



How can we make compile "better"? Generate "better" assembly

AST \longrightarrow ASM

goals

- can we use registers (for args)?
- assembly instr speed?
- skip unnecessary error fixes
- do some work at compile time
- do work in parallel
- make gen prog faster
- use less memory
- easier to debug
- faster compile time (gen "better" asm)
- smaller binary
- less power

let rec compile e ... =
["mov eax, 11"]

Optimization - a compiler that produces programs with the same answers and effects when run

What's in EAX, if there was an error (while making things "better") \rightarrow print the same output

An optimization is an improvement to the compiler that generates "better" target programs (assembly code) with the same *answers* and *effects*.

Which of the following isn't an optimization, by the above definition?

A: In expressions like $(+ \ x \ 1)$, omit the tag check for 1 and don't store it on the stack

B: In expressions like $(\text{if } \text{true } 5 \ 6)$, where the conditional position is true, compile only to the instructions in the then/true branch, and omit the else/false branch

C: In expressions like $(+ \ 10 \ 5)$ with constants in the operator, compile to move the result (e.g. 15) into EAX directly

D: In expressions like $(\text{if } x \ 5 \ 6)$, treat all non-false values as true in conditional position

E: In expressions like $(\text{let } (x \ 5) (+ \ x \ 10))$, where the variable is a known constant, generate the instructions that would be generated for $(+ \ 5 \ 10)$

Changes the program's behavior

$(\text{def } (f \ x) \\ (+ \ x \ 1))$

f:
mov ebp, esp
mov eax, [ebp+0]
tag check eax
mov eax, [ebp+0]
add eax, 2
jo overflow-check
ret

Instructions we don't need?

f:
mov ebp, esp
sub esp, 8
mov eax, [ebp+0] ← look up x
mov [ebp-4], eax
mov eax, 3
mov [ebp-8], eax } mov [ebp-8], 3
and eax, [ebp-4]
{ and eax, 1
cmp eax, 1
jne near error_non_int
mov eax, [ebp-8]
and eax, 0xffffffffe
add eax, [ebp-4]
jo near overflow_check
add esp, 12
ret