

Declarations

Variable declarations

- Global declarations
- Local declarations

```
▷ ▾  
    let x = 42  
[12] ✓ 0.0s  
... val x : int = 42
```

```
▷ ▾  
    let x = 42 in (string_of_int x)^": the ultimate question of life, the universe, and everything"  
[13] ✓ 0.0s  
... - : string =  
    "42: the ultimate question of life, the universe, and everything"
```

```
▷ ▾  
    let x = 1 in (let x = 2 in x + 1) + x  
[14] ✓ 0.0s  
... - : int = 4
```

```
▷ ▾  
    let x = 1 in let y = 2 in x + y  
[15] ✓ 0.0s  
... - : int = 3
```

Scoping

- A declaration of a name (**x**) is limited to the body of the declaration (**e2**).
- It is not, for instance, visible in the expression that defines its value (**e1**).

`let x = e1 in e2`

`let y = let y = 1 in y + 1 in let y = y + 2 in y + 2`

- Declarations follow the principle of name irrelevance, meaning that the chosen names should not affect the evaluation of an expression.

Scoping

- A declaration of a name (**x**) is limited to the body of the declaration (**e2**).
- It is not, for instance, visible in the expression that defines its value (**e1**).

`let x = e1 in e2`

`let y = let y = 1 in y + 1 in let y = y + 2 in y + 2`

- Declarations follow the principle of name irrelevance, meaning that the chosen names should not affect the evaluation of an expression.

Scoping of local variables

```
let x =  
  let y = 1 in  
  let z = 2 in  
    y + z  
in
```

```
let w = 3+x in  
  w + x
```

x

Scoping of local variables

let $x =$

let $y = 1$ in

let $z = 2$ in

$y + z$

y

in

let $w = 3+x$ in

$w + x$

Scoping of local variables

```
let x =  
  let y = 1 in  
  let z = 2 in  
    y + z      z  
in  
let w = 3+x in  
  w + x
```

Scoping of local variables

```
let x =  
  let y = 1 in  
  let z = 2 in  
    y + z  
in  
let w = 3+x in
```

w + x

w

Evaluation by substitution

let $x =$

```
let  $y = 1$  in
```

```
let  $z = 2$  in
```

```
 $y + z$ 
```

in

```
let  $w = 3+x$  in
```

```
 $w + x$ 
```

Evaluation by substitution

```
let x =  
  let y = 1 in  
  let z = 2 in  
    y + z  
in  
let w = 3+x in  
  w + x
```

Evaluation by substitution

let $x =$

let $z = 2$ in
 $1 + z$

in

let $w = 3 + x$ in
 $w + x$

Evaluation by substitution

let $x =$

let $z = 2$ in
 $1 + z$

in

let $w = 3 + x$ in
 $w + x$

Evaluation by substitution

let $x =$

$1 + 2$

in

let $w = 3 + x$ in

$w + x$

Evaluation by substitution

let x 

3

in

let $w = 3 + x$ in

$w + x$

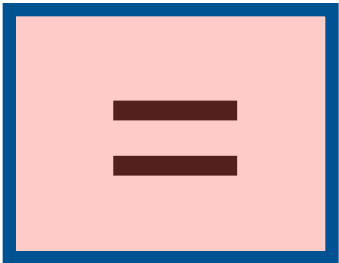
Evaluation by substitution

```
let w = 3+3 in  
  w + 3
```

Evaluation by substitution

let $w = 3+3$ in
 $w + 3$

Evaluation by substitution

let w  6 in
 $w + 3$

Evaluation by substitution

6 + 3

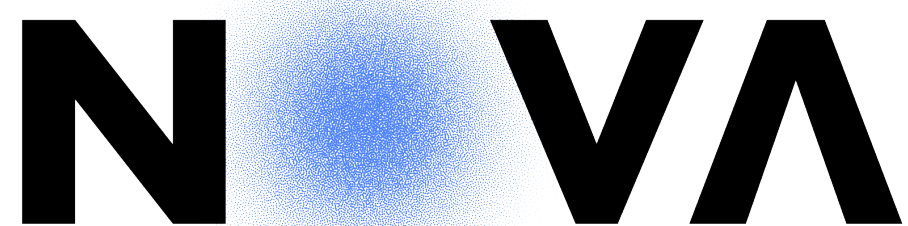
Evaluation by substitution

9

Programming Languages and Environments (Lecture 3)

LEI - Licenciatura em Engenharia Informática

João Costa Seco (joao.seco@fct.unl.pt)



NOVA SCHOOL OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Syllabus

- Function declaration, with and without parameters.
- Evaluation of expression by substitution.
- Functions as values.
- Function partial applications.

Functions

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.

let f x = e1 in e2

let f x = x + 1 in f (1 + 1)

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.
- Functions with "no parameters", have a parameter of type unit.

`let x = 1 in let f () = 1 + x in f ()`

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.
- Declarations with parameters is a syntactic alternative to using functions as values (the arrow type is composed by two characters \rightarrow).

`let f = fun x → x + 1 in f (1 + 1)`

Definition and evaluation of functions

- The application of functions can be defined by the substitution of the parameter by the value of the argument.
- OCaml implements *call-by-value* evaluation strategy, meaning that the arguments are evaluated before expanding the body of the function.

```
(fun x → x + 1) (1 + 1)
  (fun x → x + 1) 2
    2 + 1
      3
```

Recursive definitions (scoping)

- The declaration of a name (**x**) is visible in the body of the declaration (**e2**) and in the body of the declaration (**e1**).

let rec x = e1 in e2

(* [fact x] computes the factorial of x
Requires: [x >= 0] *)

let rec fact x = if x = 0 then 1 else x * fact (x - 1)

Mutually recursive declarations (scoping)

- The declaration of a name (x) is visible in the body of the declaration ($e2$) and in the body of the declaration ($e1$).

`let rec x = e1 in e2`

```
(* [even x] is true if [x] is even, false otherwise  
   Requires: [x >= 0] *)  
let rec even x = if      x = 0 then true  
                  else if x = 1 then false  
                  else odd (x - 1)
```

```
(* [odd x] is true if [x] is odd, false otherwise  
   Requires: [x >= 0] *)  
and odd x = if      x = 0 then false  
              else if x = 1 then true  
              else even (x - 1)
```

Mutually recursive declarations in C

- Declare a function without defining it.

```
bool odd(int x);
```

```
bool even(int x) {  
    if( x == 0 ) {  
        return false;  
    } else if( x == 1 ) {  
        return false;  
    } else {  
        return odd(x-1);  
    }  
}
```

```
bool odd(int x) {  
    if( x == 0 ) {  
        return false;  
    } else if( x == 1 ) {  
        return true;  
    } else {  
        return even(x-1);  
    }  
}
```

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.

let f x y = x + y in f 1 1

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.

let f = fun x y → x + y in f 1 1

Declaration and application of functions

- The name declaration (**f**) is limited to the body (**e2**).
- The name (**f**) is not visible in the expression that defines the value (**e1**).
- Parameters are listed in the declaration.

```
let f = fun x → fun y → x + y in f 1 1
```


Partial evaluation of functions

- A function with multiple parameters is essentially the composition of multiple functions.
- Parameters can be instantiated one at a time, resulting in partial applications until the evaluation is complete.

```
[9]      let add x y = x + y
      ✓ 0.0s
...    val add : int → int → int = <fun>
```

```
[10]     add 2 3
      ✓ 0.0s
...    - : int = 5
```

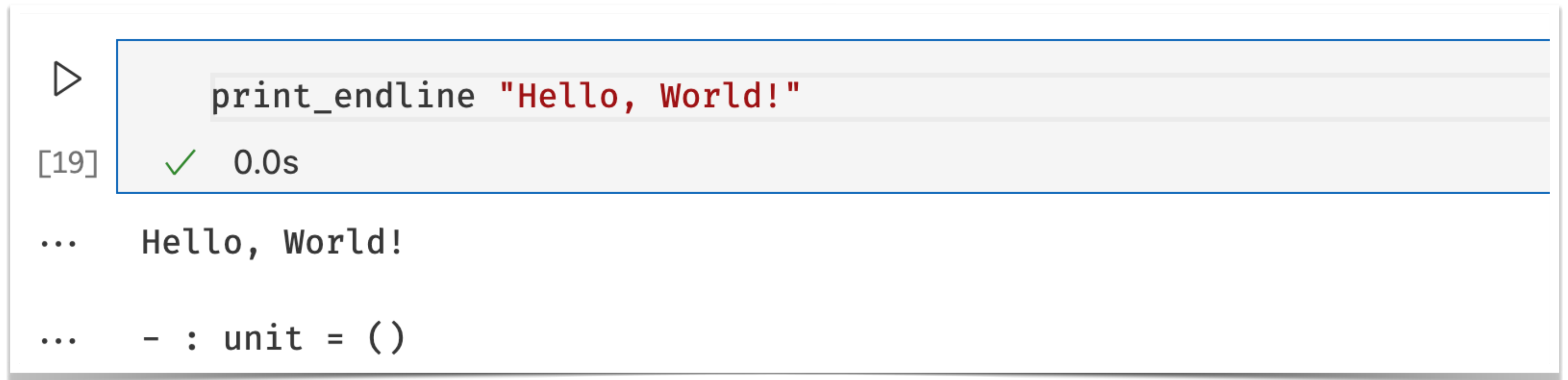
```
▷ [12]     let add1 = add 1
      ✓ 0.0s
...    val add1 : int → int = <fun>
```

```
▷ [13]     add1 2
      ✓ 0.0s
...    - : int = 3
```

Input/Output & Unit

Basic Input/Output

- Functions with return type `unit` are typically have side-effects. Printing to the standard output is one such example.
- `print_endline`
- `print_string`
- `print_char`
- `print_int`
- `print_float`



```
▶ print_endline "Hello, World!"  
[19] ✓ 0.0s  
... Hello, World!  
... - : unit = ()
```

Declarations with sequencing

- Declarations that discard the result.

```
▷ let () = print_string "hello, " in print_endline "world!"
```

[14] ✓ 0.0s

... hello, world!

... - : unit = ()

```
[13] let _ = function_with_side_effects () in 4
```

✓ 0.0s

... - : int = 4

```
▷ print_string "hello, "; print_endline "world!"
```

[15] ✓ 0.0s

... hello, world!

... - : unit = ()

Declarations with sequencing

- Declarations that discard the result.

```
[18] 1; 2
      ✓ 0.0s

...  File "[18]", line 1, characters 0-1:
      1 | 1; 2
          ^

Warning 10 [non-unit-statement]: this expression should have type unit.
File "[18]", line 1, characters 0-1:
1 | 1; 2
  | ^

Warning 10 [non-unit-statement]: this expression should have type unit.

... - : int = 2
```

Declarations with sequencing

- Declarations that discard the result.

▶

let () = print_string "hello, " in print_endline "world!"

[14] ✓ 0.0s

... hello, world!

▶

(ignore 1); 2

[21] ✓ 0.0s

... - : int = 2

✓

print_string "hello, "; print_endline "world!"

[15] ✓ 0.0s

... hello, world!

... - : unit = ()

Documentation

OCaml doc

- Documentation helps with reading the code of a function, but also with understanding the functionality of an entire module.

```
(** The first special comment of the file is the comment associated  
| with the whole module. This is module LAP with sample code for LAP 2024 *)
```

```
(** [fact n] is the factorial of [n]  
| requires: [n >= 0] *)
```

```
let rec fact x = if x = 0 then 1 else x * fact(x-1)
```

```
(** [even x] is true if [x] is even, false otherwise  
| requires: [x >= 0] *)
```

```
let rec even x = if x = 0 then true else if x = 1 then false
```

```
(** [odd x] is true if [x] is odd, false otherwise  
| requires: [x >= 0] *)
```

```
and odd x = if x = 0 then false else if x = 1 then true else
```

Module Lap

```
module Lap: sig .. end
```

The first special comment of the file is the comment associated with the whole module. This is module LAP with sample code for LAP 2024

```
val fact : int -> int  
  fact n is the factorial of n Requires: n >= 0
```

```
val even : int -> bool  
  even x is true if x is even, false otherwise Requires: x >= 0
```

```
val odd : int -> bool  
  odd x is true if x is odd, false otherwise Requires: x >= 0
```

```
jcs@joaos-imac lap2024 % ocaml doc -html lap.ml
```


OCamlDoc - Tags

- Tags provide metadata about functions, parameters, return values, exceptions, etc.
- They help organize information, making it easier to generate clear and consistent documentation.
- Tags are placed within documentation comments, i.e. `(** ... *)`, starting with an `@`.

2.5 Documentation tags (@-tags)

Predefined tags

The following table gives the list of predefined @-tags, with their syntax and meaning.

<code>@author</code> <i>string</i>	The author of the element. One author per <code>@author</code> tag. There may be several <code>@author</code> tags for the same element.
<code>@deprecated</code> <i>text</i>	The <i>text</i> should describe when the element was deprecated, what to use as a replacement, and possibly the reason for deprecation.
<code>@param</code> <i>id text</i>	Associate the given description (<i>text</i>) to the given parameter name <i>id</i> . This tag is used for functions, methods, classes and functors.
<code>@raise</code> <i>Exc text</i>	Explain that the element may raise the exception <i>Exc</i> .
<code>@return</code> <i>text</i>	Describe the return value and its possible values. This tag is used for functions and methods.
<code>@see</code> <i>< URL > text</i>	Add a reference to the <i>URL</i> with the given <i>text</i> as comment.
<code>@see</code> <i>'filename' text</i>	Add a reference to the given file name (written between single quotes), with the given <i>text</i> as comment.
<code>@see</code> <i>"document-name" text</i>	Add a reference to the given document name (written between double quotes), with the given <i>text</i> as comment.
<code>@since</code> <i>string</i>	Indicate when the element was introduced.
<code>@before</code> <i>version text</i>	Associate the given description (<i>text</i>) to the given <i>version</i> in order to document compatibility issues.
<code>@version</code> <i>string</i>	The version number for the element.

OCaml doc - Pre and Post-conditions

- The documentation of a function can also state its pre and post-conditions. Though these conditions are informal and not enforced.

```
(** The first special comment of the file is the comment associated
    | with the whole module. This is module LAP with sample code for LAP 2024 *)

(** [fact n] is the factorial of [n]
    | requires: [n >= 0] *)
let rec fact x = if x = 0 then 1 else x * fact(x-1)

(** [even x] is true if [x] is even, false otherwise
    | requires: [x >= 0] *)
let rec even x = if x = 0 then true else if x = 1 then false else odd(x-1)

(** [odd x] is true if [x] is odd, false otherwise
    | requires: [x >= 0] *)
and odd x = if x = 0 then false else if x = 1 then true else even(x-1)
```

Summary

- Name declarations
- Function declaration, with and without parameters.
- Evaluation of expression by substitution.
- Functions as values.
- Function partial applications.