



# Functional Code

15-150 M21

Lecture 0524  
24 May 2021

Friday's slogan:

*Computation is evaluation*

Today's slogan:

*Computation is typed evaluation*

**0 Compile Time**

## Another way Person 2 could be unhelpful

**Person 1:** Hey, do you know what  $2^{17}$  is?

**Person 2:** Yeah, it's banana.

Here, Person 2 is just saying nonsense. Clearly, 'banana' is not the correct answer to what  $2^{17}$  is.

**Moral:** Queries like "what is  $2^{17}$ ?" also come with implicit constraints on what *kind of thing* the answer is allowed to be. Note that 'banana' might be a value, it's just not the proper *type* of value.

sm1nj REPL

## Key Point

SML is **strongly-typed**: every expression we want to evaluate *must* have a **type**.

# Demonstration: Typechecking



- `int` is a type
- Each integer literal is a **value** of type `int`. `0 : int`, `17 : int`, `~23 : int`, etc.
- If `e : int`, then `~e : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 + e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 * e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 - e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 div e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 mod e2) : int`

- `string` is a type
- Each string literal is a **value** of type `string`. So `"hello" : string`, `"" : string`, `"mwef8892 cjqq" : string`, etc.
- If `e1 : string` and `e2 : string`, then `(e1 ^ e2) : string`
- If `e : int`, then `Int.toString(e) : string`

- `bool` is a type
- There are exactly two values of type `bool`, namely `true : bool` and `false : bool`.
- If `e : bool`, then `(not e) : bool`.
- If `e1 : bool` and `e2 : bool`, then `(e1 or else e2) : bool` and `(e1 and also e2) : bool`.
- If `t` is any type and `e1 : t` and `e2 : t` and `b : bool`, then
$$(if\ b\ then\ e1\ else\ e2) : t$$
- If `e1` and `e2` are expressions of type `int` (or `string`, `bool`, some other types), then
$$(e1 = e2) : bool$$

## Check Your Understanding

- Is this expression well-typed? If so, what's its type? What happens when you evaluate it?

```
(if true then 5+5 else 7) = 1
```

- Is this expression well-typed? If so, what's its type? What happens when you evaluate it?

```
if (3+3)=6 then "red" else 42
```

- Is this expression well-typed? If so, what's its type? What happens when you evaluate it?

```
1 div 0
```

More often than not, inconsistent typing is a bug

A good tool enables you to do what you want; a *smart* tool prevents you from doing what you *shouldn't*

# Important notes about typechecking

- Recursive: The type of an expression is determined by the types of its sub-expressions
- Static: We do not evaluate the code when typechecking

Disallows:

```
def foo(x):  
    if (x==2): return "a"  
    else: return 3
```

The type of `foo(v)` depends on the *value* of `v`

The execution of SML code happens in two steps:

- Compile Time: Syntax- and Type-checking
- Runtime: Evaluation

# 1 Runtime



If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are types, then  $T_1 * T_2$  is a type – the *product type* of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$

**Pair Rule** If  $e_1 : T_1$  and  $e_2 : T_2$ , then  $(e_1, e_2) : T_1 * T_2$

To evaluate  $(e_1, e_2)$ :

- 1 Evaluate  $e_1$  down to some value  $v_1$  (if possible)
- 2 Evaluate  $e_2$  down to some value  $v_2$  (if possible)
- 3 The value of  $(e_1, e_2)$  is  $(v_1, v_2)$

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- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 * e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 - e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 div e2) : int`
- If `e1 : int` and `e2 : int`, then `(e1 mod e2) : int`
- If `P : int * int`, then `(Int.max P) : int`
- If `P : int * int`, then `(Int.min P) : int`

# Demonstration: Evaluation

sm1nj REPL: val declarations

Often it's helpful to give names to particular values, to be able to refer to them later.

```
val x : t = e
```

What SML does with this syntax:

- 1 (Compile Time) Checks that  $e$  is a well-typed expression of type  $t$
- 2 (Runtime) Evaluates  $e$
- 3 (Runtime) *If evaluating  $e$  results in a value (call it  $v$ ), SML **binds** the value  $v$  to the variable name  $x$ .*

We denote such a binding with the notation  $[v/x]$ . Note this is not valid SML syntax, but mathematical notation *about* SML.

Each valid `val` declaration adds a **binding** to the **environment**

To evaluate an expression containing variable names, we substitute in for each variable the **most recent binding** to that variable in the environment

**Moral: Don't shadow!**

```
val x : int = let
    val y = 2
    val z = y * y
  in
    3 + z
  end
```

[7/x] is added to the environment, but [2/y] and [4/z] are not.



## Check Your Understanding

What value gets bound to `z` as a result of this code?

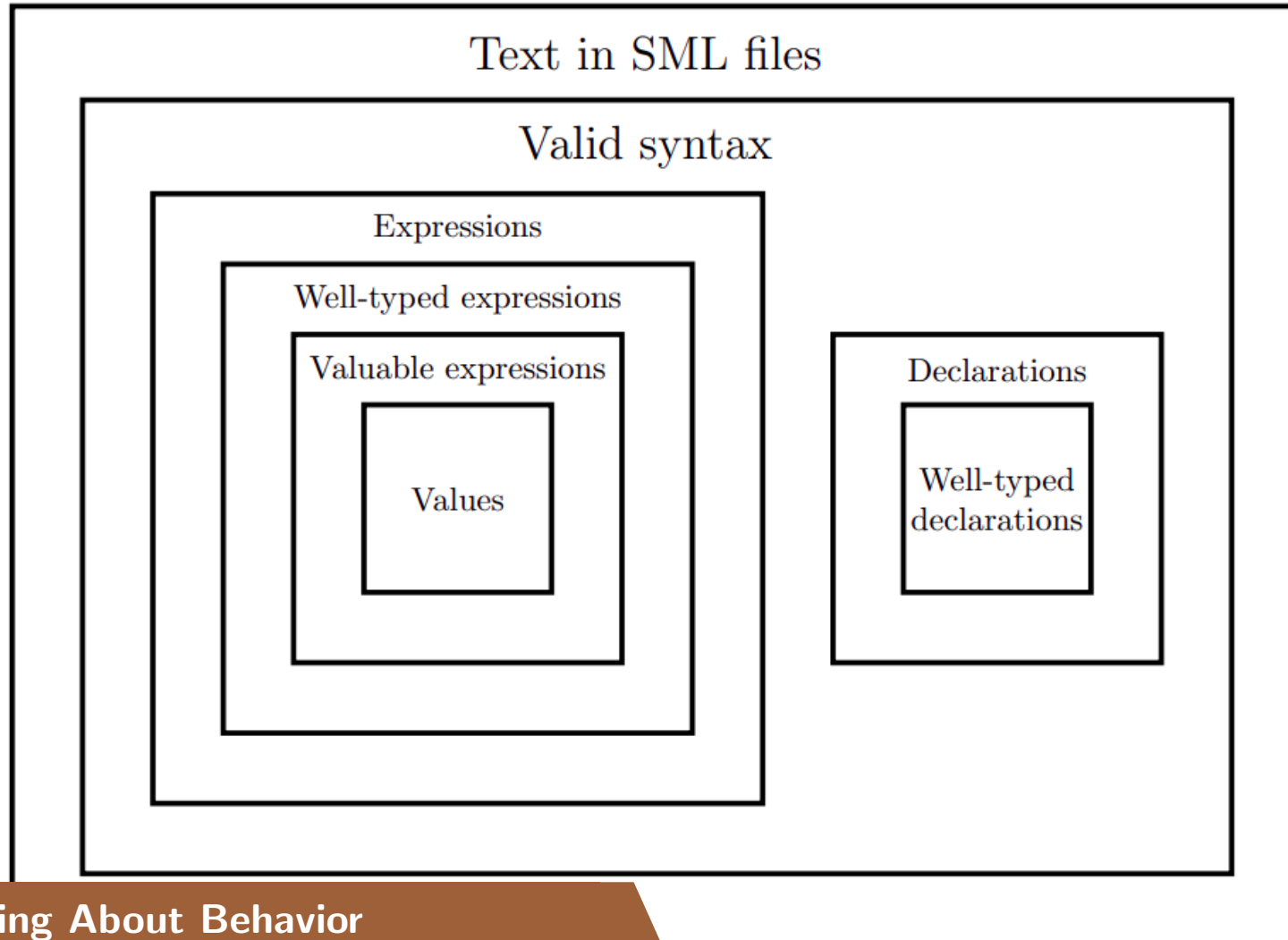
```
val z = let
    val y = let
        val z = 2
        in
            z * z
        end
    val z = y + y
    val y = 5
in
    y - z
end
```

**5-minute break**

# 2 Reasoning About Behavior

**Claim** For every well-typed expression  $e$ , exactly one of the following holds:

- $e \implies v$  for some value  $v$
- the evaluation of  $e$  raises some exception
- the evaluation of  $e$  loops forever



Two expressions  $e$  and  $e'$  are *equivalent* if they have the same runtime behavior.

- Defn.** Two well-typed expressions  $e$  and  $e'$  are said to be **extensionally equivalent** (written  $e \cong e'$ ) if they have the same type and either:
- there is some value  $v$  such that  $e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $e' \hookrightarrow v$
  - the evaluation of  $e$  and  $e'$  both raise the *same* exception
  - the evaluation of both  $e$  and  $e'$  loop forever

- $\cong$  is an equivalence relation
- If  $e1 \implies e2$ , then  $e1 \cong e2$ .

**Check Your Understanding:** Does  $e1 \cong e2$  imply  $e1 \implies e2$ ?

No (e.g.  $5 \cong 4+1$  but  $5 \not\implies 4+1$ )

Extensionally-equivalent expressions are interchangeable: if  $e \cong e'$ , then any instance of  $e$  in a piece of SML code can be replaced with  $e'$ , without changing the behavior of the overall code.

This is useful because it allows us to swap out parts of code with better implementations without affecting the surrounding code.



# 3 Function Application

Recall this expression from the previous lecture:

```
exp 17
```

Of course, `17` is a value of type `int`. But we need to say what type of expression `exp` is, and how that determines the type of `(exp 17)`.

If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are types, then  $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$  is a type: the type of **functions** from  $T_1$  to  $T_2$ .

**Application Rule** If  $f : T_1 \rightarrow T_2$  and  $e : T_1$ , then

$$(f \ e) : T_2$$

- `~ : int -> int`
- `exp : int -> int`
- `Int.toString : int -> string`

Some functions of type  $(T1 * T2) \rightarrow T3$  are written in *infix* position (between its arguments) instead of *prefix* position. In SML, the `op` keyword turns infix functions into prefix ones.

```
(op +)      : int * int -> int
(op * )     : int * int -> int
(op -)      : int * int -> int
(op div)    : int * int -> int
(op >)      : int * int -> bool
(op =)      : int * int -> bool
(op =)      : string * string -> bool
```

- Expressions must be well-typed in order to be evaluated
- Syntax & Type checking happen at compile time, which is before runtime, when evaluation occurs
- We can reason mathematically about runtime using bindings,  $\implies$ , and  $\cong$
- Functions are expressions that can be applied to other (appropriately-typed) expressions

- Functions and closures
- Pattern Matching
- Recursion

Thank you!