Current state of GCC support for PPU

Arthur Heimbrecht

November 20, 2016

Basic compiler structure

2 PPU programming until now

Why GCC?

Current state of PPU backend

Basic compiler structure

Front-end

- recognizes language
- type checking
- pre-processing
- genreatesImmediateRepresentation

Middle-end

- general optimizations to IR
- "compiler magic"

Back-end

- target specific
- further/final optimization
- register allocation (spilling)
- memory handling

Compiler backend

- target files: target.h, target.md, target.c
- important "variables"
 - register_types, _numbers, _names
 - wordsize
 - basic insns
 - constraints ("r", "m"...)
- PPU characteristics:
 - POWER architecture
 - general and vector registers (32 each)
 - synram

PPU programming until now

- binutils patch + fxv.h
 - close to actual assembly
 - efficient execution
- not user-friendly
- reaccuring code

code

```
uint32_t v1, v2, v3;
fxvsplatb (1,1);
fxvstore (&v1, 1);
fxvsplatb (2,2);
fxvstore (&v2, 2);
fxvadd (0,1,2);
fxvstore (&v3, 0);
```

machine instructions

```
uint32_t v1, v2, v3;
fxvsplatb (1,1);
fxvstore (&v1, 1);
fxvsplatb (2,2);
fxvstore (&v2, 2);
fxvadd (0,1,2);
fxvstore (&v3, 0);
```

GCC vs. LLVM

- GCC already working
- better kown
- \bullet small internal changes between versions \to less maintenance

First steps

- started with rs/600 back-end
- ullet added s2pp register type o overloaded float regs
 - needed own vector type, masks...
 - AltiVec as blueprint (is more complex)

Create built-in function in 3,5 steps

- s2pp.md
 - create insn in RTL
- rs6000-builtin.c
 - define built-in name
 - connect with insn
- rs6000-c.c
 - set output/input type
 - built-in already works
- 3 s2pp.h
 - define built-in aliases
 - suggestions for name convention?

Code comparison

old code

```
uint32_t v1, v2, v3;
fxvsplatb (1,1);
fxvstore (&v1, 1);
fxvsplatb (2,2);
fxvstore (&v2, 2);
fxvadd (0,1,2);
fxvstore (&v3, 0);
```

old assembly code

asm code

new code

```
vector unsigned char
v1, v2, v3;
v1 = fxv_splat(1);
v2 = fxv_splat(2);
v3 = fxv_add(v1. v2);
```

Code comparison

old code

```
uint32_t v1, v2, v3;
fxvsplatb (1,1);
fxvstore (&v1, 1);
fxvsplatb (2,2);
fxvstore (&v2, 2);
fxvadd (0,1,2);
fxvstore (&v3, 0);
```

new assembly code

asm code

new code

```
vector unsigned char
v1, v2, v3;
v1 = fxv_splat(1);
v2 = fxv_splat(2);
v3 = fxv_add(v1. v2);
```

Conclusion

- currently usable
- add remaining insns and built-ins
- add more complex built-ins? (e.g. multipy and add, scalar multiplication...)
- write manual
- write patch

Questions or Suggestions?