Basic OCaml Modules
Modules

• Defining all functions/variables/etc. at the “top-level” is not good software engineering practice
  • Names in distinct libraries/components could conflict

• Instead: Use modules to group associated types, functions, and data together
  • Avoid polluting the top-level with unnecessary stuff

• For lots of sample modules, see the OCaml standard library, e.g., List, Str, etc.
Creating A Module In OCaml

```ocaml
module IntSet =
  struct
    type set = Empty | Ins of int * set
    let empty = Empty
    let isEmpty s = (s = Empty)
    let insert s i = Ins(i,s)
    let rec contains s i =
        match s with
        | Empty         -> false
        | Ins(j,r)      -> i = j || (contains r i)
  end;;
```
Creating A Module In OCaml (cont.)

```ocaml
module IntSet =
    struct
      type set = ...
      let empty = ...
      let isEmpty = ...
      let insert = ...
      let contains = ...
    end;;

# empty;;
Error: Unbound value empty
# IntSet.empty;;
- : IntSet.set = IntSet.Empty
# IntSet.contains IntSet.empty 1;;
- : bool = false
# open IntSet;; (* add IntSet names to curr scope *)
# empty;;
- : IntSet.Empty (* now defined *)
```
Module Signatures

Entry in signature

Supply function types

Give type to module

module type FOO =
  sig
    val add : int -> int -> int
  end;;
module Foo : FOO =
  struct
    let add x y = x + y
    let mult x y = x * y
  end;;
Foo.add 3 4;; (* OK *)
Foo.mult 3 4;; (* not accessible *)
Module Signatures (cont.)

- Convention: Signature names in all-caps
  - This isn't a strict requirement, though

- Items can be omitted from a module signature
  - This provides the ability to hide values

- The default signature for a module hides nothing
  - This is what OCaml gives you if you just type in a module with no signature at the top-level
Abstraction = Hiding

• Signatures hide module implementation details
  • Why do that? Doesn’t that reduce flexibility?

• This is good software engineering practice
  • Ensures data structure invariants maintained
    ➢ clients can’t construct arbitrary data structures, only ones our module’s functions create.
    • E.g., for a BST module, can be sure that clients will not make tree values that violate the BST ordering
  • Facilitates code collaboration
    ➢ Write code to the interface as implementation worked out
  • Clients do not rely details that may change
    ➢ Changing set representation later won’t affect clients
Abstract Data Types

**Idea**: Hide data value’s internal representation from its clients

Invented by **Barbara Liskov** in the **CLU** programming language
- Professor at MIT since 1971

Won **Turing Award** for ADTs and other contributions in 2008

http://amturing.acm.org/award_winners/liskov_1108679.cfm
Abstract Data Types In OCaml Sigs

module type INT_SET =
   sig
     type set   (* abstract/hidden *)
     val empty : set
     val isEmpty : set -> bool
     val insert :  set -> int -> set
     val contains : set -> int -> bool
   end;;

module IntSet : INT_SET =
   struct
     type set = Empty | Ins of int * set
     ...
     let insert s i = Ins(i,s)
   end

• The definition of set hidden to IntSet clients
Quiz 1: Evaluation on ADTs

```ocaml
# IntSet.empty;;
- : IntSet.set = <abstr> (* OCaml won’t show impl *)
# IntSet.Empty;;
Unbound Constructor IntSet.Empty
# IntSet.isEmpty (IntSet.insert IntSet.empty 0);;
- : bool = false
# open IntSet;;
(* doesn’t make anything abstract accessible *)
```

```ocaml
# IntSet.insert IntSet.empty 0;;
A. - : ISet.set = <abstr>
B. Type Error
C. - : ISet.Ins (0, ISet.Empty)
```
Quiz 1: Evaluation on ADTs

```ocaml
# IntSet.empty;;
- : IntSet.set = <abstr> (* OCaml won’t show impl *)
# IntSet.Empty;;
Unbound Constructor IntSet.Empty
# IntSet.isEmpty (IntSet.insert IntSet.empty 0);;
- : bool = false
# open IntSet;;
(* doesn’t make anything abstract accessible *)
```

```ocaml
# IntSet.insert IntSet.empty 0;;
A. - : ISet.set = <abstr>
B. Type Error
C. - : ISet.Ins (0, ISet.Empty)
```
Multiple representations

module IntSetBST : INT_SET =
  struct
    type set = Tip | Bin of int * set * set
    ...
    let rec insert s i =
      match s with
      Tip -> Bin(i,Tip,Tip)
    | Bin(j,l,r) ->
      if i = j then s
      else if i < j then Bin(j,insert l i,r)
      else Bin(j,l,insert r i)
    end

- Now set is a binary search tree (why?)
Quiz 2: Mixing ADTs?

```plaintext
# IntSetBST.empty;;
- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
# IntSetBST.insert IntSetBST.empty 0;;
- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
# IntSetBST.contains IntSetBST.empty 0;;
- : bool = false

# IntSet.insert IntSetBST.empty 0;;
A.- : IntSet.set = <abstr>
B.- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
C. Type Error
D.- : IntSetBST.Ins (0, IntSet.Empty)
```
Quiz 2: Mixing ADTs?

```python
# IntSetBST.empty;;
- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
# IntSetBST.insert IntSetBST.empty 0;;
- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
# IntSetBST.contains IntSetBST.empty 0;;
- : bool = false
```

```python
# IntSet.insert IntSetBST.empty 0;;
A.- : IntSet.set = <abstr>
B.- : IntSetBST.set = <abstr>
C. **Type Error**
D.- : IntSetBST.Ins (0, IntSet.Empty)
```
Different ADTs are … different

- The **set** type of `IntSet` and `IntSetBST` are similar, but not interchangeable
  - Both are om modules that match the `INT_SET` signature
  - But it is not safe to mix them – they have different representations.

- This distinction is enforced by the type system
  - the **set** type is an **abstract type**
  - the instances of **modules** having the `INT_SET` signature (which has an abstract type) are called **abstract data types** (ADTs)
Other Module Systems

• How OCaml’s approach compare to modularity in...
  • Java?
  • C?
  • Ruby?
Modules In Java

- **Java classes** are like modules
  - Provide implementations for a group of functions
  - But classes can also
    - Instantiate objects
    - Inherit attributes from other classes

- **Java interfaces** are like module signatures
  - Defines a group of functions that may be used
  - Implementation is hidden
  - But: *Objects and modules/ADT not the same*
    - Future lecture topic!
Modules In C

- .c files are like modules
  - Provides implementations for a group of functions

- .h files are like module signatures
  - Defines a group of functions that may be used
  - Implementation is hidden

- Usage is not enforced by C language
  - Can put C code in .h file
Modules In Ruby

- Ruby explicitly supports modules
  - Modules defined by `module ... end`
  - Modules cannot
    - Instantiate objects
    - Derive subclasses

```ruby
puts Math.sqrt(4)  # 2
puts Math::PI      # 3.1416
include Math
      # open Math
puts sqrt(4)       # 2
puts PI            # 3.1416
```