# CS2510 Modern Programming Languages

Lecture 6
Data Types

# **Topics**

- Introduction
- Primitive Data Types
- Character String Types
- User-Defined Ordinal Types
- Array Types
- Associative Arrays
- Record Types
- Tuple Types
- List Types
- Union Types
- Pointer and Reference Types
- Type Checking
- Strong Typing
- Type Equivalence
- Theory and Data Types

#### Introduction

- Data type defines a collection of data objects and a set of predefined operations on those objects
- Descriptor: collection of attributes of a variable
- Object: an instance of a user-defined (abstract data) type

Design issue for all data types:

- What operations are defined?
- How are operations specified?

#### **Primitive Data Types**

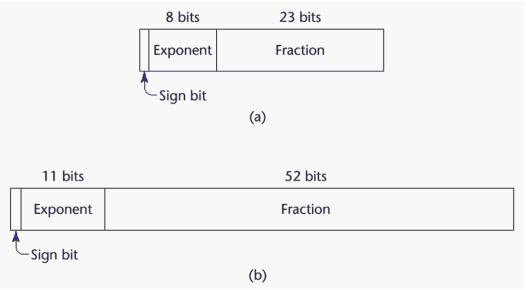
- Almost all programming languages provide a set of primitive data types
- Primitive data types: not defined in terms of other data types
- Some primitive data types come from hardware
- Others require only a little non-hardware support for their implementation

#### **Primitive Data Types: Integer**

- Almost always an exact reflection of the hardware
  - Mapping is trivial
- As many as 8 different integer types in some languages
- Java's signed integer types:
  - byte,
  - short,
  - int,
  - long

# **Primitive Data Types: Floating Point**

- Represent real numbers
  - Only an approximation!
- Scientific languages support at least 2 floatingpoint types (sometimes more)
  - E.g., float and double
- Usually exactly like the hardware, but not always
- IEEE Floating-Point
   Standard 754



# **Primitive Data Types: Complex**

- Some languages (Python) support complex type
- Each value consists of two floating-point values
  - Real part
  - Imaginary part
- Literal form (in Python):

$$(7 + 3j)$$

where 7 is the real part and 3 is the imaginary part

# **Primitive Data Types: Decimal**

- For business applications (money)
  - Essential to COBOL
  - C# offers a decimal data type
- Store a fixed number of decimal digits, in coded form (BCD)
- Advantage: accuracy
- Disadvantages: limited range, wastes memory

#### **Primitive Data Types: Boolean**

- Simplest of all
- Range of values:
  - Two elements, one for "true" and one for "false"
- Could be implemented as bits, but often as bytes
- Advantage: readability

#### **Primitive Data Types: Character**

- Stored as numeric codings
- Most commonly used coding: ASCII
- An alternative, 16-bit coding: Unicode (UCS-2)
  - Includes characters from most natural languages
  - Originally used in Java
  - C# and JavaScript also support Unicode
- 32-bit Unicode (UCS-4)
  - Supported by Fortran (from 2003 onwards)

#### **Character String Types**

- Values are sequences of characters
- Design issues:
  - Is it a primitive type or just a special kind of array?
  - Should the length of strings be static or dynamic?

#### **Character String Types Operations**

- Typical operations:
  - Assignment and copying
  - Comparison (=, >, etc.)
  - Catenation
  - Substring reference
  - Pattern matching

#### **Character String Type in Languages**

- C and C++
  - Not primitive
  - char arrays and a library of operations
- SNOBOL4 (a string manipulation language)
  - Primitive
  - Many operations, including elaborate pattern matching
- Fortran and Python
  - Primitive with assignment and several operations
- Java
  - Primitive via the String class
- Perl, JavaScript, Ruby, and PHP
  - Built-in pattern matching via regular expressions

# **Character String Length Options**

- Static
  - COBOL, Java's **String** class
- Limited Dynamic Length
  - C and C++
  - A special character indicates the end of the string
- Dynamic (no maximum)
  - SNOBOL4, Perl, JavaScript
- Ada supports all three string length options

#### **Character String Type Evaluation**

- Aid to writability
- As a primitive type with static length, they are inexpensive to provide so why not have them?
- Dynamic length is nice, but is it worth the expense?

#### **Character String Implementation**

- Static length:
  - Compile-time descriptor
- Limited dynamic length:
  - May need a run-time descriptor for length
  - ... But not in C or C++...
- Dynamic length:
  - Need run-time descriptor
  - (De)allocation biggest implementation problem

# **Compile- and Run-Time Descriptors**

Static string
Length
Address

Compile-time descriptor for static strings

Limited dynamic string
Maximum length
Current length
Address

Run-time descriptor for limited dynamic strings

#### **User-Defined Ordinal Types**

- Ordinal type
  - A range of values associated with the positive integers
- Examples of primitive ordinal types in Java
  - integer
  - char
  - -boolean

#### **Enumeration Types**

- All possible values (named constants) provided
- C# example

```
enum days {mon, tue, wed, thu, fri, sat, sun};
```

- Design issues
  - Is an enumeration constant allowed to appear in more than one type definition, and if so, how is the type of an occurrence of that constant checked?
  - Are enumeration values coerced to integer?
  - Any other type coerced to an enumeration type?

#### **Evaluation of Enumerated Type**

- Aid to readability
  - E.g., no need to code a color as a number
- Aid to reliability, e.g., compiler can check:
  - Operations (don't allow colors to be added)
  - No enumeration variable can be assigned a value outside its defined range
  - Ada, C#, and Java 5.0 provide better support for enumeration than C++ because enumeration type variables in these languages are not coerced into integer types

# **Subrange Types**

- Ordered contiguous subsequence of ordinal types
  - Example: 12..18 is a subrange of integer type
- Ada's design

```
type Days is (mon, tue, wed, thu, fri, sat, sun);
subtype Weekdays is Days range mon..fri;
subtype Index is Integer range 1..100;

Day1: Days;
Day2: Weekday;
Day2 := Day1;
```

# **Subrange Evaluation**

- Aid to readability
  - Make it clear to the readers that variables of subrange can store only certain range of values
- Reliability
  - Assigning a value to a subrange variable that is outside the specified range is detected as an error

#### **Implementing User-Defined Ordinal Types**

- Enumeration types are implemented as integers
- Subrange types are implemented like the parent types with code inserted (by the compiler) to restrict assignments to subrange variables

#### **Array Types**

- An array is a homogeneous aggregate of data elements
- An individual element is identified by its position in the aggregate, relative to the first element

# **Array Design Issues**

- What types are legal for subscripts?
- Are subscripting expressions in element references range checked?
- When are subscript ranges bound?
- When does allocation take place?
- Are ragged or rectangular multidimensional arrays allowed, or both?
- What is the maximum number of subscripts?
- Can array objects be initialised?
- Are any kind of slices supported?

# **Array Indexing**

Indexing (or subscripting)

Mapping from indices to elements
 array\_name (index\_value\_list) → an element

#### **Index Syntax**

- Fortran and Ada use parentheses
  - Ada explicitly uses parentheses to show uniformity between array references and function calls because both are *mappings*
- Most other languages use brackets

# **Arrays Index (Subscript) Types**

- FORTRAN, C: integer only
- Ada: integer or enumeration (includes Boolean and char)
- Java: integer types only
- Index range checking
  - C, C++, Perl, and Fortran do not specify range checking
  - Java, ML, C# specify range checking
  - In Ada, the default is to require range checking, but it can be turned off

#### **Subscript Binding & Array Categories**

#### • Static:

- Subscript ranges statically bound and storage allocation is static (before run-time)
- Advantage: efficiency (no dynamic allocation)
- Fixed stack-dynamic:
  - Subscript ranges statically bound, but the allocation is done at declaration time
  - Advantage: space efficiency

#### Subscript Binding & Array Categs. (cont')

#### • Stack-dynamic:

- Subscript ranges are dynamically bound and the storage allocation is dynamic (done at run-time)
- Advantage: flexibility (the size of an array need not be known until the array is to be used)

#### Fixed heap-dynamic:

- Similar to fixed stack-dynamic: storage binding is dynamic but fixed after allocation
- That is, binding is done when requested and storage is allocated from heap, not stack

#### Subscript Binding & Array Categs. (cont')

- Heap-dynamic:
  - Binding of subscript ranges and storage allocation is dynamic and can change any number of times
  - Advantage: flexibility (arrays can grow or shrink during program execution)

#### Subscript Binding & Array Categs. (cont')

- C and C++ arrays that include static modifier are static
- C and C++ arrays without static modifier are fixed stack-dynamic
- C and C++ provide fixed heap-dynamic arrays
- C# includes a second array class ArrayList that provides fixed heap-dynamic
- Perl, JavaScript, Python, and Ruby support heapdynamic arrays

# **Array Initialisation**

- Some language allow initialization at the time of storage allocation
  - C, C++, Java, C# example
    int list [] = {4, 5, 7, 83}
  - Character strings in C and C++

```
char name [] = "freddie";
```

Arrays of strings in C and C++

```
char *names [] = {"Bob", "Jake", "Joe"];
```

Java initialization of String objects

```
String[] names = {"Bob", "Jake", "Joe"};
```

#### **Heterogeneous Arrays**

- A heterogeneous array is one in which the elements need not be of the same type
- Supported by Perl, Python, JavaScript, and Ruby

# **Array Initialization**

C-based languages

```
int list [] = {1, 3, 5, 7}
char *names [] = {"Mike", "Fred", "Mary Lou"};
```

Ada

```
List: array (1..5) of Integer:= (1 => 17, 3 => 34, others => 0);
```

Python (list comprehensions)

```
list=[x ** 2 for x in range(12) if x % 3 == 0]
- assigns[0, 9, 36, 81] to list
```

#### **Arrays Operations**

- APL
  - Most powerful array processing operations for vectors and matrixes as well as unary operators
  - For example, to reverse column elements
- Ada allows array assignment but also catenation
- Python/Ruby support array catenation
- Fortran provides *elemental* operations because they are between pairs of array elements
  - For example, + operator between two arrays results in an array of the sums of the element pairs of the two arrays

# **Rectangular and Jagged Arrays**

- Rectangular array
  - Multi-dimensioned array in which all rows and columns have same number of elements
- Jagged matrix
  - Rows with varying number of elements
  - Possible when multi-dimensioned arrays actually appear as arrays of arrays
- C, C++, and Java support jagged arrays
- Fortran, Ada, and C# support rectangular arrays (C# also supports jagged arrays)

### Slices

- A slice is some substructure of an array; nothing more than a referencing mechanism
- Slices are only useful in languages that have array operations

# Slice Examples

Python

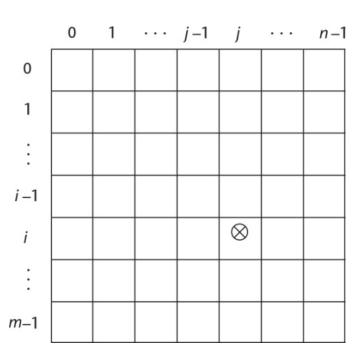
```
vector = [2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16]
mat = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9]]

vector (3:6) is a three-element array
mat[0][0:2] is the first and second element of the first row of mat
```

Ruby supports slices with the slice method
list.slice(2, 2)
 returns the third and fourth elements of list

# Implementation of Arrays

- Access function maps subscript expressions to an address in the array
- Access function for single-dimensioned arrays:



# **Accessing Multi-dimensioned Arrays**

- Two common ways:
  - Row major order (by rows) used in most languages
  - Column major order (by columns) used in Fortran
  - A compile-time descriptor for a multidimensional array

Multidimensioned array						
Element type						
Index type						
Number of dimensions						
Index range 0						
Index range n – 1						
Address						

### Locating elems (multi-dimension arrays)

General format
 Location (a[I,j]) = address of a [row\_lb,col\_lb] +
 (((I - row\_lb) \* n) + (j - col\_lb)) \* element\_size

	1	2	 <i>j</i> −1	j	 n
1					
2					
:					
i –1					
i				$\otimes$	
:					
m					

### **Compile-Time Descriptors**

Array

Element type

Index type

Index lower bound

Index upper bound

**Address** 

Multidimensioned array

Element type

Index type

Number of dimensions

Index range 1

:
Index range n

Address

Single-dimensioned array

Multidimensional array

# **Associative Arrays**

- Associative array
  - Unordered collection of data elements indexed by an equal number of values called keys
  - User-defined keys must be stored
- Design issues:
  - What is the form of references to elements?
  - Is the size static or dynamic?
- Built-in type in Perl, Python, Ruby, and Lua
  - In Lua, they are supported by tables

# **Associative Arrays in Perl**

 Names begin with "%"; literals are delimited by parentheses

```
%hi_temps = ("Mon" => 77, "Tue" => 79, "Wed" => 65, ...);
```

Subscripting is done using braces and keys

```
$hi_temps{"Wed"} = 83;
```

Elements can be removed with delete

```
delete $hi_temps{"Tue"};
```

### **Record Types**

- A record is a possibly heterogeneous aggregate of data elements in which the individual elements are identified by names
- Design issues:
  - What is the syntactic form of references to the field?
  - Are elliptical references allowed

### **Definition of Records in COBOL**

COBOL uses level numbers to represent nesting

```
01 EMP-REC.

02 EMP-NAME.

05 FIRST PIC X(20).

05 MID PIC X(10).

05 LAST PIC X(20).

02 HOURLY-RATE PIC 99V99.
```

Other languages may use recursive definitions

#### **Definition of Records in Ada**

Record structures indicated in an orthogonal way

```
type Emp_Rec_Type is record
  First: String (1..20);
  Mid: String (1..10);
  Last: String (1..20);
  Hourly_Rate: Float;
end record;
Emp_Rec: Emp_Rec_Type;
```

### References to Records

#### Record field references

COBOL

```
field_name OF record_name_1 OF ... OF record_name_n
```

- Others (dot notation)
   record\_name\_1.record\_name\_2.... record\_name\_n.field\_name
- Fully qualified references must include all record names
  - Elliptical references allow leaving out record names as long as the reference is unambiguous
  - In COBOL, FIRST, FIRST OF EMP-NAME, and FIRST of EMP-REC are elliptical references to the employee's first name

# **Operations on Records**

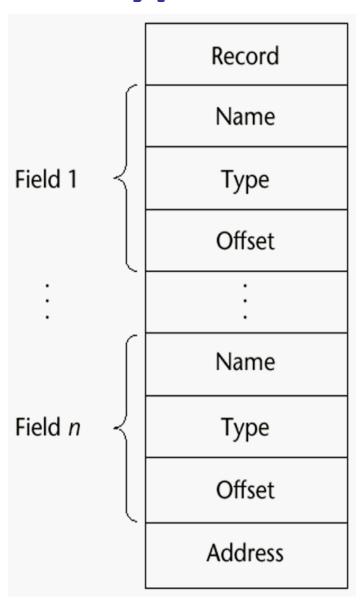
- Assignment is very common if types are identical
- Ada allows record comparison
- Ada records can be initialised with aggregate literals
- COBOL provides MOVE CORRESPONDING
  - Copies a field of the source record to the corresponding field in the target record

# Record vs. Arrays

- Records are used when collection of data values is heterogeneous
- Access to array elements is much slower than access to record fields, because subscripts are dynamic (field names are static)
- Dynamic subscripts could be used with record field access, but it would disallow type checking and it would be much slower

# Implementation of Record Type

Offset address relative to the beginning of the records is associated with each field



# **Tuple Types**

- A tuple is a data type that is similar to a record, except that the elements are not named
- Used in Python, ML, and F# to allow functions to return multiple values
- Python
  - Closely related to its lists, but immutable
  - Create with a tuple literal

```
myTuple = (3, 5.8, 'apple')
```

- Referenced with subscripts (begin at 1)
- Catenation with + and deleted with del

# **Tuple Types (continued)**

ML

```
val myTuple = (3, 5.8, 'apple');
```

– Access as follows:

#1(myTuple) is the first element

A new tuple type can be defined

```
type intReal = int * real;
```

• F#

**let** tup = 
$$(3, 5, 7)$$

let a, b, c = tup assigns tuple to tuple pattern (a, b, c)

# **List Types**

 Lists in LISP and Scheme delimited by parentheses and use no commas

```
(ABCD) and (A(BC)D)
```

- Data and code have the same form
  - As data (A B C) is what it is (a collection with 3 elements)
  - As code (A B C) is function A applied to parameters B and C
- Interpreter needs to differentiate these
  - If it is data, we quote it with an apostrophe

- List Operations in Scheme
  - CAR returns the first element of its list parameter

```
(CAR '(A B C)) returns A
```

 CDR returns the remainder of its list parameter after the first element has been removed

```
(CDR '(A B C)) returns (B C)
```

CONS puts its 1<sup>st</sup> parameter into its 2<sup>nd</sup> parameter, a list,
 to make a new list

```
(CONS 'A (B C)) returns (A B C)
```

- LIST returns a new list of its parameters

```
(LIST 'A 'B '(C D)) returns (A B (C D))
```

- List Operations in ML
  - Lists are written in brackets and elements separated by commas
  - List elements must be of the same type
  - The Scheme CONS function is a binary operator in ML, ::
    3 :: [5, 7, 9] evaluates to [3, 5, 7, 9]
  - The Scheme CAR and CDR functions are named ha and t1, respectively

- F# Lists
  - As ML, except elements separated by semicolons
  - hd and tl are methods of the List class
- Python Lists
  - The list data type also serves as Python's arrays
  - Unlike Scheme, Common LISP, ML, and F#, Python's lists are mutable
  - Elements can be of any type
  - Create a list with an assignment

```
myList = [3, 5.8, "grape"]
```

- Python Lists (continued)
  - List elements are referenced with subscripting, with indices beginning at zero

```
x = myList[1] Sets x to 5.8
```

List elements can be deleted with del

```
del myList[1]
```

List Comprehensions – derived from set notation

```
[x * x for x in range(6) if x % 3 == 0] range(12) creates [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

Constructed list: [0, 9, 36]

- Haskell's List Comprehensions
  - The original

```
[n * n | n < - [1..10]]
```

• F#'s List Comprehensions

```
let myArray = [ | for i in 1 .. 5 -> [i * i) | ]
```

- C# and Java support lists through generic heapdynamic collection classes
  - List and ArrayList, respectively

### **Unions Types**

- A union is a type whose variables are allowed to store different type values at different times during execution
- Design issues
  - Should type checking be required?
  - Should unions be embedded in records?

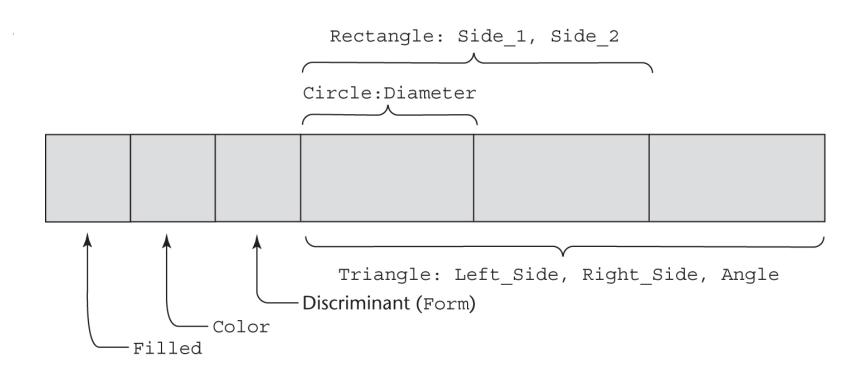
#### Discriminated vs. Free Unions

- Fortran, C, and C++ provide union constructs in which there is no language support for type checking;
  - Union in these languages is called *free union*
- Type checking of unions require that each union include a type indicator called a discriminant
  - Supported by Ada

# **Ada Union Types**

```
type Shape is (Circle, Triangle, Rectangle);
type Colors is (Red, Green, Blue);
type Figure (Form: Shape) is record
 Filled: Boolean;
 Color: Colors;
  case Form is
     when Circle => Diameter: Float;
     when Triangle =>
          Leftside, Rightside: Integer;
          Angle: Float;
     when Rectangle => Side1, Side2: Integer;
  end case;
end record;
```

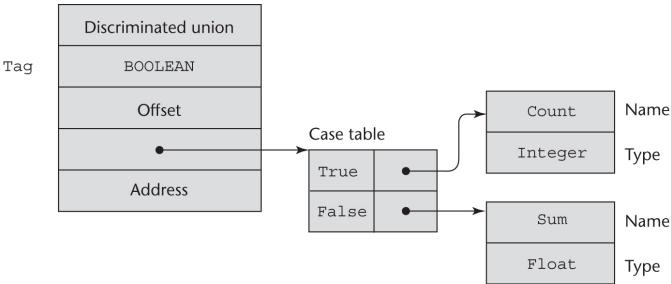
# **Ada Union Type Illustrated**



A discriminated union of three shape variables

# Implementation of Unions

```
type Node (Tag : Boolean) is
  record
  case Tag is
  when True => Count : Integer;
  when False => Sum : Float;
  end case;
end record;
```



#### **Evaluation of Unions**

- Free unions are unsafe
  - Do not allow type checking
- Java and C# do not support unions
  - Reflective of growing concerns for safety in programming language
- Ada's descriminated unions are safe

# **Pointer and Reference Types**

- A pointer type variable has a range of values (memory addresses) and a special value nil
- Provide the power of indirect addressing
- Provide a way to manage dynamic memory
- A pointer can be used to access a location in the area where storage is dynamically created
  - Usually called a heap

### **Design Issues of Pointers**

- What are the scope of and lifetime of a pointer variable?
- What is the lifetime of a heap-dynamic variable?
- Are pointers restricted as to the type of value to which they can point?
- Are pointers used for dynamic storage management, indirect addressing, or both?
- Should the language support pointer types, reference types, or both?

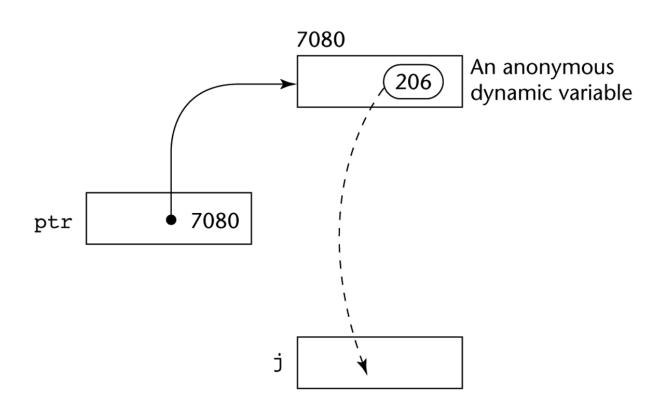
### **Pointer Operations**

- Two fundamental operations:
  - Assignment
  - Dereferencing
- Assignment: set a pointer variable's value to some useful address
- Dereferencing: yields the value stored at the location represented by the pointer's value
  - Dereferencing can be explicit or implicit
  - C++ uses an explicit operation via \*

```
j = *ptr
```

sets j to the value located at ptr

### **Pointer Assignment Illustrated**



The assignment operation j = \*ptr

#### **Problems with Pointers**

- Dangling pointers (dangerous)
  - A pointer points to a heap-dynamic variable that has been deallocated
- Lost heap-dynamic variable
  - An allocated heap-dynamic variable that is no longer accessible to the user program (often called garbage)
    - Pointer p1 is set to point to a newly created heapdynamic variable
    - Pointer p1 is later set to point to another newly created heap-dynamic variable
  - The process of losing heap-dynamic variables is called memory leakage

#### **Pointers in Ada**

- Some dangling pointers are disallowed because dynamic objects can be automatically deallocated at the end of pointer's type scope
- The lost heap-dynamic variable problem is not eliminated in Ada
  - It is possible with UNCHECKED\_DEALLOCATION

#### Pointers in C and C++

- Extremely flexible but must be used with care
- Pointers can point at any variable regardless of when or where it was allocated
- Used for dynamic storage management and addressing
- Pointer arithmetic is possible
- Explicit dereferencing and address-of operators
- Domain type need not be fixed (void \*)
- void \* can point to any type and can be type-checked (cannot be de-referenced)

### Pointer Arithmetic in C and C++

```
float stuff[100];
float *p;
p = stuff;

*(p+5) is equivalent to stuff[5] and p[5]
*(p+i) is equivalent to stuff[i] and p[i]
```

## **Reference Types**

- C++ has a special kind of pointer type called a reference type used primarily for formal parameters
  - Advantages of both pass-by-reference and pass-by-value
- Java extends C++'s reference variables and allows them to replace pointers entirely
  - References are references to objects, rather than being addresses
- C# includes both the references of Java and the pointers of C++

### **Evaluation of Pointers**

- Dangling pointers and dangling objects are problems as is heap management
- Pointers are like goto's in that they widen the range of cells that can be accessed by a variable
- Pointers or references are necessary for dynamic data structures, so we can't design a language without them

## **Representations of Pointers**

- Large computers use single values
- Intel microprocessors use segment and offset

## **Dangling Pointer Problem**

- *Tombstone*: extra heap cell that is a pointer to the heap-dynamic variable
  - The actual pointer variable points only at tombstones
  - When heap-dynamic variable de-allocated, tombstone remains but set to nil
  - Costly in time and space
- Locks-and-keys: Pointer values are represented as (key, address) pairs
  - Heap-dynamic variables are represented as variable plus cell for integer lock value
  - When heap-dynamic variable allocated, lock value is created and placed in lock cell and key cell of pointer

## **Heap Management**

- A very complex run-time process
- Single-size cells vs. variable-size cells
- Two approaches to reclaim garbage
  - Reference counters (eager approach): reclamation is gradual
  - Mark-sweep (*lazy approach*): reclamation occurs when the list of variable space becomes empty

### **Reference Counter**

- Reference counters:
  - maintain a counter in every cell that store the number of pointers currently pointing at the cell

#### Disadvantages:

- space required,
- execution time required,
- complications for cells connected circularly

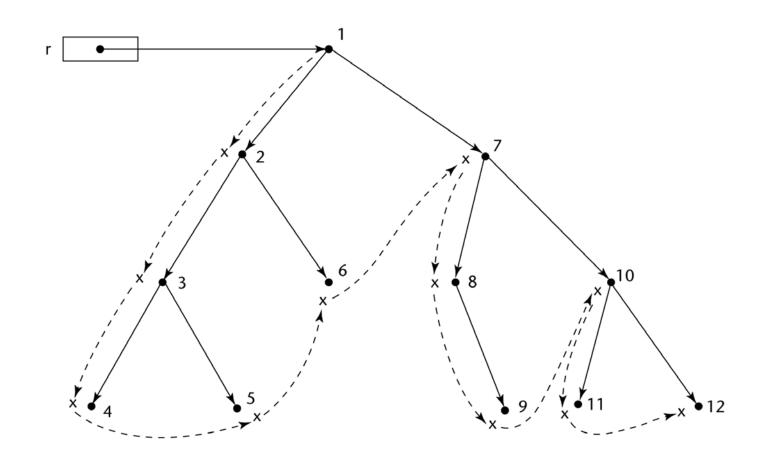
### • Advantage:

 it is intrinsically incremental, so significant delays in the application execution are avoided

## **Mark-Sweep**

- The run-time system allocates storage cells as requested and disconnects pointers from cells as necessary; mark-sweep then begins
  - Every heap cell has an extra bit used by collection algorithm
  - All cells initially set to garbage
  - All pointers traced into heap, and reachable cells marked as not garbage
  - All garbage cells returned to list of available cells
  - Disadvantages: in its original form, it was done too infrequently.
     When done, it caused significant delays in application execution.
     Contemporary mark-sweep algorithms avoid this by doing it more often (called incremental mark-sweep)

# **Marking Algorithm**



Dashed lines show the order of node\_marking

### **Variable-Size Cells**

- All the difficulties of single-size cells plus more
- Required by most programming languages
- If mark-sweep is used, additional problems occur
  - The initial setting of the indicators of all cells in the heap is difficult
  - The marking process in nontrivial
  - Maintaining the list of available space is another source of overhead

# **Type Checking**

- Generalise the concept of operands and operators to include subprograms and assignments
- Type checking is the activity of ensuring that the operands of an operator are of compatible types
- A compatible type is one that is either legal for the operator, or is allowed under language rules to be implicitly converted, by compiler- generated code, to a legal type
  - This automatic conversion is called a coercion.
- A type error is the application of an operator to an operand of an inappropriate type

# **Type Checking (continued)**

- If all type bindings are static, nearly all type checking can be static
- If type bindings are dynamic, type checking must be dynamic
- A programming language is strongly typed if type errors are always detected
- Advantage of strong typing: allows the detection of the misuses of variables that result in type errors

## **Strong Typing**

### Language examples:

- C and C++ are not: parameter type checking can be avoided; unions are not type checked
- Ada is, almost (unchecked conversion is loophole)
   (Java and C# are similar to Ada)

# **Strong Typing (continued)**

- Coercion rules strongly affect strong typing; they can weaken it considerably (C++ versus Ada)
- Although Java has just half the assignment coercions of C++, its strong typing is still far less effective than that of Ada

## Name Type Equivalence

- Name type equivalence means 2 variables have equivalent types if
  - They are in either the same declaration or
  - In declarations that use the same type name
- Easy to implement but highly restrictive:
  - Subranges of integer types are not equivalent with integer types
  - Formal parameters must be the same type as their corresponding actual parameters

## **Structure Type Equivalence**

- Structure type equivalence means that two variables have equivalent types if their types have identical structures
- More flexible, but harder to implement

# Type Equivalence (continued)

#### Consider the problem of two structured types:

- Are two record types equivalent if they are structurally the same but use different field names?
- Are two array types equivalent if they are the same except that the subscripts are different?
   (e.g. [1..10] and [0..9])
- Are two enumeration types equivalent if their components are spelled differently?
- With structural type equivalence, you cannot differentiate between types of the same structure (e.g. different units of speed, both float)

## **Theory and Data Types**

- Type theory: broad area of study in mathematics, logic, computer science, and philosophy
- Two branches of type theory in computer science:
  - Practical data types in commercial languages
  - Abstract typed lambda calculus
- A type system is a set of types and the rules that govern their use in programs

# **Theory and Data Types (continued)**

- Formal model of a type system is a set of types and a collection of functions that define the type rules
  - Either an attribute grammar or a type map could be used for the functions
  - Finite mappings model arrays and functions
  - Cartesian products model tuples and records
  - Set unions model union types
  - Subsets model subtypes

## **Summary**

- Data types of a language are a large part of what determines that language's style and usefulness
- Primitive data types of most imperative languages include numeric, character, and Boolean types
- User-defined enumeration & subrange types are convenient;
  - Improve readability & reliability of programs
- Arrays and records included in most languages
- Pointers for addressing flexibility and to control dynamic storage management