# Register Allocation

TEACHING ASSISTANT: DAVID TRABISH

#### Register Allocation

- We have more IR variables than CPU registers
- We need to reduce the number of IR variables:
  - A mapping between IR variables and CPU registers

#### Register Allocation

#### For each function:

- Construct the CFG (from the IR)
- Run liveness analysis
- Construct the interference graph
- Compute a *k-coloring* of the graph
- Use the coloring to build the required mapping

#### Control Flow Graph

- Create a node for each IR instruction
- Create an edge between an instruction and it's next instruction
- If the instruction is a **branch**:
  - Connect it to the instruction the comes after the target label
  - If the branch is conditional, connect to it's next instruction

#### Control Flow Graph

```
a = x * (y - z)
if (a) {
  a = a + 1;
}
b = a
```

```
t1 = x
t4 = sub t2, t3
t5 = mult, t1, t4
a = t5
t6 = a
bne t6, 1, end
t8 = 1
t9 = add t7, t8
a = t9
end:
t10 = a
b = t10
```

t1 = x

t2 = y

t3 = z

t4 = sub t2, t3

t5 = mult t1, t4

a = t5

t6 = a

bne t6, 1, end

t7 = a

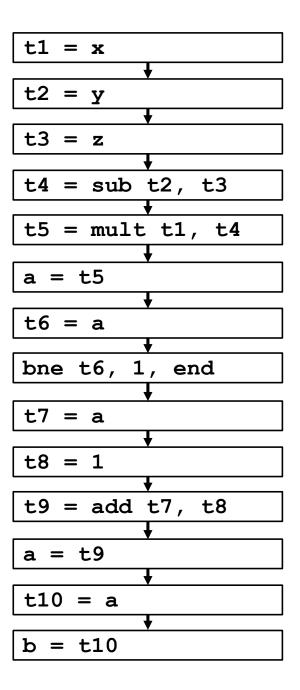
t8 = 1

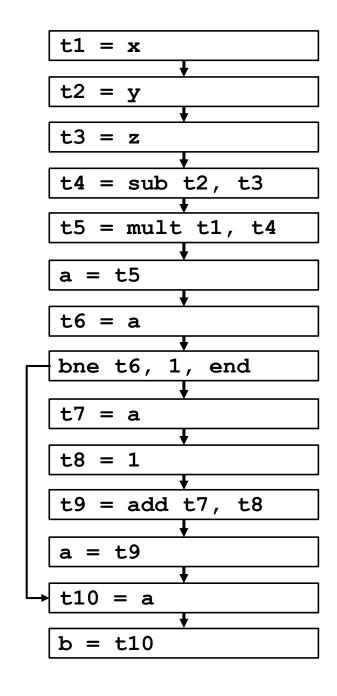
t9 = add t7, t8

a = t9

t10 = a

b = t10





- Determine live variables at each program location
- A variable x is **live** at location n if:
  - There is a path from n where x is read before it's overwritten

n: 
$$t1 = 1$$

t2 = 9

 $t2 = t2 + t3$ 

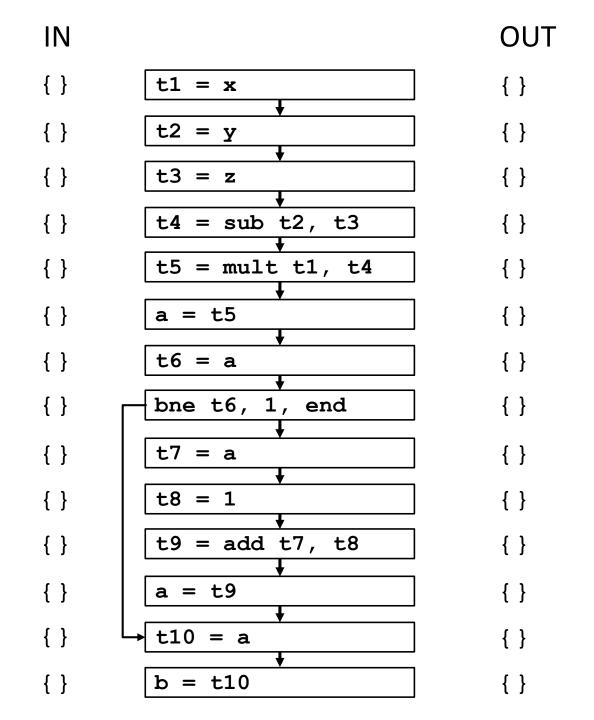
n:  $t1 = 1$ 
 $t3 = t1 + t2$ 

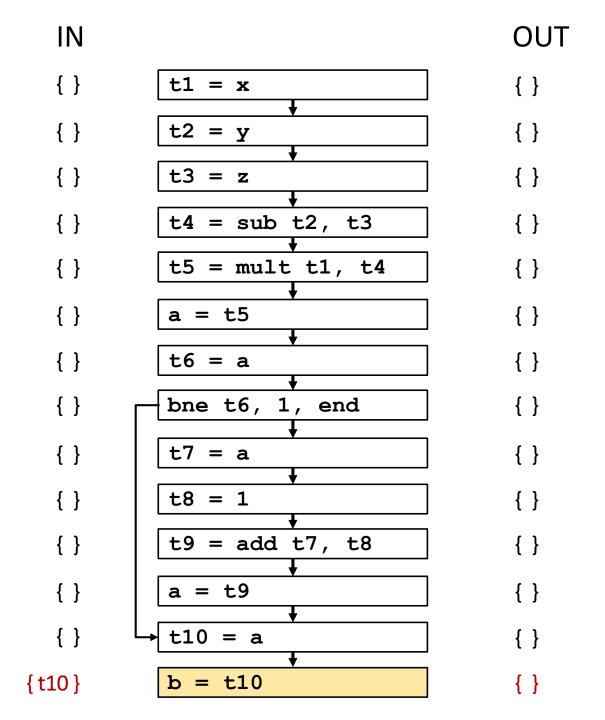
t3 is live

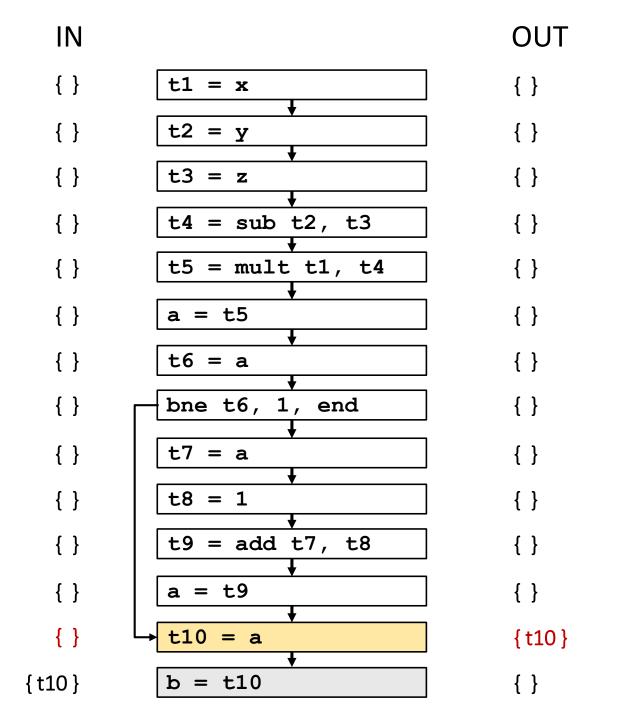
t3 is dead

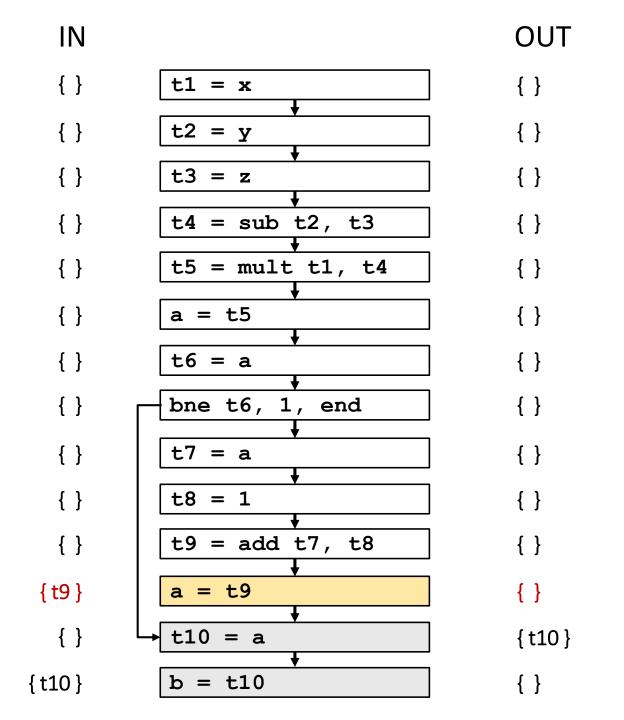
- Step 1: Initialize out(n) and in(n) to empty sets for each n
- Step 2:
  - Compute out(n) and in(n) for each node n
    - Assuming that n is the instruction  $y = f(x_1, x_2, ...)$
    - $out(n) = \cup in(s)$ :
      - for each successor s of n
    - $in(n) = \{x_1, x_2, ...\} \cup (out(n) \setminus \{y\})$
- Step 3:
  - If at least one node was changed (in or out)
    - Go to step 2

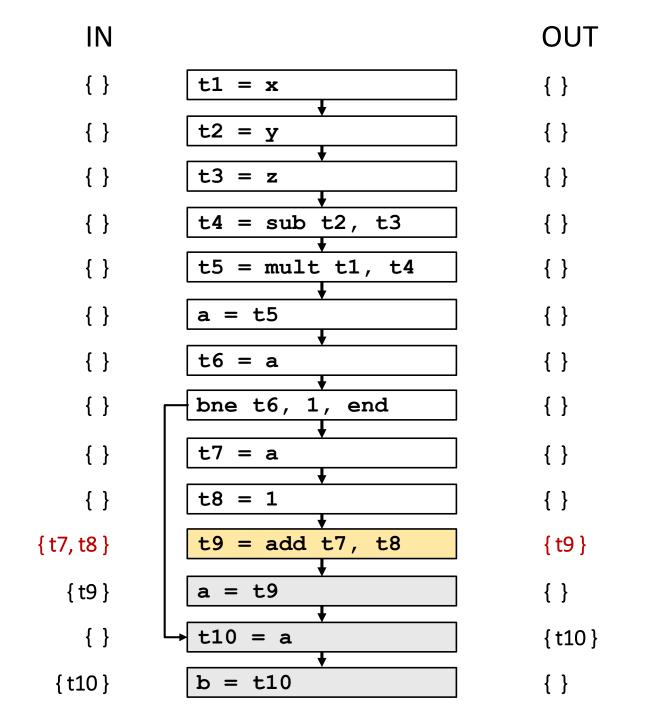
First Iteration...

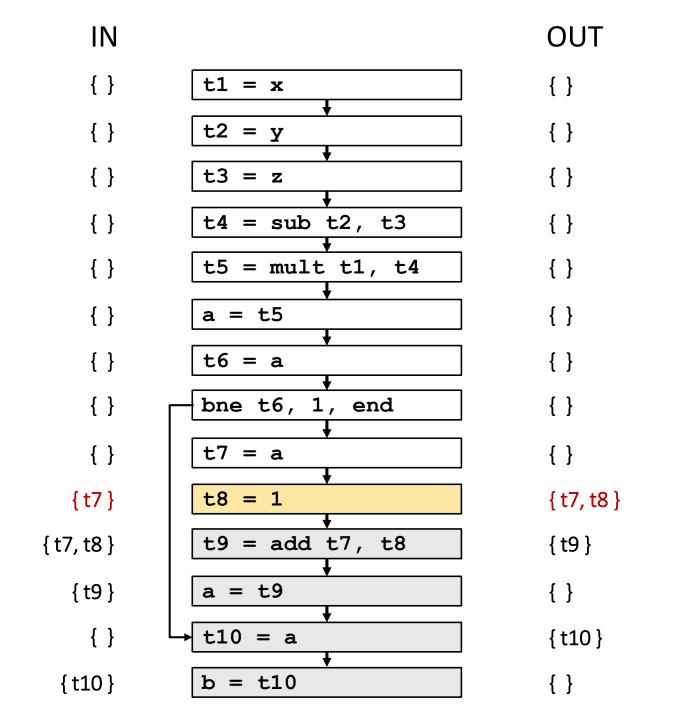


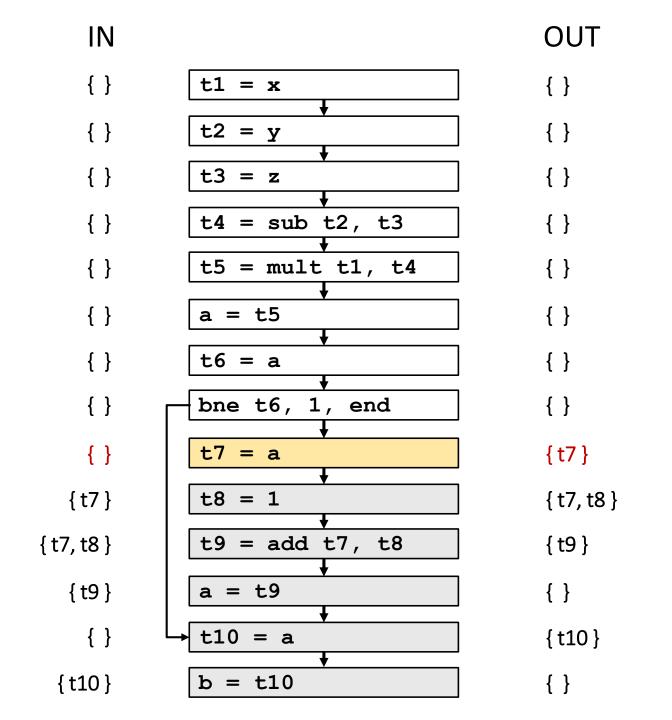


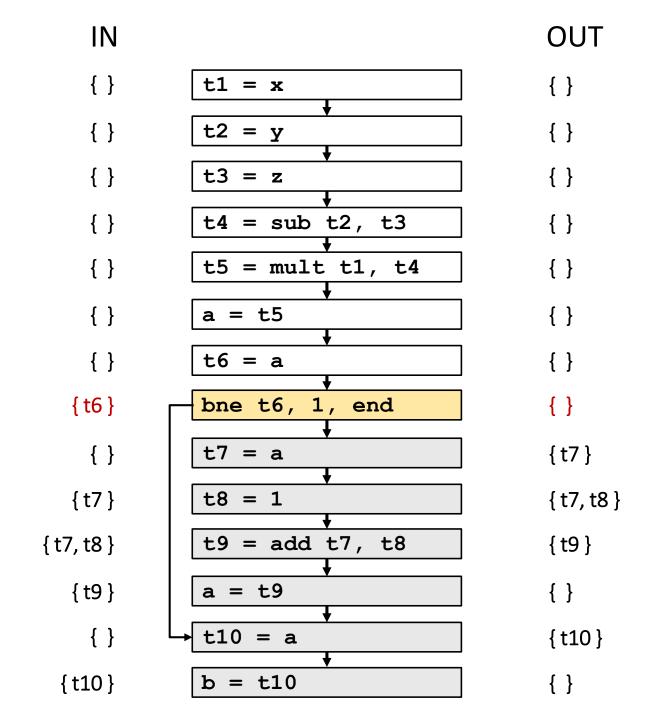


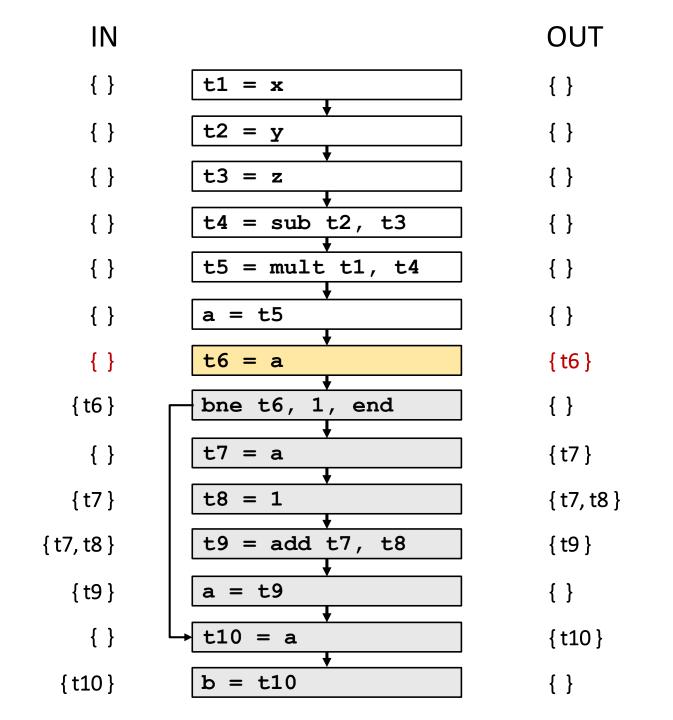


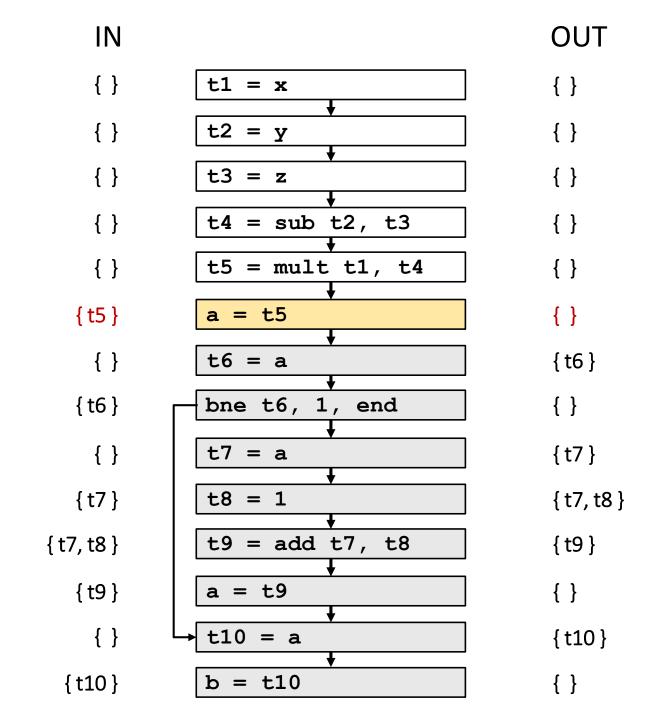


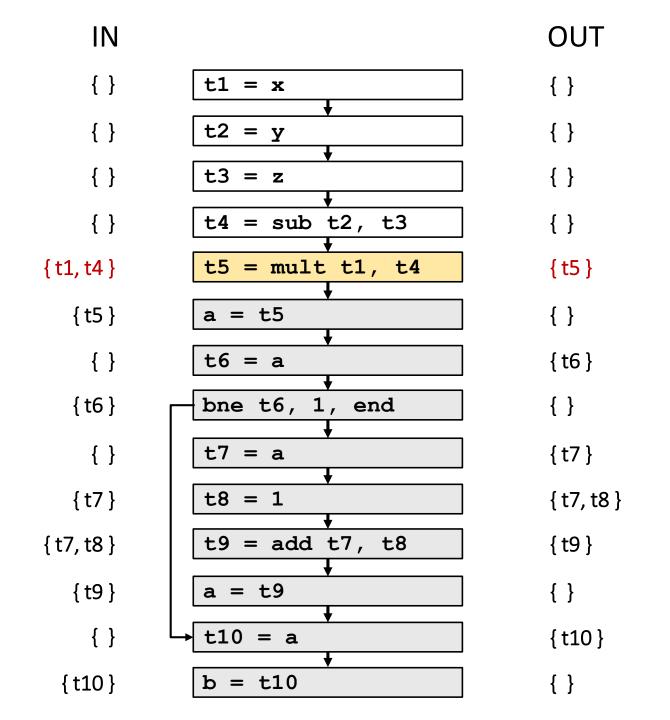


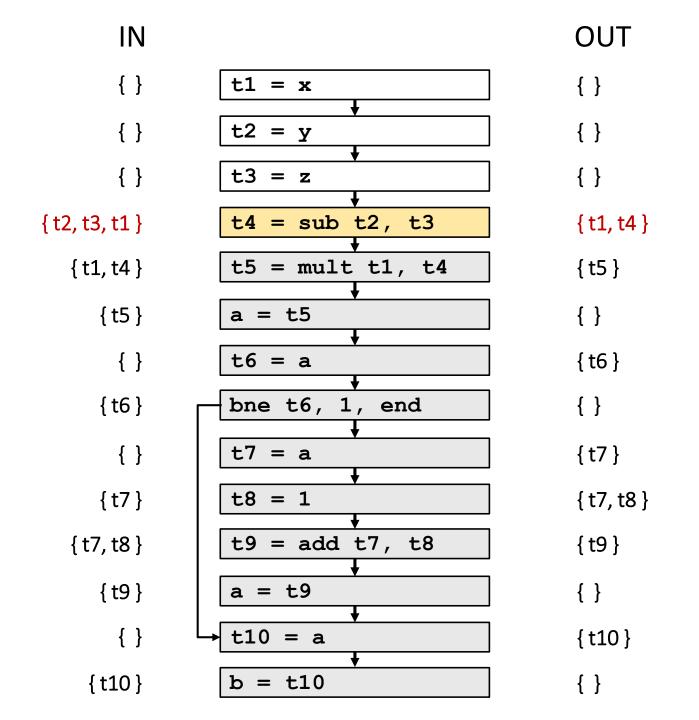


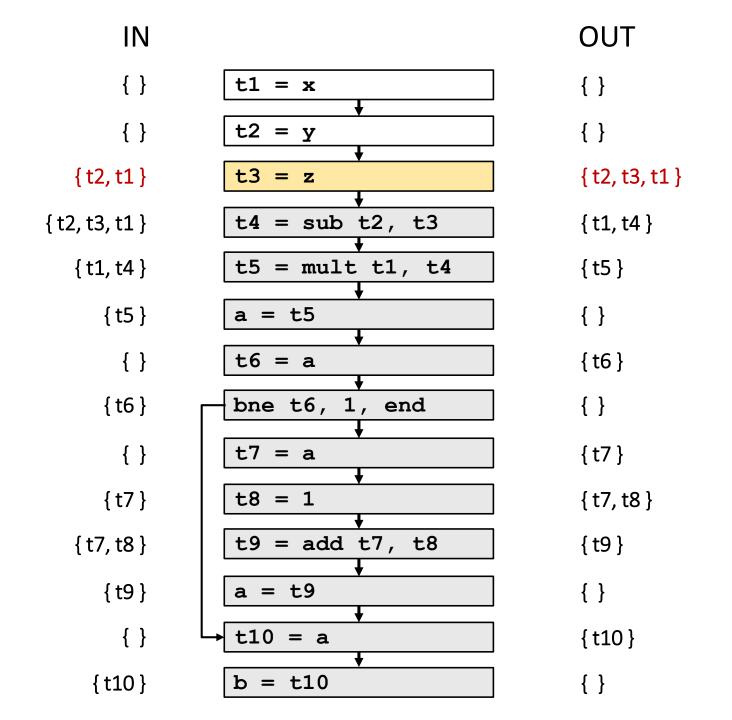


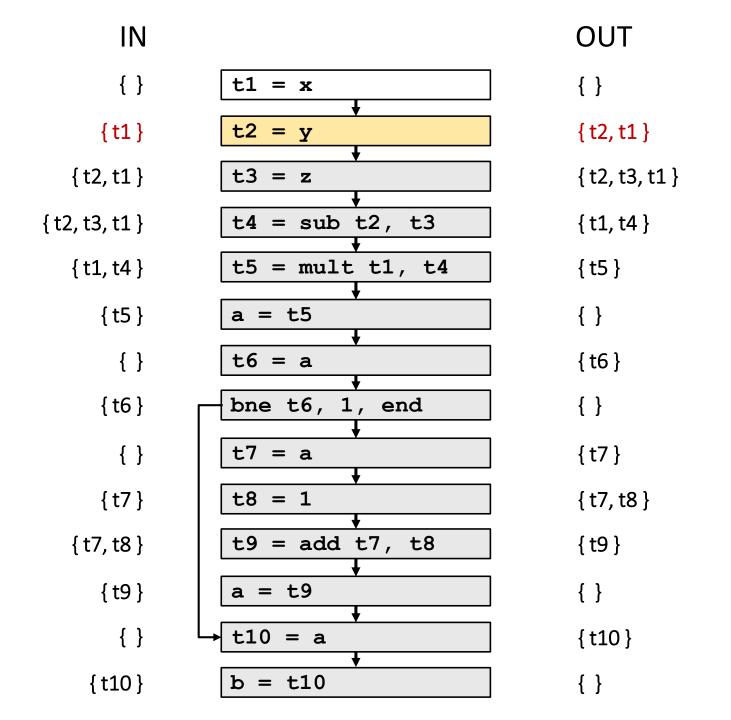


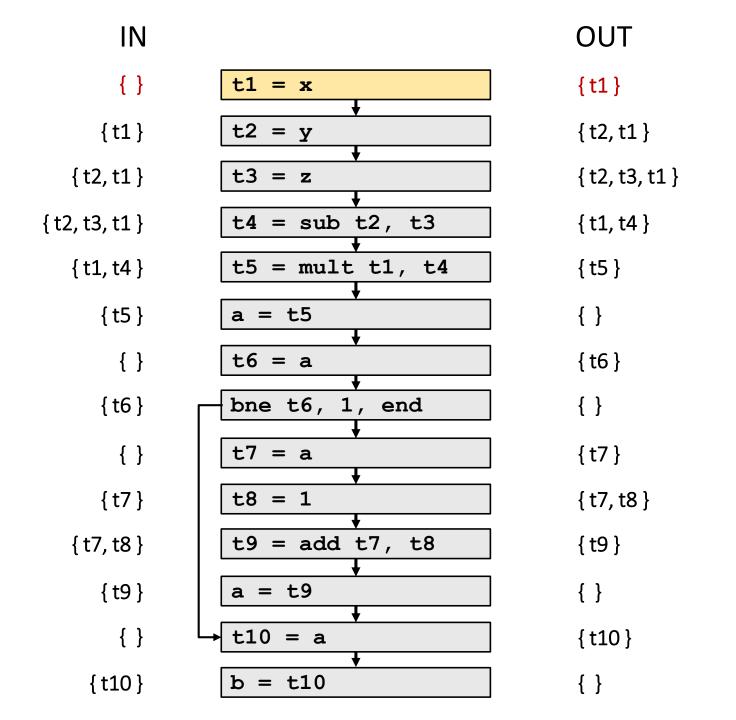


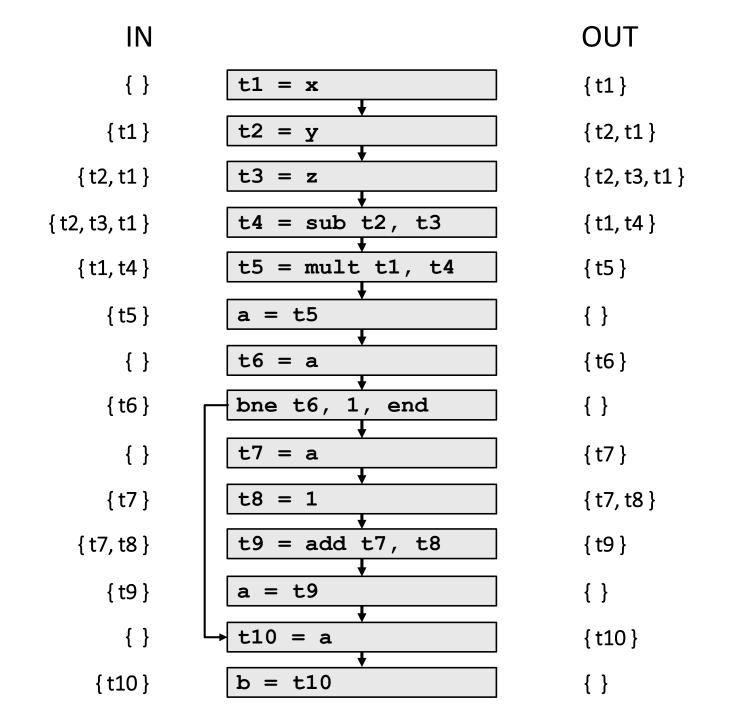




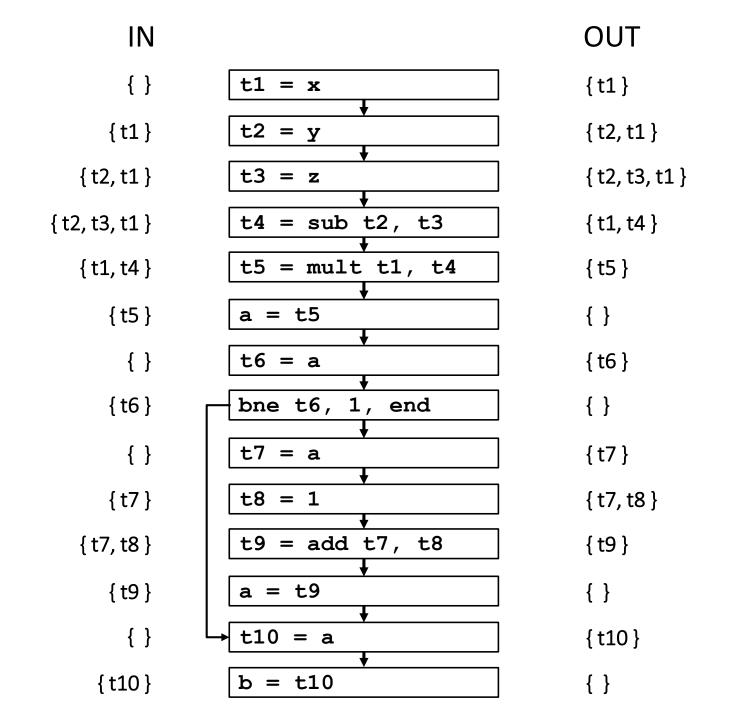


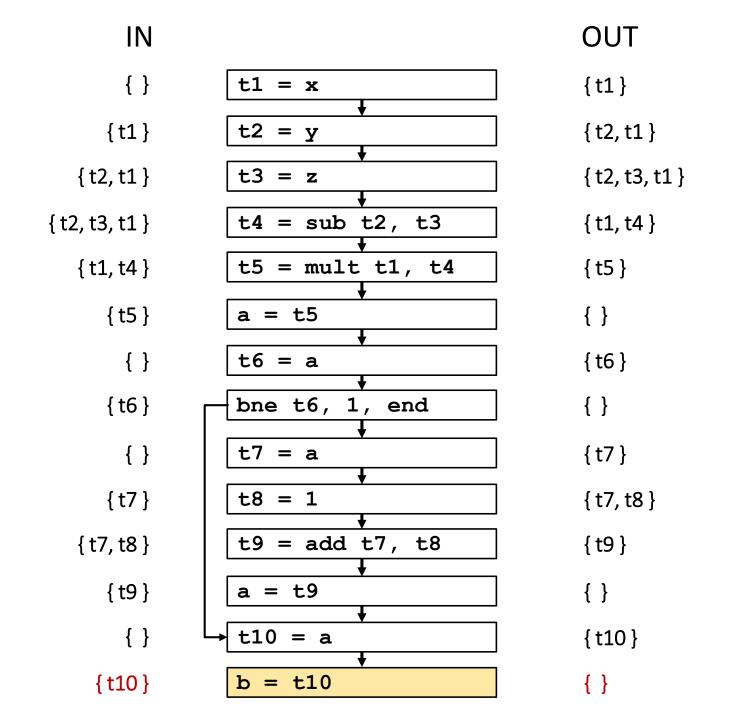


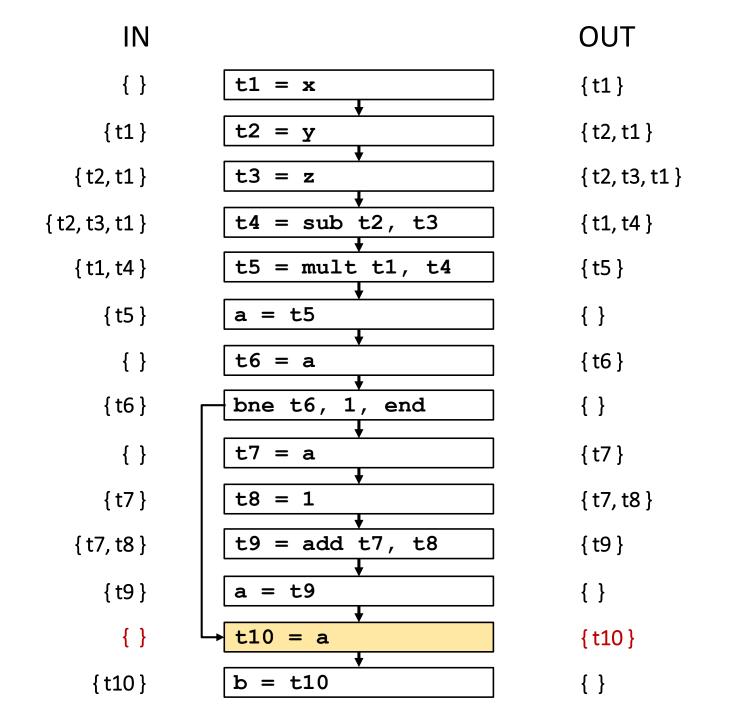


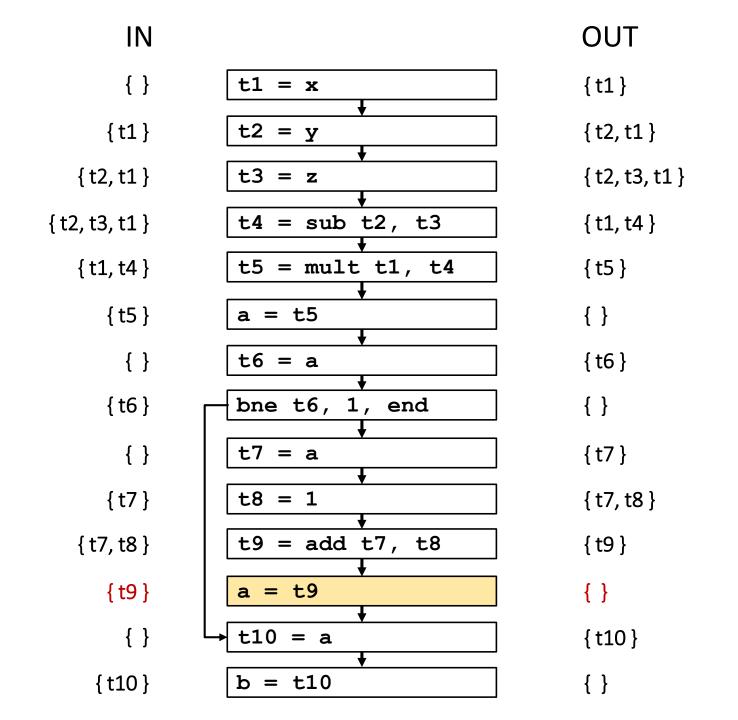


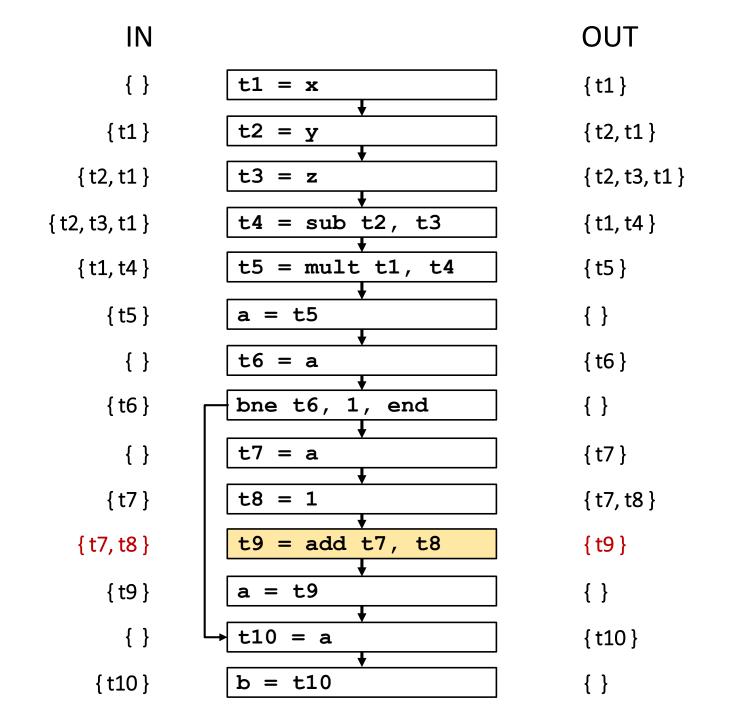
Second Iteration...

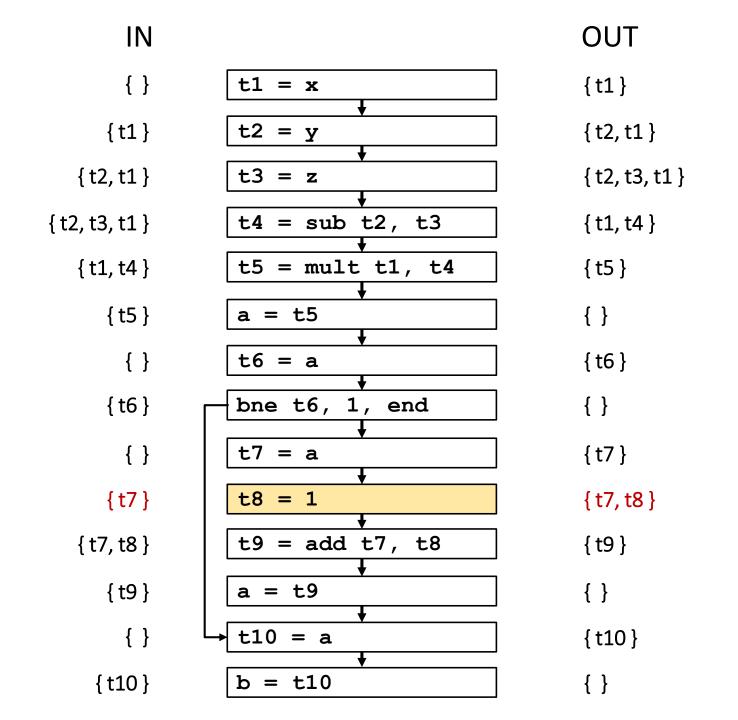


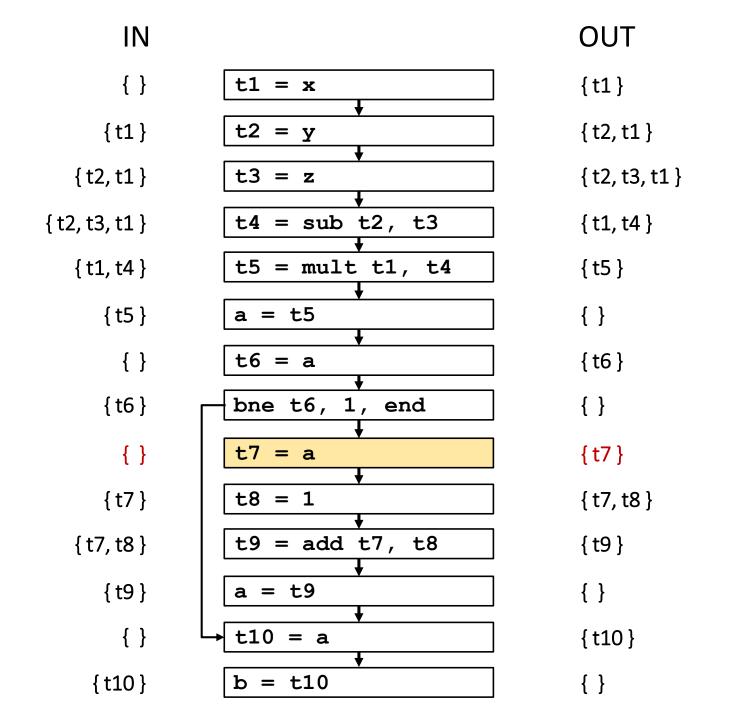


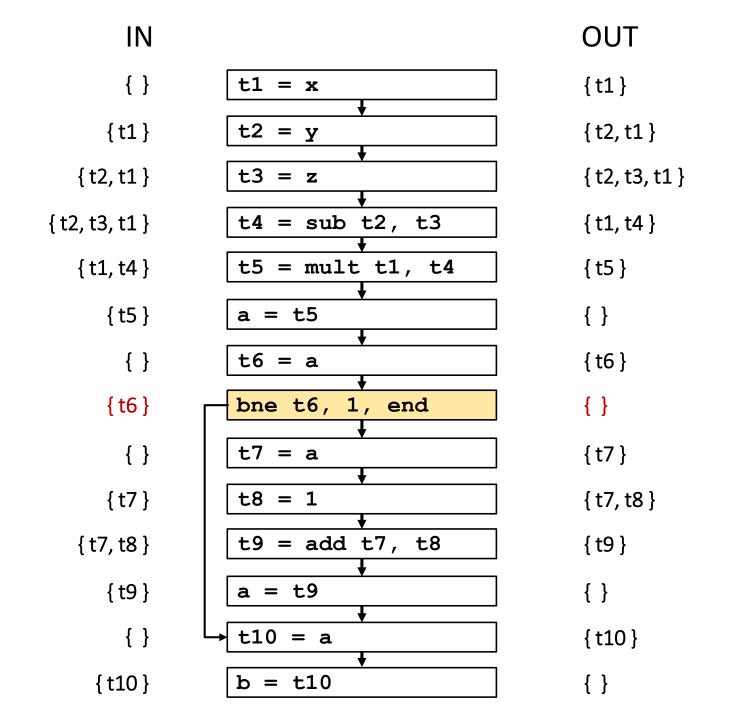


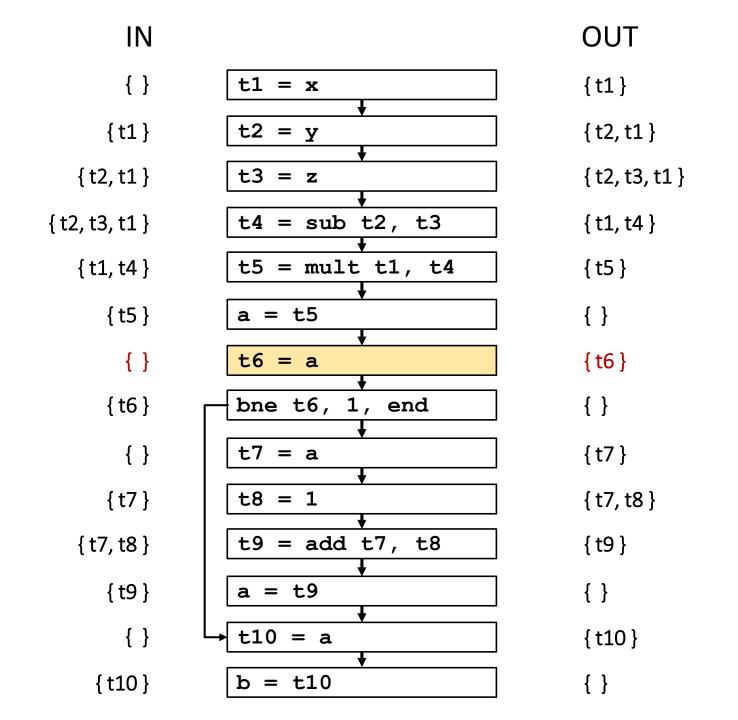


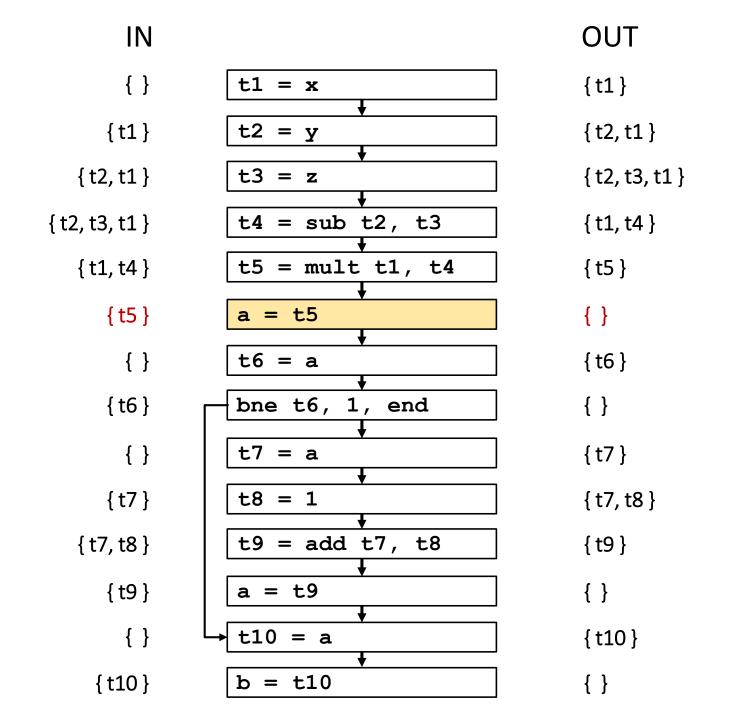


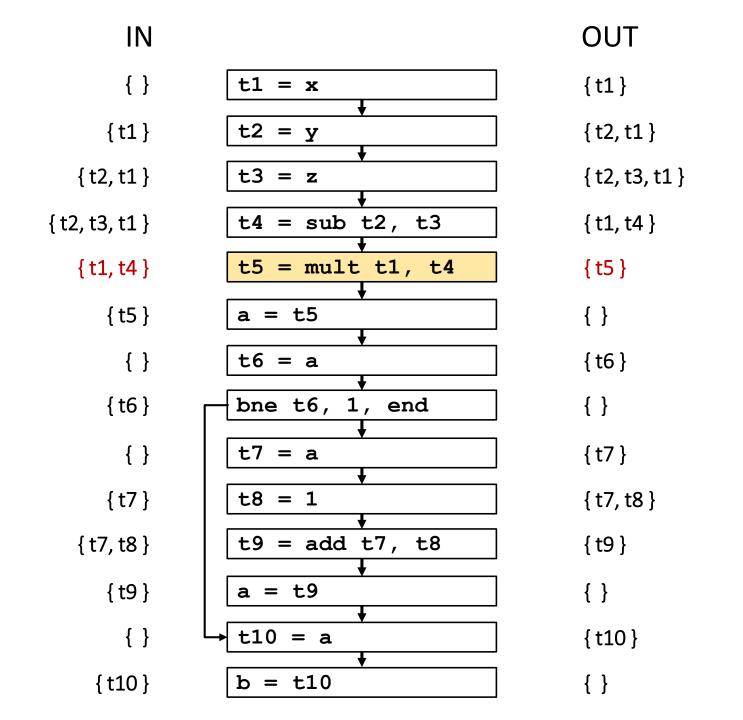


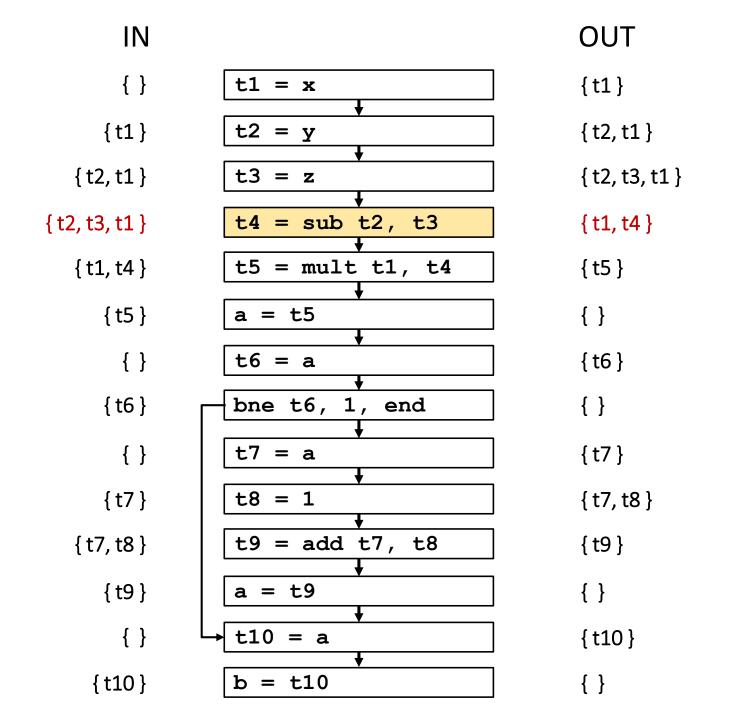


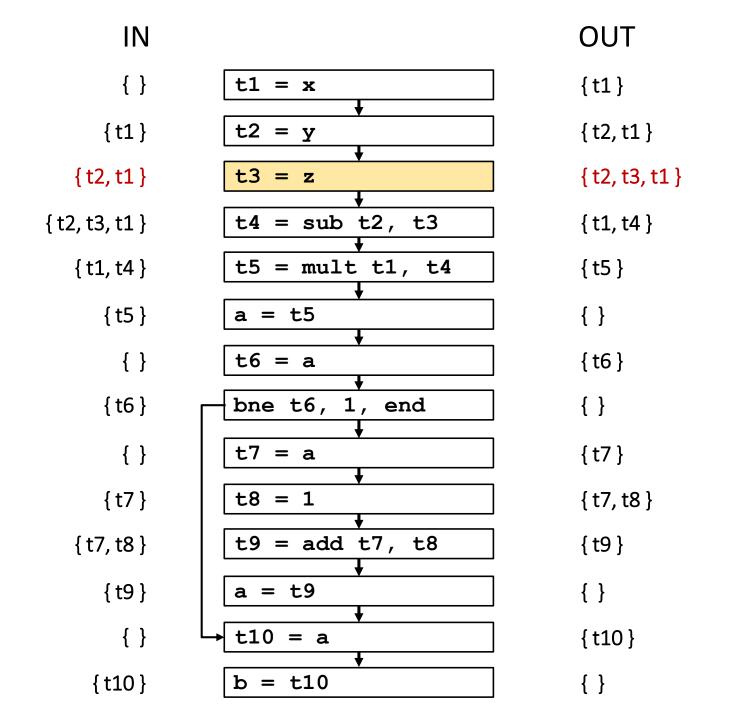


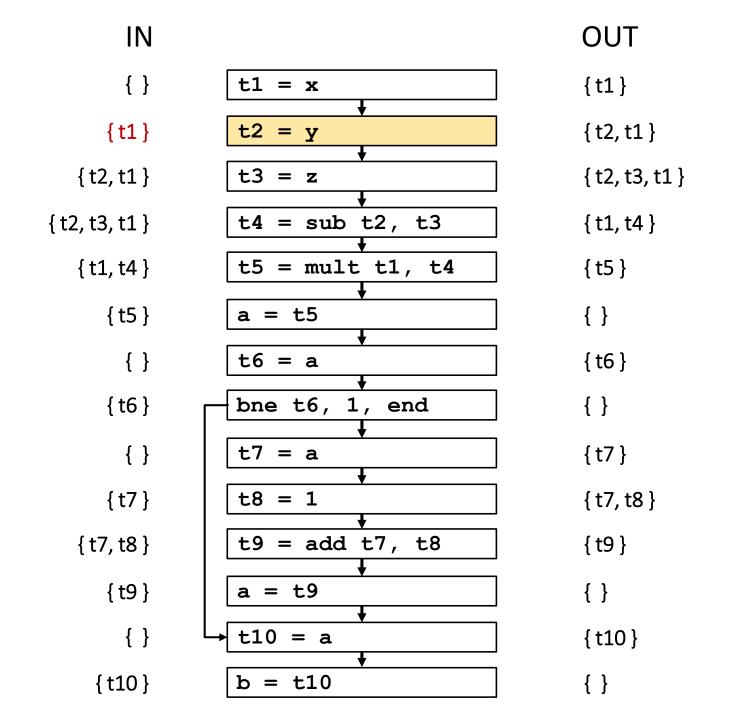


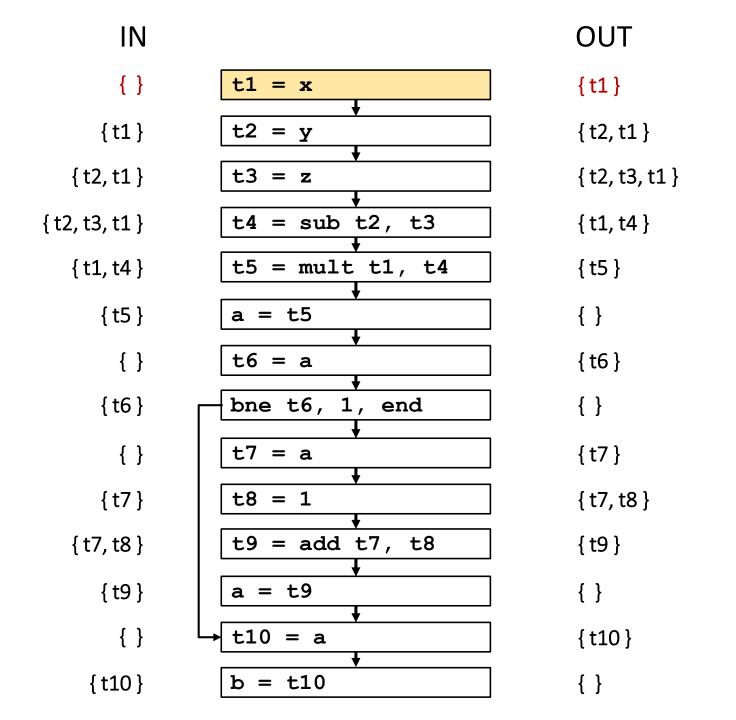


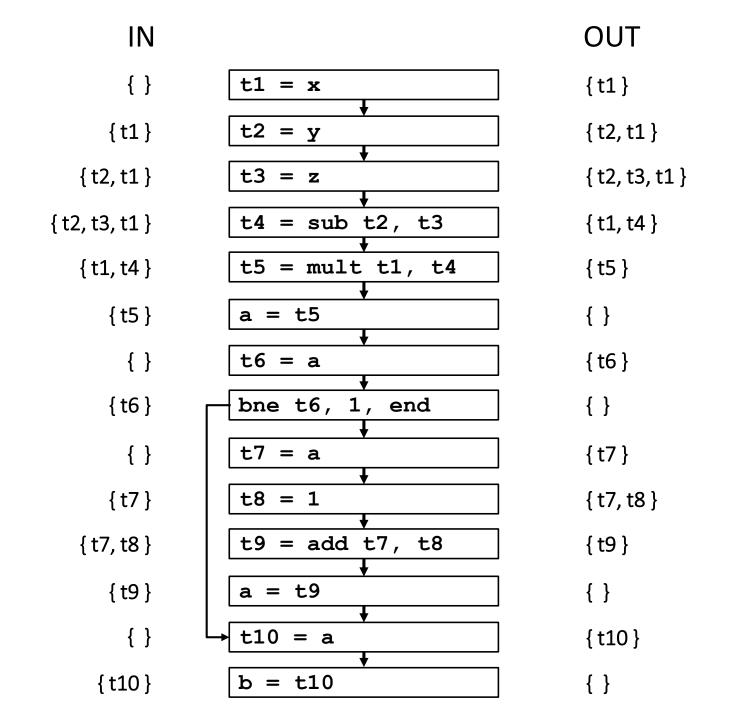












- Use liveness analysis to construct the interference graph
- Create a node for each IR variable (t1, t2, ...)
- If t1 and t2 appear together in one of the liveness sets:
  - Create an edge between t1 and t2

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                                        t2
                                                     t5
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                                                     t6
                                                                                t10
                           t3
                                        t4
                                                                   t8
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                                        t2
                                                     t5
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                                                     t6
                                                                                t10
                           t3
                                        t4
                                                                   t8
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                                        t2
                                                     t5
                                                                  t7
                          t1
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                                                     t6
                                                                               t10
                           t3
                                        t4
                                                                  t8
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                       t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

t7

t8

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                       t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

t7

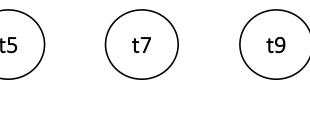
t8

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                       t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

t7

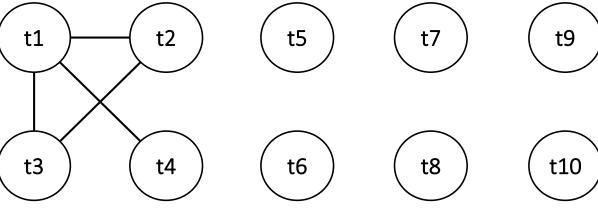
t8

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                        t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

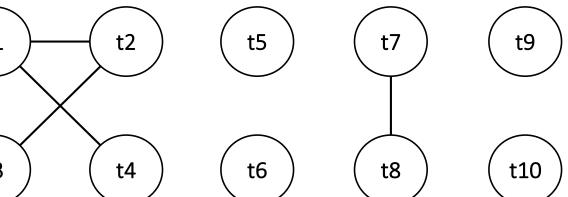


t8

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
{ t6 }
{t7}
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```



```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                             t1
                                            t2
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                             t3
                                            t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{ t7, t8 }
{ t9 }
{t10}
```



```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
                                                       t5
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                       t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

t7

t8

```
{ t1 }
{t2,t1}
                            t1
                                          t2
                                                       t5
{t2,t3,t1}
{t1,t4}
{ t5 }
                            t3
                                                       t6
                                          t4
{ t6 }
{ t7 }
{t7,t8}
{ t9 }
{t10}
```

t7

t8

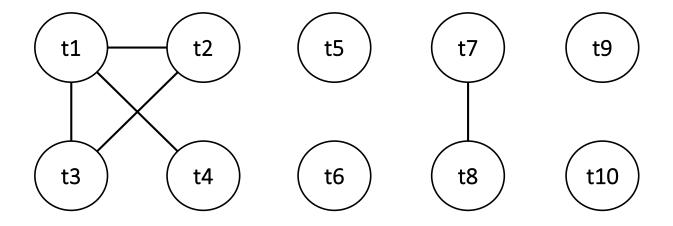
## **Graph Coloring**

- Graph coloring is hard (NP-complete problem)
- We need a heuristic...

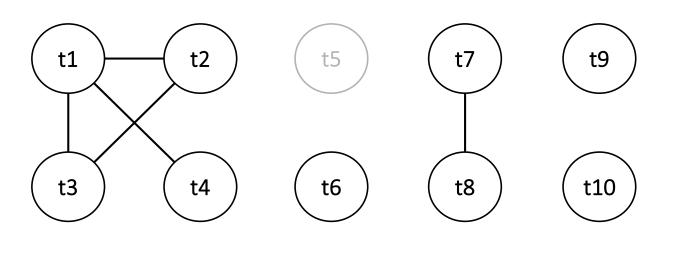
#### Graph Coloring

Chaitin's Algorithm for *k-coloring* (simplified):

- While there is a node with less than k neighbors:
  - Remove it and it's edges from the graph
  - Push it on the stack
- If the entire graph was removed, then it's k-colorable
- While the stack is not empty:
  - Pop a node from the stack and assign it a color



R1 R2 R3



R1 R2 R3

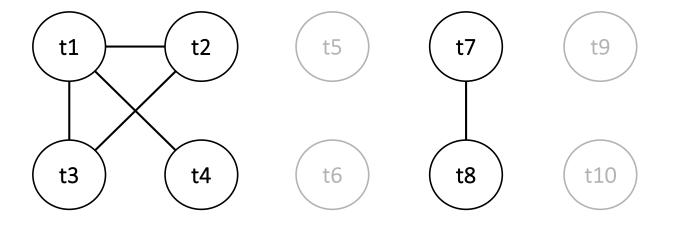


R1 R2 R3



R1 R2 R3

t6

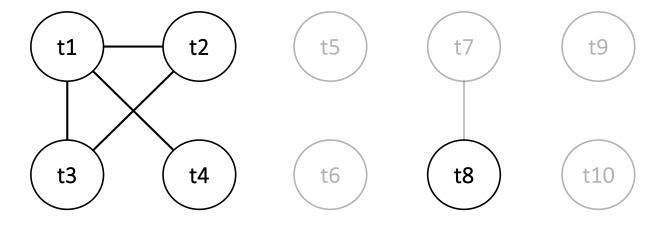


R1 R2 R3

t10

t9

t6



t7

t10

t9

t6

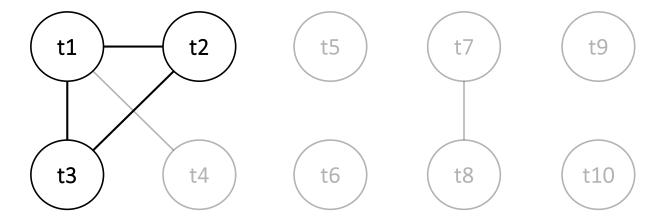
t5

R1 R2 R3



R1 R2 R3

t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t2 t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t3 t2 t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5

Pop nodes and assign colors...



R1 R2 R3

t3 t2 t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t2 t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



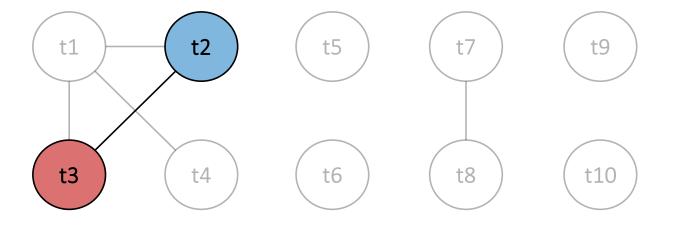
R1 R2 R3

t2 t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t1 t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



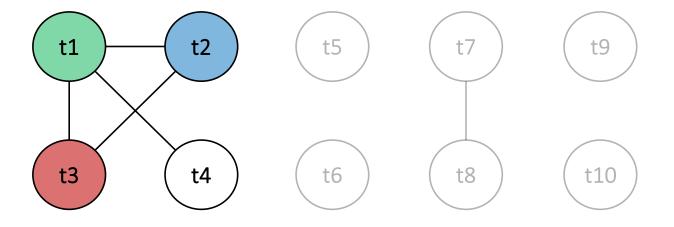
R1 R2 R3

t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



R1 R2 R3

t4 t8 t7 t10 t9 t6 t5



t8

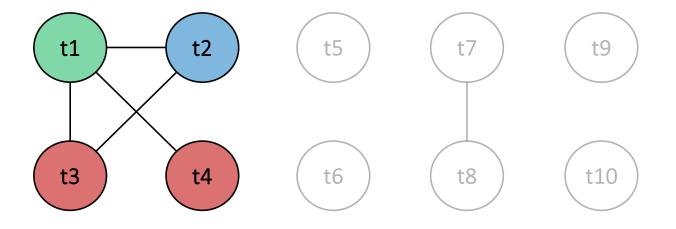
t7

t10

t9

t6

t5



t8

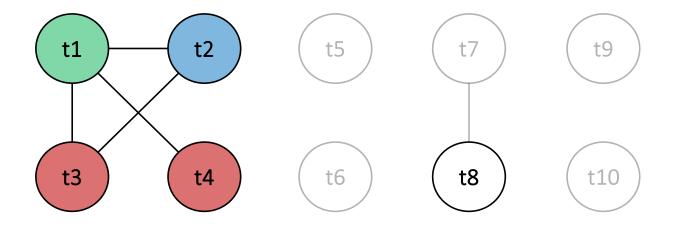
t7

t10

t9

t6

t5



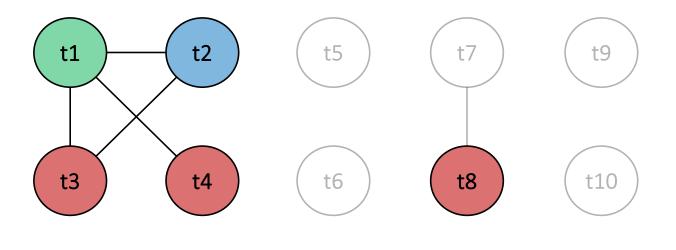
t7

t10

t9

t6

t5



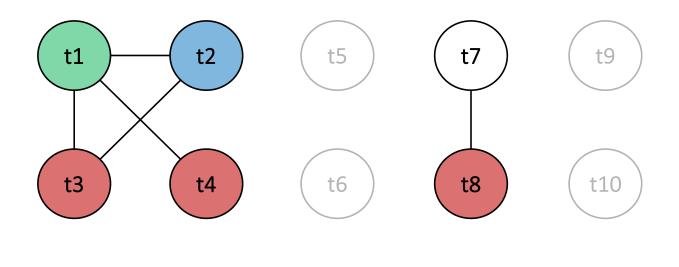
t7

t10

t9

t6

t5

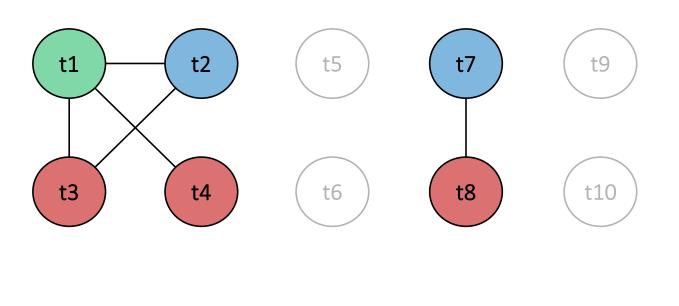


R1 R2 R3

t10

t9

t6

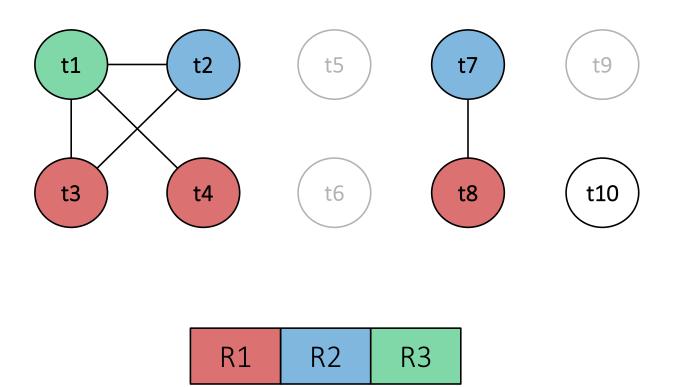


R2

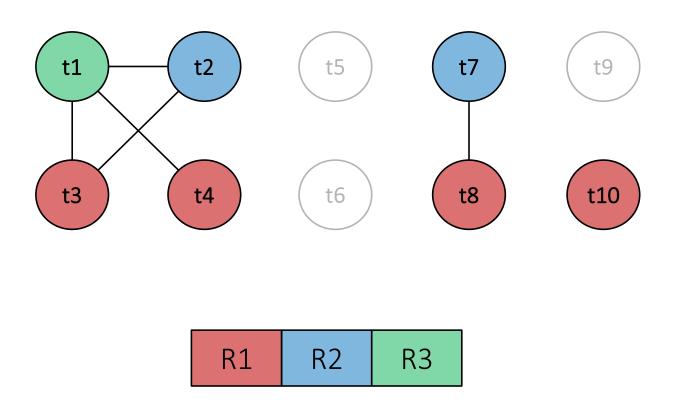
R1

R3

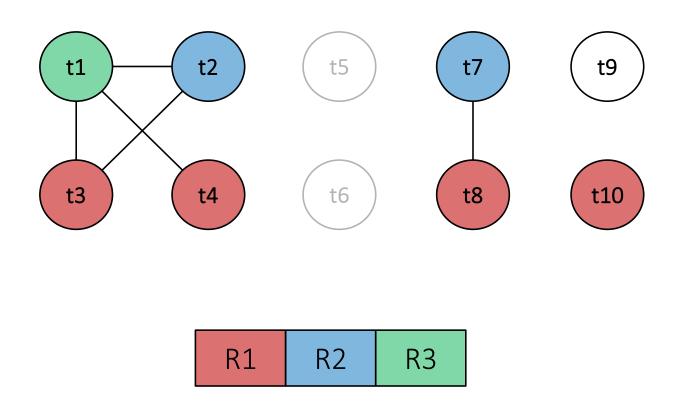
t10 t9 t6 t5

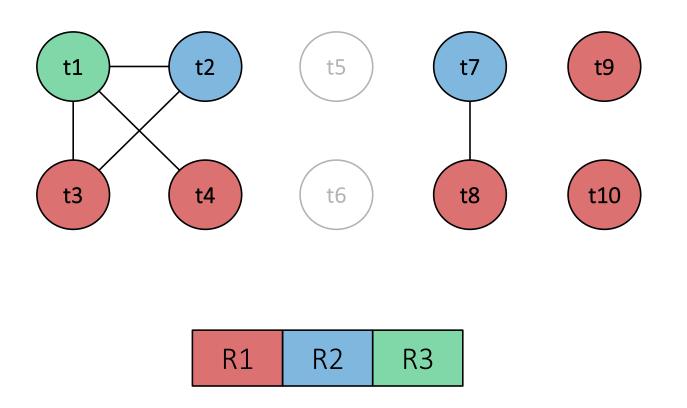


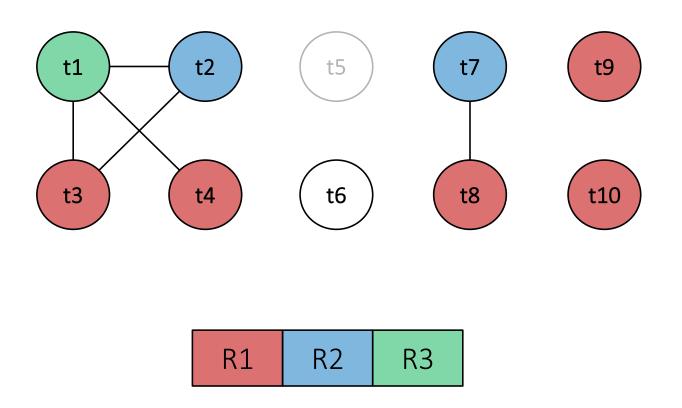
t6

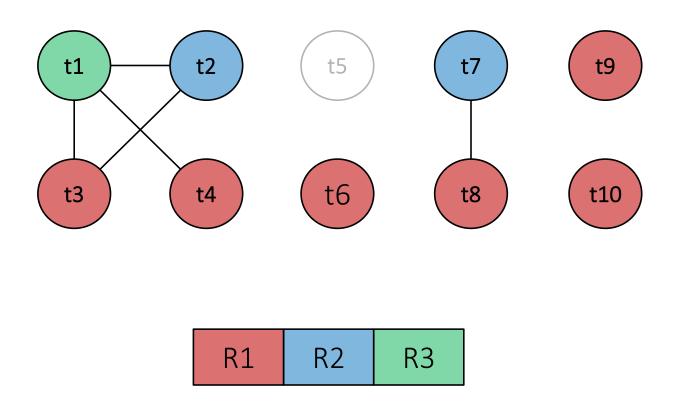


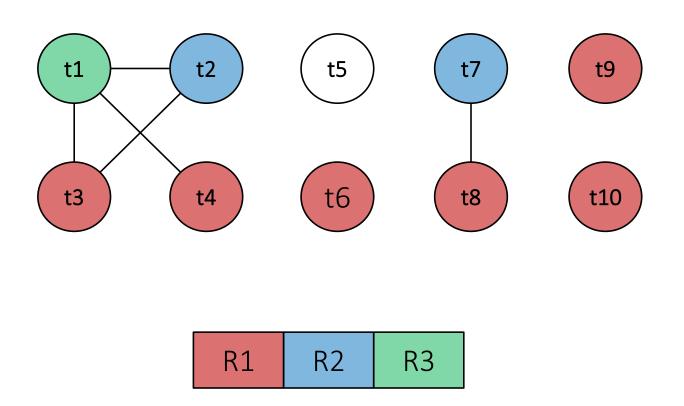
t6

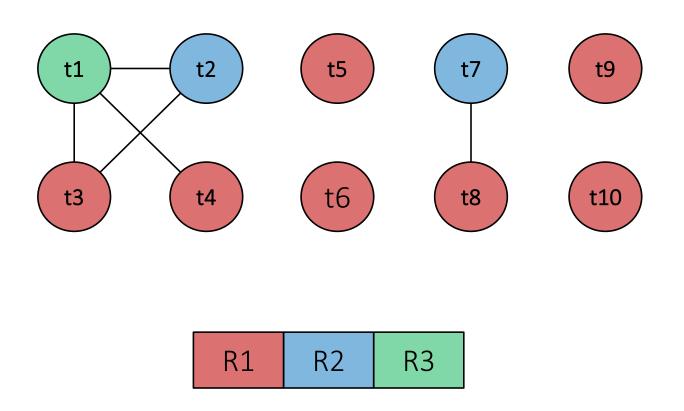












#### Register allocation

According to the coloring, our register allocation is:

IR Register	Color	MIPS Register
t1	R3	t2
t2	R2	t1
t3	R1	tO
t4	R1	tO
t5	R1	tO
t6	R1	tO
t7	R2	t1
t8	R1	tO
t9	R1	tO
t10	R1	tO

#### Register allocation

```
t1 = x
t2 = y
t4 = sub t2, t3
t5 = mult, t1, t4
a = t5
t6 = a
bne t6, 1, end
t7 = a
t.8 = 1
t9 = add t7, t8
a = t9
end:
t10 = a
b = t10
```

IR Register	MIPS Register
t1	t2
t2	t1
t3	tO
t4	tO
t5	tO
t6	tO
t7	t1
t8	tO
t9	tO
t10	tO

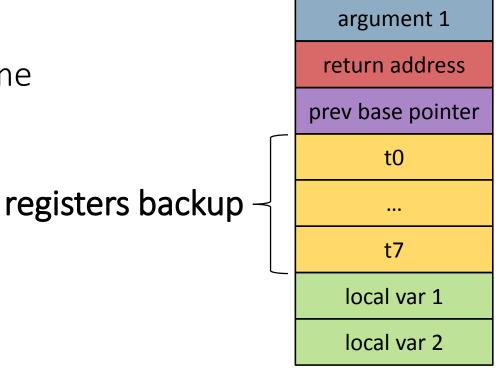
```
lw $t2, 8($fp)
lw $t1, 12($fp)
lw $t0, 16($fp)
sub $t0, $t1, $t0
mul $t0, $t2, $t0
sw $t0, -4($fp)
lw $t0, -4 ($fp)
bne $t0, 1, end
lw $t1, -4 ($fp)
li $t0, 1
add $t0, $t1, $t0
sw $t0, -4($fp)
end:
lw $t0, -4 ($fp)
sw $t0, -8($fp)
```

#### Register Backup

- Register allocation is run for each function separately
- We assume that called functions don't change registers
- But how do we achieve that?

#### Register Backup

- Register allocation is run for each function separately
- We assume registers remain unchanged after functions calls
- But how do we achieve that?
  - Backup CPU registers on the stack frame
  - Registers: t0, t1, ... t7



argument 2

#### Tips

- Write some programs manually in SPIM
- Represent MIPS instructions with Java classes
- Use the interactive debugger (xspim)