```
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

Fold and More Closures

Another famous function: Fold

fold (and synonyms / close relatives reduce, inject, etc.) is another very famous iterator over recursive structures

Accumulates an answer by repeatedly applying f to answer so far

- fold(f,acc,[x1,x2,x3,x4]) computes f(f(f(f(acc,x1),x2),x3),x4)

```
fun fold (f,acc,xs) =
   case xs of
   [] => acc
   | x::xs => fold(f, f(acc,x), xs)
```

- This version "folds left"; another version "folds right"
- Whether the direction matters depends on f (often not)

```
val fold = fn : ('a * 'b -> 'a) * 'a * 'b list -> 'a
```

Why iterators again?

- These "iterator-like" functions are not built into the language
 - Just a programming pattern
 - Though many languages have built-in support, which often allows stopping early without resorting to exceptions
- This pattern separates recursive traversal from data processing
 - Can reuse same traversal for different data processing
 - Can reuse same data processing for different data structures
 - In both cases, using common vocabulary concisely communicates intent

Examples with fold

These are useful and do not use "private data"

These are useful and do use "private data"

Iterators made better

- Functions like map, filter, and fold are much more powerful thanks to closures and lexical scope
- Function passed in can use any "private" data in its environment
- Iterator "doesn't even know the data is there" or what type it has