

Project B

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1 Instructions

The goal of project B is to introduce register allocation, an optimization pass for the compiler you have written so far and to add control flow (which requires quite some changes in your compiler).

1.1 Practicalities

- The due date for project B is: *Sunday 18 April 2021 23:59 CET*.
- The project is individual (1 person = 1 project). Please remember that sending code or sharing code is strictly not allowed.
- Make sure your code runs with the expected Racket and nasm versions by running it on the wilma server before submitting it.
- You should send a zip file on canvas containing your solution for each milestone. Give clear names to your files if you intend to use more than just one file per milestone. For example, if you intend to put all register allocation related code in a separate file, a good name would be *register-allocator.rkt*. Make sure you keep the *compiler.rkt* file provided by the skeletons, so we can easily access your implementation for every exercise.
- A short defence of your project will be held on the day of the final exam.

1.2 Milestones and readings

Project B exists of 2 milestones¹, which build upon your solution of milestone 2 (see project A):

- **Milestone 3:** Register Allocation
- **Milestone 4:** Adding Control Flow

Each milestone specifies a set of "readings"² that are necessary to read in order to complete the exercises. Make sure to read and understand them!

Each milestone comes with a skeleton to get you started:

- **Milestone 3 Skeleton:** <https://github.com/antoinevanmuylder/compilers-skeletons-vub/tree/milestone-3>
- **Milestone 4 Skeleton:** <https://github.com/antoinevanmuylder/compilers-skeletons-vub/tree/milestone-4>

¹https://soft.vub.ac.be/compilers/milestone_top.html

²https://soft.vub.ac.be/compilers/book_top.html

In milestone 3, *register allocation*, exercise 5 requires you to answer a few questions. Fill in your answers for these questions in the *text-exercises.md* file provided in the skeleton.

These milestones also contain **Challenge** exercises, these challenges are optional and solving them correctly will increase your grade for this project.

1.3 Testing

Make sure to thoroughly unit-test each compiler pass you implement (this will be graded as well). We would like you to write your own original tests. You can get some inspiration for tests by using the online interrogator. It is good practice to write your tests and design your code before implementing it. You can include your tests in the special `test` submodule

```
(module+ test
  (require rackunit)
)

...;; a compiler pass

(module+ test
  (check-equal ... )
  ;; tests about the pass
)
```

Note that the `module+` form allows you to split the definition of a module (here the test submodule) into several fragments.

1.4 Grading

The project assignment needs to be done individually. Sending code or sharing code is strictly not allowed. Your project assignment will be evaluated on the basis of 4 different criteria:

1. **Overall architecture of the code.** Is there a clear logical separation between the tasks you are trying to solve?
2. **Implementation.** Are the non-obvious aspects of your implementation properly documented in comments in the code? Does the code use meaningful identifiers? Do you successfully avoid code duplication? Does it use the Racket standard library when possible? etc. . .
3. **Tests.** Did you write your own tests? Are edge cases tested? Are all the cases tested?
4. **Correctness.** Is your compiler correct? In other words, is there a difference between (1) interpreting ("running") the source code or (2) compiling the source code and interpreting the target? We ask you to provide tests for this as well.

1.5 Questions

You can resort to the online interrogator if you have doubts about a certain pass:

- **Milestone 3:** <https://soft.vub.ac.be/compilers/interrogator?an=a3>
- **Milestone 4:** <https://soft.vub.ac.be/compilers/interrogator?an=a4>

For any further questions you can always use the dedicated canvas forum: https://canvas.vub.be/courses/20710/discussion_topics/95010

Or contact sander.huyghebaert@vub.ac.be.