



Fast, highly sophisticated code analysis and code transformation tools are essential for modern software development. Before releasing its mobile apps, Facebook submits them to a tool called Infer that finds bugs by static analysis, i.e., without even having to run the code, and guides developers in fixing them. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox analyze and optimize JavaScript code to make browsers acceptably responsive. Performance-critical systems and application software would be impossible to build and evolve without compilers that derive highly optimized machine code from high-level source code that humans can understand. Understanding what modern code analysis and transformation techniques can and can't do is a prerequisite for research on both software engineering and computer architecture since hardware relies on software to realize its potential. In this class, you will learn the fundamentals of code analysis and transformation, and you will apply them by extending LLVM, a compiler framework now in production use by Apple, Adobe, Intel and other industrial and academic enterprises.

Course Code: EECS 395

When: Tuesday and Thursday 2:00pm - 3:20pm

Where: L221 Tech

Instructor:

Simone Campanoni, simonec@eecs.northwestern.edu

Assignments:

In this class, you will learn how to design code analysis and optimization passes in a production compiler (LLVM). You will have 7 assignments; the first is a raw implementation of a trivial code analysis and related optimization. Subsequent assignments will involve incremental improvement of your original work. The end result of these assignments will comprise your final project that must include:

- a state-of-the-art code analysis and optimization implemented in LLVM
- a paper that describes your work, including experimental results obtained in a real system (e.g., your laptop)
- slides that you will use during your presentation at the end of the quarter where you will describe your work to the rest of the class

Materials:

Book: Compilers: Principles, Techniques, and Tools (2nd Edition)
Selected papers for topics not covered by the mentioned book

Grading Policy:

Homework assignments:	70%	This is cumulative to all homework assigned this quarter
Final project:	20%	Quality of the end-result of your final project
Final presentation:	10%	Your presentation during the last week of class

Your grade depends on points you will earn on assigned homework, your final project, and your final presentation/discussion. You can earn up to 10 points for each homework assigned; thus, 70 points are given to the 7 assignments. You can earn up to 20 points for your final project, and 10 points for your final presentation and your participation during all final presentations.

Overall, you can earn up to 100 points. Next is the map between points and grades.

A	95 - 100
A-	90 - 94
B+	80 - 89
B	61 - 79
C	50 - 60
D	25 - 49
E	0 - 24

Pre-reqs:

EECS 213: Introduction to Computer Systems (or equivalent)

Closely linked classes:

EECS 322: Compiler Construction

EECS 361: Computer Architecture 1