

CS344: Programming Languages

Homework 8: more on Haskell

Required Problems

1. Write a function:

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

which applies a given function to adjacent elements in a list. For example, `squash f [x1, x2, x3, x4]` should equal `[f x1 x2, f x2 x3, f x3 x4]`.

You can implement this either using explicit recursion or pattern matching, or using the function `zipWith`. For extra credit, write two versions and solve it both ways.

2. For this problem, you will write a module that holds sets over a type `a`. Our goal is to represent the set as a sorted list with NO repeated elements. Therefore, the type `a` will always be of the classes:

- `Eq`: so that `==` and `/=` are defined for elements of type `a`
- `Ord`: so that we can compare using `<`, etc.
- `Enum`: So that we can make lists of the form `[x..y]` where `x` and `y` are elements of type `a`.
- `Bounded`: so that `minBound::a` and `maxBound::a` are the smallest and largest elements of `a`.

(Note that this means we can form `[minBound..maxBound]::[a]`, a list of all the elements of `a`.)

So our declaration of the `Set` type is:

```
data Set a = Set [a]
            deriving (Show, Eq, Ord)
```

I also have 2 functions that let you go back and forth between sets and lists, primarily for testing purposes:

```
list2set :: Ord a => [a] -> Set a
list2set = Set . L.nub . L.sort
```

```
set2list :: Set a -> [a]
set2list (Set xs) = xs
```

The temptation in implementing the set operations below is the overrely on `list2set` which results in code that is simple, clear, and slow!! For example, for the union operation we could define:

```
unionS_slow :: (Ord a) => Set a -> Set a -> Set a
unionS_slow (Set xs) (Set ys) = list2set (xs ++ ys)
```

The problem is that this will result in worst case $O(n^2)$ running time (where n is the max of the length of the 2 sets) and this is much too slow. To speed things up, we need to take advantage of the fact that the lists are sorted and have no repeat elements. So a much better implementation of union is the following, which has a $O(n)$ running time:

```
unionS :: (Ord a) => Set a -> Set a -> Set a
unionS (Set xs) (Set ys) = Set $ merge xs ys
  where
    merge [] ys = ys
    merge xs [] = xs
    merge (x:xs) (y:ys)
      | x<y = x:merge xs (y:ys)
      | x>y = y:merge (x:xs) ys
      | otherwise = x:merge xs ys
```

Note that on any of these problems, I will be looking for (at worst) an $O(n)$ running time, so be careful about using `list2set`! In particular, you don't want to use those for `intersectS` or `diffS`.

- (a) Write two functions:

```
singS :: a -> Set a
```

```
emptyS :: Set a
```

which (respectively) create a single element set of the input and an empty set.

- (b) Write the function:

```
intersectS :: (Ord a) => Set a -> Set a -> Set a
```

so that `intersectS s1 s2` returns a set representing the intersection of `s1` and `s2`.

- (c) Write the function:

```
diffS :: (Ord a) => Set a -> Set a -> Set a
```

So that `diffS s1 s2` returns a set representing the set-difference of `s1` and `s2`, which is precisely the elements contained in `s1` that are not in `s2`.

- (d) Write the function:

```
subsetq :: (Ord a) => Set a -> Set a -> Bool
```

So that `subsetq s1 s2` returns true whenever `s1` is a subset of `s2`.

- (e) Now, put all these in a module named `sets`, and test your functions. I would like you to submit either a haskell script or a set of instructions you run at the command prompt after loading your module that indicate success of each of your functions.