University of Kansas | Drew Davidson

CONSTRUCTION ...

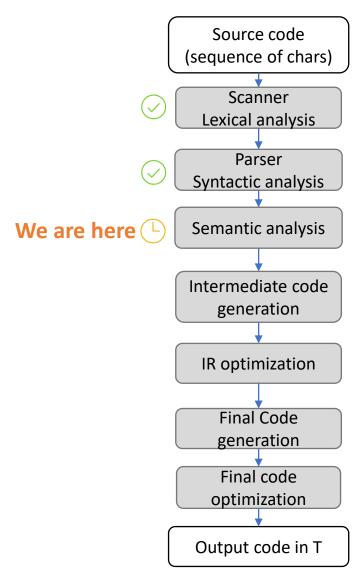
Parameters

Compiler Construction: Progress

You are here

Continuing exploration of language semantic features

 Informs design/behavior of our semantic analysis



Last Time Lecture Review – Error Checking

The Limits of Error Checking

Halting problem

Partial Correctness

- Partial Correctness
- Soundness
- Completeness



Today's Outline Parameters

Vocabulary

- Ival/rval
- Memory references
- Calls

Parameter Passing

- Call by value
- Call by reference
- Call by name
- Call by value-result



Semantics

Vocabulary Parameters

- Define a couple of terms that are helpful to talk about parameters
 - We already encountered some of these in passing



Land R Values

Parameters

- L-Value
 - A value with a place of storage
- R-Value
 - A value that may not have storage

Bad Use of R-Values Parameters

- Can prevent programs that are valid in pass by value from working in pass by reference
 - Literals (for example) do not have locations in memory
- The type checker should catch these errors.

Memory References Parameters

- Pointer
 - A variable whose value is a memory address
- Aliasing
 - When two or more variables reference the same address



Caller

• The *source* function initiating the call

Callee

 The target function receiving the call

Call Site

 The location within the caller where the call happens





Caller

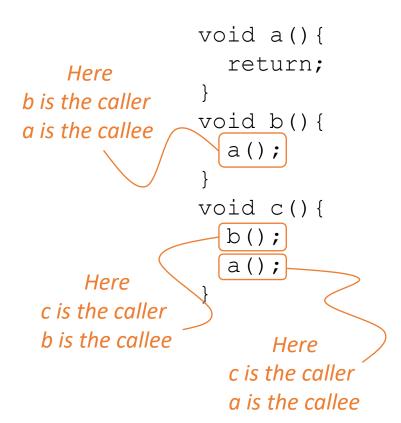
The source function initiating the call

Callee

 The target function receiving the call

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 The location within the caller where the call happens



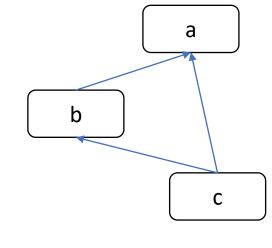
Call Chains Parameters

Call Graph

- A node-based representation of possible call structure
 - Edge: caller -> callee

Call chain

 A realizable path of calls (c,b,a)



```
void a() {
    return;
}
void b() {
    a();
}
void c() {
    b();
    a();
}
```

Arguments Parameters

• In definition:

void v(int a, int b, bool c) { ... }

- Terms
 - Formals / formal parameters / parameters
- In call:

- Terms
 - Actuals / actual parameters / arguments



Parameter Passing Schemes Parameters

- We'll talk about some different varieties
 - Some of these are more used than others.
 - Each has advantages / uses

Pass by Value Parameters

- On function call
 - Values of actuals are copied into the formals
 - C and java <u>always</u> pass by value

```
void fun(int a) {
    int a = 1;
}
void main() {
    int i = 0;
    fun(i);
    print(i);
}
```

Pass by Reference Parameters

- On function call
 - The address of the actuals are implicitly copied

```
void fun(int a) {
    a = 1;
}
void main() {
    int i = 0;
    fun(i);
    print(i);
}
```

Language Examples Parameters

- Pass by value
 - C, Java, C#
- Pass by reference
 - Allowed in C++ and Pascal

Java and C# Are Pass by Value?! Parameters

All non-primitive L-values are references

```
void fun(int a, Point p) {
   a = 0;
   p.x = 5;
void main() {
   int i = 0;
   Point k = new Point(1, 2);
   fun(i,k);
```

Pass by Value-Result Parameters



- When function is called
 - Value of actual is passed
- When function returns
 - Final values are copied back to the actuals
- Used by Fortran IV, Ada
 - As the language examples show, not very modern

Pass by Name Parameters



- Conceptually works as follows:
 - When a function is called
 - Body of the callee is rewritten with the text of the argument
 - Only really makes sense with non-local scope rules
 - Like macros in C / C++

