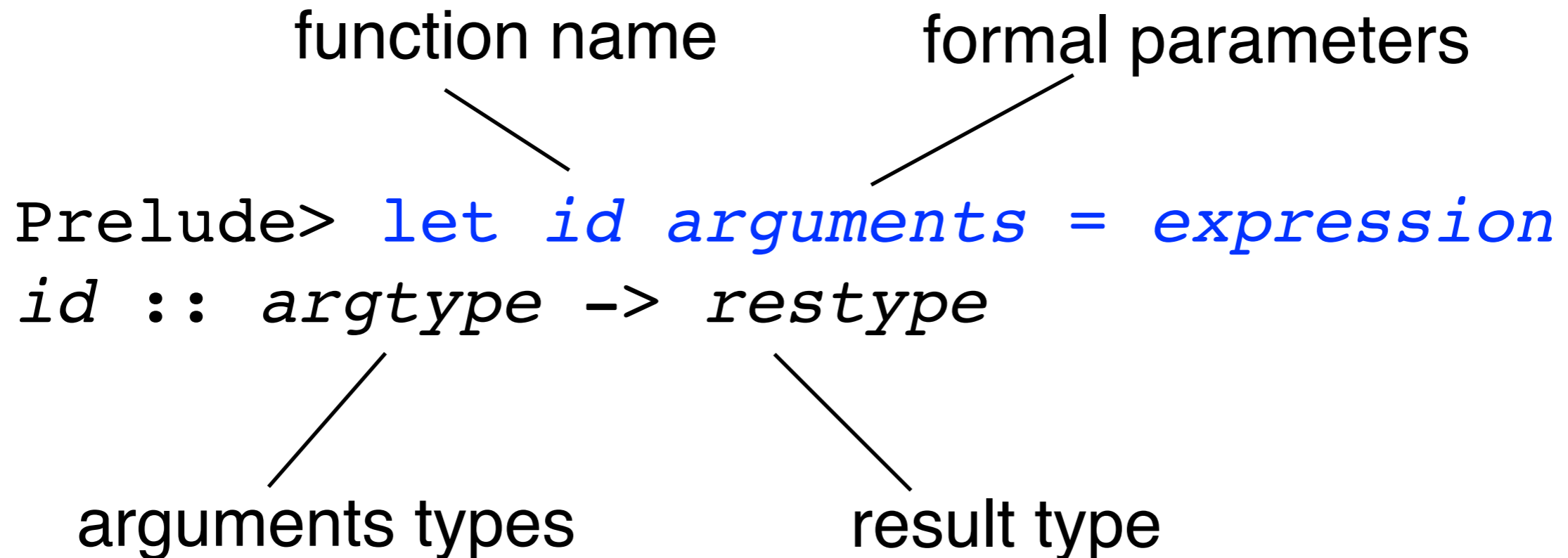
```
Prelude> let id = expression  
id :: type
```

keyword

defining symbol

# GHCi declarations

more generally:



# GHCi session

A terminal window titled 'bruni' with a path to the GHC framework. The terminal shows the output of running 'ghci', including the login time, the command executed, the GHCi version, and the prelude prompt.

```
bruni — ghc -B/Library/Frameworks/GHC.framework/Versions/8.6.3-x86_64/usr/li...
Last login: Wed Mar 18 11:13:21 on ttys000
[Cat:~ bruni$ ghci
GHCi, version 8.6.3: http://www.haskell.org/ghc/  :? for help
Prelude> ]
```