

Partial vs total functions

$\text{head} :: [a] \rightarrow a$

$\text{head } (x : -) = x$

$\text{headV} :: \text{Vec } (S n) a \rightarrow a$

$\text{headV } (\text{VCons } x \ -) = x$

partial

total

same implementation (modulo constructor names)

but type is different

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undefined for empty list

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defined for all values of type $\text{Vec } (S n) a$

\equiv

data SNat n where

Zero :: SNat Z

Succ :: SNat n \rightarrow SNat (S n)

Test :: SNat True

\uparrow $\&$: why does the type checker complain here and restrict the argument to Nat?

A: after looking at the first constructor (Zero), it concludes that argument has to have kind Nat (only works if "data kinds" are enabled).

Second def. is ok, because $n :: \text{Nat}$ and $S n :: \text{Nat}$

'Test' is not ok, because $\text{True} :: \text{Bool}$

Ok, but why is the compiler ok with this:

data Expr a where

Add :: Expr Int \rightarrow Expr Int \rightarrow Expr Int

BoolLit :: Expr Bool

where Expr has arg Int in first constructor, Bool in second.

A: Because both Int and Bool have the same kind (\ast), just like Z, n, S n in the SNat example have the same kind.