

Elements of Programming Languages

Tutorial 5: Modules and Objects

Solution notes

1. Subtyping and Contravariance

- (a) `f` could call its function argument on any `Shape`, e.g. either `Circle` or `Rectangle`. Thus, calling `f` on a function of type `Rectangle => Int` is not allowed, because `Rectangle => Int` is not a subtype of `Shape => Int`. If this call was executed, then `f` could call its argument on a `Circle`, which would not match the expected `Rectangle` argument type.
- (b) `g` can only call its function argument on a `Circle`. Thus, calling `g` on a function of type `Shape => Int` is allowed, because `Shape => Int` is a subtype of `Circle => Int`. If we execute this call, then whatever `g` does with its function argument will be fine, since the expected type of the function argument is `Shape`, so it can handle any particular type of shape such as `Circle`.

2. Modules and Interfaces in Scala

- (a) The components are accessed as follows:

```
A.c A.d A.f B.c B.d B.f
```

- (b) After the two import statements, `d` refers to the string value `B.d = "1234"` since this was the most recent import. If we import in the opposite order it refers to `A.d = 2`.
- (c) The trait should be something like:

```
trait ABlike {  
  type T  
  val c: T  
  val d: T  
  def f(x: T, y: T): T  
}
```

- (d)

```
def g(x: ABlike) = x.f(x.c, x.d)
```

According to the Scala interpreter the return type is `x.T`.

- (e)

```
g(new ABlike{  
  type T = Boolean  
  val c = true  
  val d = false  
  def f(x: T, y: T) = x && y  
})
```

3. Type parameters

- (a)

```
abstract class Tree[A]  
case class Leaf[A](a: A) extends Tree[A]  
case class Node[A](t1: Tree[A], t2: Tree[A]) extends Tree[A]
```

(b)

```
def sum(t: Tree[Int]) : Int = t match {
  case Leaf(a) => a
  case Node(t1,t2) => sum(t1) + sum(t2)
}
```

(c)

```
def map[A,B](t: Tree[A])(f: A => B): Tree[B] = t match {
  case Leaf(a) => Leaf(f(a))
  case Node(t1,t2) => Node(map(t1)(f), map(t2)(f))
}
```

(d)

```
def flatten[A](t: Tree[Tree[A]]): Tree[A] = t match {
  Leaf(u) => u
  Node(t1,t2) => Node(flatten(t1), flatten(t2))
}
```

(e)

```
def flatMap(t: Tree[A])(f: A => Tree[B]) = flatten(map(t)(f))
```

4. (*) Ad hoc polymorphism

(a)

```
abstract class List[A] extends HasSize
case class Nil[A]() extends List[A] {
  def size() = 0
}
case class Cons[A](head: A, tail: List[A]) extends List[A] {
  def size() = tail.size() + 1
}
```

(b)

```
abstract class Tree[A] extends HasSize
case class Leaf[A](a: A) extends Tree[A] {
  def size() = 1
}
case class Node[A](t1: Tree[A], t2: Tree[A]) extends Tree[A] {
  def size() = t1.size() + t2.size()
}
```

(c)

```
def sameSize(x: HasSize, y: HasSize) = x.size() == y.size()
```

```
scala> sameSize(Cons(1,Nil()), Leaf("abc"))
res2: Boolean = true
```
