CS422A: Computer Architecture

Homework 2

Submitted By
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About the Analysis

Flow is such that a call is inserted **before conditional jumps** and before **indirect calls**. These instructions are only present at the **tail of basic block**. These calls are placed with a check fast forward if clause. Terminate check and increase ins count is placed at basic block level to speed up analysis.

The basic block level of ins counts incur a cost of less than 10 extra instructions in 1 Billion instructions.

Used macro and classes for fewer errors in repeated codes

All fractions presented as percentages.

Note: Results of 403.gcc is deviating a lot

Machine used: image1.cse.iitk.ac.in

Usage

Build the tool
make TARGET=ia32 obj-ia32/HW2.so

```
# Run the tool on a benchmark

cd /path/to/spec_2006/400.perlbench/

pin -t /path/to/obj-ia32/HW2.so -f <FAST_FORWARD_VAL> -o executable..out -- ./executable exec_args

    `-f` flag is used to specify the fast-forward instruction count in billions.
    `-o` flag is used to specify the output file.
    `-t` flag is used to specify the pin tool to be used.
    `--` is used to separate the pin tool arguments from the application arguments.
```

Pseudo instrumentation code

```
for BBL bbl in trace
  INS ins = BBL InsTail(bbl);
  if (INS Category(ins) == XED CATEGORY COND BR)
    INS InsertIfCall(ins, IPOINT_BEFORE, (AFUNPTR)CheckFastForward, IARG_END);
    INS InsertThenCall(ins, IPOINT BEFORE, AnalyzeUncondBranch, IARG INST PTR, ...);
  if (INS IsIndirectControlFlow(ins))
    INS InsertIfCall(ins, IPOINT BEFORE, (AFUNPTR)CheckFastForward, IARG END);
    INS InsertThenCall(ins, IPOINT BEFORE, AnalyzeIndirectControlFlow, ...);
BBL InsertIfCall(bbl, IPOINT BEFORE, (AFUNPTR)CheckTerminate, IARG END);
BBL InsertThenCall(bbl, IPOINT BEFORE, (AFUNPTR) Terminate, IARG END);
BBL InsertCall(bbl, IPOINT BEFORE, DoInsCount, IARG UINT32, BBL NumIns(bbl));
```

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Key Observations

- Highest degree of misprediction is in FNBT as this is the most primitive and sateless pridictor.
- Bimodal predictor predicts based on previous states of the particular branch. This captures the branch's history. Aliasing of several PCs is present. Since the predictor trains itself the accuracy is always several times (3-6 times) better than FNBT.
- SAg predictor works on GHR and prediction on a given history. This caters to the history of a particular PC and the behavior of program on such history. This predictor is always better than bimodal as this also accounts for the correlation of the branches. There's one case where the performance depreciates by 0.5% for forward branches; this is a marginal deviation, and the overall performance is still better.
- GAg does not cater to the branch PC and hence, is totally dependent on the GHR. This results in worse performance than SAg. This is somewhat comparable to Bimodal, which fails to capture GHR and is totally dependent on PC. This, however, is not strictly true as programs like Soplex and mcf GAg perform better than SAg.
- gShare is indexed with both GHR and PC but has only one layer of counters, unlike SAg. This index is computed
 by the XOR of these two values. By pigeonhole principle, it implies that there will be more aliasing and fewer
 states with respect to SAg and hence, will be less accurate than SAg. This is also observed in the output. But no
 clear comparison between Bimodal, GAg, and gshare can be drawn. This indicates the independent behavior
 of these predictors.
- Hybrid predictor of SAg and GAg. As observed earlier the performance of SAg is mostly better than GAg but
 this does not always hold true depending on the program or program region the branches may depend more
 on one of the other factors driving the two predictors. The overhead of the tournament meta-predictor ensures
 the proper selection between two factors and hence this always performs better than both the predictors
 individually.
- Hybrid predictor of SAg, GAg, and gshare. We have already observed the independent behavior of these three predictors. But when we take the majority vote among the three we see improvement in a few and some minor downgrades in programs like perlbench, omnetpp, xalanck. This is due to the aliasing of the three predictors and this can be taken care of by having a bimodal tournament. In that case, the performance is always better than the individual three predictors.

- Forward branch mispredictions are generally more than backward branch mispredictions. This indicates that backward branches are more deterministic with respect to a forward branch which was also premise of FNBT.
- We see more BTB misses in case of indexing with PC+GHR since the same tags are distributed in several sets. This miss rate has increased in the order of 10-100 times.
- We see less BTB misprediction in the case of PC+GHR as the history in which branch trace is also considered instead of the branch. The magnitude of misprediction is far more than misses. There are significant improvements between the two BTB logic in some programs and marginal benefits in other programs. But the performance always increases.

Note: The performance of a predictor is the accuracy of the predictor.

Analysis of 400.perlbench diffmail.pl

HW2 analysis results from perlbench.diffmail.out

Number of instructions: 20800000001

Fast forward at: 20700000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 100000001

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	104112248 25	945913 1300)58161
A. Static FNBT: (41.39%)	39244947 (37.69%	14592365 (56.24%) 53837312
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 9.36%)</pre>	10071755 (9.67%)	2106085 (8.12%)	12177840 (
C. SAg: 3.49%)	3698499 (3.55%)	846581 (3.26%)	4545080 (
D. GAg: (11.73%)	12926998 (12.42%) 2323887 (8.96%) 15250885
E. gshare: (10.08%)	10624602 (10.20%) 2480040 (9.56%) 13104642

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

2.84%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

5083102 (4.88%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

2677945 (2.57%)

578900 (2.23%)

3692398 (2.90%)

673600 (2.60%)

3692398 (2.84%)

5083102 (4.88%)

578900 (2.23%)

3256845 (

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 28121004

2.50%)

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 9805043 (34.87%) 3338 (0.01%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 2467144 (8.77%) 386673 (1.38%)

Time elapsed: 8.41 minutes

Analysis of 401.bzip2 input.source

HW2 analysis results from bzip2.source.out

Number of instructions: 30200000003

Fast forward at: 30100000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000003

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	63177343 667	45809 1299	23152
A. Static FNBT: (46.89%)	19578181 (30.99%)	41345366 (61.94%)	60923547
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: (10.00%)</pre>	6860732 (10.86%)	6137243 (9.19%)	12997975
C. SAg: 9.93%)	7063471 (11.18%)	5841630 (8.75%)	12905101 (
D. GAg: (12.49%)	9305143 (14.73%)	6922182 (10.37%)	16227325
E. gshare: (11.30%)	7649415 (12.11%)	7030582 (10.53%)	14679997

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 6619302 (10.48%) 5493610 (8.23%) 12112912 (9.32%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 6420994 (10.16%) 5571959 (8.35%) 11992953 (

9.23%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 6196099 (9.81%) 5405046 (8.10%) 11601145 (8.93%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 791934

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 382394 (48.29%) 59 (0.01%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 376140 (47.50%) 214 (0.03%)

Time elapsed: 9.15 minutes

Analysis of 403.gcc cp-decl.i

RUN 1

HW2 analysis results from gcc.cp-decl.out

Number of instructions: 10800000000

Fast forward at: 10700000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000000

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	28545036 1047	56532 13330	1568
A. Static FNBT: (10.38%)	9099302 (31.88%)	4731542 (4.52%)	13830844
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 4.14%)</pre>	3515356 (12.32%)	2001190 (1.91%)	5516546 (
C. SAg: 2.61%)	2127013 (7.45%)	1347437 (1.29%)	3474450 (
D. GAg: 4.01%)	3427978 (12.01%)	1921202 (1.83%)	5349180 (

E. gshare: 3415961 (11.97%) 1757063 (1.68%) 5173024 (

3.88%)

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 1575760 (5.52%) 1019398 (0.97%) 2595158 (

1.95%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 1985865 (6.96%) 1259218 (1.20%) 3245083 (

2.43%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 1407982 (4.93%) 937539 (0.89%) 2345521 (

1.76%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 6920903

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 2451799 (35.43%) 470 (0.01%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 779945 (11.27%) 54016 (0.78%)

Time elapsed: 5.27 minutes

RUN 2

HW2 analysis results from gcc.cp-decl.out

Number of instructions: 10800000001

Fast forward at: 10700000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000001

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	114532159	31251631	145783790
A. Static FNBT: (36.59%)	36427959 ((31.81%) 16909826	(54.11%) 53337785
B. Bimodal predictor: (13.26%)	17346531 (15.15%) 1981727	(6.34%) 19328258
C. SAg: 4.98%)	5991377 (5.23%) 1264021 (4.04%) 7255398 (
D. GAg: (15.39%)	18507344 (3933578	(12.59%) 22440922
E. gshare: 9.73%)	10501649 (9.17%) 3677093 (11.77%) 14178742 (
F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 4.03%)	4939499 (4.	.31%) 933127 (2.99%) 5872626 (

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 6013444 (5.25%) 1715411 (5.49%) 7728855 (

5.30%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 3270853 (2.86%) 906350 (2.90%) 4177203 (

2.87%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 34754610

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 24536028 (70.60%) 37 (0.00%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 11009643 (31.68%) 13495 (0.04%)

Analysis of 429.mcf

HW2 analysis results from mcf.out

Number of instructions: 37800000000

Fast forward at: 37700000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000000

Type Overall			Forward		Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	89124420	89118	944	178243	3364
A. Static FNBT: (31.95%)	31825913	(35.71%)	25122474	(28.19%)	56948387
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: (17.75%)</pre>	14188093	(15.92%)	17450330	(19.58%)	31638423
C. SAg: (12.60%)	13038185	(14.63%)	9415904	(10.57%)	22454089
D. GAg: 9.26%)	8231591	(9.24%)	8273531 (9.28%)	16505122 (
E. gshare: (10.19%)	9271651	(10.40%)	8884776	(9.97%)	18156427

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 7940222 (8.91%) 7524417 (8.44%) 15464639 (8.68%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 7840138 (8.80%) 7564236 (8.49%) 15404374 (8.64%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 7498613 (8.41%) 7210100 (8.09%) 14708713 (

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 12555925

8.25%)

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 77021 (0.61%) 9 (0.00%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 51365 (0.41%) 105 (0.00%)

Time elapsed: 15.93 minutes

Analysis of 450.soplex ref.mps

HW2 analysis results from soplex.ref.out

Number of instructions: 36500000000

Fast forward at: 36400000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000000

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	33953201 6	9183951 10313	37152
A. Static FNBT: (17.15%)	6805080 (20.04	%) 10880395 (15.73%)	17685475
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 4.91%)</pre>	349376 (1.03%)	4718997 (6.82%)	5068373 (
C. SAg: 4.06%)	257709 (0.76%)	3932124 (5.68%)	4189833 (
D. GAg: 3.90%)	333611 (0.98%)) 3685869 (5.33%)	4019480 (
E. gshare: 4.07%)	491204 (1.45%)) 3709181 (5.36%)	4200385 (

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

253974 (0.75%)

3522638 (5.09%)

3773316 (
5.09%)

3773316 (
5.05%)

3748605 (
3.63%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 6333802

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 1451 (0.02%) 120 (0.00%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 1540 (0.02%) 516 (0.01%)

Time elapsed: 9.18 minutes

Analysis of 456.hmmer nph3.hmm

HW2 analysis results from hmmer.nph3.out

Number of instructions: 265000000000

Fast forward at: 26400000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000000

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	120193487 2	4167808 1443	361295
A. Static FNBT: (63.91%)	92105272 (76.63	%) 161858 (0.67%) 92267130
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 8.26%)</pre>	11835294 (9.85%)	85482 (0.35%)	11920776 (
C. SAg: 8.80%)	12619089 (10.50%) 88904 (0.37%)	12707993 (
D. GAg: (11.87%)	16528977 (13.75	%) 601929 (2.49%) 17130906
E. gshare: (10.29%)	14222474 (11.83	%) 638215 (2.64%) 14860689

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 12078925 (10.05%) 151796 (0.63%) 12230721 (8.47%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 12488156 (10.39%) 140024 (0.58%) 12628180 (

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 11868115 (9.87%) 103298 (0.43%) 11971413 (8.29%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 201471

8.75%)

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 12746 (6.33%) 64 (0.03%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 4472 (2.22%) 685 (0.34%)

Time elapsed: 8.18 minutes

Analysis of 471.omnetpp

HW2 analysis results from omnetpp.out

Number of instructions: 44000000006

Fast forward at: 4300000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000006

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	98389387 189	44981 11733	4368
A. Static FNBT: (34.12%)	33181690 (33.72%)	6855039 (36.18%)	40036729
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: (10.22%)</pre>	9520613 (9.68%)	2465527 (13.01%)	11986140
C. SAg: 5.02%)	4313218 (4.38%)	1577291 (8.33%)	5890509 (
D. GAg: (12.27%)	11679187 (11.87%)	2712857 (14.32%)	14392044
E. gshare: (10.90%)	10292345 (10.46%)	2502768 (13.21%)	12795113

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg: 3491049 (3.55%) 1295674 (6.84%) 4786723 (4.08%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 4697331 (4.77%) 1736493 (9.17%) 6433824 (5.48%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 3306844 (3.36%) 1245985 (6.58%) 4552829 (

3.88%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 30294875

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 8889426 (29.34%) 5630 (0.02%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 3261040 (10.76%) 273971 (0.90%)

Time elapsed: 2.83 minutes

Analysis of 483.xalancbmk

HW2 analysis results from xalancbmk.out

Number of instructions: 133200000000

Fast forward at: 1331000000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000000

Type Overall		Forward		Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	140828994	46442339	187271	333
A. Static FNBT: 7.16%)	11232326 (7.98%) 2167799	(4.67%)	13400125 (
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 3.23%)</pre>	5151750 (3	8.66%) 895089	(1.93%)	6046839 (
C. SAg: 1.71%)	2704853 (1.92%) 489530	(1.05%)	3194383 (
D. GAg: 4.12%)	6364390 (4.52%) 1346107	(2.90%)	7710497 (
E. gshare: 3.66%)	5576746 (3.96%) 1279347	(2.75%)	6856093 (

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

1941124 (1.38%) 422547 (0.91%) 2363671 (1.26%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority): 2936477 (2.09%) 681480 (1.47%) 3617957 (1.93%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament): 1775834 (1.26%) 373292 (0.80%) 2149126 (

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 31521920

1.15%)

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 7714839 (24.47%) 613046 (1.94%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 3843076 (12.19%) 4379303 (13.89%)

Time elapsed: 62.44 minutes

Optional Analysis of 436.cactusADM

HW2 analysis results from cactusADM.out

Number of instructions: 585000000050

Fast forward at: 58400000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000050

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	2153267	2152350	4305617
A. Static FNBT: (12.69%)	9893 (0.46	536542	(24.93%) 546435
B. Bimodal predictor: (12.48%)	3029 (0.14	4%) 534120	(24.82%) 537149
C. SAg: 0.29%)	2004 (0.09	%) 10358 (0.48%) 12362 (
D. GAg: 0.36%)	4240 (0.20	%) 11252 (0.52%) 15492 (
E. gshare: (12.26%)	3746 (0.1	7%) 523976	(24.34%) 527722

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

0.28%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

2361 (0.11%)

10730 (0.50%)

13091 (
0.30%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

2148 (0.10%)

10232 (0.48%)

12380 (
0.29%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 531992

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 1889 (0.36%) 116 (0.02%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 1093 (0.21%) 252 (0.05%)

Time elapsed: 7.92 minutes

Optional Analysis of 437.leslie3d

HW2 analysis results from leslie3d.out

Number of instructions: 2347000000030

Fast forward at: 2346000000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000030

PART A: DIRECTION PREDICTORS FOR CONDITIONAL BRANCHES

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	464563 41084	736 415492	299
A. Static FNBT: 0.88%)	17778 (3.83%)	349836 (0.85%)	367614 (
<pre>B. Bimodal predictor: 0.88%)</pre>	15873 (3.42%)	349701 (0.85%)	365574 (
C. SAg: 0.83%)	2379 (0.51%)	340534 (0.83%)	342913 (
D. GAg: 1.14%)	101914 (21.94%)	372788 (0.91%)	474702 (
E. gshare: 0.92%)	30958 (6.66%)	350222 (0.85%)	381180 (

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

0.83%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

23231 (5.00%)

340883 (0.83%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

2404 (0.52%)

340877 (0.83%)

343024 (0.83%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 978

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 276 (28.22%) 113 (11.55%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 215 (21.98%) 186 (19.02%)

Time elapsed: 25.41 minutes

Optional Analysis of 462.libquantum

HW2 analysis results from libquantum.out

Number of instructions: 3606000000008

Fast forward at: 3605000000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000008

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	100961333 5645	6007 1574	17340
A. Static FNBT: (55.65%)	87053290 (86.22%)	556590 (0.99%)	87609880
B. Bimodal predictor:7.67%)	11790038 (11.68%)	278307 (0.49%)	12068345 (
C. SAg: 0.97%)	1251087 (1.24%)	278370 (0.49%)	1529457 (
D. GAg: 6.04%)	9236285 (9.15%)	278474 (0.49%)	9514759 (
E. gshare: 5.95%)	9092403 (9.01%)	278505 (0.49%)	9370908 (

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

0.93%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

8099516 (8.02%)

278416 (0.49%)

1456324 (
0.93%)

8377953 (
5.32%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

1178024 (1.17%)

278461 (0.49%)

1456485 (
0.93%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 556667

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 60 (0.01%) 9 (0.00%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 52 (0.01%) 25 (0.00%)

Time elapsed: 113.13 minutes

Optional Analysis of 470.lbm

HW2 analysis results from lbm.out

Number of instructions: 831000000045

Fast forward at: 83000000000

Number of instructions after fast forward: 1000000045

PART A: DIRECTION PREDICTORS FOR CONDITIONAL BRANCHES

Type Overall		Forward	Backward
Total number of Unconditional branches:	5135098 2652	381 7787	479
A. Static FNBT: (62.02%)	2427185 (47.27%)	2402438 (90.58%)	4829623
B. Bimodal predictor: 1.20%)	1947 (0.04%)	91290 (3.44%)	93237 (
C. SAg: 0.46%)	806 (0.02%)	34840 (1.31%)	35646 (
D. GAg: 0.46%)	1087 (0.02%)	34487 (1.30%)	35574 (
E. gshare: 0.58%)	10386 (0.20%)	34495 (1.30%)	44881 (

F. Hybrid of SAg and GAg:

0.45%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (majority):

1028 (0.02%)

34463 (1.30%)

35491 (
0.46%)

G. Hybrid of SAg, GAg, and gshare (tournament):

1042 (0.02%)

34453 (1.30%)

35495 (
0.46%)

PART B: TARGET PREDICTORS FOR INDIRECT CONTROL FLOW INSTRUCTIONS

BTB lookup count: 210

Misprediction Miss

BTB PC count: 47 (22.38%) 34 (16.19%)

BTB PC+GHR count: 14 (6.67%) 74 (35.24%)

Time elapsed: 6.30 minutes