CS339: Abstractions and Paradigms for Programming

ADTs and Type Classes

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The best way to begin (and even finish!)





Types Types Types

- ➤ What is a type?
- ➤ What is it useful for?
- ➤ What is type checking?
- ➤ Difference between a strongly and a weakly typed language?
- ➤ Why shouldn't we always use the most general type?
- ➤ Static vs dynamic typing?
- ➤ Untyped languages?
- ➤ Haskell tries to offer the best of all worlds: Type inference!

Duck typing!

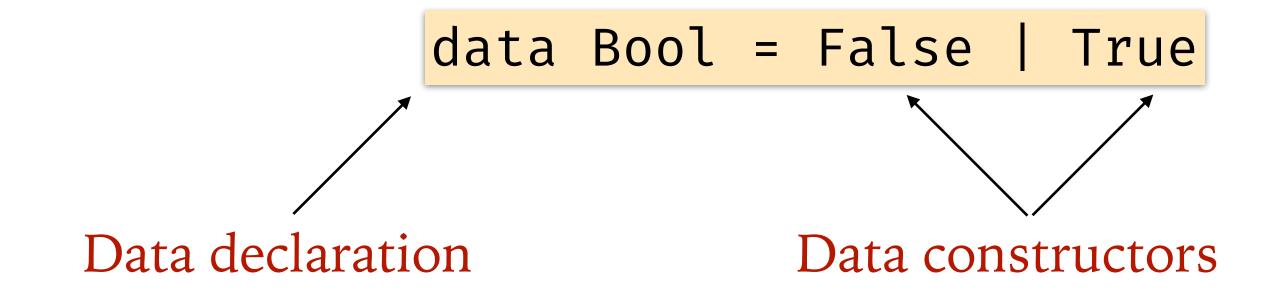
If it walks like a duck and it quacks like a duck, then it must be a duck.





Abstract Data Types

- Type with operations
- ➤ What's abstract about it?
 - ➤ Hides the representation details.
 - ➤ Recall our Complex example.
- ➤ Definition of Bool in Haskell:





Examples of ADTs

```
data Move = North | South | East | West | Named constructors
```

- ➤ What are constructors in OO languages?
- > Check the types of North, South, East and West.
- ➤ Now we can use these types in functions:

```
type Pos = (Int,Int)
move :: Move -> Pos -> Pos
move North (x,y) = (x,y+1)
move South (x,y) = (x,y-1)
move East (x,y) = (x+1,y)
move West (x,y) = (x-1,y)
```

```
moves :: [Move] -> Pos -> Pos
moves [] p = p
moves (m:ms) p = moves ms (move m p)
```



Data Constructors with Arguments

```
data Shape = Circle Float
| Rectangle Float Float
```

- ➤ These constructors are essentially functions, which return a value of type Shape. Check their types again!
- ➤ We can again define functions using them:

Notice pattern matching!

```
area :: Shape -> Float
area (Circle r) = pi * r * r
area (Rectangle ...
```

- ➤ Why won't area :: Circle -> Float work?
 - ➤ Same reason why foo :: True -> Int won't work!



Type Parameters

```
data Maybe a = Nothing | Just a

Type parameter
```

➤ Maybe is a very useful type for handling failures.

```
head :: [a] -> a
head [] = error "Empty list"
safeHead (x:_) = Nothing
safeHead (x:_) = Just x

Can't return this!

safediv :: Int -> Int -> Maybe Int
safediv _ 0 = Nothing
safediv m n = Just (m `div` n)
```



Type Classes

➤ What's the problem with the following types for +:

```
Too specific (+) :: Int -> Int -> Int

(+) :: Float -> Float -> Float

Too generic (+) :: a -> a -> a
```

- ➤ We would like to define (+) for only number-like types.
- ➤ Check the type of Haskell's built-in sort function:

```
> import Data.List
> :t sort
> sort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
```

It sorts lists containing elements of any type a that belongs to the type class Ord ("Ord a" being a type constraint).



Type Classes (Cont.)

➤ Check the type of + now:

```
> :t (+)
> (+) :: Num a => a -> a -> a is a type variable
```

➤ Here is the declaration of the type class Num from Haskell:

```
class (Eq a, Show a) => Num a where
  (+),(-),(*) :: a -> a -> a
  negate :: a -> a
  abs, signum :: a -> a
  fromInteger :: Integer -> a
```

- ➤ Class Num is a subclass of type classes Eq and Show.
- ➤ Any subclass of Num would need to define (+), (-), negate, etc.



Instantiating Type Classes

➤ A type can be made an instance of a type class by instantiating that class:

```
class Eq a where
  (==), (/=) :: a -> a -> Bool
  x /= y = not (x == y)
```

➤ Now any type can instantiate Eq by defining == (/= is already defined):

```
instance Eq Bool where
  False == False = True
  True == True = False
```

> Sometimes we just want to use the pre-defined behavior.



Deriving from Type Classes

➤ We can create *named* values as follows:

```
harry = Student { name = "harry", rollNum = 123 }
```

- > But we can't "show" harry yet! (Notice the error.)
- ➤ Derive from something that knows how to *show*:

➤ Now typing harry on the prompt works!



Recursive Types

➤ What does this type describe?

```
data Nat = Zero | Succ Nat
```

- ➤ Does this remind of something from Lab2?
 - ➤ Church numerals!

```
nat2int :: Nat -> Int
nat2int Zero = 0
nat2int (Succ n) = 1 + nat2int n
```

```
add :: Nat -> Nat -> Nat
add m n = int2nat (nat2int m + nat2int n)

Classwork
```



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