What is this

These slides contain the same code as play.ml and other files
• Plus some commentary
• Make of them what you will

(Live demos probably work better, but if these slides are useful reading, then great)

This “tutorial” is heavily skewed toward the features we need for studying programming languages
– Plus some other basics

Compiling/running

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ocamlc file.ml</td>
<td>compile to bytecodes (put in executable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ocamlopt file.ml</td>
<td>compile to native (1-5x faster, no need in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ocamlc -i file.ml</td>
<td>print types of all top-level bindings (an interface)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ocaml</td>
<td>read-eval-print loop (see manual for directives)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ocamlprof, ocamldebug, ...</td>
<td>see the manual (probably unnecessary)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

• Later: multiple files

Installing, learning

• Links from the web page:
  – www.ocaml.org
  – The on-line manual (great reference)
  – An on-line book (less of a reference)
  – Installation/use instructions

• Contact us with install problems soon!

• Ask questions (we know the language, want to share)
Explicit types

- Every expression has one type. So far:
  - int
  - string
  - unit
  - t1 -> t2
  - 'a

- (* print_string : string -> unit, "…" : string *)
- let x = print_string "Hello, World!"
- (* x : unit *)

- (* ^ : string -> string -> string *)
- let f x = print_string (h ^ w)
- (* f : 'a -> unit *)
- let y1 = f 37
- let y2 = f f
- let y3 = y1

Explicit types

- You (almost) never need to write down types
- But can help debug or document
- Can also constrain callers, e.g.:

- let rec
  - (* smallest infinite loop *)
  - let rec forever x = forever x

Recursion

- A let binding is not in scope for its expression, so:
- let rec
  - (* factorial (if x>=0, parens necessary) *)
  - let rec fact x =
    - if x==0 then 1 else x * (fact(x-1))

- Everything an expression, e.g., if-then-else
- let fact2 x =
  - (if x==0 then 1 else x * (fact(x-1))) * 2 / 2

Anonymous functions

- Functions need not be bound to names
- In fact, we can *desugar* what we have been doing

Anonymous functions

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let quadruple2 x =
  - (fun x -> x + x) x + (fun x -> x + x) x

let quadruple3 x =
  - let double = fun x -> x + x in
  - double x + double x

Locals

- Local variables and functions much like top-level ones (within keyword)

let quadruple x =
  - let double y = y + y in
  - let ans = double x + double x in
  - print_string (string_of_int (quadruple 7) ^"

Passing functions

(* without sharing (shame) *)
print_string((string_of_int(quadruple 7)) ^"\n");
print_string((string_of_int(quadruple2 7)) ^"\n");
print_string((string_of_int(quadruple3 7)) ^"\n");

(* with "boring" sharing (fine here) *)
let print_i_nl i =
    print_string ((string_of_int i) ^"\n")
let _ = print_i_nl (quadruple 7);
let _ = print_i_nl (quadruple2 7);
let _ = print_i_nl (quadruple3 7);

(* passing functions instead *)
let print_i_nl2 i f = print_i_nl (f i)
let _ = print_i_nl2 7 quadruple;
let _ = print_i_nl2 7 quadruple2;
let _ = print_i_nl2 7 quadruple3;

Multiple args, currying

let print_i_nl2 i f = print_i_nl (f i)

- Inferior style (fine, but Caml novice):
  let print_on_seven f = print_i_nl2 7 f

- Partial application (elegant and addictive):
  let print_on_seven = print_i_nl2 7

- Makes no difference to callers:
  let _ = print_on_seven quadruple;
  print_on_seven quadruple2;
  print_on_seven quadruple3

Currying exposed

(* 2 ways to write the same thing *)
let print_i_nl2 i f = print_i_nl (f i)
let print_i_nl2 =
    fun i -> (fun f -> print_i_nl (f i))
(*print_i_nl2 : (int -> ((int -> int) -> unit))
i.e.,
    (int -> (int -> int) -> unit)*)

(* 2 ways to write the same thing *)
print_i_nl2 7 quadruple
(print_i_nl2 7) quadruple

Elegant generalization

- Partial application is just an idiom
  - Every function takes exactly one argument
  - Call (application) “associates to the left”
  - Function types “associate to the right”

- Using functions to simulate multiple arguments is called currying (somebody’s name)

- Caml implementation plays cool tricks so full application is efficient (merges n calls into 1)

Closures

Static (a.k.a. lexical) scope; a really big idea

let y = 5
let return11 = (* unit -> int *)
    let x = 6 in
    fun () -> x + y
let y = 7
let x = 8
let _ = print_i_nl (return11 ()) (* prints 11! *)

The semantics

A function call e1 e2:
1. evaluates e1, e2 to values v1, v2 (order undefined)
   where v1 is a function with argument x, body e3
2. Evaluates e3 in the environment where v1 was defined, extended to map x to v2

Equivalent description:
- A function fun x -> e evaluates to a triple of x, e, and the current environment
  - Triple called a closure
- Call evaluates closure’s body in closure’s environment extended to map x to v2
Closures are closed

```ocaml
default

let return11 = (* unit -> int *)
  let y = 6 in
  fun () -> x + y
```

return11 is bound to a value v
- All you can do with this value is call it (with `()`)
- It will always return 11
  - Which environment is not determined by caller
  - The environment contents are immutable
- `let return11 () = 11`
  guaranteed not to change the program

Another example

```ocaml

let x = 9
let f () = x+1
let x = x+1
let g () = x+1
let _ = print_i_nl (f() + g())
```

Mutation exists

There is a built-in type for mutable locations that can be read and assigned to:

```ocaml

let x = ref 9
let f () = (!x)+1
let _ = x := (!x)+1
let g () = (!x)+1
let _ = print_i_nl (f() + g())
```

While sometimes awkward to avoid, need it much less often than you think (and it leads to sadness)

On homework, do not use mutation unless we say

Summary so far

- Bindings (top-level and local)
- Functions
  - Recursion
  - Currying
  - Closures
- Types
  - "base" types (unit, int, string, bool, ...)
  - Function types
  - Type variables

Now: compound data

Record types

```ocaml

type int_pair = { first : int; second : int }
let sum_int_pr x = x.first + x.second
let pr1 = { first = 3; second = 4 }
let _ = sum_int_pr pr1
+ sum_int_pr { first=5; second=6 }
```

A type constructor for polymorphic data/code:

```ocaml

type 'a pair = { a_first : 'a; a_second : 'a }
let sum_pr f x = f x.a_first + f x.a_second
let pr2 = { a_first = 3; a_second = 4 }
let pr3 = { a_first = "hi"; a_second = "mom" }
let pr4 = { a_first = pr2; a_second = pr2 }
let sum_int = sum_pr (fun x -> x)
let sum_str = sum_pr String.length
let sum_int_pair = sum_pr sum_int
let _ = print_i_nl (sum_int pr2)
let _ = print_i_nl (sum_str pr3)
let _ = print_i_nl (sum_int_pair pr4)
```

More polymorphic code
Each-of vs. one-of

- Records build new types via “each of” existing types
- Also need new types via “one of” existing types
  - Subclasses in OOP
  - Enums or unions (with tags) in C
- Caml does this directly; the tags are constructors
  - Type is called a datatype

Datatypes

```ocaml
type food = Foo of int | Bar of int_pair
    | Baz of int * int | Quux
let foo3 = Foo (1 + 2)
let bar12 = Bar pr1
let baz1_L20 = Baz(1,fact 5)
let quux = Quux (* not much point in this *)
let is_a_foo x = match x with (* better than “downcasts” *)
  Foo i -> true
  | Bar pr -> false
  | Baz(i,j) -> false
  | Quux -> false
```

Datatypes

- Syntax note: Constructors capitalized, variables not
- Use constructor to make a value of the type
- Use pattern-matching to use a value of the type
  - Only way to do it
  - Pattern-matching actually much more powerful

Booleans revealed

Predefined datatype (violating capitalization rules):  
```ocaml
type bool = true | false
```

```ocaml
if is just sugar for match (but better style):
  - if e1 then e2 else e3
  - match e1 with
    true -> e2
    | false -> e3
```

Recursive types

A datatype can be recursive, allowing data structures of unbounded size
And it can be polymorphic, just like records
```ocaml
type int_tree = Leaf
    | Node of int * int_tree * int_tree
    | Cons of a * a lst
let lst1 = Cons(3,Null)
let lst2 = Cons(1,Cons(2, lst1))
(* let lst_bad = Cons("hi",lst2) *)
let lst3 = Cons("hi",Cons("mom",Null))
let lst4 = Cons (Cons (3,Null), Cons (Cons (4,Null), Null))
```

Recursive functions

```ocaml
type 'a lst = Null
    | Cons of 'a * 'a lst
let rec length lst = (* 'a lst -> int *)
  match lst with
  Null -> 0
  | Cons(x,rest) -> 1 + length rest
```
Recursive functions

```ocaml
type 'a lst = Null | Cons of 'a * 'a lst

let rec sum lst = (* int lst -> int *)
  match lst with
  Null -> 0
  | Cons(x,rest) -> x + sum rest
```

Another built-in

Actually the type `'a list` is built-in:
- Null is written `[]`
- Cons (x,y) is written `x::y`
- And sugar for list literals `[5; 6; 7]`

```ocaml
let rec append lst1 lst2 = (* built-in infix @ *)
  match lst1 with
  [] -> lst2
  | x::rest -> x :: append rest lst2
```

Summary

- Now we really have it all
  - Recursive higher-order functions
  - Records
  - Recursive datatypes
- Some important odds and ends
  - Tuples
  - Nested patterns
  - Exceptions
- Then (simple) modules

Tuples

Defining record types all the time is unnecessary:
- Types: `t1 * t2 * ... * tn`
- Construct tuples `e1,e2,...,en`
- Get elements with pattern-matching `x1,x2,...,xn`
- Advice: use parentheses

```ocaml
let x = (3,"hi",(fun x -> x), fun x -> x ^ "ism")
let z = match x with (i,s,fl,f2) -> fl i
let z = (let (i,s,fl,f2) = x in fl i)
```

Pattern-matching revealed

- You can pattern-match anything
  - Only way to access datatypes and tuples
  - A variable or `_` matches anything
  - Patterns can nest
  - Patterns can include constants (3, “hi”, …)
- `let` can have patterns, just sugar for `match`
- “Quiz”: What is
  - `let f x y = x + y`
  - `let f pr = (match pr with (x,y) -> x+y)`
  - `let f (x,y) = x + y`
  - `let f (x1,y1) (x2,y2) = x1 + y2`
Fancy patterns example

```ocaml
type sign = P | N | Z
let multsign x1 x2 =
  let sign x =
    if x>=0 then (if x=0 then Z else P) else N
  in
  match (sign x1, sign x2) with
  | (P, P) -> P
  | (N, N) -> P
  | (Z, _) -> Z
  | (_, Z) -> Z
  | _ -> N (* many say bad style! *)
```

To avoid overlap, two more cases (more robust if datatype changes)

Module pragmatics

- `foo.ml` defines module `Foo`
- `Bar` uses variable `x`, type `t`, constructor `C` in `Foo` via `Foo.x, Foo.t, Foo.C`
  - Can open a module, use sparingly
- `foo.mli` defines signature for module `Foo`
  - Or “everything public” if no `foo.mli`
- Order matters (command-line)
  - No forward references (long story)
  - Program-evaluation order
- See manual for `.cm[i,o]` files, `-c` flag, etc.

Module example

```ocaml```
```ocaml```
```ocaml```
```ocaml```
Not the whole language

- Objects
- Loop forms (bleach)
- Fancy module stuff (functions)
- Polymorphic variants
- Mutable fields
- Catching exceptions; exceptions carrying values

Just don't need much of this for class
(nor do I use these features much)