# Chapter 8 Polymorphism 多友性

Chapter Eight

#### Introduction

- Compare these function types
- The ML function is more flexible, since it can be applied to any pair of the same (equality-testable) type

```
int f(char a, char b) {
C:    return a==b;
}

ML:    - fun f(a, b) = (a = b);
val f = fn : (''a)* ''a -> bool
```

Functions with that extra flexibility are called polymorphic



# Overloading

- An overloaded function name or operator is one that has at least two definitions, all of different types
- Many languages have overloaded operators
- Some also allow the programmer to define new overloaded function names and operators

3

# Predefined Overloaded Operators

```
ML: val x = 1+2; 可以连接两种以上。数据类型 val y = 1.0+2.0;
```

```
Pascal: a := 1 + 2;
b := 1.0 + 2.0;
c := "hello " + "there";
d := ['a'...'d'] + ['f']
```

# Adding to Overloaded Operators

■ Some languages, like C++, allow additional meanings to be defined for operators

```
class complex {
    double rp, ip; // real part, imaginary part
    public:
        complex(double r, double i) {rp=r; ip=i;}
    friend complex operator+(complex, complex);
    friend complex operator*(complex, complex);
};

void f(complex a, complex b, complex c) {
    complex d = a + b * c;
    ...
}
```

Operator Overloading in C++

- C++ allows virtually all operators to be 知道がある。 overloaded, including:

```
the usual operators (+,-,*,/,%,^,&,|,~,!,=,<,>,
+=,-=,=,*=,/=,%=,^=,&=,|=,<<,>>,>>=,<<=,==,
!=,<=,>=,&&,||,++,--,->*,,)
```

- dereferencing (\*p and p->x)
- subscripting (a[i])
- function call (f(a,b,c))
- allocation and deallocation (new and delete)

# **Defining Overloaded Functions**

■ Some languages, like C++, permit the programmer to overload function names

```
int square(int x) {
   return x*x;
}

double square(double x) {
   return x*x;
}
```

7

# To Eliminate Overloading

```
int square(int x) {
  return x*x;
}

double square(double x) {
  return x*x;
}

void f() {
  int a = square(3);
  double b = square(3.0);
}
You could rename each overloaded definition uniquely...
```

## How to Eliminate Overloading

```
int square i(int x) {
  return x*x;
}
double square d(double x) {
  return x*x;
}
void f() {
  int a = square i(3);
  double b = square d(3.0);
}
```

Then rename each reference properly (depending on the parameter types)

# Implementing Overloading

- Compilers usually implement overloading in that same way:
  - Create a set of monomorphic functions, one for each definition

    Invent a mangled name for each, encoding the
  - type information
  - Have each reference use the appropriate mangled name, depending on the parameter types

# Example: C++ Implementation

Parameter Coercion 多数模

A coercion is an implicit type conversion, supplied automatically even if the programmer leaves it out

```
Explicit type double x; conversion in Java: x = (double) 2;

Coercion in Java: double x; x = 2;
```

12

#### **Parameter Coercion**

- Languages support different coercions in different contexts: assignments, other binary operations, unary operations, parameters...
- When a language supports coercion of parameters on a function call (or of operands when an operator is applied), the resulting function (or operator) is polymorphic

13

#### Example: Java

### **Defining Coercions**

- Language definitions often take many pages to define exactly which coercions are performed
- Some languages, especially some older languages like Algol 68 and PL/I, have very extensive powers of coercion
- Some, like ML, have none
- Most, like Java, are somewhere in the middle

15

# Coercion and Overloading: Tricky Interactions

- There are potentially tricky interactions between overloading and coercion
  - Overloading uses the types to choose the definition
  - Coercion uses the definition to choose a type conversion

### Example

- Suppose that, like C++, a language is willing to coerce **char** to **int** or to **double**
- Which square gets called for square ('a') ?

```
int square(int x) {
  return x*x;
}
double square(double x) {
  return x*x;
}
```

17

# Example

- Suppose that, like C++, a language is willing to coerce **char** to **int**
- Which f gets called for f('a', 'b')?

```
void f(int x, char y) {
    ...
}
void f(char x, int y) {
    ...
}
```

#### Example

- Consider an unknown language with integer and real types in which 1+2, 1.0+2, 1+2.0 and 1.0+2.0 are all legal expressions.
  - Result of coercion without overloading:
    The operator applies only to pairs of real numbers. All integers are coerced to real before the operator is applied.
  - Result of overloading without coercion:
    The operator has four types: int\*int->int,
    int\*real->real, real\*int->real and
    real\*real->real. No coercion is performed.

### Example

- Consider an unknown language with integer and real types in which 1+2, 1.0+2, 1+2.0 and 1.0+2.0 are all legal expressions.
  - Result of coercion and overloading:
    The operator has two types: int\*int->int and real\*real->real. When the operands are of mixed types, the int is coerced to real before applying the real\*real->real operator.



# Parametric Polymorphism

- A function exhibits parametric polymorphism if it has a type that contains one or more type variables
- A type with type variables is a *polytype*
- Found in languages including ML, C++, Ada, and Java

2

#### Example: C++ Function Templates

Using a C++ template to define a polymorphic function called max.

```
template<class X> X max(X a, X b) {
  return a>b ? a : b;
  type variable

void g(int a, int b, char c, char d) {
  int m1 = max(a,b); // int * int -> int
  char m2 = max(c,d); // char * char -> char
}

Note that > can be overloaded, so X is not
```

*limited to types for which* > *is predefined.* 

# **Example: ML Functions**

```
- fun identity x = x;
val identity = fn : 'a -> 'a
- identity 3;
val it = 3 : int
- identity "hello";
val it = "hello" : string
- fun reverse x =
= if null x then nil
= else (reverse (tl x)) @ [(hd x)];
val reverse = fn : 'a list -> 'a list
```

23

# Implementing Parametric Polymorphism

- One extreme: many copies
  - Create a set of monomorphic implementations, one for each type parameter the compiler sees
    - May create many similar copies of the code
    - Each one can be optimized for individual types

```
template<class X> X
max(X a, X b) {
  return a>b ? a : b;
}
```

```
int max(int a, int b) {
  return a>b ? a : b;
}
```

```
char max(char a, char b) {
  return a>b ? a : b;
}
```

# Implementing Parametric Polymorphism

- The other extreme: one copy
  - Create one implementation, and use it for all
    - True universal polymorphism: only one copy
    - Can't be optimized for individual types
- Many variations in between

25

### Subtype Polymorphism

- A function or operator exhibits subtype polymorphism if one or more of its parameter types have subtypes
- Important source of polymorphism in languages with a rich structure of subtypes
- Especially object-oriented languages: we'll see more when we look at Java

#### Example: Pascal

```
A subtype of the type Day
type
  Day = (Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun);
  Weekday = Mon..Fri;
function nextDay(D: Day): Day;
  begin
    if D=Sun then nextDay:=Mon else nextDay:=D+1
  end;
procedure p(D: Day; W: Weekday);
  begin
    D := nextDay(D);
    D := nextDay(W)
                          Subtype polymorphism:
  end;
                          nextDay can be called with
                          a subtype parameter
                                                      27
```

# Example: Java

Define a Java class called **Car** with a function called **break**.

```
class Car {
  void brake() { ... }
}
```

ManualCar is a subtype of Car.

```
class ManualCar extends Car
{
  void clutch() { ... }
}
```

Define a Java class called **ManualCar** with an extra function called **clutch**.

```
void g(Car z) {
  z.brake();
}
void f(Car x, ManualCar y) {
  g(x);
  g(y);
}
```

Function **g** has an unlimited number of types—one for every class we define that is a subtype of **Car** That's subtype polymorphism

# Example

- Consider an unknown language with integer and real types in which 1+2, 1.0+2, 1+2.0 and 1.0+2.0 are all legal expressions.
  - Result of subtype polymorphism, with no overloading or coercion:

The language treats int as a subtype of real: an int is a real numbers for which the fractional part is zero. It uses the same representation for both. There is a single multiplication operator and type conversion at runtime.

29

### Questions?