

K31 Compilers

Spring Semester 2021

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Course Project

Homework 3 - Generating intermediate code (MiniJava -> LLVM)

In this part of the project you have to write visitors that convert MiniJava code into the intermediate representation used by the LLVM compiler project. The MiniJava language is the same as in the previous exercise. The LLVM language is documented in the [LLVM Language Reference Manual](#), although you will use only a subset of the instructions.

Types

Some of the available types that might be useful are:

- `i1` - a single bit, used for booleans (practically takes up one byte)
- `i8` - a single byte
- `i8*` - similar to a `char*` pointer
- `i32` - a single integer
- `i32*` - a pointer to an integer, can be used to point to an integer array
- static arrays, e.g., `[20 x i8]` - a constant array of 20 characters

Instructions to be used

- `declare` is used for the declaration of external methods. Only a few specific methods (e.g., `calloc`, `printf`) need to be declared.
Example: `declare i32 @puts(i8*)`
- `define` is used for defining our own methods. The return and argument types need to be specified, and the method needs to end with a `ret` instruction of the same type.
Example: `define i32 @main(i32 %argc, i8** argv) {...}`
- `ret` is the return instruction. It is used to return the control flow and a value to the caller of the current function. Example:
`ret i32 %rv`
- `alloca` is used to allocate space on the stack of the current function for local variables. It returns a *pointer* to the given type. This space is freed when the method returns.
Example: `%ptr = alloca i32`
- `store` is used to store a value to a memory location. The parameters are the value to be stored and a pointer to the memory.
Example: `store i32 %val, i32* %ptr`
- `load` is used to load a value from a memory location. The parameters are the type of the value and a pointer to the memory.
Example: `%val = load i32, i32* %ptr`
- `call` is used to call a method. The result can be assigned to a register. (LLVM bitcode temporary variables are called "registers".) The return type and parameters (with their types) need to be specified.
Example: `%result = call i8* @calloc(i32 1, i32 %val)`
- `add`, `and`, `sub`, `mul`, `xor` are used for mathematical operations. The result is the same type as the operands.
Example: `%sum = add i32 %a, %b`
- `icmp` is used for comparing two operands. `icmp slt` for instance does a signed comparison of the operands and will return `i1 1` if the first operand is less than the second, otherwise `i1 0`.
Example: `%case = icmp slt i32 %a, %b`
- `br` with a `i1` operand and two labels will jump to the first label if the `i1` is one, and to the second label otherwise.
Example: `br i1 %case, label %if, label %else`
- `br` with only a single label will jump to that label.
Example: `br label %goto`
- `label`: declares a label with the given name. The instruction before declaring a label needs to be a `br` operation, even if that `br` is simply a jump to the label.
Example: `label123:`
- `bitcast` is used to cast between different pointer types. It takes the value and type to be cast, and the type that it will be cast to.
Example: `%ptr = bitcast i32* %ptr2 to i8**`
- `getelementptr` is used to get the pointer to an element of an array from a pointer to that array and the index of the element. The result is also a pointer to the type that is passed as the first parameter (in the case below it's an `i8*`). This example is like doing `ptr_idx = &ptr[idx]` in C (you still need to do a `load` to get the actual value at that position).
Example: `%ptr_idx = getelementptr i8, i8* %ptr, i32 %idx`
- `constant` is used to define a constant, such as a string. The size of the constant needs to be declared too. In the example below, the string is 12 bytes (`[12 x i8]`). The result is a pointer to the given type (in the example below, `@.str` is a `[12 x i8]*`).
Example: `@.str = constant [12 x i8] c"Hello world\00"`
- `global` is used for declaring global variables - something you will need to do for creating v-tables. Just like `constant`, the result is a pointer to the given type.
Example:
`@.vtable = global [2 x i8*] [i8* bitcast (i32 (*) @func1 to i8*), i8* bitcast (i8* (i32, i32*) @func2 to i8*)]`

- `phi` is used for selecting a value from previous basic blocks, depending on which one was executed before the current block. Phi instructions must be the first in a basic block. It takes as arguments a list of pairs. Each pair contains the value to be selected and the predecessor block for that value. This is necessary in single-assignment languages, in places where multiple control-flow paths join, such as if-else statements, if one wants to select a value from the different paths. In the context of the exercise, you will need this for short-circuiting and `&&` expressions.

Example:

```
br i1 1, label %lb1, label %lb2
lb1:
  %a = add i32 0, 100
  br label %lb3
lb2:
  %b = add i32 0, 200
  br label %lb3
lb3:
  %c = phi i32 [%a, %lb1], [%b, %lb2]
```

V-table

If you do not remember or haven't seen how a virtual table (v-table) is constructed, essentially it is a table of function pointers, pointed at by the first 8 bytes of an object. The v-table defines an address for each dynamic function the object supports. Consider a function `foo` in position 0 and `bar` in position 1 of the table (with actual offset 8). If a method is overridden, the overriding version is inserted in the same location of the virtual table as the overridden version. Virtual calls are implemented by finding the address of the function to call through the virtual table. If we wanted to depict this in C, imagine that object `obj` is located at location `x` and we are calling `foo` which is in the 3rd position (offset 16) of the v-table. The address of the function that is going to be called is in memory location $(x) + 16$.

Execution

You will need to execute the produced LLVM IR files in order to see that their output is the same as compiling the input java file with `javac` and executing it with `java`. To do that, you will need Clang with version $\geq 4.0.0$. You may download it on your Linux machine, or use it via SSH on the linuxvm machines.

In Ubuntu Trusty

1. `sudo apt update && sudo apt install clang-4.0`
2. Save the code to a file (e.g. `ex.ll`)
3. `clang-4.0 -o out1 ex.ll`
4. `./out1`

In linuxvm machines

1. `/home/users/thp06/clang/clang -o out1 ex.ll`
2. `./out1`

Deliverable

Your program should run as follows:

```
java [MainClassName] [file1.java] [file2.java] ... [fileN.java]
```

That is, your program must compile to LLVM IR all `.java` files given as arguments. Moreover, the outputs must be stored in files named `file1.ll`, `file2.ll`, ..., `fileN.ll` respectively.

Tips

- You will need to use a lot of registers in order to 'glue' expressions together. This means that each visitor will produce the code for storing the value of an expression to a register, and then return the name of that register so that other expressions may use it, if necessary.
- Registers are single-assignment. This means you can only write to them once (but read any number of times). This also implies that registers cannot be used for local variables of the source program. Instead, you will allocate space on the stack using `alloca` and keep the address in a register. You will use the `load` and `store` instructions to read and write to that local variable.
- Because registers are single-assignment, you will probably need to keep a counter to produce new ones. For example, you may produce registers of the form `%_1`, `%_2`, etc.
- You will only support compilation to a 64-bit architecture: pointers are 8-bytes long.
- Everything new in Java is initialized to zeroes.
- Memory allocated with `@calloc` will leak since you're not implementing a Garbage Collector, but that's fine for this homework.
- You will need to check each array access in order not to write or read beyond the limits of an array. If an illegal read/write is attempted, you will print the message "Out of bounds" and the program will exit (you may call the `@throw_oob` defined below for that). Of course, you need to know the length of an array for that.
- You will also need to check if an array is allocated with a negative length, and do the same process as above in that case.
- You may see some examples of LLVM code produced for different Java input files [here](#) (corresponding to the earlier MiniJava [examples](#) from HW2).
- You may define the following helper methods once in your output files, in order to be able to call `@calloc`, `@print_int` and `@throw_oob`.

```
declare i8* @calloc(i32, i32)
declare i32 @printf(i8*, ...)
declare void @exit(i32)

@_cint = constant [4 x i8] c"%d\0a\00"
@_cOob = constant [15 x i8] c"Out of bounds\0a\00"
define void @print_int(i32 %i) {
  %_str = bitcast [4 x i8]* @_cint to i8*
  call i32 @printf(i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %_str, i32 %i)
  ret void
}

define void @throw_oob() {
  %_str = bitcast [15 x i8]* @_cOob to i8*
  call i32 @printf(i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %_str)
  call void @exit(i32 1)
}
```

```

    ret void
}

```

Example program

The program below demonstrates all of the above instructions. It creates an array of 3 methods (add, sub and mul), calls all of them with the same arguments and prints the results.

```

@.funcs = global [3 x i8*] [i8* bitcast (i32 (i32*, i32*)* @add to i8*),
                             i8* bitcast (i32 (i32*, i32*)* @sub to i8*),
                             i8* bitcast (i32 (i32*, i32*)* @mul to i8*)]

declare i32 @printf(i8*, ...)
@.comp_str = constant [15 x i8] c"%d %c %d = %d\0A\00"
@.ret_val = constant [20 x i8] c"Returned value: %d\0A\00"

define i32 @main() {
    ; allocate local variables
    %ptr_a = alloca i32
    %ptr_b = alloca i32
    %count = alloca i32

    ; initialize var values
    store i32 100, i32* %ptr_a
    store i32 50, i32* %ptr_b
    store i32 0, i32* %count
    br label %loopstart

loopstart:
    ; load %i from %count
    %i = load i32, i32* %count
    ; while %i < 3
    %fin = icmp slt i32 %i, 3
    br i1 %fin, label %next, label %end

next:
    ; get pointer to %i'th element of the @.funcs array
    %func_ptr = getelementptr [3 x i8*], [3 x i8*]* @.funcs, i32 0, i32 %i
    ; load %i'th element that contains an i8* to the method
    %func_addr = load i8*, i8** %func_ptr
    ; cast i8* to actual method type in order to call it
    %func = bitcast i8* %func_addr to i32 (i32*, i32*)*
    ; call casted method
    %result = call i32 @func(i32* %ptr_a, i32* %ptr_b)

    ; print result
    %str = bitcast [20 x i8]* @.ret_val to i8*
    call i32 (i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %str, i32 %result)

    ; increase %i and store to %count
    %next_i = add i32 %i, 1
    store i32 %next_i, i32* %count
    ; go to loopstart
    br label %loopstart

end:
    ret i32 0
}

define i32 @add(i32* %a, i32* %b) {
    %str = bitcast [15 x i8]* @.comp_str to i8*

    ; load values from addresses
    %val_a = load i32, i32* %a
    %val_b = load i32, i32* %b

    ; add them and print the result
    %res = add i32 %val_a, %val_b
    call i32 (i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %str, i32 %val_a, [1 x i8] c"+", i32 %val_b, i32 %res)

    ; return the result
    ret i32 %res
}

define i32 @sub(i32* %a, i32* %b) {
    ; similar as above
    %str = bitcast [15 x i8]* @.comp_str to i8*
    %val_a = load i32, i32* %a
    %val_b = load i32, i32* %b
    %res = sub i32 %val_a, %val_b
    call i32 (i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %str, i32 %val_a, [1 x i8] c"- ", i32 %val_b, i32 %res)
    ret i32 %res
}

define i32 @mul(i32* %a, i32* %b) {
    ; similar as above
    %str = bitcast [15 x i8]* @.comp_str to i8*
    %val_a = load i32, i32* %a
    %val_b = load i32, i32* %b
    %res = mul i32 %val_a, %val_b
    call i32 (i8*, ...) @printf(i8* %str, i32 %val_a, [1 x i8] c"*", i32 %val_b, i32 %res)
    ret i32 %res
}

```