

Subroutines and control abstraction

Abstraction - a process by which the programmer can associate a name with a program fragment which can then be thought of in terms of its purpose or function, rather than in terms of its implementation.

Control abstraction - purpose is to perform a well-defined operation.

Data abstraction - purpose is to represent information

Data abstraction - purpose is to represent information

- Subroutines are the principal mechanism for control abstraction.

3. Review of Stack Layout

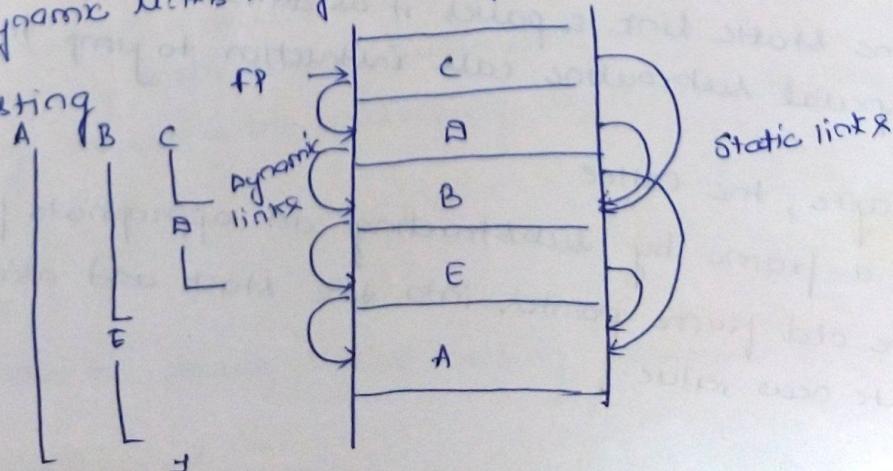
- Each subroutine is placed in a stack
- Stack frame (or activation record)
- Stack pointer
- Frame pointer
- Static chain

In a language with nested subroutines & static scoping (pascal, ada, ML, common lisp, scheme), objects that lie in the surrounding subroutines & that are trees neither local or global, can be found by maintaining a static chain

- Static link
- The frame of the lexically surrounding subroutine. This reference is called the static link.

- Dynamic link
- The saved value of the frame pointer which will be restored on subroutine return, is called the dynamic link
- (The static and dynamic links may or may not be the same)

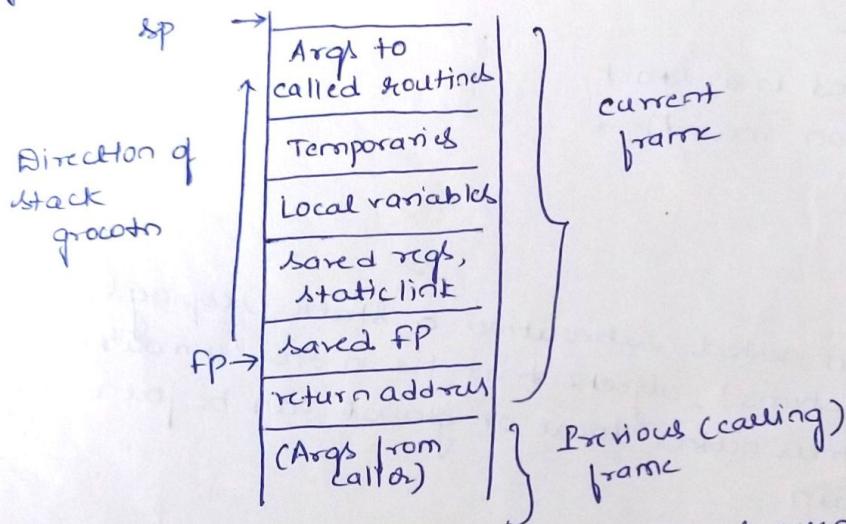
Eg: Subroutine nesting



2. Calling Sequences:

- Responsibility of the calling sequence is to maintain the subroutine call stack.
- The code executed by the caller immediately before and after a subroutine call, prologue (code executed at the beginning) and epilogue (code executed at the end) of the subroutine itself.
- Saving & Restoring registers
 - caller save all registers that ax is use.
 - callee to save all registers that it will overwrite.

A typical calling sequence



To maintain this stack layout, the calling sequence might operate as follows

The caller

1. Loads any caller-saves register whose values will be needed after the call.
2. Computes the values of the arguments & moves them into the stack or registers.
3. Computes the static link & pushes it as an extra hidden argument.
4. Uses a special subroutine call instruction to jump to the subroutine.

In its prologue, the callee

1. Allocates a frame by subtracting an appropriate from the SP.
2. Saves the old frame pointer into the stack and assigns it an appropriate new value.

3. saves any callee-saved registers that may be overwritten by the current subroutine.

After the subroutine has completed, the epilogue

1. moves the return value into a register or a related location in the stack.
2. Restores callee-saved registers if needed
3. Restores the FP & LF.
4. jumps back to the return address.

Finally, the caller

1. Moves the return value to wherever it is needed.
2. Restores caller-saved register if needed.

(i) Displays:

- One of the disadvantages of static chain is that, access to an object in a scope k levels out requires that the static chain be descended k times.
- If a local object can be loaded into a register with a single memory access, an object k levels out will require $k+1$ memory access.
- This number can be reduced to a constant by use of display.
- Display is a small array that replaces the static chain.
- Display reduces the cost of maintaining a display in the subroutine.
- For most programs the cost of static chain is higher than that of display.

(ii) Register windows:

- it is an alternative to saving & restoring on subroutine calls & returns.
- it is a hardware mechanism known as a register windows.
- The basic idea is to map the limited set of register names onto the some subset (windows) of a much larger collection of physical registers.
- E.g. to change the mapping when making subroutine calls.
- Old & new mapping overlap a bit, allowing arguments to persist in the intersection.

(iii) In-line Expansion:

- it is an alternative to stack based calling conventions.

- it means a copy of the "called" routines becomes a part of the "called", no actual subroutine call occurs.
- it ~~avoids~~ avoids many overheads like
 - space allocation
 - branch delays from the call & return
 - Maintaining the static chain or display
 - Saving & restoring Registers
- In C++, the keyword `inline` can be prefixed to a function declaration.

3. Parameter Passing.

- Most subroutines are parameterized
- variables & expressions that are passed to a subroutine in a particular call are known as actual parameters.
- parameter names that appear in the declaration of a subroutine are known as formal parameters.
- In most languages, function name is prefixed followed by a list of arguments

Eg; Lisp ($\max a b$)
 Lisp places the function name inside the parentheses.
 Lisp & Smalltalk use the same style of
 user defined subroutines as Lisp & Smalltalk use the same style of
 syntax as built-in operators

Pascal: if $a > b$ then $\max = a$ else $\max = b$

Lisp: ($\text{if} (> a b) (\text{setf } \max a) (\text{setf } \max b)$)

Smalltalk ($a > b$) if true [$\max < a$] if false [$\max < b$]

► Parameter modes:
 suppose x is a global variable & $p(x)$ is a subroutine call.

Two methods

- call by value (a copy of x 's value is provided to p)
- call by Reference (address of x is provided)

- With call-by-value, actual & formal parameters are independent
- With Reference parameters, within the body of the subroutine, there will be a new name for corresponding actual parameters.

Eg:

```

x: integer --- global
Procedure foo(y: integer)
  y:=3
  print x
  ...
  x:=2
  foo(x)
  print(x)

```

(* If y is passed to foo by value
then the program prints 2 twice
if y is passed to foo by Reference
then the program prints 3 twice

a) variations on value and Reference Parameters

- If the purpose of call-by-reference is to allow the called routine to modify the actual parameter, we can achieve a similar effect using call-by-value/result, a mode first introduced in algol 60
 - This method copies the actual parameter into the formal parameter at the beginning of the subroutine execution. It copies the formal parameter back into the actual parameter when the subroutine returns.
- According to this, the program above would print 2 & then 3
- ```

void swap(int *a, int *b)
{
 int t = *a;
 *a = *b;
 *b = t;
}

```
- Pascal - call by value (default)
- C - parameters are already passed by value and pointed to

- b) call-by-sharing: - In either case, it creates a copy of the variable or pointer in which the variable alias is it already a reference. Here pass by reference is more natural.
  - One calls this mode call-by-sharing.
  - It is different from call by value
  - It is different from call by reference
  - It is different from call by value
- [Although the called routine can change the value of the object to which the actual parameter refers, it cannot change the identity of the object]

It is more natural simply to pass the reference itself & let the actual & formal parameters refer to the same object

### c) Read-only Parameters

- Modula-3 provides READONLY parameters made to combine the efficiency of reference parameters & lability of value parameters.
- Any formal parameter whose declaration is preceded by Readonly cannot be changed by the called routine.
- Small readonly parameters are generally implemented by passing a value by passing an address.
- Large readonly parameters — by passing const

Eq: In C the equivalent of Readonly parameters is using const before formal param

void append-to-log(const huge-record \*r)

{

---

}

append-to-log (&myrecord); → callee cannot change the record's contents

### d) Parameter models in Ada:

- Ada provides three parameter-passing models called in, out & in out
- In parameters - pass information from the caller to the callee, they can be read by the callee but not written
- Out parameters - pass information from the callee to the caller
- Inout parameters - pass information in both directions they can be both read & written.
- changes to out or inout parameters always change the actual parameters.

### e) References in C++:

- C++ introduces an explicit notion of Reference
- Reference parameters are specified by preceding their name with an ampersand in the header of the function

Eq: void swap(int &a, int &b)

{

int t = a;

a = b;

b = t;

}

→ C++ has the concept of reference variables

- C++ has the concept of reference variables

## 2) Call-by-Name

- In general, a language implementation must pass a closure containing the use of the parameter requiring the retransformation of a previous referencing environment.

Example:

- call by name parameter of algo1 60 & simula

## 3) Special-purpose parameters:

### i) Conformant Arrays:

- A formal array parameter whose shape is finalized at run-time is called a "conformant or open array parameter".

Eg;

```
void apply_to_A (int (*f)(int), int A[], int A_size)
```

{

```
 int i;
 for (i=0; i<A_size; i++)
 A[i] = f(A[i])
```

}

A[] - open array parameter

f() means - f is the name of a function or f is a pointer to a subroutine

### ii) Default (optional) Parameters:

- A default parameter is one that need not necessarily be provided by the caller, if it is missing then a preestablished default value will be used instead.

Eg: In I/O library routine 'put' routine for integers

```
default_cwidtn: field = integer'widtn;
```

```
default_base : number-base=10;
```

```
procedure Put (widtn : in field := default_cwidtn;
 base : in number-base := default_base);
```

### iii) Named parameters:

- usually parameters are positional i.e. 1st actual parameter corresponds to the 1st formal parameter, 2nd actual parameter to the 2nd formal and so on...

- In some languages this need not be the case, they allow parameters to be named called keyword parameters.

Eq:  
put(  $\underbrace{\text{base} \Rightarrow 8}$ , item  $\Rightarrow 37$  )  
Ada       $\underbrace{\text{named}}$

#### iv) Variable Number of Arguments:

- Lisp, Python and C allows subroutines to take a variable number of arguments.

Eq: printf & scanf functions

int printf (char \*format, ...)

↓  
---  
---

... indicates that there are additional parameters.

)

#### v) Function Return:

- In languages like Algol 60, Fortran, Pascal, the function's return value appears in the assignment statement (LHS is the name of the function)

Most languages allow return statement or return expression

return expression

- In addition to specifying a value, return causes the immediate termination of the subroutine.

Eq:

return; = expression

...

return rtn

#### 4. Generic Subroutines and Modules:

- A subroutine performs an operation for a variety of different object (parameter) values

- Large programs may require to perform an operation for a variety of different object types.

Eg: OS makes heavy use of queues to hold.

- Generic modules (classes) are particularly valuable for creating containers (data abstraction) that hold a collection of objects

- generic subroutines (methods) are needed in generic modules (class)

## ▷ Implementation option

- In Ada, C++, it is a static mechanism
- All the work required to create & use multiple instances of the generic code takes place at compile time

## Function Template

### Syntax

```
template<class T>
```

```
T someFunction(T arg)
```

```
{
```

```



```

```
y
```

### Class Template

### Syntax

```
template<class T>
```

```
class T someFunction(T arg)
```

```
{


```

```
public T var;
```

```
T someoperation(T arg);
```

```
y;
```

```
#include <iostream.h>
#include <string.h>
template<class T>
class Tempclass
{
public T value;
public Tempclass(T item)
{
 value = item;
}
T getValue()
{
 return value;
}
};
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
Tempclass<string> *s = new Tempclass<string>("Generics");
```

```
cout << "Output value" << s->getValue();
```

```
Tempclass<int> *i = new Tempclass<int>(6);
```

```
cout << "Output value" << i->getValue();
```

```
}
```

- The compiler creates a separate copy of a code for every instance.
- In Java, by contract guarantees that all instances of a given generic will share the same code at run-time

## ▷ Generic parametric constraints:

- In Ada portion

type item is private

- A private type is which the only permissible operations are alignment, testing for equality & inequality etc

-In simple cases, it may be possible to specify a type pattern

type item is (< >);

(c) - item is as discrete type;

->-supported operations

5

generic

type T is private  
type T\_array is array (integer range < ->) of T;

Type Ia  
type Ia

type Tarray  
Java & C# employ particular clear approach to constraints & has a  
exploit ability of object-oriented types to inheritance method  
from a parent type or Interface

from a parent type or Interface  
eg, Public static <T extends Comparable<T>> void sort(T A[])

```
3
Integel[] myArray = new Integel[50];
soot+(myArray);
```

## P<sub>9</sub> Generic sorting in C++

```

template <class T>
void sort(T A[], int A_size)
{
 -- -- -- -
 - - T - -
 - - T - -
}

```

## Implicit Instantiation

- In C++, because a class is a type, the code of a general class before the generic can be used

-In C++,  
of a general class before ~~the~~ of  
Tempclass <int> = new Tempclass <int>(50);  
like C++, T

- Implicit instantiation in C++, languages like C++, Java, & C# do not require explicit instantiation

Implicit instantiation  
require explicit instantiation

```
int intArr[10];
double realArr[50];
```

```
sort(ints,10);
sort(ivals,50);
```

## S. Excepting Handling:

Exception - an unexpected or ~~usual~~ unusual condition that arises during program execution & that cannot easily be handled in the local context.

Eg; various sorts of run-time errors

In C++, A simply try block is

```
try
{
```

```
 if (something-unexpected)
 throw my-exception();
```

```
 cout << "Everything is ok\n";
```

```
 catch (my-exception) // exception Handler
 {
```

```
 cout << "oops\n";
```

```
}
```

Exception Handling performs three kinds of operations

i) Handle compensates for the exception.

Ex: Exception - out of memory

Handle - make a request to the OS to allocate additional space.

ii) Exception cannot be handled in a local block of code.

iii) if recovery is not possible, a handle can at least print a helpful error message before the program terminates.

## Defining Exceptions:

→ Predefined exceptions - arithmetic overflow, division by zero, end of file on input, subscript and subrange errors, null pointer dereference etc

→ Dynamic exceptions - returns from a subroutine that has not yet designated a return value.

Exception for user-defined subroutine

```
try
{
```

```
 foo();
```

```
 cout << "everything is ok\n";
```

```
 catch (my-exception)
 {
```

```
 cout << "oops\n";
```

```
}
```

```
void foo()
{
```

```
 if (something-unexpected)
 throw my-exception();
```

```
}
```

- In C++, Common, Lisp - all Exceptions are programmatically defined.

2) Exception propagation:  
A block of code can have a list of exception handlers

In C++

```
try
{
 ---- // many calls to I/O routines
 g
 catch (end-of-file)
 {

 g
 catch (io-error)
 {
 ---- // any io-error other than eof
 g
 catch (...) // for any exception not previously named
 {
 ---- // for any exception not previously named
 g
 catch (...) // 'catch all'
 }
 }
 }
}
```

a) Handlers on Expressions!

- In ML, Common, Lisp are expression oriented languages, exception handling is attached to an expression rather than to a statement

Eg;  
val foo = (f(a)\*b) handle overflow => max-int;

b) Cleanup operations!

- The exception-handling mechanism must "unwind" the run-time stack by reclaiming the stack frames of any subroutine from which the exception escapes.

- In C++  
when an exception leaves a scope, destructors are called for any objects declared within that scope.

- Destructors are used to deallocate heap space

c) Implementation of Exceptions

- Implementation maintains a linked-list stack of handlers.
- when control enters a protected block, the handle for that block is added to the head of the list.
- when an exception arises (either implicitly or as a result of raise statement) the language run-time system pops the innermost handler off the list & call it.
- The Handler begins by checking to see if it matches the exception that occurred.
  - if exception matches end-of-file
  - else if exception matches io-error
  - else "catch-all" handle.
- if a protected block of code has handles for several different exceptions, they are implemented as a single handle containing a multi-if statement.

d) Exception Handling without Exception:  
Exception can sometimes be simulated in a language that does not provide them as built-in.

Pascal - permit go to labels outside the current subroutines

Algol-60 - allows labels to be passed as parameters.

## 6) Co-Routines:

- A coroutine is a closure (a code address & a referencing environment) in which one can jump by means of a non-local goto, in this case a special operation known as Transfer.
  - The Continuation is a constant & it does not change once created.
  - The Continuation is a constant & it does not change every time it runs.
  - In Continuation the old program counter is lost, unless one creates a new continuation to hold it.
  - In Continuation the program counter is saved, it is updated to reflect it.
  - Coroutines are execution contexts that co-exist concurrently, but that execute one at a time & that transfer control to each other explicitly by name.
  - Coroutines can be used to implement iterators, & threads, certain kind of servers, discrete event simulation.
- Ex: screen-based program which paints a mostly black picture on the screen of a workstation & which keeps the picture moving. It also performs "sanity checks" on file system in the background looking for corrupted files.

Loop

- update picture on screen
- perform next sanity check

The problem with this approach is that successively sanity checks are likely to depend on each other.

ux, cfx: coroutine

coroutine check-file-system  
--- initialize

detach  
for all files

...  
transfer(ux)

...  
transfer(ux)

...  
transfer(ux)

coroutine update-screen  
--- initialize

detach  
loop

...  
transfer(cfx)

begin --- main

ux = new update-screen

cfx = new check-file-system

transfer(ux)

## 8) Transfer

- To transfer from one co-routine to another, the run-time system must change the program counter (PC), the stack & contents of registers.
- All these are encapsulated in transfer operations.
- The usual approach to change a stack pointer, register & to avoid using the frame pointer inside a transfer block.

transfer:

push all registers other than bp

\*current coroutine = bp

current coroutine = r1

sp = r2

pop all registers other than bp

return

Implementation of Iterators

- Iterators are very important, one co-routine is used to represent the main program.
- A second is used to represent the iterator & additional co-routine may be needed if iterator next

ii) Discrete event simulation

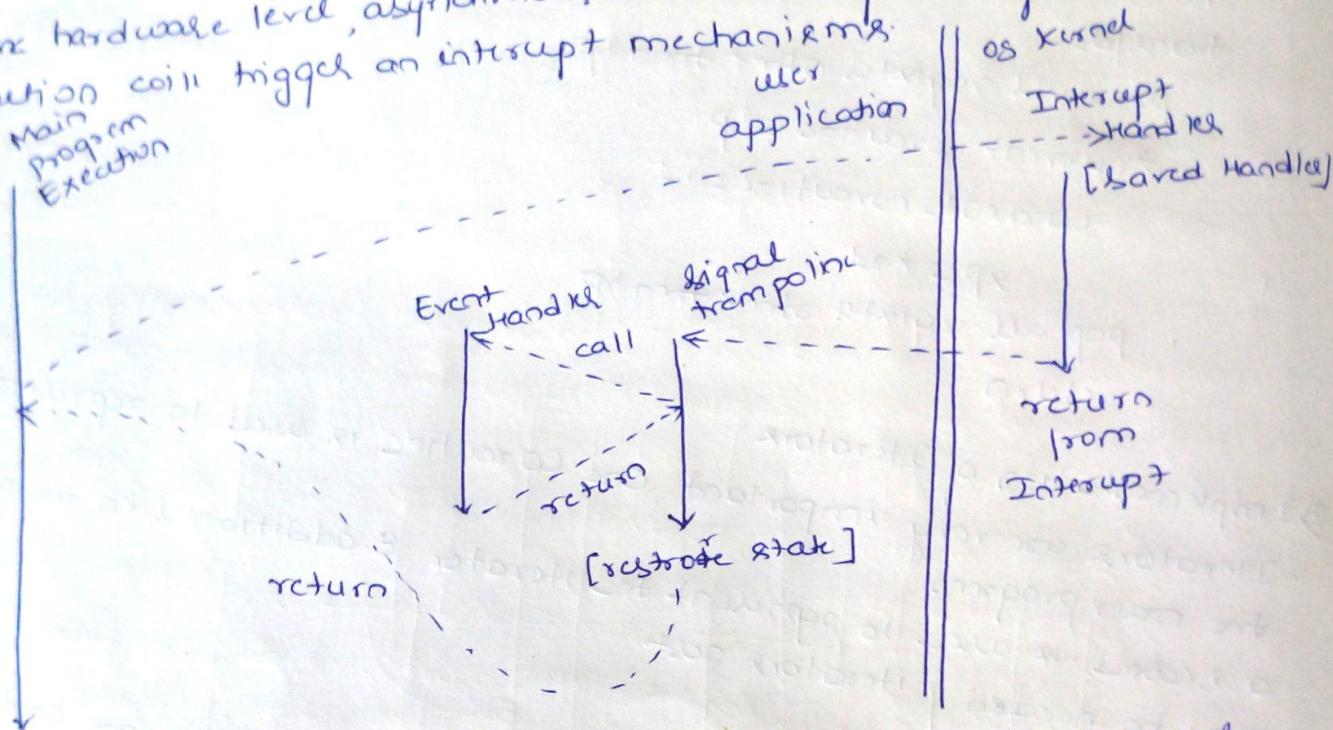
- Simulation in general refers to any process in which we can create an abstract model of real world & sim.
- A discrete event simulation is one in which the model is naturally expressed in terms of events that happen at specific time

## 7. Events

- An event is something to which a running programme (a process) needs to respond but which occurs outside the program at an unpredictable time.
- The most common events are inputs to the GUI systems are keyboard, mouse motion, button click.
- They may also be network operations or other synchronous I/O activity.

### a) Sequential Handlers

- Traditionally event handlers are implemented in sequential programming languages as subroutine calls, typically using a mechanism defined & implemented by the OS system.
- To prepare to receive events through this mechanism, a program calls it & invokes a setup handler library routine passing as argument
- At the hardware level, asynchronous device activity during the P's execution will trigger an interrupt mechanism.



- The figure illustrates the typical implementation of spontaneous subroutine calls as used by the <sup>unix</sup> signal mechanism.
- The language run-time library contains a block of code known as the signal trampoline.
- The signal trampoline creates a frame itself in the stack & then calls the return event handler using the normal subroutine calling sequence.
- When the event handler returns, the trampoline restores its state from the buffer written by the kernel & jumps to the main program.
- To avoid recursive events, the kernels typically disable just one signal & when it jumps to the signal trampoline.

### b) Thread-Based Handlers :

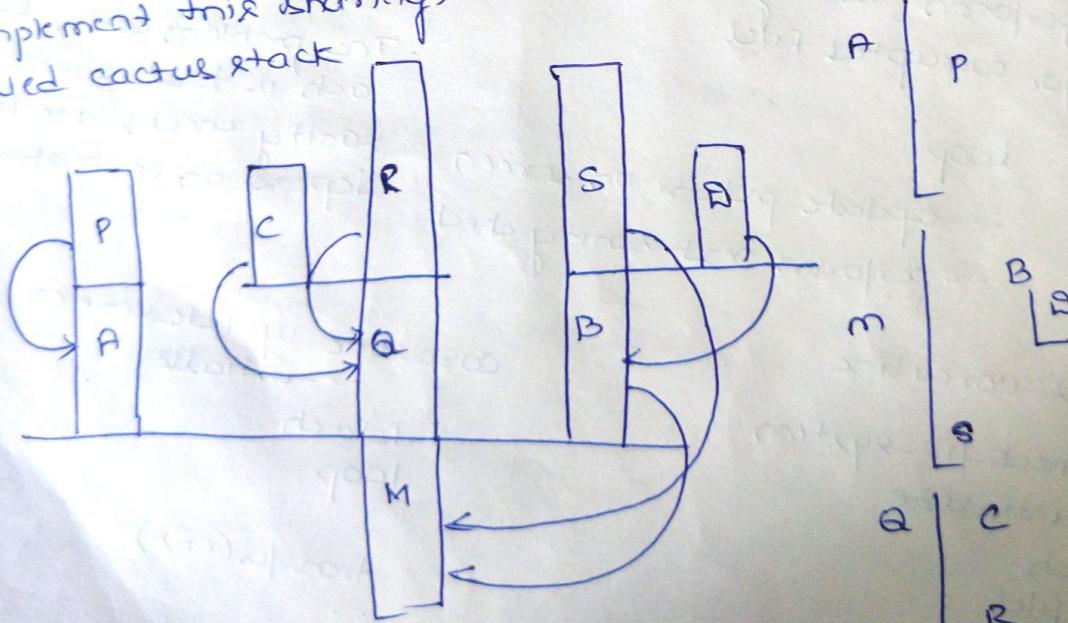
- In modern programming languages & run-time env, events are often handled by a separate thread of control.
- Eg; Java swing library, OpenGL, C#

The syntax is based loosely on that of Modula

- when first created, a co-routine performs any necessary initialization operations & detaches from the main program.
- The detach operation creates a coroutine object to which control can later be transferred & return a reference.
- The transfer operation sends the current program control in the current coroutine object & returns the coroutine specified as a parameter.

### Stack allocation:

- The coroutines are concurrent, they cannot share a single stack
- The simple solution is to give co-routine a fixed amount of statically allocated stack-space.
- This approach is adopted in Modula-2, in which the programmer needs to specify the size & location of a stack
- Some implementation catch the overflow & halt with the error message.
- If co-routine can be created at arbitrary levels of lexical nesting then two or more coroutines may be declared in the non-global scope & must share access to object
- To implement this sharing, the run-time system must employ a called cactus stack



- Each branch to the side represents the creation of a co-routine (A, B, C, D)
- Static links are shown with arrows
- Dynamic links are indicated by vertical arrows

- Static nesting of block is shown at right

An Event handler in C#

```
void Paused(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
 // do whatever needs doing when the pause
 // button is pressed
}
```

Button pb = new Button("pause");
pb.Click += new EventHandler(Paused);

An Event handler in java

```
class PauseListener implements ActionListener
{
 public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e)
 {
 ...
 }
}
```

JButton pb = new JButton("pause");
pb.addActionListener(new PauseListener());