

# Type synonyms

Syntax: **type id = t**

- Anywhere you write **t**, you can also write **id**
- The two names are *synonymous*

e.g.

```
type point    = float * float
```

```
type vector  = float list
```

```
type matrix  = float list list
```

# Type synonyms

```
type point = float*float
```

```
let getx : point -> float =  
  fun (x,_) -> x
```

```
let pt : point = (1.,2.)
```

```
let floatpair : float*float = (1.,3.)
```

```
let one = getx pt
```

```
let one' = getx floatpair
```

# Type Abbreviations

- We have already seen some type abbreviations:

```
type point = float * float
```

- These abbreviations can be helpful documentation:

```
let distance (p1:point) (p2:point) : float =  
  let square x = x *. x in  
  let (x1,y1) = p1 in  
  let (x2,y2) = p2 in  
  sqrt (square (x2 -. x1) +. square (y2 -. y1))
```

- But they add nothing of *substance* to the language
  - they are *equal* in every way to an existing type

# Type Abbreviations

- We have already seen some type abbreviations:

```
type point = float * float
```

- As far as O'Caml is concerned, you could have written:

```
let distance (p1:float*float)
             (p2:float*float) : float =
  let square x = x *. x in
  let (x1,y1) = p1 in
  let (x2,y2) = p2 in
  sqrt (square (x2 -. x1) +. square (y2 -. y1))
```

- Since the types are equal, you can *substitute* the definition for the name wherever you want
  - we have not added any new data structures

# **DATA TYPES**

# Data types

- O'CamL provides a general mechanism called a **data type** for defining new data structures that consist of many alternatives

```
type my_bool = Tru | Fal
```

a **value** with type **my\_bool** is one of two things:

- **Tru**, or
- **Fal**

read the "|" as "or"

# Data types

- O'CamL provides a general mechanism called a **data type** for defining new data structures that consist of many alternatives

```
type my_bool = Tru | Fal
```

Tru and Fal are called  
"constructors"

a **value** with type **my\_bool**  
is one of two things:

- **Tru**, or
- **Fal**

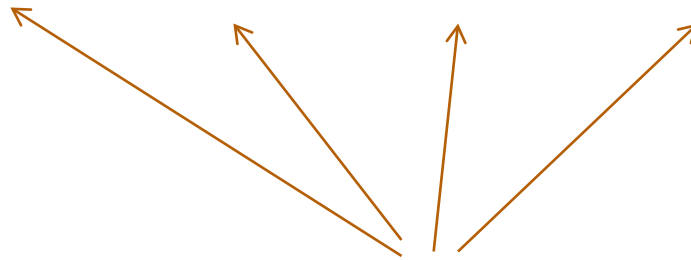
read the "|" as "or"

# Data types

- O'CamL provides a general mechanism called a **data type** for defining new data structures that consist of many alternatives

```
type my_bool = Tru | Fal
```

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red
```



there's no need to stop  
at 2 cases; define as many  
alternatives as you want



# Data types

- O'CamL provides a general mechanism called a **data type** for defining new data structures that consist of many alternatives

```
type my_bool = Tru | Fal
```

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red
```

- **Creating values:**

```
let b1 : my_bool = Tru  
let b2 : my_bool = Fal  
let c1 : color = Yellow  
let c2 : color = Red
```

use constructors to create values



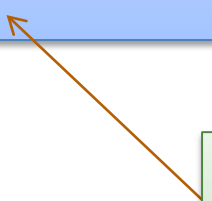
# Data types

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red

let c1 : color = Yellow
let c2 : color = Red
```

- Using data type values:

```
let print_color (c:color) : unit =
  match c with
  | Blue ->
  | Yellow ->
  | Green ->
  | Red ->
```



use pattern matching to determine which color you have; act accordingly

# Data types

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red
```

```
let c1 : color = Yellow
```

```
let c2 : color = Red
```

- Using data type values:

```
let print_color (c:color) : unit =  
  match c with  
  | Blue -> print_string "blue"  
  | Yellow -> print_string "yellow"  
  | Green -> print_string "green"  
  | Red -> print_string "red"
```

# Data types

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red

let c1 : color = Yellow
let c2 : color = Red
```

- Using data type values:

```
let print_color (c:color) : unit =
  match c with
  | Blue -> print_string "blue"
  | Yellow -> print_string "yellow"
  | Green -> print_string "green"
  | Red -> print_string "red"
```

Why not just use strings to represent colors instead of defining a new type?

# Data types

```
type color = Blue | Yellow | Green | Red
```

oops!:

```
let print_color (c:color) : unit =  
  match c with  
  | Blue -> print_string "blue"  
  | Yellow -> print_string "yellow"  
  | Red -> print_string "red"
```

Warning 8: this pattern-matching is not exhaustive.  
Here is an example of a value that is not matched:  
Green

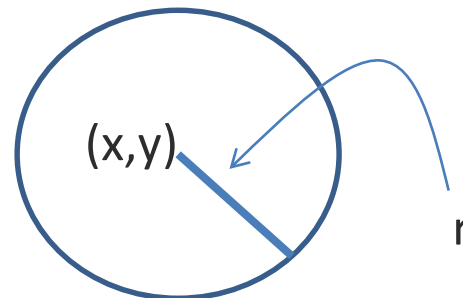
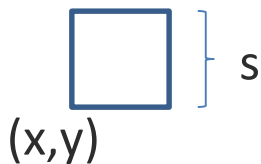
# Data Types Can Carry Additional Values

- Data types are more than just enumerations of constants:

```
type point = float * float

type simple_shape =
  Circle of point * float
| Square of point * float
```

- Read as: a **simple\_shape** is either:
  - a **Circle**, which contains a **pair** of a **point** and **float**, or
  - a **Square**, which contains a **pair** of a **point** and **float**



# Data Types Can Carry Additional Values

- Data types are more than just enumerations of constants:

```
type point = float * float
```

```
type simple_shape =  
  Circle of point * float  
| Square of point * float
```

```
let origin : point = (0.0, 0.0)
```

```
let circ1 : simple_shape = Circle (origin, 1.0)
```

```
let circ2 : simple_shape = Circle ((1.0, 1.0), 5.0)
```

```
let square : simple_shape = Square (origin, 2.3)
```

# Data Types Can Carry Additional Values

- Data types are more than just enumerations of constants:

```
type point = float * float

type simple_shape =
  | Circle of point * float
  | Square of point * float

let simple_area (s:simple_shape) : float =
  match s with
  | Circle (_, radius) -> 3.14 *. radius *. radius
  | Square (_, side) -> side *. side
```



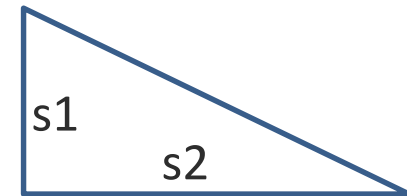
# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float  
  
type shape =  
  Square of float  
| Ellipse of float * float  
| RtTriangle of float * float  
| Polygon of point list
```

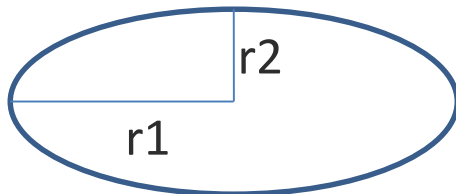
Square  $s =$



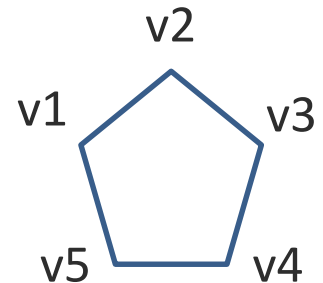
RtTriangle ( $s_1, s_2$ ) =



Ellipse ( $r_1, r_2$ ) =



Polygon [ $v_1; \dots; v_5$ ] =



# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float
type radius = float
type side = float

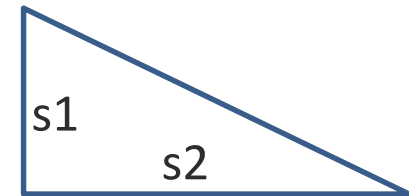
type shape =
  Square of side
  | Ellipse of radius * radius
  | RtTriangle of side * side
  | Polygon of point list
```

Type abbreviations can aid readability

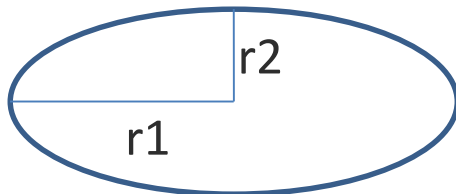
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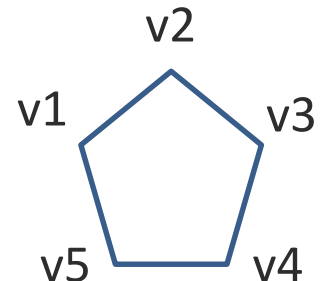
RtTriangle ( $s_1, s_2$ ) =



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RtTriangle [ $v_1; \dots; v_5$ ] =



# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float
type radius = float
type side = float

type shape =
  | Square of side
  | Ellipse of radius * radius
  | RtTriangle of side * side
  | Polygon of point list
```

Square builds a shape  
from a single side

RtTriangle builds a shape  
from a pair of sides

```
let sq    : shape = Square 17.0
let ell   : shape = Ellipse (1.0, 2.0)
let rt    : shape = RtTriangle (1.0, 1.0)
let poly  : shape = Polygon [(0., 0.); (1., 0.); (0.; 1.)]
```

they are all shapes;  
they are constructed in  
different ways

Polygon builds a shape  
from a list of points  
(where each point is itself a pair)

# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float
type radius = float
type side = float

type shape =
  Square of side
| Ellipse of radius * radius
| RtTriangle of side * side
| Polygon of point list
```

```
let area (s : shape) : float =
  match s with
  | Square s ->
  | Ellipse (r1, r2) ->
  | RtTriangle (s1, s2) ->
  | Polygon ps ->
```

a data type also defines  
a pattern for matching

# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float
type radius = float
type side = float

type shape =
  Square of side
| Ellipse of radius * radius
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```

a data type also defines  
a pattern for matching

```
let area (s : shape) : float =
  match s with
  | Square s ->
  | Ellipse (r1, r2) ->
  | RtTriangle (s1, s2) ->
  | Polygon ps ->
```

**Square** carries a value  
with type **float** so **s** is  
a pattern for float values

**RtTriangle** carries a value  
with type **float \* float**  
so **(s1, s2)** is a pattern  
for that type

# More General Shapes

```
type point = float * float
type radius = float
type side = float

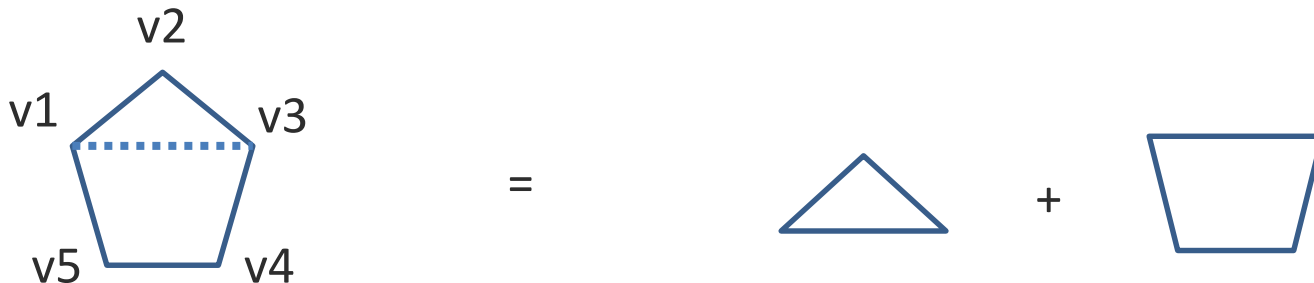
type shape =
  Square of side
| Ellipse of radius * radius
| RtTriangle of side * side
| Polygon of point list
```

```
let area (s : shape) : float =
  match s with
  | Square s -> s *. s
  | Ellipse (r1, r2) -> r1 *. r2
  | RtTriangle (s1, s2) -> s1 *. s2 /. 2.
  | Polygon ps -> ???
```

a data type also defines  
a pattern for matching

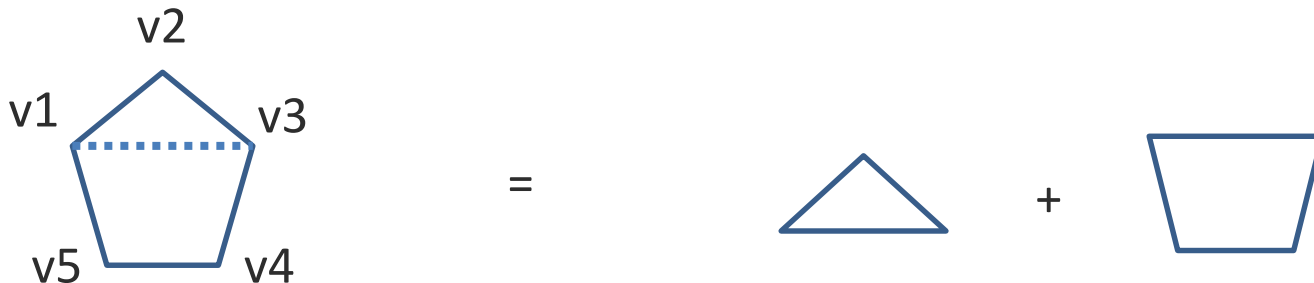
# Computing Area

- How do we compute polygon area?
- For convex polygons:
  - Case: the polygon has fewer than 3 points:
    - it has 0 area! (it is a line or a point or nothing at all)
  - Case: the polygon has 3 or more points:
    - Compute the area of the triangle formed by the first 3 vertices
    - Delete the second vertex to form a new polygon
    - Sum the area of the triangle and the new polygon



# Computing Area

- How do we compute polygon area?
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  - Case: the polygon has 3 or more points:
    - Compute the area of the triangle formed by the first 3 vertices
    - Delete the second vertex to form a new polygon
    - Sum the area of the triangle and the new polygon
- Note: This is a beautiful **inductive algorithm**:
  - the area of a polygon with  $n$  points is computed in terms of a smaller polygon with only  $n-1$  points!



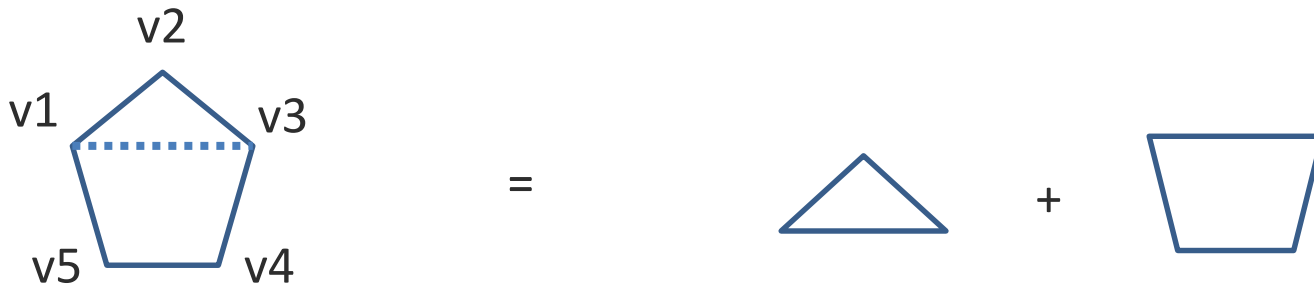


# Computing Area

```
let area (s : shape) : float =  
  match s with  
  | Square s -> s *. s  
  | Ellipse (r1, r2) -> r1 *. r2  
  | RtTriangle (s1, s2) -> s1 *. s2 /. 2.  
  | Polygon ps -> poly_area ps
```

This pattern says the  
list has at least 3 items

```
let poly_area (ps : point list) : float =  
  match ps with  
  | p1 :: p2 :: p3 :: tail ->  
    tri_area p1 p2 p3 +. poly_area (p1::p3::tail)  
  | _ -> 0.
```



# Computing Area

```
let tri_area (p1:point) (p2:point) (p3:point) : float =  
  let a = distance p1 p2 in  
  let b = distance p2 p3 in  
  let c = distance p3 p1 in  
  let s = 0.5 *. (a +. b +. c) in  
  sqrt (s *. (s -. a) *. (s -. b) *. (s -. c))
```

```
let rec poly_area (ps : point list) : float =  
  match ps with  
  | p1 :: p2 :: p3 :: tail ->  
    tri_area p1 p2 p3 +. poly_area (p1::p3::ps)  
  | _ -> 0.
```

```
let area (s : shape) : float =  
  match s with  
  | Square s -> s *. s  
  | Ellipse (r1, r2)-> r1 *. r2  
  | RtTriangle (s1, s2) -> s1 *. s2 /. 2.  
  | Polygon ps -> poly_area ps
```

# **INDUCTIVE DATA TYPES**

# Inductive data types

- We can use data types to define inductive data
- A binary tree is:
  - a **Leaf** containing no data
  - a **Node** containing a **key**, a **value**, a left subtree and a right subtree

# Inductive data types

- We can use data types to define inductive data
- A binary tree is:
  - a **Leaf** containing no data
  - a **Node** containing a **key**, a **value**, a left **subtree** and a right **subtree**

```
type key = string
type value = int

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

# Inductive data types

```
type key = int
type value = string

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

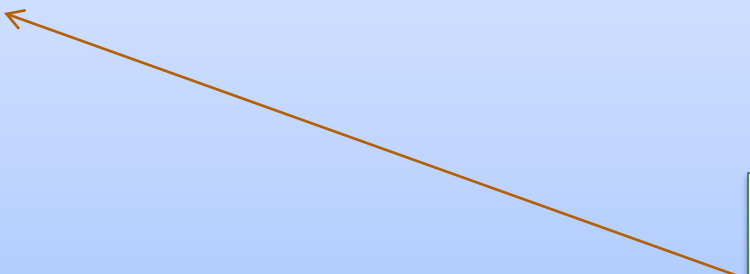
```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
```

# Inductive data types

```
type key = int
type value = string

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
  match t with
  | Leaf ->
  | Node (k', v', left, right) ->
```



Again, the type definition specifies the cases you must consider

# Inductive data types

```
type key = int
type value = string

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
  match t with
  | Leaf -> Node (k, v, Leaf, Leaf)
  | Node (k', v', left, right) ->
```



# Inductive data types

```
type key = int
type value = string

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
  match t with
  | Leaf -> Node (k, v, Leaf, Leaf)
  | Node (k', v', left, right) ->
    if k < k' then
      Node (k', v', insert left k v, right)
    else if k > k' then
      Node (k', v', left, insert right k v)
    else
      Node (k, v, left, right)
```

# Inductive data types

```
type key = int
type value = string

type tree =
  Leaf
| Node of key * value * tree * tree
```

```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
  match t with
  | Leaf -> Node (k, v, Leaf, Leaf)
  | Node (k', v', left, right) ->
    if k < k' then
      Node (k', v', insert left k v, right)
    else if k > k' then
      Node (k', v', left, insert right k v)
    else
      Node (k, v, left, right)
```

# Inductive data types

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type key = int
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```

```
let rec insert (t:tree) (k:key) (v:value) : tree =
  match t with
  | Leaf -> Node (k, v, Leaf, Leaf)
  | Node (k', v', left, right) ->
    if k < k' then
      Node (k', v', insert left k v, right)
    else if k > k' then
      Node (k', v', left, insert right k v)
    else
      Node (k, v, left, right)
```

# Implement lists with variants

```
type intlist = Nil | Cons of int * intlist
```

```
let emp = Nil
```

```
let l3 = Cons (3, Nil) (* 3::[] or [3]*)
```

```
let l123 = Cons(1, Cons(2, l3)) (* [1;2;3] *)
```

```
let rec sum (l:intlist) =
```

```
  match l with
```

```
  | Nil -> 0
```

```
  | Cons(h,t) -> h + sum t
```

# Implement lists with variants

```
let rec length = function  
  | Nil -> 0  
  | Cons (_, t) -> 1 + length t  
(* length : intlist -> int *)
```

```
let empty = function  
  | Nil -> true  
  | Cons _ -> false  
(* empty: intlist -> bool *)
```

# Implement lists with variants

```
let rec fold_right f l acc =  
  match l with  
  | Nil -> acc  
  | Cons(h,t) -> f h (fold_right f t acc)  
(* fold_right:  
  (int -> 'a -> 'a)  
  -> intlist -> 'a -> 'a *)  
  
let sumr l = fold_right (+) l 0  
(* empty: intlist -> int *)
```

# Implement lists with variants

```
let hd = function  
  | Nil -> ???  
  | Cons(h,t) -> h
```

One possibility is to return an option:

```
let hd = function  
  | Nil -> None  
  | Cons(h,t) -> Some h  
(* hd: intlist -> int option *)
```

But the standard library throws an exception...

# EXCEPTIONS



# Example: implement hd

```
let hd = function  
  | Nil -> raise (Failure "empty")  
  | Cons(h,t) -> h
```

```
# hd Nil;;  
Exception: (Failure empty).
```

```
let head_or_zero lst =  
  try hd lst with  
  | Failure s -> 0
```

```
# head_or_zero Nil;;  
- : int = 0
```

# Exceptions: Syntax

**Definition:**

```
exception E
```

```
exception E of t
```

**Raise (aka throw):**

```
raise e
```

**Catch (aka handle):**

```
try e with
```

```
| p1 -> e1
```

```
| ...
```

```
| pn -> en
```

# Exception: Type checking

## New kind of type: `exn`

if `E` is defined as `exception E` then `E : exn`

if `E` is defined as `exception E of t` and `e : t`  
then `E e : exn`

## Raise:

if `e : exn` then `raise e` may have any type `t`

## Catch:

if `e` and `p1..pn` and `e1..en` all have type `t`

then `try e with p1 -> e1 | ... | pn -> en`

has type `t`

# Exceptions: Evaluation

## Raise:

If  $e \implies v$  then **raise**  $e$  produces an *exception packet* containing  $v$  that propagates upward through the call stack to a handler.

## Catch:

**try**  $e$  **with**  $p_1 \rightarrow e_1 \mid \dots \mid p_n \rightarrow e_n$

If  $e \implies v$  then the **try** expression evaluates to  $v$ .

If evaluation of  $e$  produces an exception packet, behave like a pattern match on the value in that packet.

But if none of the patterns matches, re-raise the exception, thus propagating it upwards.

# Exceptions in standard library

**exception Invalid\_argument of string**

*raised by library functions to signal that the given arguments do not make sense*

**exception Failure of string**

*raised by library functions to signal that they are undefined on the given arguments*

Convenience function in library:

```
let failwith : string -> 'a =  
    fun s -> raise (Failure s)
```

# Inductive data types: Another Example

- Recall, we used the type "int" to represent natural numbers
  - but that was kind of broken: it also contained negative numbers
  - we had to use a dynamic test to guard entry to a function:

```
let double (n : int) : int =  
  if n < 0 then  
    raise (Failure "negative input!")  
  else  
    double_nat n
```

- it would be nice if there was a way to define the natural numbers **exactly**, and use OCaml's type system to guarantee no client ever attempts to double a negative number

# Inductive data types

- Recall, a natural number  $n$  is either:
  - zero, or
  - $m + 1$
- We use a data type to represent this definition exactly:

# Inductive data types

- Recall, a natural number  $n$  is either:
  - zero, or
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- We use a data type to represent this definition exactly:

```
type nat = Zero | Next of nat
```



# Inductive data types

- Recall, a natural number  $n$  is either:
  - zero, or
  - $m + 1$
- We use a data type to represent this definition exactly:

```
type nat = Zero | Succ of nat

let rec nat_to_int (n : nat) : int =
  match n with
  | Zero -> 0
  | Succ n -> 1 + nat_to_int n
```

# Inductive data types

- Recall, a natural number  $n$  is either:
  - zero, or
  - $m + 1$
- We use a data type to represent this definition exactly:

```
type nat = Zero | Next of nat
```

```
let rec nat_to_int (n : nat) : int =  
  match n with  
  | Zero -> 0  
  | Next n -> 1 + nat_to_int n
```

```
let rec double_nat (n : nat) : nat =  
  match n with  
  | Zero -> Zero  
  | Succ m -> Succ (Succ (double_nat m))
```

# A Note on Parameterized Type Definitions

```
type ('key, 'val) tree =  
  Leaf  
  | Node of 'key * 'val * ('key, 'val) tree * ('key, 'val) tree
```

```
type 'a stree = (string, 'a) tree
```

```
type sitree = int stree
```

### General form:

definition:

```
type 'x f = body
```

use:

```
arg f
```

### A Better Notation:

definition:

```
type f x = body
```

use:

```
f arg
```

# Take-home Message

- Think of parameterized types like functions:
  - a function that take a type as an argument
  - produces a type as a result
- Theoretical basis:
  - System F-omega
  - a typed lambda calculus with general type-level functions as well as value-level functions

# Summary

- OCaml datatypes: a powerful mechanism for defining complex data structures:
  - They are precise
    - contain exactly the elements you want, not more elements
  - They are general
    - recursive, non-recursive (mutually recursive and polymorphic)
  - The type checker helps you detect errors
    - missing cases in your functions
  - Next time: help in program evolution