4. Names, Entities, and Properties

Program constructs in the tree (e.g. definitions) may

- introduce an entity

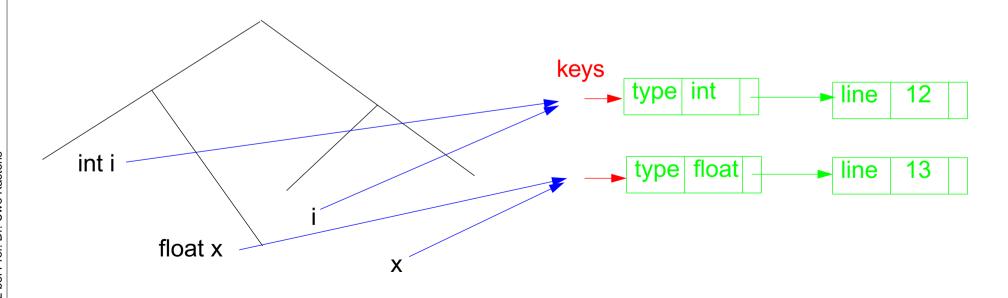
 (e.g. a variable, a class, or a function)
- bind the entity to a name
- associate properties to the entity (e.g. type, kind, address, line)

The **definition module** stores **program entities with their properties**, e.g. a variable with its type and the line number where it is defined.

Entities are identified by keys of the definition module.

Name analysis binds names to entities.

The properties of an entity are represented by a list of (kind, value)-pairs



Basic name analysis provided by symbol roles

Symbol roles:

Grammar root:

```
SYMBOL Program INHERITS RootScope END;
```

Ranges containing definitions:

```
SYMBOL Block INHERITS RangeScope END;
```

Defining identifier occurrence:

```
SYMBOL Defident INHERITS IdDefScope END;
```

Instantiation in a .specs file for Algol-like scope rules:

```
$/Name/AlgScope.gnrc:inst
```

for C-like scope rules:

```
$/Name/CScope.gnrc: inst
```

Applied identifier occurrence:

```
SYMBOL UseIdent INHERITS IdUseEnv, Chkiduse END;
```

Required attributes:

```
CLASS SYMBOL IdentOcc: Sym: int;
CLASS SYMBOL IdentOcc COMPUTE SYNT.Sym = TERM; END;
SYMBOL Defident INHERITS IdentOcc END;
SYMBOL UseIdent INHERITS IdentOcc END;
```

Provided attributes:

```
SYMBOL Defident, UseIdent: Key: DefTableKey, Bind: Binding; SYMBOL Program, Block: Env: Environment;
```

PDL: A Generator for Definition Modules

central data structure associates **properties to entities**, e.g. *type of a variable, element type of an array type.*

Entities are identified by a **key** (type DefTableKey).

Operations:

NewKey () yields a new key

ResetP (k, v) for key k the property P is set to the value v

SetP (k, v, d) for key k the property P is set to the value v, if it was not set, otherwise to the value d

GetP (k, d) for key k it yields the value of the property P if it is set, otherwise it yields d

Functions are called in **computations in tree contexts**.

PDL generates functions ResetP, SetP, GetP from specifications of the form e.g.

PropertyName: ValueType;

Line: int;

Type: DefTableKey;

```
Line: int;
```

It is set in definition contexts and got in use contexts.

All set computations in **definition** contexts have to precede any get in **use** contexts.

```
SYMBOL Program INHERITS RootScope END;
RULE: Program LISTOF Definition | Use COMPUTE
   Program.GotLine = CONSTITUENTS Definition.GotLine;
END;
RULE: Definition ::= 'def' NameDef END;
RULE: Use ::= 'use' NameUse END;
SYMBOL NameDef INHERITS IdentOcc, IdDefScope COMPUTE
   SYNT.GotLine = ResetLine (THIS.Key, LINE);
   printf ("%s defined in line %d\n", StringTable(THIS.Sym), LINE);
END;
SYMBOL Nameuse INHERITS IdentOcc, IduseEnv, ChkIduse COMPUTE
   printf ("%s defined in line %d used in line %d\n",
            StringTable(THIS.Sym), GetLine (THIS.Key, 0), LINE)
   <- INCLUDING Program.GotLine;</pre>
END;
```

Design Rules for Property Access (B)

Preparation:

- Usually identifiers in the tree refer to entities represented by **DefTableKeys**; an identifier is bound to a key using the **name analysis module** (see Ch.5).
- Symbol nodes for identifiers have a Key attribute; it identifies the entity

Design steps for the computation of properties:

- 1. Specify **name and type of the property** in the notation of PDL.
- 2. Identify the contexts where the property is set.
- 3. Identify the contexts where the property is used.
- 4. Determine the **dependences between (2) and (3)**. In simple cases it is: "all set operations before any get operation".
- 5. Specify (2), (3), and the pattern of (4).

Try to locate the computations that **set or get properties** of an entity **in the context of the identifier**, if possible; avoid to propagate the **Key** values through the tree.

Use **SYMBOL** computations as far as possible (see design rules A).

Technique: Do it once

Task:

- Many occurrences of an identifier are bound to the same entity (key)
- For each entity a computation is executed at exactly one (arbitrary) occurrence of its identifier (e.g. output some target code)

Solution:

Compute an attribute of type bool: True at exactly one occurrence of the key, false elsewhere.

Design steps:

- 1. Property specification: Done: int;
- 2. Set in name context, if not yet set.
- 3. Get in name context.
- 4. No dependences!
- 5. see on the right: