CSE211: Compiler Design

Oct. 25, 2021

• **Topic**: SSA intermediate representation

```
3:
                                                        ; preds = %1
       %4 = tail call i32 @ Z14first functionv(), !dbg !19
       call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %4, metadata !14, metadata
       br label %7, !dbg !21
10
11
12
     5:
                                                        ; preds = %1
       %6 = tail call i32 @ Z15second functionv(), !dbg !22
13
       call void @11vm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %6, metadata !14, metadata
14
15
       br label %7
16
17
    7:
                                                        ; preds = %5, %3
       %8 = phi i32 [ %4, %3 ], [ %6, %5 ], !dbg !24
18
       call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %8, metadata !14, metadata
19
       ret i32 %8, !dbg !25
20
21
```

Announcements

- Homework 2:
 - Due Nov. 1
 - Great questions on slack!
 - I'll have office hours this Thursday
- Midterm assigned on Wednesday by midnight!
 - 1 week to do the midterm
 - Do not ask questions on slack, instead message me directly! I will create a canvas discussion with FAQs. Only I can post!
 - Do not discuss with classmates until after the due date
 - Plan on about 2.5 hours (not including studying!)
 - Students have reported anywhere from 2 to 7 hours

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20
21
```

Review: Flow analysis

 $LiveOut(n) = \bigcup_{s \text{ in succ}(n)} (UEVar(s) \cup (LiveOut(s) \cap VarKill(s)))$

$$f(x) = Op_{v \text{ in (succ | preds)}} c_0(v) op_1 (f(v) op_2 c_2(v))$$

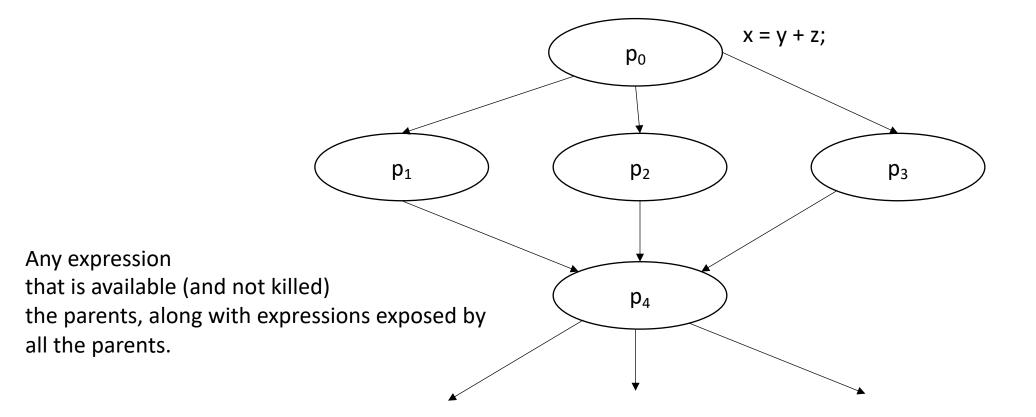
Review: Flow analysis

AvailExpr(n)= $\bigcap_{p \text{ in preds}} DEExpr(p) \cup (AvailExpr(p) \cap ExprKill(p))$

An expression e is "available" at the beginning of a basic block b_x if for all paths to b_x , e is evaluated and none of its arguments are overwritten

Review: Available Expressions

AvailExpr(n)= $\bigcap_{p \text{ in preds}} DEExpr(p) \cup (AvailExpr(p) \cap ExprKill(p))$



Review: Flow analysis

Sound analysis: potential false positives

• Complete analysis: no false positives, but might miss some bugs

• In practice: usually somewhere in between

Godbolt example

- Clang is pretty good at warning for uninitialized variables
 - But doesn't do much with memory
- GCC is better at warning for memory, but not so good for variables

Static Single-Assignment Form (SSA)

Intermediate representations

- What have we seen so far?
 - 3 address code
 - AST
 - data-dependency graphs
 - control flow graphs
- At a high-level:
 - 3 address code is good for data-flow reasoning
 - control flow graphs are good for... control flow reasoning

What we want: an IR that can reasonably capture both control and data flow

Static Single-Assignment Form (SSA)

- Every variable is defined and written to once
 - We have seen this in local value numbering!
- Control flow is captured using ϕ instructions

```
int x;

if (<some_condition>) {
    x = 5;
}

else {
    x = 7;
}

print(x)
```

```
int x;
if (<some_condition>) {
    x = 5;
}
else {
    x = 7;
}
print(x)
```

```
int x;
if (<some_condition>) {
    x0 = 5;
}
else {
    x1 = 7;
}
print(x)
```

```
int x;
if (<some_condition>) {
    x0 = 5;
}
else {
    x1 = 7;
}
print(x) What here?
```

Example: how to convert this code into SSA?

```
int x;

if (<some_condition>) {
    x = 5;
}

else {
    x = 7;
}

print(x)
```

let's make a CFG

```
if (<some_condition>) {
    x = 5;
}

print(x)
```

Example: how to convert this code into SSA?

```
int x;
if (<some_condition>) {
   x0 = 5;
}
else {
   x1 = 7;
}
print(x)
```

number the variables

```
if (<some_condition>) {
    x0 = 5;
}

print(x)
```

Example: how to convert this code into SSA?

```
int x;

if (<some_condition>) {
   x0 = 5;
}

else {
   x1 = 7;
}

x2 = \phi(x0, x1);
print(x2)
```

number the variables

```
if (<some_condition>) {
    x0 = 5;
}

selects the value for
    x depending on which
    CFG path was taken

    x2 = \phi(x0, x1);
    print(x2)
```

- LLVM example
 - Need "opt" program to run -mem2reg

•
$$x_n = \phi(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3...);$$

- selects one of the values depending on the previously executed basic block. Implementations will define how the value is selected:
 - LLVM: couples values with labels
 - EAC book: uses left-to-right ordering of parents in visual CFG

```
• x_n = \phi(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3...);
```

 variables that haven't been assigned can appear (but they will not be evaluated)

```
x_0 = 1;
if (...) goto end_loop;
loop:
x_1 = \phi(x_0, x_2);
x_2 = x_1 + 1;
if (...) goto loop;
end_loop:
x_3 = \phi(x_0, x_2);
```

```
• x_n = \phi(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3...);
```

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x_1 = \phi(x_0, x_2);
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if (...) goto loop;
end_loop:
x_3 = \phi(x_0, x_2);
```

Conversion into SSA

Different algorithms depending on how many ϕ instructions

The fewer ϕ instructions, the more efficient analysis will be

Two phases:

inserting ϕ instructions variable naming

Straightforward:

ullet For each variable, for each basic block: insert a ϕ instruction with placeholders for arguments

local numbering for each variable using a global counter

• instantiate ϕ arguments

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;

if (<condition>) {
   x = y;
}

else {
   x = 6;
   y = 100;
}

print(x)
```

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;

if (<condition>) {
    x = y;
}

else {
    x = 6;
    y = 100;
}

print(x)
```

Insert ϕ with argument placeholders

```
x = 1;
y = 2;
if (<condition>) {
  x = \phi(...);
  y = \phi(...);
 x = y;
else {
  x = \phi(...);
  y = \phi(...);
  x = 6;
  y = 100;
x = \phi(...);
y = \phi(...);
print(x)
```

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;

if (<condition>) {
   x = y;
}

else {
   x = 6;
   y = 100;
}

print(x)
```

Insert ϕ with argument placeholders

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x = 1;
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if (<condition>) {
  x = \phi(...);
 y = \phi(...);
 x = y;
else {
 x = \phi(...);
 y = \phi(...);
 x = 6;
  y = 100;
x = \phi(...);
y = \phi(...);
print(x)
```

Rename variables iterate through basic blocks with a global counter

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (<condition>) {
 x3 = \phi(\ldots);
y4 = \phi(\ldots);
  x5 = y4;
else {
  x6 = \phi(\ldots);
y7 = \phi(\ldots);
  x8 = 6;
  y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(\ldots);
y11 = \phi(\ldots);
print(x10)
```

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;

if (<condition>) {
   x = y;
}

else {
   x = 6;
   y = 100;
}

print(x)
```

Insert ϕ with argument placeholders

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x = 1;
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x = \phi(...);
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y7 = \phi(\ldots);
  x8 = 6;
  y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(\ldots);
y11 = \phi(\ldots);
print(x10)
```

fill in ϕ arguments by considering CFG

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (<condition>) {
  x3 = \phi(x0);
  y4 = \phi(y1);
  x5 = y4;
else {
  x6 = \phi(x0);
  y7 = \phi(y1);
  x8 = 6;
  y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y4, y9);
print(x10)
```

More efficient translation?

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;
if (...) {
  x = y;
else {
 x = 6;
 y = 100;
print(x)
```

maximal SSA

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (...) {
  x3 = \phi(x0);
 y4 = \phi(y1);
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else {
  x6 = \phi(x0);
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x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y4, y9);
print(x10)
```

Optimized?

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (...) {
 x3 = \phi(x0);
 y4 = \phi(y1);
 x5 = y4;
else {
 x6 = \phi(x0);
 y7 = \phi(y1);
 x8 = 6;
 y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y4, y9);
print(x10)
```

More efficient translation?

Example

```
x = 1;
y = 2;
if (...) {
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 x = 6;
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print(x)
```

maximal SSA

```
x0 = 1;
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if (...) {
  x3 = \phi(x0);
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  x5 = y4;
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print(x10)
```

Hand Optimized SSA

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (...) {
 x5 = y1;
else {
 x8 = 6;
 y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y1, y9);
print(x10)
```

- "Really Crude Approach":
 - Just like our example:
 - Every block has a ϕ instruction for every variable



SSA is Functional Programming

Andrew W. Appel

Static Single-Assignment (SSA) form is an intermediate language designed to make optimization clean and efficient for imperative-language (Fortran, C) compilers. Lambda-calculus is an intermediate language that makes optimization clean and efficient for functionallanguage (Scheme, ML, Haskell) compilers. The SSA community draws pictures of graphs with basic blocks and flow edges, and the functional-language community Writes lexically nested functions, but (as Richard Kelsey recently pointed out [9]) they're both doing exactly the

SSA form. Many dataflow analyses need to find the use-sites of each defined variable or the definition-sites of each variable used in an expression. The def-use chain is a data structure that makes this efficient: for each statement in the flow graph, the compiler can keep a list of pointers to all the use sites of variables defined there, and a list of pointers to all definition sites of the variables used there. But when a variable has N definitions and M uses, we might need N · M pointers to connect them.

The designers of SSA form were trying to make an improved form of def-use chains that didn't suffer from this problem. Also, they were concerned with "getting the variable i for several unrelated number

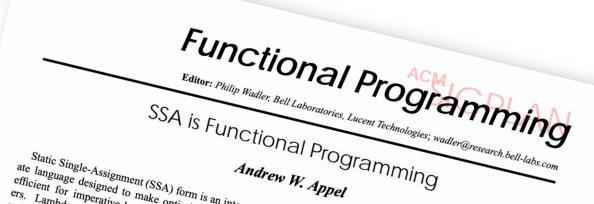
Point refers to the most recent definition, so we know where to use a_1 , a_2 , or a_3 , in the program at right.

For a program with no jumps this is easy. But where two control-flow edges join together, carrying different values of some variable i, we must somehow merge the two values. In SSA form this is done by a notational trick, the ϕ -function. In some node with two in-edges, the expression $\phi(a_1, a_2)$ has the value a_1 if we reached this node on the first in-edge, and a_2 if we came in on the

Let's use the following program to illustrate:

while k < 100if j < 20 $k \leftarrow k+1$

- "Really Crude Approach":
 - Just like our example:
 - Every block has a ϕ instruction for every variable
- This approach was referenced in a later paper as "Maximal SSA"



Static Single-Assignment (SSA) form is an intermediate language designed to make optimization clean and efficient for imperative-language (Fortran, C) compilers. Lambda-calculus is an intermediate language that makes optimization clean and efficient for functionallanguage (Scheme, ML, Haskell) compilers. The SSA community draws pictures of graphs with basic blocks and flow edges, and the functional-language community Writes lexically nested functions, but (as Richard Kelsey recently pointed out [9]) they're both doing exactly the

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Let's use the following program to illustrate:

while k < 100if j < 20 $k \leftarrow k+1$

- EAC book describes a different "Maximal SSA"
 - Insert ϕ instruction at every join node
 - Naming becomes more difficult

Appel Maximal SSA

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (<condition>) {
  x3 = \phi(x0);
  y4 = \phi(y1);
  x5 = y4;
else {
  x6 = \phi(x0);
  y7 = \phi(y1);
  x8 = 6;
  y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y4, y9);
print(x10)
```

EAC Maximal SSA

```
x0 = 1;
y1 = 2;
if (...) {
  x5 = y1;
else {
  x8 = 6;
  y9 = 100;
x10 = \phi(x5, x8);
y11 = \phi(y1, y9);
print(x10)
```

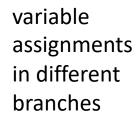
- EAC book describes:
 - Minimal SSA
 - Pruned SSA
 - Semipruned SSA: We will discuss this one

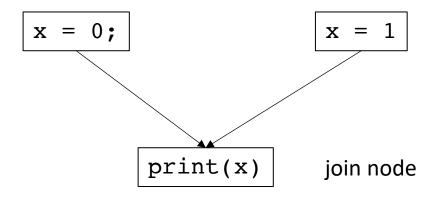
A more optimal approach for ϕ placements

• When is a ϕ needed?

A more optimal approach for ϕ placements

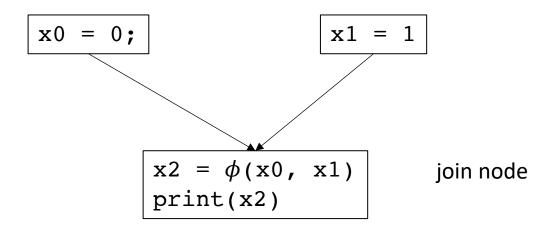
• When is a ϕ needed?





• When is a ϕ needed?

variable assignments in different branches



• When is a ϕ needed?

• More specific question: given a block i, find the set of blocks B which may need a ϕ instruction for a definition in block i.

x = 0; what set of blocks need a ϕ node to resolve conflicts on this assignment to x?

• When is a ϕ needed?

block i

print(x);

• More specific question: given a block i, find the set of blocks B which may need a ϕ instruction for a definition in block i.

Does block j need a ϕ to resolve the assignment to x in block i?

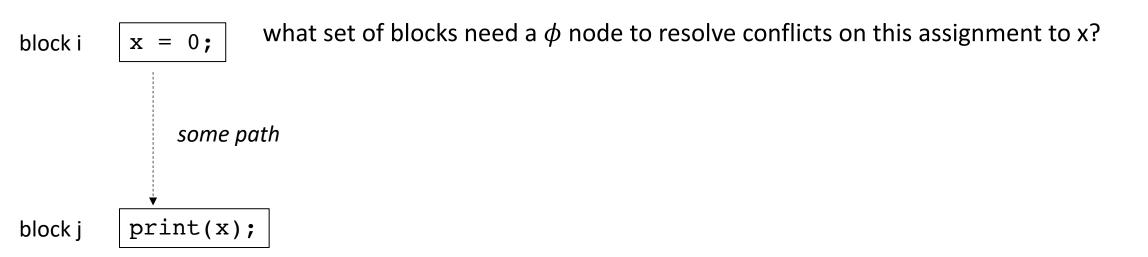
block i x = 0; what set of blocks need a ϕ node to resolve conflicts on this assignment to x?

• When is a ϕ needed?

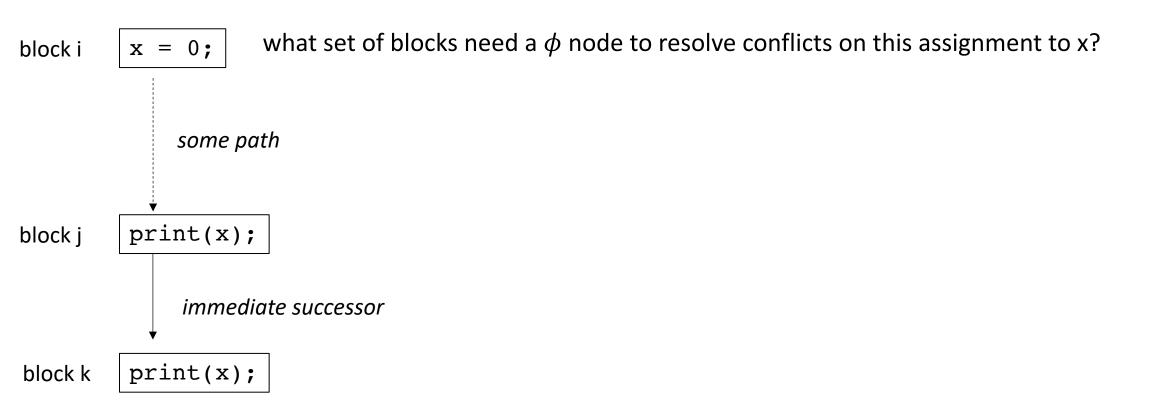
• More specific question: given a block i, find the set of blocks B which may need a ϕ instruction for a definition in block i.

block i x = 0; what set of blocks need a ϕ node to resolve conflicts on this assignment to x? $is \ block \ j \ dominated \ by \ block \ i?$ $If \ so, \ then \ no \ \phi \ node \ is \ needed$ block j print(x); Does block j need a ϕ to resolve the assignment to x in block i?

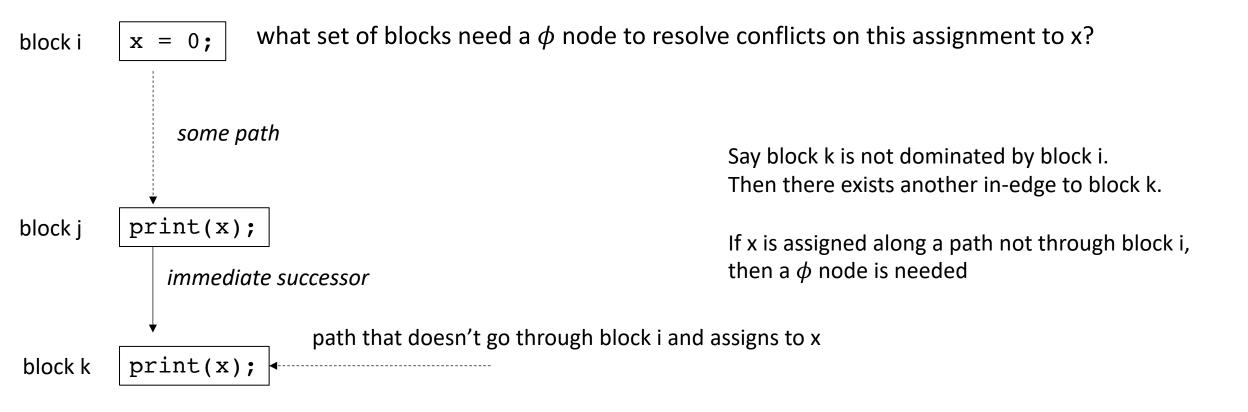
• say j is dominated by i. Thus, no ϕ node is needed in block j



ullet say j is dominated by i. Thus, no ϕ node is needed in block j



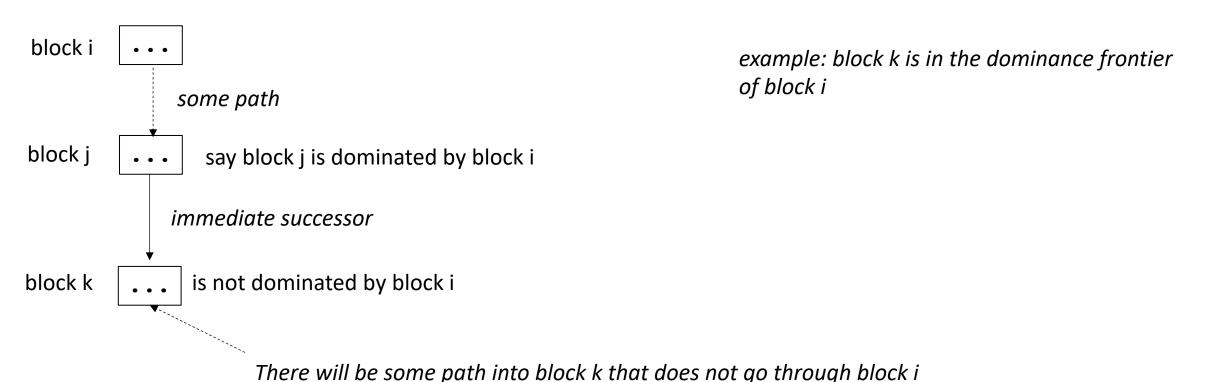
ullet say j is dominated by i. Thus, no ϕ node is needed in block j



Dominance frontier

Dominance frontier

• For a block i, the set of blocks B in i's dominance frontier lie just "outside" the blocks that i dominates.



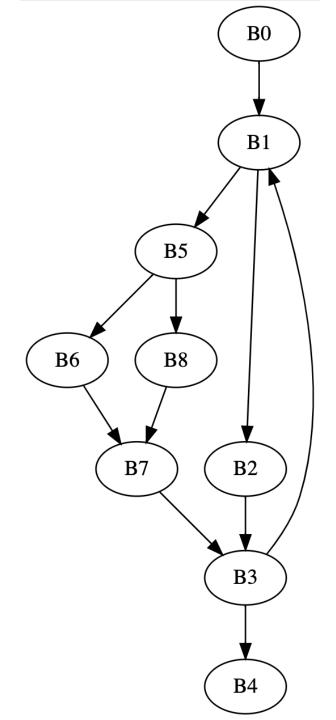
Dominance frontier

• a viz using coloring (thanks to Chris Liu!)

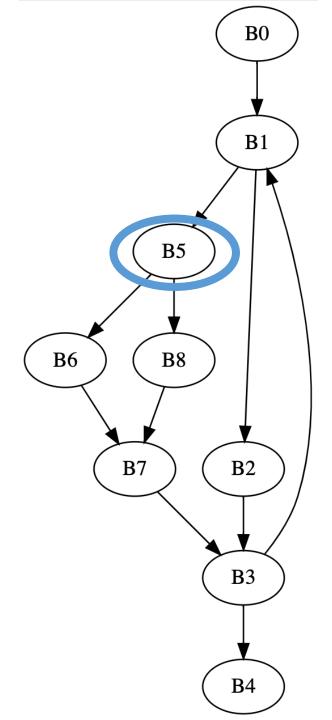
• Efficient algorithm for computing in EAC section 9.3.2 using a dominator tree. Please read when you get the chance!

Note that we are using strict dominance: nodes don't dominate themselves!

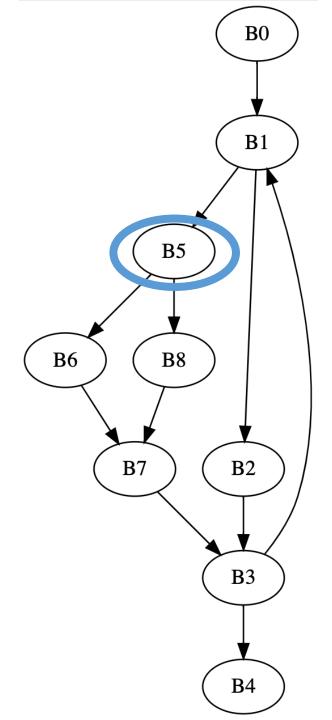
Node	Dominators
B0	
B1	ВО,
B2	B0, B1,
В3	B0, B1,
B4	B0, B1, B3,
B5	B0, B1,
B6	B0, B1, B5,
B7	B0, B1, B5,
B8	B0, B1, B5,



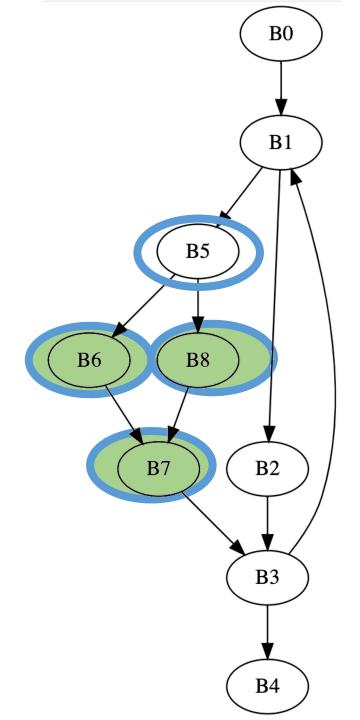
Node	Dominators
B0	
B1	ВО,
B2	B0, B1,
В3	B0, B1,
B4	B0, B1, B3,
B5	BO, B1,
B6	B0, B1, B5,
B7	B0, B1, B5,
B8	B0, B1, B5,



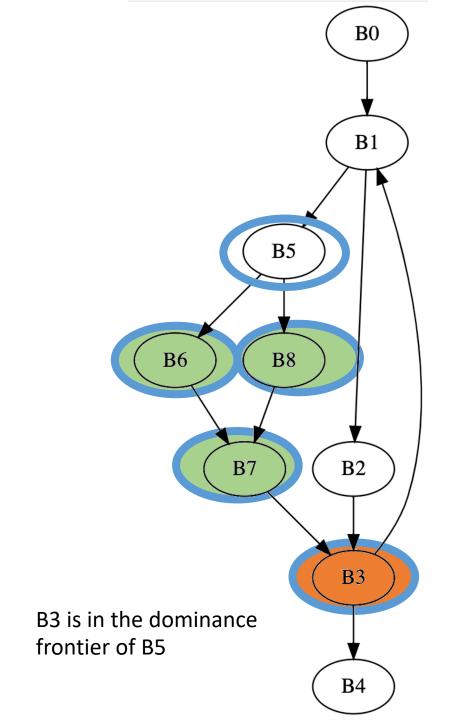
Node	Dominators
B0	
B1	ВО,
B2	B0, B1,
В3	B0, B1,
B4	B0, B1, B3,
B5	B0, B1,
B6	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,
B7	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,
B8	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,



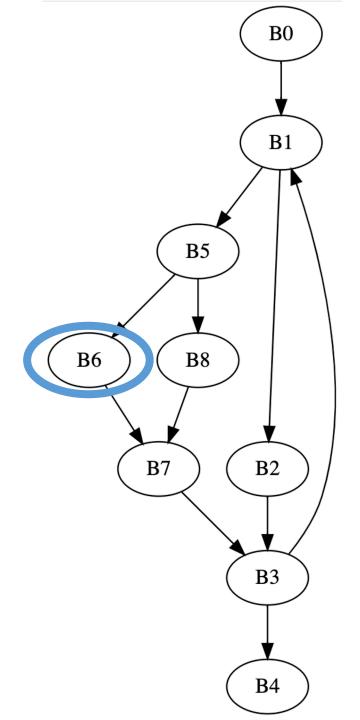
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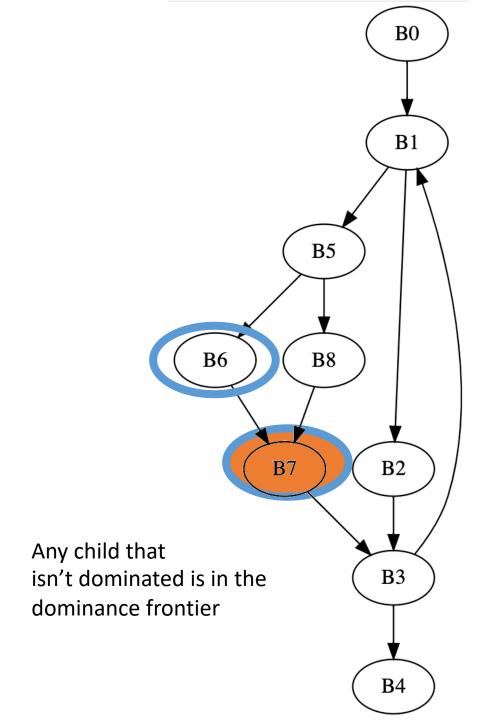
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<mark>B5</mark>	B0, B1,
B6	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,
B7	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,
B8	B0, B1, <mark>B5</mark> ,



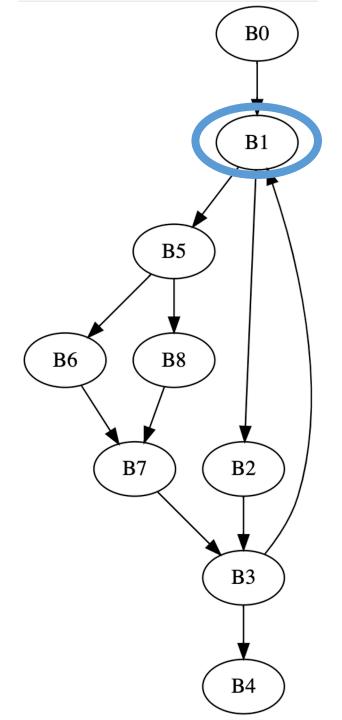
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B1	во,
B2	B0, B1,
В3	BO, B1,
B4	B0, B1, B3,
B5	B0, B1,
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B7	B0, B1, B5,
B8	B0, B1, B5,



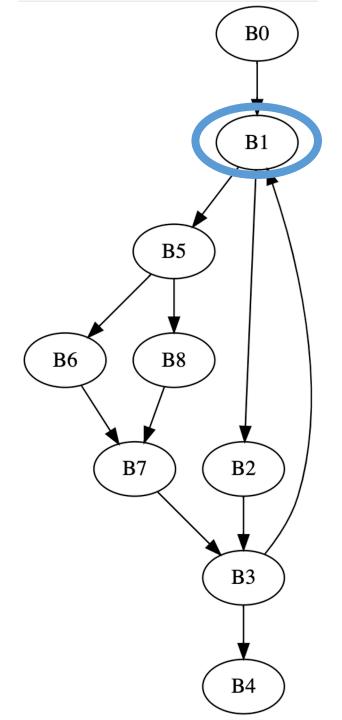
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B4	B0, B1, B3,
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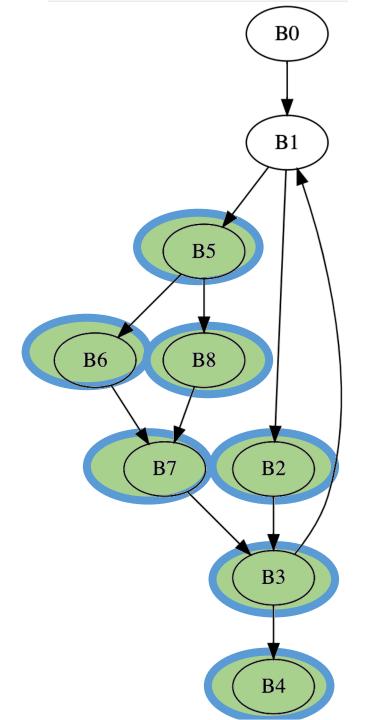
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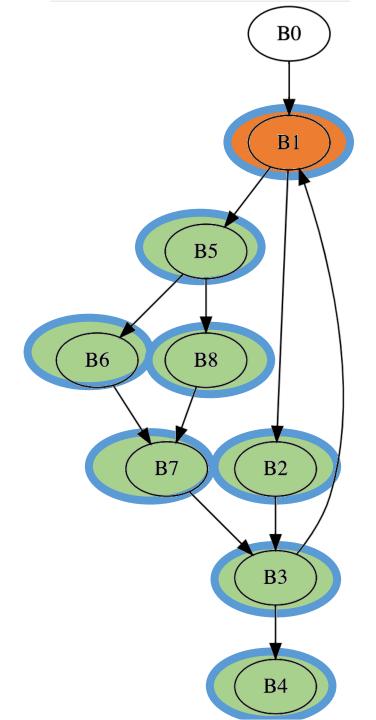
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B1	во,
B2	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
В3	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B4	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B3,
B5	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B6	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B7	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B8	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,



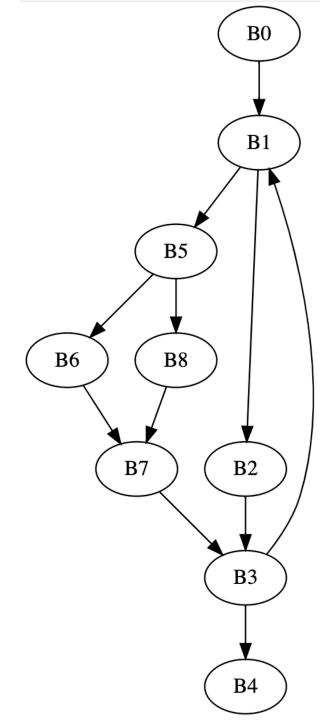
Node	Dominators
В0	
B1	ВО,
B2	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
В3	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B4	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B3,
B5	B0, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B6	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B7	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B8	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,



Node	Dominators
В0	
B1	во,
B2	BO, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B3	BO, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B4	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B3,
B5	BO, <mark>B1</mark> ,
B6	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B7	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,
B8	B0, <mark>B1</mark> , B5,

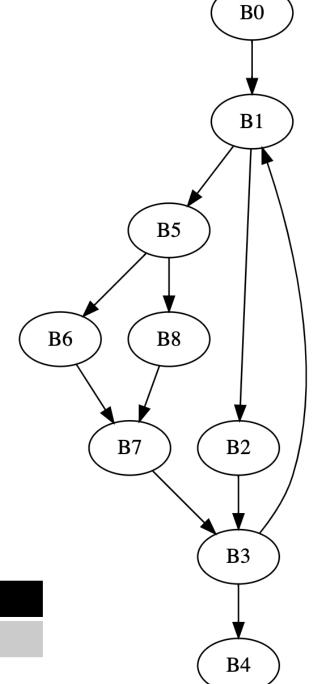


Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
B3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7



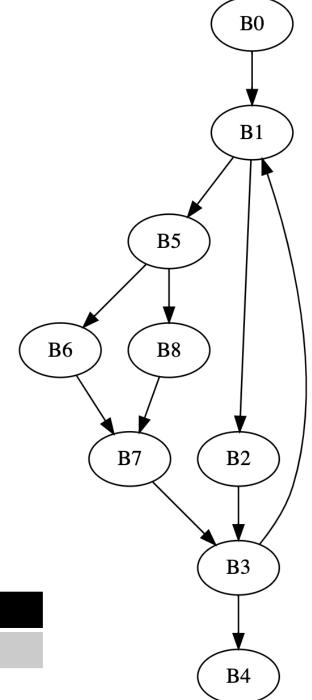
Dominance Frontier

- Intuition: a variable declared in block b may need to resolve a conflict in the dominance frontier of b
 - Because it may have been assigned a new value in another path



Var	а	b	С	d	i	У	Z
Blocks	B1, B5	B2,B7	B1, B2, B8	B2,B5,B6	B0,B3	В3	В3

Var	a	b	С	d	i	У	z
Blocks	B1, B5	B2, B7	B1,B2,B8	B2,B5,B6	B0, B3	В3	B3

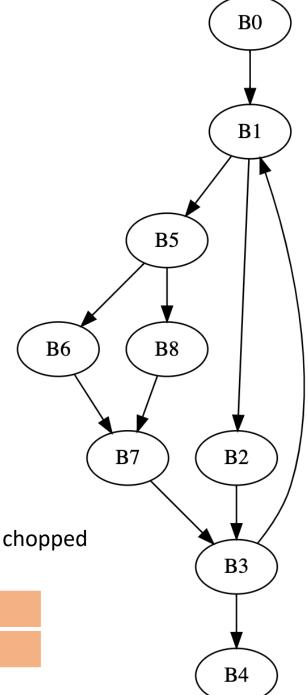


```
B0: i = ...;
B1: a = ...;
    c = \ldots;
    br ... B2, B5;
B2: b = ...;
    c = \ldots;
    d = \ldots;
B3: y = ...;
    z = \ldots;
    i = ...;
    br ... B1, B4;
B4: return;
```

B5: a = ...; $d = \ldots;$ **br** ... B6, B8; B6: d = ...;B7: b = ...;B8: c = ...;**br** B7;

local variables can be chopped

Var	a	b	С	d	i	У	z
Blocks	B1, B5	B2, B7	B1,B2,B8	B2,B5,B6	B0, B3	В3	В3



Var	a	b	С	d	i
Blocks	B1,B5	B2,B7	B1,B2,B8	B2,B5,B6	B0,B3

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
В6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	a
Blocks	B1,B5

for each variable v: for each block b that writes to v: ϕ is needed in the DF of b

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а
Blocks	<mark>B1</mark> ,B5

for each variable v: for each block b that writes to v: ϕ is needed in the DF of b

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	<mark>B1</mark>
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а
Blocks	<mark>B1</mark> ,B5

for each variable v: for each block b that writes to v: ϕ is needed in the DF of b

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	B3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

B4: return;

Var	а
Blocks	B1, <mark>B5</mark>

for each variable v: for each block b that writes to v: ϕ is needed in the DF of b

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	B3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	a
Blocks	B1, <mark>B5</mark>

for each block b: ϕ is needed in the DF of b

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	a
Blocks	B1,B5

We've now added new definitions of 'a'!

Node	Dominator Frontier
ВО	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
В6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а
Blocks	B1,B5, <mark>B1,B3</mark>

We've now added new definitions of 'a'!

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
B3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а
Blocks	B1,B5 <mark>,B3</mark>

We've now added new definitions of 'a'!

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2,B7

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	<mark>B2</mark> ,B7

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
<mark>B2</mark>	B3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	B3
В6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2,B7

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
В6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2, <mark>B7</mark>

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
В6	B7
B7	B3
B8	B7

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2,B7, <mark>B3</mark>

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
B6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Node **Dominator Frontier** {} B0 B1 B1 B2 B3 **B3 B1** {} B4 **B3 B5** B6 B7 B7 **B3** B8 B7

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2,B7,B3, <mark>B1</mark>

Var	а	b
Blocks	B1,B5,B3	B2,B7,B3.B1

Node	Dominator Frontier
В0	{}
B1	B1
B2	В3
В3	B1
B4	{}
B5	В3
В6	B7
B7	В3
B8	B7

Renaming

- Details are in the book:
 - iteratively do a reverse post-order traversal until all variables are named and every ϕ has arguments.

See you on Wednesday

• Optimizations for IRs in SSA form!

Midterm assigned on Wednesday before midnight!