

North South University

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#### What is scope?

The scope of a variable is the range in which it is visible. A variable is visible in a statement if it can be referenced in that statement.

Example of scoping:

Two types of scoping: Static scoping and dynamic scoping

### Static scoping:

Lexical scoping (sometimes known as static scoping) is a convention used that sets the scope of a variable in such a way that it can only be called from within the block of code in which it is defined. The scope is determined when the code is compiled. A variable declared in this fashion is sometimes called a private variable.

Example: Languages such as C and Pascal apply to static scoping.

# Advantages:

- 1. Readability
- 2. Locality of reasoning
- 3. Less run-time overhead

#### **Disadvantages:**

Some loss of flexibility

There are two categories of static-scoped languages:

- 1. In which subprograms can be nested, which creates nested static scopes. Nested scopes are created only by nested class definitions and blocks. Ada, JavaScript, Common LISP, Scheme, Fortran 2003+, F#, and Python allows nested subprograms but C do not.
- 2. In which subprograms cannot be nested. In this category static scopes are also created by subprograms but nested scopes are created only by nested class definitions and blocks.

# **Dynamic Scoping:**

Dynamic scoping creates variables that can be called from outside the block of code in which they are defined. A variable declared in this fashion is sometimes called a public variable. Dynamic scoping is best avoided since it makes the code hard to read/ understand at first glance. Dynamic scope can be determined only at run time.

#### Advantages:

The only advantage of dynamic scoping is writability. It is more convenient and it provides more flexibility than static scoping. For example, in some cases, some parameters passed from one subprogram to another are variables that are defined in the caller. None of these need to be passed in a dynamic scoped language, because they are implicitly visible in the called subprogram.

#### **Disadvantages:**

- 1. The inability to statically check for references to non-local variables.
- 2. Dynamic scoping also makes program difficult to read because the calling sequence of subprograms must be known to determine the meaning of references to non-local variables.
- 3. There is no way to protect local variables from being accessed to by subprograms because local variables of subprogram are all visible to all other executing subprograms.
- 4. Accessing to non-local variables in dynamic scoping takes far longer than accesses to non-local variables when static scoping is used.

Static Scoping:	Dynamic Scoping:
Example:	Example:
intx = 10;	intx = 10;
<pre>// Called by g() intf() {    returnx; }</pre>	<pre>// Called by g() intf() {    returnx; }</pre>
<pre>// g() has its own variable // named as x and calls f() intg() {     intx = 20;     returnf(); }</pre>	<pre>// g() has its own variable // named as x and calls f() intg() {     intx = 20;     returnf(); }</pre>
<pre>intmain() {     printf("%d", g());     printf("\n");     return0; }</pre>	<pre>main() {     printf(g()); }</pre>
OUTPUT: 10 To sum up in static scoping the compiler first searches in the current block, then in the surrounding blocks successively and finally in the global variables.	OUTPUT: 20 in dynamic scoping the compiler first searches the current block and then successively all the calling functions.

In static scoping a variable always refers to its top level environment.	In dynamic scoping, a global identifier refers to the identifier associated with the most recent environment.
In most of the programming languages including C, C++ and Java, variables are always statically (or lexically) scoped.	Dynamic Scoping is uncommon in modern languages.
Scope rules determined at compile-time.	Scope rules must be determined during run-time

# Evolution of the Major Programming Languages:

Languages :	Reasons for success :	Comparison:
Plankalkül	<ul> <li>Advanced features in the area of data structure.</li> <li>Inclusion of mathematical programs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Arrays and records in this language is called structs in C-based programming languages</li> <li>It included iterative statement similar to Ada.</li> <li>Similar assertion function like java.</li> </ul>
FORTRAN(Formula Translation computing programming language)	<ul> <li>FORTRAN is the dominating language in the supercomputers.</li> <li>FORTRAN compilers are mostly available.</li> <li>It is earlier first programming language and the best at numerical analysis and technical calculations.</li> <li>This language is reliable to the Meteorological Department involves extensive numerical weather computations.</li> <li>A lot of existing code.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>FORTRAN has efficient compilers compared to the C++.</li> <li>FORTRAN is the best for numerical computations compared to all other languages.</li> </ul>
LISP (List Processing)	<ul> <li>Provide advanced features for list processing,</li> </ul>	• LISP is different from the imperative languages,

	<ul> <li>especially useful for artificial intelligence (AI).</li> <li>Possible to write Lisp programs that rewrite other Lisp programs in arbitrary ways.</li> <li>LISP functions can be manipulated in the same the way data is manipulated.</li> </ul>	because it is a functional programming language and because the appearance of LISP programs is very different from those in languages such as , Java or C++.
ALGOL 60	<ul> <li>The concept of block structure was introduced.</li> <li>Two different means of passing parameters to subprograms were allowed: pass by value and pass by name.</li> <li>Procedures were allowed to be recursive. The ALGOL 58 description was unclear on this issue. Note that although this recursion was new for the imperative languages, LISP had already provided recursive functions in 1959.</li> <li>Stack-dynamic arrays were allowed</li> </ul>	• The biggest advantage of ALGOL over preceding languages such as FORTRAN and COBOL is that it encourages the production of well-structured programs.
COBOL(Common Business Oriented Language)	<ul> <li>It's easy to read. Its high-level English-like syntax can resemble a well-structured novel with appendices, cross-reference tables, chapters, footnotes and paragraphs.</li> <li>It is self-documenting and appeals to proponents of readability.</li> <li>It can handle huge processing volumes with ease.</li> <li>It's still widely used for business applications, which is an area it excels</li> </ul>	

	at. COBOL is relatively easy to develop, use, and maintain.	
BASIC (Beginner's All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code)	<ul> <li>Simple language.</li> <li>Its features made it popular o minicomputers.</li> <li>Easy to learn.</li> </ul>	• Much of the design of BASIC came from Fortran, with some minor influence from the syntax of ALGOL 60
PL/I (Programming language 1)	<ul> <li>Programs were allowed to create concurrently executing subprograms.</li> <li>It was possible to detect and handle 23 different types of exceptions, or run-time errors.</li> <li>Subprograms were allowed to be used recursively, but the capability could be disabled, allowing more efficient linkage for non - recursive subprograms.</li> <li>Pointers were included as a data type.</li> <li>Cross-sections of arrays could be referenced. For example, the third row of a matrix could be referenced array.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PL/I is that it included what were then considered the best parts of ALGOL 60 - recursion and block structure ,Fortran IV (separate compilation with communication through global data), and COBOL 60 (data structures, input/output, and report- generating facilities), along with an extensive collection of new constructs, all somehow cobbled together</li> </ul>
APL and SNOBOL	<ul><li>Dynamic typing</li><li>Dynamic storage</li></ul>	
С	<ul> <li>allocation.</li> <li>As a middle level language, C combines the features of both high level and low level languages. It can be used for low-level programming.</li> <li>C is a structured programming language which allows a complex program to be broken into simpler programs called functions. It also allows free movement of data</li> </ul>	• The original C programming language is not object-oriented, which is the most significant difference between the two. C is what's called a "procedural" programming language, while C++ is a hybrid language that's a combination of procedural and object-oriented.

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	across these functions.	
	• C is highly portable and is	
	used for scripting system	
	applications which form a	
	major part of Windows,	
	UNIX and Linux operating	
	system.	
	• C is a general purpose	
	programming language and	
	can efficiently work on	
	enterprise applications,	
	games, graphics, and	
	applications requiring	
	calculations.	
	• C language has a rich	
	library which provides a	
	number of built-in	
	functions. It also offers	
	dynamic memory	
	allocation.	
Ada	<ul> <li>strong typing</li> </ul>	
	• Modularity mechanisms	
	(packages).	
	• Run-time checking	
	• Parallel processing (tasks,	
	synchronous message	
	passing, protected objects,	
	and nondeterministic select	
	statements),	
	• Exception handling, and	
	generics.	
Smalltalk	• Smalltalk was the first	• It was the first language to
	programming language that	adopt object oriented
	fully supported object	programming, which absent
	oriented programming.	in all the other languages
		before this.
C++	• C++ is a highly portable	• C++ uses compiler only.
	language and is often the	C++ is compiled and run
	language of choice for	using the compiler which
	multi-device, multi-	converts source code into
	platform app development.	machine code so, C++ is
	• C++ is an object-oriented	platform dependent. java is
	programming language and	pure object oriented
	includes classes,	language but C++ is a both
	inheritance, polymorphism,	procedural and object
	data abstraction and	oriented programming

	encapsulation.	language. Java and CPP	
	• C++ allows except	both are object oriented	
	handling and fund	ction programming languages.	
	overloading, which	ch are not	
	possible in C.		
	• C++ is a powerfu	l, efficient	
	and fast language	. It finds a	
	wide range of $-$ fr	rom GUI	
	applications to 3I	) graphics	
	for games to real-	time	
	mathematical sim	ulations.	
Java	• Java was designed	d to be	
	easy to use, write	, compile,	
	debug and learn.		
	• Object oriented		
	programming (O	OP) is	
	associated with co	oncepts	
	like class, object,		
	inheritance, encar	osulation.	
	abstraction, polyr	norphism,	
	etc. Java is object	oriented	
	programming lan	guage and	
	allows you to dev	elop	
	modular program	s and	
	reusable code obj	ects.	
	• Java offers the co	mfort of	
	write program on	ce and	
	run on any hardw	are and	
	software platform	and any	
	Java compatible b	prowser.	
Perl	<ul> <li>Simplified gramn</li> </ul>	nar	
	<ul> <li>Lexical scoping</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Object oriented</li> </ul>		
	programming		
	• Extensibility.		
JavaScript	• No matter where	you host	
	JavaScript, execu	te always	
	on client environ	nent to	
	save a bandwidth	and make	
	execution process	s fast.	
	<ul> <li>JavaScript used t</li> </ul>	o fill web	
	page data dynami	cally such	
	as drop-down list	for a	
	Country and State	2.	
	<ul> <li>JavaScript syntax</li> </ul>	xes are	
	easy and flexible	for	

	<ul> <li>developers. In-short easy language to get pick up in development.</li> <li>The biggest advantages to a JavaScript having a ability to support all modern browser and produce the same result.</li> </ul>	
PHP	<ul> <li>The high speed of PHP gives it an advantage over other scripting languages and provides functionalities such as the server administration and mail functionalities.</li> <li>It is Open Source. Therefore, PHP is readily available and is entirely free.</li> </ul>	• JavaScript is a client-side scripting language whereas PHP is a server-side scripting language.
Python	<ul> <li>Presence of third party Modules</li> <li>Extensive support libraries</li> <li>Open source and community development</li> <li>Learning ease and support available</li> <li>User-friendly data structures</li> <li>Productivity and speed</li> </ul>	• The biggest difference between the Java and Python languages is that Java is a statically typed and Python is a dynamically typed.

A good language design is quintessential in terms of efficiency and executability. Our early principles of a good design criteria only focused on efficiency in execution as machines were extremely slow and programming speed was a necessity. Earlier languages were designed to resemble the machine code to be generated to accelerate the execution time.

As we progress through time, efficiency on the user side has somewhat become the forefront of a welldesigned programming language. Therefore, we have a new language evaluation criteria on our hands which cater to a programmer's efficiency, it is as follows:

# 1. Efficiency

Design efficiency can be divided into 3 subgroups:

• Readability:

How easy can the design in the programmer's head be mapped to code in that language and the ease with which programs can be read and understood.

• Writability:

The ease with which programs can be developed for a given program domain. An expressive language allows for easy representation of complex processes and structures.

• Reliability

The extent to which a program will perform according to its specifications or the dependability that the written program will work. Non-reliable programs tend to cost significantly at later stages.

# 2. Regularity

Regularity ensures that there are no unusual restrictions, interactions, or behavior by assessing how effectively the features a language is integrated. In practice, there should be no surprises in the way the language features behave. Regularity can also be subdivided into 3 concepts:

• Generality

Generality rule advices to avoid special cases and generalizes related constructs into one construct. For example,

In Pascal, it has 3 different loop structures (while, repeat, and for). Not a good example of generality

In Ada, it has 1 loop structure with variations. A good example of generality

• Orthogonality

Orthogonality rule dictates that language constructs (i.e loops) should not behave differently in different contexts or there should be no unusual implications, should be meaningful. For example,

In C, all parameters are passed by value except arrays, bad orthogonality

• Uniformity

Uniformity rule states that there should be a level of consistency between appearance and behavior of language constructs. For example, in C++, the operators "&" (the bitwise and) and "&&" (the logical and) look almost indistinguishable but formulate very distinct results, bad uniformity

3. Expressiveness

It is the ease with which a language can express complex structures, meaning, the ease to write understandable code and conciseness of complex processes. For example,

In C, the line of code for copying strings, "while (\*s++=\*t++);" is very concise and expressive for the operation it's performing

4. Extensibility

A programming language should be open in a sense that it should give the programmer the freedom to add features like:

- New Data Types
- Libraries and functions to libraries
- Keywords

Such additions enhances the user's overall experience of the language. Also enables growth for the language by the help of the community i.e Python, Java, C version releases.

An example of extensibility would be,

In C++, operator overloading is allowed. Good extensibility

In Java, it is not. Bad extensibility

5. Restrictability :

A well designed language should enable a programmer to write programs successfully irrespective of having vast knowledge of the language or its constructs. For example, designing a language with a similar syntax to a popular language allows users to pick up the language in a short period of time due to following common language conventions.

6. Security

Programs being written in the language should not cause any errors which hamper reliability. Features like type checking ensures that the compiler doesn't run into problems and secures the program to avoid any sort of damages.

Criteria	Definition	Example
Efficiency	The ease with which programs be written in the language	Python, a well designed language, that programmer's head can be mapped to code easily according to public acceptance in contrast to C/C++ or Java/FORTRAN
Generality(Regularity)	Avoid special cases and generalizes related constructs into one construct	C lacks nested function definitions(Bad Generality)

Orthogonality(Regularity)	Language constructs should not behave differently in different contexts.	C passes all parameters by value, except arrays, which are passed by reference(Bad Orthogonality)
Uniformity(Regularity)	A level of consistency should be there between appearance and behavior of language constructs	In C++, the operators & (bitwise and), && (logical and) yield very different results, but look confusingly similar(Bad Uniformity)
Expressiveness	It is the ease with which a language can express complex structures	while (*s++ = *t++); in C. Very expressive, very concise(Good Expressiveness)
Extensibility	There should be some general mechanism by which the user can add features to a language.	Version releases on popular languages like python, java etc.
Restrictability	Language design should enable a programmer to program usefully having minimal knowledge of the language.	A language should maintain consistency with accepted notations and conventions
Security	Programs should not run into runtime or compile time errors or damages	Types, type checking, and variable declarations

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