

# A Syntax of Or-patterns and side conditions in P+

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October 21, 2023

We extend an example grammar of patterns within uML with or-patterns and side conditions:

```
 $\langle \text{case-expression} \rangle ::= (\text{case } \langle \text{expr} \rangle (\{ \langle \text{case-branch} \rangle \}))$   
 $\langle \text{case-branch} \rangle ::= (\langle \text{pattern} \rangle \langle \text{expr} \rangle [\text{side-condition}])$   
 $\langle \text{pattern} \rangle ::= \langle \text{value-variable-name} \rangle$   
                  |  $\langle \text{value-constructor-name} \rangle$   
                  |  $\langle \text{value-constructor-name} \text{ -pattern} \rangle$   
                  |  $(\text{oneof } \langle \text{pattern} \rangle \{ \langle \text{pattern} \rangle \})$   
                  |  $-$   
 $\langle \text{side-condition} \rangle ::= (\text{when } \langle \text{expr} \rangle)$ 
```

## 1 Side conditions with when

The **when** keyword may optionally appear on the rightmost side of a **case** branch in  $P$ , within a set of parentheses also containing an expression. If the scrutinee matches the pattern, the expression is evaluated. If it evaluates to produce a truthy value, the match succeeds and the right-hand side expression is evaluated with the new  $\rho'$  produced by the pattern.

**General concrete syntax of when:**

```
(case scrutinee  
  [pattern rhs-exp (when condition)])
```

Example:

```
(case v  
  ['() 0]  
  [(cons x xs) (+ 1 (count-evens xs)) (when (= 0 (mod 2 x)))])
```

**A question about types:**

I had a blurb like this:

Note: the **exp** in a **when** is not limited to be a boolean expression, and there is no static type system to assert that it will evaluate to a boolean. As in the rest of  $P$ , when an expression evaluates to **#f**, it is considered falsey; otherwise, it is considered truthy.

As I was writing this, I realized uML *does*, obviously, have a type system to do exactly this. At the same time, I remember you saying we won't have static types in our languages- which do you want to go off of?

## 2 Or-patterns with oneof

This again raises the question of the type system.

The **oneof** keyword may optionally appear on the leftmost side of a **case** branch in  $P$ , within a set of parentheses also containing the set of patterns for that branch. The set of patterns  $S$  is defined as such: if  $S$  contains a pattern  $p$  and the scrutinee matches  $p$ , that branch is evaluated if the pattern-matching algorithm reaches it. When the match succeeds and the right-hand side

expression is evaluated with the new  $\rho'$  produced by a pattern, only that pattern's fresh variables are introduced into  $\rho'$ .

General concrete syntax of `oneof`:

```
(case scrutinee
  [(oneof pattern-1 pattern-2 ... pattern-k) rhs-exp])
```

Example:

```
(case light
  [RED 'stop]
  [(oneof GREEN YELLOW) 'keep-on-goin])
```

### A question about or-patterns and types:

The ocaml description of or-patterns is as follows:

The pattern  $pattern_1 \mid pattern_2$  represents the logical “or” of the two patterns  $pattern_1$  and  $pattern_2$ . A value matches  $pattern_1 \mid pattern_2$  if it matches  $pattern_1$  or  $pattern_2$ . The two sub-patterns  $pattern_1$  and  $pattern_2$  must bind exactly the same identifiers to values having the same types. Matching is performed from left to right. More precisely, in case some value  $v$  matches  $pattern_1 \mid pattern_2$ , the bindings performed are those of  $pattern_1$  when  $v$  matches  $pattern_1$ . Otherwise, value  $v$  matches  $pattern_2$  whose bindings are performed.

**This is a restriction at the level of the type system. Again, do we want strict static types in  $P$ ?**