



FULL PROGRAMME ◦ 2026 EDITION



Recursion 2026

Two days, one track at a time.

29 & 30 October 2026

429 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001

39 sessions across two days

Times are local (America/New_York) and subject to change.

recursion26.org/programme



Bring this along, or leave it on your phone

recursion26.org



Day 01, Thursday, 29 October 2026

Doors 08:30 · Reception until 18:30

08:30 · 30 min

REGISTRATION & MORNING COFFEE

09:00 · 20 min

KEYNOTE

Opening Remarks

Rachel Feinberg, Programme Chair, Recursion 2026

09:20 · 45 min

KEYNOTE

Laziness in Production: A Decade of GHC at Scale

Owen Fitzgerald, Principal Engineer, Tessellate Systems

10:05 · 10 min

SHORT BREAK

10:15 · 35 min

TALK · OCAML

Effect Handlers Without the Ceremony: A Practical Guide to OCaml 5 Effects

Ines Callahan, Staff Engineer, Harborlight Software

10:15 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Refinement Types That Survive a Refactor

Dr. Femi Adeyemi, Research Scientist, Cascade Verification Lab

10:15 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Migrating 400k Lines of Python to Haskell Without Stopping the World

Rosa Bettencourt, Engineering Manager, Fintrace

10:50 · 35 min

TALK · COMPILERS & RUNTIMES

Strictness Analysis in the Wild: What GHC Still Gets Wrong

Tobias Lindqvist, Compiler Engineer, Northfield Trading

10:50 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Mechanizing Progress and Preservation for a Real Language, Not a Toy One

Dr. Wren Ostrowski, PhD Candidate, University of Edinburgh

10:50 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

On-Call for a Pure Functional Backend: What Actually Pages Us

Marcus Delacroix, Site Reliability Lead, Hollowbrook Systems

11:25 · 35 min

LIGHTNING · OCAML

Lightning Talks - OCaml Track

- Deriving JSON Codecs Without a Macro · *Sana Okafor-Lee*
- GADTs for People Who Just Want Their Code to Compile · *Chris Lundquist*
- Multicore OCaml: Domains, Not Threads · *Beatriz Souza*

11:25 · 35 min

LIGHTNING · TYPES & PROOFS

Lightning Talks - Types & Proofs Track

- Proof by Reflection, Explained to Your Manager · *Dr. Amara Solberg*
- Termination Checking Without Losing Your Mind · *Yusuf Karim*
- What Lean's Tactic Language Taught Us About Ergonomics · *Freya Bjornstad*

11:25 · 35 min

LIGHTNING · PRACTICE

Lightning Talks - Practice Track

- Interviewing for Functional Roles Without a Whiteboard · *Devon Marchetti*
- The Incident Where nub Was $O(n^2)$ · *Priyanka Vora*
- Onboarding a Team of Imperative Programmers in Six Weeks · *Elliot Fairweather*

12:00 · 75 min

LUNCH

13:15 · 45 min

KEYNOTE

Compilers Are Just Programs: What Ten Years of Flambda Taught Us

Prof. Ingrid Halvorsen, Professor of Programming Languages, Uppsala University

14:00 · 35 min

TALK · HASKELL

Streaming Without Leaks: A Field Guide to conduit and pipes

Malik Thornbury, Senior Engineer, Ledgerline

14:00 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Dependent Types for Working Programmers: Where Agda Earns Its Keep

Dr. Naledi Mokoena, Research Engineer, Cascade Verification Lab

14:00 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Functional Cores, Imperative Shells: A Decade Later

Grant Sorensen, Staff Engineer, Northfield Trading

14:35 · 35 min

TALK · HASKELL

Arrows, Applicatives, and the Parser Combinator You Actually Need

Camille Duarte, Compiler Engineer, Tessellate Systems

14:35 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Verifying a Real Scheduler in Rocq: Six Months, One Property

Dr. Haruto Ishikawa, Postdoctoral Researcher, ETH Zürich

14:35 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Hiring Functional Programmers When Nobody Applies

Odalys Reyes, VP Engineering, Harborlight Software

15:10 · 25 min

AFTERNOON BREAK

15:35 · 60 min

PANEL DISCUSSION

Is Purity Worth the Onboarding Cost?

Dr. Wren Ostrowski (*Moderator*) · Owen Fitzgerald · Rosa Bettencourt · Prof. Ingrid Halvorsen · Devon Marchetti

16:35 · 25 min

KEYNOTE

Day One Close & Community Announcements

Rachel Feinberg, Programme Chair, Recursion 2026

17:00 · 90 min

EVENING RECEPTION - FOYER & ROOFTOP TERRACE



Day 02, Friday, 30 October 2026

Doors 08:45 · Conference close 17:00

08:45 · 15 min

MORNING COFFEE

09:00 · 45 min

KEYNOTE

What Standard ML Got Right (and Where We Went a Different Way)

Prof. Dmitri Kowalczyk, Professor of Computer Science, Cornell University

09:45 · 10 min

SHORT BREAK

09:55 · 35 min

TALK · OCAML

Row Polymorphism in OCaml: A Practical Introduction

Anya Petrosyan, Compiler Engineer, Harborlight Software

09:55 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Cubical Type Theory Without the Headache

Dr. Kwame Boateng, Research Fellow, Formal Methods Group, MIT CSAIL

09:55 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

A Postmortem: The Day Our Thunks Ate All the Memory

Lior Ben-David, Staff SRE, Ledgerline

10:30 · 35 min

TALK · HASKELL

Effect Systems vs Monad Transformers: A Migration Story

Sofie Andersen, Senior Engineer, Fintrace

10:30 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Refinement Types in Production: Three Bugs They Actually Caught

Dr. Chidi Nwosu, Research Scientist, Cascade Verification Lab

10:30 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Code Review for Functional Codebases: What We Look For

Petra Vaculik, Engineering Director, Northfield Trading

11:05 · 35 min

TALK · OCAML

Building a Faster Package Resolver for the OCaml Ecosystem

Julius Reinhold, Infrastructure Lead, Harborlight Software

11:05 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Bidirectional Type Checking: A Tutorial for People Who Skipped the Paper

Dr. Miriam Solheim, PhD Candidate, University of Edinburgh

11:05 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Three Years of Functional Programming Interviews: What We Changed

Tariq Farouk, Head of Engineering, Hollowbrook Systems

11:40 · 80 min

LUNCH

13:00 · 45 min

KEYNOTE

Who Maintains the Compiler You Depend On

Prof. Elena Marchetti-Voss, Associate Professor, NYU Courant Institute

13:45 · 35 min

TALK · HASKELL

Pattern Synonyms and the API You Wish You'd Designed First

Bram Van Doren, Staff Engineer, Tessellate Systems

13:45 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

Property-Based Testing as a Substitute for Proof (Sometimes)

Dr. Adaeze Chukwu, Research Engineer, Cascade Verification Lab

13:45 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Cost Modeling for Lazy Evaluation: A Spreadsheet That Saved Us \$40k/Month

Nikolai Thorsen, Principal Engineer, Ledgerline

14:20 · 35 min

TALK · COMPILERS & RUNTIMES

Inlining Decisions in GHC: Reading the Core Output So You Don't Have To

Sachiko Mori, Compiler Engineer, Fintrace

14:20 · 35 min

TALK · TYPES & PROOFS

What Agda's Termination Checker Rejects and Why It's Usually Right

Dr. Baraka Juma, Postdoctoral Researcher, ETH Zürich

14:20 · 35 min

TALK · PRACTICE

Incident Review: A Two-Hour Outage Caused by a Missing seq

Helena Brandt, SRE Lead, Northfield Trading

14:55 · 20 min

AFTERNOON BREAK

15:15 · 60 min

PANEL DISCUSSION

Where Is Functional Programming Going? A Disagreement About the Next Five Years

Prof. Elena Marchetti-Voss (*Moderator*) · Prof. Dmitri Kowalczyk · Dr. Kwame Boateng · Sofie Andersen · Tariq Farouk · Nikolai Thorsen

16:15 · 35 min

KEYNOTE

Closing Keynote: Staying Serious in a Hype Cycle

Rachel Feinberg, Programme Chair, Recursion 2026

16:50 · 10 min

CONFERENCE CLOSE

Recursion 2026 • 29 & 30 October 2026 • 429 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001