CS 6410: Compilers

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Thank you to UW faculty Hal Perkins. Today lecture notes are a modified version of his lecture notes.

Credits For Course Material

- Big thank you to UW CSE faculty member, Hal Perkins
- Some direct ancestors of this course:
 - UW CSE 401 (Chambers, Snyder, Notkin, Perkins, Ringenburg, Henry, ...)
 - UW CSE PMP 582/501 (Perkins)
 - Cornell CS 412-3 (Teitelbaum, Perkins)
 - Rice CS 412 (Cooper, Kennedy, Torczon)
 - Many books (Appel; Cooper/Torczon; Aho, [[Lam,] Sethi,] Ullman [Dragon Book], Fischer, [Cytron,] LeBlanc; Muchnick, ...)

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Agenda

- Optimization and transformation
 - Survey of some code "optimizations" (improvements)
 - Some organizing concepts
 - Basic blocks
 - Control-flow and dataflow graph
 - Analysis vs. transformation
 - A closer look at some common optimizing transformations

Reading:

Cooper and Torczon, chapters 4.1-4.4, 5.5, 6.2-6.5 and 7.1-7.4, 8.1-8.6 Dragon book, chapters 6.3-6.5, 7.1-7.7, 8.1-8.4, 9.1

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Review: Optimizations

Review: Kinds of Optimizations

- Peephole look at adjacent instructions
- Local look at individual basic blocks
 - straight-line sequence of statements
- Intraprocedural look at the whole procedure
 - Commonly called "global"
- Interprocedural look across procedures
 - "whole program" analysis
 - gcc's "link time optimization" is a version of this
- Larger scope usually better optimization but more cost and complexity
 - Analysis is often less precise because of more possibilities

Review: Peephole Optimization

- Look at adjacent instructions (a "peephole" on the code stream)
 - try to replace adjacent instructions with something faster

```
movq %r9,16(%rsp) movq %r9,16(%rsp) movq %r9,%r12 movq %r9,%r12
```

 Jump chaining can also be considered a form of peephole optimization (removing jump to jump)

Review: Algebraic Simplification

"constant folding", "strength reduction"

- Can be done at many levels from peephole on up
- Why do these examples happen?
 - Often created during conversion to lower-level IR, by other optimizations, code gen, etc.

Review: Local Optimizations

- Analysis and optimizations within a basic block
- Basic block: straight-line sequence of statements
 - no control flow into or out of middle of sequence
- Better than peephole
- Not too hard to implement with reasonable IR
- Machine-independent, if done on IR

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; unoptimized intermediate code:

```
count = 10;
... // count not changed
x = count * 5;
y = x ^ 3;
x = 7;

count = 10;
t1 = count;
t2 = 5;
t3 = t1 * t2;
x = t3;
t4 = x;
t5 = 3;
t6 = exp(t4,t5);
y = t6;
x = 7
```

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; constant propagation:

```
count = 10;
... // count not changed
x = count * 5;
y = x ^ 3;
x = 7;

count = 10;
t1 = 10;  // cp count
t2 = 5;
t3 = 10 * t2;  // cp t1
x = t3;
t4 = x;
t5 = 3;
t6 = exp(t4,3);  // cp t5
y = t6;
x = 7
```

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; constant folding:

```
count = 10;
                              count = 10;
... // count not changed
                              t1 = 10;
                              t2 = 5;
x = count * 5;
y = x ^3;
                              t3 = 50;
                                           // 10*t2
x = 7;
                              x = t3;
                              t4 = x;
                              t5 = 3;
                              t6 = \exp(t4,3);
                              y = t6;
                              x = 7:
```

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; repropagated intermediate code

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; refold intermediate code

```
count = 10;
... // count not changed
x = count * 5;
y = x ^ 3;
x = 7;

count = 10;
t1 = 10;
t2 = 5;
t3 = 50;
x = 50;
t4 = 50;
t5 = 3;
t6 = 125000; // cf 50^3
y = t6;
x = 7;
```

- If variable assigned a constant, replace downstream uses of the variable with constant (until variable reassigned)
- Can enable more constant folding
 - Code; repropagated intermediate code

Local Dead Assignment Elimination

- If I.h.s. of assignment never referenced again before being overwritten, then can delete assignment
 - Why would this happen?
 Clean-up after previous optimizations, often

```
count = 10;
... // count not changed
x = count * 5;
y = x ^ 3;
x = 7;

count = 10;
t1 = 10;
t2 = 5;
t3 = 50;
x = 50;
t4 = 50;
t5 = 3;
t6 = 125000;
y = 125000;
x = 7;
```

Local Dead Assignment Elimination

- If I.h.s. of assignment never referenced again before being overwritten, then can delete assignment
 - Why would this happen?
 Clean-up after previous optimizations, often

```
count = 10;
... // count not changed
x = count * 5;
y = x ^ 3;
x = 7;

count = 10;
t1 = 10;
t2 = 5;
t3 = 50;
x = 50;
t4 = 50;
t5 = 3;
t6 = 125000;
y = 125000;
x = 7;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
... a[i] + b[i] ...
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = *(fp + ioffset);

t6 = t5 * 4;

t7 = fp + t6;

t8 = *(t7 + boffset);

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = t1; // CSE

t6 = t5 * 4;

t7 = fp + t6;

t8 = *(t7 + boffset);

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
... a[i] + b[i] ...
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = t1;

t6 = t1 * 4; // CP

t7 = fp + t6;

t8 = *(t7 + boffset);

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = t1;

t6 = t2;  // CSE

t7 = fp + t2; // CP

t8 = *(t7 + boffset);

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = t1;

t6 = t2;

t7 = t3; // CSE

t8 = *(t3 + boffset); //cp

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

- Look for repetitions of the same computation. Eliminate them if result won't have changed and no side effects
 - Avoid repeated calculation and eliminates redundant loads
- Idea: walk through basic block keeping track of available expressions

```
... a[i] + b[i] ...
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset);

t2 = t1 * 4;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset);

t5 = t1; // DAE

t6 = t2; // DAE

t7 = t3; // DAE

t8 = *(t3 + boffset);

t9 = t4 + t8;
```

Intraprocedural Optimizations

- Enlarge scope of analysis to whole procedure
 - more opportunities for optimization
 - have to deal with branches, merges, and loops
- Can do constant propagation, common subexpression elimination, etc. at "global" level
- Can do new things, e.g. loop optimizations
- Optimizing compilers usually work at this level (-02)

Code Motion

- Goal: move loop-invariant calculations out of loops
- Can do at source level or at intermediate code level

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1) {
  a[i] = a[i] + b[j];
  z = z + 10000;
t1 = b[j];
t2 = 10000;
for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1) {
  a[i] = a[i] + t1;
  z = z + t2;
```

Code Motion at Intermediate Level

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1) {
  a[i] = b[j];
 *(fp + ioffset) = 0;
label top;
  t0 = *(fp + ioffset);
  iffalse (t0 < 10) goto done;
  t1 = *(fp + joffset);
 t2 = t1 * 4;
 t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + boffset);
  t5 = *(fp + ioffset);
  t6 = t5 * 4;
 t7 = fp + t6;
  *(t7 + aoffset) = t4;
  t9 = *(fp + ioffset);
  t10 = t9 + 1;
  *(fp + ioffset) = t10;
  goto top;
label done;
```

Code Motion at Intermediate Level

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1) {
  a[i] = b[j];
t11 = fp + ioffset; t13 = fp + aoffset;
t12 = fp + joffset; t14 = fp + boffset
*(fp + ioffset) = 0;
label top;
  t0 = *t11;
  iffalse (t0 < 10) goto done;
 t1 = *t12;
  t2 = t1 * 4;
 t3 = t14;
  t4 = *(t14 + t2);
  t5 = *t11;
  t6 = t5 * 4;
  t7 = t13;
  *(t13 + t6) = t4;
  t9 = *t11;
  t10 = t9 + 1;
  *t11 = t10;
  goto top;
label done;
```

Loop Induction Variable Elimination

- A special and common case of loop-based strength reduction
- For-loop index is induction variable
 - incremented each time around loop
 - offsets & pointers calculated from it
- If used only to index arrays, can rewrite with pointers
 - compute initial offsets/pointers before loop
 - increment offsets/pointers each time around loop
 - no expensive scaling in loop
 - can then do loop-invariant code motion

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1) {
   a[i] = a[i] + x;
}
=> transformed to
for (p = &a[0]; p < &a[10]; p = p+4) {
   *p = *p + x;
}</pre>
```

Interprocedural Optimization

- Expand scope of analysis to procedures calling each other
- Can do local & intraprocedural optimizations at larger scope
- Can do new optimizations, e.g. inlining

Inlining: Replace Call With Body

- Replace procedure call with body of called procedure
- Source:

```
final double pi = 3.1415927;
double circle_area(double radius) {
  return pi * (radius * radius);
}
...
double r = 5.0;
...
double a = circle_area(r);
```

After inlining:

```
...
double r = 5.0;
...
double a = pi * r * r;
```

(Then what? Constant propagation/folding)

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 * 4:
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t5 = 2:
t6 = t5 * 4:
t7 = fp + t6;
t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
t9 = t4 + t8:
*(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
t11 = 5;
t12 = t10 - t11;
t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 * 4:
t15 = fp + t14;
*(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Strength reduction: shift often cheaper than multiply

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); //i
4t2 = t1 << 2; // was t1 * 4</p>
 t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t5 = 2;
_{\star}t6 = t5 << 2; // was t5 * 4
 t7 = fp + t6;
 t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8;
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
 t11 = 5;
 t12 = t10 - t11;
 t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2; // was t13 * 4
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Constant propagation: replace variables with known constant values

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
 t2 = t1 << 2:
 t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t5 = 2:
 t6 = 2 << 2: // was t5 << 2
^{\prime} t7 = fp + t6;
 t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8:
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
 t11 = 5:

112 = t10 - 5; // was t10 - t11

 t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
 t14 = t13 << 2:
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Dead store (or dead assignment) elimination: remove assignments to provably unused variables

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t5 = 2
 t6 = 2 << 2;
t7 = fp + t6;
 t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8:
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
<del>111 = 5:</del>
t12 = t10 - 5;
 t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2:
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Constant folding: statically compute operations with known constant values

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2:
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t6 = 8; // was 2 << 2
t7 = fp + t6;
t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
t9 = t4 + t8;
*(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
t12 = t10 - 5;
t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2:
t15 = fp + t14;
*(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Constant propagation then dead store elimination

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t6 = 8:
^{7}t7 = fp + 8; // was fp + t6
t8 = *(t7 + boffset); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8:
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
 t12 = t10 - 5;
 t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2;
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Arithmetic identities: + is commutative & associative. boffset is typically a known, compile-time constant (say -32), so this enables...

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); //i
t2 = t1 << 2:
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t7 = boffset + 8; // was fp + 8
7t8 = *(t7 + fp); // b[2] (was t7 + boffset)
t9 = t4 + t8;
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
t12 = t10 - 5:
t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2:
t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

... more constant folding, which in turn enables ...

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t7 = -24; // was boffset (-32) + 8
^{7}t8 = *(t7 + fp); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8:
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
 t12 = t10 - 5;
 t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
 t14 = t13 << 2:
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

More constant propagation and dead store elimination

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t7 = -24
^{\prime}t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2] (was t7+fp)
t9 = t4 + t8:
*(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
t12 = t10 - 5;
t13 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t14 = t13 << 2;
t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Common subexpression elimination – no need to compute *(fp+ioffset) again if we know it won't change

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
  t2 = t1 << 2:
  t3 = fp + t2;
  t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
  t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
  t9 = t4 + t8:
  *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
  t10 = *(fp + xoffset); // x
  t12 = t10 - 5;
t13 = t1; // i (was *(fp + ioffset))
  t14 = t13 << 2:
  t15 = fp + t14;
  *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Copy propagation: replace assignment targets with their values (e.g., replace t13 with t1)

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
 t2 = t1 << 2:
 t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8:
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
_{\star}t10 = t9; // x (was *(fp + xoffset))
 t12 = t10 - 5;
 t13 = t1; // i
*t14 = t1 << 2; // was t13 << 2
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

Common subexpression elimination

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8;
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = t9; // x
 t12 = t10 - 5;
 t13 = t1; // i
^{4}t14 = t2; // was t1 << 2
t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

More copy propagation

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
 t2 = t1 << 2;
 t3 = fp + t2;
 t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
 t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
 t9 = t4 + t8;
 *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
 t10 = t9; // x
412 = t9 - 5; // was t10 - 5
 t13 = t1; // i
 t14 = t2:
 t15 = fp + t14;
 *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

More copy propagation

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
t2 = t1 << 2;
t3 = fp + t2;
t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
t9 = t4 + t8;
*(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
t10 = t9; // x
t12 = t9 - 5;
t13 = t1; // i
t14 = t2;
t15 = fp + t2; // was fp + t14
*(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i
     x = a[i] + b[2];
                                       t2 = t1 << 2;
     c[i] = x - 5;
                                       t3 = fp + t2;
                                       t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]
                                       t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]
                                       t9 = t4 + t8;
                                       *(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...
Dead assignment
                                     >t10 = t9; // x
elimination
                                       t12 = t9 - 5:
                                       t13 = t1; // i
                                       t14 = t2
                                       t15 = fp + t2;
                                       *(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

```
x = a[i] + b[2];

c[i] = x - 5;
```

```
t1 = *(fp + ioffset); // i

t2 = t1 << 2;

t3 = fp + t2;

t4 = *(t3 + aoffset); // a[i]

t8 = *(fp - 24); // b[2]

t9 = t4 + t8;

*(fp + xoffset) = t9; // x = ...

t12 = t9 - 5;

t15 = fp + t2;

*(t15 + coffset) = t12; // c[i] := ...
```

- Final: 3 loads (i, a[i], b[2]), 2 stores (x, c[i]), 5 register-only moves, 9 +/-, 1 shift
- Original: 5 loads, 2 stores, 10 register-only moves, 12 +/-, 3 *
- Optimizer note: we usually leave assignment of actual registers to later stage of the compiler and assume as many "pseudo registers" as we need here

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Some Frequent Compiler Optimization Techniques

- Strength reduction replace an "expensive" operation with an equivalent, but less expensive operation (e.g., multiplication → summation/shift)
- Constant propagation substitute values of known constants at compile time
- Constant folding recognize and evaluate a constant at compile time rather than run tie
- Dead assignment elimination recognize assignments that never referenced, and remove them from the code
- Common subexpression elimination find repetitions of same computations, and eliminate them if result won't changed
- Code motion move loop-invariant calculations out of loops
- Inlining replace some function calls with the body of the function (e.g., some getters)

Data Structures for Optimizations

- Need to represent control and data flow
- Control flow graph (CFG) captures flow of control:
 - nodes are IL statements, or whole basic blocks
 - edges represent (all possible) control flow
 - node with multiple successors = branch/switch
 - node with multiple predecessors = merge
 - loop in graph = loop
- Data flow graph (DFG) captures flow of data (e.g. def/use chains):
 - nodes are def(inition)s and uses
 - edge from def to use
 - a def can reach multiple uses
 - a use can have multiple reaching defs (different control flow paths, possible aliasing, etc.)
- SSA: another widely used way of linking defs and uses

Summary

- Optimizations organized as collections of passes, each rewriting IL in place into (hopefully) better version
- Each pass does analysis to determine what is possible, followed by transformation(s) that (hopefully) improve the program
 - Sometimes "analysis-only" passes are helpful
 - Often redo analysis/transformations again to take advantage of possibilities revealed by previous changes
- Presence of optimizations makes other parts of compiler (e.g. intermediate and target code generation) easier to write

Analysis and Transformation

Analysis and Transformation

- Each optimization is made up of
 - Some number of analyses
 - Followed by a transformation
- Analyze CFG and/or DFG by propagating info forward or backward along CFG and/or DFG edges
 - Merges in graph require combining info
 - Loops in graph require iterative approximation
- Perform (improving) transformations based on info computed
- Analysis must be conservative/safe/sound so that transformations preserve program behavior

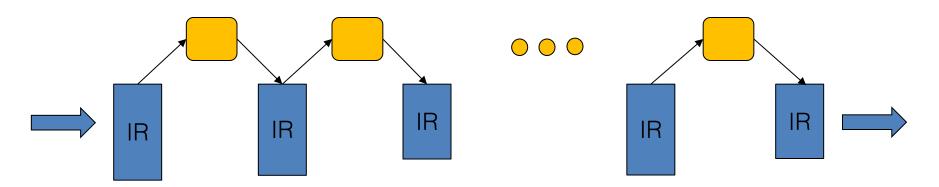
Role of Transformations

- Dataflow analysis discovers opportunities for code improvement
- Compiler rewrites the (IR) to make these improvements
 - Transformation may reveal additional opportunities for further optimization
 - May also block opportunities by obscuring information

Organizing Transformations in a Compiler

- Typically middle end consists of many phases
 - Analyze IR
 - Identify optimization
 - Rewrite IR to apply optimization
 - And repeat (50 phases in a commercial compiler is typical)
- Each individual optimization is supported by rigorous formal theory
- But no formal theory for what order or how often to apply them(!)
 - Some rules of thumb and best practices
 - May apply some transformations several times as different phases reveal opportunities for further improvement

Optimization 'Phases'



- Each optimization requires a 'pass' (linear scan) over the IR
- IR may sometimes shrink, sometimes expand
- Some optimizations may be repeated
- 'Best' ordering is heuristic
- Don't try to beat an optimizing compiler you will lose!
- Note: not all programs are written by humans!
- Machine-generated code can pose a challenge for optimizers
 - eg: a single function with 10,000 statements, 1,000+ local variables, loops nested 15 deep, spaghetti of "GOTOs", etc

A Taxonomy

- Machine Independent Transformations
 - Mostly independent of target machine
 (e.g., loop unrolling will likely make it faster regardless of target)
 - "Mostly"? e.g., vectorize only if target has SIMD ops
 - Worthwhile investment applies to all targets
- Machine Dependent Transformations
 - Mostly concerned with instruction selection & scheduling, register allocation
 - Need to tune for different targets
 - Most of this in the back end, but some in the optimizer

Machine Independent Transformations

- Dead code elimination
 - unreachable or not actually used later
- Code motion
 - "hoist" loop-invariant code out of aloop
- Specialization
- Strength reduction
 - $-2^*x => x+x; @A+((i^*numcols+j)^*eltsize => p+=4$
- Enable other transformations
- Eliminate redundant computations
 - Value numbering, GCSE

Machine Dependent Transformations

- Take advantage of special hardware
 - e.g., expose instruction-level parallelism (ILP)
 - e.g., use special instructions (VAX polyf; x86 sqrt, strings)
 - e.g., use SIMD instructions and registers
- Manage or hide latencies
 - e.g., tiling/blocking and loop interchange
 - Improves cache behavior hugely important
- Deal with finite resources # functional units
- Compilers generate for a vanilla machine, e.g., SSE2
 - But provide switches to tune (arch:AVX, arch:IA32)
 - JIT compiler knows its target architecture!

Optimizer Contracts

Prime directive

- No optimization will change observable program behavior!
- This can be subtle. e.g.:
 - What is "observable"? (via IO? to another thread?)
 - Dead-Code-Eliminate a throw?
 - Language Reference Manual may be ambiguous/undefined/negotiable for edge cases
- Avoid harmful optimizations
 - If an optimization does not improve code significantly, don't do it: it harms throughput
 - If an optimization degrades code quality, don't do it

Is this *hoist* legal?

```
for (int i = \text{start}; i < \text{finish}; ++i) a[i] += 7;
```

```
i = start
loop:
    if (i >= finish) goto done
    if (i < 0 || i >= a.length) throw OutOfBounds
    a[i] += 7
    goto loop
done:
```

```
if (start < 0 || finish >= a.length) throw OutOfBounds
i = start
loop:
    if (i >= finish) goto done
    a[i] += 7
    goto loop
done:
```

Another example: "volatile" pretty much kills all attempts to optimize

Dead Code Elimination

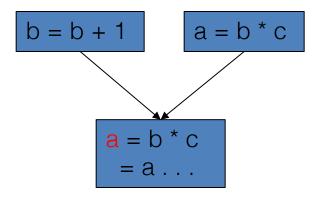
- If a compiler can prove that a computation has no external effect, it can be removed
 - Unreachable operations always safe to remove
 - Useless operations reachable, may be executed, but results not actually required
- Dead code often results from other transformations
 - Often want to do DCE several times

Dead Code Elimination

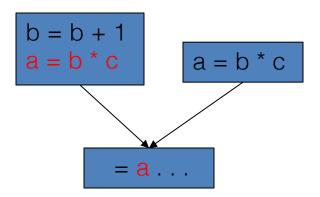
- Classic algorithm is similar to garbage collection
 - Pass I Mark all useful operations
 - Instructions whose result does, or can, affect visible behavior:
 - Input or Output
 - Updates to object fields that might be used later
 - Instructions that may throw an exception (e.g.: array bounds check)
 - Calls to functions that might perform IO or affect visible behavior
 - (Remember, for many languages, compiler does not process entire program at one time – but a JIT compiler might be able to)
 - Mark all useful instructions
 - Repeat until no more changes
 - Pass II delete all unmarked operations

Code Motion

- Idea: move an operation to a location where it is executed less frequently
 - Classic situation: hoist loop-invariant code: execute once, rather than on every iteration
- Lazy code motion & partial redundancy



a must be re-calculated - wasteful if control took right-hand arm



Replicate, so a need not be re-calculated

Specialization I

- Idea: replace general operation in IR with more specific
 - Constant folding:
 - feet_per_minute = mph * feet_per_mile/minutes_per_hour
 - feet_per_minute = mph * 5280 / 60
 - feet_per_minute = mph * 88
 - Replacing multiplications and division by constants with shifts (when safe)
 - Peephole optimizations
 - movl \$0,%eax => xorl %eax,%eax

Specialization:2 - Eliminate Tail Recursion

- Factorial recursive
 int fac(n) = if (n <= 2) return 1; else return n * fac(n 1);
- 'accumulating' Factorial tail-recursive facaux(n, r) = if (n <= 2) return 1; else return facaux(n - 1, n*r) call facaux(n, 1)
- Optimize-away the call overhead; replace with simple jump facaux(n, r) = if (n <= 2) return 1;
 else n = n 1; r = n*r; jump back to start of facaux
 - So replace recursive call with a loop and just one stack frame
- Issue?
 - Avoid stack overflow good! "observable" change?

Strength Reduction

 Classic example: Array references in a loop for (k = 0; k < n; k++) a[k] = 0;

```
Naive codegen for a[k] = 0 in loop body
movl $4,%eax  // elemsize = 4 bytes
imull offset<sub>k</sub>(%rbp),%eax  // k * elemsize
addl offset<sub>a</sub>(%rbp),%eax  // &a[0] + k * elemsize
mov $0,(%eax)  // a[k] = 0
```

Better!

```
movl offset<sub>a</sub>(%rbp),eax  // &a[0], once-off movl $0,(%eax)  // a[k] = 0 addl $4,%eax  // eax = &a[k+1]
```

```
Note: pointers allow a user to do this directly in C or C++ Eg: for (p = a; p < a + n;) *p++ = 0;
```

Implementing Strength Reduction

- Idea: look for operations in a loop involving:
 - A value that does not change in the loop, the region constant, and
 - A value that varies systematically from iteration to iteration, the *induction variable*
- Create a new induction variable that directly computes the sequence of values produced by the original one; use an addition in each iteration to update the value

Other Common Transformations

Inline substitution (procedure bodies)

Cloning / Replicating

Loop Unrolling

Loop Unswitching

Inline Substitution - "inlining"

Class with trivial *getter*

```
class C {
  int x;
  int getx() { return x; }
}
```

Method f calls getx

```
class X {
  void f() {
    C c = new C();
    int total = c.getx() + 42;
  }
}
```

Compiler inlines body of getx into f

```
class X {
  void f() {
    C c = new C();
    int total = c.x + 42;
  }
}
```

- Eliminates call overhead
- Opens opportunities for more optimizations
- Can be applied to large method bodies too
- Aggressive optimizer will inline 2 or more deep
- Increases total code size (memory & cache issues)
- With care, is a huge win for OO code

Code Replication

Original

```
if (x < y) {
   p = x + y;
} else {
   p = z + 1;
}
q = p * 3;
w = y + x;</pre>
```

Replicated code

```
if (x < y) {
   p = x + y;
   q = p * 3;
   w = y + x;
} else {
   p = z + 1;
   q = p * 3;
   w = y + x;
}</pre>
```

- + : extra opportunities to optimize in larger basic blocks (eg: LVN)
- : increase total code size may impact effectiveness of I-cache

Loop Unrolling

- Idea: replicate the loop body
 - More opportunity to optimize loop body
 - Increases chances for good schedules and instruction level parallelism
 - Reduces loop overhead (reduce test/jumps by 75%)

Catches

- must ensure unrolled code produces the same answer: "loop-carried dependency analysis"
- code bloat
- don't overwhelm registers

Loop Unroll Example

Original

```
for (i = 1, i <= n, i++) {
    a[i] = a[i] + b[i];
}
```

- Unroll 4x
- Need tidy-up loop for remainder

Unrolled

```
i = 1;
while (i + 3 <= n) {
 a[i] = a[i] + b[i];
 a[i+1] = a[i+1] + b[i+1];
 a[i+2] = a[i+2] + b[i+2];
 a[i+3] = a[i+3] + b[i+3];
 i += 4:
while (i \leq n) {
   a[i] = a[i] + b[i];
   i++;
```

Loop Unswitching

- Idea: if the condition in an if-then-else is loop invariant, rewrite the loop by pulling the ifthen-else out of the loop and generating a tailored copy of the loop for each half of the new conditional
 - After this transformation, both loops have simpler control flow – more chances for rest of compiler to do better

Loop Unswitch Example

Original

```
for (i = 1, i <= n, i++) {
    if (x > y) {
        a[i] = b[i]*x;
    } else {
        a[i] = b[i]*y;
    }
}
```

Unswitched

```
if (x > y) {
  for (i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
    a[i] = b[i]*x;
  }
} else {
  for (i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
    a[i] = b[i]*y;
  }
}</pre>
```

- IF condition does not change value in this code snippet
- No need to check x > y on every iteration
- Do the IF check once!

Summary

- Just a sampler
 - 100s of transformations in the literature
 - Will examine several in more detail, particularly involving loops
- Big part of engineering a compiler is:
 - decide which transformations to use
 - decide in what order
 - decide if & when to repeat each transformation
- Compilers offer options:
 - optimize for speed
 - optimize for codesize
 - optimize for specific target micro-architecture
 - optimize for power consumption(!)
- Competitive bench-marking will investigate many permutations

Northeastern University

Value Numbering

Optimizations

- Big part of engineering a compiler is:
 - Deciding which transformations to use
 - Deciding in what order
 - Deciding if & when to repeat each transformation
- Compilers offer options to:
 - Optimize for speed
 - Optimize for codesize
 - Optimize for specific target micro-architecture
 - Optimize for power consumption(!)
- Competitive bench-marking will investigate many permutations

"But..."

- None of these improvements are truly "optimal"
 - Hard problems (in theory-of-computation sense)
 - Proofs of optimality assume artificial restrictions
- Best we can do is to improve things
 - -Most (much?) (some?) of the time
 - Realistically: try to do better for common idioms both in the code and on the machine

Issues (1)

- Safety transformation must not change program meaning
 - Must generate correct results
 - Can't generate spurious errors
 - Optimizations must be conservative
 - Large part of analysis goes towards proving safety
 - Can pay off to speculate (be optimistic) but then need to recover if reality is different

Issues (2)

- Profitability
 - If a transformation is possible, is it profitable?
 - Example: loop unrolling
 - Can increase amount of work done on each iteration, i.e., reduce loop overhead
 - Can eliminate duplicate operations done on separate iterations

Issues (3)

- Downside risks
 - Even if a transformation is generally worthwhile, need to think about potential problems
 - For example:
 - Transformation might need more temporaries, putting additional pressure on registers
 - Increased code size could cause cache misses, or, in bad cases, increase page working set

Example: Redundancy Elimination

- An expression x+y is redundant at a program point if and only if, along every path from the procedure's entry, it has been evaluated and its constituent subexpressions (x and y) have not been redefined
- If the compiler can prove the expression is redundant:
 - Can store the result of the earlier evaluation
 - Can replace the redundant computation with a reference to the earlier (stored) result

Value Numbering

- Technique for eliminating redundant expressions:
 - Assign an identifying number VN(n) to each expression
 - -VN(x + y) = VN(j) if x+y and j have the same value
 - Use hashing over value numbers for efficiency
- Old idea (Balke 1968, Ershov 1954)
 - Invented for low-level, linear IRs
 - Equivalent methods exist for tree IRs, e.g., build a DAG

Local Value Numbering

Algorithm

- For each operation $o = \langle op, o1, o2 \rangle$ in a block
 - 1. Get value numbers for operands from hash lookup
 - Hash <op, VN(o1), VN(o2)> to get a value number for o (If op is commutative, sort VN(o1), VN(o2) first)
 - 3. If o already has a value number, replace o with a reference to the value
 - If o1 and o2 are constant, evaluate o at compile time and replace with an immediate load
- If hashing behaves well, this runs in linear time

Example

Code

$$a = x + y$$

$$b = x + y$$

$$a = 17$$

$$C = X + Y$$

Rewritten

Bug in Simple Example

- If we use the original names, we get in trouble when a name is reused
- Solutions
 - Be clever about which copy of the value to use (e.g., use c=b in last statement)
 - Create an extra temporary
 - Rename around it (best!)

Renaming

- Idea: give each value a unique name a_i means ith definition of a with VN = j
- Somewhat complex notation, but meaning is clear
- This is the idea behind SSA (Static Single Assignment)
 - Popular modern IR exposes many opportunities for optimizations

Example Revisited

Code

Rewritten

$$a = x + y$$

$$b = x + y$$

$$a = 17$$

$$C = X + Y$$

Simple Extensions to Value Numbering

- Constant folding
 - Add a bit that records when a value is constant
 - Evaluate constant values at compile time
 - Replace op with load immediate
- Algebraic identities: x+0, x*1, x-x, ...
 - Many special cases
 - Switch on op to narrow down checks needed
 - Replace result with input VN

Larger Scopes

- This algorithm works on straight-line blocks of code (basic blocks)
 - Best possible results for single basic blocks
 - Loses all information when control flows to another block
- To go further, we need to represent multiple blocks of code and the control flow between them

Optimization Categories (1)

- Local methods
 - Usually confined to basic blocks
 - Simplest to analyze and understand
 - Most precise information

Optimization Categories (2)

- Superlocal methods
 - Operate over Extended Basic Blocks (EBBs)
 - An EBB is a set of blocks b₁, b₂, ..., b_n where b₁ has multiple predecessors and each of the remaining blocks b_i (2≤i≤n) have only b_{i-1} as its unique predecessor
 - The EBB is entered only at b₁, but may have multiple exits
 - A single block b_i can be the head of multiple EBBs (these EBBs form a tree rooted at b_i)
 - Use information discovered in earlier blocks to improve code in successors

Optimization Categories (3)

- Regional methods
 - Operate over scopes larger than an EBB but smaller than an entire procedure/ function/method
 - Typical example: loop body
 - Difference from superlocal methods is that there may be merge points in the graph (i.e., a block with two or more predecessors)
 - Facts true at merge point are facts known to be true on all possible paths to that point

Optimization Categories (4)

Global methods

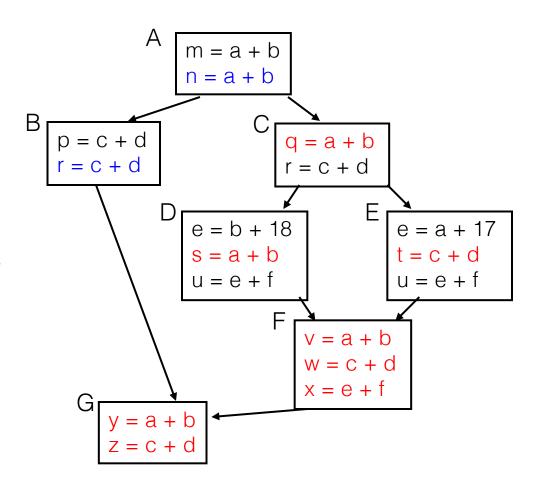
- Operate over entire procedures
- Sometimes called *intraprocedural* methods
- Motivation is that local optimizations sometimes have bad consequences in larger context
- Procedure/method/function is a natural unit for analysis, separate compilation, etc.
- Almost always need global data-flow analysis information for these

Optimization Categories (5)

- Whole-program methods
 - Operate over more than one procedure
 - Sometimes called interprocedural methods
 - Challenges: name scoping and parameter binding issues at procedure boundaries
 - Classic examples: inline method substitution, interprocedural constant propagation
 - Common in aggressive JIT compilers and optimizing compilers for object-oriented languages

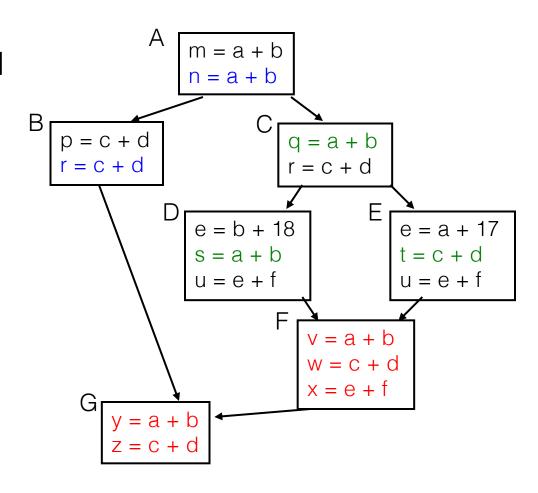
Value Numbering Revisited

- Local Value Numbering
 - 1 block at a time
 - Strong local results
 - No cross-block effects
- Missed opportunities



Superlocal Value Numbering

- Idea: apply local method to EBBs
 - $\{A,B\}, \{A,C,D\}, \{A,C,E\}$
- Final info from A is initial info for B, C; final info from C is initial for D, E
- Gets reuse from ancestors
- Avoid reanalyzing A, C
- Doesn't help with F, G



SSA Name Space

- Two Principles
 - Each name is defined by exactly one operation
 - Each operand refers to exactly one definition
- Need to deal with merge points
 - Add Φ functions at merge points to reconcile names
 - Use subscripts on variable names for uniqueness

SSA Name Space (from before)

Code

$$a_0^3 = x_0^1 + y_0^2$$

 $b_0^3 = x_0^1 + y_0^2$
 $a_1^4 = 17$
 $c_0^3 = x_0^1 + y_0^2$

Rewritten

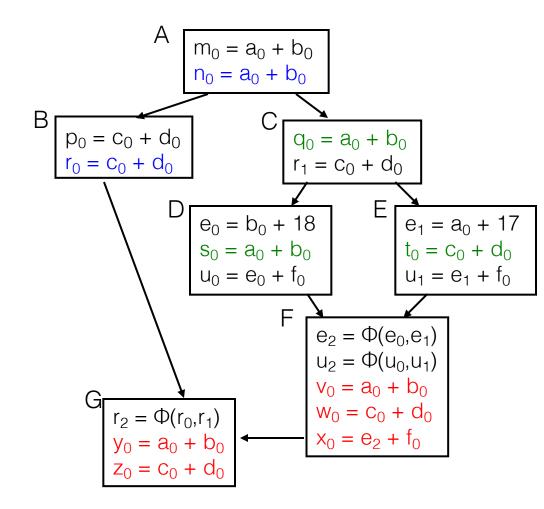
$$a_0^3 = x_0^1 + y_0^2$$

 $b_0^3 = a_0^3$
 $a_1^4 = 17$
 $c_0^3 = a_0^3$

- Unique name for each definition
- Name ⇔ VN
- a_0^3 is available to assign to c_0^3

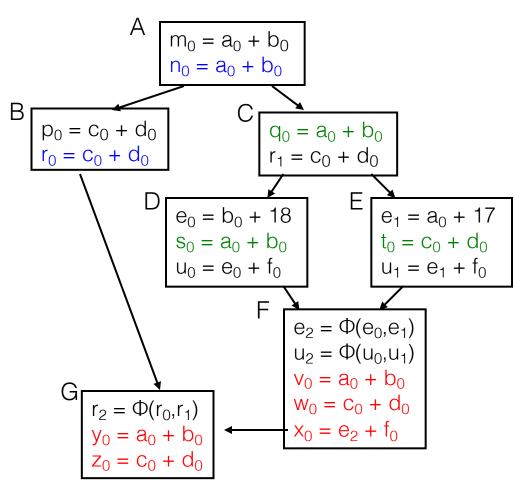
Superlocal Value Numbering with All Bells & Whistles

- Finds more redundancies
- Little extra cost
- Still does nothing for F and G



Larger Scopes

- Still have not helped F and G
- Problem: multiple predecessors
- Must decide what facts hold in F and in G
 - For G, combine B & F?
 - Merging states is expensive
 - Fall back on what we know



Dominators

- Definition
 - x dominates y if and only if every path from the entry of the control-flow graph to y includes x
- By definition, x dominates x
- Associate a Dom set with each node
 - $| Dom(x) | \ge 1$
- Many uses in analysis and transformation
 - Finding loops, building SSA form, code motion

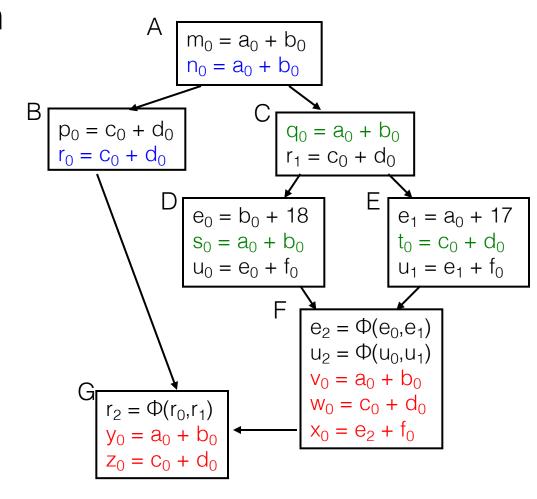
Immediate Dominators

- For any node x, there is a y in Dom(x) closest to x
- This is the *immediate dominator* of x
 - Notation: IDom(x)

Dominator Sets

Block Dom

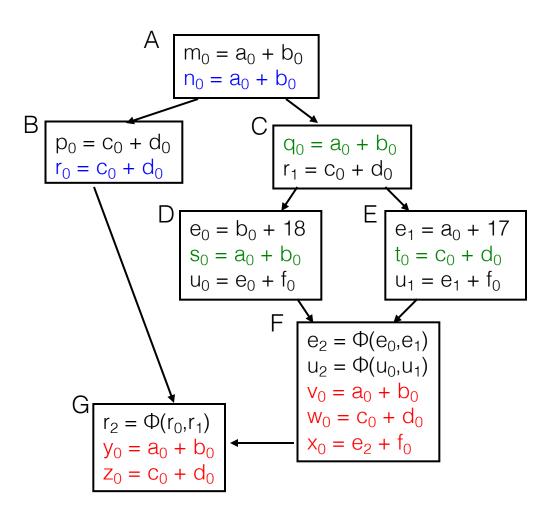
IDom



Note that the IDOM relation defines a tree!

Dominator Value Numbering

- Still looking for a way to handle F and G
- Idea: Use info from IDom(x) to start analysis of x
 - Use C for F and A for G
- <u>D</u>ominator <u>VN</u>
 <u>T</u>echnique (DVNT)

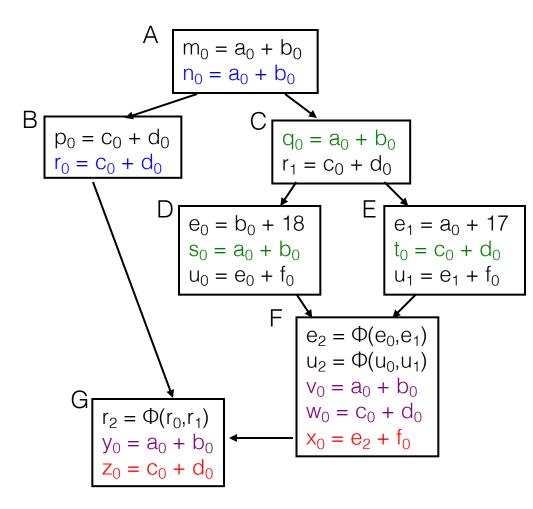


DVNT Algorithm

- Use superlocal algorithm on extended basic blocks
 - Use scoped hash tables & SSA name space as before
- Start each node with table from its IDOM
- No values flow along back edges (i.e., loops)
- Constant folding, algebraic identities as before

Dominator Value Numbering

- Advantages
 - Finds more redundancy
 - Little extra cost
- Shortcomings
 - Misses some opportunities (common calculations in ancestors that are not IDOMs)
 - Doesn't handle loops or other back edges



The Story So Far...

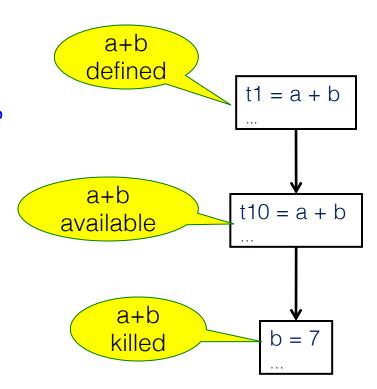
- Local algorithm
- Superlocal extension
 - Some local methods extend cleanly to superlocal scopes
- Dominator VN Technique (DVNT)
- All of these propagate along forward edges
- None are global

Available Expressions

- Goal: use dataflow analysis to find common sub-expressions whose range spans basic blocks
- Idea: calculate available expressions at beginning of each basic block
- Avoid re-evaluation of an available expression – use a copy operation

"Available" and Other Terms

- An expression e is defined at point p in the CFG if its value is computed at p
 - Sometimes called *definition site*
- An expression e is killed at point p if one of its operands is defined at p
 - Sometimes called kill site
- An expression e is available at point p if every path leading to p contains a prior definition of e and e is not killed between that definition and p



Available Expression Sets

- To compute available expressions, for each block b, define
 - AVAIL(b) the set of expressions available on entry to b
 - NKILL(b) the set of expressions not killed in b
 - i.e., all expressions in the program except for those killed in b
 - DEF(b) the set of expressions defined in b
 and not subsequently killed in b

Computing Available Expressions

AVAIL(b) is the set

 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$

- preds(b) is the set of b's predecessors in the CFG
- The set of expressions available on entry to b is the set of expressions that were available at the end of every predecessor basic block x
- The expressions available on exit from block b are those defined in b or available on entry to b and not killed in b
- This gives a system of simultaneous equations – a dataflow problem

Name Space Issues

- In previous value-numbering algorithms, we used a SSA-like renaming to keep track of versions
- In global dataflow problems, we use the original namespace
 - we require a+b have the same value along all paths to its use
 - If a or b is updated along any path to its use, then a+b has the "wrong" value
 - so original names are exactly what we want
- The KILL information captures when a value is no longer available

Computing Available Expressions

- Big Picture
 - Build control-flow graph
 - Calculate initial local data DEF(b) and NKILL(b)
 - This only needs to be done once for each block b and depends only on the statements in b
 - Iteratively calculate AVAIL(b) by repeatedly evaluating equations until nothing changes
 - Another fixed-point algorithm

Computing DEF and NKILL (1)

 For each block b with operations o₁, o₂, ..., ok $KILLED = \emptyset$ // killed *variables*, not expressions $DEF(b) = \emptyset$ for i = k to 1 // note: working back to front assume o_i is "x = y + z" if $(y \notin KILLED)$ and $z \notin KILLED$ add "y + z" to DEF(b) add x to KILLED . . .

Computing DEF and NKILL (2)

 After computing DEF and KILLED for a block b, compute set of all expressions in the program not killed in b $NKILL(b) = \{ all expressions \}$ for each expression e for each variable $\nu \in e$ if $\nu \in KIIIFD$ then NKILL(b) = NKILL(b) - e

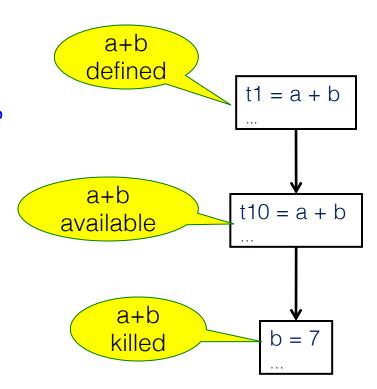
Data Flow Analysis

Available Expressions

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 - Iteratively calculate AVAIL(b) by repeatedly evaluating equations until nothing changes
 - Another fixed-point algorithm

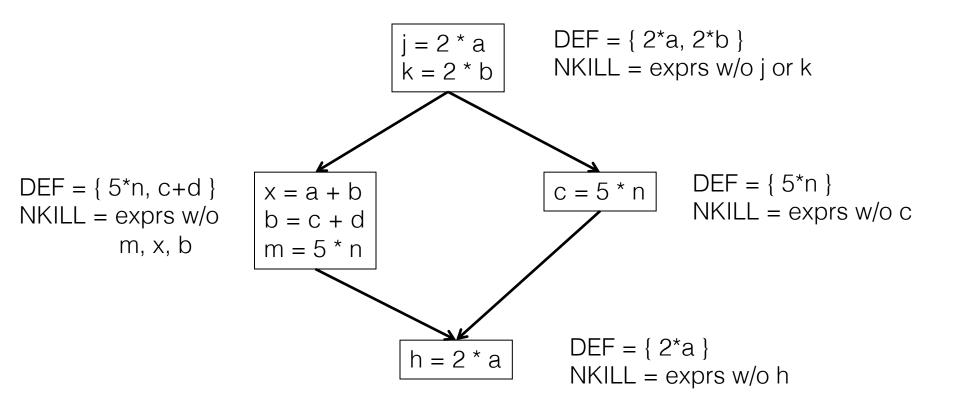
Computing DEF and NKILL (1)

 For each block b with operations o₁, o₂, ..., ok $KILLED = \emptyset$ // killed *variables*, not expressions $DEF(b) = \emptyset$ for i = k to 1 // note: working back to front assume o_i is "x = y + z" if $(y \notin KILLED)$ and $z \notin KILLED$ add "y + z" to DEF(b) add x to KILLED . . .

Computing DEF and NKILL (2)

 After computing DEF and KILLED for a block b, compute set of all expressions in the program not killed in b $NKILL(b) = \{ all expressions \}$ for each expression e for each variable $\nu \in e$ if $\nu \in KIIIFD$ then NKILL(b) = NKILL(b) - e

Example: Compute DEF and NKILL



Computing Available Expressions

Once DEF(b) and NKILL(b) are computed for all blocks b

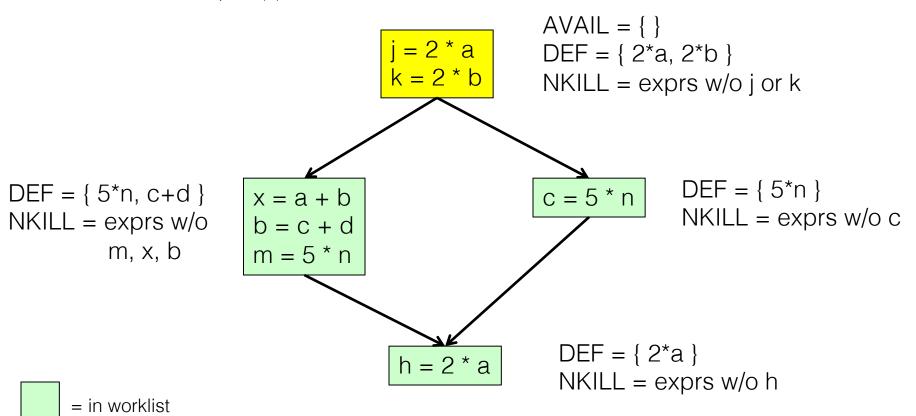
```
Worklist = { all blocks b_i }
while (Worklist \neq \emptyset)
remove a block b from Worklist
recompute AVAIL(b)
if AVAIL(b) changed
Worklist = Worklist \cup successors(b)
```

 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$ $DEF = \{ 2*a, 2*b \}$ NKILL = exprs w/o j or k $DEF = \{ 5*n \}$ $DEF = \{ 5*n, c+d \}$ c = 5 * nx = a + bNKILL = exprs w/o cNKILL = exprs w/ob = c + dm, x, b m = 5 * n $DEF = \{ 2^*a \}$ h = 2 * aNKILL = exprs w/o h

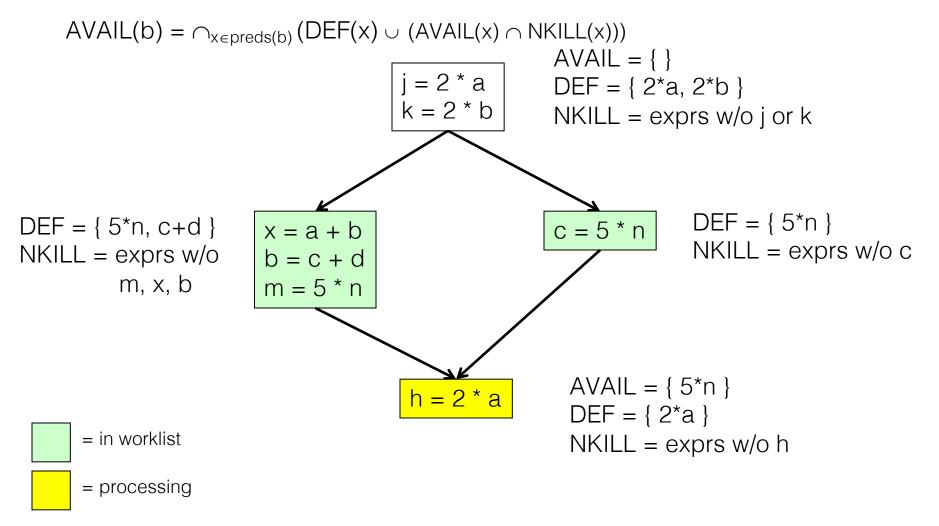
= processing

= in worklist

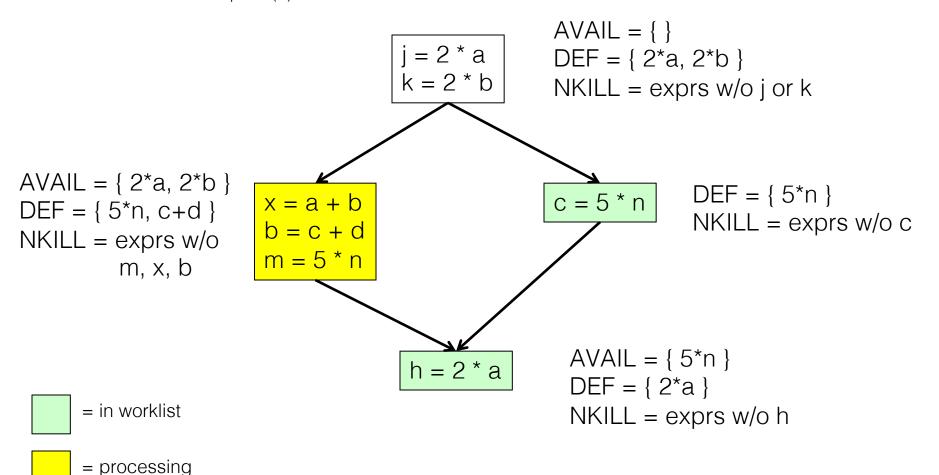
 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$



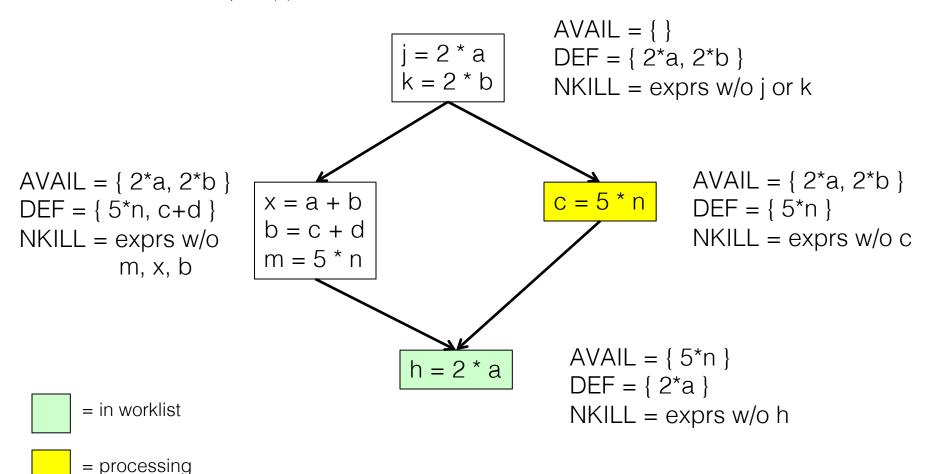
= processing



 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$

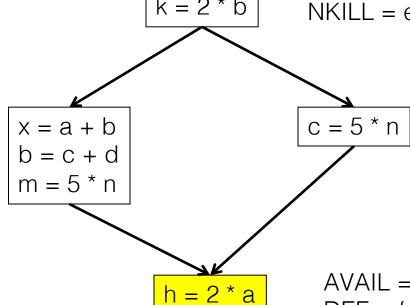


 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$



 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$ $\begin{vmatrix} j = 2 * a \\ k = 2 * b \end{vmatrix}$ $AVAIL = \{ \}$ $DEF = \{ 2*a, 2*b \}$ NKILL = exprs w/o j or k

AVAIL = { 2*a, 2*b } DEF = { 5*n, c+d } NKILL = exprs w/o m, x, b



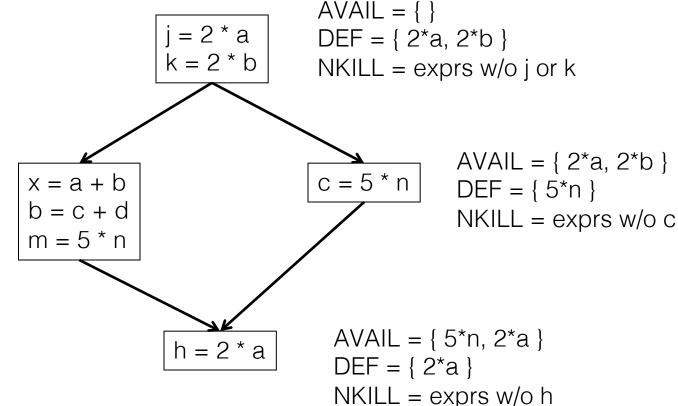
AVAIL = { 2*a, 2*b } DEF = { 5*n } NKILL = exprs w/o c

AVAIL = { 5*n, 2*a } DEF = { 2*a } NKILL = exprs w/o h

= in worklist

= processing

 $AVAIL(b) = \bigcap_{x \in preds(b)} (DEF(x) \cup (AVAIL(x) \cap NKILL(x)))$

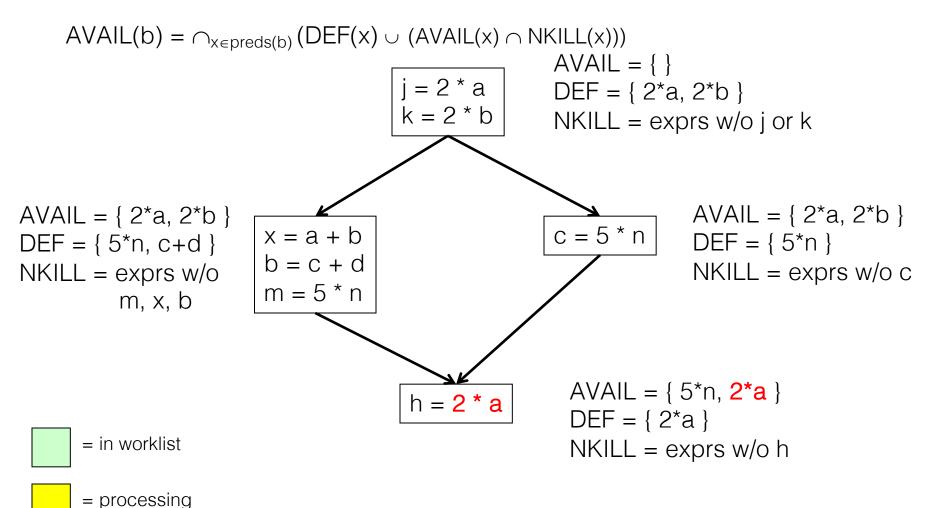


AVAIL = { 2*a, 2*b } DEF = { 5*n, c+d } NKILL = exprs w/o m, x, b

= in worklist

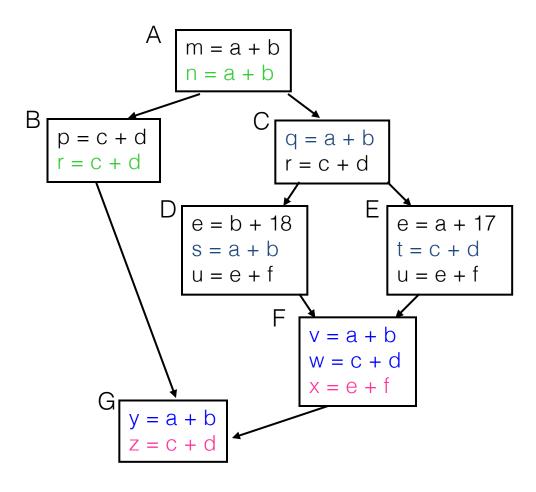
= processing

And the common subexpression is???



Comparing Algorithms

- LVN Local Value Numbering
- SVN Superlocal Value Numbering
- DVN DominatoT-based Value Numbering
- GRE Global Redundancy Elimination



Comparing Algorithms (2)

- LVN => SVN => DVN form a strict hierarchy later algorithms find a superset of previous information
- Global RE finds a somewhat different set
 - Discovers e+f in F (computed in both D and E)
 - Misses identical values if they have different names (e.g.,
 - a+b and c+d when a=c and b=d)
 - Value Numbering catches this

Scope of Analysis

- Larger context (EBBs, regions, global, interprocedural) sometimes helps
 - More opportunities for optimizations
- But not always
 - Introduces uncertainties about flow of control
 - Usually only allows weaker analysis
 - Sometimes has unwanted side effects
 - Can create additional pressure on registers, for example

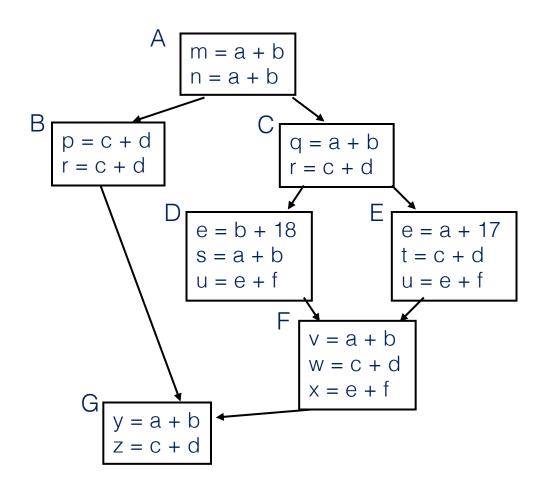
Code Replication

- Sometimes replicating code increases opportunities – modify the code to create larger regions with simple control flow
- Two examples
 - Cloning
 - Inline substitution

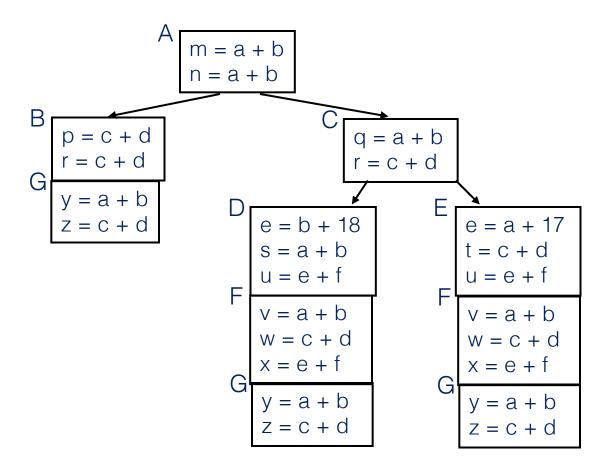
Cloning

- Idea: duplicate blocks with multiple predecessors
- Tradeoff
 - More local optimization possibilities larger blocks, fewer branches
 - But: larger code size, may slow down if it interacts badly with cache

Original VN Example



Example with Cloning



Inline Substitution

- Problem: an optimizer has to treat a procedure call as if it (could have) modified all globally reachable data
 - Plus there is the basic expense of calling the procedure
- Inline Substitution: replace each call site with a copy of the called function body

Inline Substitution Issues

• Pro

- More effective optimization better local context and don't need to invalidate local assumptions
- Eliminate overhead of normal function call

Con

- Potential code bloat
- Need to manage recompilation when either caller or callee changes

Dataflow Analysis

- Available expressions are an example of a dataflow analysis problem
- Many similar problems can be expressed in a similar framework
- Only the first part of the story once we've discovered facts, we then need to use them to improve code

Characterizing Dataflow Analysis

 All of these algorithms involve sets of facts about each basic block b

```
IN(b) – facts true on entry to b
```

OUT(b) – facts true on exit from b

GEN(b) – facts created and not killed in b

KILL(b) – facts killed in b

These are related by the equation

```
OUT(b) = GEN(b) \cup (IN(b) - KILL(b))
```

- -Solve this iteratively for all blocks
- -Sometimes information propagates forward; sometimes backward

Dataflow Analysis (1)

- A collection of techniques for compiletime reasoning about run-time values
- Almost always involves building a graph
 - Trivial for basic blocks
 - Control-flow graph or derivative for global problems
 - Call graph or derivative for whole-program problems

Dataflow Analysis (2)

- Usually formulated as a set of simultaneous equations (dataflow problem)
 - Sets attached to nodes and edges
 - Need a lattice (or semilattice) to describe values
 - In particular, has an appropriate operator to combine values and an appropriate "bottom" or minimal value

Dataflow Analysis (3)

- Desired solution is usually a meet over all paths (MOP) solution
 - "What is true on every path from entry"
 - "What can happen on any path from entry"
 - Usually relates to safety of optimization

Dataflow Analysis (4)

Limitations

- Precision "up to symbolic execution"
 - Assumes all paths taken
- Sometimes cannot afford to compute full solution
- Arrays classic analysis treats each array as a single fact
- Pointers difficult, expensive to analyze
 - Imprecision rapidly adds up
 - But gotta do it to effectively optimize things like C/C++
- For scalar values we can quickly solve simple problems

Example: Live Variable Analysis

- A variable v is live at point p iff there is any path from p to a use of v along which v is not redefined
- Some uses:
 - Register allocation only live variables need a register
 - Eliminating useless stores if variable not live at store, then stored variable will never be used
 - Detecting uses of uninitialized variables if live at declaration (before initialization) then it might be used uninitialized
 - Improve SSA construction only need Φ-function for variables that are live in a block (later)

Liveness Analysis Sets

- For each block b, define
 - use[b] = variable used in b before any def
 - def[b] = variable defined in b & not killed
 - in[b] = variables live on entry to b
 - $-\operatorname{out}[b] = \operatorname{variables}$ live on exit from b

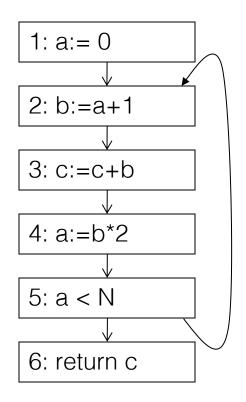
Equations for Live Variables

- Given the preceding definitions, we have $in[b] = use[b] \cup (out[b] def[b])$ $out[b] = \bigcup_{s \in succ[b]} in[s]$
- Algorithm
 - $-\operatorname{Set}\inf[b] = \operatorname{out}[b] = \emptyset$
 - Update in, out until no change

Example (1 stmt per block)

Code

```
a := 0
L: b := a+1
c := c+b
a := b*2
if a < N goto L
return c
```



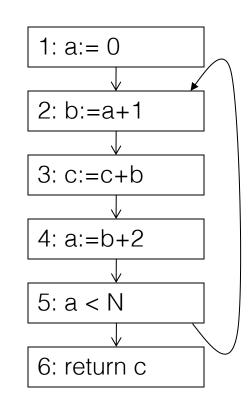
$$in[b] = use[b] \cup (out[b] - def[b])$$

 $out[b] = \bigcup_{s \in succ[b]} in[s]$

Northeastern University

Calculation

Ш Ш block def in in in use out out out 6 5 4 3 2 1



$$in[b] = use[b] \cup (out[b] - def[b])$$

 $out[b] = \bigcup_{s \in succ[b]} in[s]$

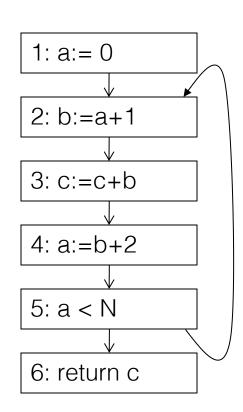
Northeastern University

Calculation

Ш

Ш

			ı	'		111		"
block	use	def	out	in	out	in	out	in
6	C		1	С	-	С		
5	а		С	a,c	a,c	a,c		
4	р	а	a,c	b,c	a,c	b,c		
3	b,c	С	b,c	b,c	b,c	b,c		
2	а	b	b,c	a,c	b,c	a,c		
1	1	а	a,c	С	a,c	С		



$$in[b] = use[b] \cup (out[b] - def[b])$$

 $out[b] = \bigcup_{s \in succ[b]} in[s]$

Equations for Live Variables v2

- Many problems have more than one formulation. For example, Live Variables...
- Sets
 - USED(b) variables used in b before being defined in b
 - NOTDEF(b) variables not defined in b
 - LIVE(b) variables live on exit from b
- Equation

```
LIVE(b) = \bigcup_{s \in SUCC(b)} USED(s) \cup (LIVE(s) \cap NOTDEF(s))
```

Efficiency of Dataflow Analysis

- The algorithms eventually terminate, but the expected time needed can be reduced by picking a good order to visit nodes in the CFG
 - Forward problems reverse postorder
 - Backward problems postorder

Example: Reaching Definitions

- A definition d of some variable v reaches
 operation i iff i reads the value of v and
 there is a path from d to i that does not
 define v
- Uses
 - Find all of the possible definition points for a variable in an expression

Equations for Reaching Definitions

Sets

- DEFOUT(b) set of definitions in b that reach the end of b (i.e., not subsequently redefined in b)
- SURVIVED(b) set of all definitions not obscured by a definition in b
- REACHES(b) set of definitions that reach b
- Equation

```
REACHES(b) = \cup_{p \in preds(b)} DEFOUT(p) \cup (REACHES(p) \cap SURVIVED(p))
```

Example: Very Busy Expressions

- An expression e is considered very busy at some point p if e is evaluated and used along every path that leaves p, and evaluating e at p would produce the same result as evaluating it at the original locations
- Uses
 - Code hoisting move e to p (reduces code size; no effect on execution time)

Equations for Very Busy Expressions

Sets

- USED(b) expressions used in b before they are killed
- KILLED(b) expressions redefined in b before they are used
- VERYBUSY(b) expressions very busy on exit from b
- Equation

```
VERYBUSY(b) = \bigcap_{s \in Succ(b)} USED(s) \cup (VERYBUSY(s) - KILLED(s))
```

Using Dataflow Information

A few examples of possible transformations...

Classic Common-Subexpression Elimination (CSE)

- In a statement s: t := x op y, if x op y is
 available at s then it need not be
 recomputed
- Analysis: compute reaching expressions
 i.e., statements n: v := x op y such that the
 path from n to s does not compute x op y
 or define x or y

Classic CSE Transformation

- If x op y is defined at n and reaches s
 - Create new temporary w
 - Rewrite n: v := x op y as

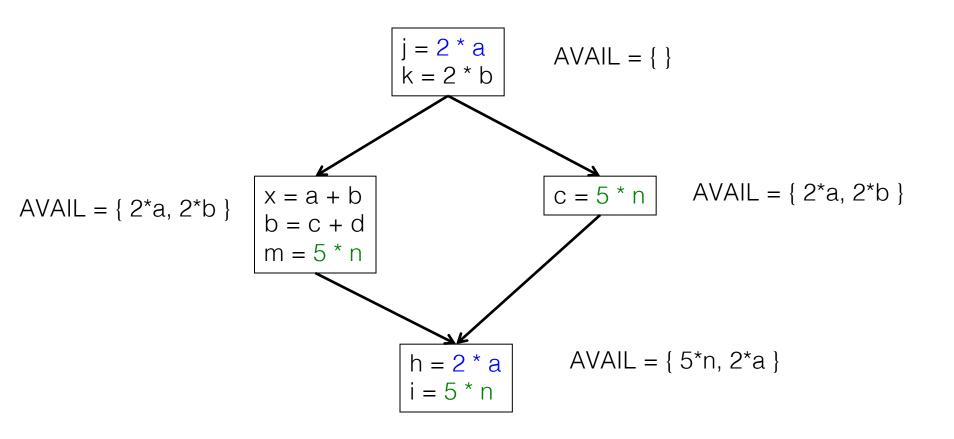
```
n: w := x op y
n': v := w
```

Modify statement s to be

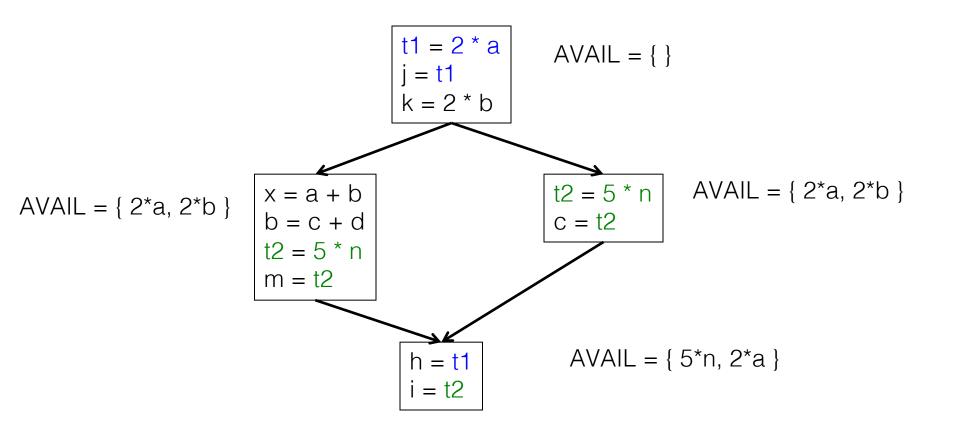
```
s: t := w
```

 (Rely on copy propagation to remove extra assignments that are not really needed)

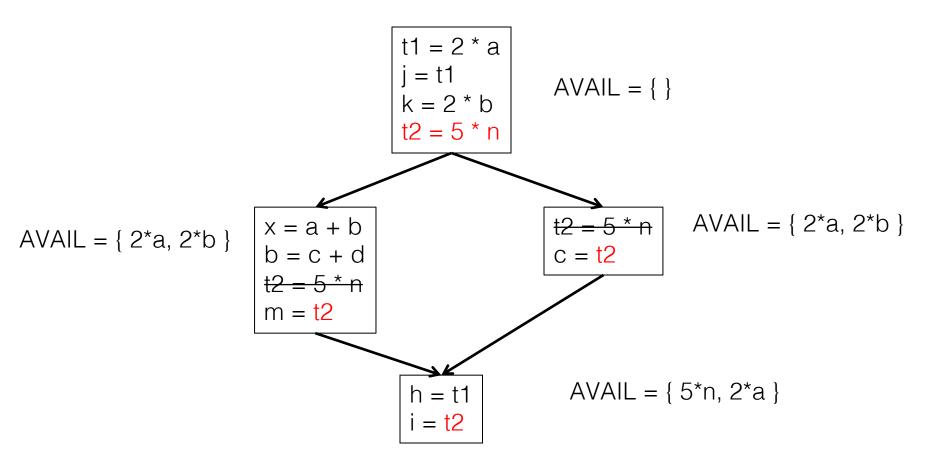
Revisiting Example (w/slight addition)



Revisiting Example (w/slight addition)



Then Apply Very Busy...



Constant Propagation

- Suppose we have
 - Statement d: t := c, where c is constant
 - Statement n that uses t
- If d reaches n and no other definitions of t reach n, then rewrite n to use c instead of t

Copy Propagation

- Similar to constant propagation
- Setup:
 - Statement d: t := z
 - Statement n uses t
- If d reaches n and no other definition of t reaches n, and there is no definition of z on any path from d to n, then rewrite n to use z instead of t
 - Recall that this can help remove dead assignments

Copy Propagation Tradeoffs

- Downside is that this can increase the lifetime of variable z and increase need for registers or memory traffic
- But it can expose other optimizations, e.g.,

```
a := y + z

u := y

c := u + z // copy propagation makes this y + z
```

 After copy propagation we can recognize the common subexpression

Dead Code Elimination

If we have an instruction

s: a := b op c

and a is not live-out after s, then s can be eliminated

- Provided it has no implicit side effects that are visible (output, exceptions, etc.)
 - If b or c are function calls, they have to be assumed to have unknown side effects unless the compiler can prove otherwise

Aliases

- A variable or memory location may have multiple names or *aliases*
 - Call-by-reference parameters
 - Variables whose address is taken (&x)
 - Expressions that dereference pointers (p.x, *p)
 - Expressions involving subscripts (a[i])
 - Variables in nested scopesa

Aliases vs Optimizations

Example:

```
p.x := 5; q.x := 7; a := p.x;
```

- Does reaching definition analysis show that the definition of p.x reaches a?
- (Or: do p and q refer to the same variable/object?)
- (Or: can p and q refer to the same thing?)

Aliases vs Optimizations

Example

```
void f(int *p, int *q) {
  *p = 1; *q = 2;
  return *p;
}
```

- How do we account for the possibility that p and q might refer to the same thing?
- Safe approximation: since it's possible, assume it is true (but rules out a lot)
 - C programmers can use "restrict" to indicate no other pointer is an alias for this one

Types and Aliases (1)

- In Java, ML, MiniJava, and others, if two variables have incompatible types they cannot be names for the same location
 - Also helps that programmer cannot create arbitrary pointers to storage in these languages

Types and Aliases (2)

- Strategy: Divide memory locations into alias classes based on type information (every type, array, record field is a class)
- Implication: need to propagate type information from the semantics pass to optimizer
 - Not normally true of a minimally typed IR
- Items in different alias classes cannot refer to each other

Aliases and Flow Analysis

- Idea: Base alias classes on points where a value is created
 - Every new/malloc and each local or global variable whose address is taken is an alias class
 - Pointers can refer to values in multiple alias classes (so each memory reference is to a set of alias classes)
 - Use to calculate "may alias" information (e.g., p "may alias" q at program point s)

Using "may-alias" information

- Treat each alias class as a "variable" in dataflow analysis problems
- Example: framework for available expressions

```
- Given statement s: M[a]:=b,
  gen[s] = { }
  kill[s] = { M[x] | a may alias x at s }
```

May-Alias Analysis

- Without alias analysis, #2 kills M[t] since x and t might be related
- If analysis determines that "x may-alias t" is false, M[t] is still available at #3; can eliminate the common subexpression and use copy propagation

Code

```
1: u := M[t]
```

2: M[x] := r

3: w := M[t]

4: b := u + w

Coming Attractions

- Dataflow analysis is the core of classical optimizations
 - Although not the only possible story
- Still to explore:
 - Discovering and optimizing loops
 - SSA Static Single Assignment form

SSA Name Space

- Two Principles
 - Each name is defined by exactly one operation
 - Each operand refers to exactly one definition
- Need to deal with merge points
 - Add Φ functions at merge points to reconcile names
 - Use subscripts on variable names for uniqueness



[Meme credit: imgflip.com]