CS406:Compilers

Spring 2021

Week 14: Dataflow Analysis (Recap.) and Higher-level Loop Optimizations

Recap: Liveness

 Variables are live if some path leading to its use exists

```
    Start from exit block and

                                       B := 1
    proceed backwards against the
    control flow
                                                   := A+B
LiveOut(b) = U_{i \in Succ(b)} LiveIn(i)
                                                    exit
LiveIn(b) = LiveUse(b) U (LiveOut(b) - Def(b))
                gen(b)
 //set that contains all variables
                                        //set that contains all
 used by block b
                                        variables defined by block b
```

entry

Recap: Reaching Definitions

- Goal: to know where in a program each variable x may have been defined when control reaches block b
- Definition d reaches block b if there is a path from point immediately following d to b, such that the variable defined in d is not redefined / killed along that path

```
In(b) = \bigcup_{i \in Pred(b)} Out(i)
```

```
entry
1: i=m-1
 2: j=n
 3: a=u1
4: i=i+1
           6: i=u3
7: i=u3
  exit
```

```
Out(b) = gen(b) \cup (In(b) - kill(b))
```

```
//set that contains all statements
that may define some variable x in
b
gen(1:a=3;2:a=4)={2}
```

```
//set that contains all statements
that define a variable x that is
also defined in b
kill(1:a=3; 2:a=4)={1,2}
```

- Any-path problem
 - The previous two analysis (liveness and reaching definitions) determine if some property holds true along some path (no guarantees)
 - a variable is used/live along some path starting from its definition (use-def chain)
 - a definition reaches a block b along some path (without intervening redefinition of the variable involved along that path) (def-use chain)

- Forward-flow vs. Backward-flow
 - The previous two analysis (liveness and reaching definitions) determine the properties by computing IN and OUT sets backward and forward to the control flow resp.

Applications of RD (reaching definitions)

By building def-use chains:

- RD helps us to analyze if a variable is defined in the program before it is used (think: "uninitialized variable" warnings)
- RD helps us know what all definitions of 'x' reaching a block b. This can enable constant folding if all those definitions assign the same constant to x

Applications of Liveness analysis

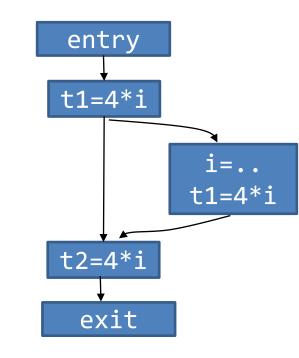
By building use-def chains:

- "Undefined variable" warnings
- Register allocation

Recap: Available Expressions

Expression "x+y" is available at block b if
 every path from entry node to b computes
 "x+y" (and x and y are not assigned to/
 defined after initial computation of "x+y"

In(b) =
$$\bigcap_{i \in Pred(b)} Out(i)$$



```
Out(b) = gen(b) \cup (In(b) - kill(b))
```

```
//set that contains expressions
generated by b.
//set that contains expressions
killed by b
```

```
//initialization: out(entry)=\{\}, out(all b except entry block) = U, the set of all expressions in the program
```

RD vs. Available Expressions

VS.

- Meet operator: Union vs. Intersection
- Expression is available at the beginning of a block only if it is available at the end of all the predecessor blocks
- A definition reaches the beginning of a block whenever it reaches the end of any one or more of its predecessors

- All-path, Forward-flow problem
 - The previous analysis (Available expressions)
 determines if some property holds true along all paths (guarantees exist)
 - Whether an expression is computed along all paths

What is an all-path backward-flow problem?

Summary: Dataflow Analysis

| | Any-path | All-path |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Forward-flow | Reaching Definitions | Available Expressions |
| Backward-flow | Liveness Analysis | Very-busy expressions* |

- Avoid recomputing and save space
- Can be used to identify candidates in loop-invariant code motion (see: slide 65, week 12)

^{*}also called anticipated expressions.

Recap: Optimize Loops

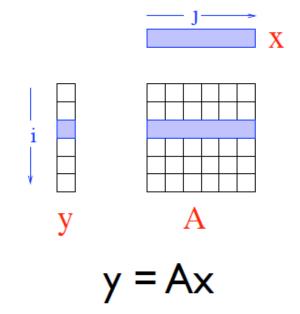
- Low level optimization
 - Moving code around in a single loop
 - Examples: loop invariant code motion, strength reduction, loop unrolling
- High level optimization
 - Restructuring loops, often affects multiple loops
 - Examples: loop fusion, loop interchange, loop tiling

High level loop optimizations

- Many useful compiler optimizations require restructuring loops or sets of loops
 - Combining two loops together (loop fusion)
 - Switching the order of a nested loop (loop interchange)
 - Completely changing the traversal order of a loop (loop tiling)
- These sorts of high level loop optimizations usually take place at the AST level (where loop structure is obvious)

Cache behavior

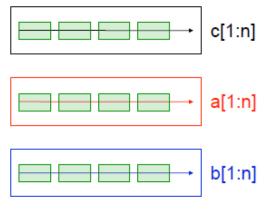
- Most loop transformations target cache performance
 - Attempt to increase spatial or temporal locality
 - Locality can be exploited when there is reuse of data (for temporal locality) or recent access of nearby data (for spatial locality)
- Loops are a good opportunity for this: many loops iterate through matrices or arrays
- Consider matrix-vector multiply example
 - Multiple traversals of vector: opportunity for spatial and temporal locality
 - Regular access to array: opportunity for spatial locality



Loop fusion

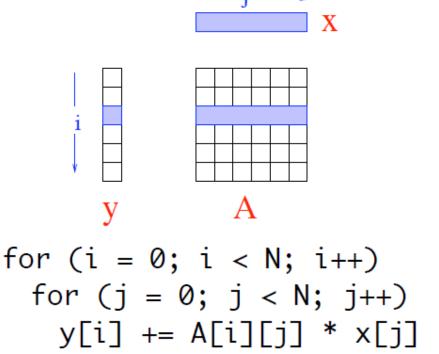


- Combine two loops together into a single loop
- Why is this useful?
- Is this always legal?



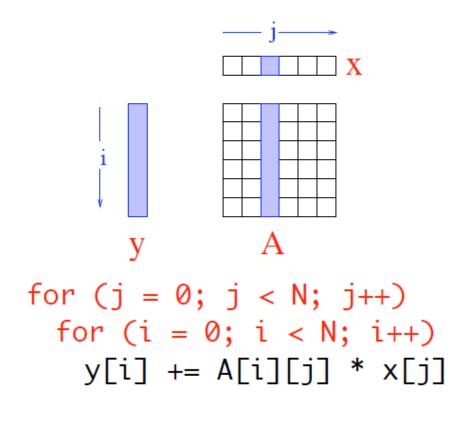
Loop interchange

- Change the order of a nested loop
- This is not always legal it changes the order that elements are accessed!
- Why is this useful?
 - Consider matrix-matrix multiply when A is stored in column-major order (i.e., each column is stored in contiguous memory)



Loop interchange

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Loop tiling

- Also called "loop blocking"
- One of the more complex loop transformations
- Goal: break loop up into smaller pieces to get spatial and temporal locality
 - Create new inner loops so that data accessed in inner loops fit in cache
- Also changes iteration order, so may not be legal

```
for (i = 0; i < N; i++)
for (j = 0; j < N; j++)
y[i] += A[i][j] * x[j]
```

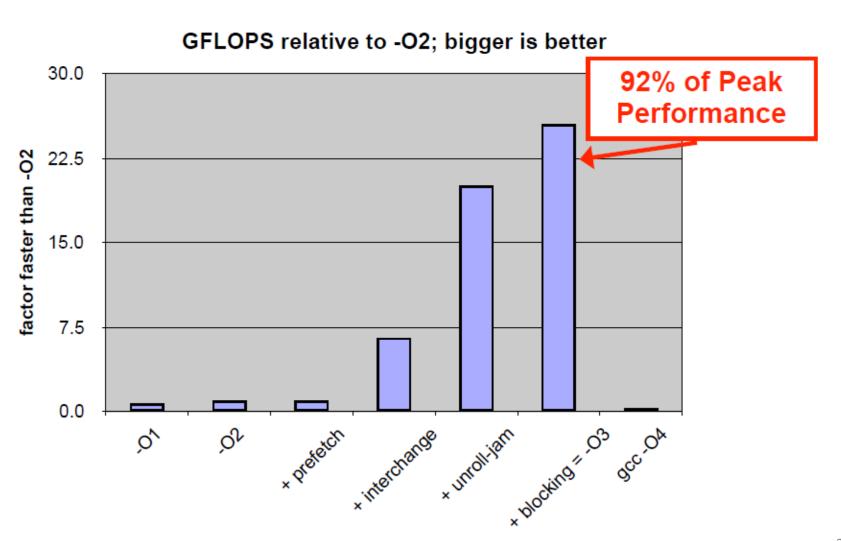
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for (j = 0; j < N; j++)
y[i] += A[i][j] * x[j]
```

```
for (ii = 0; ii < N; ii += B)
 for (jj = 0; jj < N; jj += B)
   for (i = ii; i < ii+B; i++)
     for (j = jj; j < jj+B; j++)
       y[i] += A[i][j] * x[j]
```

In a real (Itanium) compiler



Loop transformations

- Loop transformations can have dramatic effects on performance
- Doing this legally and automatically is very difficult!
- Researchers have developed techniques to determine legality of loop transformations and automatically transform the loop
 - Techniques like unimodular transform framework and polyhedral framework
 - These approaches will get covered in more detail in advanced compilers course

Dependence Analysis

(separate set of slides posted)

Exercise

1. Draw iteration graph for:

```
for(i=0;i<5;i++)
    for(j=0;j<5;j++)
    a[i][j]=a[i-1][j+2]+a[i][j-2]</pre>
```

- 2. What are the distance and direction vectors?
- 3. Can the loops be interchanged?
- 4. Repeat 1,2,and 3 for the following loop.

```
for(i=0;i<5;i++)
    for(j=0;j<5;j++)
    a[i][j]=a[i-1][j-2]</pre>
```