Section 6: Use of data objects

The appearance of a data object name or subobject designator in a context that requires its value is termed a reference. A reference is permitted only if the data object is defined. A reference to a pointer is permitted only if the pointer is associated with a target object that is defined. A data object becomes defined with a value when the data object name or subobject designator appears in certain contexts and when certain events occur (14.7).

R601 *variable* **is** *scalar-variable-name*
or *array-variable-name*
or *subobject*

Constraint: *array-variable-name* shall be the name of a data object that is an array.

Constraint: *array-variable-name* shall not have the PARAMETER attribute.

Constraint: *scalar-variable-name* shall not have the PARAMETER attribute.

Constraint: *subobject* shall not be a subobject designator (for example, a substring) whose parent is a constant.

R602 *subobject* **is** *array-element*
or *array-section*
or *structure-component*
or *substring*

R603 *logical-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *logical-variable* shall be of type logical.

R604 *default-logical-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *default-logical-variable* shall be of type default logical.

R605 *char-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *char-variable* shall be of type character.

R606 *default-char-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *default-char-variable* shall be of type default character.

R607 *int-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *int-variable* shall be of type integer.

R608 *default-int-variable* **is** *variable*

Constraint: *default-int-variable* shall be of type default integer.

Pointers and allocatable arrays shall not be defined in circumstances explained in 5.1.2.4.3. Dummy arguments or variables associated with dummy arguments shall not be defined in circumstances explained in 12.4.1.1, 12.4.1.5, 12.4.1.6, and 12.5.2.1.

A literal constant is a scalar denoted by a syntactic form, which indicates its type, type parameters, and value. A named constant is a constant that has been associated with a name with the PARAMETER attribute (5.1.2.1, 5.2.9). A reference to a constant is always permitted; redefinition of a constant is never permitted.

NOTE 6.1

For example, given the declarations:

```
CHARACTER (10)  A, B (10)
TYPE (PERSON)  P   ! See Note 4.20
```

then A, B, B (1), B (1:5), P % AGE, and A (1:1) are all variables.

6.1 Scalars

A **scalar** (2.4.4) is a data entity that can be represented by a single value of the data type and that is not an array (6.2). Its value, if defined, is a single element from the set of values that characterize its data type.

NOTE 6.2

A scalar object of derived type has a single value that consists of values of the data types of its components (4.4.3).

A scalar has rank zero.

6.1.1 Substrings

A **substring** is a contiguous portion of a character string (4.3.2.1). The following rules define the forms of a substring:

R609	*substring*	**is**	*parent-string* (*substring-range*)
R610	*parent-string*	**is**	*scalar-variable-name*
		or	*array-element*
		or	*scalar-structure-component*
		or	*scalar-constant*
R611	*substring-range*	**is**	[*scalar-int-expr*] : [*scalar-int-expr*]

Constraint: *parent-string* shall be of type character.

The first *scalar-int-expr* in *substring-range* is called the **starting point** and the second one is called the **ending point**. The length of a substring is the number of characters in the substring and is MAX $(l - f + 1, 0)$, where f and l are the starting and ending points, respectively.

Let the characters in the parent string be numbered 1, 2, 3, ..., n, where n is the length of the parent string. Then the characters in the substring are those from the parent string from the starting point and proceeding in sequence up to and including the ending point. Both the starting point and the ending point shall be within the range 1, 2, ..., n unless the starting point exceeds the ending point, in which case the substring has length zero. If the starting point is not specified, the default value is 1. If the ending point is not specified, the default value is n.

If the parent is a variable, the substring is also a variable.

NOTE 6.3

Examples of character substrings are:

```
B(1)(1:5)            array element as parent string
P%NAME(1:1)          structure component as parent string
ID(4:9)              scalar variable name as parent string
'0123456789'(N:N)    character constant as parent string
```

6.1.2 Structure components

A **structure component** is part of an object of derived type; it may be referenced by a subobject designator. A structure component may be a scalar or an array.

R612 *data-ref* **is** *part-ref* [% *part-ref*] ...

R613 *part-ref* **is** *part-name* [(*section-subscript-list*)]

Constraint: In a *data-ref*, each *part-name* except the rightmost shall be of derived type.

Constraint: In a *data-ref*, each *part-name* except the leftmost shall be the name of a component of the derived-type definition of the type of the preceding *part-name*.

Constraint: In a *part-ref* containing a *section-subscript-list*, the number of *section-subscript*s shall equal the rank of *part-name*.

The rank of a *part-ref* of the form *part-name* is the rank of *part-name*. The rank of a *part-ref* that has a section subscript list is the number of subscript triplets and vector subscripts in the list.

Constraint: In a *data-ref*, there shall not be more than one *part-ref* with nonzero rank. A *part-name* to the right of a *part-ref* with nonzero rank shall not have the POINTER attribute.

The rank of a *data-ref* is the rank of the *part-ref* with nonzero rank, if any; otherwise, the rank is zero. The **parent object** of a *data-ref* is the data object whose name is the leftmost part name.

R614 *structure-component* **is** *data-ref*

Constraint: In a *structure-component*, there shall be more than one *part-ref* and the rightmost *part-ref* shall be of the form *part-name*.

The type and type parameters, if any, of a structure component are those of the rightmost part name. A structure component shall be neither referenced nor defined before the declaration of the parent object. A structure component has the INTENT, TARGET, or PARAMETER attribute if the parent object has the attribute. A structure component is a pointer only if the rightmost part name is defined to have the POINTER attribute.

NOTE 6.4

Examples of structure components are:

```
SCALAR_PARENT%SCALAR_FIELD        scalar component of scalar parent
ARRAY_PARENT(J)%SCALAR_FIELD      component of array element parent
ARRAY_PARENT(1:N)%SCALAR_FIELD    component of array section parent
```

For a more elaborate example see C.3.1.

NOTE 6.5

The syntax rules are structured such that a *data-ref* that ends in a component name without a following subscript list is a structure component, even when other component names in the *data-ref* are followed by a subscript list. A *data-ref* that ends in a component name with a following subscript list is either an array element or an array section. A *data-ref* of non-zero rank that ends with a *substring-range* is an array section. A *data-ref* of zero rank that ends with a *substring-range* is a substring.

6.2 Arrays

An **array** is a set of scalar data, all of the same type and type parameters, whose individual elements are arranged in a rectangular pattern. The scalar data that make up an array are the **array elements**.

No order of reference to the elements of an array is indicated by the appearance of the array name or designator, except where array element ordering (6.2.2.2) is specified.

6.2.1 Whole arrays

A **whole array** is a named array, which may be either a named constant (5.1.2.1, 5.2.9) or a variable; no subscript list is appended to the name.

The appearance of a whole array variable in an executable construct specifies all the elements of the array (2.4.5). An assumed-size array is permitted to appear as a whole array in an executable construct only as an actual argument in a procedure reference that does not require the shape.

The appearance of a whole array name in a nonexecutable statement specifies the entire array except for the appearance of a whole array name in an equivalence set (5.5.1.3).

6.2.2 Array elements and array sections

R615 *array-element* **is** *data-ref*

Constraint: In an *array-element*, every *part-ref* shall have rank zero and the last *part-ref* shall contain a *subscript-list*.

R616 *array-section* **is** *data-ref* [(*substring-range*)]

Constraint: In an *array-section*, exactly one *part-ref* shall have nonzero rank, and either the final *part-ref* shall have a *section-subscript-list* with nonzero rank or another *part-ref* shall have nonzero rank.

Constraint: In an *array-section* with a *substring-range*, the rightmost *part-name* shall be of type character.

R617 *subscript* **is** *scalar-int-expr*

R618 *section-subscript* **is** *subscript*
or *subscript-triplet*
or *vector-subscript*

R619 *subscript-triplet* **is** [*subscript*] : [*subscript*] [: *stride*]

R620 *stride* **is** *scalar-int-expr*

R621 *vector-subscript* **is** *int-expr*

Constraint: A *vector-subscript* shall be an integer array expression of rank one.

Constraint: The second subscript shall not be omitted from a *subscript-triplet* in the last dimension of an assumed-size array.

An array element is a scalar. An array section is an array. If a *substring-range* is present in an *array-section*, each element is the designated substring of the corresponding element of the array section.

NOTE 6.6

For example, with the declarations:

```
REAL A (10, 10)
CHARACTER (LEN = 10) B (5, 5, 5)
```

A (1, 2) is an array element, A (1:N:2, M) is a rank-one array section, and B (:, :, :) (2:3) is an array of shape (5, 5, 5) whose elements are substrings of length 2 of the corresponding elements of B.

An array element or an array section has the INTENT, TARGET, or PARAMETER attribute if its parent has the attribute, but it never has the POINTER attribute.