

# Principle in binding of variables

*“A bound variable in an expression can be renamed uniformly to another variable that does not appear free in the expression without changing the meaning of the expression.”*

- Example:

$$\begin{aligned}\forall x (\exists y f(x,y)) &= \forall x (\exists v f(x,v)) \\ &= \forall y (\exists v f(y,v)) \\ &= \forall y (\exists x f(y,x)) \\ &\neq \forall y (\exists y f(y,y)) \rightarrow y \text{ was free in } f(y,x)\end{aligned}$$

*The declaration  $\forall y$  in  $\forall y (\exists y f(y,y))$  is vacuous and invisible to  $f(y,y)$  in  $(\exists y f(y,y))$  because  $\exists y$  supercedes  $\forall y$ .*

# Using the principle

- What does this mean to a programming language?

code 1 → `int x; { int * y; ... = x + *y; ... }`

code 2 → `int x; { int * v; ... = x + *v; ... }`

code 3 → `int y; { int * v; ... = y + *v; ... }`

code 4 → `int y; { int * x; ... = y + *x; ... }`

code 5 → `int y; { int * y; ... = y + *y; ... }`



*useful for detecting homework program copying?*

# Static vs. dynamic scopes

- Each language has its own rules that tell us where to find the declaration for a name in a program. The rules are called the **scope rules** (or scope regime).
- Scope rules can be categorized largely into two kinds:
  - static scope (Fortran, Pascal, C, Scheme, Common Lisp)
  - dynamic scope (pure Lisp, APL, SmallTalk)
- **static scope**
  - A scope of a variable is the region of text for which a specific binding of the variable is visible.
  - Therefore, the connection between references and declarations can be made lexically, based on the text of the program.
  - At compile time, a free variable is bound by a declaration in textually enclosing scopes/environments.

# Static vs. dynamic scopes

- dynamic scope

- The connection between references and declarations cannot be determined lexically since, in general, a variable is not declared until run-time, and may even be redeclared as the program executes.
- At run-time, a free variable in a procedure is bound by a declaration in the environment from which the procedure is called.

- Program execution may behave differently depending on whether static or dynamic scoping is used.

- Consider the following program:

```
> (define (tnu m n) (begin
  (define (g m) (- m n))
  (define (h n) (* m (g n)))
  (+ (h m) n) ))
(tnu)
> (tnu 9 2)
???
```

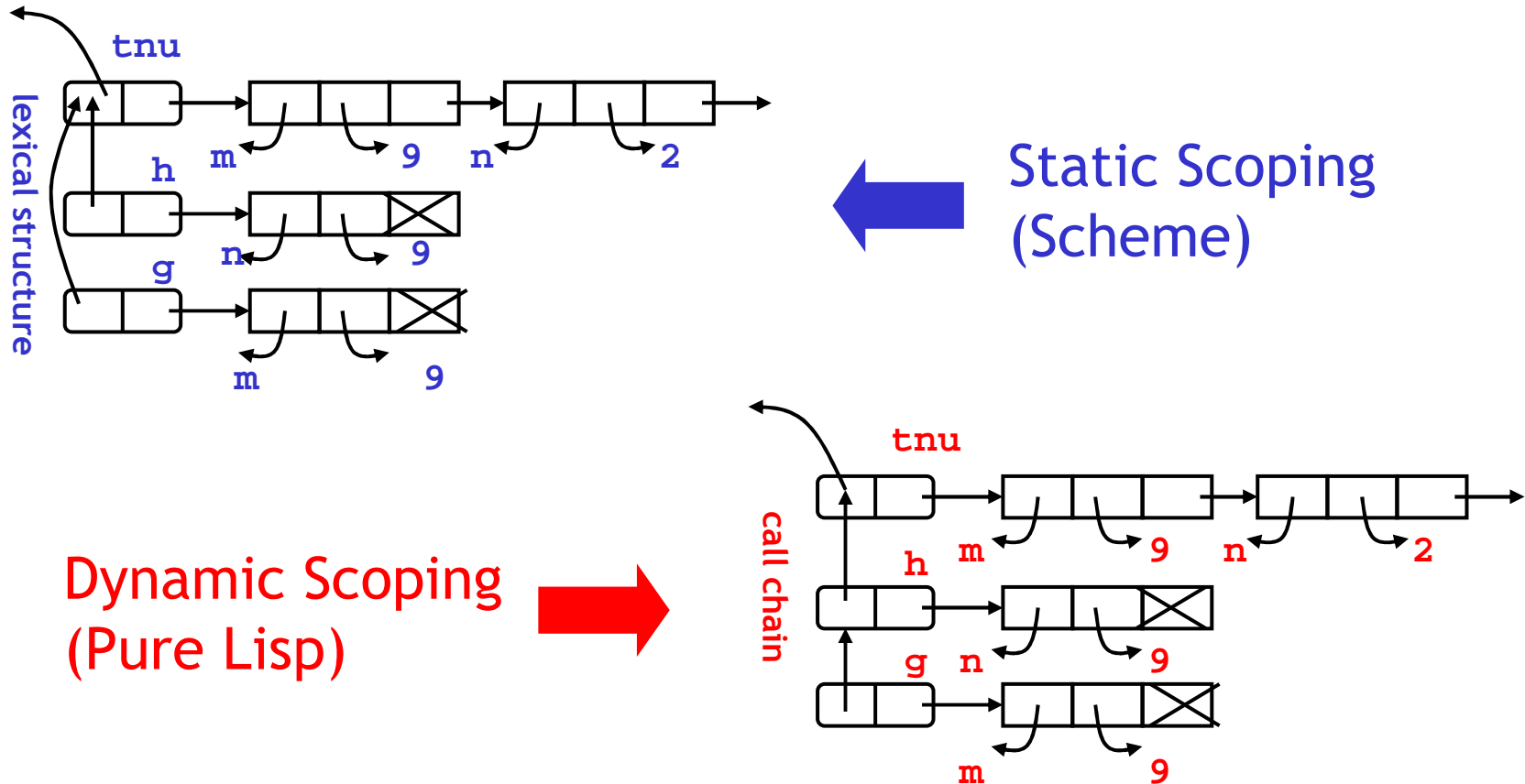
```
(define g (lambda (m) (- m n)))
```

```
// main program tnu
// subprogram g
// subprogram h
// body of program tnu
```

```
// What will be the output if this is a pure
// Lisp code? What if it is a Scheme code?
```

# Environments with static/dynamic scopes

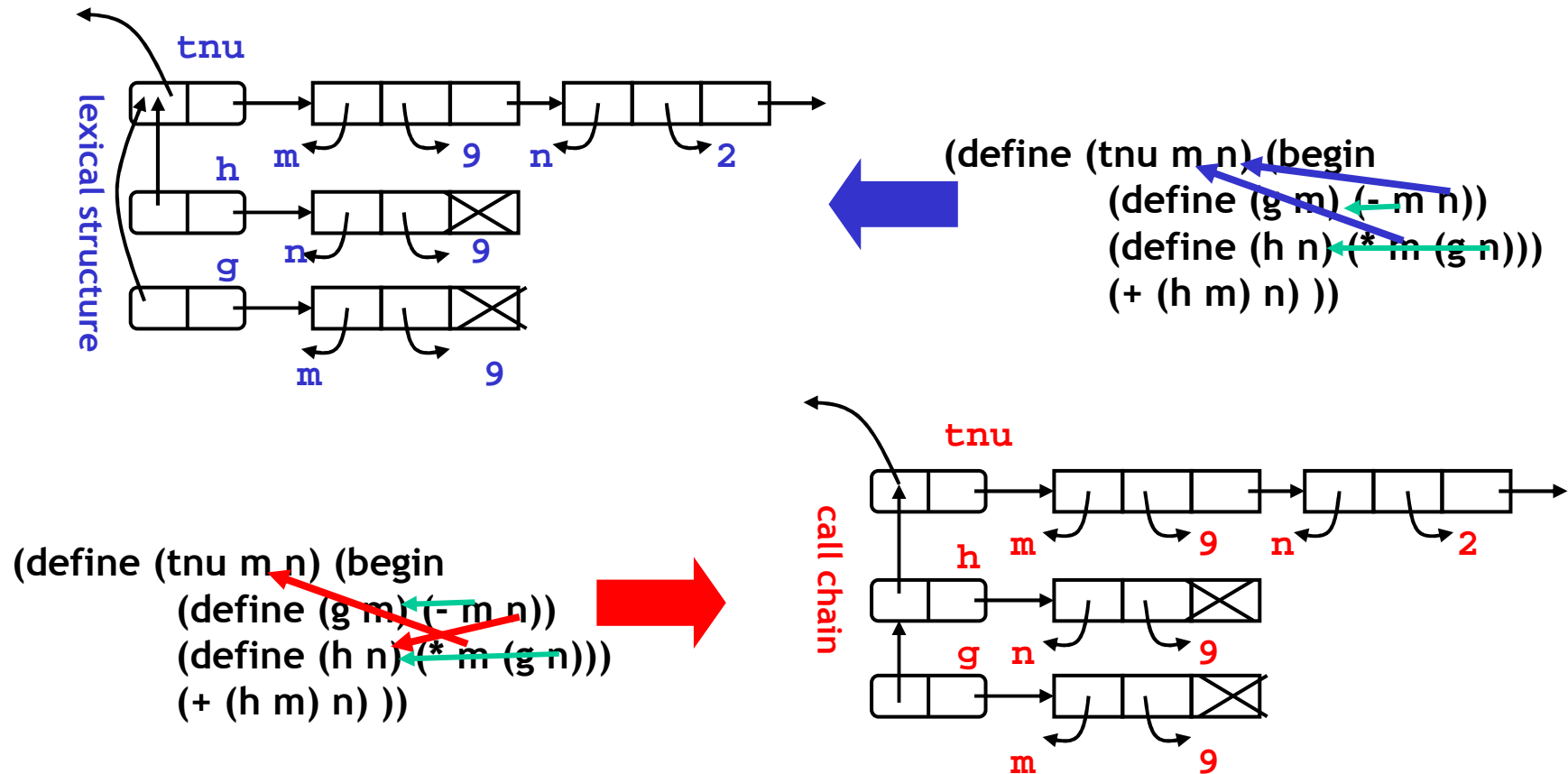
- Environment configuration when g is called



Note: *different scope rules differentiate binding of a free variable!*

# Environments with static/dynamic scopes

- Environment configuration when g is called



Note: *different scope rules differentiate binding of a free variable!*

# Implicit parameter passing

“Develop a routine `add-nth-powers(x y n)` which returns  $x^n+y^n$ .”

- Using dynamic scoping

```
> (define (add-nth-powers x y n) (+ (n-expt x) (n-expt y)))  
> (define (n-expt m) (expt m n)) // returns m^n  
> (add-nth-powers 4 3 2) // the output = ?
```

→ This works because dynamic scoping allows implicit parameter passing.

- What if static scoping is used?

Static scoping does not allow implicit parameter passing. So ...

1. pass the parameter `n` explicitly; or...

```
> (define (add-nth-powers x y n) (+ (n-expt x n) (n-expt y n)))  
> (define (n-expt m n) (expt m n))
```

2. use a global variable `n-global`.

```
> (define n-global 0) // meaningless initialization  
> (define (add-nth-powers x y n)  
      (begin (set! n-global n) (+ (n-expt x) (n-expt y))))  
> (define (n-expt m) (expt m n-global))
```

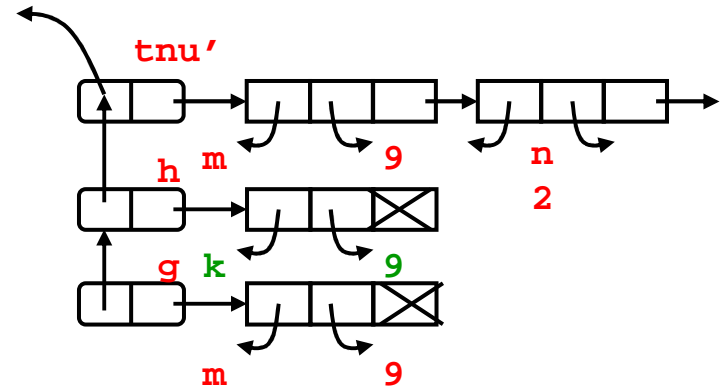
→ any other solution?

# Problems of dynamic scoping

- more difficult to read and understand a program because

- The *principle of binding* is violated.

```
> (define (tnu' m n) (begin
  (define (g m) (- m n))
  (define (h k) (* m (g k)))
  (+ (h m) n) ))
```



→ *tnu* and *tnu'* are different if dynamic scoping is used!

- The meaning of a routine with free variables depends on call chain because of a *screening problem*.

e.g.) In the routine *tnu*, the subroutine *h* captures the free variable *n* in the routine *g*, changing the meaning of *g*.

- Typically more expensive because variable name comparison thru a call chain is involved in program execution.



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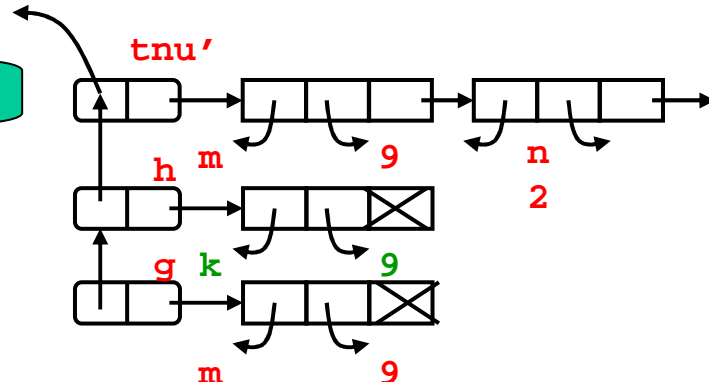
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In tnu()



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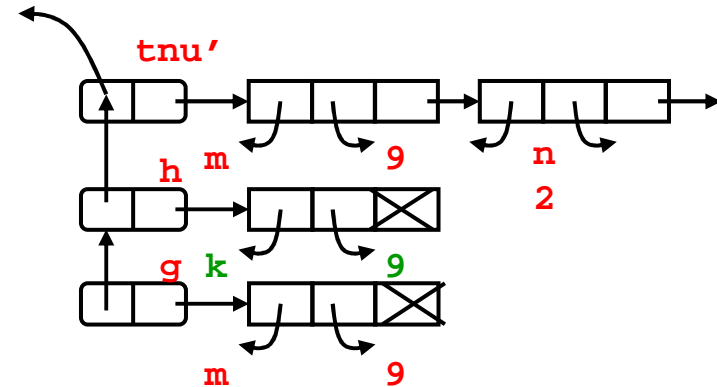
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# Life time

- Life time of a variable is the interval of time for which a specific binding of the variable is active. → *cf: scope*
- During the life time of a variable, a variable is bound to memory storage.
- Let **x** be a **simple/automatic** variable declared inside a scope **S**.
  - The life time of **x** begins when program execution enters the scope **S**, and ends when execution leaves the scope.
  - Only when the binding of **x** is visible, **x** is a **live** variable.

# Life time

- Let  $x$  be a **static** variable declared inside a scope  $S$ .
  - The life time of  $x$  begins when program execution starts, and ends when program execution terminates.
  - Even when the binding of  $x$  is not visible,  $x$  remains a live variable.

```
C++  
    int f() {  
        static int die_hard; // static variable, as it says  
        int temp;           // automatic variable  
        ... f() ...  
    }  
    main() {  
        ... f() ...  
    }
```

- What are the life time and scope of `die_hard`?
- What are the life time and scope of `temp`?
- What happens to them when `f` is recursively called?

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```

- What are the life time and scope of `die_hard`?
  - lifetime: during `main()`, scope: inside `f()`
- What are the life time and scope of `temp`?
  - lifetime: during `f()`, scope: inside `f()`
- What happens to them when `f` is recursively called?
  - `die_hard`: only one `die_hard` is used
  - `temp`: different `temps` are born for each recursive call