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1  (*
2                                     CS51 Lab 4
3                                     Error Handling, Options, and Exceptions
4  *)
5
6  (*=====
7  Readings:
8
9      This lab builds on material from Chapter 10 of the textbook
10     <http://book.cs51.io>, which should be read before the lab session.
11
12     =====*)
13
14  (*=====
15  Part 1: Option types and exceptions
16
17  In Lab 2, you implemented a function 'max_list' that returns the maximum
18  element in a non-empty integer list. Here's a possible implementation
19  for 'max_list':
20
21      let rec max_list (lst : int list) : int =
22          match lst with
23          | [elt] -> elt
24          | head :: tail -> max head (max_list tail) ;;
25
26  (This implementation makes use of the polymorphic 'max' function from
27  the 'Stdlib' module.)
28
29  As written, this function generates a warning that the match is not
30  exhaustive. Why? What's an example of the missing case? Try entering
31  the function in 'ocaml' or 'utop' and see what information you can
32  glean from the warning message. Go ahead; we'll wait.
33
34      .
35      .
36      .
37
38  The problem is that *there is no reasonable value for the maximum
39  element in an empty list*. This is an ideal application for option
40  types.
41
42  .....
43  Exercise 1:
44

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45 Reimplement `max_list`, but this time, it should return an `int option`
46 instead of an `int`. Call it `max_list_opt`. The `None` return value
47 should be used when called on an empty list.
48
49 (Using the suffix `_opt` is a standard convention in OCaml for
50 functions that return an option type for this purpose. See, for
51 instance, the functions `nth` and `nth_opt` in the `List` module.)
52 .....*)
53
54 let max_list_opt (lst : int list) : int option =
55     failwith "max_list_opt not implemented" ;;
56
57 (*.....
58 Exercise 2: Alternatively, we could have `max_list` raise an exception
59 upon discovering the error condition. Reimplement `max_list` so that it
60 does so. What exception should it raise? (See Section 10.3 in the
61 textbook for some advice.)
62 .....*)
63
64 let max_list (lst : int list) : int =
65     failwith "max_list not implemented" ;;
66
67 (*.....
68 Exercise 3: Write a function `min_option` to return the smaller of its
69 two `int option` arguments, or `None` if both are `None`. If exactly one
70 argument is `None`, return the other. The built-in function `min` from
71 the Stdlib module may be useful. You'll want to make sure that all
72 possible cases are handled; no nonexhaustive match warnings!
73 .....*)
74
75 let min_option (x : int option) (y : int option) : int option =
76     failwith "min_option not implemented" ;;
77
78 (*.....
79 Exercise 4: Write a function `plus_option` to return the sum of its two
80 `int option` arguments, or `None` if both are `None`. If exactly one
81 argument is `None`, return the other.
82 .....*)
83
84 let plus_option (x : int option) (y : int option) : int option =
85     failwith "plus_option not implemented" ;;
86
87 (=====
88 Part 2: Polymorphism practice
89
90 Do you see a pattern in your implementations of

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91  `min_option` and `plus_option`? How can we factor out similar code?
92
93  .....
94  Exercise 5: Write a polymorphic higher-order function `lift_option` to
95  "lift" binary operations to operate on option type values, taking
96  three arguments in order: the binary operation (a curried function)
97  and its first and second arguments as option types. If both arguments
98  are `None`, return `None`. If one argument is `None`, the function
99  should return the other argument. If neither argument is `None`, the
100 binary operation should be applied to the argument values and the
101 result appropriately returned.
102
103 What is the type signature for `lift_option`? (If you're having
104 trouble figuring that out, call over a staff member, or check our
105 intended type at <https://url.cs51.io/lab4-1>.)
106
107 Now implement `lift_option`.
108 .....*)
109
110 let lift_option =
111   fun _ -> failwith "lift_option not implemented" ;;
112
113 (*.....
114 Exercise 6: Now rewrite `min_option` and `plus_option` using the
115 higher-order function `lift_option`. Call them `min_option_2` and
116 `plus_option_2`.
117 .....*)
118
119 let min_option_2 =
120   fun _ -> failwith "min_option_2 not implemented" ;;
121
122 let plus_option_2 =
123   fun _ -> failwith "plus_option_2 not implemented" ;;
124
125 (*.....
126 Exercise 7: Now that we have `lift_option`, we can use it in other
127 ways. Because `lift_option` is polymorphic, it can work on things other
128 than `int option`s. Define a function `and_option` to return the boolean
129 AND of two `bool option`s, or `None` if both are `None`. If exactly one
130 is `None`, return the other.
131 .....*)
132
133 let and_option =
134   fun _ -> failwith "and_option not implemented" ;;
135
136 (*.....

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137 Exercise 8: In Lab 3, you implemented a polymorphic function `zip` that
138 takes two lists and "zips" them together into a list of pairs. Here's
139 a possible implementation of `zip`:
140
141     let rec zip (x : 'a list) (y : 'b list) : ('a * 'b) list =
142         match x, y with
143         | [], [] -> []
144         | xhd :: xtl, yhd :: ytl -> (xhd, yhd) :: (zip xtl ytl) ;;
145
146 A problem with this implementation of `zip` is that, once again, its
147 match is not exhaustive and it raises an exception when given lists of
148 unequal length. How can you use option types to generate an alternate
149 solution without this property?
150
151 Do so below in a new definition of `zip` -- called `zip_opt` to make
152 clear that its signature has changed -- which returns an appropriate
153 option type in case it is called with lists of unequal length. Here
154 are some examples:
155
156     # zip_opt [1; 2] [true; false] ;;
157     - : (int * bool) list option = Some [(1, true); (2, false)]
158     # zip_opt [1; 2] [true; false; true] ;;
159     - : (int * bool) list option = None
160     .....*)
161
162 let zip_opt =
163     fun _ -> failwith "zip not implemented" ;;
164
165 (*=====
166 Part 3: Factoring out None-handling
167
168 Recall the definition of `dotprod` from Lab 2. Here it is, adjusted to
169 an option type:
170
171     let dotprod_opt (a : int list) (b : int list) : int option =
172         let pairs_opt = zip_opt a b in
173         match pairs_opt with
174         | None -> None
175         | Some pairs -> Some (sum (prods pairs)) ;;
176
177 It uses `zip_opt` from Exercise 8, `prods` from Lab 3, and a function
178 `sum` to sum up all the integers in a list. The `sum` function is
179 simply *)
180
181 let sum : int list -> int =
182     List.fold_left (+) 0 ;;

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183
184 (* and a version of `prods` is *)
185
186 let prods =
187   List.map (fun (x, y) -> x * y) ;;
188
189 (* Notice how in `dotprod_opt` and other option-manipulating functions
190 we frequently and annoyingly have to test if a value of option type is
191 `None`; this requires a separate match, and passing on the `None`
192 value in the "bad" branch and introducing a `Some` in the "good"
193 branch. This is something we're likely to be doing a lot of. Let's
194 factor that out to simplify the implementation.
195
196 .....
197 Exercise 9: Define a function called `maybe` that takes a first
198 argument, function of type `'arg -> 'result`, and a second argument,
199 of type `'arg option`, and "maybe" applies the first (the function) to
200 the second (the argument), depending on whether its argument is a
201 `None` or a `Some`. The `maybe` function either passes on the `None`
202 if its second argument is `None`, or if its second argument is `Some
203 v`, it applies its first argument to that `v` and returns the result,
204 appropriately adjusted for the result type.
205
206 What should the type of the `maybe` function be?
207
208 Now implement the `maybe` function.
209 .....*)
210
211 let maybe (f : 'arg -> 'result) (x : 'arg option) : 'result option =
212   failwith "maybe not implemented" ;;
213
214 (*.....
215 Exercise 10: Now reimplement `dotprod_opt` to use the `maybe`
216 function. (The previous implementation makes use of functions `sum`
217 and `prods`, which we've provided for you above.) Your new solution
218 for `dotprod` should be much simpler than the version we provided
219 above at the top of Part 3.
220 .....*)
221
222 let dotprod_opt (a : int list) (b : int list) : int option =
223   failwith "dotprod not implemented" ;;
224
225 (*.....
226 Exercise 11: Reimplement `zip_opt` using the `maybe` function, as
227 `zip_opt_2` below.
228 .....*)

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229
230 let rec zip_opt_2 (x : 'a list) (y : 'b list) : (('a * 'b) list) option =
231     failwith "zip_opt_2 not implemented" ;;
232
233 (*.....
234 Exercise 12: [Optional] For the energetic, reimplement `max_list_opt`
235 as `max_list_opt_2` along the same lines. There's likely to be a
236 subtle issue here, since the `maybe` function always passes along the
237 `None`.
238 .....*)
239
240 let rec max_list_opt_2 (lst : int list) : int option =
241     failwith "max_list not implemented" ;;

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