V22.0490.001 Special Topics: Programming Languages

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Lecture # 13

—Slide 1—

Global and Local Variables

• Global Variables

- Global Variables may be referenced in any function
- They must be declared using the special function DEFVAR

• **NOTE:** PROGN: Explicitly sequences LISP statements. Value of the last subform is returned as the value of the PROGN-form

```
(SETQ *COUNT* 0)
(COUNT-APPEND '(A B C) '(D)) => (A B C D)
*COUNT* => 3
```

—Slide 2— LOCAL VARIABLES

- Local variables may only be referenced in the function in which they are defined.
- They can be declared by appearing as function's formal arguments, Or they can be declared explicitly by the control structure LET & LET*

- 1. Each of the S-expression <value-1>, ..., <value-n> is evaluated in turn.
- 2. The variables <var-1>, ..., <var-n> are given their respective values.
- 3. Evaluate <body>
- 4. In this evaluation $\langle value-j \rangle$ cannot refer to $\langle var-i \rangle$ even if $1 \leq i, j \leq n$.

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LET and LET*

• Example

```
(DEFUN DISTANCE (P1 P2)

(LET ((XDIFF (- (CAR P1) (CAR P2)))

(YDIFF (- (CAR (CDR P1)) (CAR (CDR P2))))

(SQRT (+ (* XDIFF XDIFF) (* YDIFF YDIFF))))

))
```

• LET*

- Sequentially binds each new variable as its value is computed
- Avoids the "right crawl" problem

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LET*: (contd)

• Old Example

```
COLOR = BLUE

=> PAIR = (BLUE . 8.00)

=> PRICE = 8.00

=> PRICE = PRICE + *TAX-RATE* PRICE
```

• Old example with LET*

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Lisp as Data Bases

- Lists can associate keys to values: ASSOC
- Association List

```
((<key-1>.<val-1>) (<key-2>.<val-2>)...(<key-n>.<val-n>))
```

- ASSOC searches the list linearly until
 - 1. It drops off the list and returns NIL, or
 - 2. It finds the key (EQL) and returns the cons-cell containing the key

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Functional Programming Style

• FUNCALL

• It is possible to pass functions as values (i.e., data) and apply them to arbitrary sets of arguments.

(SYMBOL-FUNCTION <symbol>) or #<symbol>

 \Rightarrow Returns functional object associated with <symbol>

(FUNCALL <functional-object> <arg-1> ... <arg-n>)

⇒ Calls the **<functional-object>** with the arguments it received.

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Examples

```
(SETQ *RELATIONSHIP-FUNCTIONS*
        '((FATHER . FATHER-OF?)
          (MOTHER . MOTHER-OF?)))
  (DEFUN FIND-RELATIVE (RELATION PERSON)
     (LET ((FUN-NAME (CDR (ASSOC RELATION
                       *RELATIONSHIP-FUNCTION*))))
          (IF (NULL FUN-NAME)
              (ERROR "Unknown relationship")
              (FUNCALL (SYMBOL-FUNCTION FUN-NAME)
                        PERSON))))
(FIND-RELATIVE (FATHER TOM))
=>
    (FUNCALL (SYMBOL-FUNCTION 'FATHER-OF?) 'TOM)
    (FUNCALL #'FATHER-OF? 'TOM)
    (FATHER-OF? 'TOM)
 • Note: In interpreted LISP, you may omit SYMBOL-FUNCTION
    (i.e., #)
      (FUNCALL '(LAMBDA (N) (+ 1 N)) 3) => 4
```

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APPLY & LAMBDA

APPLY

(APPLY <fun-obj> <arg-1> ...<arg-n> <arg-more>)

 \Rightarrow Calls the functional object with *variable* number of arguments and they may be in a list.

• LAMBDA

(LAMBDA <arg-list> ... <body>)

 \Rightarrow Lambda Expression (λ . <arg-list>) <body>. It is like DEFUN...except that it makes an anonymous functional object

(APPLY

#'(LAMBDA (A B C) (* A (+ B C)))

'(4 3 5))

=> 4 * (3 + 5) = 32

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Mapping Functions: MAPCAR

• Under mapping, a function is successively applied to applied to one more lists

(MAPCAR <function> <arglist-1>...<arglist-n>)

- 1. <function> must take n arguments.
- 2. First, it is applied to the CAR's of each <arglist-i>
- 3. Next, it is applied to the CADR's, etc., until the end of the shortest list is reached
- 4. Results of each application are collected into a list and returned as the value of the MAPCAR

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Examples

[End of Lecture #13]