## CS 430 <br> Spring 2015

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## Data Types and Type Checking

## Type Systems

- Type system
- Rules about valid types, type compatibility, and how data values can be used
- Benefits of a robust type system
- Earlier error detection
- Better documentation
- Increased modularization


## Data Types

- Data type: collection of data values and their associated operations
- Descriptor: collection of a variable's attributes, including its type
- Primitive data types
- Integer, floating-point, complex, decimal, boolean, character
- User-defined data types
- Structured: arrays, tuples, maps, records, unions
- Ordinal: enumerations, subranges


## Data Types

- Primitive data types
- Integer: signed vs. unsigned, two's complement, arbitrary sizes
- Tradeoff: storage/speed vs. range
- Floating-point: IEEE standard (sign bit, exponent, significand), precision, rounding error
- Tradeoff: precision vs. range
- Complex: pairs of floats (real and imaginary)
- Decimal: binary coded decimal
- Boolean: 0 (false) or 1 (true); usually byte-sized
- Character: ASCII, Unicode, UTF-8, and UTF-16 (variable-length), UTF-32 (fixed-length)


## IEEE Floating Point

| $\square$ | $-\quad$ Sign bit (s) |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | $-\quad$ Exponent $(\mathrm{e})$ |
| $\square-$ | Significand (m) |

Value:
$(-1)^{s} \cdot m \cdot 2^{e} \quad$ Single Precision


Exponent (8 bits) Significand (23 bits)

Double Precision

Representing 2.625:


Representing 0.1:


## User-Defined Data Types

- Structured
- Arrays and lists: sequences of elements, mapping from integers to elements
- Tuples: fixed-length sequence of elements
- Associative arrays: mapping from keys to values, hashing
- Records: (name, type) pairs, dot notation, a.k.a. "structs"
- Unions: different types at runtime, tag/discriminant, safety issues
- Ordinal (value <=> integer mapping)
- Booleans and characters
- Enumerations: subset of constants
- Subranges: contiguous subsequence of another ordinal type


## Arrays and Lists

- Arrays
- Usually homogeneous (with fixed element width)
- Usually fixed-length
- Usually static or fixed stack/heap-dynamic
- Calculating index offsets: base + index * (element_size)
- Lists
- Sometimes heterogeneous
- Usually variable-length
- Usually stack-dynamic or heap-dynamic
- In functional languages: usually defined as head:tail


## Multidimensional Arrays

- Multidimensional arrays
- True multidimensional vs. array-of-arrays
- Row-major vs. column-major
- Rectangular vs. jagged
- Calculating index offsets


| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |

Row-major


Row-major arrray-of-arrays

| 0 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 10 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 11 |

Column-major

## Character Strings

- Often stored as arrays of characters
- Common operations: length calculation, concatenation, slicing, pattern matching
- Questions:
- Should the language provide special support?
- Should string length be static or dynamic?
- How should the length be tracked?
- Should strings be immutable?
- Tradeoffs: speed vs. convenience
- Buffer/length overruns are a common source of security vulnerabilities


## Pointers and References

- Pointer: memory address or null / nil / 0
- Example of a nullable type
- Reference: object or value in memory
- Also can be nullable
- Different semantics than pointers
- Strictly safer than pointers
- Implementation
- Allocation/initialization
- Dereferencing
- Arithmetic (allowed for pointers, not references)


## Pointers and References

- Design issues
- Scope and lifetime of pointer and associated value
- Type restrictions (must match? void* allowed?)
- Language support (pointers, references, or both?)
- Problems
- Dangling pointer: value has been deallocated
- Null pointer dereference
- Debuggers (e.g., gdb) can help!
- Memory leaks: value is no longer accessible
- Memory remains allocated
- Memory analysis tools (e.g., valgrind) can help!


## Garbage Collection

- Alternative to explicit reference deallocation
- Reference counters
- Track \# of references to an object
- Deallocate object when counter hits zero
- Mark-and-sweep
- Pause the application (sometimes unnecessary)
- Initialize indicators for all memory cells to "unmarked"
- Mark reachable heap memory cells by following pointers from stack and static memory
- Deallocate unmarked cells



## Polymorphism

- Object-oriented inheritance
- Example of subtypes
- Parameterized functions
- Uses generic type variables
- Example: generic list functions in Haskell
- E.g., head : [a] $\rightarrow$ a
- Abstract data types
- Models of generic data structure behavior
- Can use parameterized types
- E.g., a queue<float> or queue<int>
- Examples: C++ templates and Java generics


## Type Checking

- Type system
- Rules about how data values can be used
- Type compatibility
- Operators defined for types
- All operand types are equivalent
- Name vs. structure equivalence
- Type conversions
- Widening vs. narrowing (may cause information loss)
- Implicit: coercion, e.g., float $x=5$;
- Explicit: casting, e.g., int $x=(i n t) 3.14 ;$


## Type Checking

- Type checking
- Ensure that operations are supported by types of the operation's operands
- Ensure that operands are of compatible types
- Violations are called type errors
- Usually, type errors are considered to be bugs
- Sometimes are reported only as warnings


## Type Checking

- Explicit vs. implicit typing
- Explicit: types required in declaration
- E.g., int x = 5; float y = 4.2;
- Implicit: types not required in declaration
- E.g., $x=5 ; ~ y ~=~ 4.2 ; ~$
- Types are bound at assignment
- However, these types can often be inferred statically
- Tradeoff: readability vs. writability and expressiveness


## Type Checking

- Static vs. dynamic type checking
- Static: compile time (checked by compiler)
- E.g., C, Haskell
- Dynamic: run time (checked by runtime system)
- E.g., Ruby, Python
- "Duck typing" is a special form of dynamic typing
- Hybrid: some static, some dynamic
- E.g., C++, Java
- Tradeoff: overhead vs. flexibility


## Type Checking

- Strong vs. weak typing
- Strong typing: all type errors are detected
- Tradeoff: safety vs. expressiveness
- Terms often used somewhat loosely
- Evidence of strong typing
- Static type checking
- Type inference (even for implicit typing!)
- Evidence of weak typing
- Dynamic type checking
- Type conversions
- Pointer or union types


## Formal Type Theory

- Type systems expressed as a set of type rules
- Each rule has zero or more premises and a conclusion
- Apply rules recursively to form proof trees
- Curry-Howard correspondence ("proofs as programs")
- Can be applied to typed lambda calculus


TFun $\frac{\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{x}: \mathrm{t} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}}{\mathrm{A} \vdash \lambda \mathrm{x}: \mathrm{t} . \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime}} \quad \frac{\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime} \mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}}{\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e} \mathrm{e}^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}}$ TApp

## Formal Type Theory

|  | $x: t \in A$ | A, x: $\mathrm{t} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime} \quad \mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{n}:$ int | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{x}: \mathrm{t}$ | A $\vdash \lambda$ x:t.e : $\mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e} \mathrm{e}{ }^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ |
| TInt | TVar | TFun | TApp |



$$
\mathrm{A}=\{+: \text { int } \rightarrow \text { int } \rightarrow \text { int }\} \quad \mathrm{B}=\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{x}: \text { int }
$$

## Formal Type Theory

|  | $x: t \in A$ | A, $\mathrm{x}: \mathrm{t} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}: \mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime} \quad \mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e}^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{n}: \mathrm{int}$ | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{x}: \mathrm{t}$ | A $-\lambda$ x:t.e : $\mathrm{t} \rightarrow \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ | $\mathrm{A} \vdash \mathrm{e} \mathrm{e}{ }^{\prime}: \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ |
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$$
\mathrm{A}=\{+: \text { int } \rightarrow \text { int } \rightarrow \text { int }\} \quad \mathrm{B}=\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{x}: \text { int }
$$

## Announcements

- Unit 8 Online Quiz
- Due next Monday (3/23)
- TAP next Tuesday (3/24)
- In lieu of a midterm feedback survey
- Midterm grading goal: next Tuesday
- Contact me TODAY if you are considering withdrawing and would like an informal grade assessment

