

```
fun append (xs,ys) =  
  if xs=[]  
  then ys  
  else (hd xs)::append(tl xs,ys)  
  
fun map (f,xs) =  
  case xs of  
    [] => []  
  | x::xs' => (f x)::(map(f,xs'))  
  
val a = map (increment, [4,8,12,16])  
val b = map (hd, [[8,6],[7,5],[3,0,9]])
```

# Programming Languages

Dan Grossman  
2013

*Records*

# Records

*Record values* have fields (any name) holding values

```
{ f1 = v1, ..., fn = vn }
```

*Record types* have fields (and name) holding types

```
{ f1 : t1, ..., fn : tn }
```

The order of fields in a record value or type never matters

- REPL alphabetizes fields just for consistency

Building records:

```
{ f1 = e1, ..., fn = en }
```

Accessing pieces:

```
#myfieldname e
```

(Evaluation rules and type-checking as expected)

# Example

```
{name = "Amelia", id = 41123 - 12}
```

Evaluates to

```
{id = 41111, name = "Amelia"}
```

And has type

```
{id : int, name : string}
```

If some expression such as a variable **x** has this type, then get fields with:

```
#id x      #name x
```

Note we did not have to declare any record types

- The same program could also make a  
`{id=true,ego=false}` of type `{id:bool,ego:bool}`

# *By name vs. by position*

- Little difference between `(4, 7, 9)` and `{f=4, g=7, h=9}`
  - Tuples a little shorter
  - Records a little easier to remember “what is where”
  - Generally a matter of taste, but for many (6? 8? 12?) fields, a record is usually a better choice
- A common decision for a construct’s syntax is whether to refer to things *by position* (as in tuples) or *by some (field) name* (as with records)
  - A common hybrid is like with Java method arguments (and ML functions as used so far):
    - Caller uses *position*
    - Callee uses *variables*
    - Could do it differently; some languages have