

Optimized code: Compare code generated normally to optimized code. To create optimized code, you will need to use the -O2 compiler flag. Can you make any guesses as to why the optimized code looks as it does? What is being optimized? Be sure to show your original sample code as well as the optimized version. Try loops and function calls to see what "optimizing" does. Be aware that if instructions are "not necessary" to the final output of the program then they may be optimized away completely! This does not lead to very interesting comparisons. Describe at least four (non-trivial) differences you see between 'normal' code and optimized code.

I wrote a simple loop that adds the value of `i` to a local variable and then print the result on the screen. I am trying to see the differences in a loop and `cout` function. The c++ code is as follows:

```
int total=0;
for (int i=0; i<5;i++){
    total=total+i;}
cout<<total<<endl;
```

Obviously, the optimized one was shorter. The actual assembly file was 113 lines but the optimized one was 91. There are less labels defined in the optimized version. I have noticed that there are less moving the data around in the unoptimized one. For example, the whole chunk of storing into stacks is deleted in the optimized one.

```
sub    rsp, 32
mov     dword ptr [rbp - 4], 0
mov     dword ptr [rbp - 8], 0
mov     dword ptr [rbp - 12], 0
```

I assume that the optimized one is trying to use storing in the stacks and playing with the available registers to manipulate with the values. Also in the unoptimized one, I can clearly see the for loop in the assembly code but in the other version, it is kind of hard to pinpoint exactly when it starts and jumps arounds until the end of the loop. The loop in the unoptimized one is as follows:

```
.LBB1_1:
        cmp     dword ptr [rbp - 12], 5
        jge     .LBB1_4
# BB#2:
        mov     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 8]
        add     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 8], eax
# BB#3:
        mov     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
        add     eax, 1
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 12], eax
        jmp     .LBB1_1
```

I was trying to follow the process of `cout` in both codes and I did not see a major difference. The only thing that I noticed is that there is one or two lines that are missing in the optimized one are those when the data is being pushed back into stacked.

I changed my c++ code to a simple function call in the main to see how the optimization changes the assembly code when dealing with functions. I noticed the same patterns of reducing the number of pushing into stacks and number of labels.

```
void ftn (int x){
    cout<<x+1<<endl;}
int main(){
    int x=5;
    ftn(x);
    return 0;}
```

I think the optimized assembly code was easier to follow and keep track of. It started with defining the function as in the c++ model and went to the main function and the call of the function. However, in the unoptimized one, there are some lines of moving some data around and some pushing data into stacks before defining the function. Also, I have noticed that the optimized code is using “Lea” to get the memory address and “movsx”, but I don’t see the same thing in the unoptimized code. “**movsx** and **movzx** are special versions of **mov** which are designed to be used between signed (**movsx**) and unsigned (**movzx**) registers of different sizes. **movsx** means move with sign extension.”

(https://wiki.skullsecurity.org/index.php?title=Simple_Instructions)

The unoptimized code:

```
# BB#0:
    push    rbp
.Ltmp0:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp1:
    .cfi_offset rbp, -16
    mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
    sub     rsp, 16
    movabs  rdi, _ZNSt8ios_base4InitC1Ev
    call    _ZNSt8ios_base4InitC1Ev
    movabs  rdi, _ZNSt8ios_base4InitD1Ev
    movabs  rsi, _ZNSt8ios_base4InitD1Ev
    movabs  rdx, __dso_handle
    call    __cxa_atexit
    mov     dword ptr [rbp - 4], eax # 4-byte Spill
    add     rsp, 16
    pop     rbp
    ret
.Lfunc_end0:
    .size    __cxx_global_var_init, .Lfunc_end0-__cxx_global_var_init
    .cfi_endproc

    .text
    .globl  main
    .align  16, 0x90
    .type   main,@function
main:
    # @main
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    push    rbp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp4:
```

```

        .cfi_offset rbp, -16
        mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp5:
        .cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
        sub     rsp, 32
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 4], 0
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 8], 0
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 12], 0
.LBB1_1:
        # =>This Inner Loop Header: Depth=1
        cmp     dword ptr [rbp - 12], 5
        jge     .LBB1_4
# BB#2:
        # in Loop: Header=BB1_1 Depth=1
        mov     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 8]
        add     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 8], eax
# BB#3:
        # in Loop: Header=BB1_1 Depth=1
        mov     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
        add     eax, 1
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 12], eax
        jmp     .LBB1_1
.LBB1_4:
        movabs  rdi, _ZSt4cout
        mov     esi, dword ptr [rbp - 8]
        call    _ZNSolsEi
        movabs  rsi, _ZSt4endlcSt11char_traitslcEERSt13basic_ostreamIT_T0_ES6_
        mov     rdi, rax
        call    _ZNSolsEPFRSoS_E
        xor     ecx, ecx
        mov     qword ptr [rbp - 24], rax # 8-byte Spill
        mov     eax, ecx
        add     rsp, 32
        pop     rbp
        ret
.Lfunc_end1:
        .size    main, .Lfunc_end1-main
        .cfi_endproc

        .section .text.startup,"ax",@progbits
        .align   16, 0x90
        .type    __GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp,@function
__GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp:
        .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
        push    rbp
.Ltmp6:
        .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp7:
        .cfi_offset rbp, -16
        mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp8:
        .cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
        call    __cxx_global_var_init
        pop     rbp
        ret

```

And the optimized code:

```

# BB#0:
        push    r14

```

```

.Ltmp0:
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
push    rbx

.Ltmp1:
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 24
push    rax

.Ltmp2:
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 32

.Ltmp3:
.cfi_offset rbx, -24

.Ltmp4:
.cfi_offset r14, -16
mov     edi, _ZSt4cout
mov     esi, 10
call    _ZNSolsEi
mov     r14, rax
mov     rax, qword ptr [r14]
mov     rax, qword ptr [rax - 24]
mov     rbx, qword ptr [r14 + rax + 240]
test    rbx, rbx
je      .LBBO_5

# BB#1:
        # %_ZSt13__check_facetISt5ctypeIcEERKT_PS3_.exit
cmp     byte ptr [rbx + 56], 0
je      .LBBO_3

# BB#2:
mov     al, byte ptr [rbx + 67]
jmp     .LBBO_4

.LBBO_3:
mov     rdi, rbx
call    _ZNKSt5ctypeIcE13_M_widen_initEv
mov     rax, qword ptr [rbx]
mov     esi, 10
mov     rdi, rbx
call    qword ptr [rax + 48]

.LBBO_4:
        # %_ZNKSt5ctypeIcE5widenEc.exit
movsx   esi, al
mov     rdi, r14
call    _ZNSo3putEc
mov     rdi, rax
call    _ZNSo5flushEv
xor     eax, eax
add     rsp, 8
pop     rbx
pop     r14
ret

.LBBO_5:
call    _ZSt16__throw_bad_castv

.Lfunc_end0:
.size   main, .Lfunc_end0-main
.cfi_endproc

.section .text.startup,"ax",@progbits
.align  16, 0x90
.type   _GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp,@function
_GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp:      # @_GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp
.cfi_startproc

# BB#0:
push    rax

```

```
.Ltmp5:
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
mov     edi, _ZStL8__ioinit
call    _ZNSt8ios_base4InitC1Ev
mov     edi, _ZNSt8ios_base4InitD1Ev
mov     esi, _ZStL8__ioinit
mov     edx, __dso_handle
pop     rax
jmp     __cxa_atexit      # TAILCALL
```

Inheritance:

Following the example in the slides, I have created a dummy class Person and I converted it to .s file and reviewed the assembly code. Then I added another class student who inherited from Person. In the main, I have created an object of the student class and turned into the .s file to observe the turn of the events.

Here is my c++ code:

```
class Person{
public:
    Person(string n);
    ~Person();
    string name; };
Person::Person(string example){
name=nippet; }
Person::~~Person

class Student:
public Person{
public:
    Student(string example , int number);
    ~Student();
    int id; };
Student::Student(string n, int o):Person(n){
id=o;}
Student::~~Student()

int main(){
Student stud("Farid", 6996);
return 0;
}
```

The assembly file that I was looking at had more than 500 lines so I am not copy pasting all of the lines here. When I was following the code in assembly I noticed that first the class Person is defined in the code. Assembly dedicated 64 bits for the class and then move the data around the registers and the stacks to make the transition for the next stage of program, Student.

```
.text
.globl  _ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE
.align  16, 0x90
.type   _ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE,@function
_ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE: #
@_ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE
```

```

.Lfunc_begin0:
    .cfi_startproc
    .cfi_personality 3, __gxx_personality_v0
    .cfi_lsda 3, .Lexception0
# BB#0:
    push    rbp
.Ltmp9:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp10:
    .cfi_offset rbp, -16
    mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp11:
    .cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
    sub     rsp, 64
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 8], rdi
    mov     rax, rdi
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 32], rdi # 8-byte Spill
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 40], rax # 8-byte Spill
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 48], rsi # 8-byte Spill
    call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalEEC1Ev
.Ltmp3:
    mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 32] # 8-byte Reload
    mov     rsi, qword ptr [rbp - 48] # 8-byte Reload
    call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalEEaSERKS4_
.Ltmp4:
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 56], rax # 8-byte Spill
    jmp     .LBB1_1
.LBB1_1:
    add     rsp, 64
    pop     rbp
    ret
.LBB1_2:
.Ltmp5:
    mov     ecx, edx
    mov     qword ptr [rbp - 16], rax
    mov     dword ptr [rbp - 20], ecx
.Ltmp6:
    mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 40] # 8-byte Reload
    call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalEEED1Ev
.Ltmp7:
    jmp     .LBB1_3
.LBB1_3:
    jmp     .LBB1_4
.LBB1_4:
    mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 16]
    call    _Unwind_Resume

```

It made 3 calls inside the class. I have noticed the word “size” in the code several times but I could not figure out what it does. “Unwind” is a function that is being called several time and I have no Idea what it does. I tried googling it but it did not get anything useful.

In line 244, student class is introduced. The memory allocated for student is `sub rsp, 96`. The same moving around the registers and the stacks is happening in the this class however, we have an extra call from the parent class in here. The reason is the child class “ contains pointers to the inherited methods. This is due to the fact that polymorphism requires the address of a method or inner object to be figured out at runtime.”

(https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/X86_Disassembly/Objects_and_Classes)

```
.text
.globl  _ZN7StudentC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi
.align  16, 0x90
.type   _ZN7StudentC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi,@function
_ZN7StudentC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi: #
@_ZN7StudentC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi
.Lfunc_begin2:
.cfi_startproc
.cfi_personality 3, __gxx_personality_v0
.cfi_lsda 3, .Lexception2
# BB#0:
push    rbp
.Ltmp29:
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp30:
.cfi_offset rbp, -16
mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp31:
.cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
sub     rsp, 96
mov     qword ptr [rbp - 8], rdi
mov     dword ptr [rbp - 12], edx
mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 8]
lea     rax, [rbp - 48]
mov     qword ptr [rbp - 72], rdi # 8-byte Spill
mov     rdi, rax
mov     qword ptr [rbp - 80], rax # 8-byte Spill
call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEC1ERKS4_
.Ltmp23:
mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 72] # 8-byte Reload
mov     rsi, qword ptr [rbp - 80] # 8-byte Reload
call    _ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE
.Ltmp24:
jmp     .LBB4_1
.LBB4_1:
lea     rdi, [rbp - 48]
call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEED1Ev
mov     eax, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 72] # 8-byte Reload
mov     dword ptr [rdi + 32], eax
add     rsp, 96
pop     rbp
ret
.LBB4_2:
.Ltmp25:
```

```

        mov     ecx, edx
        mov     qword ptr [rbp - 56], rax
        mov     dword ptr [rbp - 60], ecx
.Ltmp26:
        lea     rdi, [rbp - 48]
        call    _ZNSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESaIcEED1Ev
.Ltmp27:
        jmp     .LBB4_3
.LBB4_3:
        jmp     .LBB4_4
.LBB4_4:
        mov     rdi, qword ptr [rbp - 56]
        call    _Unwind_Resume

```

It was interesting to me that assembly treated the main function the same as classes. Allocating memory and calling student and person class to create the object.

I have tried to figure out how the destructor works but I could not find its trace in the assembly code.

My assumption is that destructors are the last things to be executed by the program and I was focusing on the last lines of the code after main is executed. But no luck. These are the last lines of the code and I am assuming that destruction is taking place in Lfunc_end7 at the end of the file. The destruction process should start in the student class and then go to the parent class. Meaning that student destructor must be called before Person destructor.

```

        .section .text.startup,"ax",@progbits
        .align   16,0x90
        .type    _GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp,@function
_GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp:      # @_GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp
        .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
        push    rbp
.Ltmp57:
        .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp58:
        .cfi_offset rbp, -16
        mov     rbp, rsp
.Ltmp59:
        .cfi_def_cfa_register rbp
        call    __cxx_global_var_init
        pop     rbp
        ret
.Lfunc_end7:
        .size    _GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp, .Lfunc_end7-_GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp
        .cfi_endproc

        .type    _ZStL8__ioinit,@object # @_ZStL8__ioinit
        .local   _ZStL8__ioinit
        .comm    _ZStL8__ioinit,1,1
        .type    .L.str,@object # @.str
        .section .rodata.str1.1,"aMS",@progbits,1
.L.str:
        .asciz
        .size    .L.str, 27

        .type    .L.str.1,@object # @.str.1
.L.str.1:

```



```

.asciz
.size      .L.str.1, 21

.type      .L.str.2,@object      # @.str.2
.L.str.2:
.asciz     "Farid"
.size      .L.str.2, 6

.section   .init_array,"aw",@init_array
.align     8
.quad      _GLOBAL__sub_I_t.cpp

.globl     _ZN6PersonC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE
.type      _ZN6PersonC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE,@function
_ZN6PersonC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE =
_ZN6PersonC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEE
.globl     _ZN6PersonD1Ev
.type      _ZN6PersonD1Ev,@function
_ZN6PersonD1Ev = _ZN6PersonD2Ev
.globl     _ZN7StudentC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi
.type      _ZN7StudentC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi,@function
_ZN7StudentC1ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi =
_ZN7StudentC2ENSt7__cxx1112basic_stringIcSt11char_traitsIcESalcEEEi
.globl     _ZN7StudentD1Ev
.type      _ZN7StudentD1Ev,@function
_ZN7StudentD1Ev = _ZN7StudentD2Ev
.ident     "clang version 3.8.0-2ubuntu4 (tags/RELEASE_380/final)"
.section   ".note.GNU-stack","",@progbits

```