Learning to Program with F#
Exercises
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0.1 Route finding

0.1.1 Teacher's guide

Emne rekursion, grafik og winforms

Sværhedsgrad Middel

0.1.2 Introduction

In the following you are to work with the movement of a small robot in two dimensions. The robot can be placed on integer positions `type pos = int*int`, and in each step, it can move one position up, down, left, or right.

0.1.3 Exercise(s)

0.1.3.1: (a) Given a source and target grid point, write the function

```
dist: p1: pos -> p2: pos -> int
```

which calculates the squared distance between positions p_1 and p_2. I.e., if $p_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ and $p_2 = (x_2, y_2)$ then $\text{dist}(p_1, p_2) = (x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2$.

(b) Given a source and a target and `dist`, write the function

```
candidates: src: pos -> tg: pos -> pos list
```

which returns the list of candidate next positions, which brings the robot closer to its target. I.e., if $\text{src} = (x, y)$, then the function must consider all the neighbouring positions, $\{(x+1, y), (x-1, y), (x, y+1), (x, y-1)\}$, and return those whose distance is equal to or smaller than $\text{dist}(\text{src}, \text{tg})$. This can be done with `List.filter`.

(c) Given a source and a target and by use of `candidates` the above functions, write a recursive function

```
routes: src: pos -> tg: pos -> pos list list
```

which calculates the list of all the shortest routes from `src` to `tg`. For example, the list of shortest routes from $(3,3)$ to $(1,1)$ are

```
[[(3, 3); (2, 3); (1, 3); (1, 2); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 3); (2, 3); (2, 2); (1, 2); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 3); (2, 3); (2, 2); (2, 1); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 3); (3, 2); (2, 2); (1, 2); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 3); (3, 2); (2, 2); (2, 1); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 3); (3, 2); (3, 1); (2, 1); (1, 1)]]
```

Beware, this list grows fast, the further the source and target is from each other, so you will be wise to only work with short distances. This can be done with a recursive function and a `List.map` of a `List.map`.

(d) Consider now a robot, which also can move diagonally. Extend `candidate` to also consider the diagonal positions $\{(x+1, y+1), (x+1, y-1), (x-1, y+1), (x-1, y-1)\}$, and update `routes` to return the list of shortest routes only. For example, the shortest routes from $(3,4)$ to $(1,1)$ should be

```
[[(3, 4); (2, 3); (1, 2); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 4); (2, 3); (2, 2); (1, 1)];
 [(3, 4); (3, 3); (2, 2); (1, 1)]]
```

but not necessarily in that order.

(e) Optional: Make a Canvas program, which draws routes, and apply it to the routes found above.