

# Declarative Computation Model

Kernel language semantics revisited (CTM 2.4.5)

From kernel to practical language (CTM 2.6)

Exceptions (CTM 2.7)

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# Sequential declarative computation model

- The **kernel language semantics** revisited.
  - Suspendable statements:
    - if,
    - case,
    - procedure application.
  - Procedure values
  - Procedure introduction
  - Procedure application.

# Conditional

- The semantic statement is  
( if  $\langle x \rangle$  then  $\langle s_1 \rangle$  else  $\langle s_2 \rangle$  end ,  $E$  )
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is true:
  - If  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is not Boolean (true, false), raise an error
  - $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is true, push ( $\langle s_1 \rangle$  ,  $E$ ) on the stack
  - $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is false, push ( $\langle s_2 \rangle$  ,  $E$ ) on the stack
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is false:
  - Suspend

# Case statement

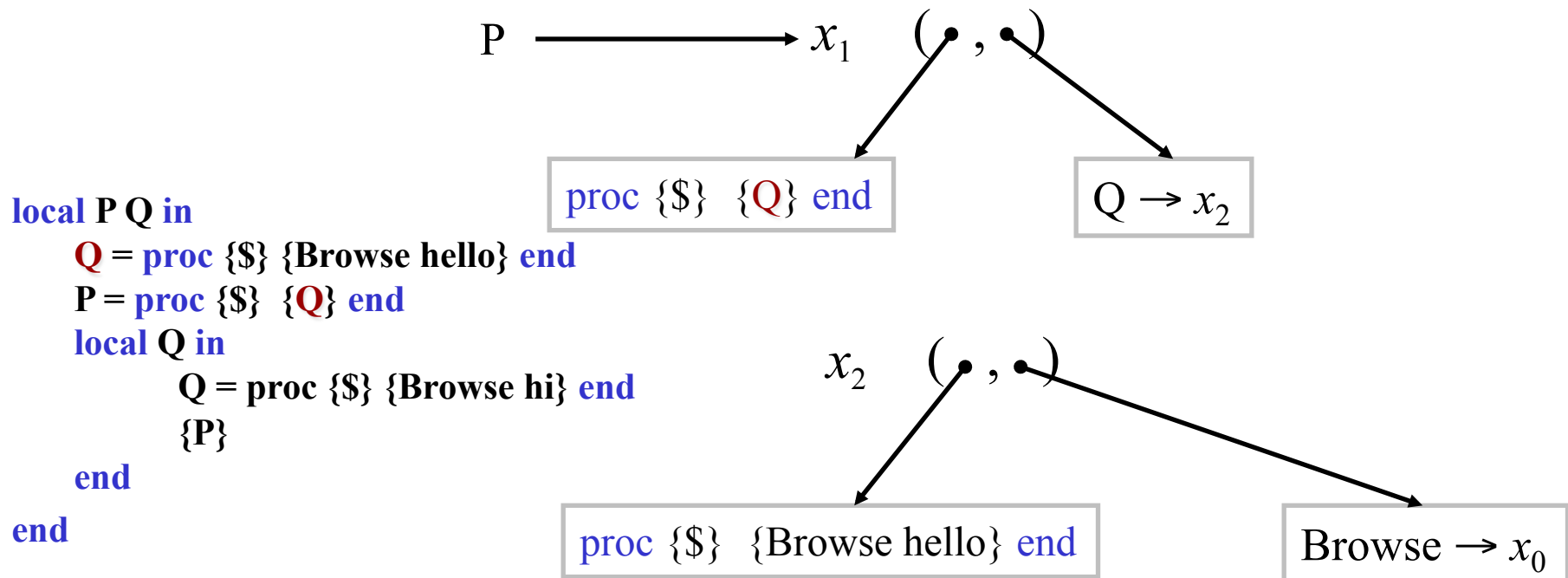
- The semantic statement is  
( **case**  $\langle x \rangle$  **of**  $\langle l \rangle$  ( $\langle f_1 \rangle : \langle x_1 \rangle \dots \langle f_n \rangle : \langle x_n \rangle$ )  
    **then**  $\langle s_1 \rangle$   
    **else**  $\langle s_2 \rangle$  **end** ,  $E$ )
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is true:
  - If  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is a record, and  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  unifies with  $\langle l \rangle$  ( $\langle f_1 \rangle : \langle x_1 \rangle \dots \langle f_n \rangle : \langle x_n \rangle$ ):  
    push (**local**  $\langle x_1 \rangle = \langle x \rangle . \langle f_1 \rangle \dots \langle x_n \rangle = \langle x \rangle . \langle f_n \rangle$  **in**  $\langle s_1 \rangle$  **end**,  $E$ )  
    on the stack
  - Otherwise, push ( $\langle s_2 \rangle$ ,  $E$ ) on the stack
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is false:
  - Suspend

# Procedure values

- Constructing a procedure value in the store is not simple because a procedure may have external references

```
local P Q in
  Q = proc {$} {Browse hello} end
  P = proc {$} {Q} end
  local Q in
    Q = proc {$} {Browse hi} end
    {P}
  end
end
```

# Procedure values (2)



# Procedure values (3)

- The semantic statement is  
 $(\langle x \rangle = \text{proc } \{\$ \langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle\} \langle s \rangle \text{end}, E)$
- $\langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle$  are the (*formal*) parameters of the procedure
- Other free identifiers in  $\langle s \rangle$  are called *external references*  $\langle z_1 \rangle \dots \langle z_k \rangle$
- These are defined by the environment  $E$  where the procedure is declared (lexical scoping)
- The contextual environment of the procedure  $CE$  is  $E \upharpoonright \{\langle z_1 \rangle \dots \langle z_k \rangle\}$
- When the procedure is called  $CE$  is used to construct the environment for execution of  $\langle s \rangle$

```
(proc { $\$ \langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle$ }  
   $\langle s \rangle$   
end ,  
CE)
```

# Procedure introduction

- The semantic statement is

$(\langle x \rangle = \text{proc } \{\$ \langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle\} \langle s \rangle \text{ end}, E)$

- Create a contextual environment:

$CE = E \upharpoonright_{\{\langle z_1 \rangle \dots \langle z_k \rangle\}}$  where  $\langle z_1 \rangle \dots \langle z_k \rangle$  are external references in  $\langle s \rangle$ .

- Create a new procedure value of the form:

$(\text{proc } \{\$ \langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle\} \langle s \rangle \text{ end}, CE)$ , refer to it by the variable  $x_p$

- Bind the store variable  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  to  $x_p$
- Continue to next execution step



# Procedure application

- The semantic statement is  $(\{ \langle x \rangle \langle y_1 \rangle \dots \langle y_n \rangle \}, E)$
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is true:
  - If  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is not a procedure value, or it is a procedure with arity that is not equal to  $n$ , raise an error
  - If  $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is  $(\text{proc } \{ \$ \langle z_1 \rangle \dots \langle z_n \rangle \} \langle s \rangle \text{ end}, CE)$ ,  
push  
 $( \langle s \rangle, CE + \{ \langle z_1 \rangle \rightarrow E(\langle y_1 \rangle) \dots \langle z_n \rangle \rightarrow E(\langle y_n \rangle) \} )$   
on the stack
- If the activation condition ( $E(\langle x \rangle)$  is determined) is false:
  - Suspend

# Execution examples

```
⟨s⟩1 { local Max C in
      { proc {Max X Y Z}
        ⟨s⟩3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
        end
        {Max 3 5 C}
      end
```

# Execution examples (2)

```

    <s>_1 {
      local Max C in
        proc {Max X Y Z}
          <s>_3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
        end
        <s>_4 {Max 3 5 C}
      end
    }
  
```

- Initial state ( $[(\langle s \rangle_1, \emptyset)], \emptyset$ )
- After **local Max C in ...**  
 $([(\langle s \rangle_2, \{\text{Max} \rightarrow m, C \rightarrow c\})], \{m, c\})$
- After Max binding  
 $([(\langle s \rangle_4, \{\text{Max} \rightarrow m, C \rightarrow c\})], \{m = (\text{proc}\{\$ X Y Z\} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), c\})$

# Execution examples (3)

$$\langle s \rangle_1 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle s \rangle_2 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{local Max C in} \\ \text{proc } \{ \text{Max X Y Z} \} \\ \langle s \rangle_3 \text{ if } X \geq Y \text{ then } Z=X \text{ else } Z=Y \text{ end} \\ \text{end} \\ \langle s \rangle_4 \{ \text{Max 3 5 C} \} \\ \text{end} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$$

- After Max binding  
 $( [(\langle s \rangle_4, \{ \text{Max} \rightarrow m, C \rightarrow c \})], \\ \{ m = (\text{proc } \{ \$ X Y Z \} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), c \} )$
- After procedure call  
 $( [(\langle s \rangle_3, \{ X \rightarrow t_1, Y \rightarrow t_2, Z \rightarrow c \}) ], \\ \{ m = (\text{proc } \{ \$ X Y Z \} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), t_1=3, t_2=5, c \} )$

# Execution examples (4)

```

    <s>_1 {
      local Max C in
        proc {Max X Y Z}
          <s>_3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
        end
        <s>_4 {Max 3 5 C}
      end
    }
  
```

- After procedure call  
 $( [(\langle s \rangle_3, \{X \rightarrow t_1, Y \rightarrow t_2, Z \rightarrow c\})], \{m = (\text{proc}\{\$ X Y Z\} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), t_1=3, t_2=5, c\} )$
- After  $T = (X \geq Y)$   
 $( [(\langle s \rangle_3, \{X \rightarrow t_1, Y \rightarrow t_2, Z \rightarrow c, T \rightarrow t\})], \{m = (\text{proc}\{\$ X Y Z\} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), t_1=3, t_2=5, c, t=false\} )$
- $( [(Z=Y, \{X \rightarrow t_1, Y \rightarrow t_2, Z \rightarrow c, T \rightarrow t\})], \{m = (\text{proc}\{\$ X Y Z\} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \emptyset), t_1=3, t_2=5, c, t=false\} )$

# Execution examples (5)

```

    local Max C in
      proc {Max X Y Z}
        <s>3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
      end
      <s>4 {Max 3 5 C}
    end
  <s>2
<s>1
  
```

- ( [(Z=Y , {X → t<sub>1</sub>, Y → t<sub>2</sub>, Z → c, T → t}) ],  
 {m = (proc {\$ X Y Z} <s>3 end , ∅) , t<sub>1</sub>=3, t<sub>2</sub>=5, c, t=false} )
- ( [ ],  
 {m = (proc {\$ X Y Z} <s>3 end , ∅) , t<sub>1</sub>=3, t<sub>2</sub>=5, c=5, t=false} )

# Procedures with external references

```

<s>1 {
  local LB Y C in
    <s>2 {
      Y = 5
      proc {LB X Z}
        <s>3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
      end
      {LB 3 C}
    }
  end
end
```

# Procedures with external references

```

      local LB Y C in
      Y = 5
      proc {LB X Z}
      <s>3  if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
      end
      {LB 3 C}
      end
    <s>2
  <s>1

```

- The procedure value of LB is
- (`proc {$ X Z} <s>3 end` , {Y → y})
- The store is {y = 5, ...}



# Procedures with external references

$$\langle s \rangle_1 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{local LB Y C in} \\ \quad Y = 5 \\ \quad \text{proc } \{ \text{LB X Z} \} \\ \quad \quad \langle s \rangle_3 \quad \text{if } X \geq Y \text{ then } Z=X \text{ else } Z=Y \text{ end} \\ \quad \text{end} \\ \quad \{ \text{LB 3 C} \} \\ \text{end} \end{array} \right.$$

- The procedure value of LB is
- $(\text{proc } \{ \$ X Z \} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \{ Y \rightarrow y \})$
- The store is  $\{ y = 5, \dots \}$
- STACK:  $[( \{ \text{LB T C} \}, \{ Y \rightarrow y, \text{LB} \rightarrow lb, \text{C} \rightarrow c, \text{T} \rightarrow t \})]$
- STORE:  $\{ y = 5, lb = (\text{proc } \{ \$ X Z \} \langle s \rangle_3 \text{end}, \{ Y \rightarrow y \}), t = 3, c \}$

# Procedures with external references

```

    local LB Y C in
      Y = 5
      proc {LB X Z}
        <s>3 if X >= Y then Z=X else Z=Y end
      end
      {LB 3 C}
    end
  <s>2
<s>1

```

- STACK: [( {LB T C} , {Y → y , LB → lb, C → c, T → t}) ]
- STORE: {y = 5, lb = (proc {\$ X Z} <s><sub>3</sub> end , {Y → y}) , t = 3, c}
- STACK: [( <s><sub>3</sub> , {Y → y , X → t , Z → c}) ]
- STORE: {y = 5, lb = (proc {\$ X Z} <s><sub>3</sub> end , {Y → y}) , t = 3, c}

# Procedures with external references

$$\langle s \rangle_1 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{local LB Y C in} \\ \langle s \rangle_2 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} Y = 5 \\ \text{proc } \{ \text{LB X Z} \} \\ \langle s \rangle_3 \quad \text{if } X \geq Y \text{ then } Z=X \text{ else } Z=Y \text{ end} \\ \text{end} \\ \{ \text{LB 3 C} \} \\ \text{end} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$$

- STACK: [ ( $\langle s \rangle_3$ , {Y  $\rightarrow$  y, X  $\rightarrow$  t, Z  $\rightarrow$  c}) ]
- STORE: {y = 5, lb = (proc { \$ X Z }  $\langle s \rangle_3$  end, {Y  $\rightarrow$  y}), t = 3, c}
- STACK: [(Z=Y, {Y  $\rightarrow$  y, X  $\rightarrow$  t, Z  $\rightarrow$  c}) ]
- STORE: {y = 5, lb = (proc { \$ X Z }  $\langle s \rangle_3$  end, {Y  $\rightarrow$  y}), t = 3, c}
- STACK: [ ]
- STORE: {y = 5, lb = (proc { \$ X Z }  $\langle s \rangle_3$  end, {Y  $\rightarrow$  y}), t = 3, c = 5}

# From the kernel language to a practical language

- **Interactive interface**
  - the `declare` statement and the global environment
- **Extend kernel syntax** to give a full, practical syntax
  - nesting of partial values
  - implicit variable initialization
  - expressions
  - nesting the `if` and `case` statements
  - `andthen` and `orelse` operations
- **Linguistic abstraction**
  - Functions
- **Exceptions**

# The interactive interface (declare)

- The interactive interface is a program that has a single global environment

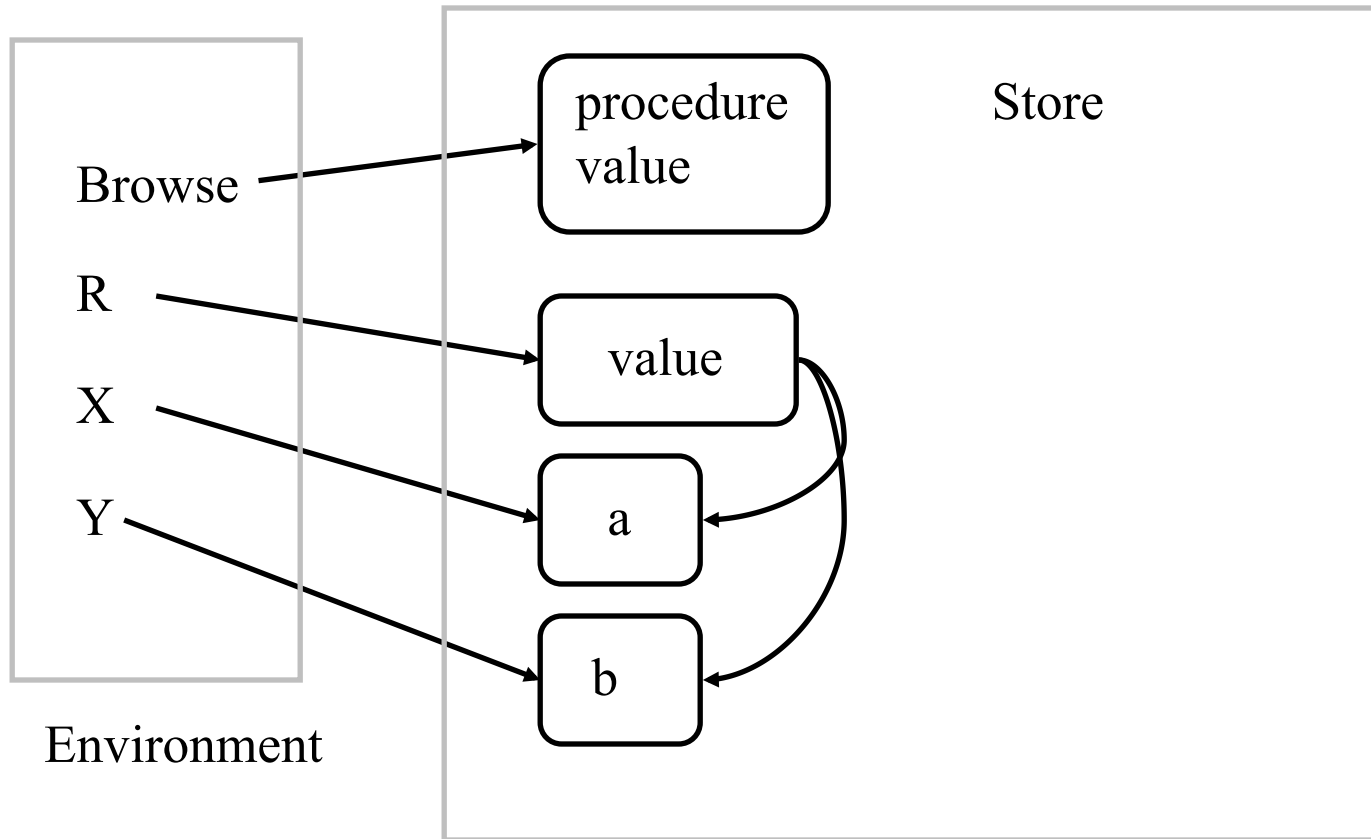
`declare X Y`

- Augments (and overrides) the environment with new mappings for X and Y

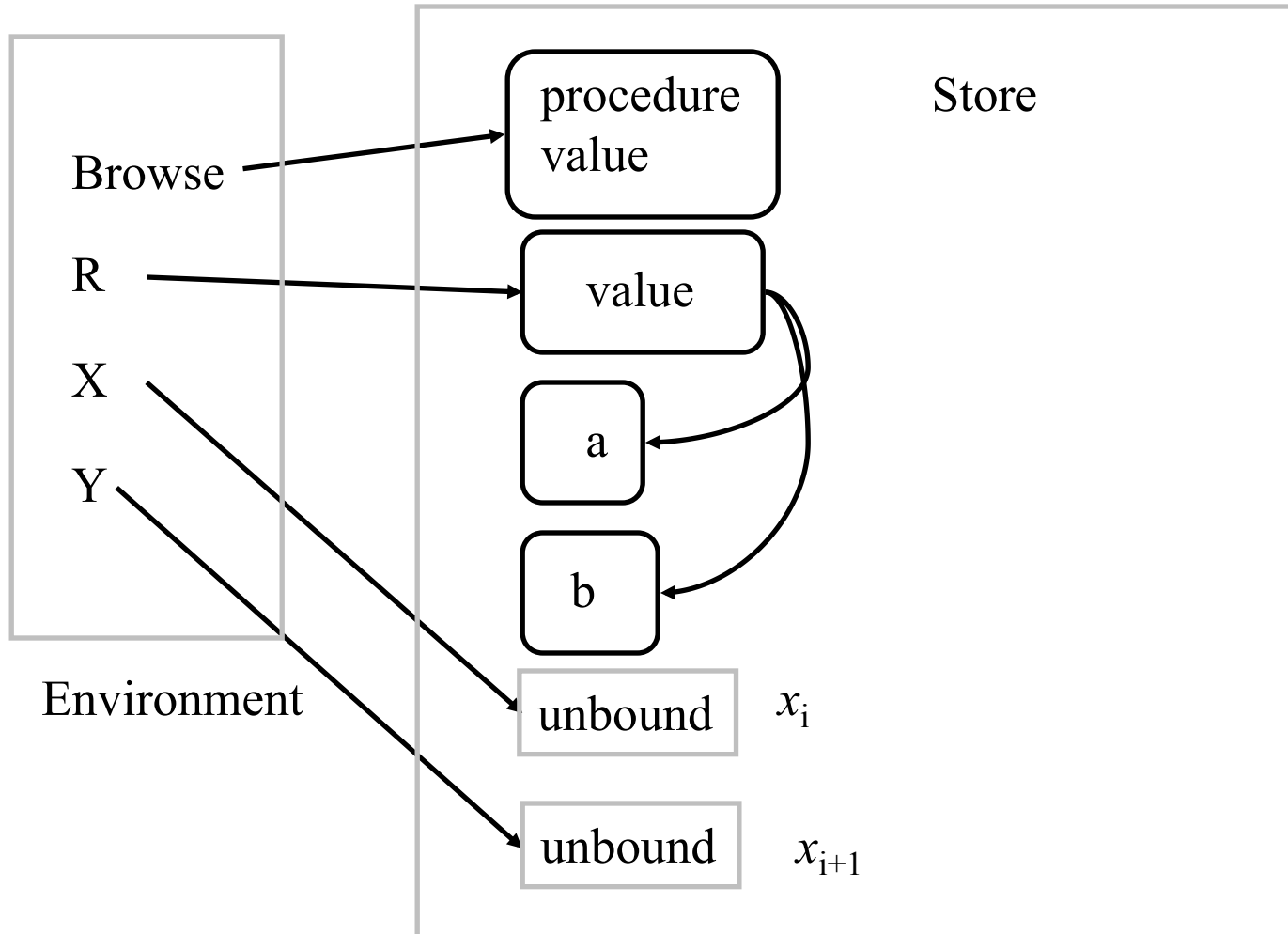
`{Browse X}`

- Inspects the store and shows partial values, and incremental changes

# The interactive interface (declare)



declare X Y



# Syntactic extensions

- **Nested partial values**

- person(name: “George” age:25)

- `local A B in A= “George” B=25 person(name:A age:B) end`

- **Implicit variable initialization**

- `local <pattern> = <expression> in <statement> end`

- **Example:**

assume T has been defined, then

- `local tree(key:A left:B right:C value:D) = T in <statement> end`

is the same as:

- `local A B C D in`

- `T = tree(key:A left:B right:C value:D) <statement>`

- `end`



# Extracting fields in local statement

declare T

:

T = tree(key:seif age:48 profession:professor)

:

local

tree(key:A ...) = T

in

⟨statement⟩

end

# Nested if and case statements

- Observe a pair notation is:  $1 \# 2$ , is the tuple ‘#’ (1 2)


```
case Xs # Ys
of nil # Ys then <s>1
[] Xs # nil then <s>2
[] (X|Xr) # (Y|Yr) andthen X=<Y then <s>3
else <s>4 end
```

- Is translated into (assuming X,Xr,Y,Yr not free in <s><sub>4</sub>)

```
case Xs of nil then <s>1
else
  case Ys of nil then <s>2
  else
    case Xs of X|Xr then
      case Ys of Y|Yr then
        if X=<Y then <s>3 else <s>4 end
      else <s>4 end
    else <s>4 end
  end
end
```

# Expressions

- An expression is a sequence of operations that returns a value
- A statement is a sequence of operations that does not return a value. Its effect is on the store, or outside of the system (e.g. read/write a file)

- $11*11$   $X=11*11$   


expression                      statement

# Functions as linguistic abstraction

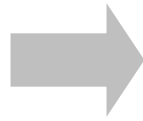
- $R = \{F X1 \dots Xn\}$



- $\{F X1 \dots Xn R\}$

```
fun {F X1 ... Xn}  
  <statement>  
  <expression>  
end
```

⏟  
⟨statement⟩



```
F = proc {$ X1 ... Xn R}  
  <statement>  
  R = <expression>  
end
```

⏟  
⟨statement⟩

# Nesting in data structures

- $Ys = \{F X\}\{\text{Map } Xr F\}$
- Is unnested to:
- `local Y Yr in`  
     $Ys = Y|Yr$   
     $\{F X Y\}$   
     $\{\text{Map } Xr F Yr\}$   
`end`
- The unnesting of the calls occurs after the data structure

# Functional nesting

- Nested notations that allows expressions as well as statements

- **local** R in

{F X1 ... Xn R}


{Q R ...}

**end**

- Is written as (equivalent to):

- {Q {F X1 ... Xn} ...}

  
expression

  
statement

# Conditional expressions

```
R = if <expr>1 then  
    <expr>2  
else <expr>3 end
```

<expression>



```
if <expr>1 then  
    R = <expr>2  
else R = <expr>3 end
```

<statement>

```
fun {Max X Y}  
    if X>=Y then X  
    else Y end  
end
```

```
Max = proc {$ X Y R}  
    R = ( if X>=Y then X  
          else Y end )  
end
```

# Example

```
fun {Max X Y}  
  if X>=Y then X  
  else Y end  
end
```



```
Max = proc {$ X Y R}  
  R = ( if X>=Y then X  
        else Y end )  
end
```



```
Max = proc {$ X Y R}  
  if X>=Y then R = X  
  else R = Y end  
end
```



# andthen and orelse

$\langle \text{expr} \rangle_1$  andthen  $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_2$



```
if  $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_1$  then  
   $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_2$   
else false end
```

$\langle \text{expr} \rangle_1$  orelse  $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_2$



```
if  $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_1$  then  
  true  
else  $\langle \text{expr} \rangle_2$  end
```

# Function calls

Observe

```
{F1 {F2 X} {F3 Y}}
```



```
local R1 R2 in  
  {F2 X R1}  
  {F3 Y R2}  
  {F1 R1 R2}  
end
```

The arguments of a function are evaluated first from left to right

# A complete example

```
fun {Map Xs F}
  case Xs
  of nil then nil
  [] X|Xr then {F X}|{Map Xr F}
  end
end
```



```
proc {Map Xs F Ys}
  case Xs
  of nil then Ys = nil
  [] X|Xr then Y Yr in
    Ys = Y|Yr
    {F X Y}
    {Map Xr F Yr}
  end
end
```

# Exceptions

- How to handle exceptional situations in the program?
- Examples:
  - divide by 0
  - opening a nonexistent file
- Some errors are programming errors
- Some errors are imposed by the external environment
- Exception handling statements allow programs to handle and recover from errors

# Exceptions

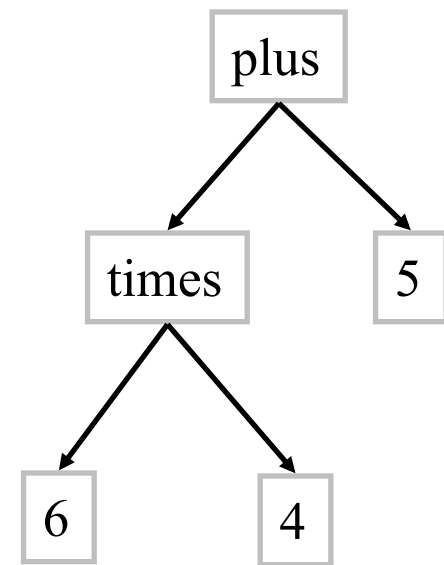
- The error confinement principle:
  - Define your program as a structured layers of components
  - Errors are visible only internally and a recovery procedure corrects the errors: either errors are not visible at the component boundary or are reported (nicely) to a higher level
- In one operation, exit from arbitrary depth of nested contexts
  - Essential for program structuring; else programs get complicated (use boolean variables everywhere, etc.)

# Basic concepts

- A program that encounters an error (*exception*) should transfer execution to another part, the *exception handler* and give it a (partial) value that describes the error
- `try  $\langle s \rangle_1$  catch  $\langle x \rangle$  then  $\langle s \rangle_2$  end`
- `raise  $\langle x \rangle$  end`
- Introduce an exception marker on the semantic stack
- The execution is equivalent to  $\langle s \rangle_1$  if it executes without raising an error
- Otherwise,  $\langle s \rangle_1$  is aborted and the stack is popped up to the marker, the error value is transferred through  $\langle x \rangle$ , and  $\langle s \rangle_2$  is executed

# Exceptions (Example)

```
fun {Eval E}
  if {IsNumber E} then E
  else
    case E
    of plus(X Y) then {Eval X}+{Eval Y}
    [] times(X Y) then {Eval X}*{Eval Y}
    else raise illFormedExpression(E) end
    end
  end
end
```



# Exceptions (Example)

try

```
{Browse {Eval plus(5 6) }}
```

```
{Browse {Eval plus(times(5 5) 6) }}
```

```
{Browse {Eval plus(minus(5 5) 6) }}
```

catch illFormedExpression(E) then

```
{System.showInfo "**** illegal expresion ****" # E}
```

end



# Try semantics

- The semantic statement is  
 $(\text{try } \langle s \rangle_1 \text{ catch } \langle y \rangle \text{ then } \langle s \rangle_2 \text{ end}, E)$
- Push the semantic statement  $(\text{catch } \langle y \rangle \text{ then } \langle s \rangle_2 \text{ end}, E)$  on  $ST$
- Push  $(\langle s \rangle_1, E)$  on  $ST$
- Continue to next execution step

# Raise semantics

- The semantic statement is  
 $(\text{raise } \langle x \rangle \text{ end}, E)$
- Pop elements off  $ST$  looking for a **catch** statement:
  - If a **catch** statement is found, pop it from the stack
  - If the stack is emptied and no **catch** is found, then stop execution with the error message "Uncaught exception"
- Let  $(\text{catch } \langle y \rangle \text{ then } \langle s \rangle \text{ end}, E_c)$  be the **catch** statement that is found
- Push  $(\langle s \rangle, E_c + \{\langle y \rangle \rightarrow E(\langle x \rangle)\})$  on  $ST$
- Continue to next execution step

# Catch semantics

- The semantic statement is  
(catch  $\langle x \rangle$  then  $\langle s \rangle$  end,  $E$ )
- Continue to next execution step (like skip)

# Full exception syntax

- Exception statements (expressions) with multiple patterns and `finally` clause

- Example:

```
:  
FH = {OpenFile "xxxxx"}  
:  
try  
  {ProcessFile FH}  
catch X then  
  {System.showInfo "***** Exception when processing *****" # X}  
finally {CloseFile FH} end
```

# finally syntax

```
try  $\langle s \rangle_1$  finally  $\langle s \rangle_2$  end
```

is converted to:

```
try  $\langle s \rangle_1$   
catch X then  
   $\langle s \rangle_2$   
  raise X end  
end  
 $\langle s \rangle_2$ 
```

# Exercises

49. CTM Exercise 2.9.3 (page 107).
50. CTM Exercise 2.9.7 (page 108) –translate example to kernel language and execute using operational semantics.
51. Write an example of a program that suspends. Now, write an example of a program that never terminates. Use the operational semantics to prove suspension or non-termination.
52. CTM Exercise 2.9.12 (page 110).
53. Change the semantics of the `case` statement, so that patterns can contain variable labels and variable feature names.

# Exercises

54. Restrict the kernel language to make it strictly functional (i.e., without dataflow variables)

- Language similar to **Scheme** (dynamically typed functional language)

This is done by disallowing variable declaration (without initialization) and disallowing procedural syntax

- Only use implicit variable initialization
- Only use functions