```
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

Let Expressions

Review

Huge progress already on the core pieces of ML:

- Types: int bool unit t1*...*tn t list t1*...*tn->t
 - Types "nest" (each t above can be itself a compound type)
- · Variables, environments, and basic expressions
- · Functions
 - Build: $fun \times 0 (x1:t1, ..., xn:tn) = e$
 - Use: e0 (e1, ..., en)
- · Tuples
 - Build: (e1, ..., en)
 - Use: **#1 e**, **#2 e**, ...
- · Lists
 - Build: [] e1::e2
 - Use: null e hd e tl e

Now...

The big thing we need: local bindings

For style and convenience

This segment:

Basic let-expressions

Next segments:

- A big but natural idea: nested function bindings
- For efficiency (not "just a little faster")

The construct to introduce local bindings is *just an expression*, so we can use it anywhere an expression can go

Let-expressions

3 questions:

- Syntax: let b1 b2 ... bn in e end
 - Each **bi** is any binding and **e** is any expression
- Type-checking: Type-check each **bi** and **e** in a static environment that includes the previous bindings.

Type of whole let-expression is the type of *e*.

Evaluation: Evaluate each bi and e in a dynamic environment that includes the previous bindings.

Result of whole let-expression is result of evaluating e.

Silly examples

```
fun silly1 (z:int) =
    let val x = if z > 0 then z else 34
        val y = x+z+9
    in
        if x > y then x*2 else y*y
    end
fun silly2 () =
    let val x = 1
    in
        (let val x = 2 in x+1 end) +
        (let val y = x+2 in y+1 end)
    end
```

silly2 is poor style but shows let-expressions are expressions

- Can also use them in function-call arguments, if branches, etc.
- Also notice shadowing

What's new

- · What's new is **scope**: where a binding is in the environment
 - In later bindings and body of the let-expression
 - (Unless a later or nested binding shadows it)
 - Only in later bindings and body of the let-expression
- · Nothing else is new:
 - Can put any binding we want, even function bindings
 - Type-check and evaluate just like at "top-level"