What properties to encode in datatypes are often discovered only gradually during program development. Ornamentation suggests a way of supporting incremental specification of precise datatypes to match our development patterns.

In modern dependently typed languages like Agda, datatypes can be specified such that their elements satisfy certain properties by construction. Consequently, programs constructing those data elements satisfy these properties, and can be specified such that their construction is manifestly correct without need for separate proofs, since being able to construct the data implies that the properties are indeed established.

About the author
Hsiang-Shang ‘Josh’ Ko (柯向上) is a DPhil student at Oxford, supervised by Professor Jeremy Gibbons and working on modularity issues in dependently typed programming. He did his undergraduate degree at National Taiwan University, Taiwan.

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