INTRO TO COMPILER DEVELOPMENT

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WHY I LOVE COMPILERS?

I have been a faithful reader of Jserv's blog for ten years.

I was inspired by the **compiler** and the **virtual machine** technologies mentioned in his blog.

I have decided to choose *compiler technologies* as my research topic since then.

UNDERGRADUATE COMPILER COURSE

I took the undergraduate compiler course when I was a sophomore.

MY PROFESSOR SAID ...

"We took many lectures to discuss about the parser.

However, when people say they are doing **compiler research**, with large possibility, they are *not* referring to the parsing technique."

I AM HERE TO ...

Re-introduce the compiler technologies,

Give a *lightening talk* on **industrial-strength** compiler design,

Explain the **connection** between compiler technologies and the industry.

AGENDA

- Re-introduction to Compiler (30min)
- Industrial-strength Compiler Design (90min)
- Compiler and ICT Industry (20min)

RE-INTRODUCTION TO COMPILER

WHAT IS A COMPILER?

Compiler are tools for programmers to translate programmer's **thought** into computer runnable **programs**.

ANALOGY — *Translators* who turn from one language to another, such as those who translate Chinese to English.

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED IN UNDERGRADUATE COMPILER COURSE?

LEXER

Reads the input source code (as a sequence of bytes) and converts them into a stream of tokens.

```
unsigned background(unsigned foreground) {
    if ((foreground >> 16) > 0x80) {
       return 0;
    } else {
       return 0xffffff;
    }
}
```

```
        unsigned
        background
        ( unsigned foreground ) { if ( foreground >>

        16 ) > 128 ) { return 0 ; } else { return 16777215 ; } }
```

PARSER

Reads the tokens and build an AST according to the syntax.

```
( unsigned foreground
          background
                                                             foreground
unsigned
                      return 0;
                                              return | 16777215
                                      else {
            128
    16
    (procedure background
        (args '(foreground))
        (compound-stmt
            (if-stmt
                (bin-expr GE (bin-expr RSHIFT foreground 16) 128)
                (return-stmt 0)
                (return-stmt 16777215))))
```

CODE GENERATOR

Generate the **machine code** or (assembly) according to the AST. In the undergraduate course, we usually simply do *syntax-directed translation*.

```
lsr w8, w0, #16
  cmp w8, #128
  b.lo .Lelse
  mov w0, wzr
  ret
.Lelse:
  orr w0, wzr, #0xffffff
  ret
```

WHAT'S MISSING?

Can a person who can only lex and parse sentences translate articles well?

COMPILER REQUIREMENTS

A compiler should translate the source code precisely.

A compiler should utilize the device efficiently.

THREE RELATED FIELDS

Programming Language

Computer Architecture

Compiler

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE THEORY

Essential component of a programming language: type theory, variable scoping, language semantics, etc.

How do people reason and compose a program?

Create an abstraction that is understandable to human and tracable to computers.

EXAMPLE: SUBTYPE AND MUTABLE RECORDS

Why you can't perform following conversion in C++?

```
void test(int *ptr) {
  int **p = &ptr;
  const int** a = p; // Compiler gives warning
  // ...
}
```

This is related to covariant type and contravarience type. With PLT, we know that we can only choose two of (a) **covariant type**, (b) **mutable records**, and (c) **type consistency**.

```
void test(int *ptr) {
  const int c = 0;
  int **p = &ptr;
  const int** a = p; // If it is allowed, bad programs will pass.
  *a = &c;
  *p = 5; // No warning here.
}
```

EXAMPLE: DYNAMIC SCOPING IN BASH

Ans: foo: v=3, bar: v=2, v=4. Surprisingly, foo is accessing local v in bar instead of the global v.

EXAMPLE: NON-LEXICAL SCOPING IN JAVASCRIPT

```
// Javascript, the bad part
function bad(v) {
    var sum;
    with (v) {
        sum = a + b;
    }
    return sum;
}

console.log(bad({a: 5, b: 10}));
console.log(bad({a: 5, b: 10, sum: 100}));
```

Ans: The second console.log() prints undefined.

COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE

Instruction set architecture: CISC vs. RISC.

Out-of-Order Execution vs. Instruction Scheduling.

Memory hierarchy

Memory model

QUIZ: DO YOU REALLY KNOW C?

Is it guaranteed that **v** will always be loaded after **pred**?

```
int pred;
int v;

int get(int a, int b) {
    int res;
    if (pred > 0) {
        res = v * a - v / b;
    } else {
        res = v * a + v / b;
    }
    return res;
}
```

Ans: No. Independent reads/writes can be reordered. The standard only requires the result should be the same as running from top to bottom (in a single thread.)

COMPILER ANALYSIS

Data-flow analysis — Analyze value ranges, check the conditions or contraints, figure out modifications to variables, etc.

Control-flow analysis — Analyze the structure of the program, such as *control dependency* and *loop structure*.

Memory dependency analysis — Analyze the memory access pattern of the access to array elements or pointer dereferences, e.g. *alias analysis*.

ALIAS ANALYSIS

Determine whether two pointers can refers to the same object or not.

```
void move(char *dst, const char *src, int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        dst[i] = src[i];
    }
}</pre>
```

```
int sum(int *ptr, const int *val, int n) {
    int res = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        res += *val;
        *ptr++ = 10;
    }
    return res;
}</pre>
```

QUIZ: DO YOU KNOW C++?

```
class OMutexLocker {
public:
  union {
    OMutex *mtx;
    uintptr t val;
  };
  void unlock() {
    if (val ) {
      if ((val & (uintptr t)1) == (uintptr t)1) {
        val &= ~(uintptr t)1;
        mtx ->unlock();
```

Pitfall: Reading from union fields that were not written previously results in undefined behavior. Type-Based Alias Analysis (TBAA) exploits this rule.

COMPILER OPTIMIZATION

Scalar optimization — Fold the constants, remove the redundancies, change expressions with identities, etc.

Vector optimization — Convert several scalar operations into one vector operation, e.g. combining for add instruction into one vector add.

Interprocedural optimization — function inlining, devirtualization, cross-function analysis, etc.

OTHER COMPILER-RELATED TECHNOLOGY

Just-in-time compilers

Binary translators

Program profiling and performance measurement

Facilities to run compiled executables, e.g. garbage collectors

INDUSTRIALSTRENGTH COMPILER DESIGN

What's the difference between *your* final project and the industrial-strength compiler?

KEY DIFFERENCE

Analysis — Reasons program structures and changes of values.

Optimization — Applies several provably correct transformation which should make program run faster.

Intermediate Representation — Data structure on which analyses and optimizations are based.

INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATION^{1/4}

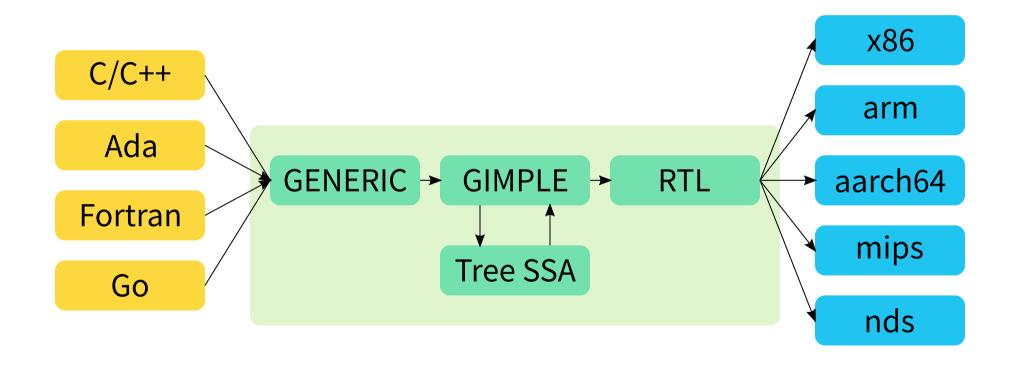
A data structure for program analyses and optimizations.

High-level enough to capture *important properties* and encapsulates hardware limitation.

Low-level enough to be *analyzed* by analyses and *manipulated* by transformations.

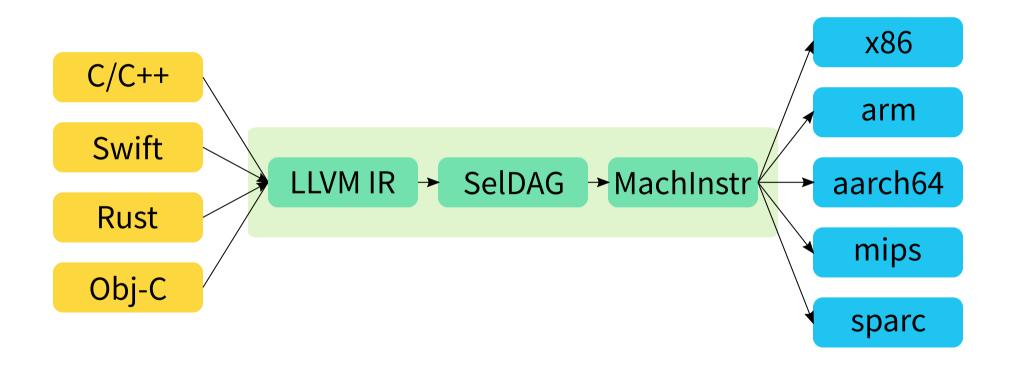
An abstraction layer for multiple front-ends and back-ends.

INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATION^{2/4}



GCC Compiler Pipeline

INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATION^{3/4}



LLVM Compiler Pipeline

INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATION^{4/4}

GCC — GENERIC, GIMPLE, Tree SSA, and RTL.

LLVM — LLVM IR, Selection DAG, and Machine Instructions.

Java HotSpot — HIR, LIR, and MIR.

CONTROL FLOW GRAPH^{1/3}

Basic block — A sequence of instructions that will only be entered from the top and exited from the end.

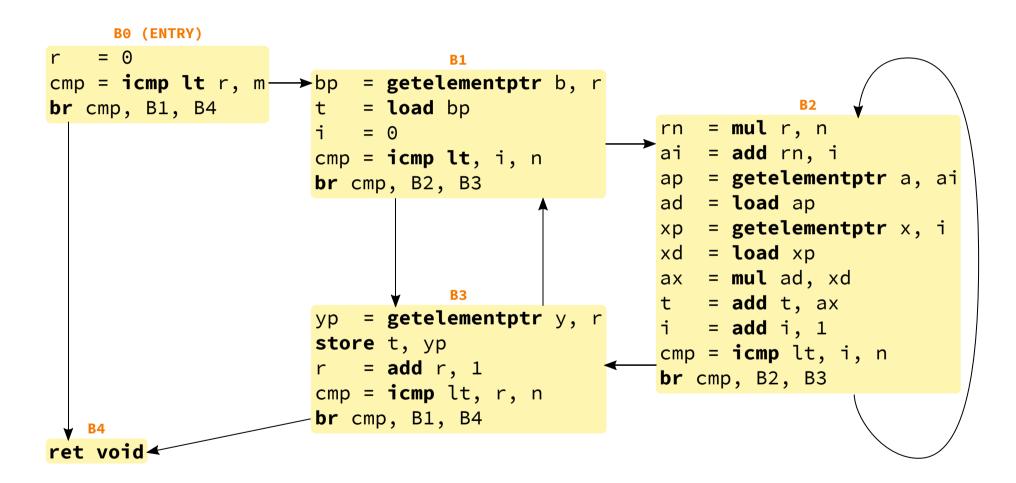
Edge — If the basic block s may branch to t, then we add a directed edge (s, t).

Predecessor/Successor — If there is an edge (s, t), then s is a predecessor of t and t is a successor of s.

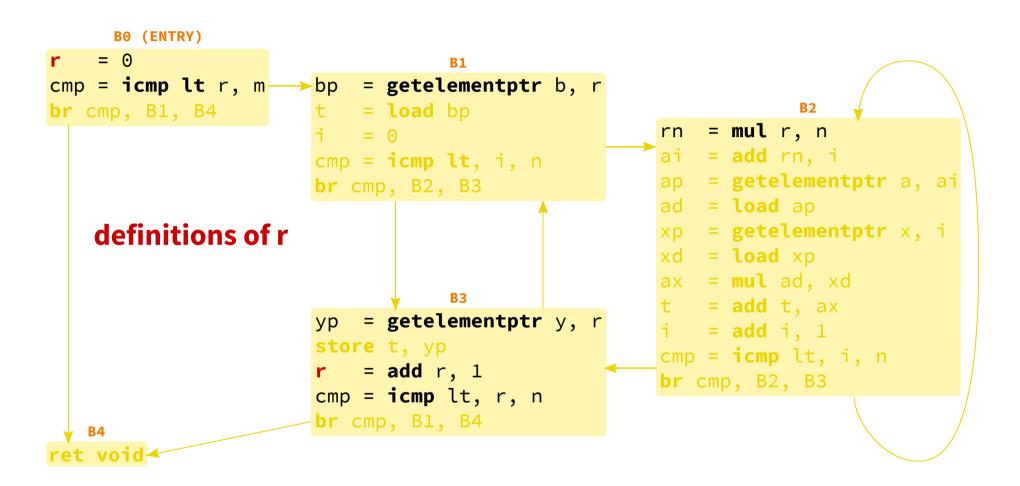
CONTROL FLOW GRAPH^{2/3}

Input source program

CONTROL FLOW GRAPH^{3/3}

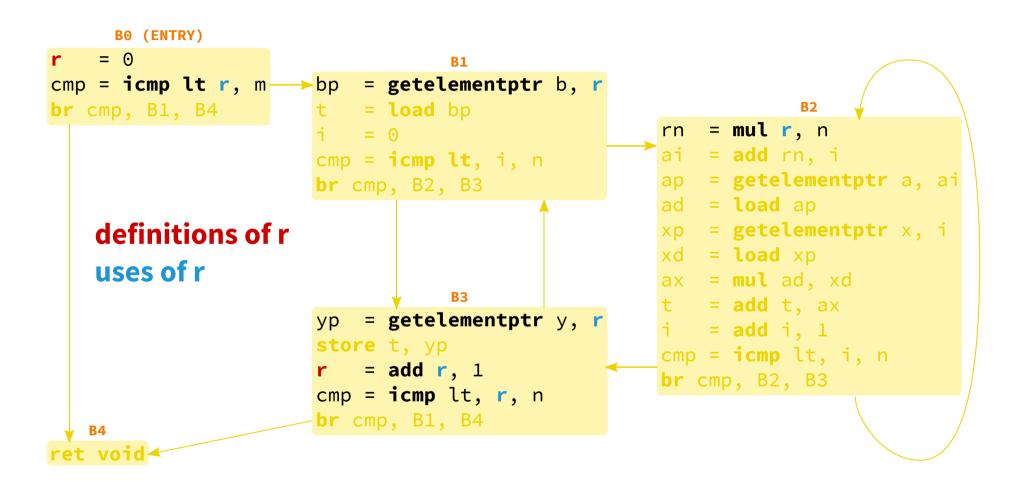


VARIABLE DEFINITION



The place where a variable is assigned or defined.

VARIABLE USE



The places where a variable is referred or used.

REACHING DEFINITION^{1/2}

```
BO (ENTRY)
                                                {d0, d1}
               {d0}
                       bp = getelementptr b, r
   = icmp lt r, m
                                                                 \{d0, d1\}
                          = load bp
br cmp, B1, B4
                                                          = mulr, n
                                                         = add rn, i
                       cmp = icmp lt, i, n
                                                         = getelementptr a, ai
                       br cmp, B2, B3
                                                         = load ap
                                                         = getelementptr \times, i
                                                         = load xp
                                                          = mul ad, xd
                                               \{d0, d1\}
                           = getelementptr y, r
                       store t, y{d0, d1}
                                                     cmp = icmp lt, i, n
                   d1: r = add r, 1
                                                     br cmp, B2, B3
                       cmp = icmp lt, r, n
                       br cmp, B1, B4 {d1}
   B4
```

Definitions that reaches a use.

REACHING DEFINITION^{2/2}

Constant propagation is a good example to show the usefulness of reaching definition.

```
void test(int cond) {
    int a = 1;  // d0
    int b = 2;  // d1
    if (cond) {
        c = 3;  // d2
    } else {
        // ReachDef[a] = {d0}
        // ReachDef[b] = {d1}
        c = a + b;  // d3
    }

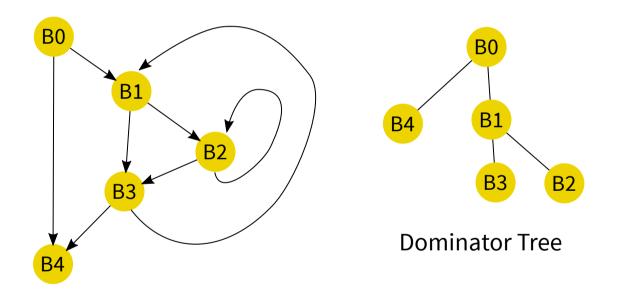
    // ReachDef[c] = {d2, d3}
    use(c);
}
```

DOMINANCE RELATION^{1/2}

A basic block *s* dominates *t* iff every paths that goes from *entry* to *t* will pass through *s*.

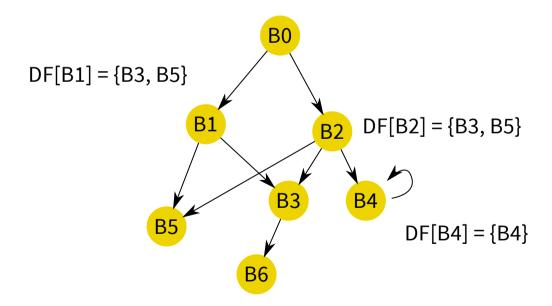
Every basic block in a CFG has an immediate dominator and forms a *dominator tree*.

DOMINANCE RELATION^{2/2}



DOMINANCE FRONTIER

A basic block *t* is a **dominance frontier** of a basic block *s*, if one of predecessor of *t* is dominated by *s* but *t* is not strictly dominated by *s*.



STATIC SINGLE-ASSIGNMENT FORM

static — A static analysis to the program (not the execution.)

single-assignment — Every variable can only be assigned once.

SSA form is the most popular intermediate representation recently.

It is adopted by a wide range of compilers, such as GCC, LLVM, Java HotSpot, Android ART, etc.

SSA PROPERTIES

Every variables can only be defined once.

Every uses can only refer to one definition.

Use phi function to handle the merged control-flow.

PHI FUNCTIONS

```
define void @foo(i1 cond,
                  i32 a, i32 b) {
ent:
    br cond, b1, b2
b1:
    t0 = mul a, 4
    br b3
b2:
    t1 = mul b, 5
    br b3
b3:
    t2 = phi (t0), (t1)
    use(t2)
    ret
```

```
define void @foo(i32 n) {
  ent:
    br loop
loop:
    i0 = phi (0), (i1)
    cmp = icmp ge i0, n
    br cmp, end, cont
cont:
    use(i0)
    i1 = add i0, 1
    br loop
end:
    ret
}
```

ADVANTAGE OF SSA FORM

Compact — Reduce the def-use chain.

Referential transparency — The properties associated with a variable will not be changed, aka. context-free.

REDUCED DEF-USE CHAIN

```
void foo(int cond1, int cond2,
        int a, int b) {
   int t;
    if (cond1) {
      t = a * 4; // d0
    } else {
        t = b * 5; // d1
    if (cond2) {
       use(t);
    } else {
       // reach-def: {d0, d1}
       use(t);
```

REFERENTIAL TRANSPARENCY^{1/2}

```
void foo() {
   int r = 5; // d0

   // ... SOME CODE ...

   // We can only assume
   // "r == 5" if d0 is the
   // only reaching definition.
   use(r);
}
```

```
void foo() {
    r.0 = 5;

    // ... SOME CODE ...

    // No matter what code are
    // skipped above, it is safe
    // to replace following r.0
    // with 5.
    use(r.0);
}
```

REFERENTIAL TRANSPARENCY^{2/2}

```
void foo(int a, int b) {
   int c = a + b;
   int r = a + b;
   // Can we simply replace
   // all occurrence of r with
   // c? (NO)

   // ... SOME CODE ...

use(r);
}
```

```
void foo(int a, int b) {
    c.0 = a + b;
    r.0 = a + b;

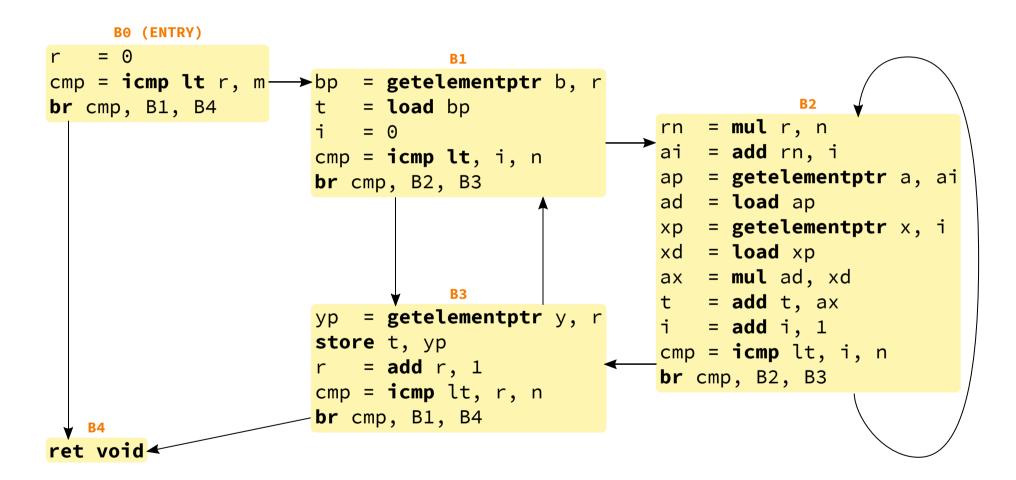
    // ... SOME CODE ...

    // No matter what code are
    // skipped above, it is safe
    // to replace following r.0
    // with c.0.
    use(r.0);
}
```

BUILDING SSA FORM

- 1. Compute domination relationships between basic blocks and build the dominator tree.
- 2. Compute dominator frontiers.
- 3. Insert phi functions at dominator frontiers.
- 4. Traverse the dominator tree and rename the variables.

BEFORE SSA CONSTRUCTION



AFTER SSA CONSTRUCTION

```
BO (ENTRY)
cmp = icmp lt 0, m
                                  B1
br cmp, B1, B4
                      r.0 = phi (0, B0) (r.1 B3)
                          = getelementptr b, r.0
                                                    t.1 = phi (t.0, B1) (t.2 B2)
                      t.0 = load bp
                                                   i.0 = phi (0, B1) (i.1, B2)
                      cmp = icmp lt, 0, n
                                                    rn = mul r.0, n
                      br cmp, B2, B3
                                                       = add rn, i.1
                                                    ap = getelementptr a, ai
                                                    ad = load ap
                                                    xp = getelementptr x, i.1
                                                    xd = load xp
                   t.3 = phi (t0, B1) (t.2, B2)
                                                    ax = mul ad, xd
                   yp = getelementptr y, r.0
                                                    t.2 = add t.1, ax
                   store t.3, yp
                                                    i.1 = add i.0, 1
                   r.1 = add r.0, 1
                                                    cmp = icmp lt, i.1, n
                   cmp = icmp lt, r.1, n
                                                    br cmp, B2, B3
                   br cmp, B1, B4
ret void
```

OPTIMIZATIONS

CONSTANT PROPAGATION^{1/3}

Constant propagation, sometimes known as **constant folding**, will evaluate the instructions with constant operands and propagate the constant result.

```
a = add 2, 3
b = a
c = mul a, b

a = 5
b = 5
c = 25
```

CONSTANT PROPAGATION^{2/3}

Why do we need constant propagation?

```
struct queue *create_queue() {
    return (struct queue*)malloc(sizeof(struct queue *) * 16);
}
```

```
int process_data(int a, int b, int c) {
   int k[] = { 0x13, 0x17, 0x19 };
   if (DEBUG) {
      verify_data(k, data);
   }
   return (a * k[1] * k[2] + b * k[0] * k[2] + c * k[0] * k[1]);
}
```

CONSTANT PROPAGATION^{3/3}

For each basic block b from CFG in reversed postorder:

For each instruction *i* in basic block *b* from top to bottom:

If all of its operands are constants, the operation has no side-effect, and we know how to evaluate it at compile time, then evaluate the result, remove the instruction, and replace all usages with the result.

GLOBAL VALUE NUMBERING^{1/2}

Global value numbering tries to give numbers to the computed expression and maps the newly visited expression to the visited ones.

```
a = c * d; // [(*, c, d) -> a]
e = c; // [(*, c, d) -> a]
f = e * d; // query: is (*, c, d) available?
use(a, e, f);
```

```
a = c * d;
use(a, c, a);
```

GLOBAL VALUE NUMBERING^{2/2}

Traverse the basic blocks in **depth-first** order on **dominator tree**.

Maintain a stack of hash table. Once we have returned from a child node on the dominator tree, then we have to pop the stack top.

Visit the instructions in the basic block with t = op a, b form and compute the hash for (op, a, b).

If (op, a, b) is already in the hash table, then change t = op a, b with t = hash_tab[(op, a, b)]

Otherwise, insert $(op, a, b) \rightarrow t$ to the hash table.

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{1/6}

Dead code elimination (DCE) removes unreachable instructions or ignored results.

Constant propagation might reveal more dead code since the branch conditions become constant value.

On the other hand, DCE can exploit more constant for constant propagation because several definitions are removed from the program.

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{2/6}

Conditional statements with constant condition

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{3/6}

Platform-specific constant

```
void hash_ent_set_val(struct hash_ent *h, int v) {
    if (sizeof(int) <= sizeof(void *)) {
        h->p = (void *)(uintptr_t)(v);
    } else {
        h->p = malloc(sizeof(int)); // Dead code
        *(h->p) = v; // Dead code
    }
}
```

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{4/6}

Computed result ignored

```
int compute_sum(int a, int b) {
   int sum = (a + b) * (a - b + 1) / 2; // Dead code: Not used
   return 0;
}
```

Dead code after dead store optimization

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{5/6}

Dead code after code specialization

```
void matmul(double *restrict y, unsigned long m, unsigned long n,
            const double *restrict a,
            const double *restrict x,
            const double *restrict b) {
    if (n == 0) {
        for (unsigned long r = 0; r < m; ++r) {
            double t = b[r];
            for (unsigned long i = 0; i < n; ++i) { // Dead code
                t += a[r * n + i] * x[i];
                                                     // Dead code
                                                      // Dead code
            v[r] = t;
    } else {
        // ... skipped ...
```

DEAD CODE ELIMINATION^{6/6}

Traverse the CFG starting from *entry* in **reversed post order**.

Only traverse the successor that may be visited, i.e. if the branch condition is a constant, then ignore the other side.

While traversing the basic block, clear the dead instructions within the basic block.

After the traversal, remove the unvisited basic blocks and remove the variable uses that refers to the variables that are defined in the unvisited basic blocks.

LOOP OPTIMIZATIONS

It is reasonable to assume a program spends more time in the loop body. Thus, loop optimization is an important issue in the compiler.

LOOP INVARIANT CODE MOTION^{1/3}

Loop invariant code motion (LICM) is an optimization which moves *loop invariants* or *loop constants* out of the loop.

```
int test(int n, int a, int b, int c) {
   int sum = 0;
   for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
      sum += i * a * b * c; // a*b*c is loop invariant
   }
   return sum;
}</pre>
```

LOOP INVARIANT CODE MOTION^{2/3}

```
for (unsigned long r = 0; r < m; ++r) {
    double t = b[r];
    for (unsigned long i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        t += a[(r * n) + i] * x[i]; // "r*n" is a inner loop invaria
    }
    y[r] = t;
}</pre>
```

```
for (unsigned long r = 0; r < m; ++r) {
    double t = b[r];
    unsigned long k = r * n; // "r*n" moved out of the inner loop
    for (unsigned long i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
        t += a[k + i] * x[i];
    }
    y[r] = t;
}</pre>
```

LOOP INVARIANT CODE MOTION^{3/3}

How do we know whether a variable is a loop invariant?

If the computation of a value is not (transitively) depending on following black lists, we can assume such value is a loop invariant:

- Phi instructions associating with the loop being considered
- Instructions with side-effects or non-pure instructions,
 e.g. function calls

INDUCTION VARIABLE

If x represents the trip count (iteration count), then we call a*x+b induction variables.

k and r are induction variables of outer loop.

i and m are induction variables of inner loop.

LOOP STRENGTH REDUCTION^{1/2}

Strength reduction is an optimization to replace the multiplication in induction variables with an addition.

```
for (unsigned long r = 0, k = 0; r < m; ++r, k += n) { // k
    double t = b[r];
    for (unsigned long i = 0, m = k; i < n; ++i, ++m) { // m
        t += a[m] * x[i];
    }
    y[r] = t;
}</pre>
```

LOOP STRENGTH REDUCTION^{2/2}

We can even rewrite the range to eliminate the index computation.

```
int sum(const int *a, int n) {
   int res = 0;
   for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
      res += a[i]; // implicit *(a + sizeof(int) * i)
   }
   return res;
}</pre>
```

```
int sum(const int *a, int n) {
   int res = 0;
   const int *end = a + n; // implicit a + sizeof(int) * n
   for (const int *p = a; p != end; ++p) { // range updated
        res += *p;
   }
   return res;
}
```

LOOP UNROLLING^{1/2}

Unroll the loop body multiple times.

Purpose: Reduce amortized loop iteration overhead.

Purpose: Reduce load/store stall and exploit instruction-level parallelism, e.g. software pipelining.

Purpose: Prepare for vectorization, e.g. SIMD.

LOOP UNROLLING^{2/2}

```
for (unsigned long r = 0, k = 0; r < m; ++r, k += n) {
    double t = b[r];
    switch (n & 0x3) { // Duff's device
        case 3: t += a[k + 2] * x[2];
        case 2: t += a[k + 1] * x[1];
        case 1: t += a[k] * x[0];
    for (unsigned long i = n \& 0x3; i < n; i += 4) {
        t += a[k + i] * x[i];
        t += a[k + i + 1] * x[i + 1];
        t += a[k + i + 2] * x[i + 2];
        t += a[k + i + 3] * x[i + 3];
   y[r] = t;
```

INSTRUCTION SELECTION^{1/5}

Instruction selection is a process to map IR into machine instructions.

Compiler back-ends will perform pattern matching to the best select instructions (according to the heuristic.)

INSTRUCTION SELECTION^{2/5}

Complex operations, e.g. *shift-and-add* or *multiply-accumulate*.

Array load/store instructions, which can be translated to one *shift-add-and-load* on some architectures.

IR instructions are which *not natively supported* by the target machine.

INSTRUCTION SELECTION^{3/5}

```
define i64 @mac(i64 %a, i64 %b, i64 %c) {
ent:
    %0 = mul i64 %a, %b
    %1 = add i64 %0, %c
    ret i64 %1
}
```

```
mac:
madd x0, x1, x0, x2
ret
```

INSTRUCTION SELECTION^{4/5}

```
define i64 @load_shift(i64* %a, i64 %i) {
  ent:
    %0 = getelementptr i64, i64* %a, i64 %i
    %1 = load i64, i64* %0
    ret i64 %1
}
```

INSTRUCTION SELECTION^{5/5}

```
%struct.A = type { i64*, [16 x i64] }

define i64 @get_val(%struct.A* %p, i64 %i, i64 %j) {
  ent:
    %0 = getelementptr %struct.A, %struct.A* %p, i64 %i, i32 1, i64 %j
    %1 = load i64, i64* %0
    ret i64 %1
}
```

```
get_val:
    movz    w8, #0x88
    madd    x8, x1, x8, x0
    add    x8, x8, x2, 1s1 #3
    ldr    x0, [x8, #8]
    ret
```

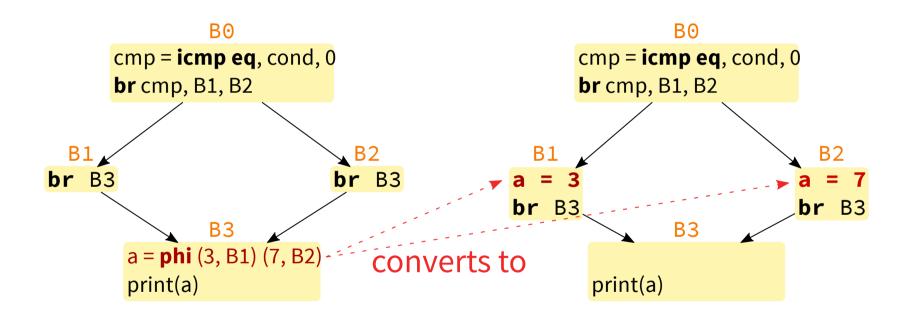
SSA DESTRUCTION^{1/5}

How do we deal with the **phi** functions?

Copy the assignment operator to the end of the predecessor.

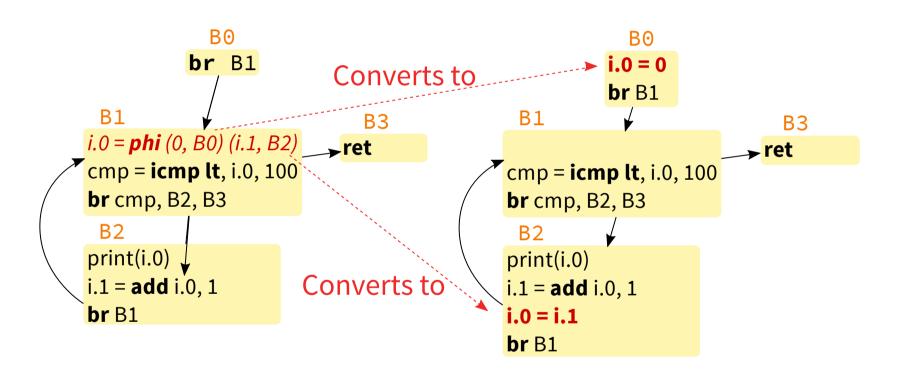
(Must be done carefully)

SSA DESTRUCTION^{2/3}



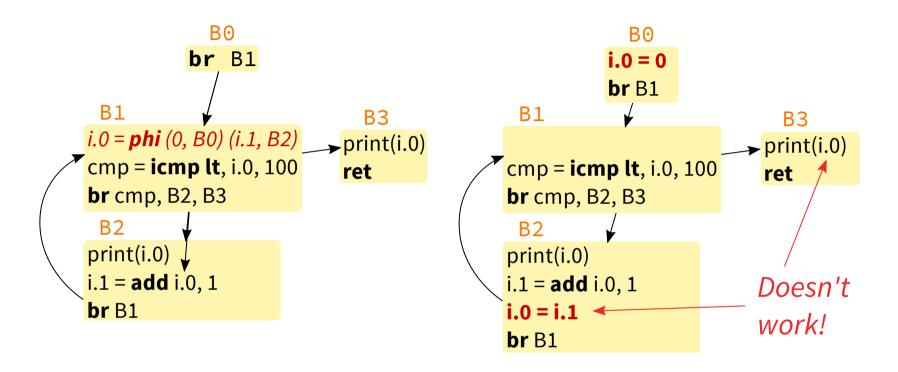
Example to show the assignment copying

SSA DESTRUCTION^{3/5}



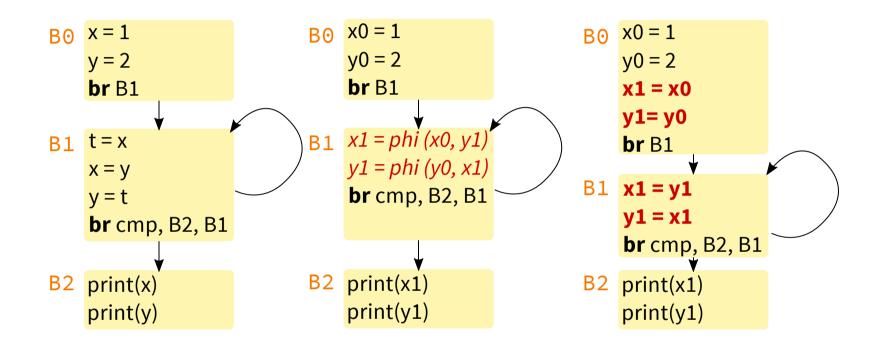
Example to show the assignment copying with loop

SSA DESTRUCTION^{4/5}



Lost copy problem — Naive de-SSA algorithm doesn't work due to live range conflicts. Need extra assignments and renaming to avoid conflicts.

SSA DESTRUCTION^{5/5}



Swap problem — Conflicts due to parallel assignment semantics of phi instructions. A correct algorithm should detect the cycle and implement parallel assignment with swap instructions.

REGISTER ALLOCATION^{1/2}

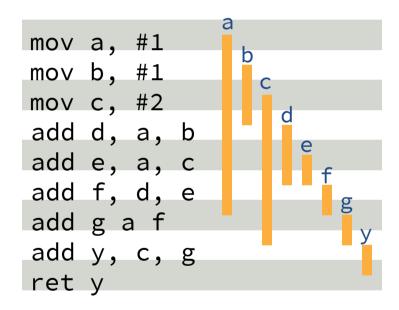
We have to replace infinite virtual registers with finite machine registers.

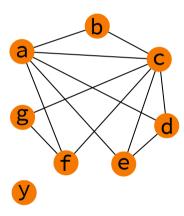
Register Allocation — Make sure that the maximum simultaneous register usages are less then *k*.

Register Assignment — Assign a register given the fact that registers are always sufficient.

The classical solution is to compute the **life time** of each variables, build the inference graph, spill the variable to stack if the inference graph is not *k-colorable*.

REGISTER ALLOCATION^{2/2}





INSTRUCTION SCHEDULING^{1/2}

Sort the instruction according the number of cycles in order to reduce execution time of the critical path.

Constraints: (a) Data dependence, (b) Functional units, (c) Issue width, (d) Datapath forwarding, (e) Instruction cycle time, etc.

INSTRUCTION SCHEDULING^{2/2}

```
0: add r0, r0, r1
1: add r1, r2, r2
2: ldr r4, [r3]
3: sub r4, r4, r0
4: str r4, [r1]

2: ldr r4, [r3] # load instruction needs more cycles
0: add r0, r0, r1
1: add r1, r2, r2
3: sub r4, r4, r0
4: str r4, [r1]
```

COMPILER AND ICT INDUSTRY

WHERE CAN WE FIND COMPILER?

SMART PHONES

- Android ART (Java VM)
- OpenGL ES GLSL Compiler (Graphics)



BROWSERS

- Javascript-related
 - Javascript Engine, e.g. V8, IonMonkey, JavaScriptCore, Chakra
 - Regular Expression Engine
 - WebAssembly
- WebGL OpenGL binding for the Web (Graphics)
- WebCL OpenCL binding for the Web (Computing)







DESKTOP APPLICATION RUN-TIME ENVIRONMENTS

- Java run-time (Java, Scala, Clojure, Groovy)
- .NET run-time (C#, F#)
- Ruby
- Python
- PHP





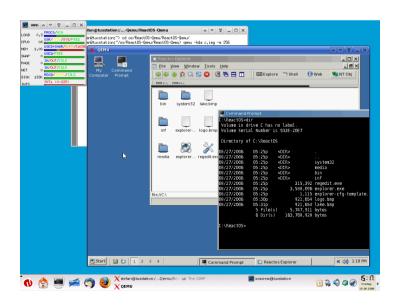






VIRTUAL MACHINES AND EMULATORS

- Simulate different architecture (using dynamic recompilation), e.g. QEMU
- Simulate special instructions that are not supported by hypervisor.



DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT

- C/C++ compiler, e.g. MSVC, GCC, LLVM
- Java compiler, e.g. OpenJDK
- DSP compilers for digital signal processors.
- VHDL compilers for IC design team.
- Profiling and/or intrusmentation tools, e.g. Valgrind, Dr. Memory, Address Sanitizer, Memory Sanitizer

WHAT DOES A COMPILER TEAM DO?

Develop the compiler toolchain for the in-house processors, e.g. DSP, GPU, CPU, and etc.

Tune the performance of the existing compiler or virtual machines.

Develop a new programming language or model (e.g. Cuda from NVIDIA.)

SOME RESEARCH TOPICS ...

Memory model for concurrency — Designing a good memory model at programming language level, which should be intuitive to human while open for compiler/architecture optimization, is still a challenging problem.

Both Java and C++ took efforts to standardize. However, there are still some unintuitive cases that are allowed and some desirable cases being ruled out.

THE END

Q&A