



中山大學
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY



国家超级计算广州中心
NATIONAL SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER IN GUANGZHOU

Compilation Principle 编译原理

第16讲：语义分析(4)

张献伟

xianweiz.github.io

DCS290, 4/28/2022



中山大學
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY



Review Questions

- SDD vs. SDT

SDD = Syntax Directed Definitions, SDT = SD Translation Schemes

- What are S-SDD and L-SDD?

S-SDD: synthesized-SDD (only syn attributes),

L-SDD: left-attributed SDD (only left-to-right dependency).

- Why S-SDD is natural to be implemented in LR parsing?

Syn attributes: evaluate parent after seeing all children (=reduce).

- Why L-SDD is not natural for LR parsing?

Semantic actions can be in anywhere of the production body.

- At high level, why L-SDD can be implemented in LR?

Left-attributed, the needed attribute values must be in the stack.

- Roughly, how do we modify L-SDD for LR parsing?

Add non-terminal markers to make all actions at production end.

Overview of Symbol Table[符号表]

- **Symbol table** records info of each symbol name in a program[符号表记录每个符号的信息]
 - symbol = name = identifier
- Symbol table is created in the **semantic analysis** phase[语义分析阶段创建]
 - Because it is not until the semantic analysis phase that enough info is known about a name to describe it
- But, many compilers set up a table at **lexical analysis** time for the various variables in the program[词法分析阶段准备]
 - And fill in info about the symbol later during semantic analysis when more information about the variable is known
- Symbol table is used in **code generation** to output assembler directives of the appropriate size and type[后续代码生成阶段使用]

Binding[绑定]

- **Binding**: match identifier **use** with **definition**[使用-定义]
 - Definition: associating an *id* with a memory location
 - Hence, binding associates an *id* use with a location
 - Binding is an essential step before machine code generation
- If there are multiple definitions, which one to use?

```
void foo()
{
    char x; /* allocated at mem[0x100] */
    ...
    {
        int x; /* allocated at mem[0x200] */
        ...
    }
    x = x + 1; /* add mem[0x100],1 ? add mem[0x200],1 ?
}
```

Scope[作用域]

- **Scope:** program region where a definition can be bound
 - Uses of identifier in the scope is bound to that definition
 - For C: auto/local, static, global
- Some properties of scopes
 - Use not in scope of any definition results in undefined error
 - Scopes for the same identifier can never overlap
 - There is at most one binding at any given time
- Two types: static scoping and dynamic scoping
 - Depending on how scopes are formed

Static Scoping[静态作用域]

- Scopes formed by where definitions are in program text[声明起作用的那段区域]
 - Also known as **lexical scoping** since related to program text
C/C++, Java, Python, JavaScript[也叫词法作用域]
- Rule: bind to the closest enclosing definition

```
void foo()
{
    char x;
    ...
    {
        int x;
        ...
    }
    x = x + 1;
}
```

Dynamic Scoping[动态作用域]

- Scopes formed by when definitions happen during runtime[运行时决定]
 - Perl, Bash, LISP, Scheme
- Rule: bind to most recent definition in current execution

```
void foo()  
{  
  (1) char x;  
  (2) if (...) {  
    (3)  int x;  
    (4)  ...  
  }  
  (5) x = x + 1;  
}
```

- Which x 's definition is the most recent?
 - Execution (a): ... (1) ... (2) ... (5)
 - Execution (b): ... (1) ... (2) ... (3) ... (4) ... (5)

Static vs. Dynamic Scoping[对比]

- Most languages that started with dynamic scoping (LISP, Scheme, Perl) added static scoping afterwards
- Why? With **dynamic scoping** ...
 - All bindings are done at execution time
 - Hard to figure out by eyeballing, for both compiler and human
- Pros of **static scoping**[静态的好处]
 - Static scoping leads to fewer programmer errors
 - Bindings readily apparent from lexical structure of code
 - Static scoping leads to more efficient code
 - Compiler can determine bindings at compile time
 - Compiler can translate identifier directly to memory location
 - Results in generation of efficient code
- We will discuss static scoping only

What is Symbol Table[符号表]

- **Symbol**: same thing as **identifier** (used interchangeably)
- **Symbol table**: a compiler data structure that tracks info about all program symbols
 - Each entry represents a definition of that identifier
 - Maintains list of definitions that reach current program point
 - List updated whenever scopes are entered or exited
 - Used to perform binding of identifier uses at current point
 - Built by either...
 - Traversing the parse tree in a separate pass after parsing
 - Using semantic actions as an integral part of parsing pass
- Usually discarded after generating executable binary
 - Machine code instructions no longer contain symbols
 - For use in debuggers, symbol tables may be included
 - To display symbol names instead of addresses in debuggers
 - For GCC, using ‘gcc -g ...’ includes debug symbol tables

Maintaining Symbol Table[维护]

- Basic idea

```
int x=0; ... void foo() { int x=0; ... x=x+1; } ... x=x+1 ...
```

- Start processing *foo*:

- Add definition of *x*, overriding old definition of *x* if any

- After processing *foo*:

- Remove definition of *x*, restoring old definition of *x* if any

- Operations

- `enter_scope()` start a new scope

- `exit_scope()` exit current scope

- `find_symbol(x)` find the information about *x*

- `add_symbol(x)` add a symbol *x* to the symbol table

- `check_symbol(x)` true if *x* is defined in current scope

Symbol Table Structure[结构]

- Frontend time affected by symbol table access time[符号表访问时间影响编译前端性能]
 - Frontend: lexical, syntax, semantic analyses
 - Frequent searches on any large data structure is expensive
 - Symbol table design is important for compiler performance

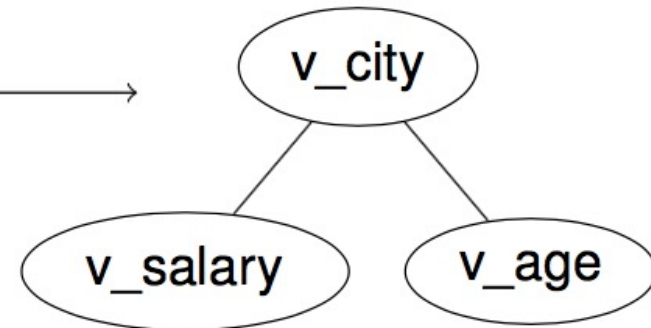
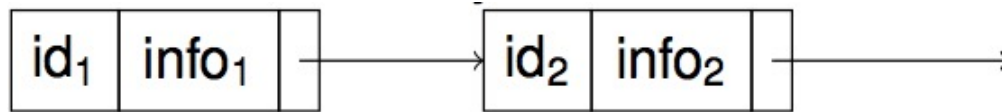
- What data structure to choose?[可选数据结构]
 - **List**[线性表]
 - **Binary tree**[二叉树]
 - **Hash table**[哈希表]

- Tradeoffs: time vs. space[空间和时间的权衡]
 - Let us first consider the organization w/o scope

Symbol Table Structure (cont.)

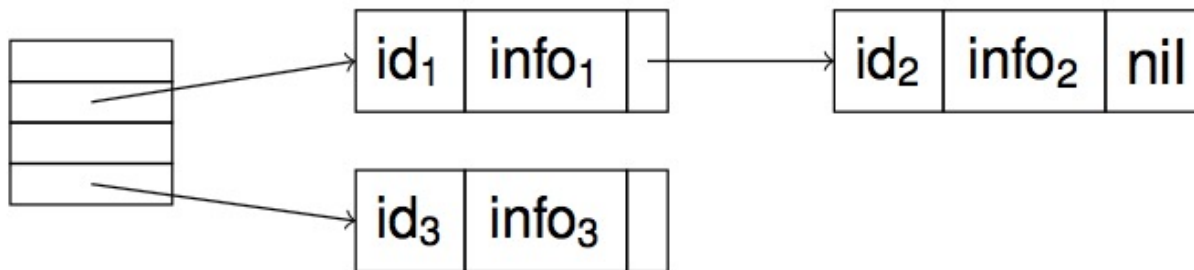
- **Array:** no space wasted, insert/delete: $O(n)$, search: $O(n)$
- **Linked list:** extra pointer space, insert/delete: $O(1)$, search: $O(n)$
 - Optimization: move recently used identifier to the head
 - Frequently used identifiers are found more quickly
- **Binary tree:** use more space than array/list
 - But insert/delete/search is $O(\log n)$ on balanced tree
 - In the worst case, tree may reduce to linked list
 - Then insert/delete/search becomes $O(n)$

id ₁	info ₁
id ₂	info ₂
...	...



Symbol Table Structure (cont.)

- $hash(id_name) \rightarrow index$ [哈希表]
 - A hash function decides mapping from identifier to index
 - Conflicts resolved by chaining multiple IDs to same index
- Memory consumption from hash table ($N \ll M$)
 - M: the size of hash table
 - N: the number of stored identifiers
- But insert/delete/search in $O(1)$ time
 - Can become $O(n)$ with frequent conflicts and long chains
- Most compilers choose hash table for its quick access time



Adding Scope to Symbol Table[作用域]

- To handle multiple scopes in a program,[处理多个作用域]
 - Conceptually, need an individual table for each scope
 - In order to be able to enter and exit scopes
- Sometimes symbols in scope can be discarded on exit:

```
if (...) { int v; } /* block scope */  
/* v is no longer valid */
```

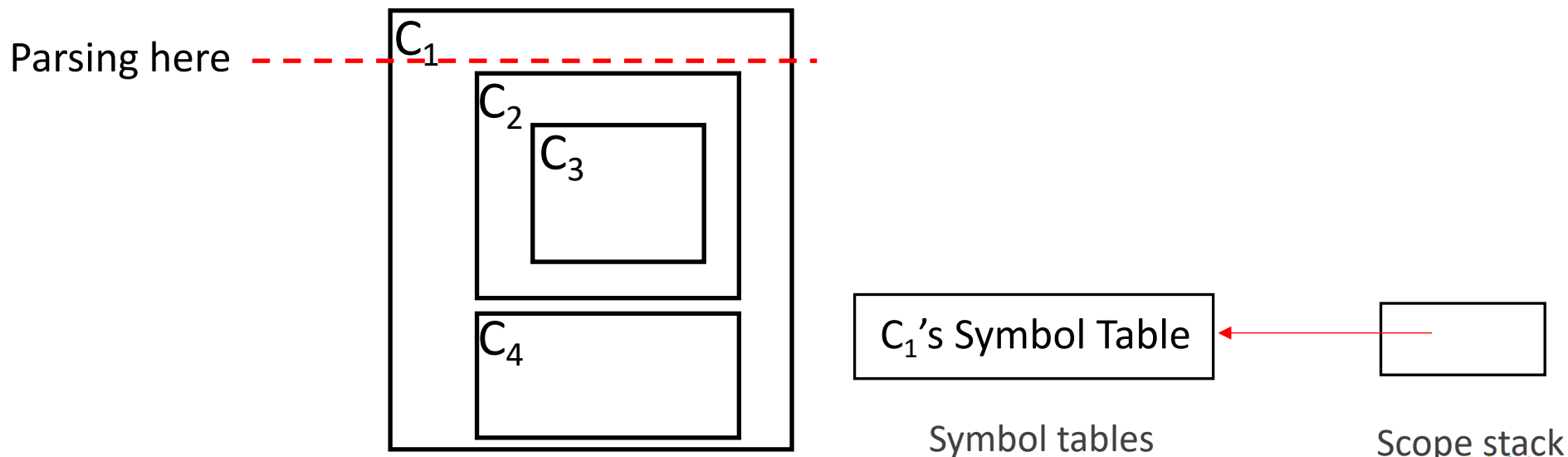
- Sometimes not:

```
class X { ... void foo() {...} ... } /* class scope */  
/* foo() is no longer valid */  
X v;  
call v.foo(); /* v.foo() is still valid */
```

- How can scoping be enforced without discarding symbols?
 - Keep a *stack* of active scopes at a given point
 - Keep a *list* of all reachable scopes in the entire program

Handle Scopes with Stack

- Organize all symbol tables into a scope stack[作用域栈]
 - An individual symbol table for each scope
 - Scope is defined by nested lexical structure, e.g., $\{C_1 \{C_2 \{C_3}\} \{C_4}\}$
 - Stack holds one entry for each open scope
 - Innermost scope is stored at the top of the stack
- Stack push/pop happen when entering/exiting a scope



Handle Scopes with Stack (cont.)

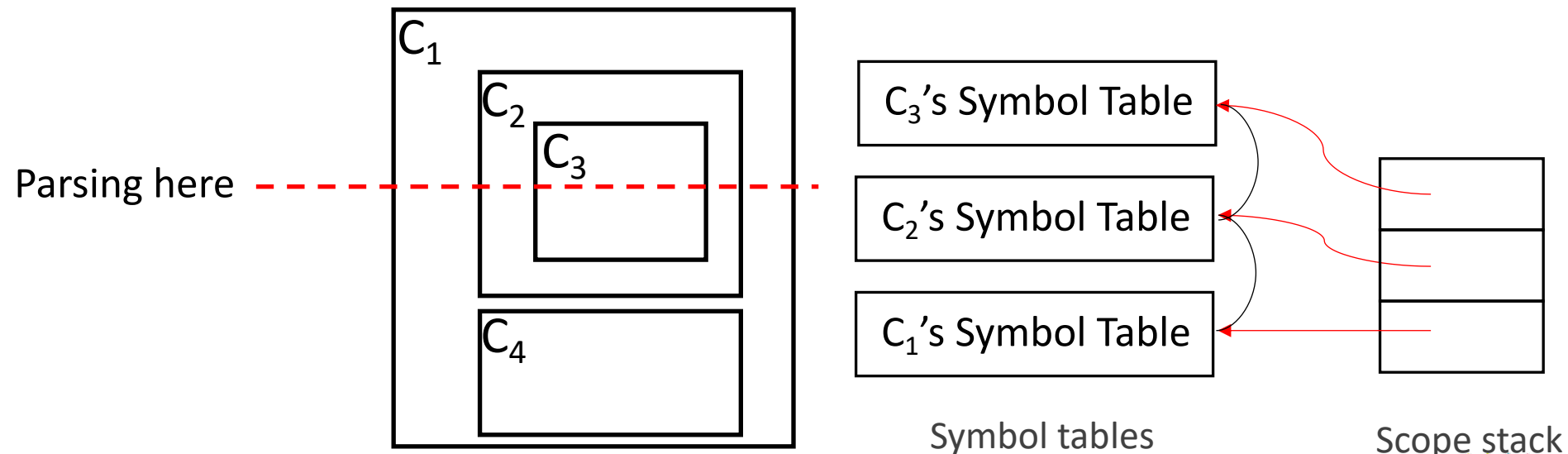
- Operations

- When entering a scope

- Create a new symbol table to hold all variables declared in that scope
- Push a pointer to the symbol table on the stack

- Pop the pointer to the symbol table when exiting scope

- Search from the top of the stack



Handle Scopes with Stack (cont.)

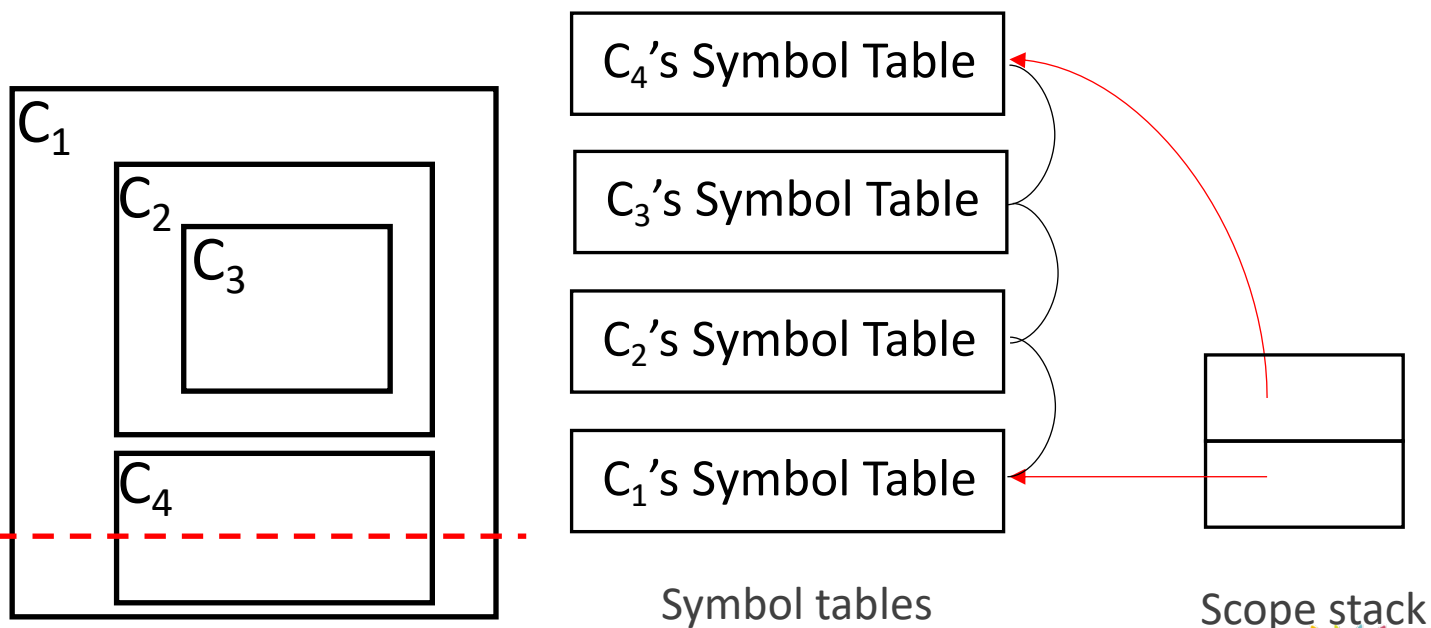
- Operations

- When entering a scope

- Create a new symbol table to hold all variables declared in that scope
- Push a pointer to the symbol table on the stack

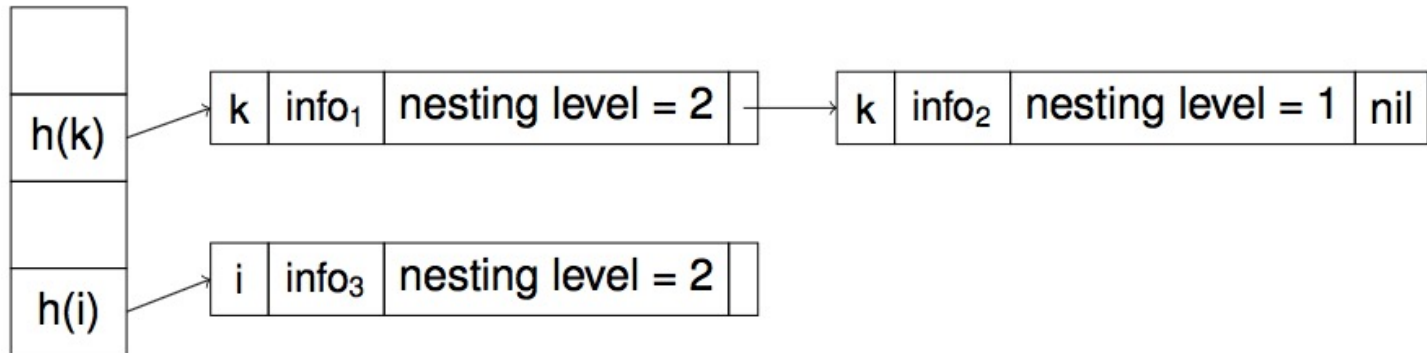
- Pop the pointer to the symbol table when exiting scope

- Search from the top of the stack



Handle Scopes using Chaining

- Cons of stacking symbol tables[栈方式的缺点]
 - Inefficient searching due to multiple hash table lookups
 - All global variables will be at the bottom of the stack
 - Inefficient use of memory due to multiple hash tables
 - Must size hash tables for max anticipated size of scope
- Solution: single symbol table for all scopes using chaining
 - Insert: insert (*ID, current nesting level*) at front of chain
 - Search: fetch ID at the *front* of chain
 - Delete: when exiting level *k*, remove all symbols with level *k*
 - For efficient deletion, IDs for each level maintained in a list



Handle Scopes using Chaining (cont.)

- Note: symbol table only maintains currently active scopes
 - All entries with the closing scope are deleted upon exiting
- Note: does not maintain list of all reachable scopes
 - Cannot refer back to old scopes that have been exited
 - Still useful for block scopes that are discarded on exit
- Usages
 - Unsuitable for class scopes (only block scopes)[X]
 - Exiting scopes is slightly more expensive[X]
 - Requires traversing the entire symbol table
 - Lookup requires only a single hash table access[✓]
 - Savings in memory due to single large hash table[✓]

Info Stored in Symbol Table

- Entry in symbol table
 - **String**: the name of identifier
 - **Kind**: function, variable, struct type, class type

string	kind	attributes
--------	------	------------

- Attributes vary with the kind of symbols
 - variable: type, address of variable
 - function: prototype, address of function body
 - struct type: field names, field types
 - class type: symbol table for class

Attribute List in Symbol Table

- Type info can be arbitrarily complicated
 - Type can be an array with multiple dimensions

```
char arr[20][20];
```

```
struct Point {  
    float x;  
    float y;  
} point;
```

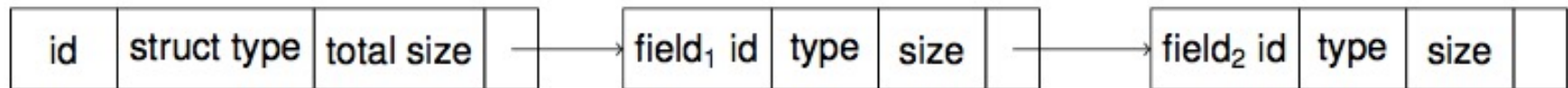
- Store all type info in an attribute list
 - Entry for an array variable with 2 dimensions



- Entry for a struct variable



- Entry for a struct type with 2 fields



Use Type Information[类型信息]

- Each variable or function entry contains type info
- Type info is used in later **code generation** stage[代码生成]
 - To calculate how much memory to alloc for a variable
 - To translate uses of variables to machine instructions
 - Should a '+' on variable be an integer or a floating point add?
 - Should a variable assignment be a 4 byte or 8 byte copy?
 - To translate calls to functions to machine instructions
 - What are the types of arguments passed to the function?
 - What is the type of value returned by the function?
- Also used in later **code optimization** stage[代码优化]
 - To help compiler understand semantics of program
- Also used in **semantic analysis** stage for **Type Checking**
 - Uses types to check semantic correctness of program

Type and Type Checking

- **Type**: a set of values + a set of operations on these values
 - int/double: same memory storage
- **Type checking**: verifying type consistency across program [类型一致性检查]
 - A program is said to be type consistent if all operators are consistent with the operand value types
 - Much of what we do in semantic analysis is type checking
- Some type checking examples:
 - Given `char *str = "Hello";`
 - `str[2]` is consistent: `char*` type allows `[]` operator
 - `str/2` is not: `char*` type does not allow `/` operator
 - Given `int pi = 3;`
 - `pi/2` is consistent: `int` type allows `/` operator
 - `pi=3.14` is not: `=` operator not allowed on different types
 - Compiler must type convert implicitly to make it consistent

Static Type Checking[静态类型检查]

- Static type checking: at compile time[静态: 编译时]
 - Infers program is type consistent through code analysis
 - Collect info via declarations and store in symbol table
 - Check the types involved in each operation
 - E.g., `int a, b, c; a = b + c;` can be proven type consistent because the addition of two *ints* is an *int*
- Difficult for a language to only do static type checking
 - Some type errors usually cannot be detected at compile time
 - E.g., `a` and `b` are of type *int*, `a * b` may not in the valid range of *int*
 - Typecasting can be pretty risky thing to do (Basically, typecast suspends type checking)
 - `unsigned a; (int)a;`

Dynamic Type Checking[动态检查]

- Dynamic type checking: at execution time[动态： 执行时]
 - Type consistency by checking types of runtime values
 - Include type info for each data location at runtime
 - E.g., a variable of type double would contain both the actual double value and some kind of tag indicating “double type”
 - The execution of any operation begins by first checking these type tags
 - The operation is performed only if everything checks out (otherwise, a type error occurs and usually halts execution)
 - E.g., C++/Java downcasting to a subclass
 - Is `dynamic_cast<Child*>(parent);` type consistent?
 - Array bounds check:
 - Is `int A[10], i; ... A[i] = i;` type consistent?
- Static type checking is always more desirable. Why?
 - Always good to catch more errors before runtime
 - Dynamic type checking carries runtime overhead

Static vs. Dynamic Typing[静态-动态]

- Static typing: C/C++, Java, ...
 - Variables have static types → hold only one type of value
 - E.g. `int x;` → x can only hold ints
 - E.g. `char *x;` → x can only hold char pointers
 - How are types assigned to variables?
 - C/C++, Java: types are explicitly defined
 - `int x;` → explicit assignment of type int to x
- Pros / cons of static typing
 - More programmer effort
 - Programmer must adhere to strict type rules
 - Defining advanced types can be quite complex (e.g. classes)
 - Less program bugs and execution time
 - Thanks to static type checking

Static vs. Dynamic Typing (cont.)

- Dynamic Typing: Python, JavaScript, PHP, ...
 - Variables have dynamic types → can hold multiple types

```
var x; /* var declaration without a static type */  
x = 1; /* now x holds an integer value */  
x = "one"; /* now x holds a string value */
```
 - How are types assigned to variables?
 - Type is a runtime property → type tags stored with values
 - Dynamic type checking must be done during runtime
- Pros / cons of dynamic typing
 - Less programmer effort
 - Flexible type rule means program is more malleable
 - Absence of types / classes declarations means shorter code
 - Makes it suitable for scripting or prototyping languages
 - More program bugs and execution time
 - Due to dynamic type checking

Type System[类型系统]

- Static / dynamic typing are type systems
 - **Type System:** types + type rules of a language
- Static / dynamic type checking are methods
 - Methods to enforce the rules of the given type system
- Static type checking is not used exclusively for static typing
 - Static type checking also used for dynamic typing
 - If certain types can be inferred and checked at compile time
 - Can reduce dynamic type checks inserted into code
- Dynamic type checking is not used only for dynamic typing
 - Some features of statically typed languages require it
 - e.g. downcasting requires type check of object type tag

Type Systems: Soundness, Completeness

- Static type checking through inference
 - Inference: deducing a conclusion[结论] from a set of premises[前提]
 - What are the premises? Type rules in the type system
 - What is the conclusion? Accept / reject after applying rules
- A type system is said to be *Sound*[可靠] if:
 - Only correct programs are accepted
 - Flipside: all incorrect programs are rejected
- A type system is said to be *Complete*[完备] if:
 - All correct programs are accepted
 - Flipside: only incorrect programs are rejected
- A type system strives to be both sound and complete
 - The rules of inference (type rules) should reflect that

Rules of Inference

- What are rules of inference?
 - Inference rules have the form
 - if Precondition is true, then Conclusion is true
 - Below concise notation used to express above statement
 - Precondition
 - Conclusion
 - For example: Given $E3 \rightarrow E1 + E2$, a rule may be:
 - if $E1, E2$ are type consistent and int types (Precondition),
then $E3$ is type consistent and is an int type (Conclusion)
- Recursive type checking via inference
 - Start from variable and constant types at bottom of tree
 - Serves as initial preconditions for the inference
 - Apply rules on operator nodes while working up the tree
 - Checks type consistency and assigns type to node

LLVM: Semantic Analysis

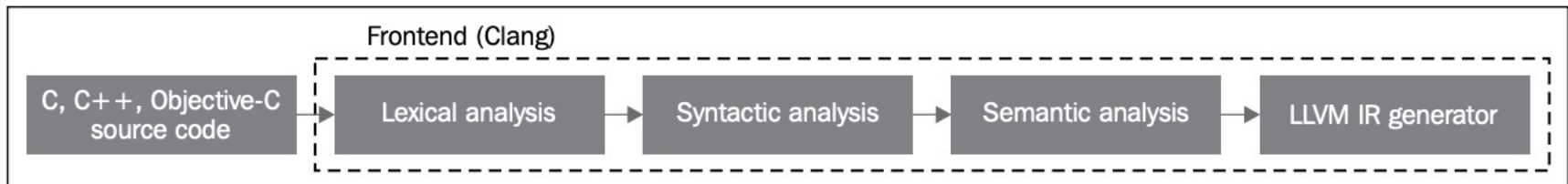
- Clang does not traverse the AST after parsing
 - Instead, it performs type checking on the fly, together with AST node generation

```
1202 StmtResult Parser::ParseIfStatement(SourceLocation *TrailingElseLoc) {
1341     // perform semantic checking for the if statement, emitting diagnostics accordingly
1342     return Actions.ActOnIfStmt(IfLoc, IsConstexpr, InitStmt.get(), Cond,
1343                               ThenStmt.get(), ElseLoc, ElseStmt.get());
1344 }
```

<https://github.com/llvm-mirror/clang/blob/master/lib/Parse/ParseStmt.cpp>

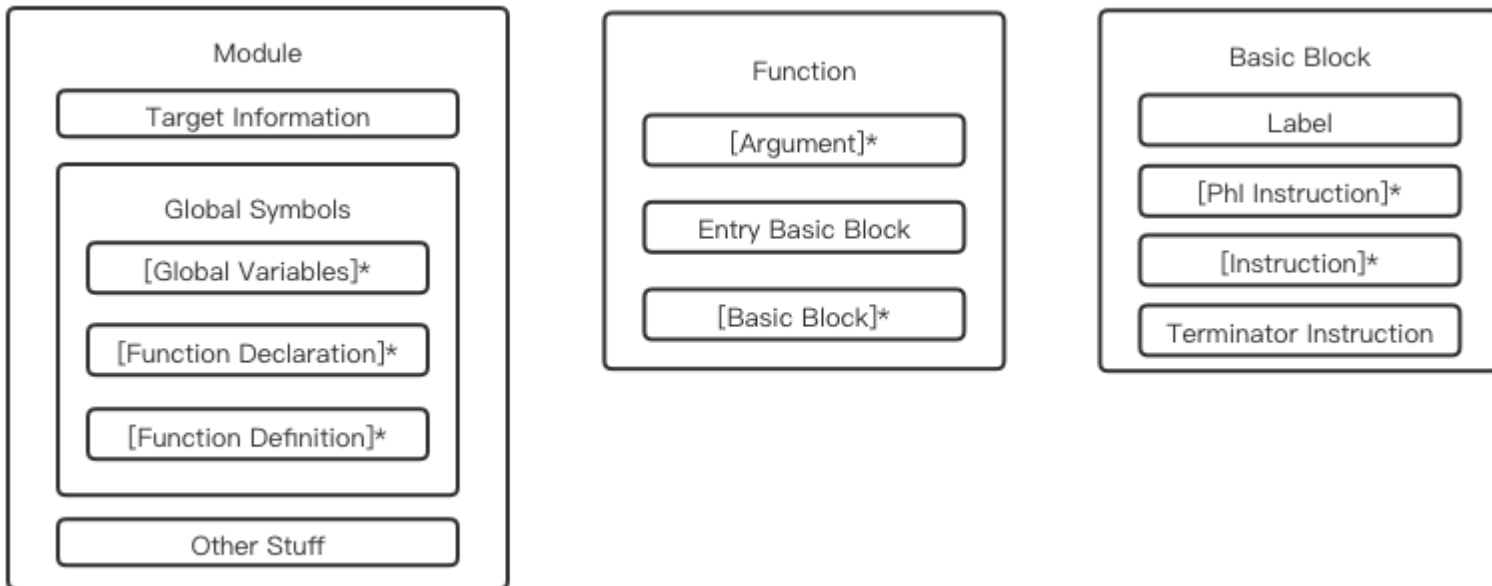
https://clang.llvm.org/doxygen/ParseAST_8cpp_source.html

- After the combined parsing and semantic analysis, the ParseAST function invokes the method HandleTranslationUnit to trigger any client that is interested in consuming the final AST.



LLVM: Module

- The Module class represents the top level structure present in LLVM programs
 - An LLVM module is effectively either a translation unit of the original program or a combination of several translation units merged by the linker
 - The Module class keeps track of a list of Functions, a list of GlobalVariables, and a **SymbolTable**



LLVM: Symbol Table

- Public members of Module class
 - *SymbolTable *getSymbolTable()*
 - Return a reference to the SymbolTable for this Module
 - *Function *getOrInsertFunction(const std::string &Name, const FunctionType *T)*
 - Look up the specified function in the Module SymbolTable. If it does not exist, add an external declaration for the function and return it.
 - *std::string getTypeName(const Type *Ty)*
 - If there is at least one entry in the SymbolTable for the specified Type, return it. Otherwise return the empty string
 - *bool addTypeName(const std::string &Name, const Type *Ty)*
 - Insert an entry in the SymbolTable mapping Name to Ty. If there is already an entry for this name, true is returned and the SymbolTable is not modified.