City University London

IN2009
Language Processors

Week 7

Semantic Analysis

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Session Plan

Session 5: Semantic analysis

- Symbol tables
  - Environments
  - Hash tables
  - Symbol table for MiniJava
- Typechecking

Semantic analysis

- Connects variable (and type/class, and function) definitions to their uses
- Checks that each use matches an appropriate declaration
  - must also use scope rules of language…
- Checks that each expression/part of the program is of correct type
- Translates abstract syntax into simpler representation suitable for generating machine code

Semantic analysis

- Collect all identifiers in symbol table(s) with attributes such as: type; scope; for a function or method, parameter types & return type
  - by traversal of declaration ASTs
- Check that applied occurrences of identifiers have related declarations (are in table) at right scope
  - by traversal of rest of program ASTs

Semantic analysis

- Check that types of (sub-)expressions and parts of statements are of expected type
  - by traversal of rest of program ASTs and collecting types
  - eg actual param matches type of formal; in A+B, A,B are ints

Symbol tables (environments)

- Map identifiers to their types & locations
- Identifiers (variable names, function or method names, type or class names) are bound to "meanings" (bindings) in symbol tables
  - eg type of variable name
  - eg number and type of parameters of function
  - eg scope
- Perform lookup in symbol table when there is a *use* (non-defining occurrence) of identifier

Scope for each local variable in which it is visible:

```
class X { int y;… }
local variable in a Java method?
```

Discard identifier bindings local to scope at end of scope analysis

Environment is a set of bindings $\rightarrow$ e.g.

$\sigma_0 = \{$`g` $\rightarrow$ `string,a` $\rightarrow$ `int`$\}$

Example

```
class C {
  int a; int b; int c;
  public void m() {
    System.out.println(a+c);
    int j = a+b;
    String a = "hello"
    System.out.println(a);
    System.out.println(j);
    System.out.println(b);
  }
}
```

1 σ_0 is starting environment
2 $\sigma_1 = \sigma_0$ +{a→int,b→int,c→int}
3
4 lookup ids **a**, **c** in σ_1
5 $\sigma_2 = \sigma_1$ + {j→int}
6 $\sigma_3 = \sigma_2$ + {a→string}
7 lookup **a** in σ_3
8 lookup **j** in σ_3
9 lookup **b** in σ_1
10 discard σ_3 revert to σ_1
11 discard σ_1 revert to σ_0

Need to deal with clashes (different bindings for same symbol)

σ_2 : a→int , σ_3 : a→string

Prefer *most recent binding* so as to implement scope rules of language

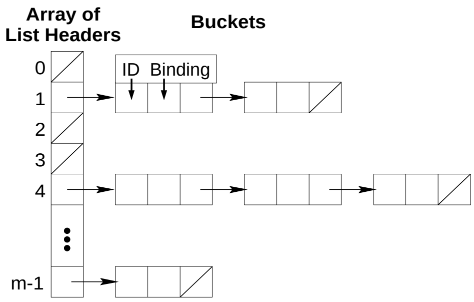
Imperative implementation style

- Modify σ_1 to σ_2
- Undo modification to get back to σ_1
- Use *hash tables*
- $\sigma' = \sigma + \{a \rightarrow \tau\}$ Implement by inserting τ into hash table with key a
- Simple hash table with *external chaining*: *i* th bucket = linked list of all elements whose keys hash to *i* mod **`SIZE`**

Hashing

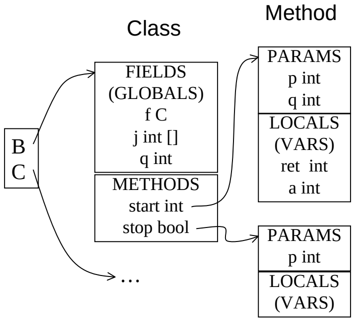
- **`java.util.Hashtable`** implements this for us, and a hashtable will be used for storing classes, and within them two hashtables will store the global variables (fields) and methods, and within methods a hashtable will store the local variables.

Hashing with external chaining



Symbol table for MiniJava

```
class B {
  C f; int [] j; int q;
  public int start(int p, int q) {
    int ret; int a;
    ...
    return ret;
  }
  public boolean stop(int p) {
    ...
    return false;
  }
}
class C { ... }
```



MiniJava symbols & typechecking

- Each variable name and formal parameter bound to its type
- Each method name bound to its formal parameters, result type, and local variables
- Each class name bound to its variable (field) and method declarations
- Typechecking:
  - First, build the symbol table
  - Then typecheck the statements and expressions in the AST, consulting the symbol table for each identifier found.

Symbol table implementation

```
class SymbolTable {
  public SymbolTable();
  public boolean addClass(String id, String parent);
  public Class getClass(String id);
  public boolean containsClass(String id);
  public Type getVarType(Method m, Class c, String id);
  public Method getMethod(String id, String classScope);
  public Type getMethodType(String id, String
  classScope);
  public boolean compareTypes(Type t1, Type t2);
}
```

- SymbolTable contains a hashtable of Class objects…

Symbol table implementation

- **`getVarType(Method m, Class c, String id)`**
  - in **`c.m`**, find variable **`id`**
  - may be…
    - local variable in method
    - parameter in formal parameters in method
    - variable in the class
    - variable in a parent class

Symbol table implementation

- **`getMethod()`**, **`getMethodType()`**
  - may be defined in the parent classes
- **`compareTypes()`**
  - primitive types **`IntegerType`**, **`BooleanType`**, **`IntegerArrayType`**
  - **`IdentifierType`**s (class types) stored as strings, returns true if identical or if equals a parent

Symbol table class `Class`

```
class Class {
  public Class(String id, String parent);
  public String getId();
  public Type type();
  public boolean addMethod(String id, Type type);
  public Method getMethod(String id);
  public boolean containsMethod(String id);
  public boolean addVar(String id, Type type);
  public Variable getVar(String id);
  public boolean containsVar(String id);
  public String parent();
}
```

- Class contains a hashtable of global variables (fields) and a hashtable of methods

Symbol table variable representation

```
class Variable {
  public Variable(String id, Type type);
  public String id();
  public Type type();
}
```


Symbol table method representation

```
class Method {
  public Method(String id, Type type);
  public String getId();
  public Type type();
  public boolean addParam(String id, Type type);
  public Variable getParamAt(int i);
  public boolean getParam(String id);
  public boolean containsParam(String id);
  public boolean addVar(String id, Type type);
  public Variable getVar(String id);
  public boolean containsVar(String id);
}
```

- Method contains a vector of parameters (formals) and a hashtable of (local) variables, and a return type

Implementation

- By visitors, just like the pretty printer
  - Interfaces **`Visitor`** is as before
  - A new visitor interface **`TypeVisitor`** is just the same but its methods return a Type
  - General classes **`DepthFirstVisitor`** and **`TypeDepthFirstVisitor`** implement these interfaces and traverse the AST depth-first visiting each node, but taking no action

Implementation

- Building the symbol table
  - **`BuildSymbolTableVisitor`** extends **`TypeDepthFirstVisitor`**, overriding methods so as to add classes, methods, vars, etc
- Typechecking
  - **`TypeCheckVisitor`** extends **`DepthFirstVisitor`** overriding methods so as to check statements, **`TypeCheckExpVisitor`** extends **`TypeDepthFirstVisitor`** overriding methods so as to check expressions

BuildSymbolTableVisitor

• Note that some checks are done as the table is built, eg for variable declarations (see below) a check is made on whether the variable is already declared

```
public class BuildSymbolTableVisitor extends
  TypeDepthFirstVisitor {
…
 private Class currClass;
 private Method currMethod;
…
 // Type t;
 // Identifier i;
  public Type visit(VarDecl n) {

     Type t =  n.t.accept(this);
     String id =  n.i.toString();
```


BuildSymbolTableVisitor (2)

```
  if (currMethod == null){
    if (!currClass.addVar(id,t)){
      System.out.println(id + "is already defined in "
                   + currClass.getId());
    }
  } else {
    if (!currMethod.addVar(id,t)){
      System.out.println(id + "is already defined in "
                   + currClass.getId() + "." +
                   currMethod.getId());
    }
  }
  return null;
}
```


TypeCheckVisitor

```
public class TypeCheckVisitor extends
  DepthFirstVisitor {

    static Class currClass;
    static Method currMethod;
    static SymbolTable symbolTable;

    public TypeCheckVisitor(SymbolTable s){
       symbolTable = s;
    }
…
```


TypeCheckVisitor (2)

```
…
// Identifier i;
// Exp e;
public void visit(Assign n) {
  Type t1 =
   symbolTable.getVarType(currMethod,currClass,n.i.toString());
  Type t2 = n.e.accept(new TypeCheckExpVisitor() );

  if (symbolTable.compareTypes(t1,t2)==false){
     System.out.println("Type error in assignment to
   "+n.i.toString());
  }
}
…
```

TypeCheckVisitor (3)

```
…
// Type t;
// Identifier i;
// FormalList fl;
// VarDeclList vl;
// StatementList sl;
// Exp e;
public void visit(MethodDecl n) {
  n.t.accept(this);
  String id = n.i.toString();
  currMethod = currClass.getMethod(id);
  Type retType = currMethod.type();
  for ( int i = 0; i < n.fl.size(); i++ )
       {n.fl.elementAt(i).accept(this); }
  for ( int i = 0; i < n.vl.size(); i++ )
       {n.vl.elementAt(i).accept(this); }
  for ( int i = 0; i < n.sl.size(); i++ )
       {n.sl.elementAt(i).accept(this); }
  if (symbolTable.compareTypes(retType, n.e.accept(new
 TypeCheckExpVisitor()))==false) {
      System.out.println("Wrong return type for method "+ id);
  }
}
```


TypeCheckExpVisitor

```
public class TypeCheckExpVisitor extends TypeDepthFirstVisitor {
…
 // Exp e1,e2;
 public Type visit(Plus n) {
  if (! (n.e1.accept(this) instanceof IntegerType) ) {
    System.out.println("Left side of Plus must be of type integer");
  }

  if (! (n.e2.accept(this) instanceof IntegerType) ) {
    System.out.println("Right side of Plus must be of type integer");
  }

    return new IntegerType();
 }
…
```


Method Calls `e.i(el₁,el₂,…)`

- Lookup method in the **`SymbolTable`** to get parameter list and result type
- Find **`i`** in class **`e`**
- The parameter types in the parameter list for the method must be matched against the actual arguments **el_1**, **el_2**, …
- Result type becomes the type of the method call as a whole.

TypeCheckExpVisitor (2)

```
  …
  // Exp e;
  // Identifier i;
  // ExpList el;
  public Type visit(Call n) {
    if (! (n.e.accept(this) instanceof IdentifierType)){
        System.out.println("method "+ n.i.toString()+ "called  on something
that is not a class or Object.");
    }

    String mname = n.i.toString();
    String cname = ((IdentifierType) n.e.accept(this)).s;
    Method calledMethod = TypeCheckVisitor.symbolTable.getMethod(mname,cname);

    for ( int i = 0; i < n.el.size(); i++ ) {
        Type t1 =null;
        Type t2 =null;

        if (calledMethod.getParamAt(i)!=null)
            t1 = calledMethod.getParamAt(i).type();
        t2 = n.el.elementAt(i).accept(this);
        if (!TypeCheckVisitor.symbolTable.compareTypes(t1,t2)){
            System.out.println("Type Error in arguments passed to " +cname+"."
+mname);
        }
    }
    return TypeCheckVisitor.symbolTable.getMethodType(mname,cname);
  }
```


What you should do now…

- Read and digest chapter 5
  - you don't need functional implementation styles or mutiple tables
- Get ready further to develop the MiniJava typechecker… assessment 2 awaits!

Schedule

- ***Activation records (stack frames)***
- Monday 10th & 17th March, 2008
  - 11:00 - 12:50
  - C.343