



Lists

- ◆ A list is a finite sequence of elements.
 - `[3, 5, 9]`
 - `["a", "list"]`
 - `[]`
- ◆ Elements may appear more than once
 - `[3, 4]`
 - `[4, 3]`
 - `[3, 4, 3]`
 - `[3, 3, 4]`
- ◆ Elements may have any type. But all elements of a list must have the same type.
 - `[(1, "One"), (2, "Two")] : (int*string) list`
 - `[[3.1], [], [5.7, ~0.6]] : (real list) list`
- ◆ The empty list `[]` has the polymorphic type `'a list`

ML Lists.2

Building a List

- ◆ Every list is either empty or can be constructed by joining its first element and its tail (which is a list itself)

- ◆ Examples:

• [1, 2, 3, 4]	\Leftrightarrow	Head = 1, Tail = [2,3,4]
• [1, 2]	\Leftrightarrow	Head = 1, Tail = [2]
• [1]	\Leftrightarrow	Head = 1, Tail = []
• []	\Leftrightarrow	[]

The empty list
cannot be
disassembled

The tail is
a list !

ML Lists.3

Building a List (cont.)

- ◆ **nil** is a synonym for the empty list []
- ◆ The operator `::` (also called **cons**) makes a list by putting an element in front of an existing list
- ◆ Every list is either **nil** or has the form `x :: xs` where `x` is its head and `xs` is its tail (which is a list itself).
- ◆ The infix operator `::` groups to the *right*.
- ◆ The notation `[x1, x2, ..., xn]` stands for
`x1 :: x2 :: ... :: xn :: nil`
 - `3 :: (5 :: (9 :: nil))` is `[3, 5, 9]`
- ◆ Clarification:
 - You can build a list either with `nil` and `op::` (the list constructors) or using the brackets notation `[]` as a shortcut.

ML Lists.4

Built-in Fundamental Functions

◆ Testing lists and taking them apart

- `null` - tests whether a list is empty
 - `fun null [] = true`
| `null(_::_) = false;`
`val null = fn : 'a list -> bool`
- `hd` - returns the head of a non-empty list
 - `fun hd (x::_) = x;`
*****Warning: Patterns not exhaustive***
`val hd = fn : 'a list -> 'a`
- `tl` - returns the tail of a non-empty list
 - `fun tl (_::xs) = xs;`
*****Warning: Patterns not exhaustive***
`val tl = fn : 'a list -> 'a list`

Note how list constructors are used in patterns

ML Lists.5

hd and tl Examples

```
- hd [[1,2], [3]], [[4]];  
val it = [[1,2],[3]] : (int list) list  
- hd it;  
val it = [1,2] : int list  
- hd it;  
val it = 1 : int  
- tl ["How", "are", "you?"];  
val it = ["are", "you?"] : string list  
- tl it;  
val it = ["you?"] : string list  
- tl it;  
val it [] : string list  
- tl it;  
Exception: Match
```

ML Lists.6

Building the list of integers [m,m+1,...,n]

◆ The implementation:

```
- fun upto (m,n) =  
    if m>n then [] else m :: upto(m+1,n);  
  
val upto = fn : int * int -> int list  
  
- upto (2,5);  
val it = [2,3,4,5] : int list.
```

ML Lists.7

Tail recursion

◆ Normal recursion

```
- fun prod [] = 1  
    | prod (n::ns) = n * (prod ns);  
  
val prod = fn : int list -> int
```

◆ Tail recursion (also called an iterative function)

```
- fun maxl [m] : int = m  
    | maxl (m::n::ns) =  
        if m>n then maxl(m::ns)  
        else maxl(n::ns);  
  
val maxl = fn : int list -> int
```

◆ In tail recursion there is no need to "go up" in the recursion.

◆ Tail recursion can be implemented more efficiently, e.g., as a loop.

ML Lists.8

Transforming Normal to Tail Recursion

- ◆ Transforming **prod** into an iterative function

```
- local
  fun iprod([], accumulator) = accumulator
    | iprod(x::xs, accumulator) =
      iprod(xs, x * accumulator);
in
  fun prod(ls) = iprod(ls, 1);
end;
val prod = fn : int list -> int
```

ML Lists.9

The Built-in length Function

- ◆ recursive solution:

```
- fun nlength [] = 0
  | nlength (x::xs) = 1 + nlength xs;
val nlength = fn : 'a list -> int
```

- ◆ iterative solution:

```
- local
  fun ilen (n, []) = n
    | ilen (n, x::xs) = ilen (x+1, xs)
in
  fun length ls = ilen (0, ls)
end;
val length = fn : 'a list -> int
- length(explode("ML is neat"));
val it = 10 : int
```

Explode: converts a string to a list of chars

ML Lists.10

take and drop

$$xs = \underbrace{[x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_i]}_{\text{take}(i, xs)} \underbrace{[x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n]}_{\text{drop}(i, xs)}$$

◆ `take(i, l)` returns the list of the first `i` elements of `l`

```
- fun take (i, []) = []  
  | take (i, x::xs) =  
    if i>0 then x :: take(i-1, xs)  
    else [];  
  
val take = fn : int * 'a list -> 'a list  
- take (5, explode "Throw Pascal to the dogs!");  
> ["T", #"h", #"r", #"o", #"w"] : char list
```

ML Lists.11

The Computation of take

```
take(3, [9, 8, 7, 6]) =>  
9 :: take(2, [8, 7, 6]) =>  
9 :: (8 :: take(1, [7, 6])) =>  
9 :: (8 :: (7 :: take(0, [6]))) =>  
9 :: (8 :: (7 :: [])) =>  
9 :: (8 :: [7]) =>  
9 :: [8, 7] => [9, 8, 7]
```

ML Lists.12

Iterative take

◆ Iterative take

```
- fun rtake (_, [], taken)      = taken
  | rtake (i, x::xs, taken) =
    if i>0 then rtake(i-1,xs,x::taken)
    else taken;

val rtake = fn : int * 'a list * 'a list -> 'a list
```

◆ The recursion is nice and shallow...

```
• rtake(3, [9, 8, 7, 6], []) =>
  rtake(2, [8, 7, 6], [9]) =>
  rtake(1, [7, 6], [8, 9]) =>
  rtake(0, [6], [7, 8, 9]) => [7, 8, 9]
```

But the output is reversed ...

ML Lists.13

The Function drop

◆ drop(i, xs) contains all but the first i elements of xs

```
- fun drop (_, [])      = []
  | drop (i, x::xs) = if i>0 then drop (i-1, xs)
                      else x::xs;
```

```
val drop = fn : int * 'a list -> 'a list
```

```
- take(3, ["O, Never", "shall", "sun",
           "that", "morrow", "see!"]);
```

```
val it = ["O, Never", "shall", "sun"] : string list
```

```
- drop(3, ["O, Never", "shall", "sun",
           "that", "morrow", "see!"]);
```

```
val it = ["that", "morrow", "see!"] : string list
```

ML Lists.14

The Built-in Append Operation

- ◆ Puts the elements of one list after those of another list
- ◆ $[x_1, \dots, x_m] @ [y_1, \dots, y_n] = [x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n]$
 - `infix @;`
 - `fun [] @ ys = ys`
 `| (x::xs) @ ys = x::(xs@ys);`
 - *`val @ = fn : 'a list * 'a list -> 'a list`*
- ◆ Examples
 - `["Append", "is"] @ ["never", "boring"];`
`["Append", "is", "never", "boring"] : string list`
 - `[[2, 4, 6, 8], [3, 9]] @ [[5], [7]];`
`[[2, 4, 6, 8], [3, 9], [5], [7]] : int list list`

ML Lists.15

The Computation of Append

```
[2, 4, 6] @ [8, 10] =>
2 :: ([4, 6] @ [8, 10]) =>
2 :: (4 :: ([6] @ [8, 10])) =>
2 :: (4 :: (6 :: ([ ] @ [8, 10]))) =>
2 :: (4 :: (6 :: [8, 10])) =>
2 :: (4 :: [6, 8, 10]) =>
2 :: [4, 6, 8, 10] =>
[2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

ML Lists.16

The Built-in `rev` Function

◆ Using `append`

```
- fun nrev [] = []  
  | nrev (x::xs) = (nrev xs) @ [x];  
val nrev = fn : 'a list -> 'a list
```

- Append calls `cons` (n-1) times to copy the reversed tail of a list of length n
- Constructing the list `[x]` calls `cons` again
- Reversing the tail requires (n-1) more `conses`
- The total number of `conses` is thus: $n(n+1)/2$

◆ Remember `rtake` ?...

```
- local  
  fun revto ([], ys) = ys  
    | revto (x::xs,ys) = revto (xs, x::ys);  
  in fun rev xs = revto (xs, []) end;  
val rev = fn : 'a list -> 'a list
```

ML Lists.17

Side Note: `orelse` and `andalso`

- ◆ They are **short-circuit** OR and AND boolean operations.
- ◆ `B1 andalso B2` \Leftrightarrow `if B1 then B2 else false`
- ◆ `B1 orelse B2` \Leftrightarrow `if B1 then true else B2`
- ◆ Meaning the second boolean is evaluated only if needed.
- ◆ Is the following `powoftwo` function a tail recursion?

```
- fun even n = (n mod 2 = 0);  
val even = fn : int -> bool  
  
- fun powoftwo n = (n=1) orelse  
  (even(n) andalso powoftwo(n div 2));  
val powoftwo = fn : int -> bool
```

ML Lists.18

Equality Test in Polymorphic Functions

- ◆ Equality is polymorphic in a restricted sense
 - Defined for values constructed of integers, strings, booleans, chars, tuples, lists and datatypes
 - Not defined for values containing functions, reals or elements of abstract types
- ◆ Standard ML has equality type variables ranging over the equality types
 - `op=` ;
 - val it = fn : ("a * "a) -> bool*

ML Lists.19

Lists as sets

- ◆ First, checking membership

```
- infix mem;  
- fun x mem [] = false  
  | x mem (y::l) = (x=y) orelse (x mem l);  
val mem = fn : "a * "a list -> bool
```

The type includes "a (two tags instead of one), since we use `op=` in the function

```
- "Sally" mem ["Regan", "Goneril", "Cordelia"];  
val it = false : bool
```

ML Lists.20

◆ The next call will cause error

◆ Note however that list of functions is perfectly legitimate

- ◆ The next call will also cause an error

ML Lists.21

```
val newmem = fn:"a * "a list -> "a list
```

```
val setof = fn : "a list -> "a list
```

ML Lists.22

Union and Intersection

- ◆ union(xs,ys) includes all elements of xs not already in ys

```
- fun union([],ys)      = ys
  | union(x::xs,ys) = newmem(x,union(xs,ys));

val union = fn: "a list * "a list -> "a list

- union([1,2,3], [0,2,4]);
val it = [1,3,0,2,4] : int list
```
- ◆ inter(xs,ys) includes all elements of xs that belong to ys

```
- fun inter([],ys)      = []
  | inter(x::xs,ys) = if x mem ys
                      then x::inter(xs,ys)
                      else   inter(xs,ys);

val inter = fn: "a list * "a list -> "a list

- inter(["John", "James"], ["Nebuchadnezzar", "Bede"]);
val it = [] : string list
```

ML Lists.23

Comparing Sets

- ◆ The subset relation

```
- infix subs;
- fun []      subs ys = true
  | (x::xs) subs ys = (x mem ys) andalso
                      (xs subs ys);

val subs = fn : "a list * "a list -> bool
```
- ◆ Equality of sets

```
- infix seq;
- fun xs seq ys = (xs subs ys) andalso
                  (ys subs xs);

val seq = fn : "a list * "a list -> bool
```
- ◆ Many abstract types require a special equality test

ML Lists.24

Lists of Lists

- ◆ The function flat
 - Makes a list consisting of all the elements of a list of lists
- ```
- fun flat [] = []
 | flat(l::ls) = l @ flat ls;

val flat = fn : 'a list list -> 'a list
```

## Lists of Pairs

- ◆ The function combine
    - Pairs corresponding members of two lists
    - $\text{combine}([x_1, \dots, x_n], [y_1, \dots, y_n]) = [(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)]$
- ```
- fun combine ([], []) = []  
  | combine(x::xs, y::ys) =  
    (x, y) :: combine(xs, ys);  
  
***Warning...  
val combine = fn : 'a list * 'b list -> ('a * 'b) list
```

ML Lists.25

Lists of Pairs – Cont.

- ◆ The function split
 - The inverse of combine
 - Takes a list of pairs to a pair of lists
 - $\text{split}([(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)]) = ([x_1, \dots, x_n], [y_1, \dots, y_n])$
- ```
- fun conspair ((x, y), (xs, ys)) = (x::xs, y::ys);
- fun split [] = ([], [])
 | split(pair::pairs) =
 conspair(pair, split pairs);

● Using a let declaration instead of conspair
- fun split [] = ([], [])
 | split((x, y)::pairs) =
 let val (xs, ys) = split pairs
 in (x::xs, y::ys)
 end;

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

ML Lists.26

## Association Lists

- ◆ A list of (key,value) pairs
- ◆ The function `assoc` finds the value associated with a key

```
- fun assoc ([], a) = []
 | assoc ((x,y)::pairs, a) =
 if a=x then [y] else assoc(pairs, a);

val assoc = fn:"a * 'b list -> 'b list
```

- ◆ The function `nexts` finds all successors of a node `a` in a directed graph represented by a list of edges (pairs)

```
- fun nexts (a, []) = []
 | nexts (a, (x,y)::pairs) =
 if a=x then y::nexts(a,pairs)
 else nexts(a,pairs);

val nexts = fn:"a * ('a * 'b list -> 'b list
```

ML Lists.27

## Built-in String functions

- ◆ In Standard ML, *string* is a primitive type, not a list of characters.

```
- explode "Technion";
val it = [#"T", #"e", #"c", #"h", #"n", #"i", #"o", #"n"]
 : char list

- implode it;
val it = "Technion" : string

- size(it) = length(explode(it));
val it = true : bool
```

ML Lists.28

## map

- ◆ Applying a function to all the elements in a list

- ◆  $\text{map } f [x_1, \dots, x_n] = [f x_1, \dots, f x_n]$

```
- fun map f [] = []
 | map f (x::xs) = (f x) :: map f xs;

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

```
- val sqlist = map (fn x => x*x);
val sqlist = fn : int list -> int list
- sqlist [1,2,3];
val it = [1,4,9] : int list
```

**Note: a curried function**

- ◆ Transposing a matrix using *map*

```
- fun transp ([]::_) = []
 | transp rows =
 map hd rows :: transp (map tl rows);

val transp = fn: 'a list list -> 'a list list
```

ML Lists.29

## filter

- ◆ *filter* returns all elements satisfying a predicate

```
- fun filter pred [] = []
 | filter pred (x::xs) =
 if pred(x) then x :: filter pred xs
 else filter pred xs;

val filter = fn : ('a -> bool) -> 'a list -> 'a list
```

- ◆ Example

```
- filter (fn x => x mod 2 = 0) [1,2,3,4,5];
val it = [2,4] : int list
```

***filter is built-in but bounded as List.filter (this is also the case for some of the other functions in this slides)***

ML Lists.30

## Using map and filter

- ◆ Polynomial is represented as a list of **coeff\*degree** pairs
  - $5x^3 + 2x + 7$  is represented by

```
val a = [(5,3), (2,1), (7,0)];
```
- ◆ Taking the derivative - we need to take each pair  $(a, n)$  and convert it to the pair  $(a*n, n-1)$ . Then we need to remove elements with negative rank (or zero coeff)
  - ```
fun deriv(p) =  
    filter (fn (_,n) => n>=0)  
      (map (fn (a,n) => (a*n, n-1)) p);  
val deriv = fn : (int * int) list -> (int * int) list  
- deriv a;  
val it = [(15,2),(2,0)] : (int * int) list
```

ML Lists.31

Another Polynomial Example

- ◆ Assigning a value x to a polynomial - we need to calculate the result for each degree and then sum all the results:
 - ```
fun assign(x,p) =
 foldl op+ 0
 (map (fn (a,n) => a*power(x,n)) p);
val assign = fn : int * (int * int) list -> int
- assign(2,a);
val it = 51 : int
```

Assume power  
is already  
defined

$$5*2^3 + 2*2 + 7 = 40 + 4 + 7 = 51$$

ML Lists.32



## takewhile and dropwhile

- ◆ Take or drop until a predicate returns false

```
- fun takewhile pred [] = []
 | takewhile pred (x::xs) =
 if pred x then x :: takewhile pred xs
 else [];

val takewhile = fn:('a ->bool)-> 'a list-> 'a list
```

- ◆ Useful for processing text

```
- fun is_letter c =
 (#"a" <= c) andalso (c <= #"z");

val is_letter = fn : char -> bool
- takewhile is_letter (explode "this is nice");
val it = [#"t",#"h",#"i",#"s"] : char list
```

ML Lists.33

## exists and forall

- ◆ Checks if pred is satisfied for an element or the whole list

```
- fun exists pred [] = false
 | exists pred (x::xs) =
 (pred x) orelse exists pred xs;

val exists = fn:('a ->bool)-> 'a list->bool
- fun forall pred [] = true
 | forall pred (x::xs) =
 (pred x) andalso forall pred xs;

val forall = fn:('a ->bool) -> 'a list -> bool
```

- ◆ Useful for converting a predicate over type 'a to a predicate over type 'a list

```
- fun disjoint(xs,ys) =
 forall(fn x => forall (fn y => x<>y) ys) xs;

val disjoint = fn : 'a list * 'a list -> bool
```

ML Lists.34

## Sort on Arbitrary Function

- ◆ We will do "insert sort" - insert the current value to the correct place in the sorted tail

```
- fun insert le [] = []
 | insert le (x::xs) =
 let fun ins(z, []) = [z]
 | ins(z, y::ys) =
 if le(z, y) then z::y::ys
 else y::ins(z, ys)
 in
 ins(x, insert le xs)
 end;

val insert = fn : ('a * 'a -> bool) -> 'a list -> 'a list
- insert op<= [5,2,4,7,1];
val it = [1,2,4,5,7] : int list
- insert op>= [5,2,4,7,1];
val it = [7,5,4,2,1] : int list
```

ML Lists.35

## List of Functions - Example

- ◆ A list of functions is perfectly legitimate

```
- [fn x => 2*x, fn x => 3*x];
val it = [fn,fn] : (int -> int) list
- map (fn (f) => f(3)) it;
val it = [6,9] : int list
```

- ◆ Example from exam

```
- fun upto m n = if m>n then [] else m::upto (m+1) n;
- map upto (upto 1 4);
val it = [fn,fn,fn,fn] : (int -> int list) list

- map (fn (f) => f(4)) it;
val it = [[1,2,3,4],[2,3,4],[3,4],[4]] : int list list
```

ML Lists.36