

Lecture 18:

- Quiz 4
- Semantic Analysis (cont)

Announcements:

- HW-3 due Mon

The goal of static analysis is to:

- Detect errors due to type issues, e.g.:

```
x = 0 + "1";           // int + string not allowed
if (42 <= true) {     // int <= bool not allowed
    x = 1;
}
```

- Detect “use before def” errors, e.g.:

```
int x = 42 + y;        // y not defined
if (x > 42) {
    int y = x + 1;
}
else {
    x = y;             // y not defined in this block
}
```

- Detect function call errors, e.g.:

```
int add(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}
void main() {
    int r1 = add(1, 2, 3); // wrong number of args
    int r2 = add(3.14, 1); // wrong argument types
    bool r3 = add(1, 2);   // wrong return type
}
```

- plus more ...

Examples of other kinds of errors found during static analysis

- duplicate function names
- duplicate struct names
- parameters with duplicate names and fields with duplicate names
- variable shadowing
- main function not defined
- and so on

Type errors often based on a set of typing rules (aka “judgements”)

- the rules define how types can be “**inferred**” (inference rules)
- statements or expressions that violate the rules have **type errors**

Basic Idea of Semantic Analysis (HW-4)

- navigate the AST using the Visitor pattern
- during navigation **infer types** and **look for errors**

Given this code ...

```
1:  int x = 10;
2:  int r = 0;
3:  while (x > 0) {
4:      r = r + x;
5:      x = x - 1;
6:  }
```

1. For “`int x = 10;`”
 - check and infer rhs type, compare against declared type, store **x**’s type
2. Similarly for “`int r = 0;`”
3. For “`while (x > 0) ...`”
 - ensure **x** is defined and compatible with 0 (both ints)
 - check each body statement ...
4. For “`r = r + x;`”
 - ensure in rhs that **r** and **x** are defined and types are compatible for +
 - ensure lhs is defined and result type (int) is compatible with lhs (**r**) type
5. etc.

Example suggests we need to keep track of names and their types!

- we’ll do this using a “**symbol table**”
- data structure for managing **bindings** (`id -> type`) in **environments**