











Evropský sociální fond Praha & EU: Investujeme do vaší budoucnosti

Three address code (3AC)

Introduction

≯linear code

- > ways of generating:
 - Syntax/directed translation produced by the frontend (the translation is defined by an attribute translation grammar)
 - From an AST by traversing the AST

Main properties

A sequence of simple instructions with **at most one** operation on the right hand side, the result of each instruction is assigned to a temporary

ie.
$$x = y op z$$

- registers and memory cells)
- > Example: x+y*z

$$t1 = y * z$$

 $t2 = x + t1$

Another example

$$a = b^*-c+b^*-c$$

$$t2 := b * t1$$

$$t4 := b * t3$$

$$t5 := t2 + t4$$

$$a := t5$$

$$t1 := -c$$

$$t2 := b * t1$$

$$a := t2 + t2$$

Parameters of operations in 3AC

- Names: source-programs names usually implemented as pointers to the symbol table
- Compiler-generated temporaries
- Constants

Further properties

> Arrays:

$$x[y] = z$$

$$x = y [z]$$

> Labels:

L:

3AC instructions

- \triangleright assignments with binary operator: $x = y \circ p z$
- \triangleright assignments with unary operator: x = op y
- \triangleright copy instructions: x = y
- Control flow instructions:
 - > ifFalse x goto L
 - > ifTrue x goto L
 - goto L

3AC instructions

```
Procedure calls
param x1
param x2
param xn
call p, n
Addresses and pointer assignments:
x=&y
x=*y
*x=y
```

Example: translation of a statement

Statement

If expr then stmt1

is translated to this 3AC code:

code to compute expr into x ifFalse x goto after code for stmt1

after:

Most common implementations of 3AC

- Quadruples
- > Triples
- Indirect triples

Quadruples

best for easy optimization Names of temporaries

	ор	arg1	arg2	res
(0)	uminus	С		t1
(1)	*	b	t1	t2
(2)	uminus	С		t3
(3)	*	b	t3	t4
(4)	+	t2	t4	t5
(5)	;=	t5		а

Triples

Does not contain names of temporaries, which are replaced by position of instructions

	ор	arg1	arg2
(0)	uminus	С	
(1)	*	b	(0)
(2)	uminus	С	
(3)	*	b	(2)
(4)	+	(1)	(3)
(5)	:=	а	(4)

Indirect triples

Positions of instructions are connected with pointers to triples (the right table)

	ор	arg1	arg2
(0)	uminus	С	
(1)	*	b	(0)
(2)	uminus	С	
(3)	*	b	(2)
(4)	+	(1)	(3)
(5)	:=	а	(4)

	stmt
35	(0)
36	(1)
37	(2)
38	(3)
39	(4)
40	(5)

Generating 3AC

Generating 3AC

- As a syntax-directed translation:
 - can be described by attribute grammar the resulting code is contained in a synthesized attribute,
 - the implementation is usually joined together with the parsing phase in the frontend
- can be performed by walking (traversing) the abstract syntax tree, which is generated by the frontend

Syntax-directed generating 3AC

- Attributes for generating 3AC, which are added to each nonterminal symbol
 - > place the name of a temporary containg the result
 - code the resulting sequence of 3AC instructions for the nonterminal
 - > label absolute or relative address to the 3AC code

Example

```
\rightarrow E \rightarrow E<sub>R</sub> + T
                                 E.p = newtemp
                                 E.c = concat(E_R.c, T.c,
                                     gen(E.p=E_R.p + T.p))

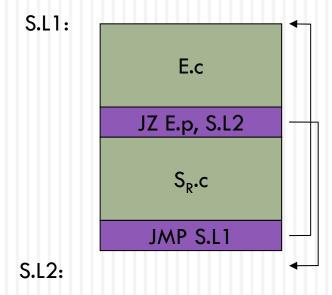
ightharpoonup E 	o T
                                 E.p = T.p
                                 E.c = T.c
\rightarrow T \rightarrow T<sub>R</sub> * F
                                  T.p = newtemp
                                  T.c = concat(T_R.c, F.c, gen(T.p))
                                      = T_R.p * F.p)

ightharpoonup T \rightarrow F
                                  T.p = F.p
                                 T.c = F.c
\rightarrow F \rightarrow (E)
                                 F.p = E.p
                                 F.c = E.c
                                 F.p = id.p

ightharpoonup F 
ightharpoonup id
                                  F.c = ""
```

Another example - while

\gt S \rightarrow while E do S_R



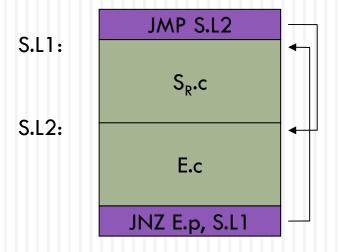
```
S.L1 = curradr

S.L2 = curradr + E.c.size
    + S<sub>R</sub>.c.size + 2

S.c = concat(E.c, gen(JZ
    E.p, S.L2), S<sub>R</sub>.c,
    gen(JMP S.L1))
```

while example once more and better

\gt S \longrightarrow while E do S_R



```
S.L1 = curradr + 1
S.L2 = curradr +
   S<sub>R</sub>.c.size + 1
S.c = concat(gen(JMP
   S.L2), S<sub>R</sub>.c, E.c,
   gen(JNZ E.p, S.L1))
```

IR: Basic blocks, flow graph

Important for target code generation and optimizations

Basic Block (BB)

- Maximal sequence of consecutive 3AC instructions where the flow of control can only enter and can only leave the block through the first instruction and the last instruction of the block, respectively.
- The first instruction of BB is called leader.
- For each leader, its basic block consists of itself and all instructions up to but not including the next leader

Partitioning a code into BBs

- Fixing leaders
 - > The first 3AC instruction is a leader.
 - Any instruction that is the target of a conditional or unconditional jump is a leader.
 - > Any instructions that immediately follows a a conditional or unconditional jump is a leader.

Flow graph

Graph representation of IR.

Nodes are BB. Nodes represents particular computations.

Suitable for optimisations as well as for representations.

Flow graph

- Oriented edges represent the flow of control.
- There is an edge from block B to block C if and only if it is possible for the first instruction in block C to immediately follow the last instruction in block B:
 - > There is a jump from the end of B to the beginning of C.
 - > C immeditely follows B in the original order of 3AC instructions and B does not end with a unconditional jump.

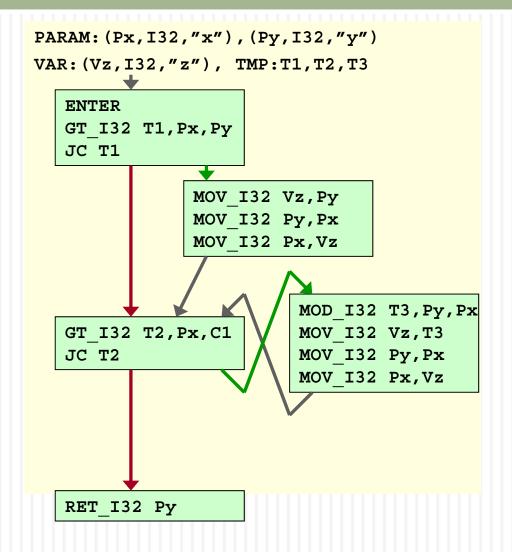
An example of BBs and flow graph

```
int gcd( int x,
int y)
{ int z;
 if (x > y)
   z = y;
   y = x;
   x = z;
 while (x > 0)
  z = y % x;
   y = x;
   x = z;
 return y;
```

An example of BBs and flow graph

```
int gcd( int x,
int y)
{ int z;
  if (x > y)
    z = y;
   y = x;
   x = z;
  while (x > 0)
   z = y % x;
   y = x;
   x = z;
  return y;
```

Control-Flow allways if true if false



Stack-based IRs

Just another kind of IR to mention: stack based intermediate code

```
int gcd(int a, int b)
                                                      # javap -c Gcd
                                                      Method int gcd(int, int)
                                                                 goto 19
while (a != b) {
                                                                 iload 1 // Push a
                                                                 iload 2 // Push b
           if (a > b)
                                                                 if icmple 15 // if a <= b goto 15
                                                                 iload_1 // Push a
                       a -= b;
                                                                 iload_2 // Push b
           else
                                                      10
                                                                  isub // a - b
                                                      11
                                                                 istore_1 // Store new a
                       b -= a;
                                                      12
                                                                  goto 19
                                                      15
                                                                 iload_2 // Push b
                                                      16
                                                                 iload_1 // Push a
                                                                 isub // b - a
                                                      17
                                                                  istore 2 // Store new b
return a;
                                                      18
                                                                 iload 1 // Push a
                                                      19
                                                      20
                                                                 iload 2 // Push b
                                                      21
                                                                 if_icmpne 3 // if a != b goto 3
                                                                 iload_1 // Push a
                                                      24
                                                      25
                                                                  ireturn // Return a
```

stack based IR - Advantages

Trivial translation of expressions

Trivial interpreters

No problems with exhausting registers (stack based)

Often compact

stack based IR - Disadvantages

Semantic gap between stack operations and modern register machines

> Hard to see what communicates with what

Difficult representation for optimization

stack based IR

- Recently again popular and frequently used:
 - Java bytecode interpreted and/or compiled by Java Virtual Machine
 - Common Intermediate Language (CIL), formerly called Microsoft Intermediate Language (MSIL) – interpreted and/or compiled by .NET runtime or MONO runtime