PROGRAM 5.7. Package Types.

```
public class Table (
  public Table();
  public Table put(Symbol key, Object value);
  public Object get(Symbol key);
  public java.util.Enumeration keys();
}
```

The put function would return a new table without modifying the old one. We wouldn't need beginScope and endScope, because we could keep an old version of the table even as we use the new version.

5.2 BINDINGS FOR THE Tiger COMPILER

With what should a symbol table be filled – that is, what is a binding? Tiger has two separate name spaces, one for types and the other for functions and variables. A type identifier will be associated with a Types. Type. The Types module describes the structure of types, as shown in Program 5.7.

The primitive types in Tiger are int and string; all types are either primitive types or constructed using records and arrays from other (primitive, record, or array) types.

Record types carry additional information: the names and types of the fields.

Arrays work just like records: the ARRAY constructor carries the type of the array elements.

5.2. BINDINGS FOR THE TIGER COMPILER

For array and record types, there is another implicit piece of information carried by the ARRAY or RECORD object: the address of the object itself. That is, every Tiger-language "record type expression" creates a new (and different) record type, even if the fields are similar. We can encode this in our compiler by using == to compare record types to see if they are the same.

If we were compiling some other language, we might have the following as a legal program:

```
let type a = {x: int, y: int}
    type b = {x: int, y: int}
    var i : a := ...
    var j : b := ...
in i := j
end
```

This is illegal in Tiger, but would be legal in a language where structurally equivalent types are interchangeable. To test type equality in a compiler for such a language, we would need to examine record types field by field, recursively.

However, the following Tiger program is legal, since type ${\tt c}$ is the same as type ${\tt a}$:

```
let type a = {x: int, y: int}
    type c = a
    var i : a := ...
    var j : c := ...
in i := j
end
```

It is not the type declaration that causes a new and distinct type to be made, but the type expression {x:int,y:int}.

In Tiger, the expression nil belongs to any record type. We handle this exceptional case by inventing a special "nil" type. There are also expressions that return "no value," so we invent a type VOID.

When processing mutually recursive types, we will need a place-holder for types whose name we know but whose definition we have not yet seen. The NAME class has a bind method to fill in the place-holder when the definition is known. Then the actual() method (which for an ordinary type t simply returns t) for NAME types returns the filled-in binding:

```
package Types;
public class NAME extends Type {
   public Symbol.Symbol name;
   private Type binding;
   public NAME(Symbol.Symbol n) {name=n;}
   public Type actual() {return binding.actual();}
   public void bind(Type t) {binding = t;}
}
```

ENVIRONMENTS

The table type of the Symbol module provides mappings from symbols to bindings. Thus, we will have a *type environment* and a *value environment*. The following Tiger program demonstrates that one environment will not suffice:

```
let type a = int
    var a : a := 5
    var b : a := a
    in b+a
end
```

The symbol a denotes the type "a" in syntactic contexts where type identifiers are expected, and the variable "a" in syntactic contexts where variables are expected.

For a type identifier, we need to remember only the type that it stands for. Thus a type environment is a mapping from symbol to Types.Type—that is, a Symbol.Table whose get function always returns Types.Type objects. As shown in Figure 5.8, the Env class contains the table tenv, which is initialized to the "base" or "predefined" type environment. This maps the symbol int to Types.INT and string to Types.STRING.

We need to know, for each value identifier, whether it is a variable or a function; if a variable, what is its type; if a function, what are its parameter and result types, and so on. The type enventry holds all this information, as shown in Figure 5.8; and a value environment is a mapping from symbol to environment-entry.

A variable will map to a VarEntry telling its type. When we look up a function we will obtain a FunEntry containing:

formals The types of the formal parameters.
result The type of result returned by the function (or UNIT).

For type-checking, only formals and result are needed; we will add other fields later for translation into intermediate representation.

```
package Semant;
class Env {
   Table venv; // value environment
   Table tenv; //type environment
   ErrorMsg ErrorMsg errorMsg;
   Env(ErrorMsg.ErrorMsg err) {
        errorMsg=err;
         initialize venv and tenv with predefined identifiers
abstract class Entry ()
class VarEntry extends Entry (
   Types Type ty;
   VarEntry(Types.Type t) (ty=t;)
class FunEntry extends Entry (
   Types RECORD formals:
   Types. Type result;
   public FunEntry(Types.RECORD f, Types.Type r) (formals=f; result=r;)
```

FIGURE 5.8. Environments for type-checking.

The Env class constructor initializes the venv environment by putting bindings for predefined functions flush, ord, chr, size, and so on, described in Appendix A.

Environments are used during the type-checking phase.

As types, variables, and functions are declared, the type-checker augments the environments; they are consulted for each identifier that is found during processing of expressions (type-checking, intermediate code generation).

5.3 TYPE-CHECKING EXPRESSIONS

The class Semant.Semant performs semantic analysis – including type-checking – of abstract syntax. It contains a class variable env for accessing environments and printing error messages:

```
package Semant contains classes for type-checking.

class Semant the only public class in this package; the main type-checking module.

abstract class Entry for bindings in value environments.

class VarEntry for variable bindings.

class FunEntry for function bindings.

class OneFunc helps in processing function declarations.

class OneType helps in processing type declarations.

class ExpTy holds the result of translating and type-checking an expression.

class Env holds a value environment, type environment, and error-message printer; and is responsible for initializing the environments with predefined identifiers.

package Types describes Tiger-language types.

package Symbol handles symbols and environment tables.

class Symbol makes strings into unique Symbol objects.

class Table does environments with Scopes.
```

TABLE 5.9. Organization of packages for semantic analysis.

```
public class Semant {
   Env env;
   public Semant(ErrorMsg.ErrorMsg err) {this(new Env(err));}
   Semant(Env e) {env=e;}

   ExpTy transVar(Absyn.Var e) { ... }
   ExpTy transExp(Absyn.Exp e) { ... }
   Exp transDec(Absyn.Dec e) { ... }
   Ty transTy (Absyn.Ty e) { ... }
}
```

The type-checker is a recursive function of the abstract syntax tree. I will call it transExp because we will later augment this function not only to type-check but also to translate the expressions into intermediate code. The arguments of transExp are a value environment venv, a type environment tenv, and an expression. The result will be an ExpTy, containing a translated expression and its Tiger-language type:

```
import Translate.Exp;
class ExpTy { Exp exp; Type ty;
   ExpTy(Exp e, Type t) {exp=e; ty=t;}
}
```

where Translate. Exp is the translation of the expression into intermediate code, and ty is the type of the expression.

5.3. TYPE-CHECKING EXPRESSIONS

To avoid a discussion of intermediate code at this point, let us define a dummy Translate module:

```
package Translate;
abstract class Exp ()
```

and use null for every \mbox{Exp} value. We will flesh out the $\mbox{Translate.Exp}$ type in Chapter 7.

Let's take a very simple case: an addition expression $e_1 + e_2$. In Tiger, both operands must be integers (the type-checker must check this) and the result will be an integer (the type-checker will return this type).

In most languages, addition is *overloaded*: the + operator stands for either integer addition or real addition. If the operands are both integers, the result is integer; if the operands are both real, the result is real. And in many languages if one operand is an integer and the other is real, the integer is implicitly converted into a real, and the result is real. Of course, the compiler will have to make this conversion explicit in the machine code it generates.

Tiger's nonoverloaded type-checking is easy to implement:

```
ExpTy transExp(Absyn.OpExp e) {
   ExpTy left = transExp(e.left);
   ExpTy right = transExp(e.right);
   if (e.oper == Absyn.OpExp.PLUS) {
      if (! (left.ty instanceof Types.INT))
            error(e.left.pos, 'integer required');
      if (! (right.ty instanceof Types.INT))
            error(e.right.pos, 'integer required');
      return new ExpTy(null, new Types.INT());
   )
}
```

This works well enough, although we have not yet written the cases for other kinds of expressions (and operators other than +), so when the recursive calls on left and right are executed, it won't work. You can fill in the other cases yourself (see page 127).

It's also a bit clumsy. The case of checking for an integer type is common enough to warrant a function definition, checkInt. A cleaned-up version of transExp looks like:

TYPE-CHECKING VARIABLES, SUBSCRIPTS, AND FIELDS

Each (overloaded) version of transExp operates on a different subclass of Absyn.Exp. Then a "dispatch" function transExp(Absyn.Exp e), admittedly rather tedious to write, chooses from among the various overloaded versions of transExp. Similar dispatch functions will be necessary for the transVar and transDec methods as well.

```
ExpTy transVar(Absyn.SimpleVar v) (
   Entry x = (Entry)env.venv.get(v.name);
   if (x instanceof VarEntry) (
      VarEntry ent = (VarEntry)x;
      return new ExpTy(null, ent.ty);
   }
   else (
      error(v.pos, "undefined variable");
      return new ExpTy(null, INT); // anything will do!
   }
}
```

The clause of transVar that type-checks a SimpleVar illustrates the use of environments to look up a variable binding. If the identifer is present in the environment and is bound to a VarEntry (not a FunEntry), then its type is the one given in the VarEntry (Figure 5.8).

The type in the VarEntry will sometimes be a "NAME type" (Program 5.7), and all the types returned from transExp should be "actual" types (with the names traced through to their underlying definitions). It is therefore useful to have a new method in the Types.Type class, perhaps called actual(), to skip past all the NAMEs. The result will be a Types.ty that is not a NAME, though if it is a record or array type it might contain NAME types to describe its components.

For function calls, it is necessary to look up the function identifier in the environment, yielding a FunEntry containing a list of parameter types. These types must then be matched against the arguments in the function-call expression. The FunEntry also gives the result type of the function, which becomes the type of the function call as a whole.

Every kind of expression has its own type-checking rules, but in all the cases I have not already described the rules can be derived by reference to the *Tiger Language Reference Manual* (Appendix A).

5.4 TYPE-CHECKING DECLARATIONS

Environments are constructed and augmented by declarations. In Tiger, declarations appear only in a let expression. Type-checking a let is easy enough, using transDec to translate declarations:

Here transExp marks the current "state" of the environments by calling beginScope(); calls transDec to augment the environments (venv,

tenv) with new declarations; translates the body expression; then reverts to the original state of the environments using endScope().

VARIABLE DECLARATIONS

In principle, processing a declaration is quite simple: a declaration augments an environment by a new binding, and the augmented environment is used in the processing of subsequent declarations and expressions.

The only problem is with (mutually) recursive type and function declarations. So we will begin with the special case of nonrecursive declarations.

For example, it is quite simple to process a variable declaration without a type constraint, such as var x := exp.

```
Exp transDec(Absyn.VarDec d) {
    env.venv.put(d.name, new VarEntry(transExp(d.init).ty));
    return null;
}
```

What could be simpler? In practice, if d. typ is present, as in

```
var x : type-id := exp
```

it will be necessary to check that the constraint and the initializing expression are compatible. Also, initializing expressions of type NIL must be constrained by a RECORD type.

TYPE DECLARATIONS

Nonrecursive type declarations are not too hard:

```
Exp transDec(Absyn.TypeDec d) {
  env.tenv.put(d.name, transTy(d.ty));
  return null;
}
```

The transTy function translates type expressions as found in the abstract syntax (Absyn.Ty) to the digested type descriptions that we will put into environments (Types.Type). This translation is done by recurring over the structure of an Absyn.Type, turning Absyn.RecordTy into Types.RECORD, etc. While translating, transTy just looks up any symbols it finds in the type environment tenv.

The program fragment shown is not very general, since it handles only a type-declaration list of length 1, that is, a singleton list of mutually recursive type declarations. The reader is invited to generalize this to lists of arbitrary length.

FUNCTION DECLARATIONS

Function declarations are a bit more tedious:

This is a very stripped-down implementation: it handles only the case of a single function; it does not handle recursive functions; it handles only a function with a result (a function, not a procedure); it doesn't handle program errors such as undeclared type identifiers, etc; and it doesn't check that the type of the body expression matches the declared result type.

So what does it do? Consider the Tiger declaration

```
function f(a: ta, b: tb) : rt = body.
```

First, transDec looks up the result-type identifier rt in the type environment. Then it calls the local function transTypeFields on each formal parameter; this yields a "record type," $(a,t_a),(b,t_b)$ where t_a is the NAME type found by looking up ta in the type environment. Now transDec has enough information to construct the FunEntry for this function and enter it in the value environment.

Next, the formal parameters are entered (as VarEntrys) into the value environment; this environment is used to process the *body* (with the transExp function). Finally, endScope() discards the formal-parameters (but not the FunEntry) from the environment; the resulting environment is used for processing expressions that are allowed to call the function f.

RECURSIVE DECLARATIONS

The implementations above will not work on recursive type or function declarations, because they will encounter undefined type or function identifiers (in transTy for recursive record types or transExp(body) for recursive functions).

The solution for a set of mutually recursive things (types or functions) $t_1, ..., t_n$ is to put all the "headers" in the environment first, resulting in an environment e_1 . Then process all the "bodies" in the environment e_1 . During processing of the bodies it will be necessary to look up some of the newly defined names, but they will in fact be there - though some of them may be empty headers without bodies.

What is a header? For a type declaration such as

```
type list = (first: int, rest: list)
```

the header is approximately type list =.

To enter this header into an environment tenv we can use a NAME type with an empty binding:

```
env.tenv.put(name, new Types.NAME(name));
```

Now, we can call transty on the "body" of the type declaration, that is, on the record expression (first: int, rest: list).

It's important that transTy stop as soon as it gets to any NAME type. If, for example, transTy behaved like Types. Type. actual () and tried to look "through" the NAME type bound to the identifier list, all it would find (in this case) would be null - which it is certainly not prepared for. This null can be replaced only by a valid type after the entire {first:int, rest:list} is translated.

The type that transTy returns can then be assigned into a private field within the NAME object, using the bind () method. Now we have a fully complete type environment, on which actual () will not have a problem.

Every cycle in a set of mutually recursive type declarations must pass through a record or array declaration; the declaration

```
type a = b
type b = d
type c = a
typed = a
```

contains an illegal cycle $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow d \rightarrow a$. Illegal cycles should be detected by the type-checker.

Mutually recursive functions are handled similarly. The first pass gathers information about the header of each function (function name, formal parameter list, return type) but leaves the bodies of the functions untouched. In this pass, the types of the formal parameters are needed, but not their names (which cannot be seen from outside the function).

The second pass processes the bodies of all functions in the mutually recursive declaration, taking advantage of the environment augmented with all the function headers. For each body, the formal parameter list is processed again, this time entering the parameters as VarEntrys in the value environment.

PROGRAM TYPE-CHECKING

Write a type-checking phase for your compiler, a class with the following

```
package Semant;
public class Semant {
 public Semant(ErrorMsg.ErrorMsg err);
 public void transProg(Absyn.Exp exp);
```

that type-checks an abstract syntax tree and produces any appropriate error messages about mismatching types or undeclared identifiers.

Also provide the implementation of the Env class described in this chapter. Make a module Main that calls the parser, yielding an Absyn. Exp, and then calls transProg on this expression.

You must use precisely the Absyn interface described in Figure 4.11, but you are free to follow or ignore any advice given in this chapter about the internal organization of the Semant module.

You'll need your parser that produces abstract syntax trees. In addition, supporting files available in \$TIGER/chap5 include:

Types/ Describes data types of the Tiger language.

and other files as before. Modify the makefile from the previous exercise as necessary.

Part a. Implement a simple type-checker and declaration processor that does not handle recursive functions or recursive data types (forward references to functions or types need not be handled). Also don't bother to check that each break statement is within a for or while statement.

Part b. Augment your simple type-checker to handle recursive (and mutually recursive) functions; (mutually) recursive type declarations; and correct nesting of break statements.