# RUNNING Haskell

## 1 Finding Haskell

In this course we will use Hugs, which is an implementation of most of Haskell 98.

### 1.1 On Computer Science Department Machines

The interpreter is called `hugs`. (It lives in `/opt/hugs/bin`, which should be in your path by default.)

## 2 Working with the Interpreter

The interpreter's prompt is a question mark (`?`). Input is terminated with a newline, and can only appear on one line. (If you want to do something that takes more lines, you have to use a script file.)

To exit the interpreter, use `:quit` or the end-of-file character (control-D on Unix, control-Z on Windows).

Help is available by typing `:?` followed by a newline.

### 2.1 Loading Files

To enter code, it's best to edit a file and then type

```
:load filename.hs
```

The suffix conventions for loading files accommodate both files with only Haskell source code (script files), and literate programming files. These have the following suffix conventions.

| preferred | alternate | use |
|---|---|---|
| `.hs` | `.has` | for Haskell scripts |
| `.lhs` | `.lit` | for literate scripts |

A literate script consists of commentary, with only lines starting with a `>` considered to be programs.

### 2.2 Documentation

Documentation for Haskell can be found locally if you installed Hugs, or on the web at the following URLs.

```
http://www.haskell.org/definition/
http://www.haskell.org/bookshelf/
```

The first link above documentation is the *Haskell 98 Report*, the second is the *Haskell 98 Library Report*. These documents are also included in the Hugs distribution, and so are available in the `docs` directory of your own computer if you have downloaded a copy of Hugs.

You can find more about Haskell from the following URL.

```
http://haskell.org/
```

On Unix, a manual page is provided. Type `man hugs` to see it.

## 3 Editing Files

If you use emacs there is a very nice mode for Haskell programs found in `/usr/local/emacs`. If you put that directory in your emacs load path, then you can use the emacs customizations found in

```
~leavens/emacs/mode-customizations.el
```

to use that mode for Haskell programs. Search for "Haskell" in that file for details.

## 4 Related Implementations

See the WWW page noted above for information about other implementations of Haskell that you can get.