

Tutorial 2A: List recursion

In this week's tutorials we will practice recursion on lists. We will look at recursion on two lists simultaneously, pattern-matching on more than one element, and working with lists of pairs. Finally, we will implement the merge sort algorithm. Along the way, we will introduce **type variables** and simple **type classes**.

Lists

Lists are defined inductively, and consist of either the **empty list** `[]` or a **cons** `x:xs` of a head and a tail. Your file "`2A-List recursion.hs`" provides two lists on which to test your functions.

```
ladies    = ["Mary", "Kitty", "Lydia", "Elizabeth", "Jane"]
gentlemen = ["Charles", "Fitzwilliam", "George", "William"]
```

Exercise 1:

- Complete the function `member xs y` which returns `True` if the string `y` is in the list `xs`, and `False` otherwise. In the given patterns, the underscore (`_`) is a variable that isn't used. Like any variable, it matches any pattern.
- Write a second version named `member'`, this time using boolean "or" (`||`) to replace the guards (hint: `y` is a member of `x:xs` if it is equal to `x` or a member of `xs`).
- Complete `remove xs y` which removes the string `y` from the list `xs`. If `y` is not in the list, return all of `xs`. (We assume there are no duplicates in `xs`.) Create your own pattern-matching and guards, as needed.

Test your functions:

```
*Main> member ladies "Lydia"
True
*Main> member gentlemen "Richard"
False
*Main> remove ladies "Elizabeth"
["Mary", "Kitty", "Lydia", "Jane"]
*Main> remove ladies "Charlotte"
["Mary", "Kitty", "Lydia", "Elizabeth", "Jane"]
```

Exercise 2:

- a) Complete the function `members xs ys` which returns `True` if the strings in the list `ys` also belong to the list `xs`. Use your function `member`.
- b) Write a second version named `members'` using “and” (`&&`) to replace the guards. Create your own pattern-matching.
- c) Complete the function `removeAll xs ys` that removes every string in `ys` from the list `xs`. Use your function `removeOne`. Create your own pattern-matching. **Hint:** you should not be using guards.

Test your functions:

```
*Main> members gentlemen ["William","Charles"]
True
*Main> members gentlemen ["Fitzwilliam","Elizabeth"]
False
*Main> removeAll ladies ["Lydia","Charlotte","Mary"]
["Kitty","Elizabeth","Jane"]
```

Exercise 3:

- a) Complete `before xs ys` that returns `True` if the string `xs` comes **strictly** before `ys` in the dictionary. Create guards for the three cases `x < y`, `x == y`, and `otherwise`.
- b) Give a version `before'` using boolean operations (`||`) and (`&&`) instead of guards.
- c) Complete the function `sorted` that tests if a list of strings is ordered alphabetically (without duplicates). Create your own pattern-matching, using three cases: empty; one item; and two or more items. Test your code:

```
*Main> before "Elizabeth" "Lydia"
True
*Main> before "George" "George"
False
*Main> sorted ladies
False
*Main> sorted gentlemen
True
```