

# Pattern Matching

Simple and Compound Pattern Matches, Case Classes, Custom Extractors



# Agenda

- 1. Simple Constant Patterns
- 2. Variable Loading and Binding
- 3. Guards
- 4. Options, Collections, Tuples, Try
- 5. Case Classes
- 6. Constructor Patterns
- 7. Type Patterns
- 8. Pattern matching in vals and fors
- 9. Partial functions reprise
- 10. Custom Extractors



## Simple Constant Patterns

• In its simplest usage, Scala's match is like Java's switch:

- case \_ is the equivalent of default in Java
- There is no automatic fall-through, no break keyword, and no need for {}s (next case keyword is the demarcation between handlers)



### match is an expression

- The cases are checked in order, and the first successful match consumes the match event
- Unlike Java, Scala's match is also an expression

```
def pair(s: String): String = s match {
   case "fish" => "chips"
   case "bacon" => "eggs"
   case "tea" => "scones"
   case "horse" => "carraige"
}

pair("fish") // chips
pair("tea") // scones

pair("universe") // MatchError!
```

 Also this example has no default case \_ which means a non-matching result will throw a MatchError exception



#### Variable Loads

 As well as simply matching constants, Scala can load a value for use in the code block:

 While the constants will be matched first, anything that doesn't match those constants will be put into the value anythingElse and the s"not \$anythingElse" will be returned (this also makes the pattern match complete for all inputs)



# Binding vs Loading

- A variable identifier in a pattern match is loaded with the value
- But there is an alternative, useful for multiple-matches and in other situations, binding:

- ("sane" | "edible" | "secure") matches any of those words, and the @ binds the result into inWord
- More generally, @ binds the pattern match on the right of it to the variable on the left of it



#### Case Matters!

- Identifiers starting with lower case are treated as variables
- Identifiers starting with upper case are treated as **constants**

```
val MaxLimit = 10  // constants start with upper case
val minLimit = 1

def isALimit(x: Int) = x match {
   case MaxLimit => true  // constant match works as expected
   case _ => false
}

isALimit(10)  // true
isALimit(3)  // false
```



#### **But!**

```
def isALimit(x: Int) = x match {
   case MaxLimit => true // constant match works as expected
   case minLimit => true // this is treated as a load and will always match!
   case _ => false
}
isALimit(10) // true
isALimit(1) // true
isALimit(3) // true!
```

• If you must use lower case constants, put them in backticks in the match:

```
def isALimit(x: Int) = x match {
   case MaxLimit => true
   case `minLimit` => true // backticks make this work as constant match
   case _ => false
}
isALimit(10) // true
isALimit(1) // true
isALimit(3) // false
```



#### Guards

- Anything on the left of the => is part of the pattern match, anything on the right is what to do
- if expressions can be used on the left of the =>:

• Remember that the first full match stops the attempt going any further



# The Wrong Way to Guard

• It's easy to forget that the if goes before the =>

• Remember, guards go on the left of the =>



## Matching Options

- There are only two states for Option, Some(x) and None
- Can unpack variables from inside the option (and use them)
- This is common usage, but there are often more idiomatic ways of dealing with Option (e.g. map, getOrElse)



## Matching Tuples

```
def matchTuple3(tup: (Int, Boolean, String)): String = tup match {
   case (1, flag, string) => s"a 1 followed by $flag and $string"
   case (i, true, "Fred") => s"a true Fred with int $i"
   case (a, b, c) => s"Some other tuple int $a, flag $b, string $c"
}

matchTuple3((1, false, "Sally"))
// a 1 followed by false and Sally
matchTuple3((1, true, "Harry"))
// a 1 followed by true and Harry
matchTuple3((2, true, "Fred"))
// a true Fred with int 2
matchTuple3((2, false, "Fred"))
// Some other tuple int 2, flag false, string Fred
```

• true is a keyword, so there is no confusion about load or constant match there, it's a constant



## Matching Lists

• For Lists specifically, you can use :: (cons) notation for matches:

```
def matchList(xs: List[Int]): String = xs match {
   case 1 :: 2 :: rest => s"A 1, 2 list followed by $rest"
   case a :: b :: _ => s"A list of at least 2 items, starting with $a, $b"
   case a :: Nil => s"A single element list of $a"
   case Nil => "The empty list"
}

matchList(List(1,2,3))
// A 1, 2 list followed by List(3)
matchList(List(1,2))
// A 1, 2 list followed by List()
matchList(List(1,3,4))
// A list of at least 2 items, starting with 1, 3
matchList(List(4))
// A single element list of 4
matchList(Nil)
// The empty list
```

• very common to see case head :: tail => in recursive functions



#### Other Collections

• You can do similar matches for other collections (but not with cons notation):

```
def matchSeq(xs: Vector[Int]): String = xs match {
  case 1 +: 2 +: rest => s"A 1, 2 vector followed by $rest"
  case Vector(a, b, _*) => s"A vector of at least 2 items, starting with $a, $b"
  case Vector(a) => s"A single element vector of $a"
  case Vector() => "The empty vector"
}
```

- +: stands in for ::
- Can also use expansion operator \_\* to match remainder in "constructor" style
- And bindings, so Vector(1, 2, rest @ \_\*) => is equivalent to 1 +: 2 +: rest =>
- This syntax also works for Lists (but with List replacing Vector of course)



# **Matching Try**

```
import scala.util._

def matchTry(t: Try[_]): String = t match {
   case Success(x) => s"It worked, result is $x"
   case Failure(e) => s"It failed with $e"
}

matchTry(Try(4/2)) // It worked, result is 2
matchTry(Try(4/0)) // It failed with java.lang.ArithmeticException: / by zero
```

• Other core libraries often have pattern match support too, like Future, Either, etc.



#### Case Classes

• When you define a case class you get a bunch of things, including pattern matching

```
case class Address(street: String, city: String, postCode: Option[String])
case class Person(name: String, phone: Option[String], address: Option[Address])
```

Factory methods for easy construction

```
val harry = Person("Harry", None, Some(Address(
    "123 Little Whinging way", "Purley", Some("PN22 6RT")
)))
val sally = Person("Sally", Some("321-222-3344"), None)
```

• Built in useful default toString

```
harry
// Person(Harry,None,Some(Address(123 Little Whinging way,Purley,Some(PN22 6RT))))
sally
// Person(Sally,Some(321-222-3344),None)
```



#### Case Classes

• You also get... equals and hashCode that work

```
sally == harry
sally == sally
sally == Person("Sally", Some("321-222-3344"), None) // true
sally == Person("Sally", Some("321-234-3344"), None) // false

sally.hashCode
Person("Sally", Some("321-222-3344"), None).hashCode // -171467737
harry.hashCode // 1544670842
```

• Public parametric fields

```
harry.name // Harry
harry.address.map(_.city) // Some(Purley)
harry.phone // None
sally.phone // Some(321-222-3344)
```



#### Case Classes

• And, a copy method

```
val sally2 = sally.copy(address = harry.address, phone = Some("321-333-2211"))
// Person(Sally,Some(321-333-2211),
// Some(Address(123 Little Whinging way,Purley,Some(PN22 6RT))))
val harry2 = harry.copy(phone = sally2.phone)
// Person(Harry,Some(321-333-2211),
// Some(Address(123 Little Whinging way,Purley,Some(PN22 6RT))))
```

- case classes are immutable by default, but copy makes them easy to work with in a functional way
- And, you get pattern matching...



### Compound Pattern Matches

```
def postCodeForHarry(person: Person) = person match {
   case Person("Harry", _, Some(Address(street, city, Some(postcode)))) =>
      println("Harry found with postcode")
      println(s"City $city")
      println(s"Street $street")
      postcode
   case _ => ""
}

postCodeForHarry(harry) // PN22 6RT
postCodeForHarry(harry2) // PN22 6RT
postCodeForHarry(sally) // ""
postCodeForHarry(sally2) // ""
```

- Mix and match constants, case patterns, Options and anything matchable
- Could also get the harry match as a whole in the above with:

```
case harry @ Person("Harry", _, Some(Address(street, city, Some(postcode)))) =>
```

• Because they look like the constructors for case classes, these are called *constructor* patterns



## Typed Pattern Matches

```
def describeType(x: Any) = x match {
   case i: Int if i > 0 => s"Int ${i * i}"
   case d: Double => s"Double $d"
   case s: String => s"String ${s.reverse}"
   case p: Person => s"Person, name = ${p.name}"
   case _ => "Some other type"
}

describeType(3)  // Int 9
describeType(3.4)  // Double 3.4
describeType("Hello") // String olleH
describeType(harry)  // Person Harry
describeType(true)  // Some other type
```

- Once matched, the variable is typed on both the left and right of the =>
- This is idiomatic and favored over the form:

```
val s: Any = "Hello"
if (s.isInstanceOf[String]) {
   s.asInstanceOf[String].reverse
}
```



### Beware Type Erasure!

```
def withIntStringMap(x: Any): Int = x match {
   case m: Map[Int, String] => m.head._1 * m.head._1
   case _ => 0
}

// Warning: non-variable type argument Int in type pattern
// scala.collection.immutable.Map[Int,String] (the underlying of Map[Int,String])
// is unchecked since it is eliminated by erasure
// case m: Map[Int, String] => m.head._1 * m.head._1
// ^
```

 Scala will match the Map vs not, but will believe you on the inner erased types, so you can get:

```
withIntStringMap(Map(2 -> "two")) // 4 - as expected
withIntStringMap(List(2)) // 0 - not a match
withIntStringMap(Map("One" -> 1)) // ClassCastException!
```

- The safe way to match erased type parameters is case m: Map[\_, \_]
- Alternatively, type-tags can be used see advanced course



## val and pattern matching

• val is a pattern-match

```
val Person(name, phone, Some(Address(_, _, postCode))) = harry
// name: String = Harry
// phone: Option[String] = None
// postCode: Option[String] = Some(PN22 6RT)
```

Which means it can fail...

```
val Person(name2, phone2, Some(Address(_, _, postCode2))) = sally
// scala.MatchError: Person(Sally,Some(321-222-3344),None)
```

- This fails because sally has no Address recorded
- Be aware of this if you use a val with a pattern match you may get a match error



## for and pattern matching

• Generators in a for block are also pattern matches

```
val numbersMap = Map(1 -> "one", 2 -> "two", 3 -> "three")
for ((k, v) <- numbersMap) { // unpack the key -> value tuples
   println(s"$k is $v")
}
```

• A non-match will just short-circuit the for so there's no exception if no match

```
val people = List(harry, harry2, sally, sally2)

for {
   Person(name, phone, _) <- people
   if phone.isDefined
} yield name -> phone.get
// List((Harry,321-333-2211), (Sally,321-222-3344), (Sally,321-333-2211))
```



## Partial functions and pattern matches

- Remember a PartialFunction[T, R] extends Function1[T, R]
- This means that a partial function (which is a pattern match) can substitute for any Function1

```
numbersMap.map {
  case (1, w) => s"It's 1 and the word is $w"
  case (k, v) => s"Not 1 but ($k, $v)"
}
// List(It's 1 and the word is one, Not 1 but (2, two), Not 1 but (3, three))
```

• If you use a partial function that is incomplete in a function expecting a Function1, you may end up with a MatchError



#### Sealed Class Hierarchies

- Sometimes you want to control what different types may be in a hierarchy
- The sealed keyword gives you this, and pattern matches can then give warnings about incomplete matches

```
sealed class AccountType
case object Checking extends AccountType

def checking(at: AccountType): Boolean = at match {
   case Checking => true
}
// Warning:(6, 43) match may not be exhaustive.
// It would fail on the following inputs: AccountType(), Savings
// def checking(at: AccountType): Boolean = at match {
```

• sealed means that the only sub-types of the sealed class or trait must be defined in the same source file



## **Extractors and Unapply**

How does it all work?

```
case class Person(first: String, last: String, age: Int)
val p1 = Person("Fred", "Frederickson", 28)

Person.unapply(p1)
// res1: Option[(String, String, Int)] = Some((Fred,Frederickson,28))
```

• unapply is auto-generated for case classes in the companion object

```
val xs = List(1,2,3,4)

List.unapplySeq(xs)
// res3: Some[List[Int]] = Some(List(1, 2, 3, 4))
```

- unapplySeq allows for matching repeated, var-arg matches in collections
- And we can write our own



#### **Custom Extractors**

```
val coordsStr = "-121.432, 34.002"

object Coords {
    def unapply(coordsStr: String): Option[(Double, Double)] = Try {
        val fields = coordsStr.split(",").map(_.trim.toDouble)
        (fields(0), fields(1))
        }.toOption
}

coordsStr match {
    case Coords(x, y) =>
        println(s"x = $x")
        println(s"y = $y")
}
// x = -121.432
// y = 34.002
```



## **Custom Seq Extractors**

```
object CoordSeq {
  def unapplySeq(coordsStr: String): Option[Seq[Double]] = Try {
    coordsStr.split(",").toList.map(_.trim.toDouble)
 }.toOption
coordsStr match {
  case CoordSeq(c @ _*) =>
    c foreach println
// -121.432
// 34.002
coordsStr match {
  case CoordSeq(x, y, _*) =>
    println(x)
    println(y)
// -121.432
// 34.002
```



#### Exercises for Module 12

- Find the Module12 class and follow the instructions to make the tests pass
- Module12 is under module12/src/test/scala/koans, but there are other classes in that source file as well (part of the testing)