

# Intermediate Code Generation [Chapter 6]

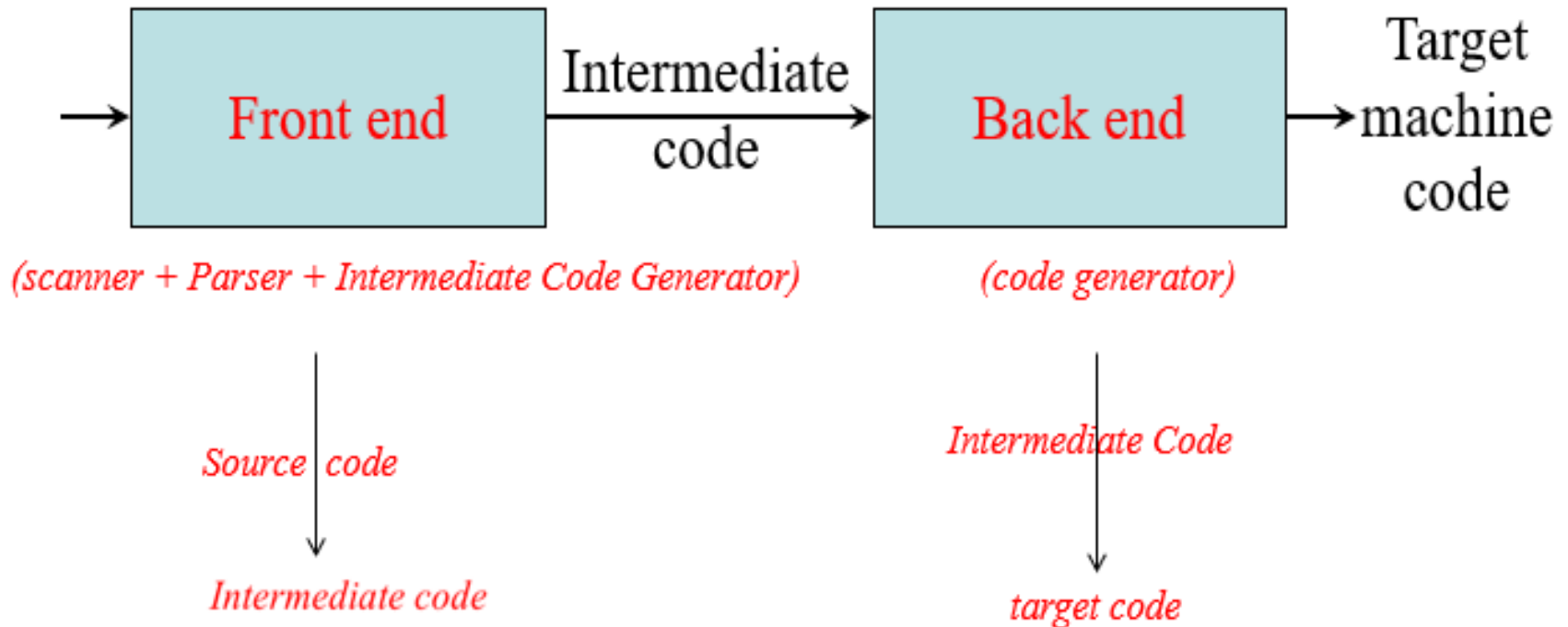
## Lecture 15

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# Intermediate Code Generation



# Intermediate Code Generator

- Intermediate code generator receives input from its previous phase (semantic analyzer) in the form of Annotated Syntax Tree.
- Annotated Syntax Tree converted into a linear representation, e.g., postfix notation.
- Intermediate code tends to be machine independent code.

# Intermediate Code Generation

- We build **one front-end** for the language and then we create a **back-end for each machine**.
- Simplifies *retargeting* enables attaching **back-end** for the new machine to an existing **front-end**.
- Enables machine-independent code optimization

# Intermediate Code Representations

- *Postfix notation*: operations on values stored on operand stack (similar to JVM bytecode)
- *Three-address code*: (a code having at most three addresses in a line)

$$x = y \text{ op } z$$

- *Two-address code*:

$$x \text{ op} = y$$

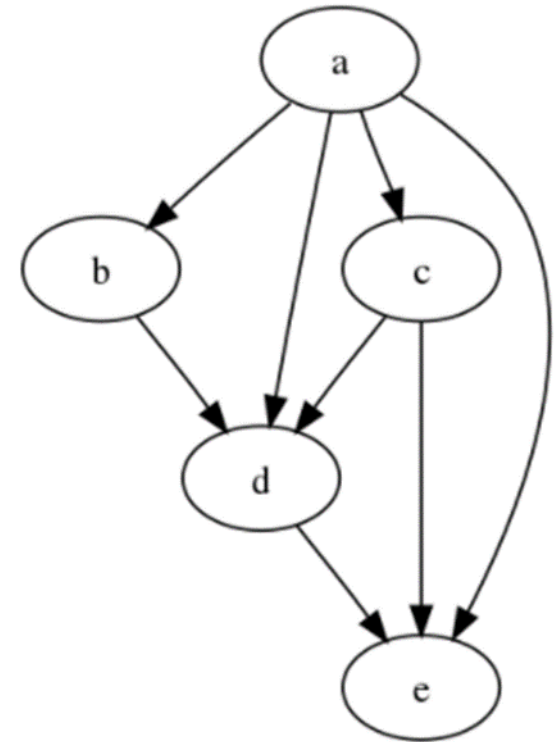
which is the same as  $x = x \text{ op } y$

*Example*:  $x += 1$

# Intermediate Code Representations

- *Graphical representations*

\*A **directed acyclic graph (DAG)** is a directed graph with no directed cycles. That is, it consists of nodes and edges, where each edge directed from one node to another, such that those directions will **never form** a closed loop (**deadlock**).



Dependency graph

# Abstract Syntax Trees vs. DAGs

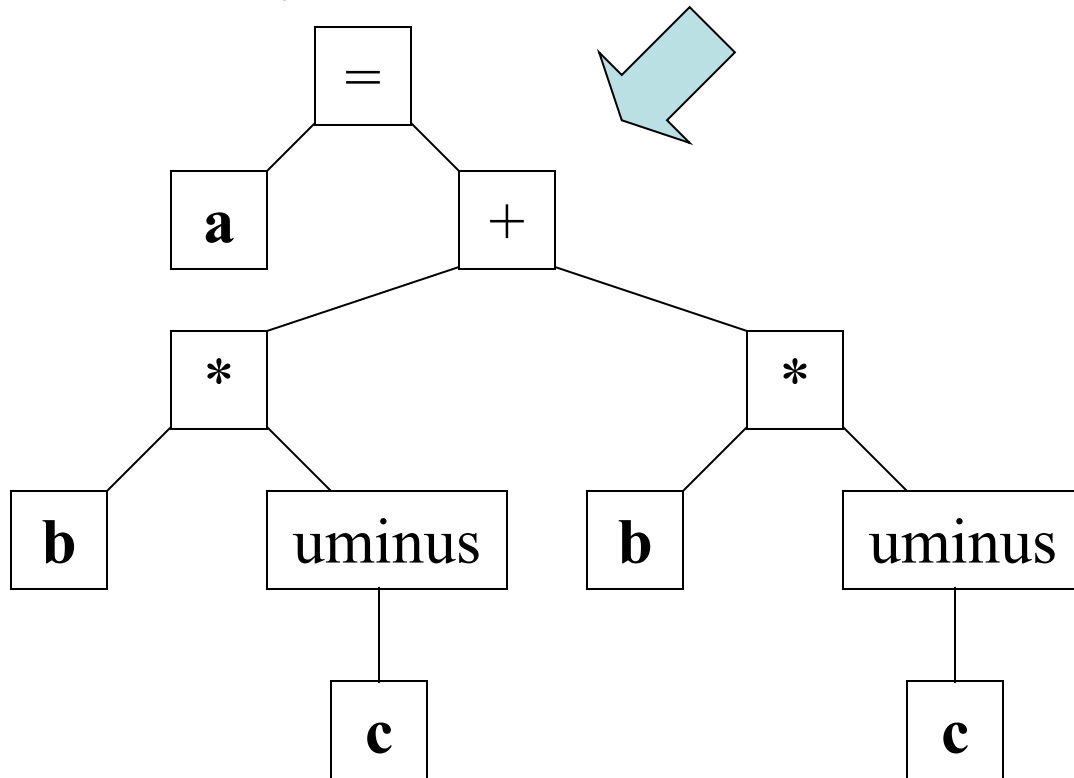
- A **Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)** is similar to a parse tree
- The DAG enables efficient code generation
- A node **N** in **DAG** has more than one parent if N represents a common sub-expression.
- The **Abstract Syntax Tree** for the common sub-expression would be replicated as many times as the sub-expression appears in the original expression.

# Abstract Syntax Trees vs. DAGs - Example

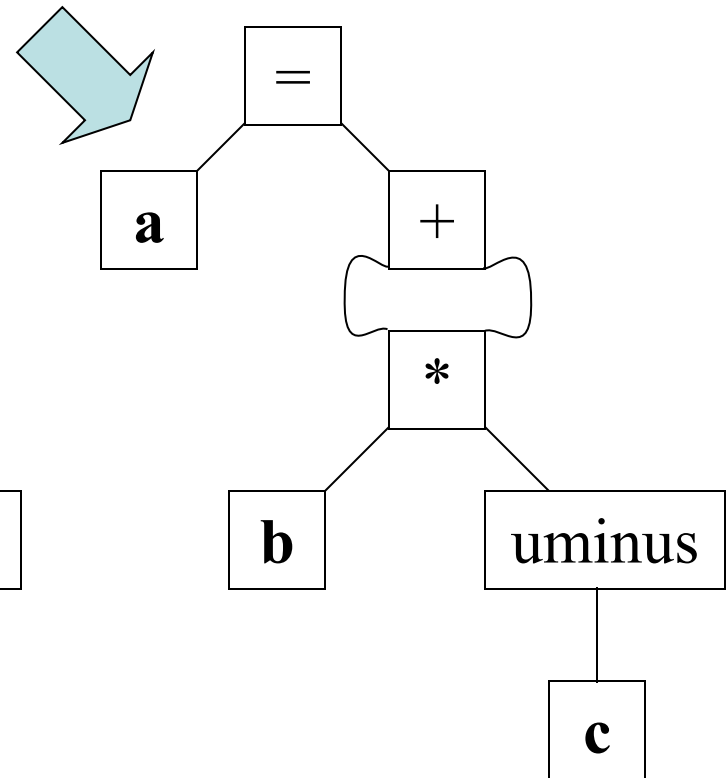
Show different graph representation for the following expression

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

Abstract syntax tree



DAG





# Postfix Notation Translation - Example

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

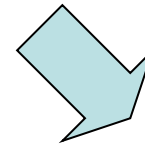


**a b c uminus \* b c uminus \* + assign**

**Postfix notation** represents  
operations on a stack

**Pros:** easy to generate

**Cons:** stack operations are more  
difficult to optimize



**Bytecode** (where a:1, b:2, c:3)

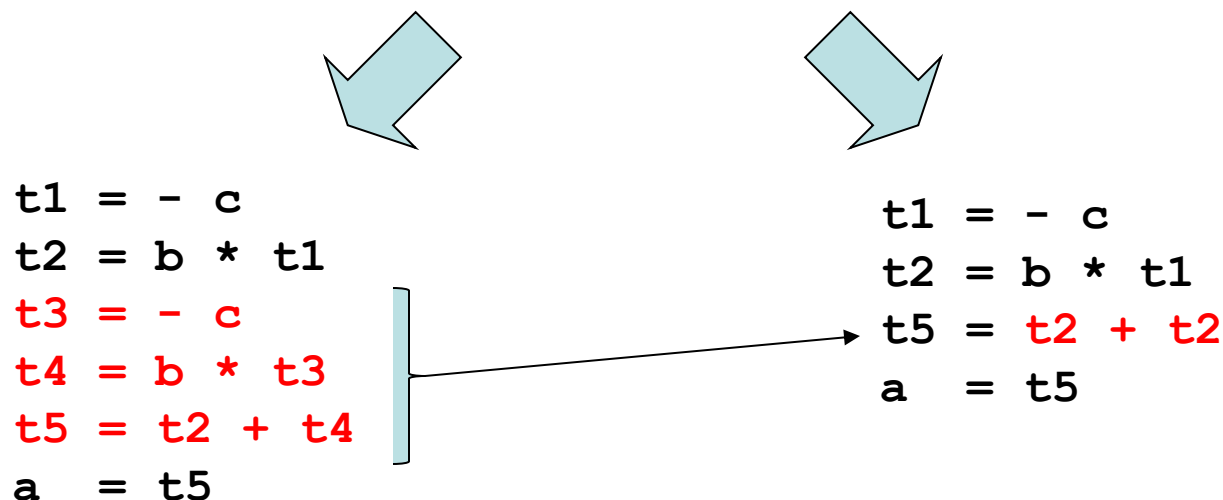
Instruction	Meaning
-----	-----
iload 2	// push b
iload 3	// push c
ineg	// uminus
imul	// *
iload 2	// push b
iload 3	// push c
ineg	// uminus
imul	// *
iadd	// +
istore 1	// store a

# Three-Address Code - Example

Write the three-address code of the following expression:

Note: In three-address code there is at most one operator on the right side of an instruction

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



Linearized representation  
of abstract syntax tree

Linearized representation  
of a syntax DAG

# Three-Address Code Statements - Examples

- **Assignment** statements:  $x = y \text{ op } z$ ,  $x = \text{op } y$
- **Indexed** assignments:  $x = y[i]$ ,  $x[i] = y$
- **Address** assignments:  $x = \&y$  (the r-value of x is made equal to the content of (location) y).
- **Pointer** assignments:  $x = *y$  (the r-value of x is made equal to the content of the location pointed to by y).
- **Pointer** assignments:  $*x = y$  (sets the r-value of the object pointed to by x to the r-value of y)

# Three-Address Code Statements - Examples <sup>12</sup>

- **Copy** statements:  $x = y$
- **Unconditional jumps**: **goto**  $lab$  (the instruction labeled  $lab$  is the next to be executed)
- **Conditional jumps**: **if**  $x \text{ relop } y$  **goto**  $lab$  (apply a relational operator ( $==$ ,  $<$ ,  $>$ , ...etc.) to  $x$  and  $y$ , and execute the instruction with label  $lab$  next if true.

# Three-Address Code Statements - Examples <sup>13</sup>

- Assume a function with  $n$  parameters:

**param**  $x1$

**param**  $x2$

**param**  $x3$

.....

**param**  $xn$

- **Function call:**

**call**  $f, n$

**return**  $y$

Generates a call of the function  $f$  with parameters  $(x1, x2, x3, \dots, xn)$  and returns the function call value  $y$ .

# Syntax-Directed Translation into Three-Address Code – Example 1

## Productions:

$S \rightarrow \text{id} = E$   
 $\quad | \text{while } E \text{ do } S$   
 $E \rightarrow E_1 + E_2$   
 $\quad | E_1 * E_2$   
 $\quad | - E_1$   
 $\quad | ( E_1 )$   
 $\quad | \text{id}$   
 $\quad | \text{num}$

## 1. Synthesized attributes:

$S.\text{code}$	three-address code for $S$
$S.\text{begin}$	label to start of $S$ or null
$S.\text{after}$	label to end of $S$ or null
$E.\text{code}$	three-address code for $E$
$E.\text{place}$	a name holding the value of $E$

$\text{gen}(E.\text{place} \text{ '=' } E_1.\text{place} \text{ '+' } E_2.\text{place})$

Three Address Code generation  $\longrightarrow$   $t3 = t1 + t2$

# Syntax-Directed Translation into Three-Address Code – Example 1

**Productions:**    **2. Semantic rules:**

$S \rightarrow \mathbf{id} = E$	$S.\mathbf{code} = E.\mathbf{code} \parallel \mathit{gen}(\mathbf{id.place} \mathbf{'='} E.\mathbf{place}); S.\mathbf{begin} = S.\mathbf{after} = \mathbf{null}$
$S \rightarrow \mathbf{while} E$ $\mathbf{do} S_1$	$\longrightarrow (see\ next\ slide)$
$E \rightarrow E_1 + E_2$	$E.\mathbf{place} = \mathit{newtemp}();$ // generates a new temporary name to hold the value of E $E.\mathbf{code} = E_1.\mathbf{code} \parallel E_2.\mathbf{code} \parallel \mathit{gen}(E.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'='} E_1.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'+'} E_2.\mathbf{place})$
$E \rightarrow E_1 * E_2$	$E.\mathbf{place} = \mathit{newtemp}();$ $E.\mathbf{code} = E_1.\mathbf{code} \parallel E_2.\mathbf{code} \parallel \mathit{gen}(E.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'='} E_1.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'*'} E_2.\mathbf{place})$
$E \rightarrow - E_1$	$E.\mathbf{place} = \mathit{newtemp}();$ $E.\mathbf{code} = E_1.\mathbf{code} \parallel \mathit{gen}(E.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'='} \mathbf{'uminus'} E_1.\mathbf{place})$
$E \rightarrow ( E_1 )$	$E.\mathbf{place} = E_1.\mathbf{place}$ $E.\mathbf{code} = E_1.\mathbf{code}$
$E \rightarrow \mathbf{id}$	$E.\mathbf{place} = \mathit{newtemp}();$ $E.\mathbf{code} = \mathit{gen}(E.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'='} \mathbf{id.name})$
$E \rightarrow \mathbf{num}$	$E.\mathbf{place} = \mathit{newtemp}();$ $E.\mathbf{code} = \mathit{gen}(E.\mathbf{place} \mathbf{'='} \mathbf{num.value})$

# Syntax-Directed Translation into Three-Address Code – Example 1

Production

$S \rightarrow \text{while } E \text{ do } S_1$

## 3. Semantic rule:

$S.\text{begin} = \text{newlabel}()$

$S.\text{after} = \text{newlabel}()$

$S.\text{code} = \text{gen}(S.\text{begin} \text{ ':'})$

||  $E.\text{code}$

||  $\text{gen}(\text{'if' } E.\text{place} \text{ '=' '0' 'goto' } S.\text{after})$

||  $S_1.\text{code}$

||  $\text{gen}(\text{'goto' } S.\text{begin})$

||  $\text{gen}(S.\text{after} \text{ ':'})$

$S.\text{begin}:$

$E.\text{code}$

**if**  $E.\text{place} = 0$  **goto**  $S.\text{after}$

$S_1.\text{code}$

**goto**  $S.\text{begin}$

$S.\text{after}:$

...



# Three-Address Code – Example2

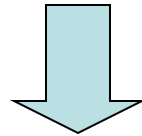
17

Write the three-address code of the following expressions:

**i = 2 \* n + k**

**while i do** //True

**i = i - k**



t1 = 2

t2 = t1 \* n

t3 = t2 + k

i = t3

**L1:** if i = 0 goto L2 //False case

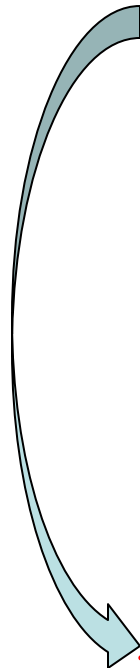
t4 = -k

t5 = i + t4

i = t5

goto L1 // continue

**L2:**



# Implementation of Three-Address Code Statements: **Quads**

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

```
t1 = minus c
t2 = b * t1
t3 = minus c
t4 = b * t3
t5 = t2 + t4
a  = t5
```

#	Op	Arg1	Arg2	Result in
(0)	uminus	c		t1
(1)	*	b	t1	t2
(2)	uminus	c		t3
(3)	*	b	t3	t4
(4)	+	t2	t4	t5
(5)	=	t5		a

Quads (quadruples)

Pros: easy to rearrange code for global optimization

Cons: lots of temporaries

# Implementation of Three-Address Code Statements: Triples

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

```
t1 = minus c
t2 = b * t1
t3 = minus c
t4 = b * t3
t5 = t2 + t4
a  = t5
```

#	Op	Arg1	Arg2
(0)	uminus	c	
(1)	*	b	(0)
(2)	uminus	c	
(3)	*	b	(2)
(4)	+	(1)	(3)
(5)	=	a	(4)

Save the  
result in (1)

Save the  
result in (3)

Triples

Pros: temporaries are implicit

Cons: difficult to rearrange code

# Implementation of Three-Address

## Code Statements: **Pointers**

List of pointers to table

#	<i>Op</i>	<i>Arg1</i>	<i>Arg2</i>
(14)	uminus	c	
(15)	*	b	(14)
(16)	uminus	c	
(17)	*	b	(16)
(18)	+	(15)	(17)
(19)	=	a	(18)

#	<i>Stmt</i>
(0)	(14)
(1)	(15)
(2)	(16)
(3)	(17)
(4)	(18)
(5)	(19)

Enhancement over triples representation. It uses an additional instruction array to list the pointers to the triples in the desired order. Thus, instead of position, pointers are used to store the results.

Pros: temporaries are implicit & easier to rearrange code