

# Did I get it right?

COS 326

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<http://~cos326/notes/evaluation.php>

<http://~cos326/notes/reasoning.php>

# Did I get it right?

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## “Did I get it right?”

- Most fundamental question you can ask about a computer program

## Techniques for answering:

### Grading

- hand in program to TA
- check to see if you got an A
- (does not apply after school is out)

### Testing

- create a set of sample inputs
- run the program on each input
- check the results
- how far does this get you?
  - has anyone ever tested a homework and not received an A?
  - why did that happen?

### Proving

- consider all legal inputs
- show every input yields correct result
- how far does this get you?
  - has anyone ever proven a homework correct and not received an A?
  - why did that happen?

# Program proving

The basic, overall *mechanics* of proving functional programs correct is not particularly hard.

- You are already doing it to some degree.
- The real goal of this lecture to help you further organize your thoughts and to give you a more systematic means of understanding your programs.
- Of course, it can certainly be hard to prove some specific program has some specific property -- just like it can be hard to write a program that solves some hard problem

We are going to focus on proving the correctness of *pure expressions*

- their meaning is determined exclusively by the value they return
- don't print, don't mutate global variables, don't raise exceptions
- always terminate
- another word for “*pure expression*” is “*valuable expression*”
- but I want you to understand why the presence of possibly non-terminating programs complicates rigorous reasoning about program correctness

# “Expressions always terminate”

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Two key concepts:

- A *valuable expression*
  - an expression that always terminates (without side effects) and produces a value, provided we substitute values for free variables in the expression
- A *total function* with type  $t1 \rightarrow t2$ 
  - a function that terminates on all args :  $t1$ , producing a value of type  $t2$
  - the “opposite” of a total function is a *partial function*
    - terminates on some (possibly all) input values

Many reasoning rules depend on expressions being valuable and hence the functions that are applied being total.

*Unless told otherwise*, you can assume all functions are total and expressions are valuable. (Such facts can typically be proven by induction.)

# Example Theorems

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We'll prove properties of OCaml expressions, starting with equivalence properties:

**Theorem:** `easy 1 20 30 == 50`

**Theorem:**

for all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
`exp n == 2n`

**Theorem:**

for all lists  $xs$ ,  $ys$ ,  
`length (cat xs ys) == length xs + length ys`

```
let easy x y z =  
  x * (y + z)
```

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
  | n -> 2 * exp (n-1)
```

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] => 0  
  | x::xs => 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Things to Watch For

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The types are going to guide us in our theorem proving, just like they guided us in our programming

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- when *programming* with lists, *functions* (often) have 2 cases:
  - []
  - `hd :: tl`
- when *proving* with lists, *proofs* (often) have 2 cases:
  - []
  - `hd :: tl`

# Things to Watch For

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- when *programming* with lists, *functions* (often) have 2 cases:
  - []
  - $hd :: tl$
- when *proving* with lists, *proofs* (often) have 2 cases:
  - []
  - $hd :: tl$
- when *programming* with natural numbers, *functions* have 2 cases:
  - 0
  - $k + 1$
- when *proving* with natural numbers, *proofs* have 2 cases:
  - 0
  - $k + 1$

This is not a fluke! Proof structure often related to program structure.



# Things to Watch For

More structure:

- when *programming* with lists:
  - `[]` is often easy
  - `hd :: tl` often requires a *recursive function call* on `tl`
    - we *assume* our recursive function behaves correctly on `tl`
- when *proving* with lists:
  - `[]` is often easy
  - `hd :: tl` often requires appeal to an *induction hypothesis* for `tl`
    - we *assume* our property of interest holds for `tl`

# Things to Watch For

More structure:

- when *programming* with lists:
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- when *proving* with lists:
  - `[]` is often easy
  - `hd :: tl` often requires appeal to an *induction hypothesis* for `tl`
    - we *assume* our property of interest holds for `tl`
- when *programming* with natural numbers:
  - `0` is often easy
  - `k + 1` often requires a *recursive call* on `k`
- when *proving* with natural numbers:
  - `0` is often easy
  - `k + 1` often requires appeal to an *induction hypothesis* for `k`

# Key Ideas

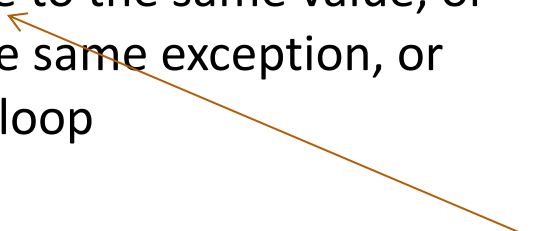
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## Idea 1: The fundamental definition of when programs are equal.

two expressions are equal if and only if:

- they both evaluate to the same value, or
- they both raise the same exception, or
- they both infinite loop

we will use  
what we learned  
about OCaml  
evaluation



# Key Ideas

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**Idea 1: The fundamental definition of when programs are equal.**

two expressions are equal if and only if:

- they both evaluate to the same value, or
- they both raise the same exception, or
- they both infinite loop

this is the principle of "substitution of equals for equals"

**Idea 2: A fundamental proof principle.**

if two expressions **e1** and **e2** are equal  
and we have a third complicated expression **FOO (x)**  
then **FOO(e1)** is equal to **FOO (e2)**

**super useful** since we can do a small, local proof  
and then use it in a big program: **modularity!**

# The Workhorse: Substitution of Equals for Equals

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if two expressions  $e1$  and  $e2$  are equal  
and we have a third complicated expression  $FOO(x)$   
then  $FOO(e1)$  is equal to  $FOO(e2)$

An example: I know  $2+2 == 4$ .

I have a complicated expression:  $bar(foo(\underline{\quad})) * 34$

Then I also know that  $bar(foo(2+2)) * 34 == bar(foo(4)) * 34$ .

*If expressions contain things like mutable references, this proof principle breaks down. That's a big reason why I like functional programming and a big reason we are working primarily with pure expressions.*

# Important Properties of Expression Equality

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Other important properties:

**(reflexivity)** every expression  $e$  is equal to itself:  $e == e$

**(symmetry)** if  $e1 == e2$  then  $e2 == e1$

**(transitivity)** if  $e1 == e2$  and  $e2 == e3$  then  $e1 == e3$

**(evaluation)** if  $e1 \rightarrow e2$  then  $e1 == e2$ .

**(congruence, aka substitution of equals for equals)** if two expressions are equal, you can substitute one for the other inside any other expression:

– if  $e1 == e2$  then  $e[e1/x] == e[e2/x]$

# Function evaluation

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**If:**  $f == \text{fun } x \rightarrow e$

**and if:**  $a$  is a valuable expression

**then:**  $f\ a == e[a/x]$

we say, "by evaluation of  $f$ "


# **EASY EXAMPLES**



# Easy Examples

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Most of our proofs will use what we know about the substitution model of evaluation. Eg:

Given: let easy x y z = x \* (y + z)  a function definition

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18

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Given:  $\text{let easy } x \ y \ z = x * (y + z)$

Theorem:  $\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30 == 50$

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$\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30$  (left-hand side of equation)

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Theorem:  $\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30 == 50$

Proof:

$\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30$  (left-hand side of equation)  
 $== 1 * (20 + 30)$  (by evaluating easy 1 step) actually 3 steps

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Proof:

$\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30$	(left-hand side of equation)
$== 1 * (20 + 30)$	(by evaluating easy 1 step)
$== 50$	(by math)

QED.

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Most of our proofs will use what we know about the substitution model of evaluation. Eg:

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Proof:

$\text{easy } 1 \ 20 \ 30$	(left-hand side of equation)
$== 1 * (20 + 30)$	(by evaluating easy 1 step)
$== 50$	(by math)

notice the  
2-column  
proof style

facts go on the left

justifications on the right

QED.

# Easy Examples

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We can use *symbolic values* in in our proofs too. Eg:

Given:  $\text{let easy } x \ y \ z = x * (y + z)$

Theorem: **for all integers n and m**,  $\text{easy } 1 \ n \ m == n + m$

Proof:

$\text{easy } 1 \ n \ m$  (left-hand side of equation)

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Proof:

$\text{easy } 1 \ n \ m$  (left-hand side of equation)

When asked to prove something “for all  $n : t$ ”, one way to do that is to consider *arbitrary* elements  $n$  of that type  $t$ . In other words, all you get to assume is that you have an element of the given type. You don’t get to assume any extra properties of  $n$ .



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$== 1 * (n + m)$	(by evaluating easy)

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$== 1 * (n + m)$	(by evaluating easy)
$== n + m$	(by math)

QED.

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We can use *symbolic values* in in our proofs too. Eg:

Given:  $\text{let easy } x \ y \ z = x * (y + z)$

Theorem: **for all integers  $n, m, k$** ,  $\text{easy } k \ n \ m == \text{easy } k \ m \ n$

Proof:

$\text{easy } k \ n \ m$                       (left-hand side of equation)

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Proof:

$\text{easy } k \ n \ m$	(left-hand side of equation)
$== k * (n + m)$	(by evaluating easy)
$== k * (m + n)$	(by math, subst of equals for equals)

  
I'm not going to mention  
this from now on

# Easy Examples

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Proof:

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$== k * (n + m)$	(by evaluating easy)
$== k * (m + n)$	(by math)
$== \text{easy } k \ m \ n$	(by evaluating easy)

QED.

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Proof:

$\text{easy } k \ n \ m$

$== k * (n + m)$

$== k * (m + n)$

$== \text{easy } k \ m \ n$

QED.

(left-hand side of equation)

(eval)

(by math)

(eval)

substitution/  
evaluating/  
“eval”  
a definition

the reverse:  
“folding” a definition  
back up

## An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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One last thing: we sometimes find ourselves with a function, like `easy`, that has a symbolic argument like `k+1` for some `k` and we would like to evaluate it in our proof. eg:

```
easy x y (k+1)
== x * (y + (k+1))      (by evaluation of easy .... I hope)
```

However, that is not how OCaml evaluation works. OCaml evaluates its arguments to a *value* first, and then calls the function.

Don't worry: if you know that the expression *will* evaluate to a value (and will not infinite-loop or raise an exception) then you can substitute the symbolic expression for the parameter of the function

*To be rigorous, you should **prove** it will evaluate to a value, not just "know" ... but we won't require you prove that in this class ...*



# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( exp ) == 7` (By evaluation of const?)



does this work for any expression?

# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( n / 0 ) == 7` (By *careless, wrong!* proof)

# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( n / 0 ) == 7` (By *careless, wrong!* evaluation of `const`)



- `n / 0` raises an exception
- so `const (n / 0)` raises an exception
- but `7` is just `7` and doesn't raise an exception
- an expression that raises an exception is not equal to one that returns a value!

# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( exp ) == 7` (By evaluation of const?)



does this work for any expression *that doesn't raise an exception?*

# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( loop 0 ) == 7`    when `let rec loop(x:int) = loop x`    ?  
*more careless, wrong evaluation ...*

equations:

(1)  $(\text{fun } x \rightarrow e1) e2 == e1[e2/x]$

(2)  $(f e2) == e1[e2/x]$                       when `let rec f x = e1`

*and when  $e2$  evaluates to a value  
(not an exception or infinite loop)*

# An Aside: Symbolic Evaluation

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An interesting example:

```
let const x = 7
```

`const ( f 0 ) == 7`

when `let f i = print_endline "hello"; 6 in`  
?

equations:

(1) `(fun x -> e1) e2 == e1[e2/x]`

(2) `(f e2) == e1[e2/x]` when `let rec f x = e1`

*and when  $e_2$  evaluates to a value  
without side effects, raising an exception, or infinite loops*

# Summary so far: Proof by simple calculation

Some proofs are very easy and can be done by:

- eval definitions (ie: using forwards evaluation)
- using lemmas or facts we already know (eg: math)
- folding definitions back up (ie: using reverse evaluation)

Eg:

Definition:

let easy x y z = x \* (y + z)

Theorem: easy a b c == easy a c b

Proof:

easy a b c

== a \* (b + c) (by def of easy)

== a \* (c + b) (by math)

== easy a c b (by def of easy)



given this



we do this proof

# INDUCTIVE PROOFS



# A problem

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**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
  | n -> 2 * exp (n-1)
```

# A problem

42

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number).  
Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do  
our proof in two cases.

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let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
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43

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n = 0$ :**

$\text{exp } 0$

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
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**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n = 0$ :**

$\text{exp } 0$

$== \text{match } 0 \text{ with } 0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp } (n - 1) \quad (\text{by eval exp})$

# A problem

45

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
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```

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n = 0$ :**

```
exp 0  
== match 0 with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1) (by eval exp)  
== 1 (by evaluating match)  
== 2^0 (by math)
```

# A problem

46

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**  
 $\text{exp}(k+1)$

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
  | n -> 2 * exp (n-1)
```

# A problem

47

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

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let rec exp n =  
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```

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

$\text{exp}(k+1)$   
 $== \text{match}(k+1)$  with  $0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp}(n-1)$  (by eval exp)

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48

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
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```

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

$\text{exp}(k+1)$	
$== \text{match}(k+1) \text{ with } 0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp}(n-1)$	(by eval exp)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)



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**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

$\text{exp}(k+1)$	
$== \text{match}(k+1) \text{ with } 0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp}(n-1)$	(by eval exp)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)
$== ??$	

# A problem

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**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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let rec exp n =  
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**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

```
exp (k+1)  
== match (k+1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)      (by eval exp)  
== 2 * exp (k+1 - 1)                                   (by evaluating case)  
== 2 * (match (k+1-1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)) (by eval exp)
```

# A problem

51

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
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let rec exp n =  
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**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

```
exp (k+1)  
== match (k+1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)      (by eval exp)  
== 2 * exp (k+1 - 1)                                   (by evaluating case)  
== 2 * (match (k+1-1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)) (by eval exp)  
== 2 * (2 * exp ((k+1) - 1 - 1))                       (by evaluating case)
```

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**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

```
exp (k+1)  
== match (k+1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)      (by eval exp)  
== 2 * exp (k+1 - 1)                                   (by evaluating case)  
== 2 * (match (k+1-1) with 0 -> 1 | n -> 2 * exp (n -1)) (by eval exp)  
== 2 * (2 * exp ((k+1) - 1 - 1))                       (by evaluating case)  
== ... we aren't making progress ... just unrolling the loop forever ...
```

# Induction

When proving theorems about recursive functions, we usually need to use *induction*.

- In inductive proofs, in a case for object  $X$ , we assume that the theorem holds *for all objects smaller than  $X$* 
  - this assumption is called the *induction hypothesis* (IH for short)
- Eg: When proving a theorem about natural numbers by induction, and considering the case for natural number  $k+1$ , we get to assume our theorem is true for natural number  $k$  (because  $k$  is smaller than  $k+1$ )
- Eg: When proving a theorem about lists by induction, and considering the case for a list  $x::xs$ , we get to assume our theorem is true for the list  $xs$  (which is a shorter list than  $x::xs$ )

# Back to the Proof

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**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
  | n -> 2 * exp (n-1)
```

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+1$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

$\text{exp}(k+1)$	
$== \text{match}(k+1) \text{ with } 0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp}(n-1)$	(by eval exp)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)

# Back to the Proof

55

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

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let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
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$\text{exp}(k+1)$	
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$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k)$	(by math)

# Back to the Proof

56

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
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$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k)$	(by math)
$== 2 * 2^k$	(by IH!)



# Back to the Proof

57

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{exp}(n) == 2^n$ .

```
let rec exp n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> 1  
  | n -> 2 * exp (n-1)
```

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is either  $0$  or it is  $k+2$  (where  $k$  is also a natural number). Hence, we follow the structure of the data and do our proof in two cases.

**Proof:**

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

$\text{exp}(k+1)$	
$== \text{match}(k+1) \text{ with } 0 \rightarrow 1 \mid n \rightarrow 2 * \text{exp}(n-1)$	(by eval exp)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k+1 - 1)$	(by evaluating case)
$== 2 * \text{exp}(k)$	(by math)
$== 2 * 2^k$	(by IH!)
$== 2^{k+1}$	(by math)

QED!

# Another example

58

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:  $n == 0$ :**

...

**Case:  $n == k+1$ :**

...

# Another example

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

**Case:  $n == 0$ :**  
     $\text{even}(2*0)$   
 $==$

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

# Another example

60

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

**Case:  $n == 0$ :**

$\text{even}(2*0)$   
 $== \text{even}(0)$   
 $==$

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

(by math)

# Another example

61

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:  $n == 0$ :**

```
  even (2*0)  
== even (0)  
== match 0 of (0 -> true | 1 -> false | n -> even (n-2))  
== true
```

(by math)  
(by eval even)  
(by evaluation)

# Another example

62

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:**  $n == k+1$ :     **IH:**  $\text{even}(2*k) == \text{true}$   
     $\text{even}(2*(k+1))$   
     $==$

# Another example

63

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:**  $n == k+1$ : IH:  $\text{even}(2*k) == \text{true}$   
     $\text{even}(2*(k+1))$   
 $== \text{even}(2*k+2)$   
 $==$

(by math)

# Another example

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:**  $n == k+1$       **IH:**  $\text{even}(2*k) == \text{true}$

$\text{even}(2*(k+1))$   
 $== \text{even}(2*k+2)$  (by math)  
 $== \text{match } 2*k+2 \text{ with } (0 \rightarrow \text{true} \mid 1 \rightarrow \text{false} \mid n \rightarrow \text{even}(n-2))$  (by eval even)  
 $== \text{even}((2*k+2)-2)$  (by evaluation)  
 $== \text{even}(2*k)$  (by math)



# Another example

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ ,  
 $\text{even}(2*n) == \text{true}$ .

**Recall:** Every natural number  $n$  is  
either  $0$  or  $k+1$ , where  $k$  is also a  
natural number.

```
let rec even n =  
  match n with  
  | 0 -> true  
  | 1 -> false  
  | n -> even (n-2)
```

**Case:**  $n == k+1$       **IH:**  $\text{even}(2*k) == \text{true}$

$\text{even}(2*(k+1))$   
 $== \text{even}(2*k+2)$  (by math)  
 $== \text{match } 2*k+2 \text{ with } (0 \rightarrow \text{true} \mid 1 \rightarrow \text{false} \mid n \rightarrow \text{even}(n-2))$  (by eval even)  
 $== \text{even}((2*k+2)-2)$  (by evaluation)  
 $== \text{even}(2*k)$  (by math)  
 $== \text{true}$  (by IH)  
QED.

# Template for Inductive Proofs on Natural Numbers

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ , property of  $n$ .

**Proof:** By induction on natural numbers  $n$ .

proof methodology.  
write this down.

**Case:**  $n == 0$ :

...

**Case:**  $n == k+1$ : IH:  $\dots(k)\dots$

...

justifications to use:

- simple math
- eval, reverse eval, "by def"
- IH

cases must  
cover all  
natural  
numbers

# Template for Inductive Proofs on Natural Numbers

67

**Theorem:** For all natural numbers  $n$ , property of  $n$ .

**Proof:** By induction on natural numbers  $n$ .

Case:  $n == 0$ :

...

Case:  $n == k+1$ : IH:  $\dots(k)\dots$

...

cases must  
cover all  
natural  
numbers



Note there are other ways to cover all natural numbers:

- eg: case for **0**, case for **1**, case for  **$k+2$**

# **PROOFS ABOUT LIST-PROCESSING FUNCTIONS**

# A Couple of Useful Functions

69

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

70

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof strategy:**

- Proof by **induction on the list  $xs$** 
  - recall, a list may be of these two things:
    - **$[]$**  (the empty list)
    - **$hd::tl$**  (a non-empty list, where  $tl$  is shorter)
  - a proof must cover both cases:  **$[]$**  and  **$hd :: tl$**
  - in the second case, you will often use the **induction hypothesis** on the smaller list  **$tl$**
  - otherwise as before:
    - use folding/eval of OCaml definitions
    - use your knowledge of OCaml evaluation
    - use lemmas/properties you know of basic operations like  **$::$**  and  **$+$**

# Proofs About Lists

71

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = []$ :

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

72

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

**case**  $xs = []$ :

$\text{length}(\text{cat } [] \text{ } ys)$  (LHS of theorem)

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```



# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

**case**  $xs = []$ :

$\text{length}(\text{cat } [] \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length } ys$	(evaluate cat)

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

**case**  $xs = []$ :

$\text{length}(\text{cat } [] \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length } ys$	(evaluate cat)
$= 0 + (\text{length } ys)$	(arithmetic)

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

**case**  $xs = []$ :

$\text{length}(\text{cat } [] \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length } ys$	(evaluate cat)
$= 0 + (\text{length } ys)$	(arithmetic)
$= (\text{length } []) + (\text{length } ys)$	(eval length)

**case done!**

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

76

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

77

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

IH:  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
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let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
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# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

IH:  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl} \text{ } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

$\text{length}(\text{cat}(\text{hd}::\text{tl}) \text{ } ys)$  (LHS of theorem)

$==$

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

IH:  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

$\text{length}(\text{cat } (\text{hd}::\text{tl}) \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length}(\text{hd} :: (\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys))$	(evaluate cat, take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$=$	

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

80

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

**IH:**  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

$\text{length}(\text{cat } (\text{hd}::\text{tl}) \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length}(\text{hd} :: (\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys))$	(evaluate $\text{cat}$ , take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$= 1 + \text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys)$	(evaluate $\text{length}$ , take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$=$	

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```



# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

**IH:**  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

$\text{length}(\text{cat } (\text{hd}::\text{tl}) \text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$== \text{length}(\text{hd} :: (\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys))$	(evaluate cat, take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$== 1 + \text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } \text{ } ys)$	(evaluate length, take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$== 1 + (\text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys)$	(by IH)
$==$	

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

82

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = \text{hd}::\text{tl}$

**IH:**  $\text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } ys) = \text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys$

$\text{length}(\text{cat}(\text{hd}::\text{tl})\text{ } ys)$	(LHS of theorem)
$= \text{length}(\text{hd} :: (\text{cat } \text{tl } ys))$	(evaluate $\text{cat}$ , take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$= 1 + \text{length}(\text{cat } \text{tl } ys)$	(evaluate $\text{length}$ , take 2 <sup>nd</sup> branch)
$= 1 + (\text{length } \text{tl} + \text{length } ys)$	(by IH)
$= \text{length}(\text{hd}::\text{tl}) + \text{length } ys$	(reparenthesizing and evaling $\text{length}$ in reverse we have RHS with $\text{hd}::\text{tl}$ for $xs$ )

**case done!**

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

# Proofs About Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$  and  $ys$ ,

$$\text{length}(\text{cat } xs \text{ } ys) = \text{length } xs + \text{length } ys$$

**Proof strategy:**

- Proof by **induction on the list  $xs$ ? why not on the list  $ys$ ?**
  - answering that question, may be the hardest part of the proof!
  - it tells you how to split up your cases
  - sometimes you just need to do some trial and error

```
let rec length xs =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> 0  
  | x::xs -> 1 + length xs
```

```
let rec cat xs1 xs2 =  
  match xs1 with  
  | [] -> xs2  
  | hd::tl -> hd :: cat tl xs2
```

a clue:  
pattern matching  
on first argument.  
In the theorem:  
**cat xs ys**  
Hence induction  
on  $xs$ . Case split  
the same way  
as the program

## Another List example

86

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> []  
  | hd::tl -> (hd+c)::add_all tl c
```

# Another List example

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

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let rec add_all xs c =  
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```

# Another List example

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = []$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } [] \ a) \ b && \text{(LHS of theorem)} \\ == & \end{aligned}$$

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> []  
  | hd::tl -> (hd+c)::add_all tl c
```

# Another List example

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

**case**  $xs = []$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } [] \ a) \ b && \text{(LHS of theorem)} \\ == & \text{add\_all } [] \ b && \text{(by evaluation of add\_all)} \\ == & && \end{aligned}$$

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> []  
  | hd::tl -> (hd+c)::add_all tl c
```

# Another List example

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = []$ :

$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } [] \ a) \ b$	(LHS of theorem)
$== \text{add\_all } [] \ b$	(by evaluation of $\text{add\_all}$ )
$== []$	(by evaluation of $\text{add\_all}$ )
$==$	

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
  match xs with  
  | [] -> []  
  | hd::tl -> (hd+c)::add_all tl c
```



# Another List example

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = []$ :

$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } [] \ a) \ b$	(LHS of theorem)
$== \text{add\_all } [] \ b$	(by evaluation of $\text{add\_all}$ )
$== []$	(by evaluation of $\text{add\_all}$ )
$== \text{add\_all } [] \ (a + b)$	(by evaluation of $\text{add\_all}$ )

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
  match xs with  
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**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ ,

$$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } xs \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } xs \ (a+b)$$

**Proof:** By induction on  $xs$ .

case  $xs = hd :: tl$ :

IH:  $\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all } tl \ a) \ b == \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$

$\text{add\_all} (\text{add\_all} (hd :: tl) \ a) \ b$  (LHS of theorem)

$==$

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$== (hd+a+b) :: \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$	(by IH)

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$== (hd+a+b) :: \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$	(by IH)
$== (hd+(a+b)) :: \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$	(associativity of <code>+</code> )

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$== (hd+a+b) :: \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$	(by IH)
$== (hd+(a+b)) :: \text{add\_all } tl \ (a+b)$	(associativity of $+$ )
$== \text{add\_all} (hd::tl) \ (a+b)$	(by (reverse) eval of $\text{add\_all}$ )

```
let rec add_all xs c =  
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```

# Template for Inductive Proofs on Lists

**Theorem:** For all lists  $xs$ , property of  $xs$ .

**Proof:** By induction on lists  $xs$ .

Case:  $xs == []$ :

...

Case:  $xs == hd :: tl$ :

IH:  $\dots(tl)\dots$

...

cases must  
cover all  
lists

Note there are other ways to cover all lists:

- eg: case for  $[]$ , case for  $x1::[]$ , case for  $x1::x2::tl$



# Template for Inductive Proofs on *any datatype*

type ty = A of ... | B of ... | C of ... | D ;;

**Theorem:** For all ty x, property of x.

**Proof:** By induction on the constructors of ty.

Case:  $x == A(\dots)$ :

... IH ? *[zero or more induction hyps]*

Case:  $x == B(\dots)$ :

... IH ? *[zero or more induction hyps]*

Case:  $x == C(\dots)$ :

... IH ? *[zero or more induction hyps]*

Case:  $x == D$ :

...



cases must cover all the constructors of the datatype

# SUMMARY

# Summary

Proofs about programs are structured similarly to the programs:

- types tell you the kinds of values your proofs/programs operate over
- types suggest how to break down proofs/programs in to cases
- when programs that use recursion on smaller values, their proofs appeal to the inductive hypothesis on smaller values

Key proof ideas:

- two expressions that evaluate to the same value are equal
- substitute equals for equals
- use calculation (evaluation) to reason about simple equalities
- use well-established axioms about primitives (+, -, %, etc)
- use proof by induction to prove correctness of recursive functions