

# Modules II

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15-150

Lecture 17: 🎃👻🎃, 2024

Stephanie Balzer  
Carnegie Mellon University

# Announcement: midterm II

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Be on time; next lecture starts at 12:30pm!

## When and where:

- Thursday, **November 7, 11:00am – 12:20pm.**
- **MM 103** (Sections A–D), **PH 100** (Sections E–L).

## Scope:

- Lectures: 1 – 15.
- Labs: 1 – 8 and midterm review section of Lab 10.
- Assignments: up to including Exceptions/Regex.

## What you may have on your desk:

- Writing utensils, we provide paper, something to drink/eat, tissues.
- 8.5” x 11” cheatsheet (back and front), handwritten or typeset.
- No cell phones, laptops, or any other smart devices.

# Recap

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Abstraction through separating specification from implementation:

- Specification: externally visible promise deliver.
- Implementation: internal choice of how to deliver promise.
- Allows us to hide implementation details from the client.
- Representation independence: the client becomes independent of the choice of internal representation.
- Any two implementations that satisfy specifications are indistinguishable to the client and thus equal.
- Facilitates modular reasoning (component-wise reasoning).

# Recap

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SML modules facilitate abstraction:

➔ Specification: **signature**.

➔ Implementation: **structure**.

SML modules allow us to control the “flow of information”:

➔ Structures can **hide** auxiliary, implementation-specific components, not specified by signature.

➔ **Transparent ascription**: for undefined type specified in signature, representation type chosen by structure is revealed.

➔ **Opaque ascription**: for undefined type specified in signature, representation type chosen by structure is hidden.

# Today

---

- Functors (aka functions on structures).
- Type classes (aka descriptive signatures).
- Deeper exploration of transparent and opaque ascription.

Correspondence:

|                |           |          |         |
|----------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| specification  | signature | type     |         |
| implementation | structure | value    | loosely |
| mapping        | functor   | function |         |

- Let's resume our dictionary example!

# Example: dictionary

---

A dictionary is a collection of pairs of the form

(key, value)

where all keys must be unique within a dictionary.

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict (* abstract type *)
```

Let's use strings as keys for now

Permit value type to  
be polymorphic

```
end
```

# Example: dictionary

---

A dictionary is a collection of pairs of the form

(key, value)

where all keys must be unique within a dictionary.

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string (* concrete type *)  
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  type 'a dict (* abstract type *)  
  
end
```

# Example: dictionary

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A dictionary is a collection of pairs of the form

(key, value)

where all keys must be unique within a dictionary.

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```

Replace entry, if key already exists



# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

Implementation: **represent** dictionary as a binary search tree, where  
(key, value)  
are stored in nodes.

→ Representation **invariant**:

→ Tree must be sorted.

→ Keys must be unique.

→ All functions declared by structure

→ may **assume** that received tree is sorted,

→ and must **assert** that returned tree is sorted.

→ (Similarly for key uniqueness.)

# Search tree representation of dictionary

Explore :>

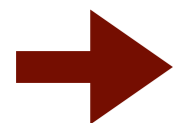
```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type key = string  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a
```

```
  datatype 'a tree =  
    Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a entry * 'a tree
```

```
  type 'a dict = 'a tree
```

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string          (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a  (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict              (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```



Transparent ascription can be useful for debugging purposes.

```
end
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string          (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a  (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict             (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type key = string
```

```
  type 'a entry = key * 'a
```

```
  datatype 'a tree =
```

```
    Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a entry * 'a tree
```

```
  type 'a dict = 'a tree
```

```
end
```

no other choice

# Search tree representation of dictionary

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string          (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a  (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict             (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type key = string  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a
```

```
  datatype 'a tree =  
    Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a entry * 'a tree
```

```
  type 'a dict = 'a tree
```

➔ Because datatype is not declared in signature, constructors (and thus pattern matching) are not available outside signature.

end ➔ But bindings externally visible due to transparent ascription.

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string          (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a  (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict             (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type key = string
```

```
  type 'a entry = key * 'a
```

```
  datatype 'a tree =
```

```
    Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a entry * 'a tree
```

```
  type 'a dict = 'a tree
```

```
end
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string          (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a  (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict             (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option  
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict  
end
```

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type key = string  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a
```

```
  datatype 'a tree =  
    Empty | Node of 'a tree * 'a entry * 'a tree
```

```
  type 'a dict = 'a tree
```

```
  val empty = Empty
```

```
  fun insert ...  
  fun lookup ...
```

```
end
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k', _), rt),  
           e as (k, _)) =
```

Layered pattern  
matching

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k',_), rt),  
           e as (k, _)) =
```



# Search tree representation of dictionary

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```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k',_), rt),  
           e as (k,_)) =  
    (case String.compare(k, k') of
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k', _), rt),  
           e as (k, _)) =  
    (case String.compare(k, k') of  
     EQUAL => Node(lt, e, rt)
```

Replace existing entry  
with new one

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k', _), rt),  
           e as (k, _)) =  
    (case String.compare(k, k') of  
     EQUAL => Node(lt, e, rt)
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

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```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k',_), rt),  
           e as (k,_)) =  
    (case String.compare(k,k') of  
     EQUAL => Node(lt, e, rt)  
    | LESS => Node(insert(lt,e), e', rt)
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* ins : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict *)  
fun insert (Empty, e) = Node(Empty, e, Empty)  
  | insert (Node(lt, e' as (k',_), rt),  
           e as (k,_)) =  
    (case String.compare(k,k') of  
     EQUAL => Node(lt, e, rt)  
    | LESS  => Node(insert(lt,e), e', rt)  
    | GREATER => Node(lt, e', insert(rt,e)))
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

```
(* lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option *)
fun lookup tree key =
  let
    fun lk (Empty) = NONE
      | lk (Node(left, (k,v), right)) =
        (case String.compare(key,k) of
          EQUAL => SOME(v)
        | LESS => lk left
        | GREATER => lk right)
  in
    lk tree
  end
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

Let's interact with `BST`:

```
val d = BST.insert(BST.insert(BST.insert(
    BST.empty, ("a", 1)), ("b", 2)), ("c", 3))
```

What is the type of `d`?

```
int BST.dict
```

The binding for `d` will be revealed because of opaque ascription. However, because the tree datatype is not declared in the signature, a client cannot pattern match on its constructors.

Now consider: `val look = BST.lookup d`

What is the type of `look`?

```
BST.key -> int option
```

# Search tree representation of dictionary

---

Let's interact with `BST`:

```
val d = BST.insert(BST.insert(BST.insert(
    BST.empty, ("a", 1)), ("b", 2)), ("c", 3))
```

What is the type of `d`?

```
int BST.dict
```

Now consider: `val look = BST.lookup d`

What is the type of `look`?

```
BST.key -> int option
```

Now consider: `val x = look "e"`  
`val y = look "a"`

Bindings: `[NONE/x, (SOME 1)/y]`



# Let's reconsider our DICT signature

---

```
signature DICT =  
sig  
  type key = string (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete type *)  
  type 'a dict (* abstract type *)  
  val empty : 'a dict  
  val lookup :  
  val insert :  
end
```

➔ What if we needed keys other than strings?

➔ We could try to make key polymorphic too.

# Let's reconsider our DICT signature

---

```
signature DICT =
sig
  type 'a key = 'a (* concrete type *)
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b (* concrete type *)
  type ('a, 'b) dict (* abstract type *)
  val empty : ('a, 'b) dict
  val lookup :
  val insert :
end
```

➔ What if we needed keys other than strings?

➔ We could try to make key polymorphic too.

# Let's reconsider our DICT signature

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```
signature DICT =
sig
  type 'a key = 'a (* concrete type *)
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b (* concrete type *)
  type ('a, 'b) dict (* concrete type *)
  val empty : ('a, 'b) dict
  val lookup :
  val insert :
end
```

How to implement now?

Used `String.compare`

- ➔ What if we needed keys other than strings?
- ➔ We could try to make key polymorphic too.
- ➔ Keys should become comparable!

# Let's reconsider our DICT signature

---

lookup:

insert:

➔ Keys should become comparable!

# Let's reconsider our DICT signature

---

lookup: `('a * 'a -> order)` -> `('a, 'b) dict` -> `'a -> 'b option`  
insert: `('a * 'a -> order)` -> `(( 'a, 'b) dict * ( 'a, 'b) entry)`  
-> `('a, 'b) dict`

➔ Keys should become comparable!

➔ Require a comparison function as an argument.

➔ Restricts polymorphism of keys!

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct
```

```
  type 'a key = 'a
```

```
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b
```

```
  datatype ('a, 'b) dict = Empty | Node of  
    ('a, 'b) dict * ('a, 'b) entry * ('a, 'b) dict
```

```
  val empty = Empty
```

```
  fun insert cmp d k =
```

```
  fun lookup cmp (d, k) =
```

```
end
```

As specified by signature

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct  
  type 'a key = 'a
```

```
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b
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  datatype ('a, 'b) dict = Empty | Node of  
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```
  val empty = Empty
```

```
  fun insert cmp d k =
```

```
  fun lookup cmp (d, k) =
```

```
end
```

Again, binary search tree  
as representation type.

This time, with polymorphic key.

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct  
  type 'a key = 'a  
  
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b  
  
  datatype ('a, 'b) dict = Empty | Node of  
    ('a, 'b) dict * ('a, 'b) entry * ('a, 'b) dict  
  
  val empty = Empty  
  
  fun insert cmp d k =  
  
  fun lookup cmp (d, k) =  
end
```

As before.



# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

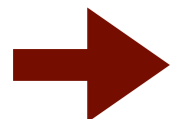
```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct  
  type 'a key = 'a  
  
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b  
  
  datatype ('a, 'b) dict = Empty | Node of  
    ('a, 'b) dict * ('a, 'b) entry * ('a, 'b) dict  
  
  val empty = Empty  
  
  fun insert cmp d k =  
  fun lookup cmp (d, k) =  
end
```

Bodies of `insert` and `lookup` now use `cmp` instead of `String.compare`.

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
structure BST : DICT =  
struct  
  type 'a key = 'a  
  
  type ('a, 'b) entry = 'a key * 'b  
  
  datatype ('a, 'b) dict = Empty | Node of  
    ('a, 'b) dict * ('a, 'b) entry * ('a, 'b) dict  
  
  val empty = Empty  
  
  fun insert cmp d k =  
  
  fun lookup cmp (d, k) =  
end
```

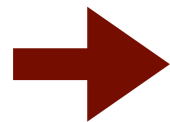


Does this do the trick?

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
fun insert cmp d k =  
fun lookup cmp (d, k) =
```



Does this do the trick?

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

```
fun insert cmp d k =  
fun lookup cmp (d, k) =
```

➔ Does this do the trick? Well, not quite.

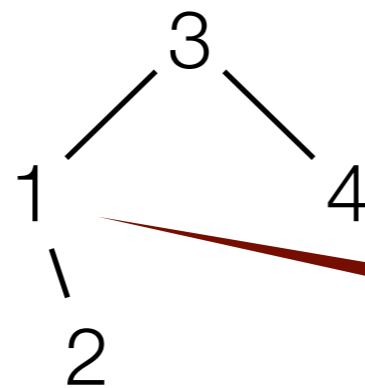
➔ What if a client provides different `cmp` functions to `insert` than to `lookup`, for example?

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

- ➔ Does this do the trick? Well, not quite.
- ➔ What if a client provides different `cmp` functions to `insert` than to `lookup`, for example?

For example, a client creates the following tree using `insert` and `Int.compare`:



1 won't be found!

For `lookup` of `1`, the client now uses:

```
fun cmp (x,y) = Int.compare (y,x)
```

# Let's update our BST structure accordingly

---

- ➔ Does this do the trick? Well, not quite.
- ➔ What if a client provides different `cmp` functions to `insert` than to `lookup`, for example?
- ➔ Can we enforce the invariant, that all operations use the same comparison function by typing?
- ➔ Yes, but we need type classes for this!

# Type classes

---

## Type class

- ➔ A signature specifying a type and associated operations.
- ➔ No expectation that specification is exhaustive.

Example:

```
signature ORDERED =  
sig  
  type t          (* parameter *)  
  val compare : t * t -> order  
end
```

Signature **ORDERED** specifies an “ordered type class” to consist of a type **t** along with a comparison function **compare** for **t**.

# Type classes

---

Example: `signature ORDERED =`  
`sig`  
    `type t` (\* parameter \*)  
    `val compare : t * t -> order`  
`end`

➔ Even though `t` is not concrete, it does not have to be abstract.

➔ We expect `t` to be some already existing type, hence use the comment **parameter**.

➔ Signature `ORDERED` is said to be **descriptive**.

➔ Signature `DICT` is in contrast **prescriptive**, defining an abstract type with all its operations, exhaustively.



# Type classes

---

- Even though `t` is not concrete, it does not have to be abstract.
- We expect `t` to be some already existing type, hence use the comment **parameter**.
- Signature **ORDERED** is said to be **descriptive**.
- Signature **DICT** is in contrast **prescriptive**, defining an abstract type with all its operations, exhaustively.
- We tend to use transparent ascription for descriptive signatures (aka type classes), and opaque ascription for prescriptive signatures.

# Perspective of types in signatures

---

## Concrete:

Signature dictates representation type, which is thus visible to client.

## Abstract:

Signature hides representation type. Client code must work regardless of the representation type chosen by structure.

## Parameter:

Client supplies the type, implementation must work with whatever the clients supplies.

# Different ways of implementing ORDERED

---

```
structure IntLt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = int  
  val compare = Int.compare  
end
```

```
signature ORDERED =  
sig  
  type t      (* parameter *)  
  val compare : t * t -> order  
end
```

# Different ways of implementing ORDERED

---

```
structure IntLt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = int  
  val compare = Int.compare  
end
```

```
structure IntGt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = int  
  fun compare(x,y) = Int.compare(y,x)  
end
```

```
signature ORDERED =  
sig  
  type t      (* parameter *)  
  val compare : t * t -> order  
end
```

# Different ways of implementing ORDERED

---

```
structure IntLt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = int  
  val compare = Int.compare  
end
```

```
structure IntGt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = int  
  fun compare(x,y) = Int.compare(y,x)  
end
```

```
structure StringLt : ORDERED =  
struct  
  type t = string  
  val compare = String.compare  
end
```

```
signature ORDERED =  
sig  
  type t      (* parameter *)  
  val compare : t * t -> order  
end
```

# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

---

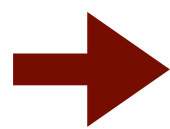
```
signature DICT =
sig
  type key = string (* concrete *)
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete *)
  type 'a dict (* abstract *)
  val empty : 'a dict
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict
end
```

Use type class as a parameter

# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

---

```
signature DICT =
sig
  structure Key = ORDERED (* parameter *)
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete *)
  type 'a dict (* abstract *)
  val empty : 'a dict
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict
end
```



Any structure implementing DICT will comprise a sub-structure implementing ORDERED.

# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

---

```
signature DICT =
sig
  structure Key = ORDERED (* parameter *)
  type 'a entry = key * 'a (* concrete *)
  type 'a dict (* abstract *)
  val empty : 'a dict
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option
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end
```

Use type class' type t

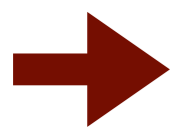
➔ Any structure implementing DICT will comprise a sub-structure implementing ORDERED.



# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

---

```
signature DICT =
sig
  structure Key = ORDERED                (* parameter *)
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a            (* concrete *)
  type 'a dict                                (* abstract *)
  val empty : 'a dict
  val lookup : 'a dict -> key -> 'a option
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict
end
```



Any structure implementing DICT will comprise a sub-structure implementing ORDERED.

# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

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  structure Key = ORDERED
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Use type class' type t

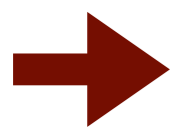
(\* parameter \*)  
(\* concrete \*)  
(\* abstract \*)

➔ Any structure implementing DICT will comprise a sub-structure implementing ORDERED.

# Redefine DICT using type class ORDERED

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```
signature DICT =
sig
  structure Key = ORDERED                (* parameter *)
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a            (* concrete *)
  type 'a dict                (* abstract *)
  val empty : 'a dict
  val lookup : 'a dict -> Key.t -> 'a option
  val insert : 'a dict * 'a entry -> 'a dict
end
```



Any structure implementing DICT will comprise a sub-structure implementing ORDERED.

# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

---

Using our structures defined earlier implementing type class `ORDERED`, we can define dictionary structures with different keys:

```
structure IntLtDict : DICT =  
struct
```

```
end
```

# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

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Using our structures defined earlier implementing type class `ORDERED`, we can define dictionary structures with different keys:

```
structure IntLtDict : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = IntLt  
  
end
```

# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

---

Using our structures defined earlier implementing type class `ORDERED`, we can define dictionary structures with different keys:

```
structure IntLtDict : DICT =
struct
  structure Key = IntLt
  (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key
     and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)
end

structure IntGtDict : DICT =
struct

end
```

# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

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Using our structures defined earlier implementing type class `ORDERED`, we can define dictionary structures with different keys:

```
structure IntLtDict : DICT =
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  structure Key = IntLt
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end

structure IntGtDict : DICT =
struct
  structure Key = IntGt

end
```

# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

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Using our structures defined earlier implementing type class ORDERED, we can define dictionary structures with different keys:

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structure IntLtDict : DICT =  
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  structure Key = IntLt  
  (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key  
    and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)  
end
```

```
structure IntGtDict : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = IntGt  
  (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key  
    and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)  
end
```



# Let's define dictionaries with different keys!

---

```
structure IntLtDict : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = IntLt  
    (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key  
       and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)  
end
```

```
structure IntGtDict : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = IntGt  
    (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key  
       and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)  
end
```

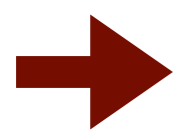
```
structure StringLtDict : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = StringLt  
    (* code as before but now using Key.t instead of key  
       and Key.compare instead of String.compare *)  
end
```



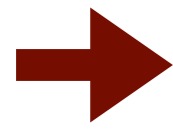
Only differ in Key!

# Is that it?

---



Have we solved the problem of inserting with one comparison function but looking up elements with a different one?



Can we avoid rewriting (copying & pasting) the same code over and over when implementing dictionaries with different keys?

# Is that it?

---

➔ Have we solved the problem of inserting with one comparison function but looking up elements with a different one?

For example, could we accidentally insert into a dictionary using `IntLtDict.insert` but then lookup using `IntGtDict.lookup`?

After all, `IntLtDict.Key.t` and `IntGtDict.Key.t` are both `int`.

No, this is not possible! `IntGtDict.dict` and `IntLtDict.dict` are different types.

ML type checker will thus prevent intermingling of dictionaries.

Remark: Had we implemented `dict` in terms of a representation type available in the client's scope, we should have used opaque ascription!

# Is that it?

---

→ Have we solved the problem of inserting with one comparison function but looking up elements with a different one?

→ YES!

→ Can we avoid rewriting (copying & pasting) the same code over and over when implementing dictionaries with different keys?

→ YES, but we need to use a functor for this!

→ A **functor** creates a structure, given a structure as an argument.

Let's write a functor that creates a structure ascribing to **DICT**, given a structure ascribing to **ORDERED** as an argument.

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct
```

```
end
```

Argument structure, of  
type ORDERED

Note: ":" denotes typing,  
not ascription mode.

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct
```

```
end
```

Structured  
returned, transparently  
ascribing to **DICT**

Denotes ascription mode,  
as usual.

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct
```

```
end
```

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
  struct  
    structure Key = K  
  
  end
```



# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = K  
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a  
  
end
```

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = K  
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a  
  datatype 'a dict = ...  
  
end
```

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =
struct
  structure Key = K
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a
  datatype 'a dict = ...
  (* code as before, but using Key.t and Key.compare *)
end
```

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = K  
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a  
  datatype 'a dict = ...  
  (* code as before, but using Key.t and Key.compare *)  
end
```

Now, we can define our earlier dictionaries as:

```
structure IntLtDict = TreeDict(IntLt)  
structure IntGtDict = TreeDict(IntGt)  
structure StringLtDict = TreeDict(StringLt)
```

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) : DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = K  
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a  
  datatype 'a dict = ...  
  (* code as before, but using Key.t and Key.compare *)  
end
```



Let's use opaque  
ascription instead!

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) := DICT =  
struct  
  structure Key = K  
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a  
  datatype 'a dict = ...  
  (* code as before, but using Key.t and Key.compare *)  
end
```

➔ But now we hide the representation type for `Key.t`.

➔ But we want it to be known that `Key.t` is the same as the input key `K.t`!

➔ To rectify this, we need to add a `where` clause.

# Avoid the bloat with a functor!

---

```
functor TreeDict (K : ORDERED) :> DICT
  where type Key.t = K.t =
struct
  structure Key = K
  type 'a entry = Key.t * 'a
  datatype 'a dict = ...
  (* code as before, but using Key.t and Key.compare *)
end
```

➔ But now we hide the representation type for `Key.t`.

➔ But we want it to be known that `Key.t` is the same as the input key `K.t`!

➔ To rectify this, we need to add a `where` clause.

# Summary

---

- Signatures can be prescriptive, in which case they exhaustively specify a type's operations, typically using opaque ascription.
- Signatures can be descriptive (aka type classes), exposing a type parameter's operations, typically using opaque ascription.
- A functor creates a structure, given a structure as an argument.
  - Functor arguments are typically type classes to prevent code redundancy.

A word on syntax:



# Summary

---

A word on syntax:

- ➔ Functors only take a single structure as an argument.
- ➔ Multiple argument structures can be passed using nested structures or using specialized syntax.
- ➔ More on this in labs and homework.
- ➔ Similarly, multiple where clauses are supported, using different syntactic forms.
- ➔ More on this in labs and homework.

That's all for today. Happy 🎃👻🎃!