

A Fourth Look At ML

Type Definitions

- Predefined, but not primitive in ML:

```
datatype bool = true | false;
```

- Type constructor for lists:

```
datatype 'element list = nil |  
  :: of 'element * 'element list
```

- Defined for ML *in ML*

Outline

- Enumerations
- Data constructors with parameters
- Type constructors with parameters
- Recursively defined type constructors
- Farewell to ML

Defining Your Own Types

- New types can be defined using the keyword **`datatype`**
- These declarations define both:
 - *type constructors* for making new (possibly polymorphic) types
 - *data constructors* for making values of those new types

Example

```
- datatype day = Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun;
datatype day = Fri | Mon | Sat | Sun | Thu | Tue | Wed
- fun isWeekDay x = not (x = Sat orelse x = Sun);
val isWeekDay = fn : day -> bool
- isWeekDay Mon;
val it = true : bool
- isWeekDay Sat;
val it = false : bool
```

- **day** is the new type constructor and **Mon**, **Tue**, etc. are the new data constructors
- Why “constructors”? In a moment we will see how both can have parameters...

No Parameters

```
- datatype day = Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun;  
datatype day = Fri | Mon | Sat | Sun | Thu | Tue | Wed
```

- The type constructor **day** takes no parameters: it is not polymorphic, there is only one **day** type
- The data constructors **Mon**, **Tue**, etc. take no parameters: they are constant values of the **day** type
- Capitalize the names of data constructors

Strict Typing

```
- datatype flip = Heads | Tails;  
datatype flip = Heads | Tails  
- fun isHeads x = (x = Heads);  
val isHeads = fn : flip -> bool  
- isHeads Tails;  
val it = false : bool  
- isHeads Mon;  
Error: operator and operand don't agree [tycon mismatch]  
  operator domain: flip  
  operand:          day
```

- ML is strict about these new types, just as you would expect
- Unlike C **enum**, no implementation details are exposed to the programmer

Data Constructors In Patterns

```
fun isWeekDay Sat = false
|   isWeekDay Sun = false
|   isWeekDay _  = true;
```

- You can use the data constructors in patterns
- In this simple case, they are like constants
- But we will see more general cases next

Outline

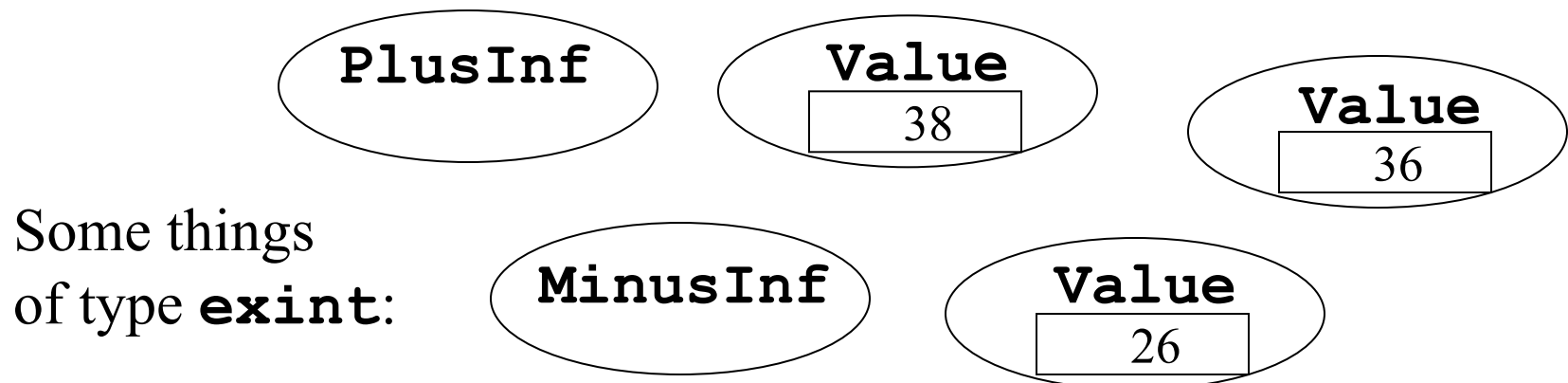
- Enumerations
- **Data constructors with parameters**
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Wrappers

- You can add a parameter of any type to a data constructor, using the keyword **of**:

```
datatype exint = Value of int | PlusInf | MinusInf;
```

- In effect, such a constructor is a wrapper that contains a data item of the given type



```
- datatype exint = Value of int | PlusInf | MinusInf;
datatype exint = MinusInf | PlusInf | Value of int
- PlusInf;
val it = PlusInf : exint
- MinusInf;
val it = MinusInf : exint
- Value;
val it = fn : int -> exint
- Value 3;
val it = Value 3 : exint
```

- **Value** is a data constructor that takes a parameter: the value of the **int** to store
- It looks like a function that takes an **int** and returns an **exint** containing that **int**

A **Value** Is Not An **int**

```
- val x = Value 5;
val x = Value 5 : exint
- x+x;
Error: overloaded variable not defined at type
  symbol: +
  type: exint
```

- **Value 5** is an **exint**
- It is not an **int**, though it contains one
- How can we get the **int** out again?
- By pattern matching...

Patterns With Data Constructors

```
- val (Value y) = x;  
val y = 5 : int
```

- To recover a data constructor's parameters, use pattern matching
- So **Value** is no ordinary function: ordinary functions can't be pattern-matched this way
- Note that this example only works because **x** actually is a **Value** here

An Exhaustive Pattern

```
- val s = case x of
=         PlusInf => "infinity" |
=         MinusInf => "-infinity" |
=         Value y => Int.toString y;
val s = "5" : string
```

- An **exint** can be a **PlusInf**, a **MinusInf**, or a **Value**
- Unlike the previous example, this one says what to do for all possible values of **x**

Pattern-Matching Function

```
- fun square PlusInf = PlusInf
= |   square MinusInf = PlusInf
= |   square (Value x) = Value (x*x);
val square = fn : exint -> exint
- square MinusInf;
val it = PlusInf : exint
- square (Value 3);
val it = Value 9 : exint
```

- Pattern-matching function definitions are especially important when working with your own datatypes

Exception Handling (A Peek)

```
- fun square PlusInf = PlusInf
= |   square MinusInf = PlusInf
= |   square (Value x) = Value (x*x)
=     handle Overflow => PlusInf;
val square = fn : exint -> exint
- square (Value 10000);
val it = Value 100000000 : exint
- square (Value 100000);
val it = PlusInf : exint
```

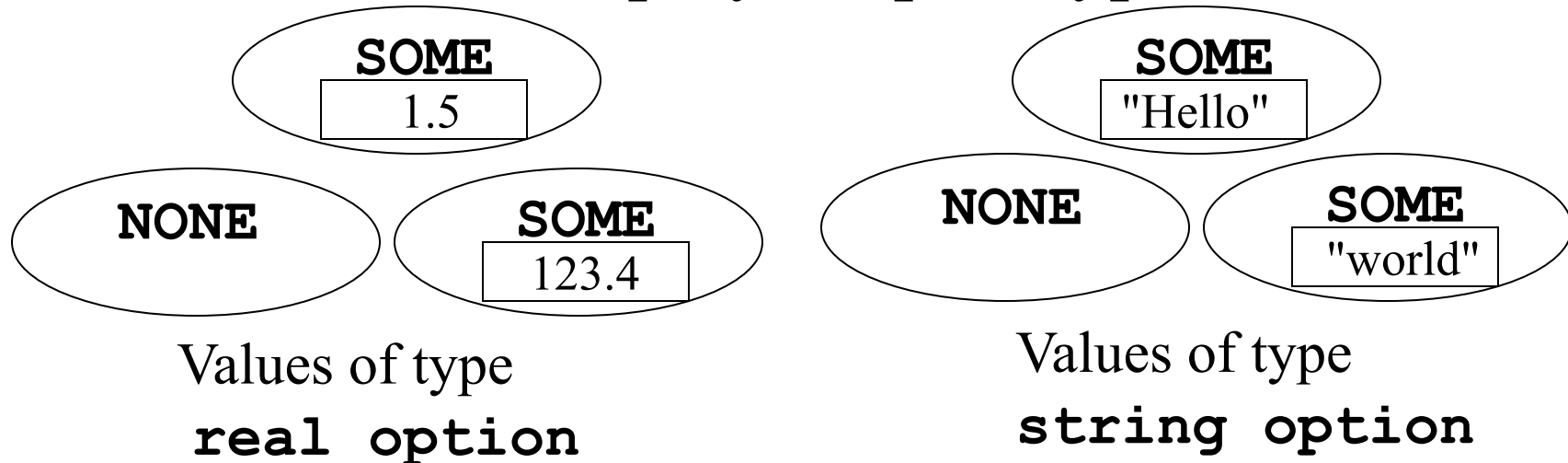
- Patterns are also used in ML for exception handling, as in this example
- We'll see it in Java, but skip it in ML

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Type Constructors With Parameters

- Type constructors can also use parameters:
`datatype 'a option = NONE | SOME of 'a;`
- The parameters of a type constructor are type variables, which are used in the data constructors
- The result: a new polymorphic type



Parameter Before Name

```
- SOME 4;  
val it = SOME 4 : int option  
- SOME 1.2;  
val it = SOME 1.2 : real option  
- SOME "pig";  
val it = SOME "pig" : string option
```

- Type constructor parameter comes before the type constructor name:
`datatype 'a option = NONE | SOME of 'a;`
- We have types `'a option` and `int option`, just like `'a list` and `int list`

Uses For **option**

- Predefined type constructor in ML
- Used by predefined functions (or your own) when the result is not always defined

```
- fun optdiv a b =  
=   if b = 0 then NONE else SOME (a div b);  
val optdiv = fn : int -> int -> int option  
- optdiv 7 2;  
val it = SOME 3 : int option  
- optdiv 7 0;  
val it = NONE : int option
```

Longer Example: **bunch**

```
datatype 'x bunch =  
  One of 'x |  
  Group of 'x list;
```

- An **'x bunch** is either a thing of type **'x**, or a list of things of type **'x**
- As usual, ML infers types:

```
- One 1.0;  
val it = One 1.0 : real bunch  
- Group [true, false];  
val it = Group [true, false] : bool bunch
```

Example: Polymorphism

```
- fun size (One _) = 1
= |   size (Group x) = length x;
val size = fn : 'a bunch -> int
- size (One 1.0);
val it = 1 : int
- size (Group [true,false]);
val it = 2 : int
```

- ML can infer **bunch** types, but does not always have to resolve them, just as with **list** types

Example: No Polymorphism

```
- fun sum (One x) = x
= |   sum (Group xlist) = foldr op + 0 xlist;
val sum = fn : int bunch -> int
- sum (One 5);
val it = 5 : int
- sum (Group [1,2,3]);
val it = 6 : int
```

- We applied the **+** operator (through **foldr**) to the list elements
- So ML knows the parameter type must be **int bunch**

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Recursively Defined Type Constructors

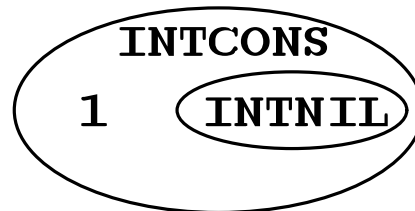
- The type constructor being defined may be used in its own data constructors:

```
datatype intlist =  
  INTNIL |  
  INTCONS of int * intlist;
```

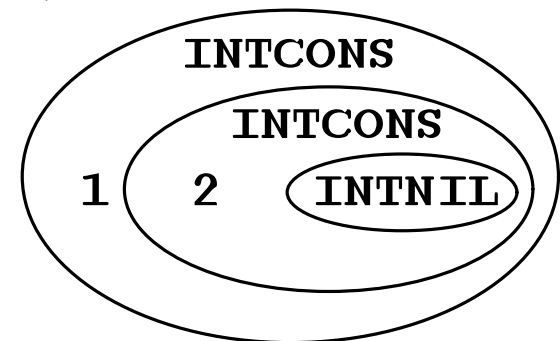
INTNIL

the empty list

Some values of
type **intlist**:



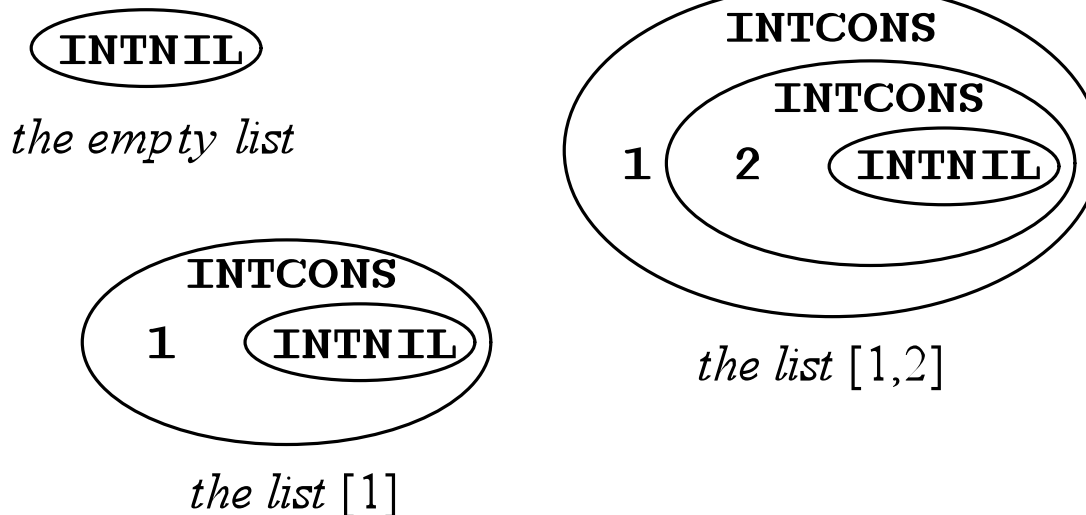
the list [1]



the list [1,2]

Constructing Those Values

```
- INTNIL ;  
val it = INTNIL : intlist  
- INTCONS (1,INTNIL) ;  
val it = INTCONS (1,INTNIL) : intlist  
- INTCONS (1,INTCONS (2,INTNIL)) ;  
val it = INTCONS (1,INTCONS (2,INTNIL)) : intlist
```



An `intlist` Length Function

```
fun intlistLength INTNIL = 0
  | intlistLength (INTCONS(_,tail)) =
    1 + (intlistLength tail);
```

```
fun listLength nil = 0
  | listLength (_::tail) =
    1 + (listLength tail);
```

- A length function
- Much like you would write for native lists
- Except, of course, that native lists are not always lists of integers...

Parametric List Type

```
datatype 'element mylist =  
  NIL |  
  CONS of 'element * 'element mylist;
```

- A parametric list type, almost like the predefined **list**
- ML handles type inference in the usual way:

```
- CONS (1.0, NIL);  
val it = CONS (1.0,NIL) : real mylist  
- CONS (1, CONS (2, NIL));  
val it = CONS (1,CONS (2,NIL)) : int mylist
```

Some `mylist` Functions

```
fun myListLength NIL = 0
  | myListLength (CONS (_, tail)) =
    1 + myListLength(tail);
```

```
fun addup NIL = 0
  | addup (CONS(head, tail)) =
    head + addup tail;
```

- This now works almost exactly like the predefined `list` type constructor
- Of course, to add up a list you would use `foldr...`

A `foldr` For `mylist`

```
fun myfoldr f c NIL = c
  | myfoldr f c (CONS(a,b)) =
    f(a, myfoldr f c b);
```

- Definition of a function like `foldr` that works on '`a mylist`'
- Can now add up an `int mylist x` with:
`myfoldr (op +) 0 x`
- One remaining difference: `::` is an operator and `CONS` is not

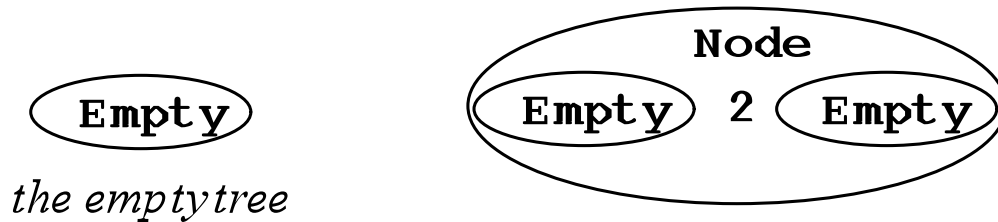
Defining Operators (A Peek)

- ML allows new operators to be defined
- Like this:

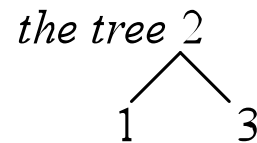
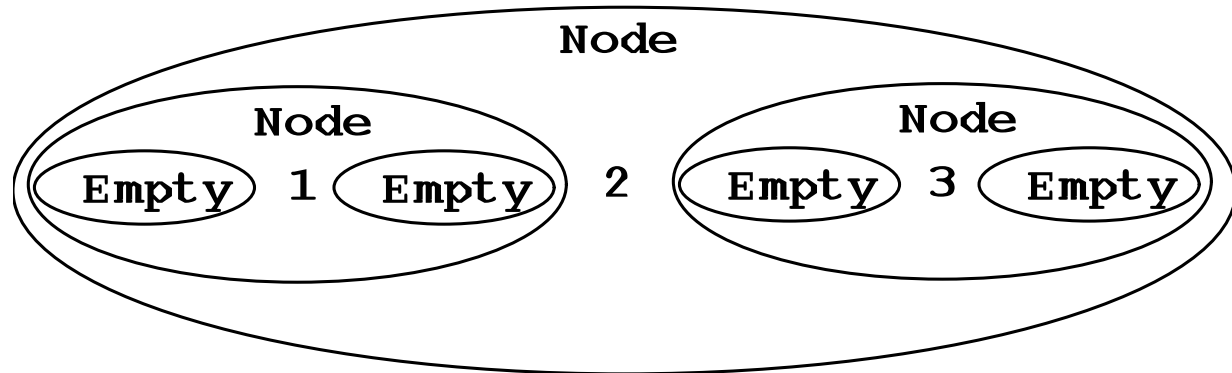
```
- infixr 5 CONS;  
infixr 5 CONS  
- 1 CONS 2 CONS NIL;  
val it = 1 CONS 2 CONS NIL : int mylist
```

Polymorphic Binary Tree

```
datatype 'data tree =  
  Empty |  
  Node of 'data tree * 'data * 'data tree;
```



Some values of
type **int tree**:



Constructing Those Values

```
- val treeEmpty = Empty;  
val treeEmpty = Empty : 'a tree  
- val tree2 = Node (Empty, 2, Empty) ;  
val tree2 = Node (Empty, 2, Empty) : int tree  
- val tree123 = Node (Node (Empty, 1, Empty) ,  
= 2,  
= Node (Empty, 3, Empty) ) ;
```

Increment All Elements

```
fun incall Empty = Empty
  | incall (Node(x,y,z)) =
      Node(incall x, y+1, incall z);
```

```
- incall tree123;
val it = Node (Node (Node (Empty,2,Empty),
                    3,
                    Node (Empty,4,Empty))) : int tree
```

Add Up The Elements

```
fun sumall Empty = 0
  | sumall (Node(x,y,z)) =
      sumall x + y + sumall z;
```

```
- sumall tree123;
val it = 6 : int
```

Convert To List (Polymorphic)

```
fun listall Empty = nil
  | listall (Node(x,y,z)) =
    listall x @ y :: listall z;
```

```
- listall tree123;
val it = [1,2,3] : int list
```

Tree Search

```
fun isintree x Empty = false
  | isintree x (Node(left,y,right)) =
    x=y
    orelse isintree x left
    orelse isintree x right;
```

```
- isintree 4 tree123;
val it = false : bool
- isintree 3 tree123;
val it = true : bool
```

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That's All

- That's all the ML we will see
- There is, of course, a lot more
- A few words about the parts we skipped:
 - records (like tuples with named fields)
 - arrays, with elements that can be altered
 - references, for values that can be altered
 - exception handling

More Parts We Skipped

- support for encapsulation and data hiding:
 - structures: collections of datatypes, functions, etc.
 - signatures: interfaces for structures
 - functors: like functions that operate on structures, allowing type variables and other things to be instantiated across a whole structure

More Parts We Skipped

- API: the standard basis
 - predefined functions, types, etc.
 - Some at the top level but most in structures:
Int.maxInt, Real.Math.sqrt, List.nth,
etc.

More Parts We Skipped

- eXene: an ML library for applications that work in the X window system
- the Compilation Manager for building large ML projects
- Other dialects besides Standard ML
 - Ocaml
 - F# (in Visual Studio, for the .NET platform)
 - Concurrent ML (CML) extensions

Functional Languages

- ML supports a function-oriented style of programming
- If you like that style, there are many other languages to explore, like Lisp and Haskell