Programming Languages and Compilers (CS 421)

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Based in part on slides by Mattox Beckman, as updated by Vikram Adve and Gul Agha

Save the Environment!

- A *closure* is a pair of an environment and an association of a pattern (e.g. (v1,…,vn) giving the input variables) with an expression (the function body), written:

  < (v1,…,vn) → exp, ρ >
- Where ρ is the environment in effect when the function is defined (for a simple function)

Evaluating declarations

- Evaluation uses an environment ρ
- To evaluate a (simple) declaration let x = e
  - Evaluate expression e in ρ to value v
  - Update ρ with x v: {x → v} + ρ
- Update: $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ has all the bindings in ρ_1 and all those in ρ_2 that are not rebound in ρ_1

{x → 2, y → 3, a → "hi"} + {y → 100, b → 6}

= {x → 2, y → 3, a → "hi", b → 6}

Evaluating expressions in OCaml

- Evaluation uses an environment ρ
- A constant evaluates to itself, including primitive operators like + and =
- To evaluate a variable, look it up in ρ: ρ(v)
- To evaluate a tuple $(e_1,\ldots,e_n)$,
  - Evaluate each e_i to v_i, right to left for Ocaml
  - Then make value $(v_1,\ldots,v_n)$

Evaluating expressions in OCaml

- To evaluate uses of +, _ , etc, eval args, then do operation
- Function expression evaluates to its closure
- To evaluate a local dec: let x = e1 in e2
  - Eval e1 to v, then eval e2 using {x → v} + ρ
- To evaluate a conditional expression: if b then e1 else e2
  - Evaluate b to a value v
  - If v is True, evaluate e1
  - If v is False, evaluate e2

Evaluation of Application with Closures

- Given application expression f e
- In Ocaml, evaluate e to value v
- In environment ρ, evaluate left term to closure, $c = <(x_1,\ldots,x_n) \rightarrow b, \rho'>$
  - $(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$ variables in (first) argument
  - v must have form $(v_1,\ldots,v_n)$
- Update the environment ρ′ to

  $\rho'' = \{x_1 \rightarrow v_1,\ldots, x_n \rightarrow v_n\} + \rho'$
- Evaluate body b in environment ρ″

Recursive Functions

```
# let rec factorial n =
   if n = 0 then 1 else n * factorial (n - 1);;
  val factorial : int -> int = <fun>
# factorial 5;;
- : int = 120
# (* rec  is needed for recursive function
  declarations *)
```


Recursion Example

Compute n^2 recursively using:
$n^2 = (2 * n - 1) + (n - 1)^2$

```
# let rec nthsq n =        (* rec for recursion *)
   match n                 (* pattern matching for cases *)
   with 0 -> 0             (* base case *)
   | n -> (2 * n -1)       (* recursive case *)
          + nthsq (n -1);; (* recursive call *)
val nthsq : int -> int = <fun>
# nthsq 3;;
- : int = 9
```

Structure of recursion similar to inductive proof

Recursion and Induction

```
# let rec nthsq n = match n with 0 -> 0
      | n -> (2 * n - 1) + nthsq (n - 1) ;;
```

- Base case is the last case; it stops the computation
- Recursive call must be to arguments that are somehow smaller - must progress to base case
- **if** or **match** must contain base case
- Failure of these may cause failure of termination

Lists

- List can take one of two forms:
  - Empty list, written [ ]
  - Non-empty list, written x :: xs
    - x is head element, xs is tail list, :: called “cons”
  - Syntactic sugar: [x] == x :: [ ]
  - [x1; x2; …; xn] == x1 :: x2 :: … :: xn :: [ ]

Lists

```
# let fib5 = [8;5;3;2;1;1];;
val fib5 : int list = [8; 5; 3; 2; 1; 1]
# let fib6 = 13 :: fib5;;
val fib6 : int list = [13; 8; 5; 3; 2; 1; 1]
# (8::5::3::2::1::1::[ ]) = fib5;;
- : bool = true
# fib5 @ fib6;;
- : int list = [8; 5; 3; 2; 1; 1; 13; 8; 5; 3; 2; 1;
  1]
```


Lists are Homogeneous

```
# let bad_list = [1; 3.2; 7];;
Characters 19-22:
  let bad_list = [1; 3.2; 7];;
                     ^^^
This expression has type float but is here
  used with type int
```

Question

- Which one of these lists is invalid?

1. [2; 3; 4; 6]
2. [2,3; 4,5; 6,7]
3. [(2.3,4); (3.2,5); (6,7.2)]
4. [[“hi”; “there”]; [“wahcha”]; [ ]; [“doin”]]

Answer

- Which one of these lists is invalid?

1. [2; 3; 4; 6]
2. [2,3; 4,5; 6,7]
3. [(2.3,4); (3.2,5); (6,7.2)]
4. [[“hi”; “there”]; [“wahcha”]; [ ]; [“doin”]]

- 3 is invalid because of last pair

Functions Over Lists

```
# let rec double_up list =
   match list
   with [ ] -> [ ]  (* pattern before ->,
                       expression after *)
      | (x :: xs) -> (x :: x :: double_up xs);;
val double_up : 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>
# let fib5_2 = double_up fib5;;
val fib5_2 : int list = [8; 8; 5; 5; 3; 3; 2; 2; 1;
  1; 1; 1]
```


Functions Over Lists

```
# let silly = double_up ["hi"; "there"];;
val silly : string list = ["hi"; "hi"; "there"; "there"]
# let rec poor_rev list =
  match list
  with [] -> []
    | (x::xs) -> poor_rev xs @ [x];;
val poor_rev : 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>
# poor_rev silly;;
- : string list = ["there"; "there"; "hi"; "hi"]
```


Structural Recursion

- Functions on recursive datatypes (eg lists) tend to be recursive
- Recursion over recursive datatypes generally by structural recursion
  - Recursive calls made to components of structure of the same recursive type
  - Base cases of recursive types stop the recursion of the function

Question: Length of list

- Problem: write code for the length of the list
  - How to start?

```
let rec length list =
```

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- Problem: write code for the length of the list
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let rec length list =
    match list with [] ->
     | (a :: bs) ->

Question: Length of list

- Problem: write code for the length of the list
  - What result do we give when list is empty?

let rec length list =
    match list with [] -> 0
     | (a :: bs) ->

Question: Length of list

- Problem: write code for the length of the list
  - What result do we give when list is not empty?

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Question: Length of list

- Problem: write code for the length of the list
  - What result do we give when list is not empty?

let rec length list =
    match list with [] -> 0
     | (a :: bs) -> 1 + length bs

Structural Recursion : List Example

```
# let rec length list = match list
  with [ ] -> 0   (* Nil case *)
  | a :: bs -> 1 + length bs;;  (* Cons case *)
val length : 'a list -> int = <fun>
# length [5; 4; 3; 2];;
- : int = 4
```

- Nil case [ ] is base case
- Cons case recurses on component list bs

Same Length

- How can we efficiently answer if two lists have the same length?

Same Length

- How can we efficiently answer if two lists have the same length?

```
let rec same_length list1 list2 =
   match list1 with [] ->
      (match list2 with [] -> true
        | (y::ys) -> false)
   | (x::xs) ->
      (match list2 with [] -> false
        | (y::ys) -> same_length xs ys)
```


Your turn: doubleList : int list -> int list

- Write a function that takes a list of int and returns a list of the same length, where each element has been multiplied by 2

```
let rec doubleList list =
```


Your turn: doubleList : int list -> int list

- Write a function that takes a list of int and returns a list of the same length, where each element has been multiplied by 2

```
let rec doubleList list =
  match list
   with [] ->[]
    |  x :: xs -> (2 * x) :: doubleList xs
```


Your turn: doubleList : int list -> int list

- Write a function that takes a list of int and returns a list of the same length, where each element has been multiplied by 2

```
let rec doubleList list =
  match list
   with [] ->[]
    | x :: xs -> (2 * x) :: doubleList xs
```

Higher-Order Functions Over Lists

```
# let rec map f list =
  match list
  with [] -> []
  | (h::t) -> (f h) :: (map f t);;
val map : ('a -> 'b) -> 'a list -> 'b list = <fun>
# map plus_two fib5;;
- : int list = [10; 7; 5; 4; 3; 3]
# map (fun x -> x - 1) fib6;;
: int list = [12; 7; 4; 2; 1; 0; 0]
```


Higher-Order Functions Over Lists

```
# let rec map f list =
  match list
  with [] -> []
  | (h::t) -> (f h) :: (map f t);;
val map : ('a -> 'b) -> 'a list -> 'b list = <fun>
# map plus_two fib5;;
- : int list = [10; 7; 5; 4; 3; 3]
# map (fun x -> x - 1) fib6;;
: int list = [12; 7; 4; 2; 1; 0; 0]
```


Mapping Recursion

- Can use the higher-order recursive map function instead of direct recursion

```
# let doubleList list =
   List.map (fun x -> 2 * x) list;;
val doubleList : int list -> int list = <fun>
# doubleList [2;3;4];;
- : int list = [4; 6; 8]
```


Mapping Recursion

- Can use the higher-order recursive map function instead of direct recursion

```
# let doubleList list =
   List.map (fun x -> 2 * x) list;;
val doubleList : int list -> int list = <fun>
# doubleList [2;3;4];;
- : int list = [4; 6; 8]
```

- Same function, but no explicit recursion

Folding Recursion

- Another common form “folds” an operation over the elements of the structure

```
# let rec multList list = match list
  with [ ] -> 1
  | x::xs -> x * multList xs;;
val multList : int list -> int = <fun>
# multList [2;4;6];;
- : int = 48
```

- Computes (2 * (4 * (6 * 1)))

Folding Recursion : Length Example

```
# let rec length list = match list
  with [ ] -> 0   (* Nil case *)
  | a :: bs -> 1 + length bs;;  (* Cons case *)
val length : 'a list -> int = <fun>
# length [5; 4; 3; 2];;
- : int = 4
```

- Nil case [ ] is base case, 0 is the base value
- Cons case recurses on component list bs
- What do multList and length have in common?