



Sequences, Lazy Lists

- ◆ Characteristics of lazy lists
 - Elements are not evaluated until their values are required
 - May be infinite
- ◆ Expressing lazy lists in ML

```
datatype 'a seq = Nil
                | Cons of 'a * (unit -> 'a seq)
fun head(Cons(x,_)) = x;
> val head = fn : 'a seq -> 'a
fun tail(Cons(_,xf)) = xf();
> val tail = fn : 'a seq -> 'a seq
```
- ◆ ML evaluates the E expression in $\text{Cons}(x, E)$, so to obtain lazy evaluation we must write $\text{Cons}(x, \text{fn}() \Rightarrow E)$.

ML Sequences.2

Examples Of Sequences

◆ An increasing sequence of integers

```
fun from k = Cons(k,fn()=>from(k+1));  
> val from = fn : int -> int seq  
from 1;  
> val it = Cons (1, fn) : int seq  
tail it;  
> val it = Cons (2, fn) : int seq
```

◆ A sequence of squared integers

```
fun squares Nil : int seq = Nil  
  | squares (Cons(x,xf)) =  
    Cons(x*x, fn()=> squares (xf()));  
> val squares = fn : int seq -> int seq  
squares (from 1);  
> val it = Cons (1, fn) : int seq  
head(tail(tail(tail(tail it))))  
> val it = 25 : int
```

ML Sequences.3

Elementary Sequence Processing

◆ Adding two sequences

```
• fun addq (Cons(x,xf), Cons(y,yf))=  
    Cons(x+y, fn()=>addq(xf(),yf()))  
  | addq _ : int seq = Nil;  
  
> val addq = fn: int seq * int seq -> int seq
```

◆ Appending two sequences

```
• fun appendq (Nil, yq) = yq  
  | appendq (Cons(x,xf), yq) =  
    Cons(x,fn()=>appendq(xf(),yq));  
  
> val appendq = fn : 'a seq * 'a seq -> 'a seq  
  
• appendq (xq, yq) :  
  No elements of yq appear in the output unless xq is finite !
```

ML Sequences.4

Functionals for Sequences

◆ Interleaving two sequences

```
• fun interleaving (Nil, yq)          = yq
  | interleaving (Cons(x,xf),yq) =
    Cons(x, fn()=>interleaving(yq,xf()));

> val interleaving = fn: 'a seq * 'a seq -> 'a seq
```

◆ mapq and filterq

```
• fun mapq f Nil                    = Nil
  | mapq f(Cons(x,xf)) = Cons(f x,fn()=>mapq f(xf()));

> val mapq = fn: ('a ->'b) -> 'a seq -> 'b seq

• fun filterq pred Nil              = Nil
  | filterq pred (Cons(x,xf)) =
    if pred x then Cons(x,fn()=>filterq pred(xf()))
    else filterq pred (xf());

> val filterq = fn: ('a ->bool) -> 'a seq -> 'a seq
```

ML Sequences.5

Example: Prime numbers

- ```
fun notDivide p = filterq (fn n => n mod p <> 0);
```

  

```
> val notDivide = fn: int -> int seq -> int seq
```

notDivide p builds a filter that removes all numbers that are divisible by p
- ```
fun sieve (Cons(p,nf)) =
  Cons(p, fn () => sieve(notDivide p (nf())));
```



```
> val sieve = fn: int seq -> int seq
```

Sieve receives a sequence and returns a sequence in which every head places a notDivide filter on the tail; therefore the tail never has numbers that are divisible by any number that has ever been in the head.
- ```
val primes = sieve (from 2);
```

  

```
> val primes = Cons (2, fn) : int seq
```

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