


OCAML Programming

```
# let rec removeDuplicate list =  
  match list with  
  | [] -> []  
  | [hd] -> [hd]  
  | hd :: hd' :: tl ->  
    if hd = hd' then removeDuplicate (hd' :: tl)  
    else hd :: removeDuplicate (hd' :: tl)  
  ;;  
val removeDuplicate: 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>  
  
# removeDuplicate [1;1;2;3;4;5;5;5];;  
- : int list = [1; 2; 3; 4; 5]
```

```
# let rec removeDuplicate list =  
  match list with  
  | [] -> []  
  | [hd] -> [hd]   
  | hd :: hd' :: tl ->  
    if hd = hd' then removeDuplicate (hd' :: tl)  
    else hd :: removeDuplicate (hd' :: tl)  
  ;;  
val removeDuplicate: 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>  
  
# removeDuplicate [1;1;2;3;4;5;5;5];;  
- : int list = [1; 2; 3; 4; 5]
```

```
let rec removeDuplicate = function
  | [] as l -> l
  | [_] as l -> l
  | hd :: (hd' :: _ as tl) ->
    if hd = hd' then removeDuplicate tl
    else hd :: removeDuplicate tl
;;
val removeDuplicate: 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>
```

the `as` pattern allows us to declare
a name for the thing matched

```
let rec removeDuplicate = function
  | [] | [_] as l -> l
  | hd :: (hd' :: _ as tl) ->
    if hd = hd' then removeDuplicate tl
    else hd :: removeDuplicate tl
;;
val removeDuplicate: 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>
```

the **or** pattern allows us to
combine the first two cases into
one

```
let rec removeDuplicate = function
  | [] | [_] as l -> l
  | hd :: (hd' :: _ as tl) when hd = hd' -> removeDuplicate tl
  | hd :: tl -> hd :: removeDuplicate tl ;;
val removeDuplicate: 'a list -> 'a list = <fun>
```

when clause allows us to add an
extra precondition to a pattern

Equality

```
# 3 = 4;;
```

```
- : bool = false
```

```
# [3;4;5] = [3;4;5];;
```

```
- : bool = true
```

```
# [Some 3; None] = [None; Some 3];;
```

```
- : bool = false
```

Polymorphic equality

```
# (=);;  
- : 'a -> 'a -> bool = <fun>
```

OCaml's polymorphic comparison functions are built into the runtime to a low level paying attention only to the structure of the values as they're laid out in memory.

But

```
# (fun x -> x + 1) = (fun x -> x + 1);;
```

```
Exception: (Invalid_argument "equal: functional value").
```

Example

Given two indices, i and k , the slice is the list containing the elements between the i 'th and k 'th element of the original list (both limits included).

Solution

```
# let slice list i k =  
  let rec take n = function  
    | [] -> []  
    | h :: t -> if n = 0 then [] else h :: take (n-1) t  
  in  
  let rec drop n = function  
    | [] -> []  
    | h :: t as l -> if n = 0 then l else drop (n-1) t  
  in  
  take (k - i + 1) (drop i list);;  
val slice : 'a list -> int -> int -> 'a list = <fun>
```

Example

Drop every n'th element from a list.

Solution

```
# let drop list n =  
  let rec aux i = function  
    | [] -> []  
    | h :: t -> if i = n then aux 1 t else h :: aux (i+1) t in  
  aux 1 list;;  
val drop : 'a list -> int -> 'a list = <fun>
```