

EXPERIMENT No. 9.

Aim: write a program to implement code generation.

Theory:

code generation is the process of transforming an intermediate representation of a program into executable code in a target language or machine code.

1] Intermediate Representation: Before code generation, the compiler typically transforms the source code into an intermediate representation (IR) which abstracts away from the specific source language syntax while retaining its semantic.

2] Target code generation: During code generation, the compiler traverses the IR & emits target code instructions or constructs that perform equivalent operation to those described by the IR.

3] Target platform considerations: code generation takes into account the characteristics of the target platform, including its instruction set architecture (ISA), memory model, calling convention & optimization opportunities.

4] Optimization: optionally, code generation may include involve optimization techniques to improve the efficiency or quality of the generated code, such as constant folding, loop unrolling or register allocation.

Example: Transform a simple expression to be compiled into machine code.

int add (int a, int b) {

return a+b;

}

Intermediate Representation (IR):

Function: add

PRAM a; PRAM b;

TEMP t1 = a + b;

RETURN t1;

Target code generation (x86 assembly):

add:

PUSH EBP; save the current base pointer

MOV EBP, ESP; set up a new base pointer

MOV EAX, [EBP+8]; load 'a' from stack into EAX

ADD EAX, [EBP+12]; add 'b' to EAX

Result is in EAX.

POP EBP; restore the previous base pointer.

RET; return from function, result is in EAX