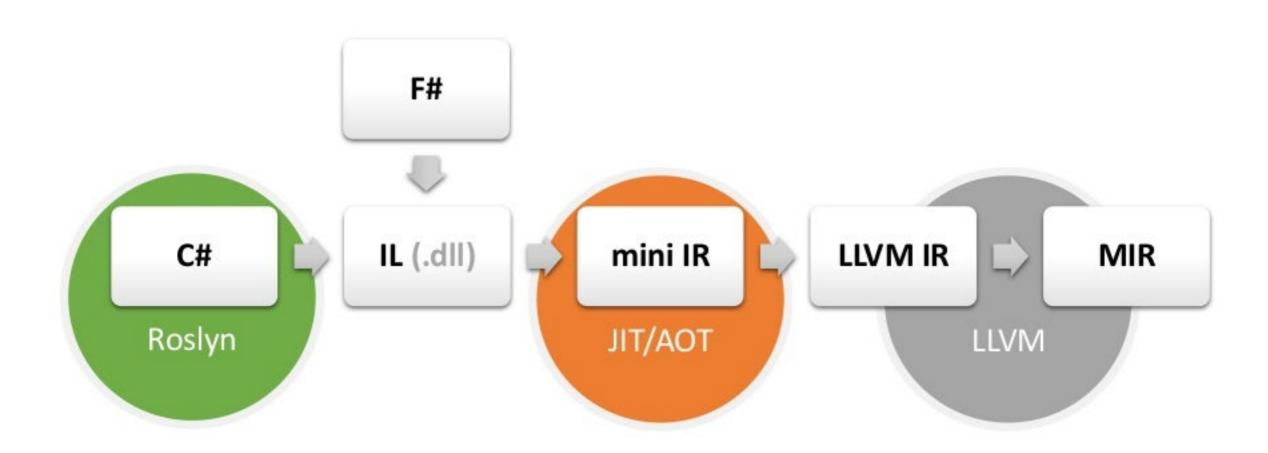
LLVM back-end for C#



Mono-LLVM: quick intro



```
int MyAdd(int a, int b)
{
    return a + b;
}
```



```
.method private hidebysig static
    int32 MyAdd (
        int32 a,
        int32 b
    ) cil managed
    {
        IL_0000: ldarg.0
        IL_0001: ldarg.1
        IL_0002: add
        IL_0003: ret
    }
```

```
.method private hidebysig static
                                         define monocc i32 @"Program:MyAdd (int,int)"
       int32 MyAdd (
                                             (i32 %arg_a, i32 %arg_b) {
           int32 a,
                                         BB0:
           int32 b
                                              br label %BB3
       ) cil managed
                                         BB3:
       IL_0000: ldarg.0
                                              br label %BB2
       IL_0001: ldarg.1
      IL 0002: add
                                         BB2:
      IL 0003: ret
                                              %t22 = add i32 %arg_a, %arg_b
                                              br label %BB1
                                         BB1:
                                              ret i32 %t22
```

```
.method private hidebysig static
                                          define monocc i32 @"Program:MyAdd (int,int)"
       int32 MyAdd (
                                             (i32 %arg_a, i32 %arg_b) {
           int32 a,
                                          BB0:
           int32 b
                                              br label %BB3
       ) cil managed
                                          BB3:
                                                                   (simplifycfg)
       IL_0000: ldarg.0
                                              br label %BB2
       IL_0001: ldarg.1
       IL 0002: add
                                          BB2:
       IL 0003: ret
                                              %t22 = add i32 %arg_a, %arg_b
                                              br label %BB1
                                          BB1:
```

ret i32 %t22

```
define monocc i32 @"Program:MyAdd (int,int)"(i32 %arg_a, i32 %arg_b) #0
BB0:
    %t22 = add i32 %arg_a, %arg_b
    ret i32 %t22
               (I am skipping the machine IR part)
lea eax, [rdi + rsi]
ret
```

```
void MySet(byte* array, int len, byte val)
{
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++)
        array[i] = val;
}</pre>
```

mini

```
define monocc void @"MySet"(i8* %arg array,
              i32 %arg len, i32 %arg val) #0 {
BB0:
  br label %BB3
BB3:
 br label %BB2
BB2:
  br label %BB4
BB4:
 %0 = phi i32 [ 0, %BB2 ], [ %t32, %BB5 ]
 %1 = icmp slt i32 %0, %arg len
  br i1 %1, label %BB5, label %BB6
BB6:
  br label %BB1
BB5:
 %t23 = sext i32 %0 to i64
 %3 = getelementptr i8, i8* %arg_array, i64 %t23
 %4 = trunc i32 %arg val to i8
  store i8 %4, i8* %3
 %t32 = add i32 \%0, 1
  br label %BB4
BB1:
 ret void
```

```
define monocc void @"MySet"(i8* %arg_array,
              i32 %arg len, i32 %arg val) #0 {
BB0:
 br label %BB3
BB3:
 br label %BB2
BB2:
 br label %BB4
BB4:
 %0 = phi i32 [ 0, %BB2 ], [ %t32, %BB5 ]
 %1 = icmp slt i32 %0, %arg len
 br i1 %1, label %BB5, label %BB6
BB6:
 br label %BB1
BB5:
 %t23 = sext i32 %0 to i64
 %3 = getelementptr i8, i8* %arg array, i64 %t23
 %4 = trunc i32 %arg val to i8
 store i8 %4, i8* %3
 %t32 = add i32 %0, 1
 br label %BB4
BB1:
 ret void
```

LLVM needs hints from front-ends

- Alias-analysis (`noalias`, TBAA, etc)
- PGO-data and @llvm.expect (branch-weights)
- Use GEPs where possible instead of `ptrtoint+add+inttoptr`
- Language specific order of optimization passes (maybe even custom passes)
- Alignment hints
- FaultMaps and implicit null-checks
- Use LLVM intrinsics where needed (libcalls, HW intrinsics, etc)
- Don't forget about Fast-Math!
- NIT: Nullability, Escape analysis, etc

AA is important!

```
■ Save/Load + Add new... ▼ V Vim
                                                   C
                                                                         x86-64 clang 9.0.0
                                                                                                         -g0 -emit-llvm -O2
                                                                       □ 11010 □ ./a.out ☑ .LX0: □ lib.f: ☑ .text ☑ // ☑ \s+ ☑ Intel ☑ Demangle ■ Libraries ▼
                                                                            target datalayout = "e-m:e-i64:64-f80:128-n8:16:32:64-S128"
  void MyCopy(int* restrict a, int* b, int len)
                                                                            target triple = "x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu"
       for (int i=0; i<len; i++)
                                                                            define dso_local void @MyCopy(i32* noalias nocapture, i32* nocapture readonly, i32) local_unnamed_a
                                                                             %4 = icmp sgt i32 %2, 0
           a[i] = b[i];
                                                                              br il %4, label %5, label %10
                                                                            5: ; preds = %3
                                                                             %6 = bitcast i32* %1 to i8*
                                                                             %7 = bitcast i32* %0 to i8*
                                                                             %8 = zext i32 %2 to i64
                                                                      11
                                                                             %9 = shl nuw nsw i64 %8, 2
                                                                      12
                                                                              call void @llvm.memcpy.p0i8.p0i8.i64(i8* align 4 %7, i8* align 4 %6, i64 %9, i1 false)
                                                                              br label 510
                                                                      14
                                                                      15
                                                                      16
                                                                            10: ; preds = %5, %3
                                                                             ret void
                                                                      17
                                                                      18
                                                                      19
```

LLVM: ffast-math

vdivsd xmm0, xmm0, QWORD PTR .LC0[rip]

vaddsd xmm0, xmm0, xmm1

vaddsd xmm0, xmm0, xmm1

```
float result = (x / 10) + 1 + 1;
float result = (x / 10) + 2;
float result = (x * 0.1) + 2;
float result = fmadd(x, 0.1, 2);
CoreCLR, Mono, C++ -O2
                                 Mono-LLVM (--Ilvm --ffast-math)
                                 vfmadd132sd xmm0, xmm1, QWORD PTR .LC0[rip]
```

LLVM: ffast-math

- No NaNs (NOTE: some apps rely on NaN values, e.g. WPF)
- No Infs
- No Signed Zeros (e.g. Math.Max(-0.0, 0.0) will return -0.0)
- Approximate functions
- Recognize FMA patterns (a * b + c)
- Reassociation transformations (x + c1 + c2 => x + (c1 + c2))

C# Math/MathF are LLVM intrinsics!

```
static float Foo(float x)
{
    return MathF.Sqrt(x) * MathF.Sqrt(x);
}
```



```
define float @"Foo" (float %arg x) {
BB0:
  br label %BB3
BB3:
  br label %BB2
BB2:
  %t19 = call fast float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float %arg x)
  %t21 = call fast float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float %arg_x)
  %t22 = fmul fast float %t19, %t21
  br label %BB1
BB1:
  ret float %t22
declare float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float)
```

C# Math/MathF are LLVM intrinsics!

```
define float @"Foo" (float %arg x) {
BB0:
                                                  opt
 br label %BB3
BB3:
 br label %BB2
BB2:
 %t19 = call fast float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float %arg x)
 %t21 = call fast float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float %arg_x)
 %t22 = fmul fast float %t19, %t21
 br label %BB1
BB1:
 ret float %t22
declare float @llvm.sqrt.f32(float)
```

```
define float @"Foo" (float %arg_x) {
BB0:
   ret float %arg_x
}
```

C# Math/MathF are LLVM intrinsics!

```
Math.Abs(X)  * Math.Abs(X) => X * X

Math.Sin(X)  / Math.Cos(X) => Math.Tan(X)

Math.Sqrt(X)  * Math.Sqrt(X) => X

Math.Sin(-X) => -Math.Sin(X)

MathF.Pow(X, 0.5f) => MathF.Sqrt(X)

MathF.Pow(X, 2) => X * X

MathF.Pow(X, 4) => (X * X) * (X * X)
```

Significant boost in some FP benchmarks:

Benchmark	→↑ Fast-Math ▼	No Fast-Math ▼
Benchstone.BenchF.BenchMk2.Test	1.00	2.25
Benchstone.BenchF.BenchMrk.Test	1.00	2.37
Benchstone.BenchF.Lorenz.Test	1.00	1.85
Burgers.Test0	1.00	1.39
Burgers.Test1	1.00	2.30
Burgers.Test2	1.00	2.32
System.MathBenchmarks.Double.Cosh	1.00	1.50

(CPU without FMA)

One of those benchmarks (Lorenz equations):

```
x_arg = 5_x + hdiv2 k2;
       y_arg - s_y + hdiv2 12;
       z arg = s z + hdiv2 * m2;
       k3 = F(t arg, x arg, y arg, z arg);
       13 = 6(t_arg, x_arg, y_arg, z_arg);
       m3 = H(t_arg, x_arg, y_arg, z_arg);
       t_arg = s_t + s_h;
       x_arg = s_x + s_h = k3;
       y arg - s y + s h 13;
       z arg = 5 z + 5 h = m3;
       k4 = F(t_arg, x_arg, y_arg, z_arg);
       14 = G(t_arg, x_arg, y_arg, z_arg);
       m4 = H(t_arg, x_arg, y_arg, z_arg);
       s_x = s_x + hdiv6 * (k1 + 2.0 * k2 + 2.0 * k3 + k4);
       s y = s y + hdiv6 * (11 + 2.0 * 12 + 2.0 * 13 + 14);
       s_z = s_z + hdiv6 * (m1 + 2.0 * m2 + 2.0 * m3 + m4);
       s t = t arg;
private static double F(double t, double x, double y, double z)
   return (10.0 * (y - x));
private static double G(double t, double x, double y, double z)
   return (x * (28.0 - z) - y);
private static double H(double t, double x, double y, double z)
   return (x * y - (8.0 * z) / 3.0);
```

Don't forget to feed the **LLVM!** with some **PGO** data for better codegen

```
static int Max(int x, int y)
{
    return x > y ? x : y;
}
```

define i32 @Max(i32 %0, i32 %1) { %3 = icmp sgt i32 %0, %1 %4 = select i1 %3, i32 %0, i32 %1 ret i32 %4 }

Default

```
mov eax, esi
cmp edi, esi
cmovge eax, edi
ret
```

With profile data (PGO)

```
define i32 @Max(i32 %0, i32 %1) {
    %3 = icmp sgt i32 %0, %1 !prof 0
    %4 = select i1 %3, i32 %0, i32 %1
    ret i32 %4
}
!0 = !{!"branch_weights", i32 1000, i32 1}
```

```
mov eax, edi
cmp edi, esi
jle .LBB1_1
ret
.LBB1_1:
mov eax, esi
ret
```

```
LLVM IR source #1 X
A - B Save/Load + Add new... - V Vim
                                             LLVM IR *
                                                  TANK
       define i32 @Max(i32, i32) {
         %3 = icmp sgt 132 %0, %1
         %4 = select i1 %3, i32 %8, i32 %1
         ret 132 %4
   5
```

```
opt (trunk) (Editor #1, Compiler #2) LLVM IR X
                             0
                                  -pgo-instr-gen -instrprof
         opt (trunk)
A · □ 11010 □ ./a.out ☑ .LX0: □ lib.f: ☑ .text ☑ // ☑ \s+ ☑ Intel ☑ Demangle ■ Libraries · + Add new... · ❖ Add tool... ·
         define i32 @Max(i32 %0, i32 %1) {
           %pgocount = load 164, 164* getelementptr inbounds ([2 x 164], [2 x 164]* @ profc Max, 164 8, 164 8)
           %3 - add i64 %pgocount, 1
           store i64 %3, i64* getelementptr inbounds ([2 x i64], [2 x i64]* @ profc Max, i64 0, i64 0)
           %4 = icmp sgt 132 %0, %1
           %5 - zext i1 %4 to i64
           %pgocount1 = load i64, i64* getelementptr inbounds ([2 x i64], [2 x i64]* @ profc Max, i64 0, i64 1)
           %6 = add 164 %pgocount1, %5
           store 164 %6, 164* getelementptr inbounds ([2 x 164], [2 x 164]* @ profc_Max, 164 0, 164 1)
           %7 - select i1 %4, i32 %0, i32 %1
    11
           ret 132 %7
    12
    13
         declare void @llvm.instrprof.increment(i8*, i64, i32, i32) #0
    14
    15
         declare void @llvm.instrprof.increment.step(i8*, i64, i32, i32, i64) #0
    16
    17
         define linkonce odr hidden i32 @ 11vm profile runtime user() #1 comdat {
           %1 = load 132, 132* @ 11vm profile runtime
    19
    20
           ret 132 %1
    21
    22
         define internal void @ llvm profile register functions() unnamed addr {
    23
           call void @ llvm profile register function(i8* bitcast ({ i64, i64*, i8*, i8*, i32, [2 x i16] }* @ profd Max to i8*))
           call void @ llvm profile register names function(i8* getelementptr inbounds ([13 x i8], [13 x i8]* @ llvm prf nm, i32 0, i32 0), i64
    25
           ret void
    26
    27
    28
         declare void @ llvm profile register function(i8*)
    29
    30
         declare void @ llvm profile_register_names_function(i8*, i64)
    31
    32
    33
         define internal void @ _llvm_profile_init() unnamed_addr #1 {
           call void @ 11vm profile register functions()
    34
    35
           ret void
    36
    37
         attributes #0 - { nounwind }
         attributes #1 = { noinline }
```

PGO and switch

```
char* format(char format)
    switch (format)
        case 'G':
            return defaultFormat();
        case 'X':
            return hexFormat();
        case 'f':
            return floatFormat();
        case 'p':
            return percentFormat();
    return defaultFormat();
```

```
format(int): # @format(int)
  cmp edi, 101
  jg .LBB0 4
  cmp edi, 71
  je .LBB0_8
  cmp edi, 88
 jne .LBB0_8
  jmp hexFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 4:
  cmp edi, 102
  je .LBB0 9
  cmp edi, 112
  jne .LBB0 8
  jmp percentFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 8:
  jmp defaultFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 9:
  jmp floatFormat() # TAILCALL
```

PGO and switch

```
char* format(char format)
    switch (__builtin_expect(format, 'X'))
        case 'G':
            return defaultFormat();
        case 'X':
            return hexFormat();
        case 'f':
            return floatFormat();
        case 'p':
            return percentFormat();
    return defaultFormat();
```

```
format(int): # @format(int)
  movsxd rax, edi
  cmp rax, 88
  jne .LBB0 2
  jmp hexFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 2:
  cmp rax, 112
  je .LBB0 6
  cmp rax, 102
  je .LBB0 7
  cmp rax, 71
  jmp defaultFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 6:
  jmp percentFormat() # TAILCALL
.LBB0 7:
  jmp floatFormat() # TAILCALL
```

PGO and Guarded Devirtualization

```
static void Foo(IAnimal animal)
   animal.MakeSound();
static void Foo(IAnimal animal)
    if (animal is Dog dog)
       dog.Bark();
    else
        animal.MakeSound();
```

Mono-LLVM

- We use github.com/dotnet/llvm-project fork
- Currently target LLVM 6 but on our way to LLVM 9
- We currently use LLVM for:
 - AOT (opt + llc)
 - JIT (legacy::PassManager, ORCv1)

Mono-LLVM

- `opt –O2` is only for C++
- We have a lot of additional checks: null-checks, bound-checks
- We have to insert safe-points (-place-safepoints) for non-preemptive mode

```
void MyMethod(byte* array, int len, byte val)
{
   if (unlikely(gcRequested))
      performGC();

   for (int i = 0; i < len; i++)
   {
      if (unlikely(gcRequested))
          performGC();

      array[i] = val;
   }

   if (unlikely(gcRequested))
      performGC();
}</pre>
```

How do we use optimizations?

LLVM AOT:

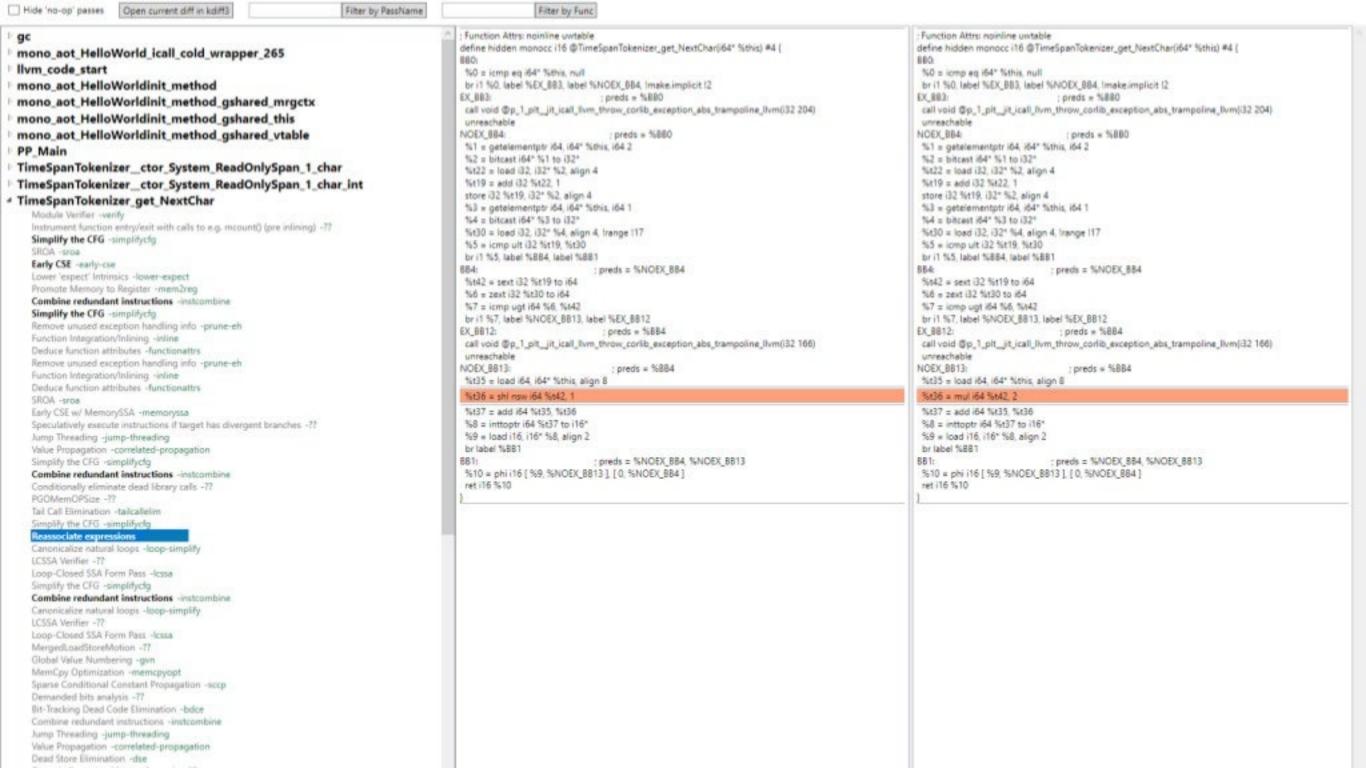
opt -O2 -place-safepoints

`opt – O2`: These pass pipelines make a good starting point for an optimizing compiler for any language, but they have been carefully tuned for C and C++, not your target language.

LLVM JIT:

PassManager with a small subset of the most useful passes in a specific order:

- -simplifycfg
- -sroa
- -lower-expect
- -instcombine
- -licm
- -simplifycfg
- -lcssa
- -indvars
- -loop-deletion
- -gvn
- -memcpyopt
- -sccp
- -bdce
- -instcombine
- -dse
- -simplifycfg



LLVM: tons of optimizations

- · -adce: Aggressive Dead Code Elimination · always-inline: Inliner for always inline functions argpromotion: Promote 'by reference' arguments to scalars -bb-vectorize: Basic-Block Vectorization -block-placement: Profile Guided Basic Block Placement -break-crit-edges: Break critical edges in CFG · -codegenprepare: Optimize for code generation · constnerge: Merge Duplicate Global Constants · constprop: Simple constant propagation · dce: Dead Code Elimination -deadargelim Dead Argument Elimination · -deadtypeelim: Dead Type Elimination · die: Dead Instruction Elimination -dse: Dead Store Elimination -functionattrs: Deduce function attributes -globaldce: Dead Global Elimination -globalopt: Global Variable Optimizer -gvn: Global Value Numbering -indvars: Canonicalize Induction Variables · inline: Function Integration/Inlining -instcombine: Combine redundant instructions -aggressive-instcombine: Combine expression patterns -internalize Internalize Global Symbols -ipconstprop: Interprocedural constant propagation -ipsccp: Interprocedural Sparse Conditional Constant Propagation -jump-threading: Jump Threading -1cssa: Loop-Closed SSA Form Pass · -licm: Loop Invariant Code Motion · loop-deletion: Delete dead loops -loop-extract: Extract loops into new functions
- -loop-extract-single: Extract at most one loop into a new function -loop-reduce: Loop Strength Reduction -loop-rotate: Rotate Loops -loop-simplify: Canonicalize natural loops -loop-unroll: Unroll loops -loop-unroll-and-jam: Unroll and Jam loops -loop-unswitch: Unswitch loops -loweratomic: Lower atomic intrinsics to non-atomic form -lowerinvoke: Lower invokes to calls, for unwindless code generators -loverswitch Lower SwitchInsts to branches -mem2reg: Promote Memory to Register -memcpyopt: MemCpy Optimization -mergefunc: Merge Functions -mergereturn: Unify function exit nodes -partial-inliner: Partial Inliner · prune-eh: Remove unused exception handling info reassociate: Reassociate expressions reg2men: Demote all values to stack slots -sroa: Scalar Replacement of Aggregates -sccp: Sparse Conditional Constant Propagation -simplifycfg: Simplify the CFG -sink: Code sinking -strip: Strip all symbols from a module -strip-dead-debug-info Strip debug info for unused symbols -strip-dead-prototypes: Strip Unused Function Prototypes -strip-debug-declare: Strip all 11vm.dbg.declare intrinsics -strip-nondebug: Strip all symbols, except dbg symbols, from a module · tailcallelim Tail Call Elimination

```
static int Test(int[] array)
{
    return array[42];
}
```

```
static int Test(int[] array)
{
    if (array == null) ThrowNRE();
    return array[42];
}
```

```
static int Test(int[] array)
{
   if (array == null) ThrowNRE();
   if ((uint)array.Length <= 42) ThrowOBE();
   return array[42];
}</pre>
```

```
static int Test(int[] array)
{
    if (array == null) ThrowNRE();
    if ((uint)array.Length <= 42) ThrowOBE();
    return array[42];
}</pre>
```



```
FaultMaps and implicit checks
```

```
push
       rax
       DWORD PTR [rdi+0x18],0x0
cmp
je
       1d <Test__int___+0x1d>
       eax, DWORD PTR [rdi+0x20]
mov
pop
       rcx
ret
movabs rax,0x1f1f030
       edi,0xcc
mov
       QWORD PTR [rax]
call
movabs rax,0x1f1f040
       edi,0xa6
mov
       QWORD PTR [rax]
call
```

InductiveRangeCheckElimination Pass

```
public static void Zero1000Elements(int[] array)
{
    for (int i = 0; i < 1000; i++)
        array[i] = 0; // bound checks will be inserted here
}</pre>
```

"If you language uses range checks, consider using the IRCE pass. It is not currently part of the standard pass order."

InductiveRangeCheckElimination Pass

```
public static void Zero1000Elements(int[] array)
{
   int limit = Math.Min(array.Length, 1000);

   for (int i = 0; i < limit; i++)
        array[i] = 0; // bound checks are not needed here!

   for (int i = limit; i < 1000; i++)
        array[i] = 0; // bound checks are needed here

   // so at least we could "zero" first `limit` elements without bound checks
}</pre>
```

InductiveRangeCheckElimination Pass

```
public static void Zero1000Elements(int[] array)
    int limit = Math.Min(array.Length, 1000);
    for (int i = 0; i < limit - 3; i += 4)
       array[i] = 0;
       array[i+1] = 0;
                           Now we can even unroll the first loop!
       array[i+2] = 0;
       array[i+3] = 0;
    for (int i = limit; i < 1000; i++)
        array[i] = 0; // bound checks are needed here
   // so at least we could "zero" first `limit` elements without bound checks
```

System.Runtime.Intrinsics.*

```
static uint Foo(uint x)
{
    return Lzcnt.LeadingZeroCount(x);
}
```



```
; x86 with lzcnt
lzcnt eax, edi
ret
; Arm64 (AArch64)
cls w0, w0
ret
```

System.Runtime.Intrinsics.*

```
int MySum(int[] array)
                                                                   G M55440 IG07:
                                                                                          ;; bbWeight=4
                                                                           movsxd
                                                                                    r8, ecx
    fixed (int* ptr = array)
                                                                           vpaddd
                                                                                    xmm0, xmm0, xmmword ptr [rax+4*r8]
                                                                           add
                                                                                    ecx, 4
        var sum = Vector128<int>.Zero;
                                                                                    edx, ecx
                                                                           cmp
        for (int i = 0; i < array.Length; i += 4)
                                                                           jg
                                                                                    SHORT G M55440 IG07
            sum = Sse2.Add(sum, Sse2.LoadVector128(ptr + i));
                                                                   G M55440 IG08:
                                                                                    xmm0, xmm0, xmm0
                                                                           vphaddd
                                                                           vphaddd
                                                                                    xmm0, xmm0, xmm0
        sum = Ssse3.HorizontalAdd(sum, sum);
                                                                                    xmmword ptr [rsp+20H], xmm0
                                                                           vmovapd
        sum = Ssse3.HorizontalAdd(sum, sum);
                                                                                    eax, dword ptr [rsp+20H]
                                                                           mov
        return sum.ToScalar();
```

What's wrong with this benchmark?

```
[Benchmark]
public bool IsNaN(float value)
   bool result = false;
   for (int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++)
       result &= float.IsNaN(value);
       value += 1.0f;
   return result;
```



```
[Benchmark]
public bool IsNaN(float value)
{
    return false;
}
```

Pros & Cons

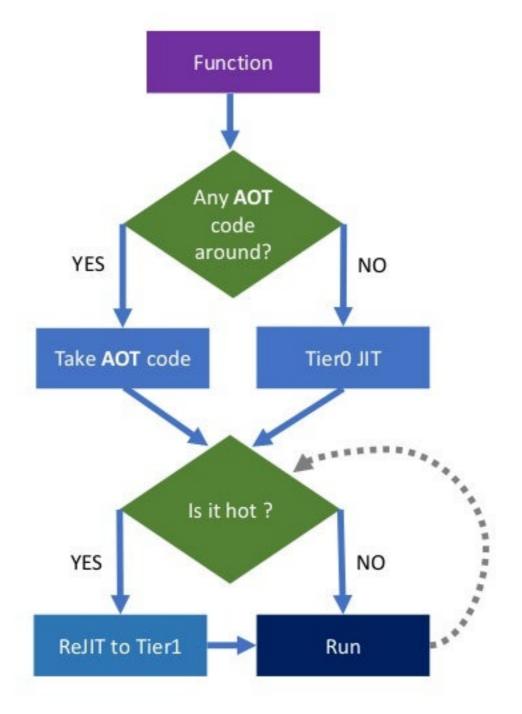
Pros:

- Tons of optimizations, frontends aren't required to emit optimized IR.
- High MC quality and performance, especially for AArch64!
- A lot of smart people and huge companies invest into LLVM:
 - Apple, Google, Samsung, Intel, Microsoft, etc.

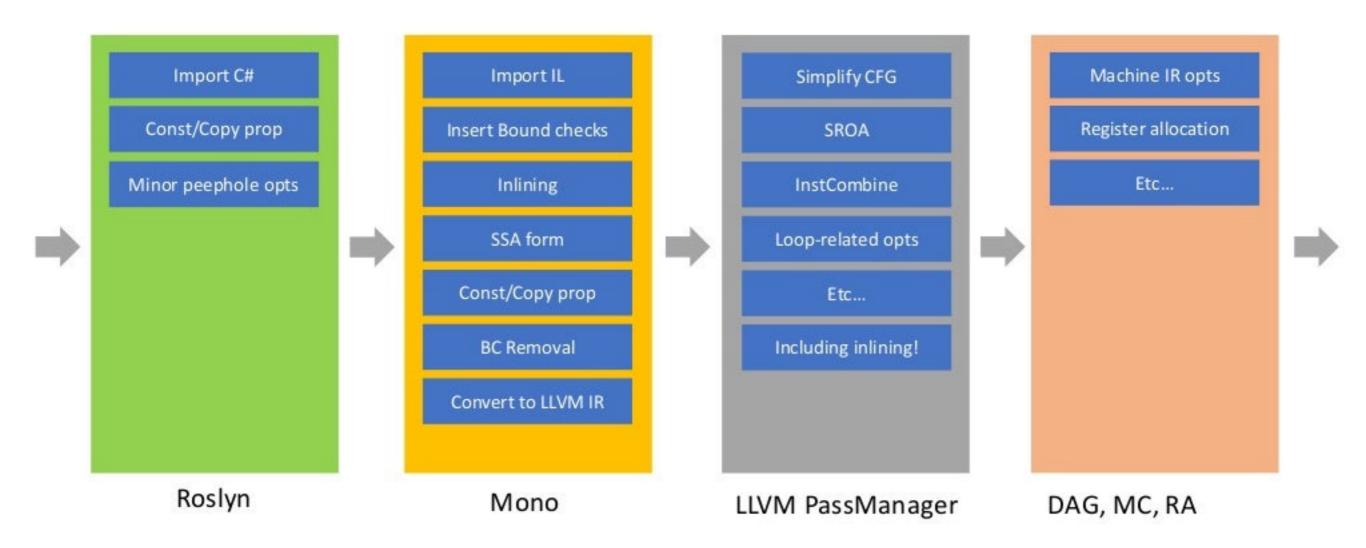
Cons:

- Deadly slow to compile and optimize stuff. LLVM JIT is an oxymoron (unless it's used in a tiered compilation)
- LLVM JIT adds 30-50mb to your application
- Not super friendly for managed languages (Precise GC, "movable" pointers, etc)

Tiered JIT



Optimizations... optimizations everywhere!



Runtimes for C# (IL):

- .NET Framework 4.x
 - JIT
 - AOT (Fragile NGEN)
- CoreCLR
 - JIT (Tiered)
 - AOT (ReadyToRun R2R)
- Mono
 - JIT
 - (Full)AOT
 - LLVM (AOT, FullAOT, JIT)
 - Interpreter
- CoreRT
- Unity IL2CPP
- Unity Burst



twitter: EgorBo blog: EgorBo.com

