

CS 314 Principles of Programming Languages

Lecture 12: Names, Scopes and Bindings

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Class Information

- HW4 posted, due this Friday.
- Reminder: Project 1 due in about one week.

Names, Bindings and Memory

What's in a name? — Each name “means” something!

- Denotes a programming language construct
- Has associated “attributes”
Examples: type, memory location, read/write permission, storage class, access restrictions.
- Has a meaning
Examples: represents a semantic object, a type description, an integer value, a function value, a memory address.

Names, Bindings and Memory

Bindings – association of a name with the thing it “names” (e.g., a name and a memory location, a function name and its “meaning”, a name and a value)

- **Compile time:** during compilation process - static (e.g.: macro expansion, type definition)
- **Link time:** separately compiled modules/files are joined together by the linker (e.g: adding the standard library routines for I/O (stdio.h), external variables)
- **Run time:** when program executes - dynamic

Compiler needs bindings to know meaning of names during translation (and execution).

Binding Time - Choices

- **Early binding** times — more efficient (faster) at run time
- **Late binding** times — more flexible (postpone binding decision until more “information” is available)
- Examples of static binding (early):
 - functions in C
 - types in C
- Examples of dynamic binding (late):
 - virtual methods in Java
 - dynamic typing in Javascript, Scheme

Note: dynamic linking is somewhat in between static and dynamic binding; the function signature has to be known (static), but the implementation is linked and loaded at run time (dynamic).

How to Maintain Bindings

- Symbol table: maintained by compiler during compilation
names \Rightarrow *attributes*
- Environment: maintained by compiler-generated-code during program execution
names \Rightarrow *memory locations*

Question:

- How long do bindings last for a name hold in a program?
- What initiates a binding?
- What ends a binding?

Scope Example

Nested Subroutines (Algol 60, Ada, ML, Common Lisp, Python, ...)

```
program L;  
    var n: char;      {n declared in L}  
    procedure W;  
    begin  
        write (n);   {n referenced in W}  
    end;  
    procedure D;  
        var n: char; {n declared in D}  
    begin  
        n := 'D';    {n referenced in D}  
        W  
    end;  
begin  
    n := 'L';        {n referenced in L}  
    W;  
    D  
end
```

Scope Example

Nested Subroutines (Algol 60, Ada, ML, Common Lisp, Python, ...)

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Lexical Scope

- Non-local variables are associated with declarations at *compile* time
- Find the smallest block syntactically enclosing the reference and containing a declaration of the variable

- Example:

- The reference to *n* in *W* is associated with two different declarations at two different times
- The output is?

Calling Chain:

$L \Rightarrow W$

$L \Rightarrow D \Rightarrow W$

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program L;
    var n: char; {n declared in L}
    procedure W;
    begin
        write (n); {n referenced in W}
    end;
    procedure D;
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        W
    end;
begin
    n := 'L'; {n referenced in L}
    W;
    D
end
```

Dynamic Scope

- Non-local variables are associated with declarations at *run* time
- Find the most recent, currently active run-time stack frame containing a declaration of the variable

- Example:

- The reference to *n* in *W* is associated with two different declarations at two different times
- The output is ?

L

D

Calling Chain:

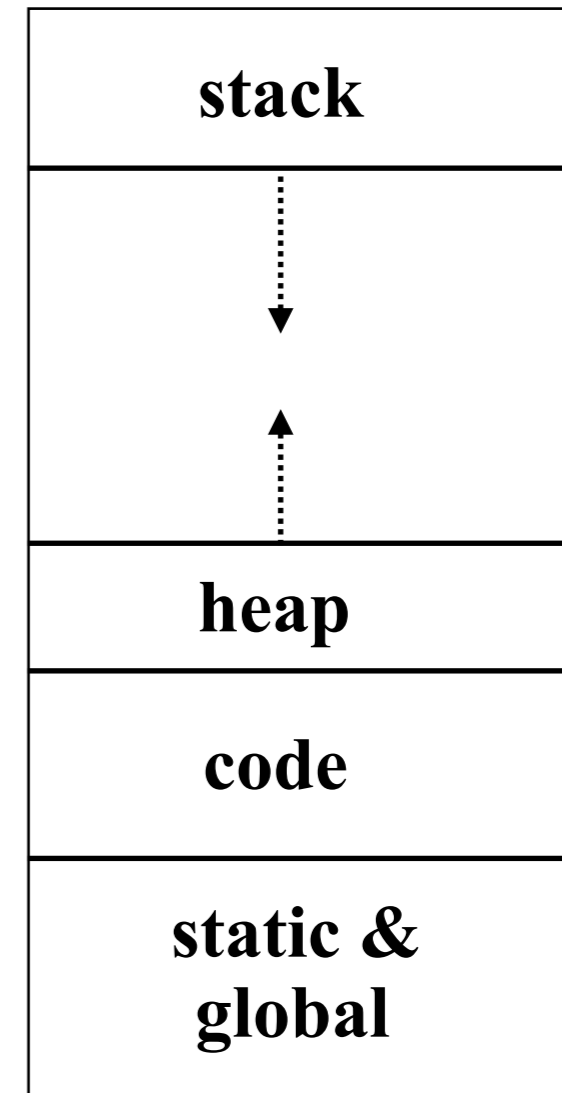
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Review: Program Memory Layout

- Static objects are given an absolute address that is retained throughout the execution of the program
- Stack objects are allocated and deallocated in last-in, first-out order, usually in conjunction with subroutine calls and returns
- Heap objects are allocated and deallocated at any arbitrary time



Procedure Activations

- Begins when control enters activation (call)
- Ends when control returns from call

Calling chain: $A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow C \Rightarrow D$

Example:

procedure C:

D

procedure B:

if...then B else C

procedure A:

B

main program:

A

Direction of
stack growth
(usually lower
addresses)

sp →

Subroutine D

Subroutine C

Subroutine B

Subroutine B

Subroutine A

parameter

return value

return address

access link

caller FP

local variables

Procedure Activations

- Run-time stack contains frames from main program & active procedure
- Each stack frame includes:
 1. Pointer to stack frame of caller (**control link** for stack maintenance and dynamic scoping)
 2. Return address (within calling procedure)
 3. Mechanism to find non-local variables (**access link** for lexical scoping)
 4. Storage for parameters, local variables and final values

| |
|-----------------|
| parameter |
| return value |
| return address |
| access link |
| caller FP |
| local variables |

Lexical Scoping and Dynamic Scoping Example

How do we look for non-local variables?

Program

```
x, y: integer // declarations of x and y
begin
  Procedure B // declaration of B
    y, z: real // declaration of y and z
    begin
      ...
      y = x + z // occurrences of y, x, and z
      if (...) call B // occurrence of B
    end
  Procedure C // declaration of C
    x: real
    begin
      ...
      call B // occurrence of B
    end
  ...
  call C // occurrence of C
  call B // occurrence of B
end
```

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```
      ...
```

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      y = x + z // occurrences of y, x, and z
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```
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```

```
    end
```

```
  Procedure C // declaration of C
```

```
    x: real
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      call B // occurrence of B
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```
    end
```

```
  ...
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```
  call C // occurrence of C
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  call B // occurrence of B
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end
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    begin  
      ...  
      call B // occurrence of B  
    end
```

```
  ...  
  call C // occurrence of C  
  call B // occurrence of B
```

```
end
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      call B // occurrence of B
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  call C // occurrence of C
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end
```

Lexical Scoping and Dynamic Scoping Example

Calling chain: MAIN \Rightarrow C \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow B

Program

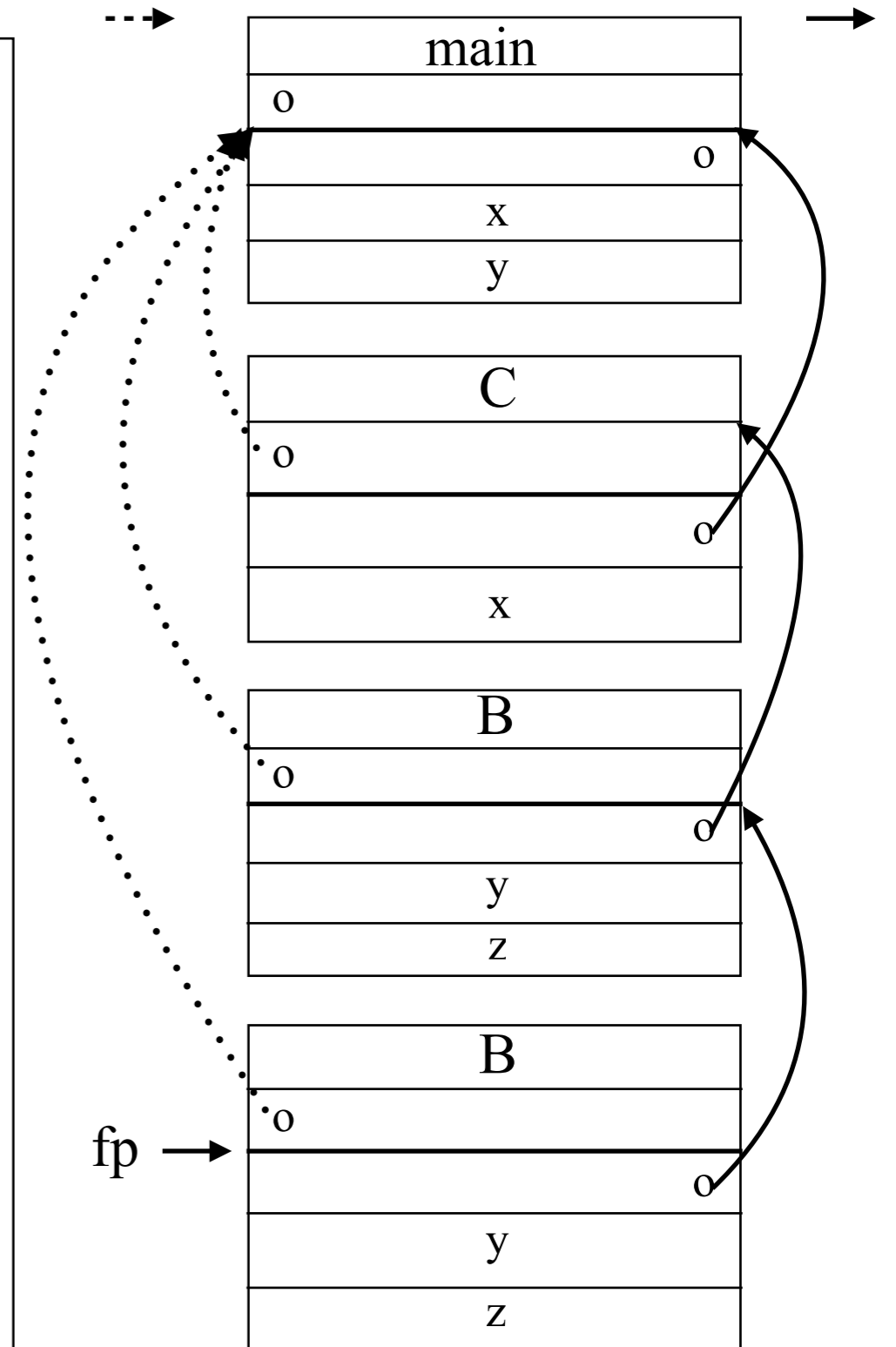
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  call B // occurrence of B
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```

Access links

Control links



Look up Non - local Variable Reference

Access links and **control links** are used to look for non-local variable references.

Static Scope:

*Access link points to the stack frame of the **most recently** activated lexically enclosing procedure*

⇒ Non-local name binding is *determined at compile time*, and *implemented at run-time*

Dynamic Scope:

*Control link points to the stack frame of **caller***

⇒ Non-local name binding is *determined and implemented at run-time*

Access to Non-Local Data

How does the code find non-local data at run-time?

Real globals:

- visible everywhere
- translated into an address at compile time

Lexical scoping:

- view variables as (level, offset) pairs, (**compile-time symbol table**)
- use (level, offset) pair to get address by using chains of access link (at **run-time**)

Dynamic scoping:

- variable names are preserved
- look-up of variable name uses chains of control links (at **run-time**)

Lexical Scoping

Symbol table generated at compile time matches declarations and occurrences.
⇒ Each name can be represented as a pair (nesting_level, local_index).

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```
x, y: integer // declarations of x and y
```

```
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```

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    y, z: real // declaration of y and z
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```
  ...
```

```
  call C // occurrence of C
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```
  call B // occurrence of B
```

```
end
```



Program

```
(1,1), (1,2): integer // declarations of x and y
```

```
begin
```

```
  Procedure (1,3) // declaration of B
```

```
    (2,1), (2,2): real // declaration of y and z
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      (2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2) // occurrences of y, x, and z
```

```
      if (...) call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  Procedure (1,4) // declaration of C
```

```
    (2,1): real
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  ...
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```
  call (1,4) // occurrence of C
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```

```
  Procedure (1,3) // declaration of B
```

```
    (2,1), (2,2): real // declaration of y and z
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      (2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2) // occurrences of y, x, and z
```

```
      if (...) call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  Procedure (1,4) // declaration of C
```

```
    (2,1): real
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  ...
```

```
  call (1,4) // occurrence of C
```

```
  call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
end
```

Lexical Scoping

Symbol table generated at compile time matches declarations and occurrences.
⇒ Each name can be represented as a pair (nesting_level, local_index).

Program

```
x, y: integer // declarations of x and y
```

```
begin
```

```
  Procedure B // declaration of B
```

```
    y, z: real // declaration of y and z
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      y = x + z // occurrences of y, x, and z
```

```
      if (...) call B // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  Procedure C // declaration of C
```

```
    x: real
```

```
    begin
```

```
      ...
```

```
      call B // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  ...
```

```
  call C // occurrence of C
```

```
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```

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```



Program

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Lexical Scoping

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    y, z: real // declaration of y and z
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```
    x: real
```

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```

```
      ...
```

```
      call B // occurrence of B
```

```
    end
```

```
  ...
```

```
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```

```
  call B // occurrence of B
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```
end
```



Program

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  ...
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```
  call (1,4) // occurrence of C
```

```
  call (1,3) // occurrence of B
```

```
end
```

Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for this statement:

$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$

What do we know?

- Assume the nesting level of the statement is **level 2**
- Register r_0 contains the current FP (frame pointer)
- **(2, 1) and (2, 2) are local variables**, so they are allocated in the activation record that current FP points to.
(1, 1) is an non-local variable.

- Two new instructions:

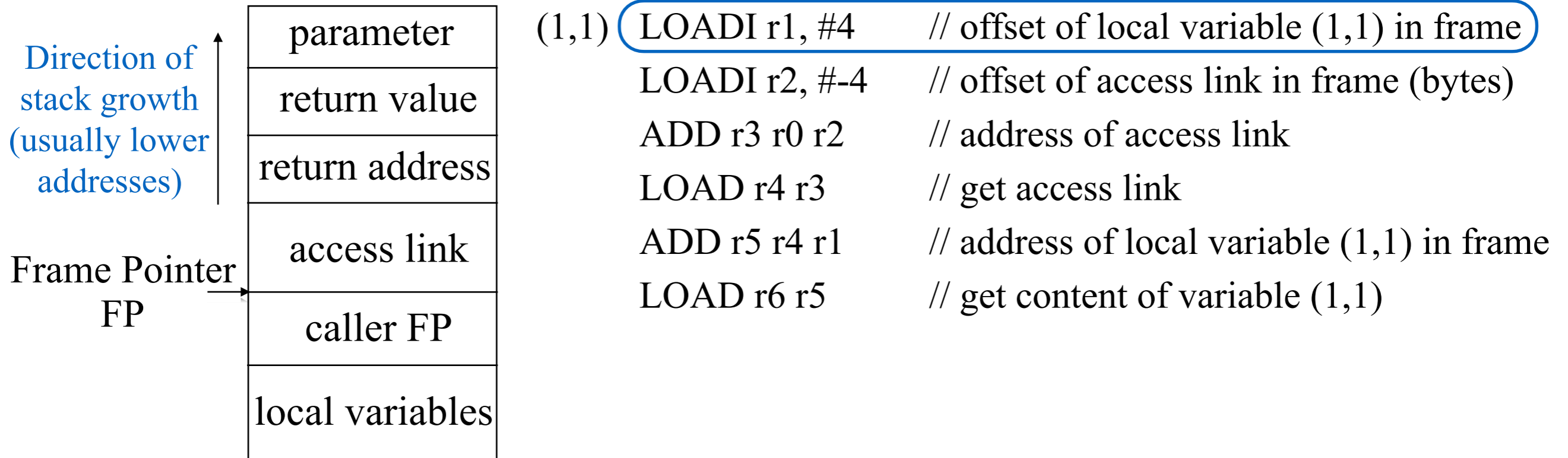
LOAD R_x, R_y means $R_x \leftarrow \text{MEM}(R_y)$

STORE R_x, R_y means $\text{MEM}(R_x) \leftarrow R_y$

Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

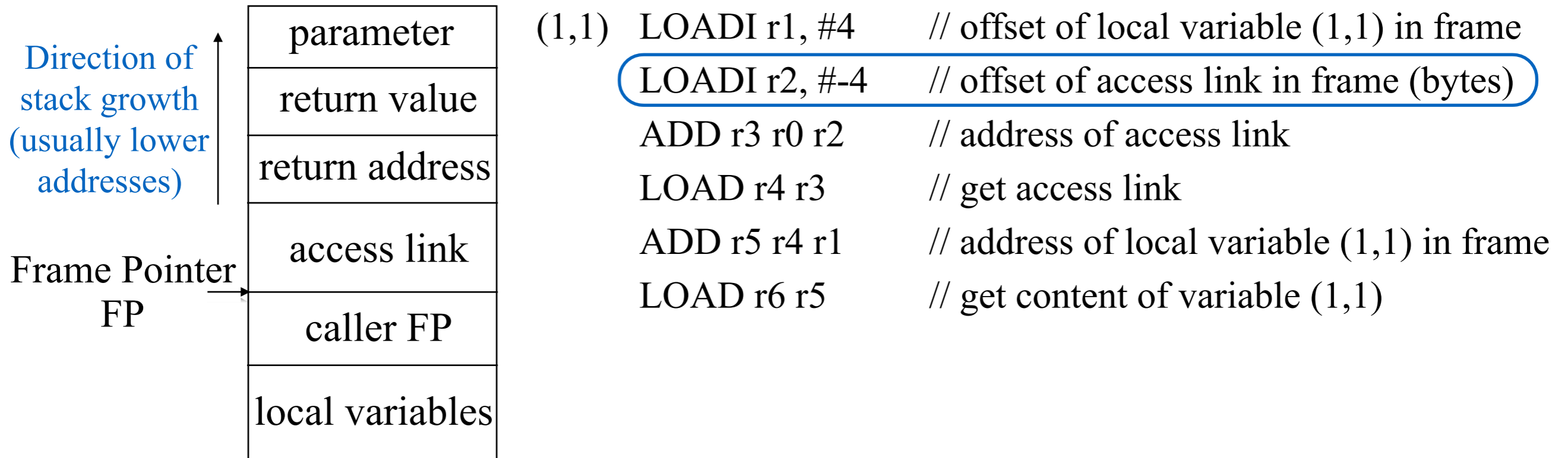
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

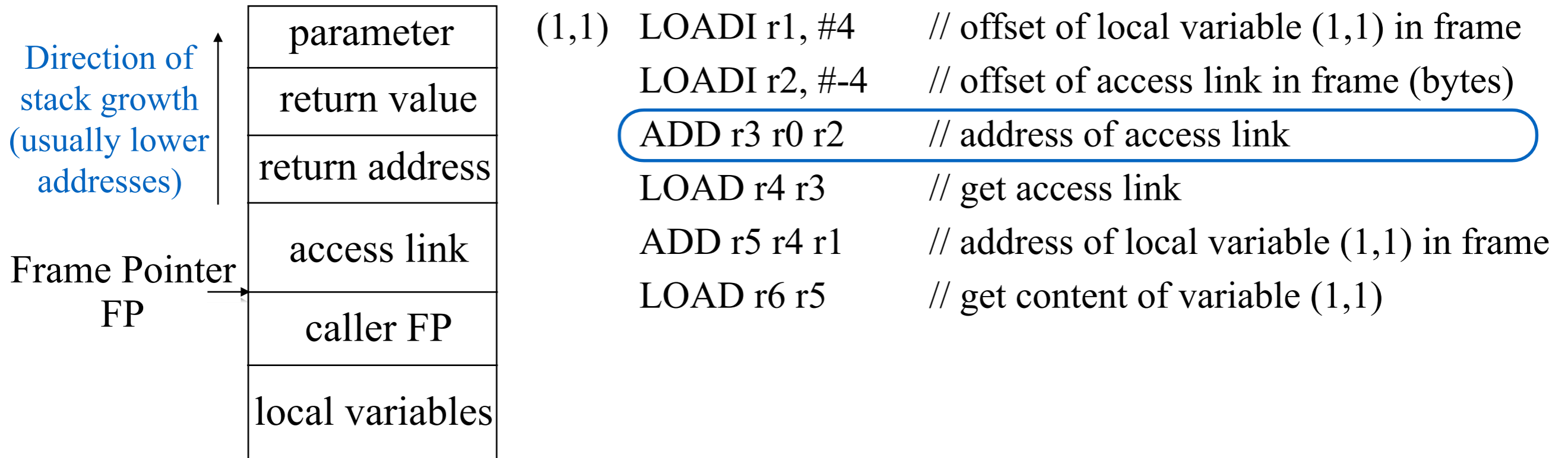
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

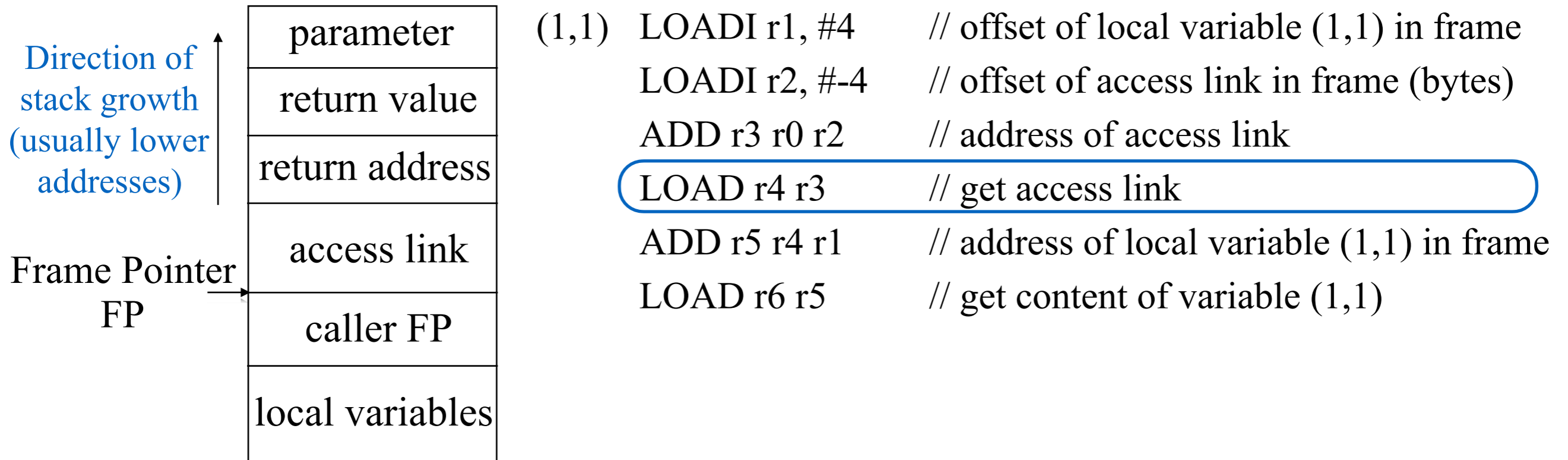
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

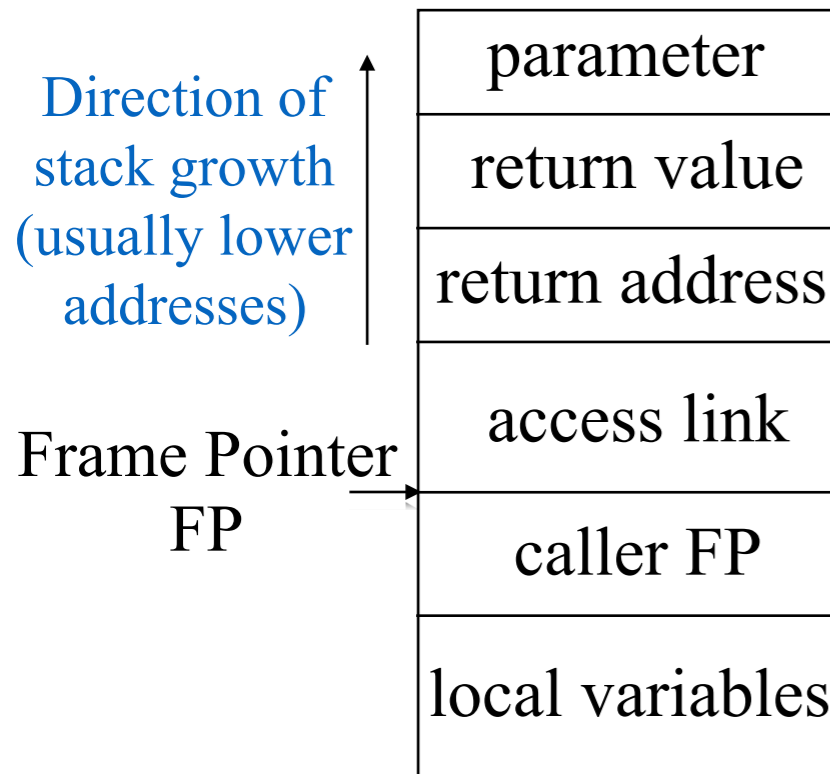
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$

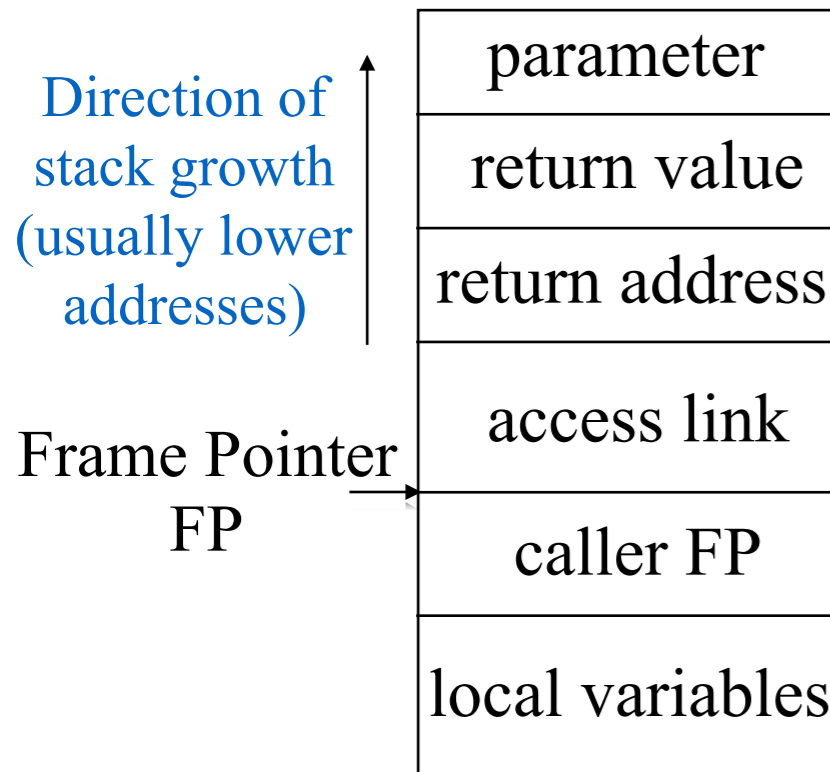


```
(1,1) LOADI r1, #4 // offset of local variable (1,1) in frame
      LOADI r2, #-4 // offset of access link in frame (bytes)
      ADD r3 r0 r2 // address of access link
      LOAD r4 r3 // get access link
      ADD r5 r4 r1 // address of local variable (1,1) in frame
      LOAD r6 r5 // get content of variable (1,1)
```

Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$

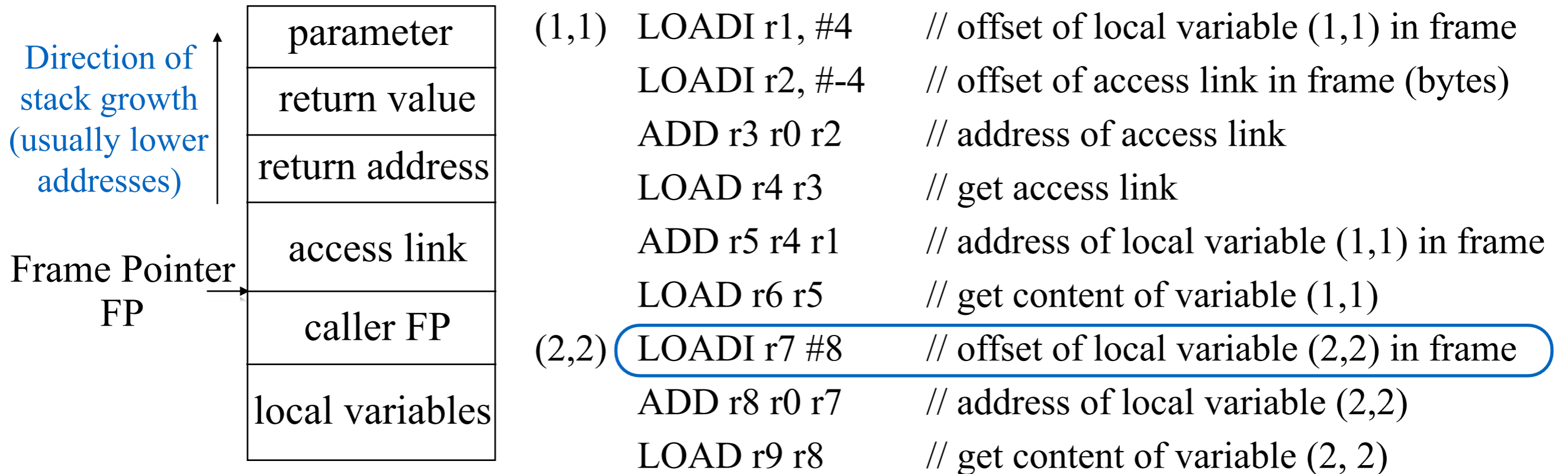


```
(1,1)  LOADI r1, #4      // offset of local variable (1,1) in frame
        LOADI r2, #-4    // offset of access link in frame (bytes)
        ADD r3 r0 r2     // address of access link
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        ADD r5 r4 r1     // address of local variable (1,1) in frame
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Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

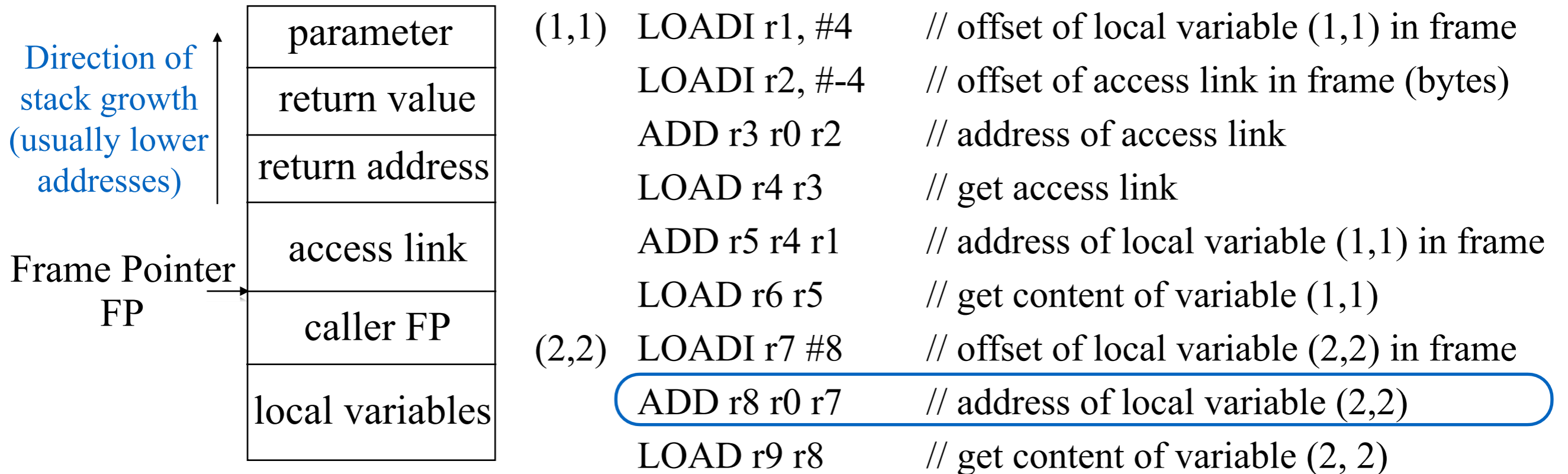
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

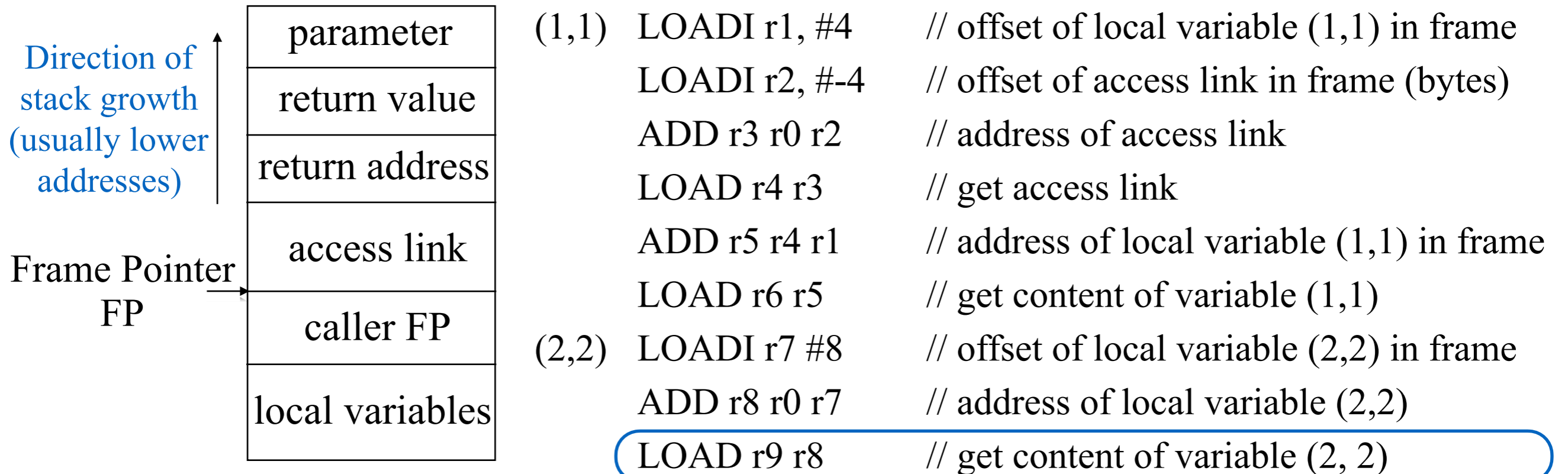
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

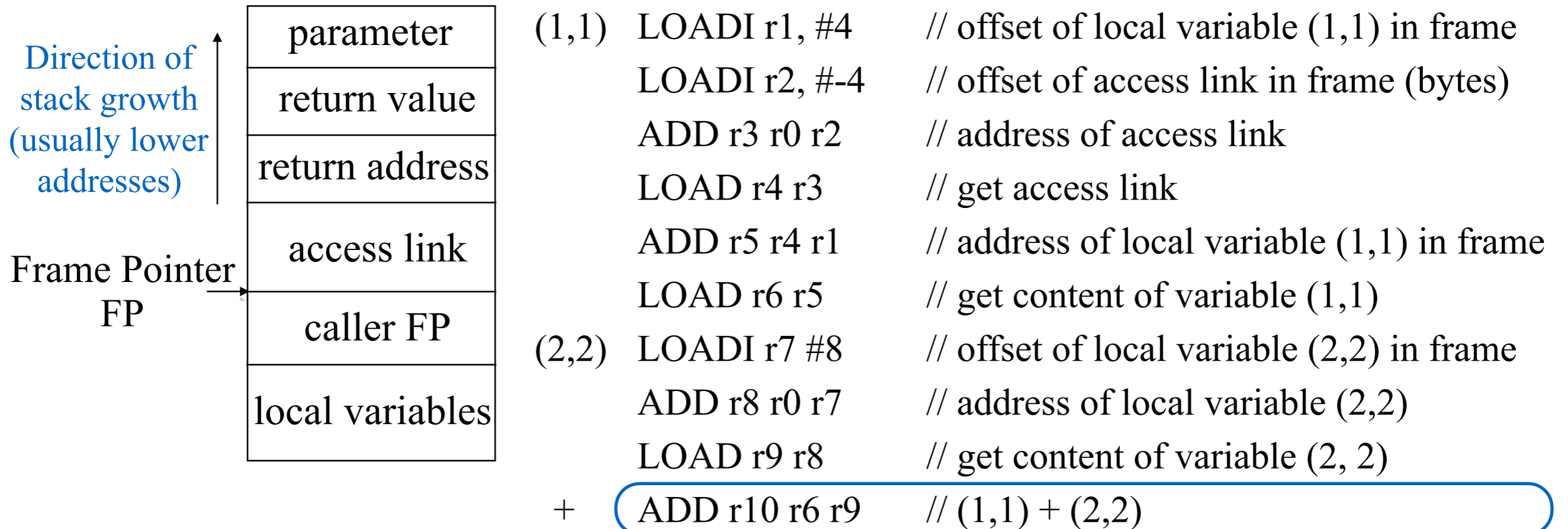
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

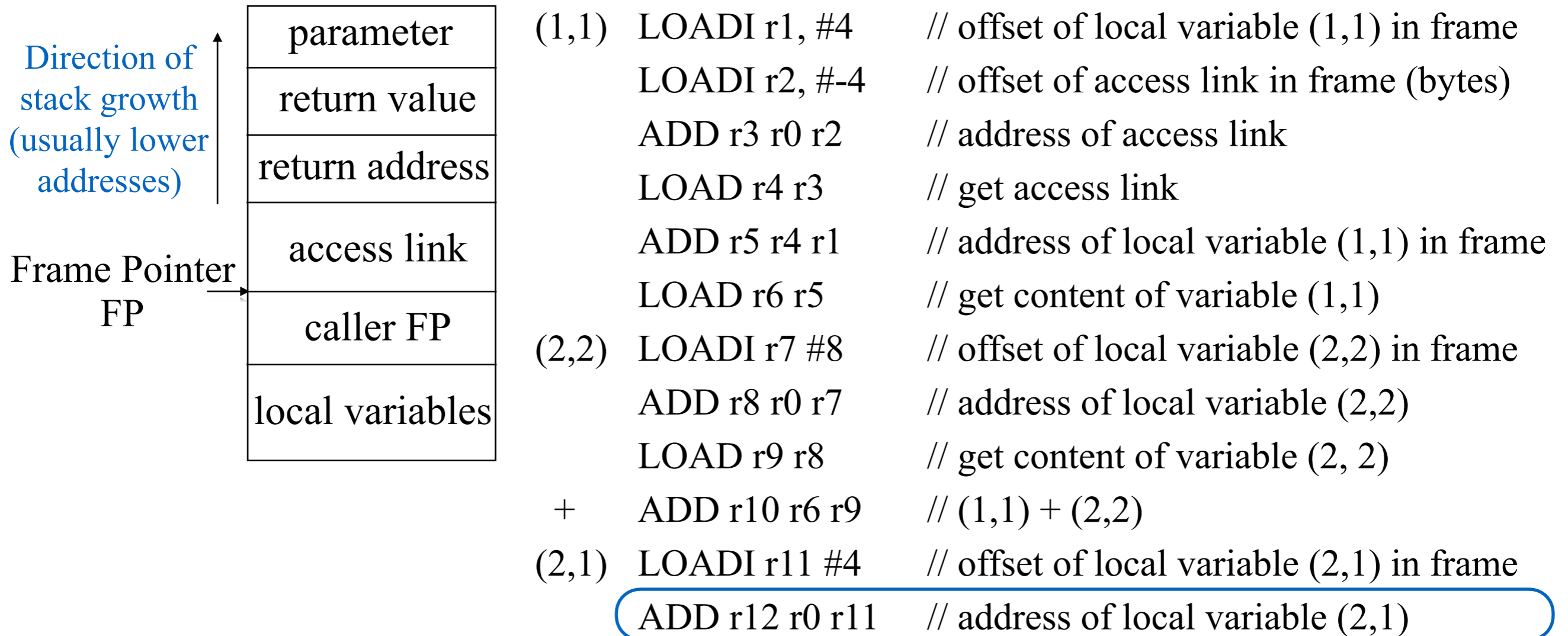
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| <p style="color: blue;">Direction of stack growth (usually lower addresses)</p> <p>↑</p> <p>Frame Pointer FP →</p> | parameter | (1,1) LOADI r1, #4 | // offset of local variable (1,1) in frame |
| | return value | LOADI r2, #-4 | // offset of access link in frame (bytes) |
| | return address | ADD r3 r0 r2 | // address of access link |
| | access link | LOAD r4 r3 | // get access link |
| | caller FP | ADD r5 r4 r1 | // address of local variable (1,1) in frame |
| | local variables | LOAD r6 r5 | // get content of variable (1,1) |
| | | (2,2) LOADI r7 #8 | // offset of local variable (2,2) in frame |
| | | ADD r8 r0 r7 | // address of local variable (2,2) |
| | | LOAD r9 r8 | // get content of variable (2, 2) |
| | | + ADD r10 r6 r9 | // (1,1) + (2,2) |
| | | (2,1) LOADI r11 #4 | // offset of local variable (2,1) in frame |
| | | ADD r12 r0 r11 | // address of local variable (2,1) |

Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

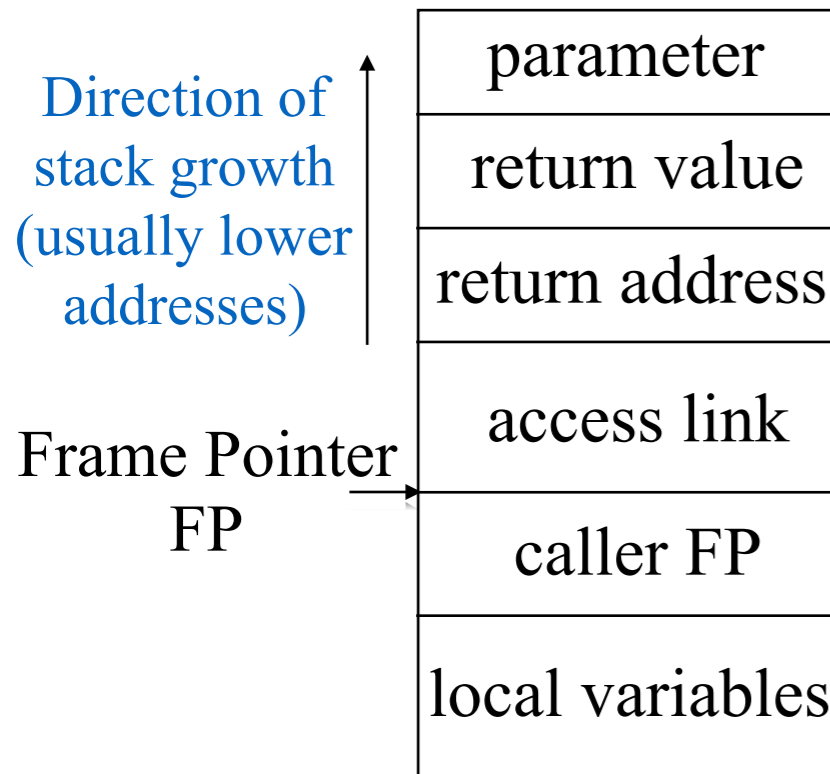
$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



Access to Non-Local Data(Lexical Scoping)

What code do we need to generate for statement (*)?

$$(2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)$$



```

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        LOADI r2, #-4        // offset of access link in frame (bytes)
        ADD r3 r0 r2         // address of access link
        LOAD r4 r3           // get access link
        ADD r5 r4 r1         // address of local variable (1,1) in frame
        LOAD r6 r5           // get content of variable (1,1)
(2,2)  LOADI r7 #8           // offset of local variable (2,2) in frame
        ADD r8 r0 r7         // address of local variable (2,2)
        LOAD r9 r8           // get content of variable (2, 2)
+      ADD r10 r6 r9         // (1,1) + (2,2)
(2,1)  LOADI r11 #4          // offset of local variable (2,1) in frame
        ADD r12 r0 r11       // address of local variable (2,1)
=      STORE r12 r10         // (2,1) = (1,1) + (2,2)
    
```

Next Lecture

Things to do:

- Read Scott, Chapter 3.1 - 3.4, Chapter 9.1 - 9.3 (4th Edition) or Chapter 8.1 - 8.3 (3rd Edition)
- Read ALSU, Chapter 7.1 - 7.3 (2nd Edition).