



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI  
INFORMATICA - SCIENZA E INGEGNERIA

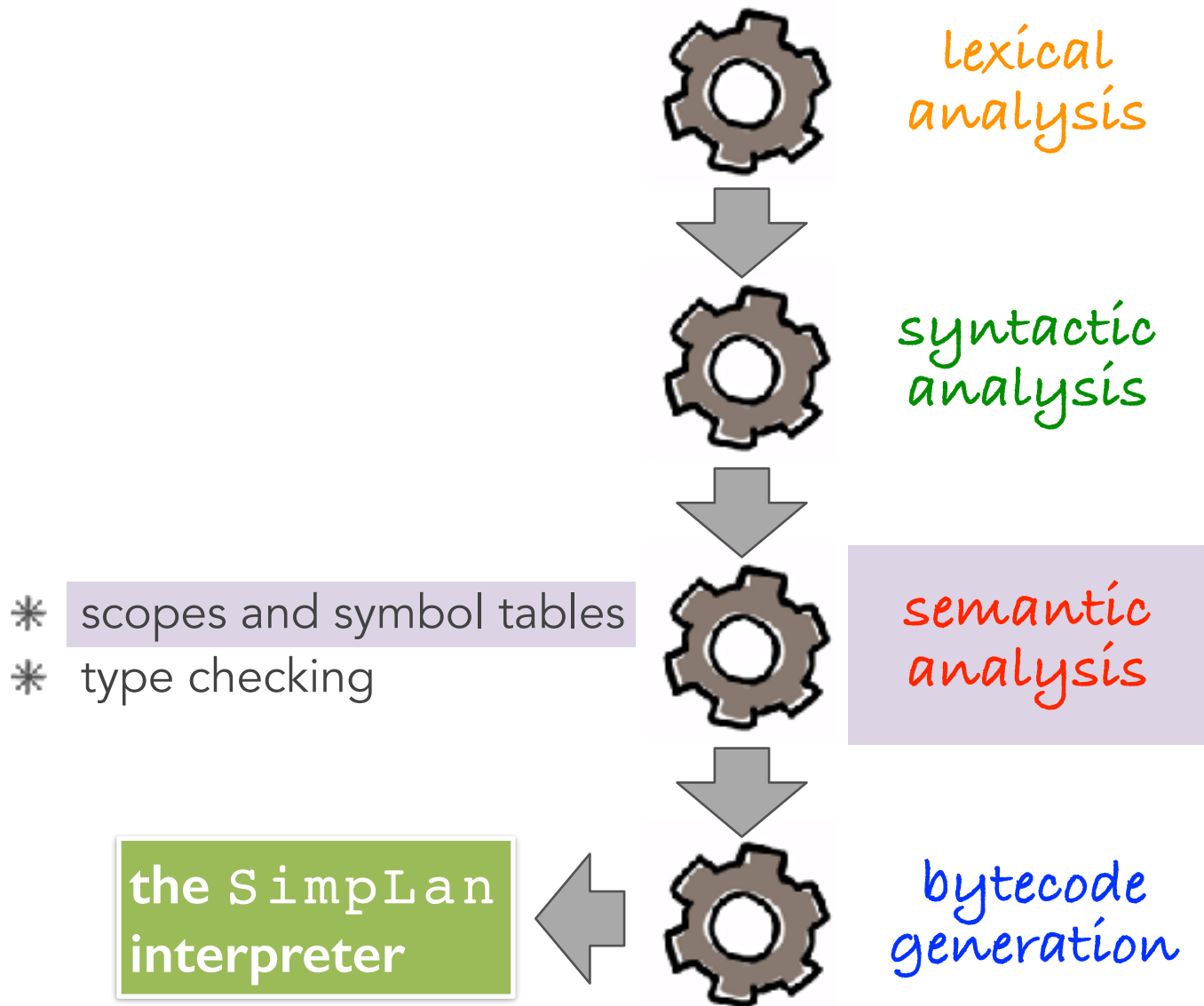
# SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

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**CORSO 72671 - COMPLEMENTI DI LINGUAGGI DI PROGRAMMAZIONE**

# THIS LECTURE



# OUTLINE

- \* how to build the symbol table
- \* how to use it to find
  - multiple declared identifiers
  - undeclared identifiers
- \* symbol tables in `ANTLR`

## **reference:**

- \* Torben Mørgensen: Basics of Compiler Design, Chapter 4

# THE COMPILER SO FAR

## lexical analysis

- \* detects *inputs with illegal tokens* — e.g. `main£ ();`

## parsing

- \* detects inputs with *ill-formed parse trees* — e.g. missing semicolons

# THE PURPOSE OF SEMANTIC ANALYSIS — AN EXAMPLE

an **erroneous** code

```
class MyClass implements MyInterface {
    string myInteger;
    void doSomething() {
        int[] x = new string;
        x[5] = myInteger * y;
    }
    void doSomething() {
    }
    int fibonacci(int n) {
        return doSomething() + fibonacci(n - 1);
    }
}
```

how many **errors** can you find?

# THE PURPOSE OF SEMANTIC ANALYSIS — AN EXAMPLE

an erroneous code

```
class MyClass implements MyInterface {  
    string myInteger;  
    void doSomething() {  
        int[] x = new string  
        x[5] => myInteger * y;  
    }  
    void doSomething() {  
    }  
    int fibonacci(int n) {  
        return doSomething() + fibonacci(n - 1);  
    }  
}
```

Interface is not declared

wrong type

undeclared id

can't redefine functions

can't add void

how many errors can you find?

no main function

# SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

- \* catches the errors that have not been found by the lexer and the parser
- \* typical **semantic errors**:
  - **undeclared variable**: a variable should not be used before being declared
  - **multiple declarations**: a variable should be declared (in the same scope) at most once
  - **type mismatch**: type of the left-hand side of an assignment should match the type of the right-hand side
  - **wrong arguments**: functions/methods should be called with the right number and types of arguments

**question**: why these errors cannot be caught before?

# LIMITATIONS OF CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

using context-free grammars

- \* how would you prevent **duplicate** identifier definitions?
- \* how would you differentiate variables of one type from variables of another type?
- \* how would you ensure classes implement all interface methods?

for most programming languages, these are **provably** impossible

- \* use the **pumping lemma for context-free languages**



# A SIMPLE SEMANTIC ANALYSER

works in **two** phases

1. **ScopeChecking** — it traverses the AST created by the parser and, for each **scope** in the program:

- \* processes the **declarations** that is **(a)** adds new entries to the symbol table and **(b)** reports any variables that are multiply declared
- \* processes the **statements** that is **(a)** finds uses of undeclared variables and **(b)** updates the "ID" nodes of the AST to point to the appropriate symbol-table entry

this is the `checkSemantics` method in `SimpLan`

2. **TypeChecking** — it traverses the AST (**again!**) and processes all the statements in the program

- \* uses the symbol-table information to determine the **type** of each expression, and to find type errors

this is the `typeCheck` method in `SimpLan`

- actually there is an optimization: the symbol table is defined after the scope-checking and nodes only contain the relevant infos

# A SIMPLE SEMANTIC ANALYSER

why there are **two** phases?

- \* because this simplifies the analysis
- \* because we show two different ways of raising errors
- \* because they return different values (list-of-errors and types)

this is my design choice: not sure it is better than the other choice (= make just one visit)

**remark:** modern semantic analysers performs **several visits** (not just two!) of the AST

- \* because there are identifiers that are used before their declaration
  - methods in oo languages
  - mutual recursive functions

# SCOPE CHECKING: WHAT IS IN A NAME?

- \* the same name in programs of modern languages may refer to fundamentally different things
- \* this is a perfectly legal Java code:

```
public class A {  
    char A;  
    A A(A A) {  
        A.A = 'A';  
        return A((A) A);  
    }  
}
```

what all these 'A'  
are?

# SCOPE CHECKING: WHAT IS IN A NAME?

this is a perfectly legal C++ code:

```
int Awful() {  
    int x = 137;  
    {  
        string x = "Scope!";  
        if (float x = 0)  
            double x = x;  
    }  
    if (x == 137) cout << "Y";  
}
```

what all  
these 'x' are?

# SCOPES AND SYMBOL TABLES

the **scope of a declaration** is the set of locations in a program where the name refers to the declaration's name

- \* the introduction of new variables into scope may hide older names
- \* how do we keep track of **what's visible**?

**we use symbol tables**

- \* a symbol table is a map from a name to the thing that the name refers to
- \* as we run our semantic analysis, we continuously update the symbol table with information about what is in scope
- \* the symbol table design is **influenced by what kind of scoping rule** is used by the programming language

# SCOPES AND SYMBOL TABLES

## questions:

- \* what does the symbol table looks like in practice?
- \* what operations need to be defined on it and how do we implement it?

# SYMBOL TABLES — A FIRST EXAMPLE

```
0: int x = 137;
1: int z = 42;
2: int MyFunction(int x, int y) {
3:     printf( "%d,%d,%d\n" ,x@2,y@2,z@1 );
4:     {
5:         int x, z;
6:         z@5 = y@2;
7:         x@5 = z@5;
8:         {
9:             int y = x@5;
10:            {
11:                printf( "%d,%d,%d\n" ,x@5,y@9,z@5 );
12:            }
13:            printf( "%d,%d,%d\n" ,x@5,y@9,z@5 );
14:        }
15:        printf( "%d,%d,%d\n" ,x@5,y@2,z@5 );
16:    }
17: }
```

symbol table

x	0
z	1
x	2
y	2
x	5
z	5
y	9

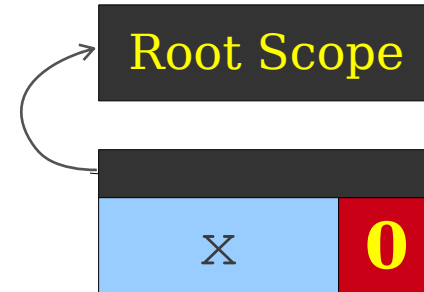
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

Root Scope

```
0:  int x;
1:  int y;
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)
3:  {
4:      int w, z;
5:      {
6:          int y;
7:      }
8:      {
9:          int w;
10:     }
11: }
```



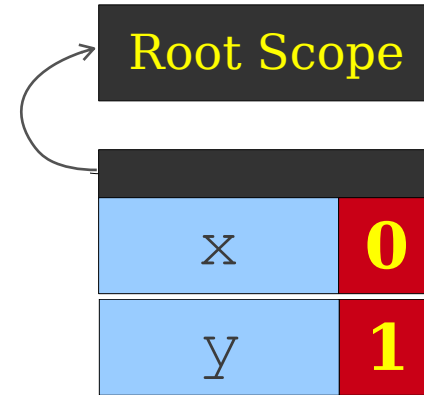
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE



```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:      {  
9:          int w;  
10:     }  
11: }
```

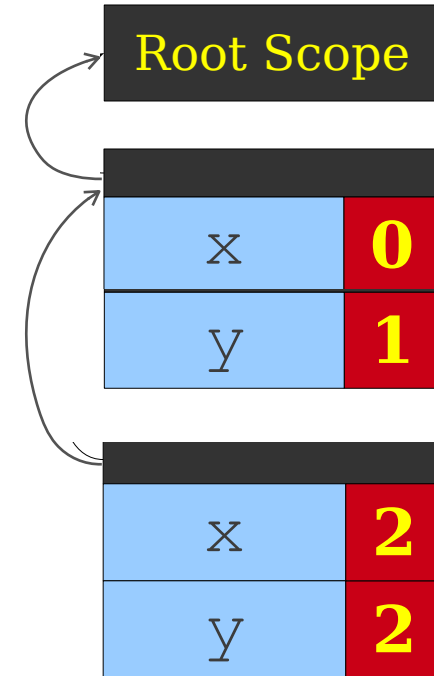
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```



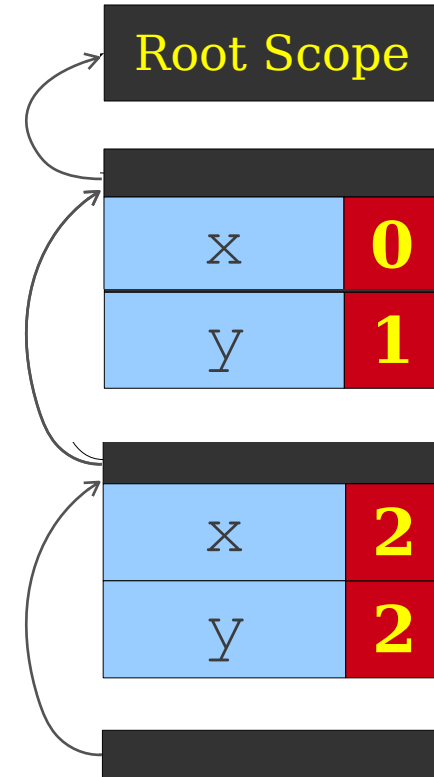
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```



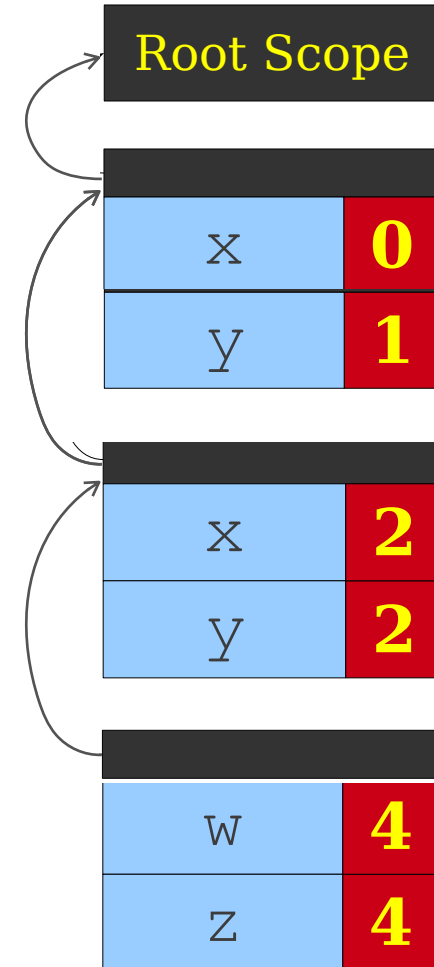
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```



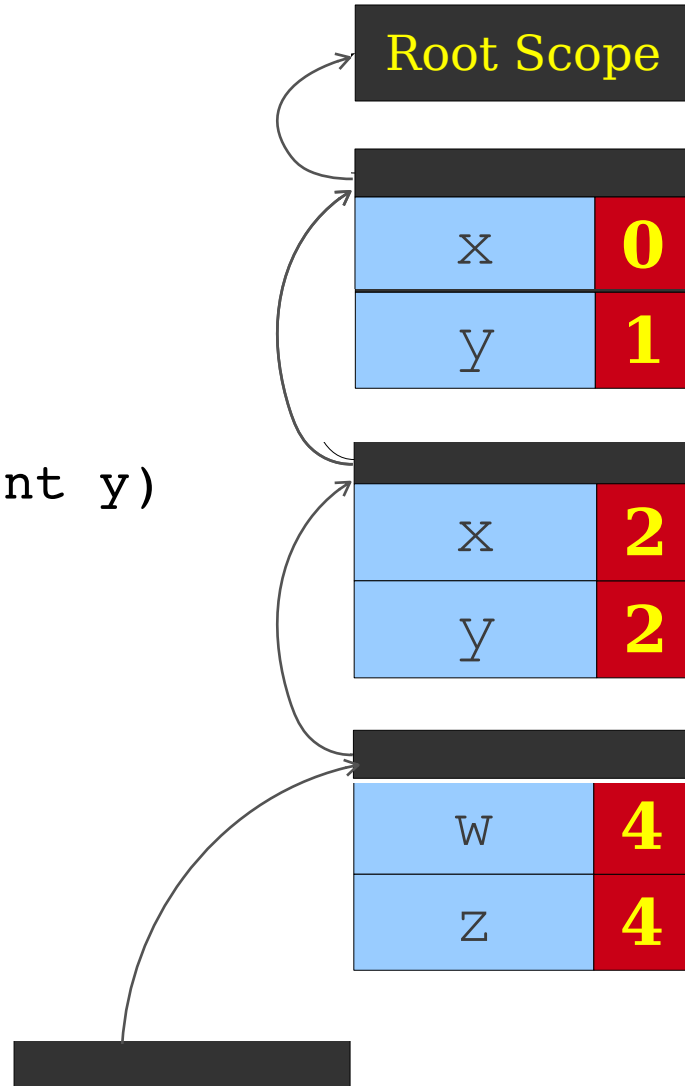
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:      {  
9:          int w;  
10:     }  
11: }
```



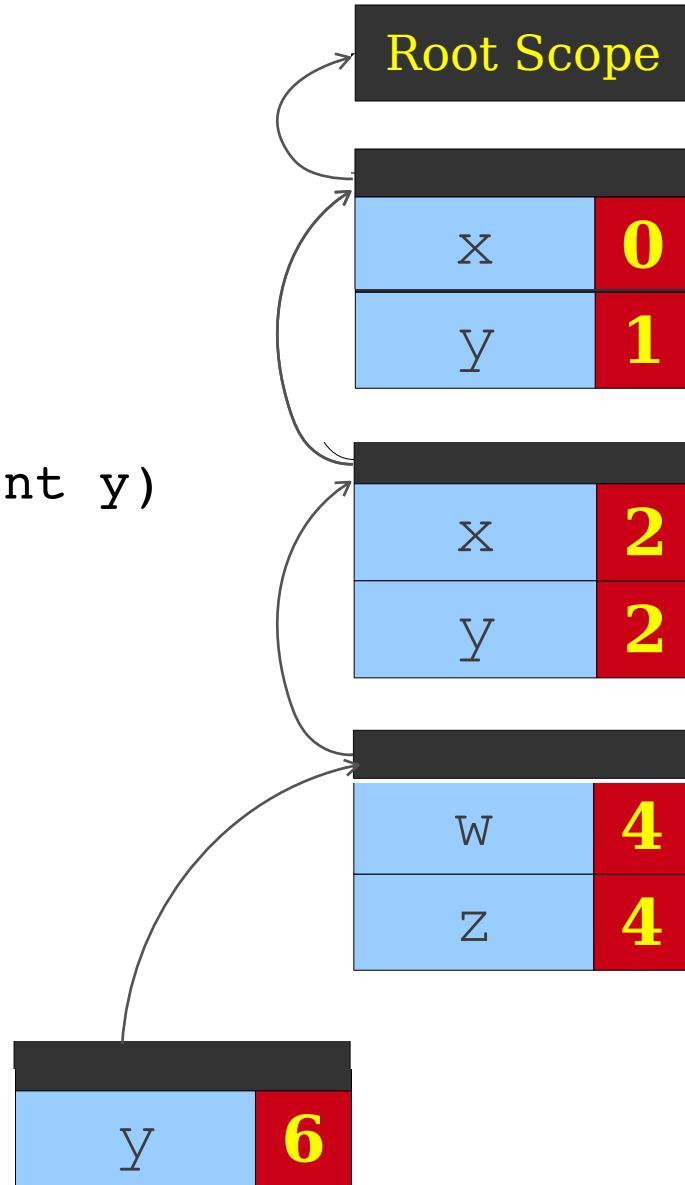
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:      {  
9:          int w;  
10:     }  
11: }
```



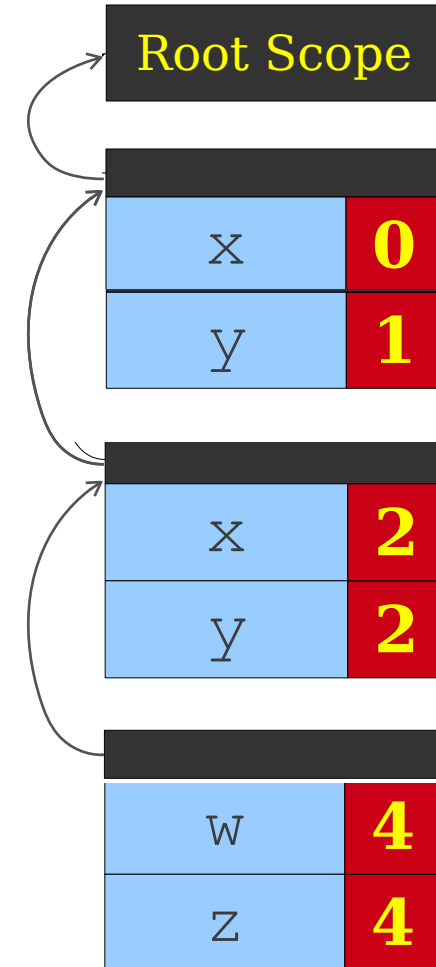
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:      {  
9:          int w;  
10:     }  
11: }
```



# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

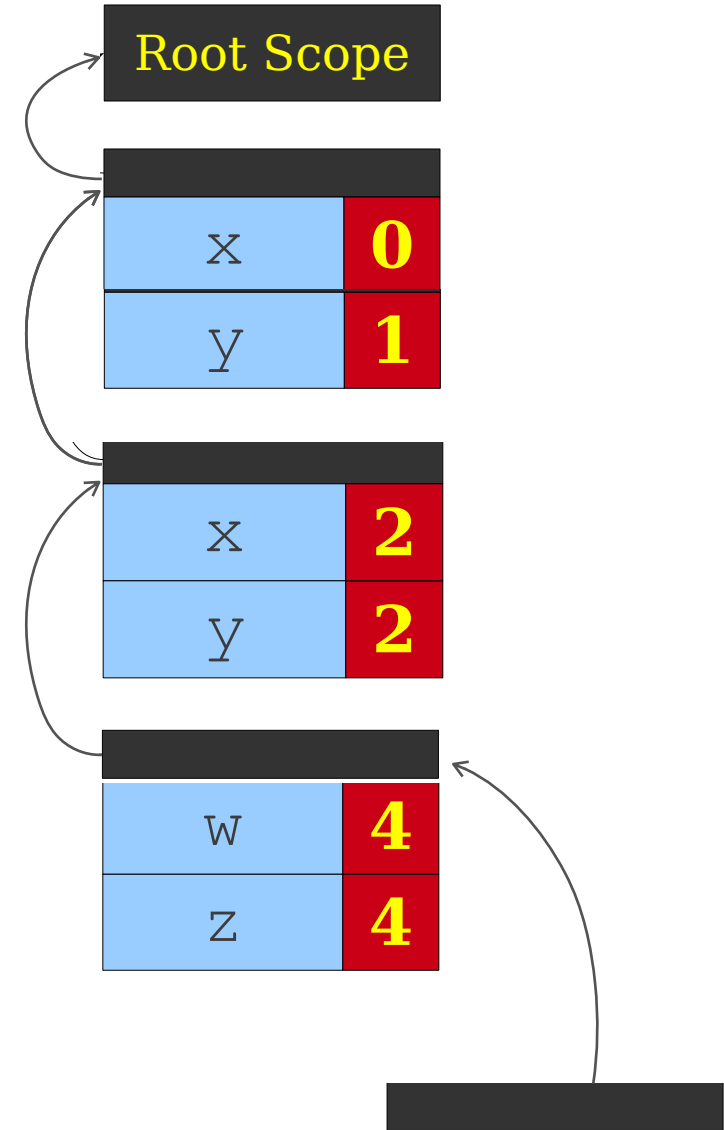
```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```





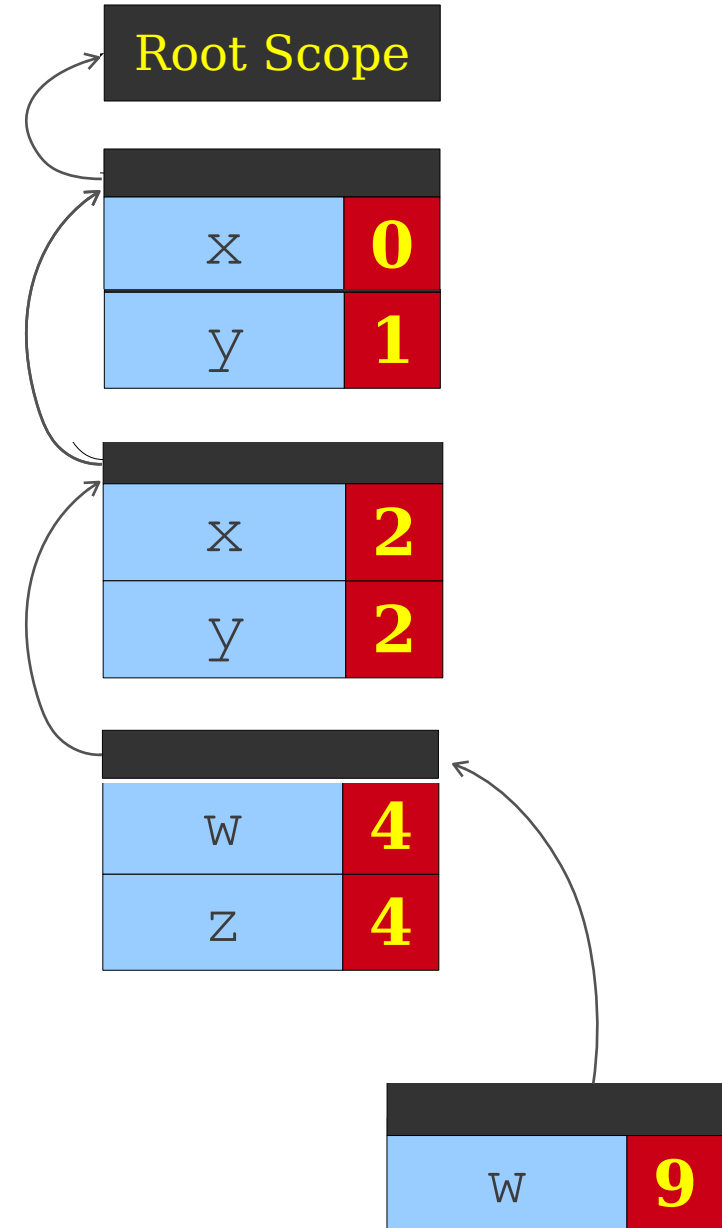
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:  {  
9:      int w;  
10: }  
11: }
```



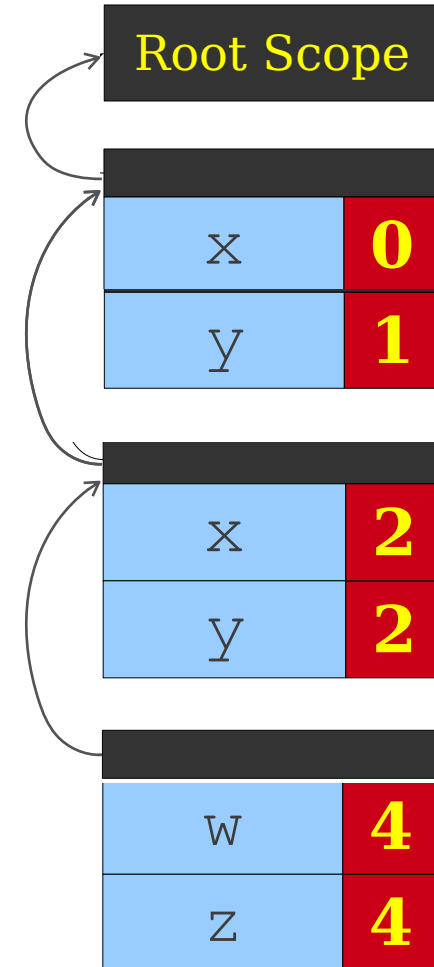
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:  int x;  
1:  int y;  
2:  int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:  {  
4:      int w, z;  
5:      {  
6:          int y;  
7:      }  
8:      {  
9:          int w;  
10:     }  
11: }
```



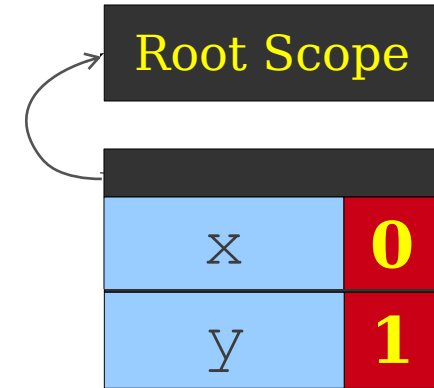
# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```



# SYMBOL TABLES — A SECOND EXAMPLE

```
0:   int x;  
1:   int y;  
2:   int MyFunction(int x, int y)  
3:   {  
4:       int w, z;  
5:       {  
6:           int y;  
7:       }  
8:       {  
9:           int w;  
10:      }  
11:  }
```



*the structure does not mention MyFunction, which is incorrect!*

# SYMBOL TABLES = STACK OF SCOPES

logically, the **symbol table** is a **linked structure of scopes**

\* each scope stores a pointer to its parents, but not vice-versa

\* from any point in the program, the symbol table appears to be a **stack**

- every point of the program (e.g every node of the syntax tree) has its own symbol table
- the symbol table implementation may use pointers between nodes to avoid copying

# WHAT OPERATION DO WE NEED?

given the above assumptions, we will need:

\* **add** a new name into the symbol table with its attributes

- in the type checking this operation will be  $\text{insert}(\text{Env}, x, T) = \text{Env}[x \mapsto T]$

\* **lookup** a name in the **current and enclosing scopes**

- to check if it is multiply declared
- to check for a use of an undeclared name, and
- to link a use with the corresponding symbol-table entry

\* do **what must be done** when a **new scope is entered**

- in the type checking this operation will be  $\text{newScope}(\text{Env}) = \text{Env} \bullet []$

\* do **what must be done** when **a scope is exited**

- in the type checking this operation will be  $\text{exitScope}(\text{Env} \bullet \text{Env}') = \text{Env}$

# SYMBOL TABLE, FORMALLY = ENVIRONMENT

formally, a scope is a map from variables to something

in `SimpLan`, "something" is an object of `STentry`

- `STentry` contains the infos about the type
- and other infos

- \* a scope is denoted by the Greek letter  $\Gamma$ , and it is called **environment**
- \* the simplest symbol table consisting of one scope is therefore an environment
- \* also **stacks of scopes** will be called **environments**

# FORMAL DEFINITION OF $\Gamma$

## Definition: environment

the environment  $\Gamma$  is a **finite partial map**  $\text{Id} \rightarrow \text{STentry}$

- \* that takes identifiers (variables and function symbols) and returns STentries
- \*  $\Gamma$  **may be extended**: for example we want to extend  $\Gamma$  with the binding  $[z \mapsto T]$ 
  - $\Gamma[z \mapsto T]$  means the environment  $\Gamma'$  such that

$$\Gamma'(u) = \begin{cases} T & \text{if } u = z \\ \Gamma(u) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\Gamma$  may be formalized by **explicitating the list of the bindings**

- \* **example**: let  $\Gamma = [x \mapsto T1, y \mapsto T2]$  then
  - $\Gamma(x) = T1$  and  $\Gamma(y) = T2$
- \*  $\emptyset$  is the **empty map** (that may be also noted with  $[ ]$ )
- \* the notation  $\Gamma[x \mapsto T3]$  also means **updating**:
  - $\Gamma[x \mapsto T3] = [x \mapsto T3, y \mapsto T2]$



# STACK OF ENVIRONMENTS

**stacks of environments** are denoted  $\Gamma \bullet \Gamma'$  ( $\Gamma'$  is the top-environment)

*abuse of notation!  $\Gamma$  indicates a single environment and a sequence of environments!*

stack of environments are called **environments** and are denoted with  $\Gamma$

$$\ast \text{ lookup: } \Gamma \bullet \Gamma' (x) = \begin{cases} \Gamma' (x) & \text{if } x \in \text{dom}(\Gamma') \\ \Gamma (x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\ast$  the add operation  $(\Gamma \bullet \Gamma') [x \mapsto T]$  becomes  $\Gamma \bullet (\Gamma' [x \mapsto T])$ , i.e. add  $x$  in the top environment

$\ast$  if  $\Gamma$  is a sequence of environments,  $\text{top}(\Gamma)$  returns the top environment

$\ast$  the **add-new-scope** operation is  $\Gamma \bullet [ ]$

# ASSUMPTIONS

from now on, assume that our language:

- \* uses **static scoping**
- \* requires that **all names be declared** before they are used
- \* **does not allow multiple declarations** of a name in the same scope
  - even for different kinds of names
- \* does allow **the same name to be declared in multiple nested scopes**
  - but only once per scope
- \* uses the same scope for function's/method's parameters and for the local variables declared at the beginning of the method

# SYMBOL TABLE IMPLEMENTATION

assume that the symbol table will be used to answer two questions (additional simplification):

1. given a declaration of a name, is there already a declaration of the same name in the current scope ?
2. given a use of a name, to which declaration does it correspond (using the "most closely nested" rule), or is it undeclared?

**remark:** point 2 is also relevant when you generate code because you need to store an offset in the activation record

- \* therefore, the symbol table, or part of it, must be kept till the end of the compilation

we keep "part of it"

# TWO POSSIBLE SYMBOL TABLE IMPLEMENTATIONS

1. a **list of (hash)tables**
2. a **(hash)table of lists**

for each approach, we will consider

- \* what must be done when processing a declaration,
- \* when processing a use, and
- \* when entering and exiting a scope.

**simplification:** assume each symbol-table entry includes only

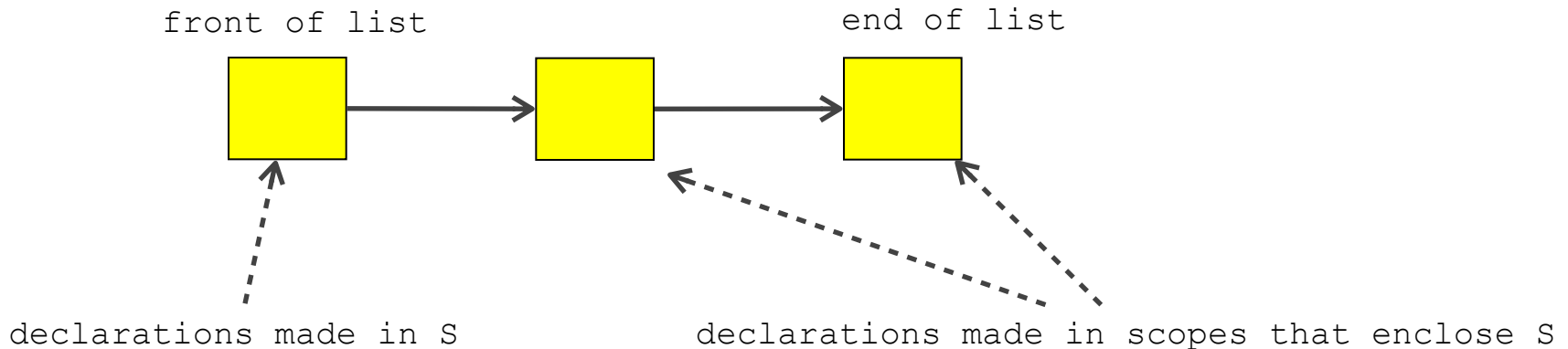
- \* the symbol name
- \* its type
- \* the nesting level of its declaration

# IMPLEMENTATION 1: LIST OF HASHTABLES

the idea:

- \* the symbol table **is** a list of hashtables
- \* one hashtable **for each currently visible scope**

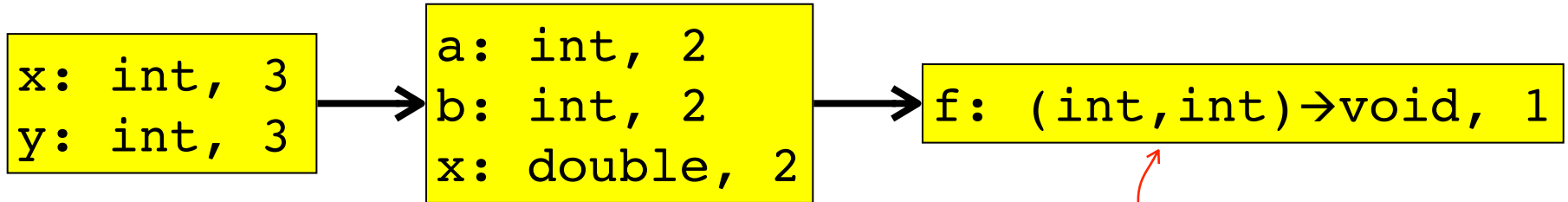
when processing a scope **S**:



# EXAMPLE:

```
void f(int a, int b) {  
    double x;  
    while (...) { int x, y; ... ★ }  
}  
void g() { f(4,5); }
```

at ★ the symbol table is :



method g has still  
not been parsed

method type:

function with domain → codomain

# LIST OF HASHTABLES: THE OPERATIONS

1. **on scope entry:**
  - \* increment the **current level number** and **add** a new empty hashtable to the front of the list
2. **to process a declaration** of **x**:
  - \* **lookup** **x** in the first table in the list
  - \* if it is there, then issue a "multiply declared variable" error
  - \* otherwise, add **x** to the first table in the list
3. **to process a use** of **x**:
  - \* lookup **x** starting in the first table in the list
  - \* if it is not there, then look up **x** in each successive table in the list
  - \* if it is not in any table then issue an "undeclared variable" error
4. **on scope exit:**
  - \* **remove** the first table from the list and **decrement** the current level number

# REMEMBER

function/method names belong to the hashtable for the outermost scope

\* not to the same table as the method's variables

\* **for instance**, in the example above:

- the function name **f** is in the symbol table for the outermost scope
- name **f** is not in the same scope as parameters **a** and **b**, and variable **x**
- therefore, when the use of name **f** in method **g** is processed, the name is found in an enclosing scope's table



# THE COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY OF OPERATIONS

## 1. scope entry

- a) time to initialize a new, empty hashtable
- b) probably proportional to the size of the hashtable

## 2. process a declaration

- a) using hashing, constant expected time ( $O(1)$ )

## 3. process a use:

- a) using hashing to do the lookup in each table in the list, the worst-case time is  $O(\text{depth of nesting})$ , when every table in the list must be examined

## 4. scope exit

- a) time to remove a table from the list, which should be  $O(1)$

# EXERCISE

assume to have `Java?` (an **imaginary language** different from `Java`) that allows a function to have both a parameter and a local variable with the same name

- \* any use of the name in the body of the function **refers to the local variable**

consider the code

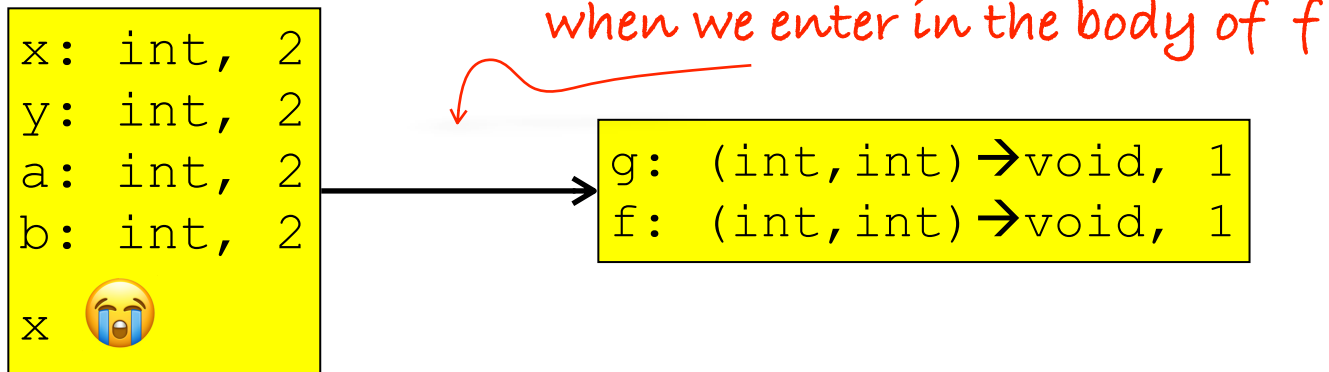
```
void g(int x, int a) { }  
void f(int x, int y, int z) { int a, b, x; ... }
```

- \* draw the symbol table as it would be after processing the declarations in the body of `f` under:
  - the scoping rules we have been assuming
  - `Java?` scoping rules

# EXERCISE

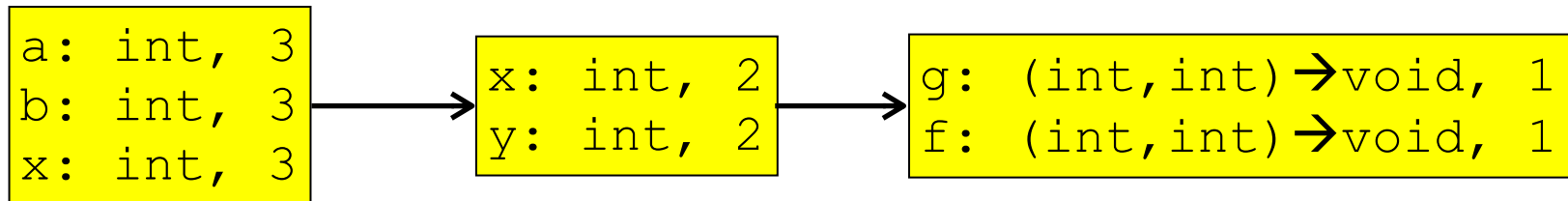
```
void g(int x, int a) { }  
void f(int x, int y) { int a, b, x; ... }
```

\* symbol table with Java scoping rules:



ERROR!

\* Java? scoping rules

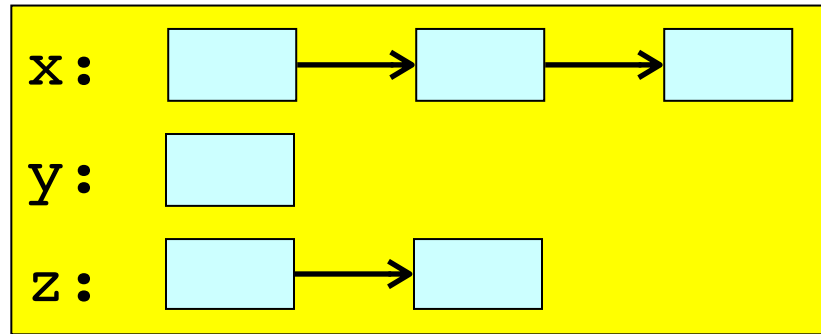


NO ERROR!

# IMPLEMENTATION 2: HASHTABLE OF LISTS

the idea:

- \* when processing a scope  $S$ , the structure of the symbol table is

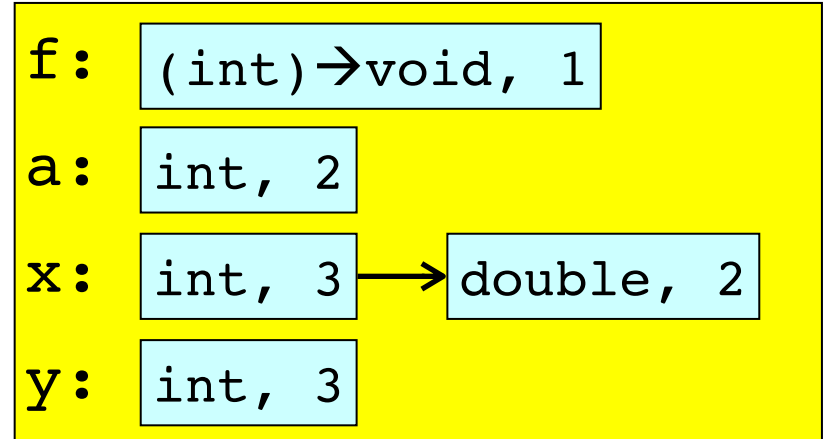


- \* there is just **one big hashtable**, containing an entry for each name for which there is
  - some declaration in scope  $S$  or
  - in a scope that encloses  $S$
- \* each name has an associated list of symbol-table entries
  - the first item corresponds to the most closely enclosing declaration
  - the other list items correspond to declarations in enclosing scopes

# EXAMPLE

```
void f(int a) {  
    double x;  
    while (...) { int x, y;★... }  
    void g() { f(); }  
}
```

at ★ the symbol table is



the **nesting level information** is crucial

the level-number attribute stored in each list item enables us to determine whether the most closely enclosing declaration was made

\* in the **current scope** or

\* in an **enclosing scope**

# HASHTABLE OF LISTS: THE OPERATIONS

## 1. on **scope entry**:

- \* increment the **current level number**

## 2. to process a **declaration** of **x**:

- \* look up **x** in the symbol table
- \* if **x** is there, fetch the level number from the first list item
- \* if that level number = the current level then **issue a "multiply declared variable" error**
- \* otherwise, **add** a new item to the front of the list with the appropriate type and the current level number

## 3. to **process a use** of **x**:

- \* look up **x** in the symbol table
- \* if it is not there, then **issue an "undeclared variable" error**

## 4. on **scope exit**:

- \* scan all entries in the symbol table, looking at the first item on each list
- \* if that item's level number = the current level number, then **remove it from its list** (and if the list becomes empty, remove the entire symbol-table entry)
- \* finally, decrement the **current level number**

# THE COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY OF OPERATIONS

1. **scope entry**: time to increment the level number,  $O(1)$
2. **process a declaration**: using hashing, constant expected time ( $O(1)$ )
3. **process a use**: using hashing, constant expected time ( $O(1)$ )
4. **scope exit**: time proportional to the number of names in the symbol table

# EXERCISE

assume that the symbol table is implemented using a **hashtable of lists**

draw pictures to show how the symbol table changes as each declaration in the following code is processed

```
void g(int x, int a) {  
    double d;  
    while (...) { int d, w;  
                    double x, b;  
                    if (...) { int a,b,c; }  
    }  
    while (...) { int x,y,z;  
    }  
}
```



# SCOPING

the **scope rules of a language**:

- \* determine which declaration of an identifier corresponds to each occurrence of the identifier
- \* i.e., scoping rules map identifier occurrences to their declarations

C++ and Java use **static scoping**:

- \* mapping from uses to declarations is made at compile time
- \* C++ uses the "**most closely nested**" rule
  - an occurrence of **x** matches the declaration in the most closely enclosing scope such that the declaration precedes the use
  - a deeply nested variable **x** hides **x** declared in an outer scope
- \* in Java:
  - inner scopes cannot define variables defined in outer scopes

# SCOPE LEVELS

each function in languages like **Java** and **C** has one or more scopes:

- \* **one** for the parameters **and** for the function body
- \* and possibly additional scopes in the function (**for each for loop** and **for each nested block** delimited by curly braces)

# SCOPE LEVELS

## example:

```
void f(int k) {  
    int y = 0;  
    int x = 3;  
    while (y) {  
        int x = 1; // another local var x  
    } // (legal in C++, not legal in Java)  
}
```

- \* the outermost scope includes just the name "f"
- \* function f itself has two (nested) scopes in Java (e in C++):
  1. the first one includes k, y and x
  2. the innermost scope is for the body of the while loop, and includes the variable x that is initialized to 1

# EXERCISE

this is a C++ program

- match each var-occurrence to its declaration, or say when an occurrence is undeclared

```
class Foo {
    int k=10, x=20;
    void foo(int k) {
        int a = x; int x = k; int b = x;
        while (...) {
            int x=11;
            if (x == k) {
                int k, y;
                k = (y = x);
            }
            if (x == k) { int x, y; }
        }
    }
}
```

# SUMMING UP

in order to manage symbol tables you need 4 functions

1. `SymbolTable newScope(SymbolTable st)`  
`// extends the st with a new scope (called add in SimpLan)`
2. `SymbolTable add(SymbolTable st, String id, Type t)`  
`// if there is no clash of names, adds  $id \mapsto t$  to st`
3. `Type lookup(SymbolTable st, String id)`  
`// looks for the type of id in st, if any`
4. `SymbolTable remove(SymbolTable st)`  
`// exits the current scope`

it is crucial to take care of exceptions!

# USED BEFORE DECLARED?

can a name be used before it is defined?

- \* Java: a method or field name can be used before the definition appears
- \* not true for a variable!

example:

```
class Test {
    void f() {
        val = 0;    // field val has not yet been declared -- OK
        g();       // method g has not yet been declared -- OK
        x = 1;     // var x has not yet been declared -- ERROR
        int x;
    }
    void g() {}
    int val;
}
```

# SCOPING: EXAMPLE

Java: you may use a same name for

- \* a class,
- \* field of the class,
- \* a method of the class, and
- \* a local variable of the method

example: legal Java program:

```
class Test {  
    int Test;  
    Test( ) { double Test; }  
}
```

# SCOPING: OVERLOADING

Java and C++ (but not in Pascal or C):

\* can use the same name for more than one method as long as the number and/or types of parameters are unique

**example:**

```
int add(int a, int b);  
float add(float a, float b);
```



# SNIPPETS OF THE SIMPLAN COMPILER

the `ProgLetInNode.java` has the following method for defining symbol tables:

```
public ArrayList<SemanticError> checkSemantics(SymbolTable ST, int _nesting) {
    nesting = _nesting + 1 ;
    HashMap<String,STentry> H = new HashMap<String, STentry>();
    ST.add(H);

    //declare resulting list
    ArrayList<SemanticError> errors = new ArrayList<SemanticError>();

    for (Node d : dec) {
        errors.addAll(d.checkSemantics(ST, nesting)) ;
    }

    //check semantics in the exp body
    errors.addAll(exp.checkSemantics(ST, nesting)) ;

    //clean the scope, we are leaving a let scope
    ST.remove();

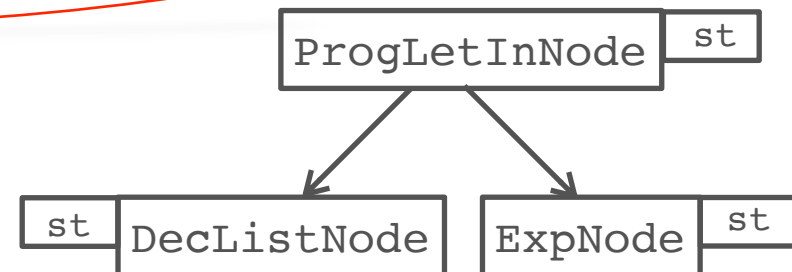
    //return the result
    return errors;
}
```

the nesting level is increased!

hashtable

list of hashtables

the environment is removed!



# SNIPPETS OF THE SIMPLAN COMPILER

the `DecNode.java` has the following method for defining symbol tables:

```
public ArrayList<SemanticError> checkSemantics(SymbolTable ST, int _nesting) {
    ArrayList<SemanticError> errors = new ArrayList<SemanticError>();

    nesting = _nesting ;

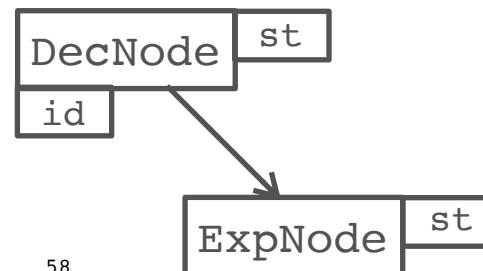
    errors.addAll(exp.checkSemantics(ST, nesting));

    if (ST.top_lookup(id) == true)
        errors.add(new SemanticError("Var id " + id + " already declared"));
    else ST.insert(id, (Type) type, nesting, "");

    return errors ;
}
```

*verify that id is not in the top-level hash table*

*build an entry with right nesting-level and type (" because there is no label ...)*



# IN FUNNODE.JAVA OF THE SIMPLAN COMPILER

```
public ArrayList<SemanticError> checkSemantics(SymbolTable ST, int _nesting) {
    ArrayList<SemanticError> errors = new ArrayList<SemanticError>();
    nesting = _nesting ;
    if (ST.lookup(id) != null)
        errors.add(new SemanticError("Identifier " + id + " already declared"));
    else {
        HashMap<String,STentry> HM = new HashMap<String,STentry>() ;
        ArrayList<Type> partypes = new ArrayList<Type>() ;

        ST.add(HM); ← adds an empty environment ahead

        for (ParNode arg : parlist){
            partypes.add(arg.getType());
            if (ST.top_lookup(arg.getId()))
                errors.add(new SemanticError("Parameter id "+ arg.getId() +" already declared"));
            else ST.insert(arg.getId(), arg.getType(), nesting+1, "");
        } ← adds the formal parameters in the top environment: notice the nesting level!

        type = new ArrowType(partypes, returntype) ;
        ST.increaseoffset() ; // offset aumentato per il return value: SEE CODE GENERATION
        for (Node dec : declist)
            errors.addAll(dec.checkSemantics(ST, nesting+1)); ← build an entry with right nesting-level and type (offset is used in the code generation)

        errors.addAll(body.checkSemantics(ST, nesting+1));
        ST.remove();

        flabel = SimpLanlib.freshFunLabel() ; ← generate the label for the function in the bytecode!
        ST.insert(id, type, nesting, flabel) ;
    }
}
return errors ;
```

look for comments in the code!

# SNIPPETS OF THE SIMPLAN COMPILER

the `IdNode.java` has the following method for defining symbol tables:

```
public ArrayList<SemanticError> checkSemantics(SymbolTable ST, int _nesting) {
    ArrayList<SemanticError> errors = new ArrayList<SemanticError>();

    nesting = _nesting ;
    STentry st_type = ST.lookup(id) ;
    if (st_type == null)
        errors.add(new SemanticError("Id " + id + " not declared"));
    else type = st_type ;

    return errors;
}
```

*take the type of id (and other infos...)*

*error if there is no type*

# NEXT LECTURE

