

# Data Structures

- ❑ Lecture will begin shortly
- ❑ Download class materials from [university.xamarin.com](https://university.xamarin.com)

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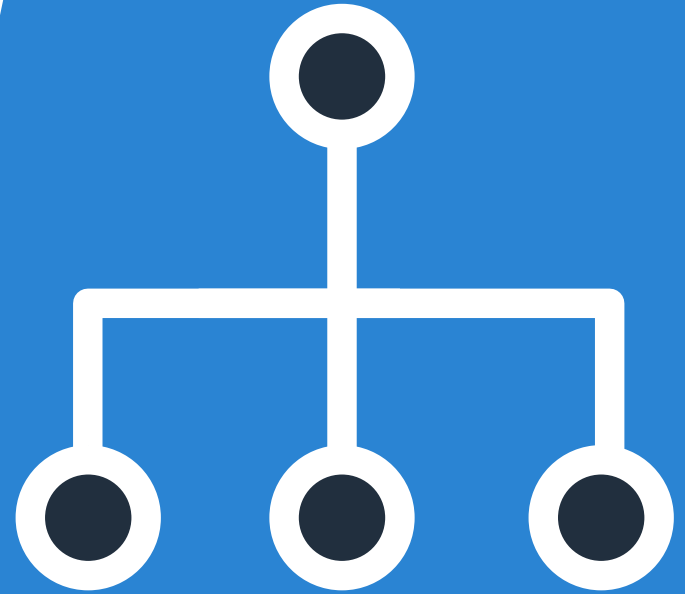
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# Objectives

1. Utilize arrays and lists
2. Organize and transform data using data structures





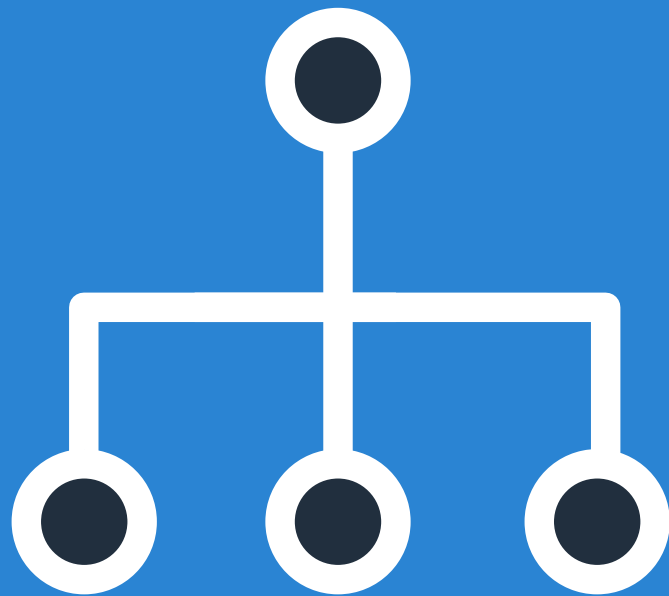
# Utilize arrays and lists



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# Tasks

1. Store data in an array
2. Store data in a list
3. Compare list and array



# What is an Array?

- ❖ Arrays are fixed size sequences of **homogenous** data
- ❖ F# uses **System.Array** under the covers so any created arrays can be passed into other .NET code

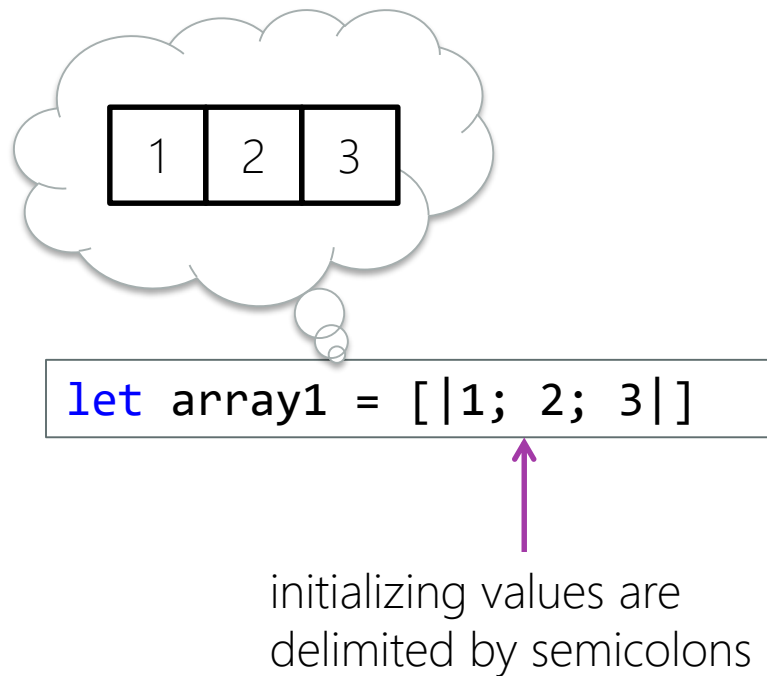
1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

1.0	3.14	104.3
-----	------	-------

"Larry"	"Moe"	"Curly"
---------	-------	---------

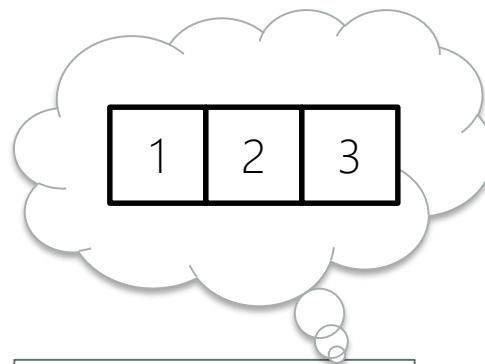
# Creating Arrays

- ❖ Arrays are defined by providing data in between [| and |]
- ❖ Must be initialized with data – this determines the type and size of the array



# Creating Arrays

- ❖ Arrays are defined by providing data in between `[ |` and `| ]`
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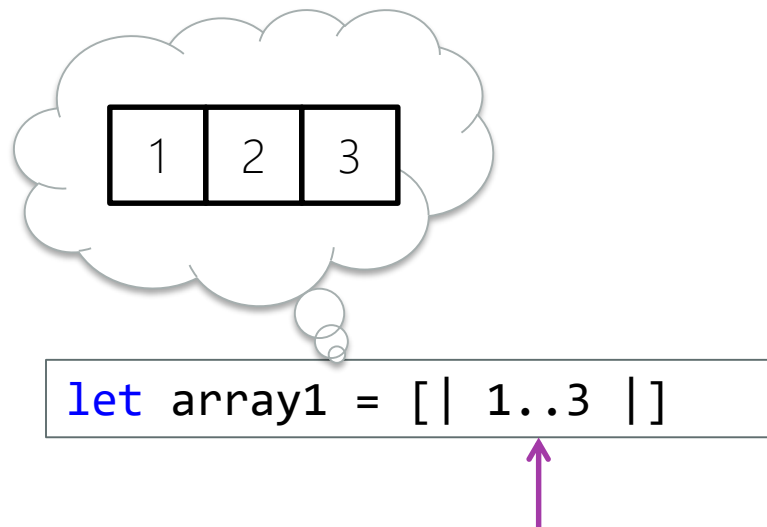
```
let array1 =  
    [  
        1  
        2  
        3  
    ]
```

... or can put  
elements on a  
separate line,  
then semicolon  
is *optional*



# Creating Arrays

- ❖ Arrays are defined by providing data in between `[ |` and `| ]`
- ❖ Must be initialized with data – this determines the type and size of the array



can also specify a *sequence* where F# provides the intermediate values, this is *very powerful*

# Other ways to create arrays

- ❖ F# also include several functions that are included in the **Array** module to create and initialize array types

```
let array1 = Array.empty<int>      // int[] with no elements

let array2 = Array.create 3 1.0    // [| 1.0; 1.0; 1.0; |]

let array3 = Array.zeroCreate 3    // [| 0; 0; 0 |]

let array3 = Array.init 3 (fun n -> n.ToString())
// [| "0"; "1"; "2" |] (function is passed index)
```

# Accessing Arrays

- ❖ Array indices start at zero and elements can be accessed using the dot (.) operator combined with brackets ([ and ])

```
let evens = [| 0..2..10 |]    // = [| 0; 2; 4; 6; 8; 10 |]

evens.[1]                    // = 2
evens.[0..2]                 // = [| 0; 2; 4 |]
evens.[..4]                  // = [| 0; 2; 4; 6; 8 |]
evens.[3..]                  // = [| 6; 8; 10 |]
```

always returns a **new value** – either a single value, or a new array with the requested subset of data

# Modifying arrays

- ❖ The array size and shape is fixed, but the data inside **can be changed**

```
let array1 = [| 1; 2; 3; |]

let n = array1.[1]

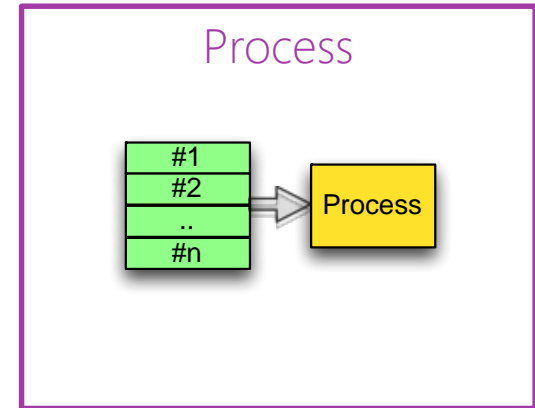
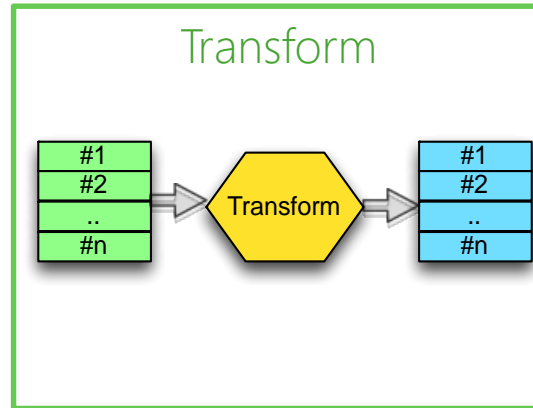
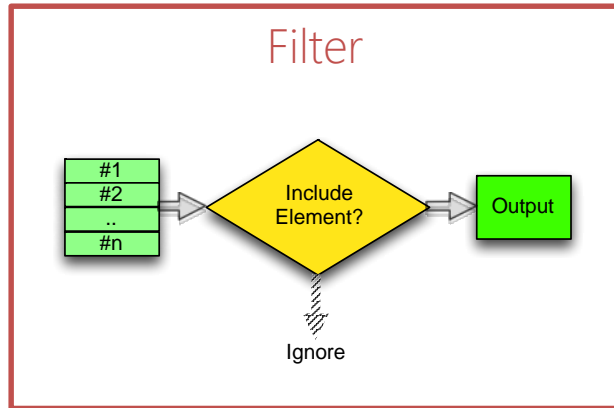
array1.[1] <- n + 1    // [| 1; 3; 3; |]
```



we use the **assignment operator** to assign a value into the array after it has been created

# Specialized Array Operations

❖ `Collections.Array` module provides array operations to:



# Filtering elements

- ❖ Filter operation is used to return a new array that contains elements which are matched with the passed **predicate filter function**

```
let nums = [| 0..12 |] // 0-12 inclusive
```

```
Array.filter (fun n -> n%2 = 0) nums
```

```
[| 0; 2; 4; 6; 8; 10; 12 |]
```

source array is passed as  
2<sup>nd</sup> parameter

lambda filter is passed as 1<sup>st</sup> parameter  
and returns true / false for each item

# Transforming elements

- ❖ Map operation is used to return a new array with the elements transformed by the passed transformation function

```
let nums = [| 0..5 |] // 0-5 inclusive
```

```
Array.map (fun n -> n*2) nums
```

```
[| 0; 2; 4; 6; 8; 10 |]
```

# Processing arrays

- ❖ **Array.Iter** operation can be used to process each element in the array with a passed **processing function**

```
let nums = [| 0..5 |] // 0-5 inclusive  
  
Array.iter (fun n -> printfn "%i" n) nums
```

**Array.iter** is similar to the C# **foreach** statement – it processes each item in the array individually but returns no direct result

0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5



# Other Array operations

- ❖ Array also includes operations to perform common mathematical calculations, prefer these methods over manual iteration + calculations

```
let x = Array.average nums
```

returns the average of the #s in the array

```
let x = Array.max nums
```

returns the max # in the array

```
let x = Array.min nums
```

returns the min # in the array

```
let sorted = Array.sort nums
```

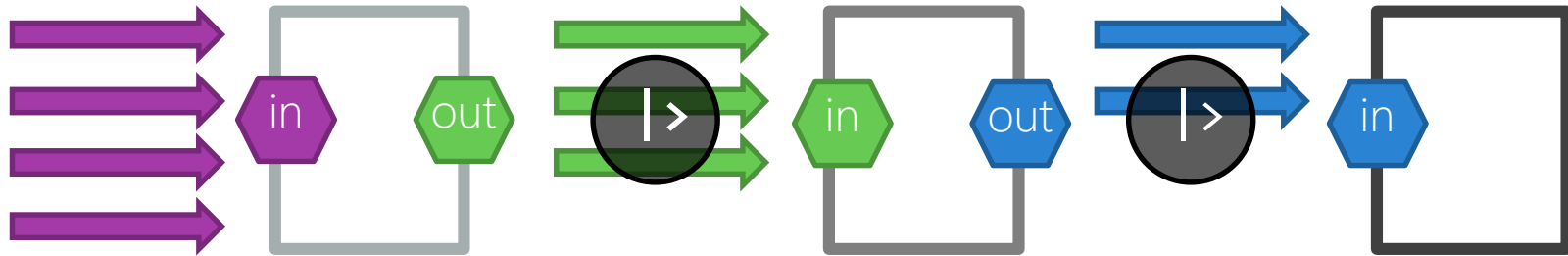
returns the array in sorted order

```
let total = Array.sum nums
```

returns the sum of the #s in the array

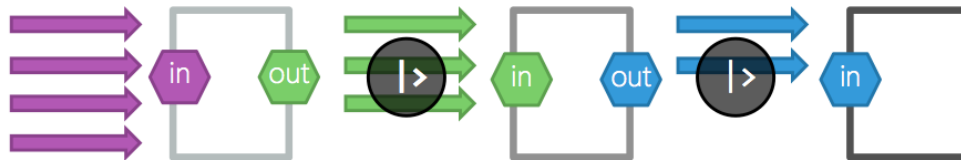
# Pipelining

- ❖ Common to use pipelining ( $|>$ ) + operations to process arrays



# Pipelining

- ❖ Common to use pipelining (`|>`) + operations to chain functions



```
let nums = [| 0..4 |]
```

```
nums
```

```
|> Array.filter (fun n -> n%2 = 0)
```

```
|> Array.sum
```

first get all the even #s

sum the result from filter

↑  
pipeline operator

```
val it : int = 6
```

# Parallel Arrays

- ❖ Can **parallelize some operations** by adding **.parallel** before the operation function call

```
open System.IO      // include System.IO namespace

let files = Directory.GetFiles(@"C:\", "*.txt")

Array.parallel.iter (fun fn -> File.Encrypt(fn)) files
```

Take all the text files on the C: drive (Windows) and encrypt each file using Windows file system encryption – this is done **in parallel** so we are encrypting several files **simultaneously on multi-core machines**



**Beware:** you must be performing a fair amount of CPU or I/O bound work to make this effective, otherwise the operation will be slower than if it were done serially

# Lists

- ❖ An F# *list* is a singly-linked-list data structures storing homogenous data

```
let evens= [0..2..10]
```

no parallel bars – creates a list

```
Array.toList [|0..2..10|]
```

can also turn array into list  
(or vice-versa)

# Adding elements to a list

- ❖ You cannot update elements of a list, but you can create a new list by **adding elements to the front**, this is done in  $O(1)$  time as it is not necessary to copy the old list

```
let list1 = [1;2;3;4]           // 1-4 in the list  
let list2 = 0::list1           // [0;1;2;3;4]
```

this is referred to as the **cons operator** and it **prepends elements** to the list. There is no operator to *append* to the list, because it wouldn't be efficient for a singly-linked list

# Combining lists

- ❖ Can also combine lists to create a new list which contains both – this is also an efficient operation because the list data is not duplicated

```
let list1 = [ 1;2;3;4 ]  
let list2 = [ 5;6;7;8 ]  
  
let list3 = list1 @ list2    // [ 1;2;3;4;5;6;7;8 ]
```

concatenation operator which combines two lists together to generate a third unique list

# List Operations

- ❖ List has many of the same operations as array, but also has some unique functions for working with the list
  - head
  - tail
  - recursion
  - pattern matching

```
let list = [1;2;3;4]

// Define recursive function
// named "sum" to sum all the
// elements in a list
// parameter "values"
let rec sum values =
    match values with
    | [] -> 0
    | head::tail -> head +
                        sum(tail)

let total = sum list    // 10
```



# Should I use lists or arrays?

- ❖ F# programmers tend to prefer list over array for many cases, but the parallelization support in array can be very helpful for CPU intensive calculations

## Use Lists for:

- Variable size
- Supports recursion
- Head/Tail  
pattern matching

## Use Arrays for:

- Parallelization
- Mutable elements
- C# interop



# Individual Exercise

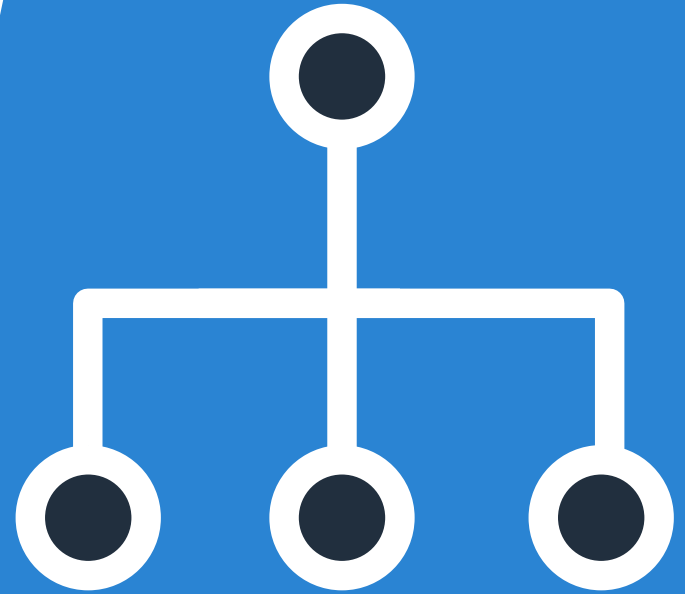
Working with arrays and lists in the REPL



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# Summary

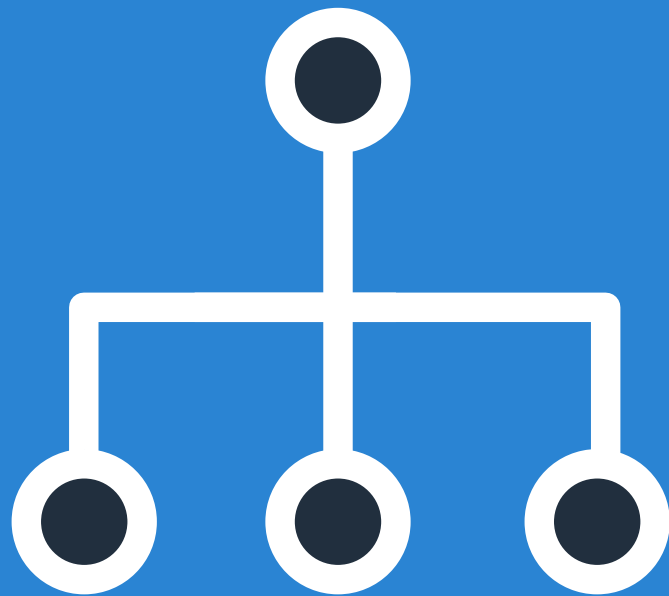
1. Store data in an array
2. Store data in a list
3. Compare list and array



# Organize and transform data using data structures

# Tasks

1. Discuss tuples
2. Describe sequences and their uses
3. Create and utilize records
4. Compose discriminated unions



# Tuples

- ❖ A *tuple* is a grouping of unnamed but ordered values, possibly of different types

```
// Tuple of two integers: ( 1, 2 )  
  
// Tuple of strings: ( "Rachel", "Helen", "Mark" )  
  
// Tuple that has mixed types: ( "BillG", 2014, 20240332. )  
  
// Tuple of integer expressions: ( a + 1, b + 1 )
```



Under the covers, this construct creates a .NET `Tuple<T1,T2,T3,...>` type

# Passing tuples as parameters

- ❖ Tuples are commonly used as parameters to functions

```
let average (a, b) =  
    (a + b) / 2.0  
...  
average (10., 20.)
```

```
val it : float = 15.0
```

# Working with tuples

- ❖ F# will allow you to choose the first or second item in a pair tuple using the **fst** and/or **snd** keywords

```
// Tuple of two integers: ( 1, 2 )
```

```
fst ( 1, 2 )
```

```
( 1, 2 ) |> fst
```

```
val it : int = 1
```

```
snd ( 1, 2 )
```

```
( 1, 2 ) |> snd
```

```
val it : int = 2
```




# Getting values from tuples

- ❖ Common to use pattern matching to assign names to tuple elements

```
let (a, b) = (1, 2)
printfn "%d : %d" a b
```

```
1 : 2
```

Use underscore as *wildcard* match



```
let (_, _, c) = (1, 2, 3)
```

```
val c : int = 3
```

# Pattern matching tuples

- ❖ Can also use formal match expression to process values

```
let greeting (name, language) =  
  match (name, language) with  
  | ("Yoda", _) -> "Greetings Master"  
  | (name, "English") -> "Hello " + name  
  | (_, "French") -> "Bonjour!"  
  | (name, _) when language.StartsWith("Span") -> "Hola, " + name  
  | (name, "Klingon") -> "nuqneH" + name  
  | _ -> "Error!"
```

# Type signature

- ❖ When you display a tuple, the `*` symbol is used to separate the components in the type signature

```
let data = (0, "pumpkin", 18., [0;1;2;3]);;
```

```
val data : int * string * float * int list = (0, "pumpkin",  
18.0, [0; 1; 2; 3])
```

# What are sequences?

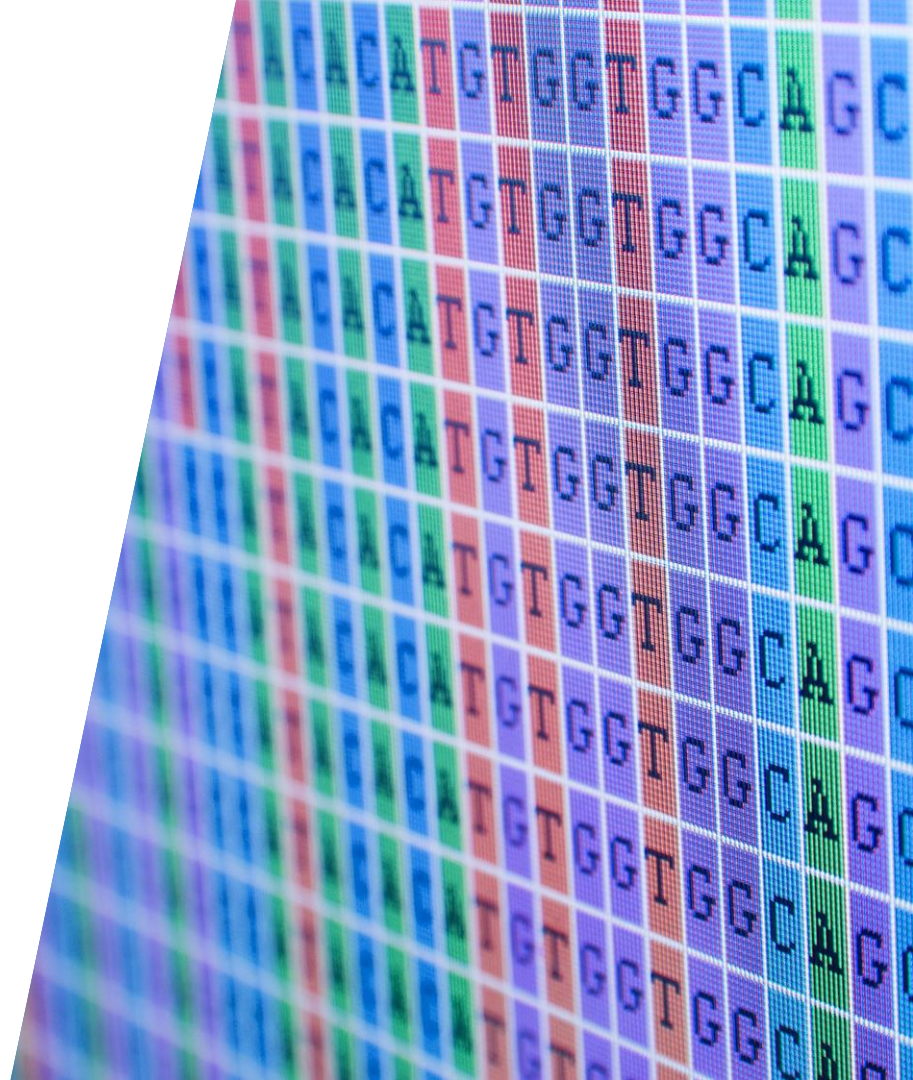
- ❖ Sequences are a logical series of elements of one type that may be iterated in a forward-only, read-only fashion
- ❖ Can be created explicitly through the **seq** keyword, or implicitly by an **IEnumerable<T>**

```
seq {0..10..100}
```

Creates a sequence  
of multiples of tens  
from 0 to 100

# Why use sequences?

- ❖ Sequences are useful when you have **large amounts of data**, but only want to use certain parts of it at one time, for example in genomics or never-ending series
- ❖ Sequences are *lazily evaluated* so they only generate the values as the client requests them



# Creating Sequences

❖ Sequences can be generated from **functions**

```
let phi = (1. + sqrt 5.) / 2.  
let fibonacci = Seq.initInfinite (fun index ->  
    let num = float index  
    (((phi ** num)) - ((-phi) ** -num)) / sqrt 5. |> int64)  
printfn "%A" fibonacci
```

```
seq [0L; 1L; 1L; 2L; 3L;...]
```

**Seq.initInfinite** creates a sequence from a supplied function using the integer index of the item to return, the **fibonacci** function here will generate as many numbers as requested (up to **Int32.MaxValue**)

# Creating Sequences

- ❖ Sequences can be generated from functions

```
let ByTwos current =  
    current |> Seq.unfold (fun num -> Some(num, num+2))  
  
printfn "%A" <| ByTwos 1
```

```
seq [1; 3; 5; 7; ...]
```

**Seq.unfold** generates each value based on the prior value and is passed an initial value to start the generation

# Creating Sequences

- ❖ Sequences can also be generated from **IEnumerable**

```
Brie, France  
Cambozola, Germany  
Cheddar, England  
Fontina, Denmark  
Gorgonzola, Italy  
Havarti, Denmark  
Limburger, Germany  
Parmesan, Italy
```

```
let cheeses = File.ReadLines("cheeses")  
|> Seq.cast<string>
```

Read all the lines in with a **StreamReader**  
and create a new sequence in memory



**Note:** `Seq.cast` is not strictly necessary in this case since strings are being returned already and **IEnumerable** is automatically turned into sequences in F#



# Explicit sequences

- ❖ Can also generate sequences using the **yield** keyword, and combine sequences with the **yield!** keyword

```
let names = seq {  
    yield "Rachel";  
    yield "Helen";  
    yield "Mark";  
    yield! [ "Adrian", "Glenn", "René" ] // Subsequence  
    ...  
}
```

```
val it : seq<string> = seq ["Rachel"; "Helen"; "Mark"; "Adrian";  
                           "Glenn", "René"]
```

# Sequence Expressions

- ❖ Expressions can also generate sequences, most common form is to use the **do-yield** keywords

```
let squares = seq { for i in 1 .. 10 do yield (i, i*i) }  
  
Seq.iter (fun (n,n2) -> printfn "%d squared is %d" n n2)  
    <| squares
```

**Collections.Seq** contains a variety of useful functions including support for filtering, combining and iterating sequences

```
1 squared is 1  
2 squared is 4  
3 squared is 9  
4 squared is 16  
...
```

# Sequence Operations

- ❖ Sequences have many of the same capabilities as lists and arrays

```
let x = Seq.average nums
```

```
val nums : seq<float>  
val x : float = 10.5
```

```
let x = Seq.min nums
```

```
val nums : seq<float>  
val x : float = 1.0
```

```
let sort = Seq.sort nums
```

```
val nums : seq<float>  
val sort : seq<float>
```

```
let total = Seq.sum nums
```

```
val nums : seq<float>  
val total : float = 210.0
```



# Individual Exercise

Create a sequence of triangular numbers



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# What are records?

- ❖ Records are simple aggregates of named heterogeneous values

```
type Point = { x : float; y : float; }
```

```
type Person = {  
    Id : int  
    Name : string  
    Email : string  
}
```

semicolons are used to separate the values defined as part of the record, they are *optional* if the values are listed on separate lines



Records actually generate a .NET class with public properties, the big advantage to records is when you start *using* them

# Creating records

- ❖ Records are *inferred* when you create a new variable – remember F# always knows all the types you have defined up to that point

```
let helen = { Id = 1; Name = "Helen"; Email = "..."; }
```



There is no mention of the **Person** record type – instead, F# figures out what you want based on the fields being assigned here

# Creating records

- ❖ When there are record conflicts, the instance can declare the record type as part of the field definitions

```
type Point = { x : float; y : float; }  
type Point3D = { x : float; y : float; z : float; }
```

```
let pt = { x = 10.; y = 20.; }
```



Ambiguous – which record should be used?

# Creating records

- ❖ When there are record conflicts, the instance can declare the record type as part of the field definitions

```
type Point = { x : float; y : float; }  
type Point3D = { x : float; y : float; z : float; }
```

```
let pt = { Point.x = 10.; y = 20.; }
```



Can define the record as part of one or more of the fields to indicate which one to use



# Comparing records

- ❖ F# records are **compared by value**, so two records with the same values are considered equal

```
type Point = { x : float; y : float; }  
  
let pt1 = { x = 100.; y = 200.; }  
let pt2 = { x = 100.; y = 200.; }  
  
printfn "%s" |< if pt1 = pt2 then "Equal" else "Not Equal"
```

Equal



This works for other .NET languages as well, F# implements both **IComparable** and **IEquatable** as well as overriding the **Equals** and **GetHashCode** methods

# Making records mutable

- ❖ Records, like all data structures, are immutable by default, but you can declare fields to be explicitly changeable using the **mutable** keyword

```
type recipe = { mutable A: string; mutable B: string;  
                mutable C: string }  
  
let pieRecipe = { A = "flour"; B = "water"; C = "salt"; }  
  
pieRecipe.C <- "sugar"           // change the value  
printfn "%s" pieRecipe.C
```

sugar

# Copying records

- ❖ Copying a record duplicates all of the fields in the source record with the requested changes

```
let mark = { Id = 1; Name = "Mark"; ... }  
...  
let jen = { mark with Name = "Jenny" }
```

mark	
Name	"Mark"
Id	1
LastUpdated	2014-12-01

jen	
Name	"Jenny"
Id	1
LastUpdated	2014-12-01



# Individual Exercise

Create a record type using tuples



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# What is a discriminated union?

- ❖ A discriminated union (DU) is a type which includes a closed set of known values – similar to an **enum** in C# or a **union** in C/C++
- ❖ Unlike **enums**, DUs will **always** be one of the specified values and cannot be used as bit flags

```
type Fruit =  
    | Apple  
    | Pear  
    | Raspberry  
    | Kiwi  
    | Banana  
    | Grape  
    | Blueberry  
    | Tangerine
```

# Using a discriminated union

- ❖ Can assign a DU directly to a variable, F# infers the type being created

```
type Fruit =  
    | Apple  
    | Pear  
    | Raspberry  
    | Kiwi  
    | Banana  
    | Grape  
    | Blueberry  
    | Tangerine
```

Must select one of the known values – cannot use casts or assign unknown values

```
let forbiddenFruit = Apple  
...  
printfn "%A" forbiddenFruit
```

Apple



Under the covers, F# creates a static property for each known `Fruit` value on the discriminated union type

# Discriminated Union field types

- ❖ Discriminated Unions can have a field type associated with each value

```
type Shape =  
  | Circle of radius : float  
  | Square of size : uint32  
  | Rectangle of length : (double * double)
```



each supported value can have a different associated *type*, here for example we use a **tuple** for the rectangle width/height value

# Discriminated Union field types

- ❖ Discriminated Unions can have a field type associated with each value

```
type Shape =  
    | Circle of radius : float  
    | Square of size : uint32  
    | Rectangle of length : (double * double)
```

```
let shape1 = Circle radius = 50.  
let shape2 = Rectangle length = (50.,25.)
```

Based on the selected field, the value is initialized with the appropriate type

assigned variables select *one* of the defined values to use – this approach is used instead of inheritance (e.g. a **Shape** base class)



# Discriminated Union field types

- ❖ Discriminated Unions can have a field type associated with each value

```
type Shape =  
    | Circle of float  
    | Square of uint32  
    | Rectangle of (double * double)
```

```
let shape1 = Circle 50.  
let shape2 = Rectangle (50.,25.)
```

Can also leave off the field name in the definition and assignment



Under the covers, F# actually generates an abstract **Shape** class with concrete versions for each value you create – but that's all hidden away with syntactic sugar!

# Discriminated Union field types

- ❖ Can associate *multiple* values for a given identifier using the asterisk (\*) as a separator

```
identifier [of [fieldname1 :] type1 [* [fieldname2 :] type2 ...]
```

```
type Shape =  
    | Circle of radius : float  
    | Square of size : uint32  
    | Rectangle of length : double * double  
    | Prism of width : double * height : double
```

```
let shape1 = Prism (width = 10., height = 5.)
```



# Individual Exercise

Convert C# code into a discriminated union

# Flash Quiz

# Flash Quiz

- ① What symbol do you use to separate components in a tuple?
- a) `|>`
  - b) `_`
  - c) `*`

# Flash Quiz

- ① What symbol do you use to separate components in a tuple?
- a) `|>`
  - b) `_`
  - c) `*`

# Flash Quiz

- ② Records \_\_\_\_\_ (select all that apply)
- a) Can have multiple constructors
  - b) Cannot be compared
  - c) Can contain different types of data
  - d) Are immutable

# Flash Quiz

- ② Records \_\_\_\_\_ (select all that apply)
- a) Can have multiple constructors
  - b) Cannot be compared
  - c) Can contain different types of data
  - d) Are immutable



# Flash Quiz

- ③ Which of these two examples employ the proper syntax of a record expression?
- a) A is correct
  - b) A and B are both correct
  - c) B is correct

A `let me = { Id = 1234; Name="Mark"; }`

B `let me = {  
 Id = 1234  
 Name="Mark"  
}`

# Flash Quiz

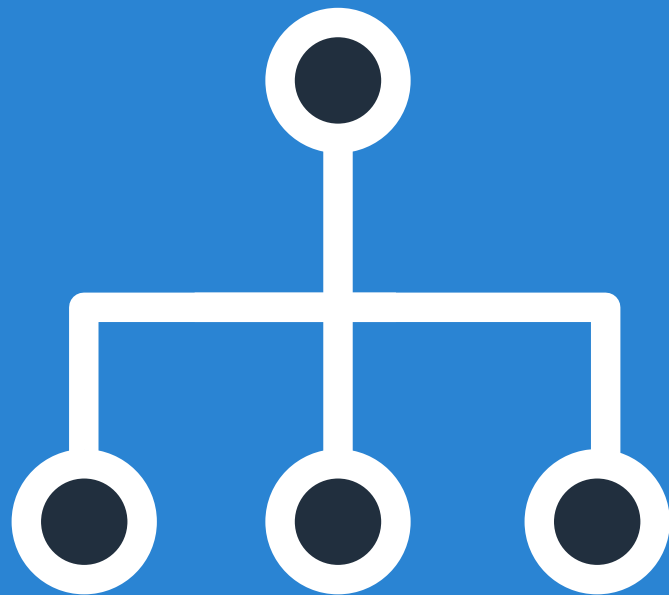
- ③ Which of these two examples employ the proper syntax of a record expression?
- a) A is correct
  - b) A and B are both correct
  - c) B is correct

A `let me = { Id = 1234; Name="Mark"; }`

B `let me = {  
 Id = 1234  
 Name="Mark"  
}`

# Summary

1. Discuss tuples
2. Describe sequences and their uses
3. Create and utilize records
4. Compose discriminated unions



# Where are we going from here?

- ❖ You now know about some of the common data structures you use in F#
- ❖ In the next course, we will look at how to match patterns in F# which can replace the common **if-else** statement



WHAT'S  
NEXT?

# Thank You!

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