CMSC 330: Organization of Programming Languages

OCaml Data Types

CMSC330 Summer 2025

Review: Fold

```
let rec fold_left f a l =
  match l with
  [] -> a
  [ h::t -> fold left f (f a h) t
```

```
let rec fold_right f l a =
  match l with
  [] -> a
  | h::t -> f h (fold right f t a)
```

Review: Fold

```
fold_left (+) 0 [1;2;3]
fold_left (+) 1 [2;3]
fold_left (+) 3 [3]
fold_left (+) 6 []
6
```

OCaml Data

- · So far, we've seen the following kinds of data
 - Basic types (int, float, char, string)
 - Lists
 - > One kind of data structure
 - > A list is either [] or h::t, deconstructed with pattern matching
 - Tuples and Records
 - > Let you collect data together in fixed-size pieces
 - Functions
- How can we build other data structures?
 - Building everything from lists and tuples is awkward

(User-Defined) Variants

type gen =
 |Int of int
 |Str of string;;

```
let ls = [Int 10; Str "alice"]
```

```
let print_gen lst =
  match lst with
    |Int i->Printf.printf ``%d\n" i
    |Str s-> Printf.printf ``%d\n" s
```

List.iter print_gen ls CMSC330 Summer 2025

Variants (full definition)

- Syntax
 - type t = C1 [of t1] | ... | Cn [of tn]
 - the *Ci* are called constructors
- Evaluation
 - A constructor *Ci* is a value if it has no assoc. data
 Ci vi is a value if it does
 - Destructing a value of type *t* is by pattern matching
 patterns are constructors *Ci* with data components, if any
- Type Checking
 - Ci [vi] : t [if vi has type ti]

Data Types: Variants with Data

```
let area s =
  match s with
      Rect (w, 1) -> w *. 1
      | Circle r -> r *. r *. 3.14
;;
area (Rect (3.0, 4.0));; (* 12.0 *)
area (Circle 3.0);; (* 28.26 *)
```

[Rect (3.0, 4.0) ; Circle 3.0]. (* shape list*) CMSC330 Summer 2025

type foo = ((string list) * int) list

Which one of the following could match type foo?

- A. [("foo", "bar", 5)]
- B. [(["foo", "bar"],6)]
- c. [([("foo", "bar")],8)]
- D. [(["foo"; "bar"],7)]

type foo = ((string list) * int) list

Which one of the following could match type foo?

- A. [("foo", "bar", 5)] string * string * int) list
- B. [(["foo", "bar"],6)]((string*string) list*int) list
- c. [([("foo", "bar")],8)] same as B
- D. [(["foo"; "bar"],7)] (string list * int) list

Quiz 2: What does this evaluate to?

```
type num = Int of int | Float of float;;
let aux a =
  match a with
  | Int i -> i
  | Float j -> int_of_float j
;;
aux (Float 5.0);;
```

A. 5
B. 2
c. 5.0
D. Type Error

Quiz 2: What does this evaluate to?

```
type num = Int of int | Float of float;;
let aux a =
  match a with
  | Int i -> i
  | Float j -> int_of_float j
;;
aux (Float 5.0);;
```

A. 5 **B.** 2 **c.** 5.0 **D.** Type Error

Option Type

```
type optional_int =
   None
```

| Some of int

```
let divide x y =
    if y != 0 then Some (x/y)
    else None
let string_of_opt o =
    match o with
        Some i -> string_of_int i
        None -> "nothing"
```

Comparing to Java: None is like null, while
 Some *i* is like an Integer (*i*) object

Polymorphic Option Type

type 'a option =	:
Some of 'a	
None	

let opthd l =
 match l with
 [] -> None
 | x::_ -> Some x

Quiz 3: What does this evaluate to?

```
let foo f = match f with
    None -> 42.0
    | Some n -> n +. 42.0
;;
foo 3.5;;
```

- A. 45.5
- в. 42.0
- c. Some 45.5

D. Error

Quiz 3: What does this evaluate to?

- A. 45.5
- в. 42.0
- c. Some 45.5

D. Error

Recursive Data Types: List

```
type 'a mylist =
   Nil
   | Cons of 'a * 'a mylist
```

```
let l = Cons (10, Cons (20, Cons (30, Nil)))
```

```
let rec len = function
    Nil -> 0
    | Cons (_, t) -> 1 + (len t)
```

Recursive Data Types: Binary Tree

```
type 'a tree =
   Leaf
 | Node 'a tree * 'a * 'a tree
let empty = Leaf
let t = Node(Leaf, 100, Node(Leaf, 200, Leaf))
let rec sum t =
  match t with
    Leaf -> 0
   | Node(l,v,r) \rightarrow sum l + v + sum r
```

OCaml Exceptions

```
exception My_exception of int
let f n =
  if n > 0 then
    raise (My exception n)
  else
    raise (Failure "foo")
let bar n =
  try
    f n
  with My exception n ->
      Printf.printf "Caught %d\n" n
    | Failure s ->
      Printf.printf "Caught %s\n" s
```

OCaml Exceptions: Useful Examples

- **failwith** s: Raises exception Failure s (s is a string).
- **Not found:** Exception raised by library functions if the object does not exist
- invalid_arg s: Raises exception Invalid_argument s

```
let div x y =
    if y = 0 then failwith "div by 0" else x/y;;
let lst =[(1,"alice");(2,"bob");(3,"cat")];;
let lookup key lst =
    try
    List.assoc key lst
    with
    Not_found -> "key does not exist"
```