# **Essentials of Compilation**

# An Incremental Approach

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This book is dedicated to the programming language wonks at Indiana University.

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## **Preface**

The tradition of compiler writing at Indiana University goes back to research and courses about programming languages by Daniel Friedman in the 1970's and 1980's. Dan conducted research on lazy evaluation [Friedman and Wise, 1976] in the context of Lisp [McCarthy, 1960] and then studied continuations [Felleisen and Friedman, 1986] and macros [Kohlbecker et al., 1986] in the context of the Scheme [Sussman and Jr., 1975], a dialect of Lisp. One of the students of those courses, Kent Dybvig, went on to build Chez Scheme [Dybvig, 2006], a production-quality and efficient compiler for Scheme. After completing his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina, Kent returned to teach at Indiana University. Throughout the 1990's and 2000's, Kent continued development of Chez Scheme and taught the compiler course.

The compiler course evolved to incorporate novel pedagogical ideas while also including elements of effective real-world compilers. One of Dan's ideas was to split the compiler into many small "passes" so that the code for each pass would be easy to understood in isolation. (In contrast, most compilers of the time were organized into only a few monolithic passes for reasons of compile-time efficiency.) Kent, with later help from his students Dipanwita Sarkar and Andrew Keep, developed infrastructure to support this approach and evolved the course, first to use micro-sized passes and then into even smaller nano passes [Sarkar et al., 2004, Keep, 2012]. Jeremy Siek was a student in this compiler course in the early 2000's, as part of his Ph.D. studies at Indiana University. Needless to say, Jeremy enjoyed the course immensely!

During that time, another student named Abdulaziz Ghuloum observed that the front-to-back organization of the course made it difficult for students to understand the rationale for the compiler design. Abdulaziz proposed an incremental approach in which the students build the compiler in stages; they start by implementing a complete compiler for a very small subset of the input language and in each subsequent stage they add a language feature

and add or modify passes to handle the new feature [Ghuloum, 2006]. In this way, the students see how the language features motivate aspects of the compiler design.

After graduating from Indiana University in 2005, Jeremy went on to teach at the University of Colorado. He adapted the nano pass and incremental approaches to compiling a subset of the Python language [Siek and Chang, 2012]. Python and Scheme are quite different on the surface but there is a large overlap in the compiler techniques required for the two languages. Thus, Jeremy was able to teach much of the same content from the Indiana compiler course. He very much enjoyed teaching the course organized in this way, and even better, many of the students learned a lot and got excited about compilers.

Jeremy returned to teach at Indiana University in 2013. In his absence the compiler course had switched from the front-to-back organization to a back-to-front organization. Seeing how well the incremental approach worked at Colorado, he started porting and adapting the structure of the Colorado course back into the land of Scheme. In the meantime Indiana had moved on from Scheme to Racket, so the course is now about compiling a subset of Racket (and Typed Racket) to the x86 assembly language. The compiler is implemented in Racket 7.1 [Flatt and PLT, 2014].

This is the textbook for the incremental version of the compiler course at Indiana University (Spring 2016 - present) and it is the first open textbook for an Indiana compiler course. With this book we hope to make the Indiana compiler course available to people that have not had the chance to study in Bloomington in person. Many of the compiler design decisions in this book are drawn from the assignment descriptions of Dybvig and Keep [2010]. We have captured what we think are the most important topics from Dybvig and Keep [2010] but we have omitted topics that we think are less interesting conceptually and we have made simplifications to reduce complexity. In this way, this book leans more towards pedagogy than towards the efficiency of the generated code. Also, the book differs in places where we saw the opportunity to make the topics more fun, such as in relating register allocation to Sudoku (Chapter 3).

### Prerequisites

The material in this book is challenging but rewarding. It is meant to prepare students for a lifelong career in programming languages.

The book uses the Racket language both for the implementation of the

LIST OF FIGURES 3

compiler and for the language that is compiled, so a student should be proficient with Racket (or Scheme) prior to reading this book. There are many excellent resources for learning Scheme and Racket [Dybvig, 1987, Abelson and Sussman, 1996, Friedman and Felleisen, 1996, Felleisen et al., 2001, 2013, Flatt et al., 2014]. It is helpful but not necessary for the student to have prior exposure to the x86 (or x86-64) assembly language [Intel, 2015], as one might obtain from a computer systems course [Bryant and O'Hallaron, 2005, 2010]. This book introduces the parts of x86-64 assembly language that are needed.

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### 1

## **Preliminaries**

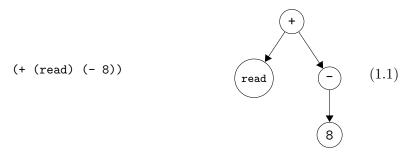
In this chapter we review the basic tools that are needed to implement a compiler. Programs are typically input by a programmer as text, i.e., a sequence of characters. The program-as-text representation is called *concrete syntax*. We use concrete syntax to concisely write down and talk about programs. Inside the compiler, we use *abstract syntax trees* (ASTs) to represent programs in a way that efficiently supports the operations that the compiler needs to perform. The translation from concrete syntax to abstract syntax is a process called *parsing* Aho et al. [1986]. We do not cover the theory and implementation of parsing in this book. A parser is provided in the supporting materials for translating from concrete syntax to abstract syntax for the languages used in this book.

ASTs can be represented in many different ways inside the compiler, depending on the programming language used to write the compiler. We use Racket's struct feature to represent ASTs (Section 1.1). We use grammars to define the abstract syntax of programming languages (Section 1.2) and pattern matching to inspect individual nodes in an AST (Section 1.3). We use recursion to construct and deconstruct entire ASTs (Section 1.4). This chapter provides an brief introduction to these ideas.

### 1.1 Abstract Syntax Trees and Racket Structures

Compilers use abstract syntax trees to represent programs because compilers often need to ask questions like: for a given part of a program, what kind of language feature is it? What are the sub-parts of this part of the program? Consider the program on the left and its AST on the right. This program is an addition and it has two sub-parts, a read operation and a negation. The

negation has another sub-part, the integer constant 8. By using a tree to represent the program, we can easily follow the links to go from one part of a program to its sub-parts.



We use the standard terminology for trees to describe ASTs: each circle above is called a *node*. The arrows connect a node to its *children* (which are also nodes). The top-most node is the *root*. Every node except for the root has a *parent* (the node it is the child of). If a node has no children, it is a *leaf* node. Otherwise it is an *internal* node.

We define a Racket struct for each kind of node. For this chapter we require just two kinds of nodes: one for integer constants and one for primitive operations. The following is the struct definition for integer constants.

```
(struct Int (value))
```

An integer node includes just one thing: the integer value. To create a AST node for the integer 8, we write (Int 8).

```
(define eight (Int 8))
```

We say that the value created by (Int 8) is an *instance* of the Int structure. The following is the **struct** definition for primitives operations.

```
(struct Prim (op arg*))
```

A primitive operation node includes an operator symbol op and a list of children arg\*. For example, to create an AST that negates the number 8, we write (Prim '- (list eight)).

```
(define neg-eight (Prim '- (list eight)))
```

Primitive operations may have zero or more children. The **read** operator has zero children:

```
(define rd (Prim 'read '()))
```

whereas the addition operator has two children:

1.2. GRAMMARS 7

```
(define ast1.1 (Prim '+ (list rd neg-eight)))
```

We have made a design choice regarding the Prim structure. Instead of using one structure for many different operations (read, +, and -), we could have instead defined a structure for each operation, as follows.

```
(struct Read ())
(struct Add (left right))
(struct Neg (value))
```

The reason we choose to use just one structure is that in many parts of the compiler the code for the different primitive operators is the same, so we might as well just write that code once, which is enabled by using a single structure.

When compiling a program such as (1.1), we need to know that the operation associated with the root node is addition and we need to be able to access its two children. Racket provides pattern matching over structures to support these kinds of queries, as we shall see in Section 1.3.

In this book, we often write down the concrete syntax of a program even when we really have in mind the AST because the concrete syntax is more concise. We recommend that, in your mind, you always think of programs as abstract syntax trees.

#### 1.2 Grammars

A programming language can be thought of as a *set* of programs. The set is typically infinite (one can always create larger and larger programs), so one cannot simply describe a language by listing all of the programs in the language. Instead we write down a set of rules, a *grammar*, for building programs. Grammars are often used to define the concrete syntax of a language, but they can also be used to describe the abstract syntax. We shall write our rules in a variant of Backus-Naur Form (BNF) [Backus et al., 1960, Knuth, 1964]. As an example, we describe a small language, named  $R_0$ , that consists of integers and arithmetic operations.

The first grammar rule for the abstract syntax of  $R_0$  says that an instance of the Int structure is an expression:

$$exp ::= (Int int)$$
 (1.2)

Each rule has a left-hand-side and a right-hand-side. The way to read a rule is that if you have all the program parts on the right-hand-side, then

you can create an AST node and categorize it according to the left-hand-side. A name such as exp that is defined by the grammar rules is a non-terminal. The name int is a also a non-terminal, but instead of defining it with a grammar rule, we define it with the following explanation. We make the simplifying design decision that all of the languages in this book only handle machine-representable integers. On most modern machines this corresponds to integers represented with 64-bits, i.e., the in range  $-2^{63}$  to  $2^{63}-1$ . We restrict this range further to match the Racket fixnum datatype, which allows 63-bit integers on a 64-bit machine. So an int is a sequence of decimals (0 to 9), possibly starting with - (for negative integers), such that the sequence of decimals represent an integer in range  $-2^{62}$  to  $2^{62}-1$ .

The second grammar rule is the **read** operation that receives an input integer from the user of the program.

$$exp ::= (Prim 'read '())$$
 (1.3)

The third rule says that, given an *exp* node, you can build another *exp* node by negating it.

$$exp ::= (Prim '- (list exp))$$
 (1.4)

Symbols in typewriter font such as - and read are *terminal* symbols and must literally appear in the program for the rule to be applicable.

We can apply the rules to build ASTs in the  $R_0$  language. For example, by rule (1.2), (Int 8) is an exp, then by rule (1.4), the following AST is an exp.

The next grammar rule defines addition expressions:

$$exp ::= (Prim '+ (list exp exp))$$
 (1.6)

We can now justify that the AST (1.1) is an exp in  $R_0$ . We know that (Prim 'read '()) is an exp by rule (1.3) and we have already shown that (Prim '- (list (Int 8))) is an exp, so we apply rule (1.6) to show that

```
egin{array}{ll} exp & ::= & int \mid (\mathtt{read}) \mid (\mathtt{-}\ exp) \mid (\mathtt{+}\ exp\ exp) \ R_0 & ::= & exp \end{array}
```

Figure 1.1: The concrete syntax of  $R_0$ .

```
exp ::= (Int int) \mid (Prim 'read '()) \mid (Prim '- (list exp )) \mid (Prim '+ (list exp exp))
R_0 ::= (Program '() exp)
```

Figure 1.2: The abstract syntax of  $R_0$ .

is an exp in the  $R_0$  language.

If you have an AST for which the above rules do not apply, then the AST is not in  $R_0$ . For example, the program (- (read) (+ 8)) is not in  $R_0$  because there are no rules for + with only one argument, nor for - with two arguments. Whenever we define a language with a grammar, the language only includes those programs that are justified by the rules.

The last grammar rule for  $R_0$  states that there is a Program node to mark the top of the whole program:

```
R_0 ::= (\operatorname{Program}, () exp)
```

The Program structure is defined as follows

```
(struct Program (info body))
```

where body is an expression. In later chapters, the info part will be used to store auxiliary information but for now it is just the empty list.

It is common to have many grammar rules with the same left-hand side but different right-hand sides, such as the rules for exp in the grammar of  $R_0$ . As a short-hand, a vertical bar can be used to combine several right-hand-sides into a single rule.

We collect all of the grammar rules for the abstract syntax of  $R_0$  in Figure 1.2. The concrete syntax for  $R_0$  is defined in Figure 1.1.

The read-program function provided in utilities.rkt of the support materials reads a program in from a file (the sequence of characters in the concrete syntax of Racket) and parses it into an abstract syntax tree. See the description of read-program in Appendix 12.2 for more details.

#### 1.3 Pattern Matching

As mentioned in Section 1.1, compilers often need to access the parts of an AST node. Racket provides the match form to access the parts of a structure. Consider the following example and the output on the right.

In the above example, the match form takes the AST (1.1) and binds its parts to the three pattern variables op, child1, and child2. In general, a match clause consists of a pattern and a body. Patterns are recursively defined to be either a pattern variable, a structure name followed by a pattern for each of the structure's arguments, or an S-expression (symbols, lists, etc.). (See Chapter 12 of The Racket Guide¹ and Chapter 9 of The Racket Reference² for a complete description of match.) The body of a match clause may contain arbitrary Racket code. The pattern variables can be used in the scope of the body.

A match form may contain several clauses, as in the following function leaf? that recognizes when an  $R_0$  node is a leaf. The match proceeds through the clauses in order, checking whether the pattern can match the input AST. The body of the first clause that matches is executed. The output of leaf? for several ASTs is shown on the right.

```
(define (leaf? arith)
  (match arith
      [(Int n) #t]
      [(Prim 'read '()) #t]
      [(Prim '- (list c1)) #f]
      [(Prim '+ (list c1 c2)) #f]))

(leaf? (Prim 'read '())) #t
(leaf? (Prim '- (list (Int 8)))) #f
(leaf? (Int 8)) #t
```

When writing a match, we refer to the grammar definition to identify which non-terminal we are expecting to match against, then we make sure that 1) we have one clause for each alternative of that non-terminal and 2)

https://docs.racket-lang.org/guide/match.html

<sup>2</sup>https://docs.racket-lang.org/reference/match.html

that the pattern in each clause corresponds to the corresponding right-hand side of a grammar rule. For the match in the leaf? function, we refer to the grammar for  $R_0$  in Figure 1.2. The exp non-terminal has 4 alternatives, so the match has 4 clauses. The pattern in each clause corresponds to the right-hand side of a grammar rule. For example, the pattern (Prim '+ (list c1 c2)) corresponds to the right-hand side (Prim '+ (list exp exp)). When translating from grammars to patterns, replace non-terminals such as exp with pattern variables of your choice (e.g. c1 and c2).

#### 1.4 Recursion

Programs are inherently recursive. For example, an  $R_0$  expression is often made of smaller expressions. Thus, the natural way to process an entire program is with a recursive function. As a first example of such a recursive function, we define  $\exp$ ? below, which takes an arbitrary value and determines whether or not it is an  $R_0$  expression. When a recursive function is defined using a sequence of match clauses that correspond to a grammar, and the body of each clause makes a recursive call on each child node, then we say the function is defined by  $structural\ recursion^3$ . Below we also define a second function, named R0?, that determines whether a value is an  $R_0$  program. In general we can expect to write one recursive function to handle each non-terminal in a grammar.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>This principle of structuring code according to the data definition is advocated in the book *How to Design Programs* http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/matthias/HtDP2e/.

```
(define (exp? ast)
 (match ast
   [(Int n) #t]
   [(Prim 'read '()) #t]
   [(Prim '- (list e)) (exp? e)]
   [(Prim '+ (list e1 e2))
     (and (exp? e1) (exp? e2))]
   [else #f]))
(define (RO? ast)
 (match ast
   [(Program '() e) (exp? e)]
   [else #f]))
(RO? (Program '() ast1.1)
                                                     #t
(RO? (Program '()
                                                     #f
      (Prim '- (list (Prim 'read '())
                    (Prim '+ (list (Num 8)))))))
```

You may be tempted to merge the two functions into one, like this:

```
(define (R0? ast)
  (match ast
      [(Int n) #t]
      [(Prim 'read '()) #t]
      [(Prim '- (list e)) (R0? e)]
      [(Prim '+ (list e1 e2)) (and (R0? e1) (R0? e2))]
      [(Program '() e) (R0? e)]
      [else #f]))
```

Sometimes such a trick will save a few lines of code, especially when it comes to the Program wrapper. Yet this style is generally *not* recommended because it can get you into trouble. For example, the above function is subtly wrong: (RO? (Program '() (Program '() (Int 3)))) will return true, when it should return false.

### 1.5 Interpreters

The meaning, or semantics, of a program is typically defined in the specification of the language. For example, the Scheme language is defined in the report by Sperber et al. [2009]. The Racket language is defined in its reference manual [Flatt and PLT, 2014]. In this book we use an interpreter

```
(define (interp-exp e)
 (match e
   [(Int n) n]
   [(Prim 'read '())
    (define r (read))
    (cond [(fixnum? r) r]
          [else (error 'interp-RO "expected an integer" r)])]
   [(Prim '- (list e))
    (define v (interp-exp e))
    (fx-0v)
   [(Prim '+ (list e1 e2))
    (define v1 (interp-exp e1))
    (define v2 (interp-exp e2))
    (fx+ v1 v2)]
   ))
(define (interp-RO p)
 (match p
   [(Program '() e) (interp-exp e)]
   ))
```

Figure 1.3: Interpreter for the  $R_0$  language.

to define the meaning of each language that we consider, following Reynolds' advice [Reynolds, 1972]. An interpreter that is designated (by some people) as the definition of a language is called a *definitional interpreter*. We warm up by creating a definitional interpreter for the  $R_0$  language, which serves as a second example of structural recursion. The interp-R0 function is defined in Figure 1.3. The body of the function is a match on the input program followed by a call to the interp-exp helper function, which in turn has one match clause per grammar rule for  $R_0$  expressions.

Let us consider the result of interpreting a few  $R_0$  programs. The following program adds two integers.

```
(+1032)
```

The result is 42. We wrote the above program in concrete syntax, whereas the parsed abstract syntax is:

```
(Program '() (Prim '+ (list (Int 10) (Int 32))))
```

The next example demonstrates that expressions may be nested within each other, in this case nesting several additions and negations.

```
(+ 10 (- (+ 12 20)))
```

What is the result of the above program?

As mentioned previously, the  $R_0$  language does not support arbitrarilylarge integers, but only 63-bit integers, so we interpret the arithmetic operations of  $R_0$  using fixnum arithmetic in Racket. Suppose

which indeed fits in 63-bits. What happens when we run the following program in our interpreter?

```
(+ (+ (+ n n) (+ n n)) (+ (+ n n) (+ n n))))
```

It produces an error:

```
fx+: result is not a fixnum
```

We establish the convention that if running the definitional interpreter on a program produces an error, then the meaning of that program is *unspecified*. That means a compiler for the language is under no obligations regarding that program; it may or may not produce an executable, and if it does, that executable can do anything. This convention applies to the languages defined in this book, as a way to simplify the student's task of implementing them, but this convention is not applicable to all programming languages.

Moving on to the last feature of the  $R_0$  language, the read operation prompts the user of the program for an integer. Recall that program (1.1) performs a read and then subtracts 8. So if we run

```
(interp-R0 (Program '() ast1.1))
```

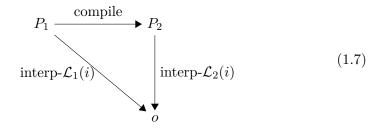
and if the input is 50, then we get the answer to life, the universe, and everything: 42!<sup>4</sup>

We include the **read** operation in  $R_0$  so a clever student cannot implement a compiler for  $R_0$  that simply runs the interpreter during compilation to obtain the output and then generates the trivial code to produce the output. (Yes, a clever student did this in the first instance of this course.)

The job of a compiler is to translate a program in one language into a program in another language so that the output program behaves the same way as the input program does according to its definitional interpreter. This idea is depicted in the following diagram. Suppose we have two languages,  $\mathcal{L}_1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2$ , and an interpreter for each language. Suppose that the compiler translates program  $P_1$  in language  $\mathcal{L}_1$  into program  $P_2$  in language  $\mathcal{L}_2$ . Then

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams.

interpreting  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  on their respective interpreters with input i should yield the same output o.



In the next section we see our first example of a compiler.

#### 1.6 Example Compiler: a Partial Evaluator

In this section we consider a compiler that translates  $R_0$  programs into  $R_0$  programs that may be more efficient, that is, this compiler is an optimizer. This optimizer eagerly computes the parts of the program that do not depend on any inputs, a process known as partial evaluation Jones et al. [1993]. For example, given the following program

our compiler will translate it into the program

$$(+ (read) -8)$$

Figure 1.4 gives the code for a simple partial evaluator for the  $R_0$  language. The output of the partial evaluator is an  $R_0$  program. In Figure 1.4, the structural recursion over exp is captured in the pe-exp function whereas the code for partially evaluating the negation and addition operations is factored into two separate helper functions: pe-neg and pe-add. The input to these helper functions is the output of partially evaluating the children.

The pe-neg and pe-add functions check whether their arguments are integers and if they are, perform the appropriate arithmetic. Otherwise, they create an AST node for the operation (either negation or addition).

To gain some confidence that the partial evaluator is correct, we can test whether it produces programs that get the same result as the input programs. That is, we can test whether it satisfies Diagram (1.7). The following code runs the partial evaluator on several examples and tests the output program. The parse-program and assert functions are defined in

```
(define (pe-neg r)
 (match r
   [(Int n) (Int (fx-0 n))]
   [else (Prim '- (list r))]))
(define (pe-add r1 r2)
 (match* (r1 r2)
   [((Int n1) (Int n2)) (Int (fx+ n1 n2))]
   [(_ _) (Prim '+ (list r1 r2))]))
(define (pe-exp e)
 (match e
   [(Int n) (Int n)]
   [(Prim 'read '()) (Prim 'read '())]
   [(Prim '- (list e1)) (pe-neg (pe-exp e1))]
   [(Prim '+ (list e1 e2)) (pe-add (pe-exp e1) (pe-exp e2))]
   ))
(define (pe-R0 p)
 (match p
   [(Program '() e) (Program '() (pe-exp e))]
   ))
```

Figure 1.4: A partial evaluator for  $R_0$  expressions.

```
Appendix 12.2.
```

```
(define (test-pe p)
  (assert "testing pe-R0"
        (equal? (interp-R0 p) (interp-R0 (pe-R0 p)))))

(test-pe (parse-program `(program () (+ 10 (- (+ 5 3))))))
(test-pe (parse-program `(program () (+ 1 (+ 3 1)))))
(test-pe (parse-program `(program () (- (+ 3 (- 5))))))
```

# Integers and Variables

This chapter is about compiling the subset of Racket that includes integer arithmetic and local variable binding, which we name  $R_1$ , to x86-64 assembly code [Intel, 2015]. Henceforth we shall refer to x86-64 simply as x86. The chapter begins with a description of the  $R_1$  language (Section 2.1) followed by a description of x86 (Section 2.2). The x86 assembly language is large, so we discuss only what is needed for compiling  $R_1$ . We introduce more of x86 in later chapters. Once we have introduced  $R_1$  and x86, we reflect on their differences and come up with a plan to break down the translation from  $R_1$  to x86 into a handful of steps (Section 2.3). The rest of the sections in this chapter give detailed hints regarding each step (Sections 2.4 through 2.9). We hope to give enough hints that the well-prepared reader, together with a few friends, can implement a compiler from  $R_1$  to x86 in a couple weeks while at the same time leaving room for some fun and creativity. To give the reader a feeling for the scale of this first compiler, the instructor solution for the  $R_1$  compiler is less than 500 lines of code.

### 2.1 The $R_1$ Language

The  $R_1$  language extends the  $R_0$  language with variable definitions. The concrete syntax of the  $R_1$  language is defined by the grammar in Figure 2.1 and the abstract syntax is defined in Figure 2.2. The non-terminal var may be any Racket identifier. As in  $R_0$ , read is a nullary operator, – is a unary operator, and + is a binary operator. Similar to  $R_0$ , the abstract syntax of  $R_1$  includes the Program struct to mark the top of the program. Despite the simplicity of the  $R_1$  language, it is rich enough to exhibit several compilation techniques.

```
exp ::= int \mid (\texttt{read}) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp \ exp)
\mid var \mid (\texttt{let} ([var \ exp]) \ exp)
R_1 ::= exp
```

Figure 2.1: The concrete syntax of  $R_1$ .

Figure 2.2: The abstract syntax of  $R_1$ .

Let us dive further into the syntax and semantics of the  $R_1$  language. The Let feature defines a variable for use within its body and initializes the variable with the value of an expression. The abstract syntax for Let is defined in Figure 2.2. The concrete syntax for Let is

```
(let ([var exp]) exp)
```

For example, the following program initializes x to 32 and then evaluates the body (+ 10 x), producing 42.

```
(let ([x (+ 12 20)]) (+ 10 x))
```

When there are multiple let's for the same variable, the closest enclosing let is used. That is, variable definitions overshadow prior definitions. Consider the following program with two let's that define variables named x. Can you figure out the result?

```
(let ([x 32]) (+ (let ([x 10]) x) x))
```

For the purposes of depicting which variable uses correspond to which definitions, the following shows the x's annotated with subscripts to distinguish them. Double check that your answer for the above is the same as your answer for this annotated version of the program.

```
(let ([x_1 32]) (+ (let ([x_2 10]) x_2) x_1))
```

The initializing expression is always evaluated before the body of the let, so in the following, the read for x is performed before the read for y. Given the input 52 then 10, the following produces 42 (not -42).

```
(let ([x (read)]) (let ([y (read)]) (+ x (- y))))
```

Figure 2.3 shows the definitional interpreter for the  $R_1$  language. It extends the interpreter for  $R_0$  with two new match clauses for variables and for let. For let, we need a way to communicate the value of a variable to all the uses of a variable. To accomplish this, we maintain a mapping from variables to values. Throughout the compiler we often need to map variables to information about them. We refer to these mappings as environments <sup>1</sup>. For simplicity, we use an association list (alist) to represent the environment. The sidebar to the right gives a brief introduction to alists and the racket/dict package. The interp-R1 function takes the current environment, env, as an extra parameter. When the interpreter encounters a variable, it finds the corresponding value using the dict-ref function. When the interpreter encounters a Let, it evaluates the initializing expression, extends the environment with the result value bound to the variable, using dict-set, then evaluates the body of the Let.

#### Association Lists as Dictionaries

An association list (alist) is a list of keyvalue pairs. For example, we can map people to their ages with an alist.

```
(define ages '((jane . 25) (sam . 24) (kate . 45)))
```

The dictionary interface is for mapping keys to values. Every alist implements this interface. The package racket/dict provides many functions for working with dictionaries. Here are a few of them:

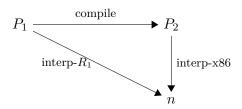
(dict-ref dict key) returns the value associated with the given key.

(dict-set dict key val) returns a new dictionary that maps key to val but otherwise is the same as dict.

(in-dict dict) returns the sequence of keys and values in dict. For example, the following creates a new alist in which the ages are incremented.

(for/list ([(k v) (in-dict ages)])
 (cons k (add1 v)))

The goal for this chapter is to implement a compiler that translates any program  $P_1$  written in the  $R_1$  language into an x86 assembly program  $P_2$  such that  $P_2$  exhibits the same behavior when run on a computer as the  $P_1$  program interpreted by interp-R1. That is, they both output the same integer n. We depict this correctness criteria in the following diagram.



In the next section we introduce enough of the x86 assembly language to compile  $R_1$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Another common term for environment in the compiler literature is *symbol table*.

```
(define (interp-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (match e
     [(Int n) n]
     [(Prim 'read '())
      (define r (read))
      (cond [(fixnum? r) r]
           [else (error 'interp-R1 "expected an integer" r)])]
     [(Prim '- (list e))
      (define v ((interp-exp env) e))
      (fx-0v)
     [(Prim '+ (list e1 e2))
      (define v1 ((interp-exp env) e1))
      (define v2 ((interp-exp env) e2))
      (fx+ v1 v2)]
     [(Var x) (dict-ref env x)]
     [(Let x e body)
      (define new-env (dict-set env x ((interp-exp env) e)))
      ((interp-exp new-env) body)]
     )))
(define (interp-R1 p)
 (match p
   [(Program '() e) ((interp-exp '()) e)]
   ))
```

Figure 2.3: Interpreter for the  $R_1$  language.

Figure 2.4: The concrete syntax of the  $x86_0$  assembly language (AT&T syntax).

#### 2.2 The x86<sub>0</sub> Assembly Language

Figure 2.4 defines the concrete syntax for the subset of the x86 assembly language needed for this chapter, which we call  $x86_0$ . An x86 program begins with a main label followed by a sequence of instructions. In the grammar, elipses such as ... are used to indicate a sequence of items, e.g., instr... is a sequence of instructions. An x86 program is stored in the computer's memory and the computer has a program counter (PC) that points to the address of the next instruction to be executed. For most instructions, once the instruction is executed, the program counter is incremented to point to the immediately following instruction in memory. Most x86 instructions take two operands, where each operand is either an integer constant (called immediate value), a register, or a memory location. A register is a special kind of variable. Each one holds a 64-bit value; there are 16 registers in the computer and their names are given in Figure 2.4. The computer's memory as a mapping of 64-bit addresses to 64-bit values<sup>2</sup>. We use the AT&T syntax expected by the GNU assembler, which comes with the gcc compiler that we use for compiling assembly code to machine code. Appendix 12.3 is a quick-reference for all of the x86 instructions used in this book.

An immediate value is written using the notation n where n is an integer. A register is written with a n followed by the register name, such as rax. An access to memory is specified using the syntax n(n), which obtains the address stored in register r and then adds n bytes to the address.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This simple story suffices for describing how sequential programs access memory but is not sufficient for multi-threaded programs. However, multi-threaded execution is beyond the scope of this book.

```
.globl main
main:
    movq $10, %rax
addq $32, %rax
retq
```

Figure 2.5: An x86 program equivalent to (+ 10 32).

The resulting address is used to either load or store to memory depending on whether it occurs as a source or destination argument of an instruction.

An arithmetic instruction such as  $\mathtt{addq}\,s$ , d reads from the source s and destination d, applies the arithmetic operation, then writes the result back to the destination d. The move instruction  $\mathtt{movq}\,s$ , d reads from s and stores the result in d. The  $\mathtt{callq}\,label$  instruction executes the procedure specified by the label and  $\mathtt{retq}$  returns from a procedure to its caller. We discuss procedure calls in more detail later in this chapter and in Chapter 6. The  $\mathtt{jmp}\,label$  instruction updates the program counter to the address of the instruction after the specified label.

Figure 2.5 depicts an x86 program that is equivalent to (+ 10 32). The glob1 directive says that the main procedure is externally visible, which is necessary so that the operating system can call it. The label main: indicates the beginning of the main procedure which is where the operating system starts executing this program. The instruction movq \$10, %rax puts 10 into register rax. The following instruction addq \$32, %rax adds 32 to the 10 in rax and puts the result, 42, back into rax. The last instruction, retq, finishes the main function by returning the integer in rax to the operating system. The operating system interprets this integer as the program's exit code. By convention, an exit code of 0 indicates that a program completed successfully, and all other exit codes indicate various errors. Nevertheless, we return the result of the program as the exit code.

Unfortunately, x86 varies in a couple ways depending on what operating system it is assembled in. The code examples shown here are correct on Linux and most Unix-like platforms, but when assembled on Mac OS X, labels like main must be prefixed with an underscore, as in \_main.

We exhibit the use of memory for storing intermediate results in the next example. Figure 2.6 lists an x86 program that is equivalent to (+ 52 (- 10)). This program uses a region of memory called the *procedure call stack* (or *stack* for short). The stack consists of a separate *frame* for each procedure call. The memory layout for an individual frame is shown in

```
start:
               $10, -8(%rbp)
       movq
       negq
               -8(%rbp)
       movq
               -8(%rbp), %rax
               $52, %rax
       addq
       jmp conclusion
       .globl main
main:
       pushq
               %rbp
       movq
               %rsp, %rbp
               $16, %rsp
       subq
       jmp start
conclusion:
       addq
               $16, %rsp
               %rbp
       popq
       retq
```

Figure 2.6: An x86 program equivalent to (+ 10 32).

Position	Contents
8(%rbp)	return address
0(%rbp)	old rbp
-8(%rbp)	variable 1
-16(%rbp)	variable 2
0(%rsp)	variable $n$

Figure 2.7: Memory layout of a frame.

Figure 2.7. The register rsp is called the *stack pointer* and points to the item at the top of the stack. The stack grows downward in memory, so we increase the size of the stack by subtracting from the stack pointer. In the context of a procedure call, the *return address* is the next instruction after the call instruction on the caller side. During a function call, the return address is pushed onto the stack. The register rbp is the *base pointer* and is used to access variables associated with the current procedure call. The base pointer of the caller is pushed onto the stack after the return address. We number the variables from 1 to n. Variable 1 is stored at address -8(%rbp), variable 2 at -16(%rbp), etc.

Getting back to the program in Figure 2.6, consider how control is trans-

fered from the operating system to the main function. The operating system issues a callq main instruction which pushes its return address on the stack and then jumps to main. In x86-64, the stack pointer rsp must be divisible by 16 bytes prior to the execution of any callq instruction, so when control arrives at main, the rsp is 8 bytes out of alignment (because the callq pushed the return address). The first three instructions are the typical prelude for a procedure. The instruction pushq %rbp saves the base pointer for the caller onto the stack and subtracts 8 from the stack pointer. At this point the stack pointer is back to being 16-byte aligned. The second instruction move %rsp, %rbp changes the base pointer so that it points the location of the old base pointer. The instruction subq \$16, %rsp moves the stack pointer down to make enough room for storing variables. This program needs one variable (8 bytes) but we round up to 16 bytes to maintain the 16-byte alignment of the rsp. With the rsp aligned, we are ready to make calls to other functions. The last instruction of the prelude is jmp start, which transfers control to the instructions that were generated from the Racket expression (+ 10 32).

The four instructions under the label start carry out the work of computing (+ 52 (- 10))). The first instruction movq \$10, -8(%rbp) stores 10 in variable 1. The instruction negq -8(%rbp) changes variable 1 to -10. The instruction movq \$52, %rax places 52 in the register rax and finally addq -8(%rbp), %rax adds the contents of variable 1 to rax, at which point rax contains 42.

The three instructions under the label conclusion are the typical conclusion of a procedure. The first two instructions are necessary to get the state of the machine back to where it was at the beginning of the procedure. The instruction addq \$16, %rsp moves the stack pointer back to point at the old base pointer. The amount added here needs to match the amount that was subtracted in the prelude of the procedure. Then popq %rbp returns the old base pointer to rbp and adds 8 to the stack pointer. The last instruction, retq, jumps back to the procedure that called this one and adds 8 to the stack pointer, which returns the stack pointer to where it was prior to the procedure call.

The compiler needs a convenient representation for manipulating x86 programs, so we define an abstract syntax for x86 in Figure 2.8. We refer to this language as  $x86_0$  with a subscript 0 because later we introduce extended versions of this assembly language. The main difference compared to the concrete syntax of x86 (Figure 2.4) is that it does not allow labeled instructions to appear anywhere, but instead organizes instructions into a group called a block and associates a label with every block, which is why

Figure 2.8: The abstract syntax of  $x86_0$  assembly.

the CFG struct (for control-flow graph) includes an alist mapping labels to blocks. The reason for this organization becomes apparent in Chapter 4 when we introduce conditional branching. The Block structure includes an *info* field that is not needed for this chapter, but will become useful in Chapter 3. For now, the *info* field should just contain an empty list.

## 2.3 Planning the trip to x86 via the $C_0$ language

To compile one language to another it helps to focus on the differences between the two languages because the compiler will need to bridge those differences. What are the differences between  $R_1$  and x86 assembly? Here are some of the most important ones:

- (a) x86 arithmetic instructions typically have two arguments and update the second argument in place. In contrast,  $R_1$  arithmetic operations take two arguments and produce a new value. An x86 instruction may have at most one memory-accessing argument. Furthermore, some instructions place special restrictions on their arguments.
- (b) An argument of an  $R_1$  operator can be any expression, whereas x86 instructions restrict their arguments to be integers constants, registers, and memory locations.
- (c) The order of execution in x86 is explicit in the syntax: a sequence of instructions and jumps to labeled positions, whereas in  $R_1$  the order of evaluation is a left-to-right depth-first traversal of the abstract syntax tree.
- (d) An  $R_1$  program can have any number of variables whereas x86 has 16 registers and the procedure calls stack.

(e) Variables in  $R_1$  can overshadow other variables with the same name. The registers and memory locations of x86 all have unique names or addresses.

We ease the challenge of compiling from  $R_1$  to x86 by breaking down the problem into several steps, dealing with the above differences one at a time. Each of these steps is called a pass of the compiler. This terminology comes from each step traverses (i.e. passes over) the AST of the program. We begin by sketching how we might implement each pass, and give them names. We then figure out an ordering of the passes and the input/output language for each pass. The very first pass has  $R_1$  as its input language and the last pass has x86 as its output language. In between we can choose whichever language is most convenient for expressing the output of each pass, whether that be  $R_1$ , x86, or new intermediate languages of our own design. Finally, to implement each pass we write one recursive function per non-terminal in the grammar of the input language of the pass.

- Pass select-instructions To handle the difference between  $R_1$  operations and x86 instructions we convert each  $R_1$  operation to a short sequence of instructions that accomplishes the same task.
- Pass remove-complex-opera\* To ensure that each subexpression (i.e. operator and operand, and hence the name opera\*) is an *atomic* expression (a variable or integer), we introduce temporary variables to hold the results of subexpressions.
- Pass explicate-control To make the execution order of the program explicit, we convert from the abstract syntax tree representation into a control-flow graph in which each node contains a sequence of statements and the edges between nodes say where to go at the end of the sequence.
- Pass assign-homes To handle the difference between the variables in  $R_1$  versus the registers and stack locations in x86, we map each variable to a register or stack location.
- Pass uniquify This pass deals with the shadowing of variables by renaming every variable to a unique name, so that shadowing no longer occurs.

The next question is: in what order should we apply these passes? This question can be challenging because it is difficult to know ahead of time which orders will be better (easier to implement, produce more efficient

code, etc.) so oftentimes trial-and-error is involved. Nevertheless, we can try to plan ahead and make educated choices regarding the ordering.

Let us consider the ordering of uniquify and remove-complex-opera\*. The assignment of subexpressions to temporary variables involves introducing new variables and moving subexpressions, which might change the shadowing of variables and inadvertently change the behavior of the program. But if we apply uniquify first, this will not be an issue. Of course, this means that in remove-complex-opera\*, we need to ensure that the temporary variables that it creates are unique.

What should be the ordering of explicate-control with respect to uniquify? The uniquify pass should come first because explicate-control changes all the let-bound variables to become local variables whose scope is the entire program, which would confuse variables with the same name. Likewise, we place explicate-control after remove-complex-opera\* because explicate-control removes the let form, but it is convenient to use let in the output of remove-complex-opera\*. Regarding assign-homes, it is helpful to place explicate-control first because explicate-control changes let-bound variables into program-scope variables. This means that the assign-homes pass can read off the variables from the *info* of the Program AST node instead of traversing the entire program in search of let-bound variables.

Last, we need to decide on the ordering of select-instructions and assign-homes. These two passes are intertwined, creating a Gordian Knot. To do a good job of assigning homes, it is helpful to have already determined which instructions will be used, because x86 instructions have restrictions about which of their arguments can be registers versus stack locations. One might want to give preferential treatment to variables that occur in registerargument positions. On the other hand, it may turn out to be impossible to make sure that all such variables are assigned to registers, and then one must redo the selection of instructions. Some compilers handle this problem by iteratively repeating these two passes until a good solution is found. We shall use a simpler approach in which select-instructions comes first, followed by the assign-homes, then a third pass named patch-instructions that uses a reserved register to patch-up outstanding problems regarding instructions with too many memory accesses. The disadvantage of this approach is some programs may not execute as efficiently as they would if we used the iterative approach and used all of the registers for variables.

Figure 2.9 presents the ordering of the compiler passes in the form of a graph. Each pass is an edge and the input/output language of each pass is a node in the graph. The output of uniquify and remove-complex-opera\*

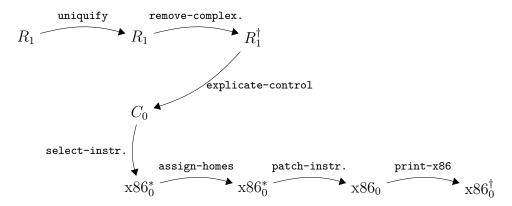


Figure 2.9: Overview of the passes for compiling  $R_1$ .

are programs that are still in the  $R_1$  language, but the output of the pass explicate-control is in a different language  $C_0$  that is designed to make the order of evaluation explicit in its syntax, which we introduce in the next section. The select-instruction pass translates from  $C_0$  to a variant of x86. The assign-homes and patch-instructions passes input and output variants of x86 assembly. The last pass in Figure 2.9 is print-x86, which converts from the abstract syntax of x860 to the concrete syntax of x86.

In the next sections we discuss the  $C_0$  language and the  $x86_0^*$  and  $x86_0^{\dagger}$  dialects of x86. The remainder of this chapter gives hints regarding the implementation of each of the compiler passes in Figure 2.9.

### 2.3.1 The $C_0$ Intermediate Language

The output of explicate-control is similar to the C language [Kernighan and Ritchie, 1988] in that it has separate syntactic categories for expressions and statements, so we name it  $C_0$ . The concrete syntax for  $C_0$  is defined in Figure 2.10 and the abstract syntax for  $C_0$  is defined in Figure 2.11. The  $C_0$  language supports the same operators as  $R_1$  but the arguments of operators are restricted to atomic expressions (variables and integers), thanks to the remove-complex-opera\* pass. Instead of Let expressions,  $C_0$  has assignment statements which can be executed in sequence using the Seq form. A sequence of statements always ends with Return, a guarantee that is baked into the grammar rules for the tail non-terminal. The naming of this non-terminal comes from the term tail position, which refers to an expression that is the last one to execute within a function. (A expression in tail position may contain subexpressions, and those may or may not be

```
atm ::= int \mid var
exp ::= atm \mid (\texttt{read}) \mid (-atm) \mid (+atm atm)
stmt ::= var = exp;
tail ::= \texttt{return} \ exp; \mid stmt \ tail
C_0 ::= (label: \ tail) \dots
```

Figure 2.10: The concrete syntax of the  $C_0$  intermediate language.

Figure 2.11: The abstract syntax of the  $C_0$  intermediate language.

in tail position depending on the kind of expression.)

A  $C_0$  program consists of a control-flow graph (represented as an alist mapping labels to tails). This is more general than necessary for the present chapter, as we do not yet need to introduce goto for jumping to labels, but it saves us from having to change the syntax of the program construct in Chapter 4. For now there will be just one label, start, and the whole program is its tail. The *info* field of the Program form, after the explicate-control pass, contains a mapping from the symbol locals to a list of variables, that is, a list of all the variables used in the program. At the start of the program, these variables are uninitialized; they become initialized on their first assignment.

### 2.3.2 The dialects of x86

The  $x86_0^*$  language, pronounced "pseudo x86", is the output of the pass select-instructions. It extends  $x86_0$  with an unbounded number of program-scope variables and has looser rules regarding instruction arguments. The  $x86^{\dagger}$  language, the output of print-x86, is the concrete syntax for x86.

### 2.4 Uniquify Variables

The uniquify pass compiles arbitrary  $R_1$  programs into  $R_1$  programs in which every let uses a unique variable name. For example, the uniquify pass should translate the program on the left into the program on the right.

The following is another example translation, this time of a program with a let nested inside the initializing expression of another let.

We recommend implementing uniquify by creating a function named uniquify-exp that is structurally recursive function and mostly just copies the input program. However, when encountering a let, it should generate a unique name for the variable (the Racket function gensym is handy for this) and associate the old name with the new unique name in an alist. The uniquify-exp function will need to access this alist when it gets to a variable reference, so we add another parameter to uniquify-exp for the alist.

The skeleton of the uniquify-exp function is shown in Figure 2.12. The function is curried so that it is convenient to partially apply it to a symbol table and then apply it to different expressions, as in the last clause for primitive operations in Figure 2.12. The for/list form is useful for applying a function to each element of a list to produce a new list.

Exercise 1. Complete the uniquify pass by filling in the blanks, that is, implement the clauses for variables and for the let form.

Exercise 2. Test your uniquify pass by creating five example  $R_1$  programs and checking whether the output programs produce the same result as the input programs. The  $R_1$  programs should be designed to test the most interesting parts of the uniquify pass, that is, the programs should include let forms, variables, and variables that overshadow each other. The five programs should be in a subdirectory named tests and they should have the same file name except for a different integer at the end of the name, followed by the ending .rkt. Use the interp-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your uniquify pass on the example programs. See the run-tests.rkt script in the student support code for an example of how to use interp-tests.

Figure 2.12: Skeleton for the uniquify pass.

```
egin{array}{lll} atm &::= & (\operatorname{Int} int) \mid (\operatorname{Var} var) \ exp &::= & atm \mid (\operatorname{Prim} \, \operatorname{`read} \, \operatorname{`()}) \ & \mid & (\operatorname{Prim} \, \operatorname{`-} \, (\operatorname{list} \, atm \, )) \mid (\operatorname{Prim} \, \operatorname{`+} \, (\operatorname{list} \, atm \, atm)) \ & \mid & (\operatorname{Let} \, var \, exp \, exp) \ R_1^\dagger &::= & (\operatorname{Program} \, \operatorname{`()} \, exp) \end{array}
```

Figure 2.13:  $R_1^{\dagger}$  is  $R_1$  in administrative normal form (ANF).

# 2.5 Remove Complex Operands

The remove-complex-opera\* pass compiles  $R_1$  programs into  $R_1$  programs in which the arguments of operations are atomic expressions. Put another way, this pass removes complex operands, such as the expression (- 10) in the program below. This is accomplished by introducing a new let-bound variable, binding the complex operand to the new variable, and then using the new variable in place of the complex operand, as shown in the output of remove-complex-opera\* on the right.

```
(+ 52 (- 10)) \Rightarrow (let ([tmp.1 (- 10)]) 
 <math>(+ 52 tmp.1))
```

Figure 2.13 presents the grammar for the output of this pass, language  $R_1^{\dagger}$ . The main difference is that operator arguments are required to be

atomic expressions. In the literature this is called *administrative normal* form, or ANF for short [Danvy, 1991, Flanagan et al., 1993].

We recommend implementing this pass with two mutually recursive functions, rco-atom and rco-exp. The idea is to apply rco-atom to subexpressions that are required to be atomic and to apply rco-exp to subexpressions that can be atomic or complex (see Figure 2.13). Both functions take an  $R_1$  expression as input. The rco-exp function returns an expression. The rco-atom function returns two things: an atomic expression and alist mapping temporary variables to complex subexpressions. You can return multiple things from a function using Racket's values form and you can receive multiple things from a function call using the define-values form. If you are not familiar with these features, review the Racket documentation. Also, the for/lists form is useful for applying a function to each element of a list, in the case where the function returns multiple values.

The following shows the output of rco-atom on the expression (- 10) (using concrete syntax to be concise).

$$(-10) \Rightarrow \frac{\text{tmp.1}}{((\text{tmp.1 . } (-10)))}$$

Take special care of programs such as the next one that let-bind variables with integers or other variables. You should leave them unchanged, as shown in to the program on the right

A careless implementation of rco-exp and rco-atom might produce the following output.

```
(let ([tmp.1 42])
  (let ([a tmp.1])
    (let ([tmp.2 a])
        (let ([b tmp.2])
        b))))
```

Exercise 3. Implement the remove-complex-opera\* pass. Test the new pass on all of the example programs that you created to test the uniquify pass and create three new example programs that are designed to exercise the interesting code in the remove-complex-opera\* pass. Use the interp-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your passes on the example programs.

## 2.6 Explicate Control

The explicate-control pass compiles  $R_1$  programs into  $C_0$  programs that make the order of execution explicit in their syntax. For now this amounts to flattening let constructs into a sequence of assignment statements. For example, consider the following  $R_1$  program.

The output of the previous pass and of explicate-control is shown below. Recall that the right-hand-side of a let executes before its body, so the order of evaluation for this program is to assign 20 to x.1, assign 22 to x.2, assign (+ x.1 x.2) to y, then return y. Indeed, the output of explicate-control makes this ordering explicit.

We recommend implementing explicate-control using two mutually recursive functions: explicate-tail and explicate-assign. The first function should be applied to expressions in tail position whereas the second should be applied to expressions that occur on the right-hand-side of a let. The explicate-tail function takes an  $R_1$  expression as input and produces a  $C_0$  tail (see Figure 2.11) and a list of formerly let-bound variables. The explicate-assign function takes an  $R_1$  expression, the variable that it is to be assigned to, and  $C_0$  code (a tail) that should come after the assignment (e.g., the code generated for the body of the let). It returns a tail and a list of variables. The explicate-assign function is in accumulator-passing style in that its third parameter is some  $C_0$  code which it then adds to and returns. The reader might be tempted to instead organize explicate-assign in a more direct fashion, without the third parameter and perhaps using append to combine statements. We warn against that alternative because the accumulator-passing style is key to how we generate high-quality code for conditional expressions in Chapter 4.

The top-level explicate-control function should invoke explicate-tail on the body of the program and then associate the locals symbol with the resulting list of variables in the *info* field, as in the above example.

### 2.7 Select Instructions

In the select-instructions pass we begin the work of translating from  $C_0$  to  $x86_0^*$ . The target language of this pass is a variant of x86 that still uses variables, so we add an AST node of the form (Var var) to the  $x86_0$  abstract syntax of Figure 2.8. We recommend implementing the select-instructions in terms of three auxiliary functions, one for each of the non-terminals of  $C_0$ : atm, stmt, and tail.

The cases for atm are straightforward, variables stay the same and integer constants are changed to immediates: (Int n) changes to (Imm n).

Next we consider the cases for stmt, starting with arithmetic operations. For example, in  $C_0$  an addition operation can take the form below, to the left of the  $\Rightarrow$ . To translate to x86, we need to use the addq instruction which does an in-place update. So we must first move 10 to x.

$$x = (+ 10 32);$$
  $\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} movq \$10, x \\ addq \$32, x \end{array}$ 

There are cases that require special care to avoid generating needlessly complicated code. If one of the arguments of the addition is the same as the left-hand side of the assignment, then there is no need for the extra move instruction. For example, the following assignment statement can be translated into a single addq instruction.

$$x = (+ 10 x);$$
  $\Rightarrow$  addq \$10, x

The read operation does not have a direct counterpart in x86 assembly, so we have instead implemented this functionality in the C language [Kernighan and Ritchie, 1988], with the function read\_int in the file runtime.c. In general, we refer to all of the functionality in this file as the runtime system, or simply the runtime for short. When compiling your generated x86 assembly code, you need to compile runtime.c to runtime.o (an "object file", using gcc option -c) and link it into the executable. For our purposes of code generation, all you need to do is translate an assignment of read into some variable lhs (for left-hand side) into a call to the read\_int function followed by a move from rax to the left-hand side. The move from rax is needed because the return value from read\_int goes into rax, as is the case in general.

$$var = (read);$$
  $\Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} callq \ read\_int \\ movq \ %rax, \ var \end{array}$ 

There are two cases for the tail non-terminal: Return and Seq. Regard-

ing Return, we recommend treating it as an assignment to the rax register followed by a jump to the conclusion of the program (so the conclusion needs to be labeled). For (Seq s t), you can translate the statement s and tail t recursively and append the resulting instructions.

Exercise 4. Implement the select-instructions pass and test it on all of the example programs that you created for the previous passes and create three new example programs that are designed to exercise all of the interesting code in this pass. Use the interp-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your passes on the example programs.

### 2.8 Assign Homes

The assign-homes pass compiles  $x86_0^*$  programs to  $x86_0^*$  programs that no longer use program variables. Thus, the assign-homes pass is responsible for placing all of the program variables in registers or on the stack. For runtime efficiency, it is better to place variables in registers, but as there are only 16 registers, some programs must necessarily resort to placing some variables on the stack. In this chapter we focus on the mechanics of placing variables on the stack. We study an algorithm for placing variables in registers in Chapter 3.

Consider again the following  $R_1$  program.

```
(let ([a 42])
(let ([b a])
b))
```

For reference, we repeat the output of select-instructions on the left and show the output of assign-homes on the right. Recall that explicate-control associated the list of variables with the locals symbol in the program's *info* field, so assign-homes has convenient access to the them. In this example, we assign variable a to stack location -8(%rbp) and variable b to location -16(%rbp).

```
locals: a b
start:
    movq $42, a
    movq a, b
    movq b, %rax
    jmp conclusion
stack-space: 16
start:

movq $42, -8(%rbp)
movq -8(%rbp), -16(%rbp)
movq -16(%rbp), %rax
jmp conclusion
```

In the process of assigning variables to stack locations, it is convenient to compute and store the size of the frame (in bytes) in the *info* field of

the Program node, with the key stack-space, which will be needed later to generate the procedure conclusion. The x86-64 standard requires the frame size to be a multiple of 16 bytes.

Exercise 5. Implement the assign-homes pass and test it on all of the example programs that you created for the previous passes pass. We recommend that assign-homes take an extra parameter that is a mapping of variable names to homes (stack locations for now). Use the interp-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your passes on the example programs.

### 2.9 Patch Instructions

The patch-instructions pass compiles  $x86_0^*$  programs to  $x86_0$  programs by making sure that each instruction adheres to the restrictions of the x86 assembly language. In particular, at most one argument of an instruction may be a memory reference.

We return to the following running example.

```
(let ([a 42])
(let ([b a])
b))
```

After the assign-homes pass, the above program has been translated to the following.

```
stack-space: 16
start:
   movq $42, -8(%rbp)
   movq -8(%rbp), -16(%rbp)
   movq -16(%rbp), %rax
   jmp conclusion
```

The second movq instruction is problematic because both arguments are stack locations. We suggest fixing this problem by moving from the source location to the register rax and then from rax to the destination location, as follows.

```
movq -8(%rbp), %rax
movq %rax, -16(%rbp)
```

Exercise 6. Implement the patch-instructions pass and test it on all of the example programs that you created for the previous passes and create

three new example programs that are designed to exercise all of the interesting code in this pass. Use the interp-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your passes on the example programs.

### 2.10 Print x86

The last step of the compiler from  $R_1$  to x86 is to convert the x86<sub>0</sub> AST (defined in Figure 2.8) to the string representation (defined in Figure 2.4). The Racket format and string-append functions are useful in this regard. The main work that this step needs to perform is to create the main function and the standard instructions for its prelude and conclusion, as shown in Figure 2.6 of Section 2.2. You need to know the number of stack-allocated variables, so we suggest computing it in the assign-homes pass (Section 2.8) and storing it in the *info* field of the program node.

If you want your program to run on Mac OS X, your code needs to determine whether or not it is running on a Mac, and prefix underscores to labels like main. You can determine the platform with the Racket call (system-type 'os), which returns 'macosx, 'unix, or 'windows.

Exercise 7. Implement the print-x86 pass and test it on all of the example programs that you created for the previous passes. Use the compiler-tests function (Appendix 12.2) from utilities.rkt to test your complete compiler on the example programs. See the run-tests.rkt script in the student support code for an example of how to use compiler-tests. Also, remember to compile the provided runtime.c file to runtime.o using gcc.

# 2.11 Challenge: Partial Evaluator for $R_1$

This section describes optional challenge exercises that involve adapting and improving the partial evaluator for  $R_0$  that was introduced in Section 1.6.

Exercise 8. Adapt the partial evaluator from Section 1.6 (Figure 1.4) so that it applies to  $R_1$  programs instead of  $R_0$  programs. Recall that  $R_1$  adds let binding and variables to the  $R_0$  language, so you will need to add cases for them in the pe-exp function. Also, note that the program form changes slightly to include an *info* field. Once complete, add the partial evaluation pass to the front of your compiler and make sure that your compiler still passes all of the tests.

The next exercise builds on Exercise 8.

Exercise 9. Improve on the partial evaluator by replacing the pe-neg and pe-add auxiliary functions with functions that know more about arithmetic. For example, your partial evaluator should translate

```
(+ 1 (+ (read) 1))
into
(+ 2 (read))
```

To accomplish this, the pe-exp function should produce output in the form of the *residual* non-terminal of the following grammar.

```
inert ::= var \mid (read) \mid (-(read)) \mid (+ inert inert)

residual ::= int \mid (+ int inert) \mid inert
```

The pe-add and pe-neg functions may therefore assume that their inputs are *residual* expressions and they should return *residual* expressions. Once the improvements are complete, make sure that your compiler still passes all of the tests. After all, fast code is useless if it produces incorrect results!

# Register Allocation

In Chapter 2 we placed all variables on the stack to make our life easier. However, we can improve the performance of the generated code if we instead place some variables into registers. The CPU can access a register in a single cycle, whereas accessing the stack takes many cycles if the relevant data is in cache or many more to access main memory if the data is not in cache. Figure 3.1 shows a program with four variables that serves as a running example. We show the source program and also the output of instruction selection. At that point the program is almost x86 assembly but not quite; it still contains variables instead of stack locations or registers.

The goal of register allocation is to fit as many variables into registers as possible. A program sometimes has more variables than registers, so we cannot map each variable to a different register. Fortunately, it is common for different variables to be needed during different periods of time during program execution, and in such cases several variables can be mapped to the same register. Consider variables x and y in Figure 3.1. After the variable x is moved to z it is no longer needed. Variable y, on the other hand, is used only after this point, so x and y could share the same register. The topic of Section 3.2 is how to compute where a variable is needed. Once we have that information, we compute which variables are needed at the same time, i.e., which ones *interfere* with each other, and represent this relation as an undirected graph whose vertices are variables and edges indicate when two variables interfere (Section 3.3). We then model register allocation as a graph coloring problem, which we discuss in Section 3.4.

In the event that we run out of registers despite these efforts, we place the remaining variables on the stack, similar to what we did in Chapter 2. It is common to use the verb *spill* for assigning a variable to a stack location.

After instruction selection:

```
locals: (v w x y z t)
                                 start:
                                    movq $1, v
Example R_1 program:
                                    movq $42, w
(let ([v 1])
                                    movq v, x
  (let ([w 42])
                                    addq $7, x
    (let ([x (+ v 7)])
                                    movq x, y
     (let ([y x])
                                    movq x, z
       (let ([z (+ x w)])
                                    addq w, z
         (+ z (- y))))))
                                    movq y, t
                                    negq t
                                    movq z, %rax
                                    addq t, %rax
                                     jmp conclusion
```

Figure 3.1: A running example program for register allocation.

The process of spilling variables is handled as part of the graph coloring process described in 3.4.

We make the simplifying assumption that each variable is assigned to one location (a register or stack address). A more sophisticated approach is to assign a variable to one or more locations in different regions of the program. For example, if a variable is used many times in short sequence and then only used again after many other instructions, it could be more efficient to assign the variable to a register during the intial sequence and then move it to the stack for the rest of its lifetime. We refer the interested reader to Cooper and Simpson [1998] and Cooper and Torczon [2011] for more information about this approach.

## 3.1 Registers and Calling Conventions

As we perform register allocation, we need to be aware of the conventions that govern the way in which registers interact with function calls, such as calls to the read\_int function in our generated code and even the call that the operating system makes to execute our main function. The convention for x86 is that the caller is responsible for freeing up some registers, the caller-saved registers, prior to the function call, and the callee is responsible for preserving the values in some other registers, the callee-saved registers. The caller-saved registers are

rax rcx rdx rsi rdi r8 r9 r10 r11 while the callee-saved registers are rsp rbp rbx r12 r13 r14 r15

We can think about this caller/callee convention from two points of view, the caller view and the callee view:

- The caller should assume that all the caller-saved registers get overwritten with arbitrary values by the callee. On the other hand, the caller can safely assume that all the callee-saved registers contain the same values after the call that they did before the call.
- The callee can freely use any of the caller-saved registers. However, if the callee wants to use a callee-saved register, the callee must arrange to put the original value back in the register prior to returning to the caller, which is usually accomplished by saving the value to the stack in the prelude of the function and restoring the value in the conclusion of the function.

The next question is how these calling conventions impact register allocation. Consider the  $R_1$  program in Figure 3.2. We first analyze this example from the caller point of view and then from the callee point of view.

The program makes two calls to the read function. Also, the variable x is in-use during the second call to read, so we need to make sure that the value in x does not get accidentally wiped out by the call to read. One obvious approach is to save all the values in caller-saved registers to the stack prior to each function call, and restore them after each call. That way, if the register allocator chooses to assign x to a caller-saved register, its value will be preserved accross the call to read. However, the disadvantage of this approach is that saving and restoring to the stack is relatively slow. If x is not used many times, it may be better to assign x to a stack location in the first place. Or better yet, if we can arrange for x to be placed in a callee-saved register, then it won't need to be saved and restored during function calls.

The approach that we recommend for variables that are in-use during a function call is to either assign them to callee-saved registers or to spill them to the stack. On the other hand, for variables that are not in-use during a function call, we try the following alternatives in order 1) look for an available caller-saved register (to leave room for other variables in the callee-saved register), 2) look for a callee-saved register, and 3) spill the variable to the stack.

It is straightforward to implement this approach in a graph coloring register allocator. First, we know which variables are in-use during every function call because we compute that information for every instruction (Section 3.2). Second, when we build the interference graph (Section 3.3), we can place an edge between each of these variables and the caller-saved registers in the interference graph. This will prevent the graph coloring algorithm from assigning those variables to caller-saved registers.

Returning to the example in Figure 3.2, let us analyze the generated x86 code on the right-hand side, focusing on the start block. Notice that variable x is assigned to rbx, a callee-saved register. Thus, it is already in a safe place during the second call to read\_int. Next, notice that variable y is assigned to rcx, a caller-saved register, because there are no function calls in the remainder of the block.

Next we analyze the example from the callee point of view, focusing on the prelude and conclusion of the main function. As usual the prelude begins with saving the rbp register to the stack and setting the rbp to the current stack pointer. We now know why it is necessary to save the rbp: it is a callee-saved register. The prelude then pushes rbx to the stack because 1) rbx is also a callee-saved register and 2) rbx is assigned to a variable (x). There are several more callee-saved register that are not saved in the prelude because they were not assigned to variables. The prelude subtracts 8 bytes from the rsp to make it 16-byte aligned and then jumps to the start block. Shifting attention to the conclusion, we see that rbx is restored from the stack with a popq instruction.

```
Generated x86 assembly:
                               start:
                                      callq read_int
                                      movq %rax, %rbx
                                      callq read_int
                                      movq %rax, %rcx
                                             %rcx, %rbx
                                      addq
                                             %rbx, %rax
                                      movq
                                             $42, %rax
                                      addq
Example R_1 program:
                                      jmp _conclusion
(let ([x (read)])
                                      .globl main
 (let ([y (read)])
                               main:
   (+ (+ x y) 42)))
                                      pushq %rbp
                                             %rsp, %rbp
                                      movq
                                      pushq %rbx
                                      subq
                                             $8, %rsp
                                      jmp start
                               conclusion:
                                      addq
                                             $8, %rsp
                                      popq
                                             %rbx
                                             %rbp
                                      popq
                                      retq
```

Figure 3.2: An example with function calls.

## 3.2 Liveness Analysis

A variable or register is *live* at a program point if its current value is used at some later point in the program. We shall refer to variables and registers collectively as *locations*. Consider the following code fragment in which there are two writes to b. Are a and b both live at the same time?

- 1 movq \$5, a
- 2 movq \$30, b
- з movq a, c
- 4 movq \$10, b
- 5 addq b, c

The answer is no because the integer 30 written to b on line 2 is never used. The variable b is read on line 5 and there is an intervening write to b on line 4, so the read on line 5 receives the value written on line 4, not line 2.

#### The Racket Set Package

A set is an unordered collection of elements without duplicates.

(set v...) constructs a set containing the specified elements.

(set-union  $set_1 set_2$ ) returns the union of the two sets.

(set-subtract  $set_1 set_2$ ) returns the difference of the two sets.

(set-member? set v) is element v in set?

(set-count set) how many unique elements are in set?

(set->list set) converts the set to a list.

The live locations can be computed by traversing the instruction sequence back to front (i.e., backwards in execution order). Let  $I_1, \ldots, I_n$  be the instruction sequence. We write  $L_{\mathsf{after}}(k)$  for the set of live locations after instruction  $I_k$  and  $L_{\mathsf{before}}(k)$  for the set of live locations before instruction  $I_k$ . The live locations after an instruction are always the same as the live locations before the next instruction.

$$L_{\mathsf{after}}(k) = L_{\mathsf{before}}(k+1) \tag{3.1}$$

To start things off, there are no live locations after the last instruction<sup>1</sup>, so

$$L_{\mathsf{after}}(n) = \emptyset \tag{3.2}$$

We then apply the following rule repeatedly, traversing the instruction sequence back to front.

$$L_{\text{before}}(k) = (L_{\text{after}}(k) - W(k)) \cup R(k), \tag{3.3}$$

where W(k) are the locations written to by instruction  $I_k$  and R(k) are the locations read by instruction  $I_k$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Technically, the rax register is live but we do not use it for register allocation.

Let us walk through the above example, applying these formulas starting with the instruction on line 5. We collect the answers in the below listing. The  $L_{\text{after}}$  for the addq b, c instruction is  $\emptyset$  because it is the last instruction (formula 3.2). The  $L_{\text{before}}$  for this instruction is  $\{b, c\}$  because it reads from variables b and c (formula 3.3), that is

$$L_{\mathsf{before}}(5) = (\emptyset - \{\mathsf{c}\}) \cup \{\mathsf{b},\mathsf{c}\} = \{\mathsf{b},\mathsf{c}\}$$

Moving on the the instruction movq \$10, b at line 4, we copy the live-before set from line 5 to be the live-after set for this instruction (formula 3.1).

$$L_{\mathsf{after}}(4) = \{\mathsf{b}, \mathsf{c}\}$$

This move instruction writes to b and does not read from any variables, so we have the following live-before set (formula 3.3).

$$L_{\mathsf{before}}(4) = (\{\mathtt{b},\mathtt{c}\} - \{\mathtt{b}\}) \cup \emptyset = \{\mathtt{c}\}$$

The live-before for instruction movq a, c is  $\{a\}$  because it writes to  $\{c\}$  and reads from  $\{a\}$  (formula 3.3). The live-before for movq \$30, b is  $\{a\}$  because it writes to a variable that is not live and does not read from a variable. Finally, the live-before for movq \$5, a is  $\emptyset$  because it writes to variable a.

Figure 3.3 shows the results of liveness analysis for the running example program, with the live-before and live-after sets shown between each instruction to make the figure easy to read.

Exercise 10. Implement the compiler pass named uncover-live that computes the live-after sets. We recommend storing the live-after sets (a list of a set of variables) in the *info* field of the Block structure. We recommend organizing your code to use a helper function that takes a list of instructions and an initial live-after set (typically empty) and returns the list of live-after sets. We recommend creating helper functions to 1) compute the set of locations that appear in an argument (of an instruction), 2) compute

```
\{\}
movq $1, v
                                     \{\mathtt{v}\}
movq $42, w
                                     \{\mathtt{v},\mathtt{w}\}
movq v, x
                                     \{\mathtt{w},\mathtt{x}\}
addq $7, x
                                     \{\mathtt{w},\mathtt{x}\}
movq x, y
                                     \{\mathtt{w},\mathtt{x},\mathtt{y}\}
movq x, z
                                     \{\mathtt{w},\mathtt{y},\mathtt{z}\}
addq w, z
                                     \{{\tt y},{\tt z}\}
movq y, t
                                     \{\mathtt{t},\mathtt{z}\}
{\tt negq}\ {\tt t}
                                     \{\mathtt{t},\mathtt{z}\}
movq z, %rax
                                     \{\mathtt{rax},\mathtt{t}\}
addq t, %rax
                                     {}
jmp conclusion
                                     {}
```

Figure 3.3: The running example annotated with live-after sets.

the locations read by an instruction which corresponds to the R function discussed above, and 3) the locations written by an instruction which corresponds to W. The callq instruction should include all of the caller-saved registers in its W because the calling convention says that those registers may be written to during the function call.

## 3.3 Building the Interference Graph

Based on the liveness analysis, we know where each variable is needed. However, during register allocation, we need to answer questions of the specific form: are variables u and v live at the same time? (And therefore cannot be assigned to the same register.) To make this question easier to answer, we create an explicit data structure, an *interference graph*. An interference graph is an undirected graph that has an edge between two variables if they are live at the same time, that is, if they interfere with each other.

The most obvious way to compute the interference graph is to look at the set of live location between each statement in the program and add an edge to the graph for every pair of variables in the same set. This approach is less than ideal for two reasons. First, it can be expensive because it takes  $O(n^2)$  time to look at every pair in a set of n live locations. Second, there is a special case in which two locations that are live at the same time do not actually interfere with each other: when they both contain the same value because we have assigned one to the other.

### The Racket Graph Library

A graph is a collection of vertices and edges where each edge connects two vertices. A graph is *directed* if each edge points from a source to a target. Otherwise the graph is *undirected*.

(directed-graph edges) constructs a directed graph from a list of edges. Each edge is a list containing the source and target vertex.

(undirected-graph edges) constructs a undirected graph from a list of edges. Each edge is represented by a list containing two vertices.

(add-vertex! graph vertex) inserts a vertex into the graph.

(add-edge! graph source target) inserts an edge between the two vertices into the graph.

(in-neighbors graph vertex) returns a sequence of all the neighbors of the given vertex.

(in-vertices graph) returns a sequence of all the vertices in the graph.

A better way to compute the interference graph is to focus on the writes Appel and Palsberg [2003]. We do not want the writes performed by an instruction to overwrite something in a live location. So for each instruction, we create an edge between the locations being written to and all

```
movq $1, v
                  no interference by rule 1
                  w interferes with v by rule 1
movq $42, w
movq v, x
                  x interferes with w by rule 1
addq $7, x
                  x interferes with w by rule 2
                  y interferes with w but not x by rule 1
movq x, y
                  z interferes with w and y by rule 1
movq x, z
                  z interferes with y by rule 2
addq w, z
                  t interferes with z by rule 1
movq y, t
                  t interferes with z by rule 2
negq t
                  rax interferes with t by rule 1
movq z, %rax
addq t, %rax
                  no interference by rule 2
                  no interference by rule 2
jmp conclusion
```

Figure 3.4: Interference results for the running example.

the other live locations. (Except that one should not create self edges.) Recall that for a callq instruction, we consider all of the caller-saved registers as being written to, so an edge will be added between every live variable and every caller-saved register. For movq, we deal with the above-mentioned special case by not adding an edge between a live variable v and destination d if v matches the source of the move. So we have the following two rules.

- 1. If instruction  $I_k$  is a move such as move s, d, then add the edge (d, v) for every  $v \in L_{\mathsf{after}}(k)$  unless v = d or v = s.
- 2. For any other instruction  $I_k$ , for every  $d \in W(k)$  add an edge (d, v) for every  $v \in L_{\mathsf{after}}(k)$  unless v = d.

Working from the top to bottom of Figure 3.3, we apply the above rules to each instruction. We highlight a few of the instructions and then refer the reader to Figure 3.4 for all the interference results. The first instruction is movq \$1, v, so rule 3 applies, and the live-after set is  $\{v\}$ . We do not add any interference edges because the one live variable v is also the destination of this instruction. For the second instruction, movq \$42, w, so rule 3 applies again, and the live-after set is  $\{v, w\}$ . So the target w of movq interferes with v. Next we skip forward to the instruction movq x, v.

The resulting interference graph is shown in Figure 3.5.

Exercise 11. Implement the compiler pass named build-interference according to the algorithm suggested above. We recommend using the graph

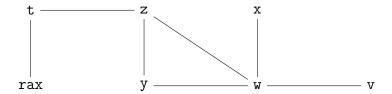


Figure 3.5: The interference graph of the example program.

package to create and inspect the interference graph. The output graph of this pass should be stored in the *info* field of the program, under the key conflicts.

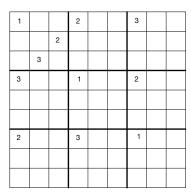
### 3.4 Graph Coloring via Sudoku

We come to the main event, mapping variables to registers (or to stack locations in the event that we run out of registers). We need to make sure that two variables do not get mapped to the same register if the two variables interfere with each other. Thinking about the interference graph, this means that adjacent vertices must be mapped to different registers. If we think of registers as colors, the register allocation problem becomes the widely-studied graph coloring problem [Balakrishnan, 1996, Rosen, 2002].

The reader may be more familiar with the graph coloring problem than he or she realizes; the popular game of Sudoku is an instance of the graph coloring problem. The following describes how to build a graph out of an initial Sudoku board.

- There is one vertex in the graph for each Sudoku square.
- There is an edge between two vertices if the corresponding squares are in the same row, in the same column, or if the squares are in the same  $3 \times 3$  region.
- Choose nine colors to correspond to the numbers 1 to 9.
- Based on the initial assignment of numbers to squares in the Sudoku board, assign the corresponding colors to the corresponding vertices in the graph.

If you can color the remaining vertices in the graph with the nine colors, then you have also solved the corresponding game of Sudoku. Figure 3.6 shows



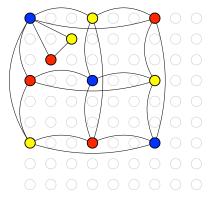


Figure 3.6: A Sudoku game board and the corresponding colored graph.

an initial Sudoku game board and the corresponding graph with colored vertices. We map the Sudoku number 1 to blue, 2 to yellow, and 3 to red. We only show edges for a sampling of the vertices (the colored ones) because showing edges for all of the vertices would make the graph unreadable.

Given that Sudoku is an instance of graph coloring, one can use Sudoku strategies to come up with an algorithm for allocating registers. For example, one of the basic techniques for Sudoku is called Pencil Marks. The idea is to use a process of elimination to determine what numbers no longer make sense for a square and write down those numbers in the square (writing very small). For example, if the number 1 is assigned to a square, then by process of elimination, you can write the pencil mark 1 in all the squares in the same row, column, and region. Many Sudoku computer games provide automatic support for Pencil Marks. The Pencil Marks technique corresponds to the notion of saturation due to Brélaz [1979]. The saturation of a vertex, in Sudoku terms, is the set of numbers that are no longer available. In graph terminology, we have the following definition:

saturation(u) = 
$$\{c \mid \exists v.v \in \text{neighbors}(u) \text{ and } \text{color}(v) = c\}$$

where neighbors (u) is the set of vertices that share an edge with u.

Using the Pencil Marks technique leads to a simple strategy for filling in numbers: if there is a square with only one possible number left, then choose that number! But what if there are no squares with only one possibility left? One brute-force approach is to try them all: choose the first and if it ultimately leads to a solution, great. If not, backtrack and choose the

```
Algorithm: DSATUR
Input: a graph G
Output: an assignment \operatorname{color}[v] for each vertex v \in G
W \leftarrow \operatorname{vertices}(G)
while W \neq \emptyset do
pick a vertex u from W with the highest saturation,
breaking ties randomly
find the lowest \operatorname{color} c that is not in \{\operatorname{color}[v] : v \in \operatorname{adjacent}(u)\}
\operatorname{color}[u] \leftarrow c
W \leftarrow W - \{u\}
```

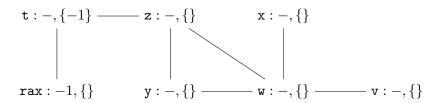
Figure 3.7: The saturation-based greedy graph coloring algorithm.

next possibility. One good thing about Pencil Marks is that it reduces the degree of branching in the search tree. Nevertheless, backtracking can be horribly time consuming. One way to reduce the amount of backtracking is to use the most-constrained-first heuristic. That is, when choosing a square, always choose one with the fewest possibilities left (the vertex with the highest saturation). The idea is that choosing highly constrained squares earlier rather than later is better because later on there may not be any possibilities left for those squares.

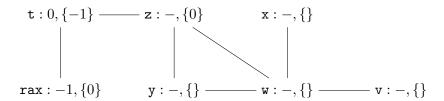
However, register allocation is easier than Sudoku because the register allocator can map variables to stack locations when the registers run out. Thus, it makes sense to drop backtracking in favor of greedy search, that is, make the best choice at the time and keep going. We still wish to minimize the number of colors needed, so keeping the most-constrained-first heuristic is a good idea. Figure 3.7 gives the pseudo-code for a simple greedy algorithm for register allocation based on saturation and the most-constrained-first heuristic. It is roughly equivalent to the DSATUR algorithm of Brélaz [1979] (also known as saturation degree ordering [Gebremedhin, 1999, Al-Omari and Sabri, 2006]). Just as in Sudoku, the algorithm represents colors with integers. The integers 0 through k-1 correspond to the k registers that we use for register allocation. The integers k and larger correspond to stack locations. The registers that are not used for register allocation, such as rax, are assigned to negative integers. In particular, we assign -1 to rax.

With this algorithm in hand, let us return to the running example and consider how to color the interference graph in Figure 3.5. We color the vertices for registers with their own color. For example, rax is assigned the

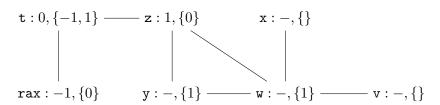
color -1. We then update the saturation for their neighboring vertices. In this case, the saturation for t includes -1. The remaining vertices are not yet colored, so they annotated with a dash, and their saturation sets are empty.



The algorithm says to select a maximally saturated vertex. So we pick t and color it with the first available integer, which is 0. We mark 0 as no longer available for z and rax because they interfere with t.



We repeat the process, selecting another maximally saturated vertex, which is z, and color it with the first available number, which is 1. We add 1 to the saturations for the neighboring vertices t, y, and w.



The most saturated vertices are now w and y. We color w with the first available color, which is 0.

$$\begin{picture}(20,10)(-1,1)(0)(0,0) \put(0,0){\line(1,0){10}} \put(0,0){\line(1$$

Vertex y is now the most highly saturated, so we color y with 2. We cannot choose 0 or 1 because those numbers are in y's saturation set. Indeed, y interferes with w and z, whose colors are 0 and 1 respectively.

Now x and v are the most saturated, so we color v it 1.

In the last step of the algorithm, we color x with 1.

$$\begin{picture}(20,10)(10,10) \put(0,0){\line(1,0){15}} \put(0,0){\line(1,0){15}$$

With the coloring complete, we finalize the assignment of variables to registers and stack locations. Recall that if we have k registers to use for allocation, we map the first k colors to registers and the rest to stack locations. Suppose for the moment that we have just one register to use for register allocation, rcx. Then the following is the mapping of colors to registers and stack allocations.

$$\{0 \mapsto %rcx, 1 \mapsto -8(%rbp), 2 \mapsto -16(%rbp)\}$$

Putting this mapping together with the above coloring of the variables, we arrive at the following assignment of variables to registers and stack locations.

$$\begin{aligned} \{v \mapsto \text{\%rcx}, \, w \mapsto \text{\%rcx}, \, x \mapsto -8(\text{\%rbp}), \, y \mapsto -16(\text{\%rbp}), \\ z \mapsto -8(\text{\%rbp}), \, t \mapsto \text{\%rcx} \} \end{aligned}$$

Applying this assignment to our running example, on the left, yields the program on the right.

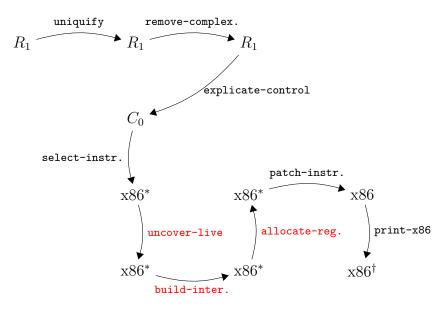


Figure 3.8: Diagram of the passes for  $R_1$  with register allocation.

```
movq $1, v
                             movq $1, %rcx
movq $42, w
                             movq $42, %rcx
                             movq %rcx, -8(%rbp)
movq v, x
addq $7, x
                             addq $7, -8(%rbp)
                             movq -8(%rbp), -16(%rbp)
movq x, y
                             movq -8(%rbp), -8(%rbp)
movq x, z
                             addq %rcx, -8(%rbp)
addq w, z
                             movq -16(%rbp), %rcx
movq y, t
                             negq %rcx
negq t
movq z, %rax
                             movq -8(%rbp), %rax
addq t, %rax
                             addq %rcx, %rax
jmp conclusion
                             jmp conclusion
```

The resulting program is almost an x86 program. The remaining step is the patch instructions pass. In this example, the trivial move of -8(%rbp) to itself is deleted and the addition of -8(%rbp) to -16(%rbp) is fixed by going through rax as follows.

```
movq -8(%rbp), %rax
addq %rax, -16(%rbp)
```

An overview of all of the passes involved in register allocation is shown in Figure 3.8.

We recommend creating a helper function named color-graph that takes an interference graph and a list of all the variables in the program. This function should return a mapping of variables to their colors (represented as natural numbers). By creating this helper function, you will be able to reuse it in Chapter 6 when you add support for functions. To prioritize the process of highly saturated nodes inside your color-graph function, we recommend using the priority queue data structure (see the side bar on the right). Note that you will also need to maintain a mapping from variables to their "handles" in the priority queue so that you can notify the priority queue when their saturation changes.

Once you have obtained the coloring from color-graph, you can assign the variables to registers or stack locations and then reuse code from the assign-homes pass from Section 2.8 to replace the variables with their assigned location.

Exercise 12. Implement the compiler pass

allocate-registers, which should come after the build-interference pass. The three new passes, uncover-live, build-interference, and allocate-registers replace the assign-homes pass of Section 2.8.

Test your updated compiler by creating new example programs that exercise all of the register allocation algorithm, such as forcing variables to be spilled to the stack.

# 3.5 Print x86 and Conventions for Registers

Recall that the print-x86 pass generates the prelude and conclusion instructions for the main function. The prelude saved the values in rbp and rsp and the conclusion returned those values to rbp and rsp. The reason for this is that our main function must adhere to the x86 calling conventions that we described in Section 3.1. Furthermore, if your register allocator assigned variables to other callee-saved registers (e.g. rbx, r12, etc.), then

### Priority Queue

A priority queue is a collection of items in which the removal of items is governed by priority. In a "min" queue, lower priority items are removed first. An implementation is in priority\_queue.rkt of the support code.

(make-pqueue cmp) constructs an empty priority queue that uses the cmp predicate to determine whether its first argument has lower or equal priority to its second argument.

(pqueue-count queue) returns the number of items in the queue.

(pqueue-push! queue item) inserts the item into the queue and returns a handle for the item in the queue.

(pqueue-pop! queue) returns the item with the lowest priority.

(pqueue-decrease-key! queue handle)
notifices the queue the the priority has decreased for the item
associated with the given handle.

those variables must also be saved to the stack in the prelude and restored in the conclusion. The simplest approach is to save and restore all of the callee-saved registers. The more efficient approach is to keep track of which callee-saved registers were used and only save and restore them. Either way, make sure to take this use of stack space into account when you are calculating the size of the frame and adjusting the rsp in the prelude. Also, don't forget that the size of the frame needs to be a multiple of 16 bytes!

### 3.6 Challenge: Move Biasing

This section describes an optional enhancement to register allocation for those students who are looking for an extra challenge or who have a deeper interest in register allocation.

We return to the running example, but we remove the supposition that we only have one register to use. So we have the following mapping of color numbers to registers.

```
\{0 \mapsto \text{%rbx}, 1 \mapsto \text{%rcx}, 2 \mapsto \text{%rdx}\}
```

Using the same assignment of variables to color numbers that was produced by the register allocator described in the last section, we get the following program.

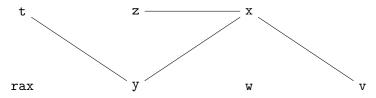
```
movq $1, v
                             movq $1, %rcx
movq $42, w
                             movq $42, $rbx
movq v, x
                             movq %rcx, %rcx
                             addq $7, %rcx
addq $7, x
                             movq %rcx, %rdx
movq x, y
movq x, z
                             movq %rcx, %rcx
addq w, z
                             addq %rbx, %rcx
movq y, t
                             movq %rdx, %rbx
                             negq %rbx
negq t
movq z, %rax
                             movq %rcx, %rax
addq t, %rax
                             addq %rbx, %rax
jmp conclusion
                             jmp conclusion
```

In the above output code there are two movq instructions that can be removed because their source and target are the same. However, if we had put t, v, x, and y into the same register, we could instead remove three movq instructions. We can accomplish this by taking into account which variables appear in movq instructions with which other variables.

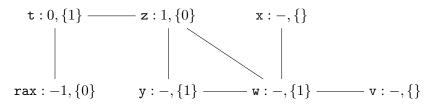
We say that two variables p and q are move related if they participate together in a move instruction, that is, move p, q or move q, p. When the

register allocator chooses a color for a variable, it should prefer a color that has already been used for a move-related variable (assuming that they do not interfere). Of course, this preference should not override the preference for registers over stack locations. This preference should be used as a tie breaker when choosing between registers or when choosing between stack locations.

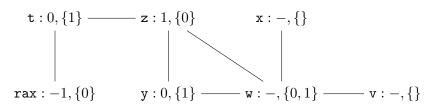
We recommend representing the move relationships in a graph, similar to how we represented interference. The following is the *move graph* for our running example.



Now we replay the graph coloring, pausing to see the coloring of y. Recall the following configuration. The most saturated vertices were w and y.

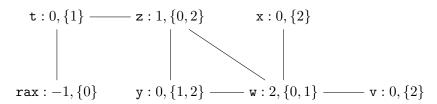


Last time we chose to color w with 0. But this time we see that w is not move related to any vertex, but y is move related to t. So we choose to color y the same color, 0.



Now w is the most saturated, so we color it 2.

At this point, vertices x and v are most saturated, but x is move related to y and z, so we color x to 0 to match y. Finally, we color v to 0.



So we have the following assignment of variables to registers.

$$\{v \mapsto %rbx, w \mapsto %rdx, x \mapsto %rbx, y \mapsto %rbx, z \mapsto %rcx, t \mapsto %rbx\}$$

We apply this register assignment to the running example, on the left, to obtain the code on right.

```
movq $1, v
                            movq $1, %rbx
movq $42, w
                            movq $42, %rdx
                            movq %rbx, %rbx
movq v, x
addq $7, x
                            addq $7, %rbx
                            movq %rbx, %rbx
movq x, y
movq x, z
                            movq %rbx, %rcx
addq w, z
                            addq %rdx, %rcx
movq y, t
                            movq %rbx, %rbx
negq t
                            negq %rbx
movq z, %rax
                            movq %rcx, %rax
addq t, %rax
                             addq %rbx, %rax
jmp conclusion
                             jmp conclusion
```

The patch-instructions then removes the three trivial moves from rbx to rbx to obtain the following result.

```
movq $1, %rbx
movq $42, %rdx
addq $7, %rbx
movq %rbx, %rcx
addq %rdx, %rcx
negq %rbx
movq %rcx, %rax
addq %rbx, %rax
jmp conclusion
```

Exercise 13. Change your implementation of allocate-registers to take move biasing into account. Make sure that your compiler still passes all of

the previous tests. Create two new tests that include at least one opportunity for move biasing and visually inspect the output x86 programs to make sure that your move biasing is working properly.

## 3.7 Output of the Running Example

Figure 3.9 shows the x86 code generated for the running example (Figure 3.1) with register allocation and move biasing. To demonstrate both the use of registers and the stack, we have limited the register allocator to use just two registers: rbx and rcx. In the prelude of the main function, we push rbx onto the stack because it is a callee-saved register and it was assigned to variable by the register allocator. We substract 8 from the rsp at the end of the prelude to reserve space for the one spilled variable. After that subtraction, the rsp is aligned to 16 bytes.

Moving on the the start block, we see how the registers were allocated. Variables v, x, and y were assigned to rbx and variable z was assigned to rcx. Variable w was spilled to the stack location -16(%rbp). Recall that the prelude saved the callee-save register rbx onto the stack. The spilled variables must be placed lower on the stack than the saved callee-save registers, so in this case w is placed at -16(%rbp).

In the conclusion, we undo the work that was done in the prelude. We move the stack pointer up by 8 bytes (the room for spilled variables), then we pop the old values of rbx and rbp (callee-saved registers), and finish with retq to return control to the operating system.

```
start:
      movq $1, %rbx
      movq $42, -16(%rbp)
      addq $7, %rbx
      movq %rbx, %rcx
      addq
             -16(%rbp), %rcx
             %rbx
      negq
             %rcx, %rax
      movq
             %rbx, %rax
      addq
      jmp conclusion
      .globl main
main:
      pushq %rbp
      movq
             %rsp, %rbp
      pushq %rbx
      subq
             $8, %rsp
       jmp start
conclusion:
      addq
             $8, %rsp
             %rbx
      popq
             %rbp
      popq
      retq
```

Figure 3.9: The x86 output from the running example (Figure 3.1).

## 4

## **Booleans and Control Flow**

The  $R_0$  and  $R_1$  languages only have a single kind of value, the integers. In this chapter we add a second kind of value, the Booleans, to create the  $R_2$  language. The Boolean values true and false are written #t and #f respectively in Racket. The  $R_2$  language includes several operations that involve Booleans (and, not, eq?, <, etc.) and the conditional if expression. With the addition of if expressions, programs can have non-trivial control flow which which significantly impacts the explicate-control and the liveness analysis for register allocation. Also, because we now have two kinds of values, we need to handle programs that apply an operation to the wrong kind of value, such as (not 1).

There are two language design options for such situations. One option is to signal an error and the other is to provide a wider interpretation of the operation. The Racket language uses a mixture of these two options, depending on the operation and the kind of value. For example, the result of (not 1) in Racket is #f because Racket treats non-zero integers as if they were #t. On the other hand, (car 1) results in a run-time error in Racket stating that car expects a pair.

The Typed Racket language makes similar design choices as Racket, except much of the error detection happens at compile time instead of run time. Like Racket, Typed Racket accepts and runs (not 1), producing #f. But in the case of (car 1), Typed Racket reports a compile-time error because Typed Racket expects the type of the argument to be of the form (Listof T) or (Pairof T1 T2).

For the  $R_2$  language we choose to be more like Typed Racket in that we shall perform type checking during compilation. In Chapter 8 we study the alternative choice, that is, how to compile a dynamically typed language

Figure 4.1: The concrete syntax of  $R_2$ , extending  $R_1$  (Figure 2.1) with Booleans and conditionals.

like Racket. The  $R_2$  language is a subset of Typed Racket but by no means includes all of Typed Racket. For many operations we take a narrower interpretation than Typed Racket, for example, rejecting (not 1).

This chapter is organized as follows. We begin by defining the syntax and interpreter for the  $R_2$  language (Section 4.1). We then introduce the idea of type checking and build a type checker for  $R_2$  (Section 4.2). To compile  $R_2$  we need to enlarge the intermediate language  $C_0$  into  $C_1$ , which we do in Section 4.5. The remaining sections of this chapter discuss how our compiler passes need to change to accommodate Booleans and conditional control flow.

## 4.1 The $R_2$ Language

The concrete syntax of the  $R_2$  language is defined in Figure 4.1 and the abstract syntax is defined in Figure 4.2. The  $R_2$  language includes all of  $R_1$  (shown in gray), the Boolean literals #t and #f, and the conditional if expression. Also, we expand the operators to include

- 1. subtraction on integers,
- 2. the logical operators and, or and not,
- 3. the eq? operation for comparing two integers or two Booleans, and
- 4. the  $\langle , \langle =, \rangle \rangle$ , and  $\rangle =$  operations for comparing integers.

Figure 4.3 defines the interpreter for  $R_2$ , omitting the parts that are the same as the interpreter for  $R_1$  (Figure 2.3). The literals #t and #f evaluate to the corresponding Boolean values. The conditional expression

```
bool
      ::=
           #t | #f
           eq? | < | <= | > | >=
cmp
      ::=
           (Int int) | (Prim 'read '())
exp
           (Prim '- (list exp )) | (Prim '+ (list exp exp))
            (Prim '- (list exp exp))
            (Var \ var) \mid (Let \ var \ exp \ exp)
            (Bool bool) | (Prim 'and (list exp \ exp))
           (Prim 'or (list exp exp)) | (Prim 'not (list exp ))
            (Prim cmp (list exp exp)) | (If exp exp exp)
R_2
          (Program '() exp)
```

Figure 4.2: The abstract syntax of  $R_2$ .

(if  $cnd\ thn\ els$ ) evaluates the Boolean expression cnd and then either evaluates thn or els depending on whether cnd produced #t or #f. The logical operations not and and behave as you might expect, but note that the and operation is short-circuiting. That is, given the expression (and  $e_1\ e_2$ ), the expression  $e_2$  is not evaluated if  $e_1$  evaluates to #f.

With the addition of the comparison operations, there are quite a few primitive operations and the interpreter code for them could become repetitive without some care. In Figure 4.3 we factor out the different parts of the code for primitive operations into the interp-op function and the similar parts of the code into the match clause for Prim shown in Figure 4.3. We do not use interp-op for the and operation because of the short-circuiting behavior in the order of evaluation of its arguments.

## 4.2 Type Checking $R_2$ Programs

It is helpful to think about type checking in two complementary ways. A type checker predicts the type of value that will be produced by each expression in the program. For  $R_2$ , we have just two types, Integer and Boolean. So a type checker should predict that

```
(+ 10 (- (+ 12 20)))
produces an Integer while
  (and (not #f) #t)
produces a Boolean.
```

```
(define (interp-op op)
 (match op
   ['not (lambda (v) (match v [#t #f] [#f #t]))]
   ['eq? (lambda (v1 v2)
           (cond [(or (and (fixnum? v1) (fixnum? v2))
                     (and (boolean? v1) (boolean? v2)))
                  (eq? v1 v2)]))]
   ['< (lambda (v1 v2)
         (cond [(and (fixnum? v1) (fixnum? v2)) (< v1 v2)]))]</pre>
   ['<= (lambda (v1 v2)
          (cond [(and (fixnum? v1) (fixnum? v2)) (<= v1 v2)]))]</pre>
   ['> (lambda (v1 v2)
         (cond [(and (fixnum? v1) (fixnum? v2)) (> v1 v2)]))]
   ['>= (lambda (v1 v2)
          (cond [(and (fixnum? v1) (fixnum? v2)) (>= v1 v2)]))]
   [else (error 'interp-op "unknown operator")]))
(define (interp-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (interp-exp env))
   (match e
     . . .
     [(Bool b) b]
     [(If cnd thn els)
      (define b (recur cnd))
      (match b
        [#t (recur thn)]
        [#f (recur els)])]
     [(Prim 'and (list e1 e2))
      (define v1 (recur e1))
      (match v1
        [#t (match (recur e2) [#t #t] [#f #f])]
        [#f #f])]
     [(Prim op args)
      (apply (interp-op op) (for/list ([e args]) (recur e)))]
     )))
(define (interp-R2 p)
 (match p
   [(Program info e)
    ((interp-exp '()) e)]
   ))
```

Figure 4.3: Interpreter for the  $R_2$  language.

Another way to think about type checking is that it enforces a set of rules about which operators can be applied to which kinds of values. For example, our type checker for  $R_2$  will signal an error for the below expression because, as we have seen above, the expression (+ 10 ...) has type Integer but the type checker enforces the rule that the argument of not must be a Boolean.

The type checker for  $R_2$  is a structurally recursive function over the AST. Figure 4.4 shows many of the clauses for the type-check-exp function. Given an input expression  $\mathbf{e}$ , the type checker either returns a type (Integer or Boolean) or it signals an error. The type of an integer literal is Integer and the type of a Boolean literal is Boolean. To handle variables, the type checker uses an environment that maps variables to types. Consider the clause for let. We type check the initializing expression to obtain its type T and then associate type T with the variable  $\mathbf{x}$  in the environment. When the type checker encounters a use of variable  $\mathbf{x}$  in the body of the let, it can find its type in the environment.

Exercise 14. Complete the implementation of type-check. Test your type checker using interp-tests and compiler-tests by passing the type-check function as the second argument. Create 10 new example programs in  $R_2$  that you choose based on how thoroughly they test you type checking function. Half of the example programs should have a type error to make sure that your type checker properly rejects them. For those programs, to signal that a type error is expected, create an empty file with the same base name but with file extension .tyerr. For example, if the test r2\_14.rkt is expected to error, then create an empty file named r2\_14.tyerr. The other half of the example programs should not have type errors. Note that if your type checker does not signal an error for a program, then interpreting that program should not encounter an error. If it does, there is something wrong with your type checker.

## 4.3 Shrink the $R_2$ Language

The  $R_2$  language includes several operators that are easily expressible in terms of other operators. For example, subtraction is expressible in terms of addition and negation.

$$(-e_1 e_2) \Rightarrow (+e_1 (-e_2))$$

```
(define (type-check-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (match e
     [(Var x) (dict-ref env x)]
     [(Int n) 'Integer]
     [(Bool b) 'Boolean]
     [(Let x e body)
       (define Te ((type-check-exp env) e))
       (define Tb ((type-check-exp (dict-set env x Te)) body))
       Tb]
     [else
      (error "type-check-exp couldn't match" e)])))
(define (type-check env)
 (lambda (e)
   (match e
     [(Program info body)
      (define Tb ((type-check-exp '()) body))
      (unless (equal? Tb 'Integer)
        (error "result of the program must be an integer, not " Tb))
      (Program info body)]
     )))
```

Figure 4.4: Skeleton of a type checker for the  $R_2$  language.

Several of the comparison operations are expressible in terms of less-than and logical negation.

$$( <= e_1 \ e_2 ) \Rightarrow (let ([tmp.1 \ e_1]) (not (< e_2 \ tmp.1)))$$

The let is needed in the above translation to ensure that expression  $e_1$  is evaluated before  $e_2$ .

By performing these translations near the front-end of the compiler, the later passes of the compiler do not need to deal with these constructs, making those passes shorter. On the other hand, sometimes these translations make it more difficult to generate the most efficient code with respect to the number of instructions. However, these differences typically do not affect the number of accesses to memory, which is the primary factor that determines execution time on modern computer architectures.

Exercise 15. Implement the pass shrink that removes subtraction, and, or,  $\leq$ , >, and  $\geq$  from the language by translating them to other constructs in  $R_2$ . Create tests to make sure that the behavior of all of these constructs stays the same after translation.

## 4.4 The $x86_1$ Language

To implement the new logical operations, the comparison operations, and the if expression, we need to delve further into the x86 language. Figures 4.5 and 4.6 define the concrete and abstract syntax for a larger subset of x86 that includes instructions for logical operations, comparisons, and conditional jumps.

One small challenge is that x86 does not provide an instruction that directly implements logical negation (not in  $R_2$  and  $C_1$ ). However, the xorq instruction can be used to encode not. The xorq instruction takes two arguments, performs a pairwise exclusive-or (XOR) operation on each bit of its arguments, and writes the results into its second argument. Recall the truth table for exclusive-or:

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \end{array}$$

For example, applying XOR to each bit of the binary numbers 0011 and 0101 yields 0110. Notice that in the row of the table for the bit 1, the result is

```
bytereg ::= ah | al | bh | bl | ch | cl | dh | dl

arg ::= $int | %reg | int (%reg) | %bytereg

cc ::= e | l | le | g | ge

instr ::= addq arg, arg | subq arg, arg | negq arg | movq arg, arg |

callq label | pushq arg | popq arg | retq | jmp label

label: instr | xorq arg, arg | cmpq arg, arg |

setcc arg | movzbq arg, arg | jcc label

x861 ::= .globl main

main: instr...
```

Figure 4.5: The concrete syntax of x86<sub>1</sub> (extends x86<sub>0</sub> of Figure 2.4).

```
ah | al | bh | bl | ch | cl | dh | dl
bytereq
ara
              (Imm int) | (Reg req) | (Deref req int) | (ByteReg bytereq)
              e | 1 | 1e | g | ge
cc
              (Instr 'addq (list arg arg)) | (Instr 'subq (list arg arg))
instr
               (Instr 'movq (list arg arg)) | (Instr 'negq (list arg))
               (Callq label) | (Retq) | (Pushq arg) | (Popq arg) | (Jmp label)
               (Instr 'xorq (list arq arq)) | (Instr 'cmpq (list arq arq))
               (Instr 'set (list cc arg)) | (Instr 'movzbq (list arg arg))
               (JmpIf cc label)
block
              (Block info instr...)
              (Program info (CFG (label . block) ...))
x86_{1}
```

Figure 4.6: The abstract syntax of  $x86_1$  (extends  $x86_0$  of Figure 2.8).

the opposite of the second bit. Thus, the not operation can be implemented by xorq with 1 as the first argument:

```
var = (not \ arg); \Rightarrow movq \ arg, var \\ xorq $1, var
```

Next we consider the x86 instructions that are relevant for compiling the comparison operations. The cmpq instruction compares its two arguments to determine whether one argument is less than, equal, or greater than the other argument. The cmpq instruction is unusual regarding the order of its arguments and where the result is placed. The argument order is backwards: if you want to test whether x < y, then write cmpq y, x. The result of cmpq is placed in the special EFLAGS register. This register cannot be accessed directly but it can be queried by a number of instructions, including the set

instruction. The set instruction puts a 1 or 0 into its destination depending on whether the comparison came out according to the condition code cc (e for equal, 1 for less, 1e for less-or-equal, g for greater, ge for greater-or-equal). The set instruction has an annoying quirk in that its destination argument must be single byte register, such as al (L for lower bits) or ah (H for higher bits), which are part of the rax register. Thankfully, the movzbq instruction can then be used to move from a single byte register to a normal 64-bit register.

The x86 instruction for conditional jump are relevant to the compilation of if expressions. The JmpIf instruction updates the program counter to point to the instruction after the indicated label depending on whether the result in the EFLAGS register matches the condition code cc, otherwise the JmpIf instruction falls through to the next instruction. The abstract syntax for JmpIf differs from the concrete syntax for x86 in that it separates the instruction name from the condition code. For example, (JmpIf le foo) corresponds to jle foo. Because the JmpIf instruction relies on the EFLAGS register, it is common for the JmpIf to be immediately preceded by a cmpq instruction to set the EFLAGS register.

## 4.5 The $C_1$ Intermediate Language

As with  $R_1$ , we compile  $R_2$  to a C-like intermediate language, but we need to grow that intermediate language to handle the new features in  $R_2$ : Booleans and conditional expressions. Figure 4.7 defines the concrete syntax of  $C_1$  and Figure 4.8 defines the abstract syntax. In particular, we add logical and comparison operators to the exp non-terminal and the literals #t and #f to the arg non-terminal. Regarding control flow,  $C_1$  differs considerably from  $R_2$ . Instead of if expressions,  $C_1$  has goto and conditional goto in the grammar for tail. This means that a sequence of statements may now end with a goto or a conditional goto. The conditional goto jumps to one of two labels depending on the outcome of the comparison. In Section 4.7 we discuss how to translate from  $R_2$  to  $C_1$ , bridging this gap between if expressions and goto's.

Figure 4.7: The concrete syntax of the  $C_1$  intermediate language.

Figure 4.8: The abstract syntax of  $C_1$ , an extention of  $C_0$  (Figure 2.11).

```
\begin{array}{lll} atm & ::= & (\operatorname{Int}\,int) \mid (\operatorname{Var}\,var) \mid (\operatorname{Bool}\,bool) \\ exp & ::= & atm \mid (\operatorname{Prim}\, \operatorname{`read}\, \operatorname{`())} \\ & \mid & (\operatorname{Prim}\, \operatorname{`-}\, (\operatorname{list}\,atm\, )) \mid (\operatorname{Prim}\, \operatorname{`+}\, (\operatorname{list}\,atm\, atm)) \\ & \mid & (\operatorname{Let}\,var\,\,exp\,\,exp) \\ & \mid & (\operatorname{Prim}\, \operatorname{`not}\, (\operatorname{list}\,atm)) \\ & \mid & (\operatorname{Prim}\,cmp\, (\operatorname{list}\,atm\, atm)) \mid (\operatorname{If}\,exp\,\,exp\,\,exp) \\ R_2^{\dagger} & ::= & (\operatorname{Program}\, \operatorname{`()}\,\,exp) \end{array}
```

Figure 4.9:  $R_2^{\dagger}$  is  $R_2$  in administrative normal form (ANF).

## 4.6 Remove Complex Operands

Add cases for Bool and If to the rco-exp and rco-atom functions according to the definition of the output language for this pass,  $R_2^{\dagger}$ , the administrative normal form of  $R_2$ , which is defined in Figure 4.9. The Bool form is an atomic expressions but If is not. All three sub-expressions of an If are allowed to be complex expressions in the output of remove-complex-opera\*, but the operands of not and the comparisons must be atoms. Regarding the If form, it is particularly important to not replace its condition with a temporary variable because that would interfere with the generation of high-quality output in the explicate-control pass.

## 4.7 Explicate Control

Recall that the purpose of explicate-control is to make the order of evaluation explicit in the syntax of the program. With the addition of if in  $R_2$  this get more interesting.

As a motivating example, consider the following program that has an if expression nested in the predicate of another if.

The naive way to compile if and the comparison would be to handle each of them in isolation, regardless of their context. Each comparison would be

translated into a cmpq instruction followed by a couple instructions to move the result from the EFLAGS register into a general purpose register or stack location. Each if would be translated into the combination of a cmpq and a conditional jump. The generated code for the inner if in the above example would be as follows.

```
cmpq $1, x ;; (< x 1)
setl %al
movzbq %al, tmp
cmpq $1, tmp ;; (if (< x 1) ...)
je then_branch_1
jmp else_branch_1</pre>
```

However, if we take context into account we can do better and reduce the use of cmpq and EFLAG-accessing instructions.

One idea is to try and reorganize the code at the level of  $R_2$ , pushing the outer **if** inside the inner one. This would yield the following code.

Unfortunately, this approach duplicates the two branches, and a compiler must never duplicate code!

We need a way to perform the above transformation, but without duplicating code. The solution is straightforward if we think at the level of x86 assembly: we can label the code for each of the branches and insert jumps in all the places that need to execute the branches. Put another way, we need to move away from abstract syntax trees and instead use graphs. In particular, we shall use a standard program representation called a control flow graph (CFG), due to Frances Elizabeth Allen [1970]. Each vertex is a labeled sequence of code, called a basic block, and each edge represents a jump to another block. The Program construct of  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  contains a control flow graph represented as an alist mapping labels to basic blocks. Each basic block is represented by the tail non-terminal.

Figure 4.10 shows the output of the remove-complex-opera\* pass and then the explicate-control pass on the example program. We walk through the output program and then discuss the algorithm. Following the order of evaluation in the output of remove-complex-opera\*, we first have two calls to (read) and then the less-than-comparison to 1 in the predicate of the inner if. In the output of explicate-control, in the block labeled start, this becomes two assignment statements followed by a conditional goto to label block96 or block97. The blocks associated with those labels contain the translations of the code (eq? x 0) and (eq? x 2), respectively. Regarding the block labeled with block96, we start with the comparison to 0 and then have a conditional goto, either to label block92 or label block93, which indirectly take us to labels block90 and block91, the two branches of the outer if, i.e., (+ y 2) and (+ y 10). The story for the block labeled block97 is similar.

The nice thing about the output of explicate-control is that there are no unnecessary comparisons and every comparison is part of a conditional jump. The down-side of this output is that it includes trivial blocks, such as the blocks labeled block92 through block95, that only jump to another block. We discuss a solution to this problem in Section 4.12.

Recall that in Section 2.6 we implement explicate-control for  $R_1$  using two mutually recursive functions, explicate-tail and explicate-assign. The former function translates expressions in tail position whereas the later function translates expressions on the right-hand-side of a let. With the addition of if expression in  $R_2$  we have a new kind of context to deal with: the predicate position of the if. We need another function, explicate-pred, that takes an  $R_2$  expression and two blocks (two  $C_1$  tail AST nodes) for the then-branch and else-branch. The output of explicate-pred is a block and a list of formerly let-bound variables.

Note that the three explicate functions need to construct a control-flow graph, which we recommend they do via updates to a global variable.

In the following paragraphs we consider the specific additions to the explicate-tail and explicate-assign functions, and some of cases for the explicate-pred function.

The explicate-tail function needs an additional case for if. The branches of the if inherit the current context, so they are in tail position. Let  $B_1$  be the result of explicate-tail on the "then" branch of the if, so  $B_1$  is a tail AST node. Let  $B_2$  be the result of apply explicate-tail to the "else" branch. Finally, let  $B_3$  be the tail that results from applying explicate-pred to the predicate cnd and the blocks  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ . Then the

```
start:
                                      x = (read);
                                      y = (read);
                                       if (< x 1)
                                         goto block96;
                                          goto block97;
(let ([x (read)])
                                   block96:
  (let ([y (read)])
                                       if (eq? x 0)
     (if (if (< x 1)
                                         goto block92;
            (eq? x 0)
                                       else
            (eq? x 2))
                                         goto block93;
        (+ y 2)
                                   block97:
        (+ y 10))))
                                       if (eq? x 2)
                                         goto block94;
(let ([x (read)])
                                         goto block95;
  (let ([y (read)])
                                   block92:
     (if (if (< x 1)
                                       goto block90;
            (eq? x 0)
                                   block93:
            (eq? x 2))
                                      goto block91;
        (+ y 2)
                                   block94:
        (+ y 10))))
                                       goto block90;
                                   block95:
                                       goto block91;
                                   block90:
                                       return (+ y 2);
                                   block91:
                                       return (+ y 10);
```

Figure 4.10: Example translation from  $R_2$  to  $C_1$  via the explicate-control.

if as a whole translates to block  $B_3$ .

$$(if \ cnd \ thn \ els) \Rightarrow B_3$$

In the above discussion, we use the metavariables  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ , and  $B_3$  to refer to blocks for the purposes of our discussion, but they should not be confused with the labels for the blocks that appear in the generated code. We initially construct unlabeled blocks; we only attach labels to blocks when we add them to the control-flow graph, as we shall see in the next case.

Next consider the case for if in the explicate-assign function. The context of the if is an assignment to some variable x and then the control continues to some block  $B_1$ . The code that we generate for both the "then" and "else" branches needs to continue to  $B_1$ , so to avoid duplicating  $B_1$  we instead add it to the control flow graph with a fresh label  $\ell_1$ . The branches of the if inherit the current context, so that are in assignment positions. Let  $B_2$  be the result of applying explicate-assign to the "then" branch, variable x, and the block (Goto  $\ell_1$ ). Let  $B_3$  be the result of applying explicate-assign to the "else" branch, variable x, and the block (Goto  $\ell_1$ ). Finally, let  $B_4$  be the result of applying explicate-pred to the predicate cnd and the blocks  $B_2$  and  $B_3$ . The if as a whole translates to the block  $B_4$ .

$$(if \ cnd \ thn \ els) \Rightarrow B_4$$

The function explicate-pred will need a case for every expression that can have type Boolean. We detail a few cases here and leave the rest for the reader. The input to this function is an expression and two blocks,  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ , for the two branches of the enclosing if. Suppose the expression is the Boolean #t. Then we can perform a kind of partial evaluation and translate it to the "then" branch  $B_1$ . Likewise, we translate #f to the "else" branch  $B_2$ .

$$\#t \Rightarrow B_1, \qquad \#f \Rightarrow B_2$$

Next, suppose the expression is a less-than comparison. We translate it to a conditional goto. We need labels for the two branches  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ , so we add those blocks to the control flow graph and obtain their labels  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ . The translation of the less-than comparison is as follows.

$$(\mathrel{<} e_1 \; e_2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \quad \text{if } (\mathrel{<} e_1 \; e_2) \\ \quad \text{goto} \; \ell_1; \\ \quad \text{else} \\ \quad \text{goto} \; \ell_2; \end{array}$$

The case for if in explicate-pred is particularly illuminating as it deals with the challenges that we discussed above regarding the example of the nested if expressions. Again, we add the two branches  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  to the control flow graph and obtain their labels  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ . The "then" and "else" branches of the current if inherit their context from the current one, that is, predicate context. So we apply explicate-pred to the "then" branch with the two blocks (Goto  $\ell_1$ ) and (Goto  $\ell_2$ ) to obtain  $B_3$ . Proceed in a similar way with the "else" branch to obtain  $B_4$ . Finally, we apply explicate-pred to the predicate of the if and the blocks  $B_3$  and  $B_4$  to obtain the result  $B_5$ .

```
(if \ cnd \ thn \ els) \Rightarrow B_5
```

Finally, note that the way in which the **shrink** pass transforms logical operations such as **and** and **or** can impact the quality of code generated by **explicate-control**. For example, consider the following program.

```
(if (and (eq? (read) 0) (eq? (read) 1))
0
42)
```

The and operation should transform into something that the explicat-pred function can still analyze and descend through to reach the underlying eq? conditions. Ideally, your explicate-control pass should generate code similar to the following for the above program.<sup>1</sup>

```
start:
   tmp13 = (read);
                                 block20:
   if (eq? tmp13 0)
                                     goto block16;
      goto block19;
                                 block17:
   else
                                     goto block15;
      goto block20;
                                 block18:
block19:
                                     goto block16;
   tmp14 = (read);
                                 block15:
   if (eq? tmp14 1)
                                     return 0;
      goto block17;
                                 block16:
   else
                                     return 42;
      goto block18;
```

Exercise 16. Implement the pass explicate-control by adding the cases for if to the functions for tail and assignment contexts, and implement explicate-pred for predicate contexts. Create test cases that exercise all of the new cases in the code for this pass.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>If the trivial blocks 17, 18, and 20 bother you, take a look at the challenge problem in Section 4.12.

#### 4.8 Select Instructions

Recall that the select-instructions pass lowers from our *C*-like intermediate representation to the pseudo-x86 language, which is suitable for conducting register allocation. The pass is implemented using three auxiliary functions, one for each of the non-terminals *atm*, *stmt*, and *tail*.

For atm, we have new cases for the Booleans. We take the usual approach of encoding them as integers, with true as 1 and false as 0.

$$#t \Rightarrow 1$$
  $#f \Rightarrow 0$ 

For stmt, we discuss a couple cases. The not operation can be implemented in terms of xorq as we discussed at the beginning of this section. Given an assignment  $var = (not \ atm)$ ;, if the left-hand side var is the same as atm, then just the xorq suffices.

$$var = (not \ var); \Rightarrow xorq \$1, \ var$$

Otherwise, a movq is needed to adapt to the update-in-place semantics of x86. Let arq be the result of translating atm to x86. Then we have

$$var = (\text{not } atm); \Rightarrow \frac{\text{movq } arg, var}{\text{xorq } \$1, var}$$

Next consider the cases for eq? and less-than comparison. Translating these operations to x86 is slightly involved due to the unusual nature of the cmpq instruction discussed above. We recommend translating an assignment from eq? into the following sequence of three instructions.

$$var$$
 = (eq?  $atm_1$   $atm_2$ );  $\Rightarrow$  cmpq  $arg_2$ ,  $arg_1$   $\Rightarrow$  sete %al movzbq %al,  $var$ 

Regarding the *tail* non-terminal, we have two new cases: goto and conditional goto. Both are straightforward to handle. A goto becomes a jump instruction.

goto 
$$\ell$$
;  $\Rightarrow$  jmp  $\ell$ 

A conditional goto becomes a compare instruction followed by a conditional jump (for "then") and the fall-through is to a regular jump (for "else").

Exercise 17. Expand your select-instructions pass to handle the new features of the  $R_2$  language. Test the pass on all the examples you have created and make sure that you have some test programs that use the eq? and < operators, creating some if necessary. Test the output using the interp-x86 interpreter (Appendix 12.1).

### 4.9 Register Allocation

The changes required for  $R_2$  affect liveness analysis, building the interference graph, and assigning homes, but the graph coloring algorithm itself does not change.

#### 4.9.1 Liveness Analysis

Recall that for  $R_1$  we implemented liveness analysis for a single basic block (Section 3.2). With the addition of if expressions to  $R_2$ , explicate-control produces many basic blocks arranged in a control-flow graph. The first question we need to consider is: what order should we process the basic blocks? Recall that to perform liveness analysis, we need to know the live-after set. If a basic block has no successor blocks (i.e. no out-edges in the control flow graph), then it has an empty live-after set and we can immediately apply liveness analysis to it. If a basic block has some successors, then we need to complete liveness analysis on those blocks first. Furthermore, we know that the control flow graph does not contain any cycles because  $R_2$  does not include loops <sup>2</sup>. Returning to the question of what order should we process the basic blocks, the answer is reverse topological order. We recommend using the tsort (topological sort) and transpose functions of the Racket graph package to obtain this ordering.

The next question is how to compute the live-after set of a block given the live-before sets of all its successor blocks. (There can be more than one because of conditional jumps.) During compilation we do not know which way a conditional jump will go, so we do not know which of the successor's live-before set to use. The solution to this challenge is based on the observation that there is no harm to the correctness of the compiler if we classify more variables as live than the ones that are truly live during a particular execution of the block. Thus, we can take the union of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>If we were to add loops to the language, then the CFG could contain cycles and we would instead need to use the classic worklist algorithm for computing the fixed point of the liveness analysis [Aho et al., 1986].

live-before sets from all the successors to be the live-after set for the block. Once we have computed the live-after set, we can proceed to perform liveness analysis on the block just as we did in Section 3.2.

The helper functions for computing the variables in an instruction's argument and for computing the variables read-from (R) or written-to (W) by an instruction need to be updated to handle the new kinds of arguments and instructions in  $x86_1$ .

#### 4.9.2 Build Interference

Many of the new instructions in  $x86_1$  can be handled in the same way as the instructions in  $x86_0$ . Thus, if your code was already quite general, it will not need to be changed to handle the new instructions. If you code is not general enough, I recommend that you change your code to be more general. For example, you can factor out the computing of the the read and write sets for each kind of instruction into two auxiliary functions.

Note that the movzbq instruction requires some special care, just like the movq instruction. See rule number 3 in Section 3.3.

Exercise 18. Update the register-allocation pass so that it works for  $R_2$  and test your compiler using your previously created programs on the interp-x86 interpreter (Appendix 12.1).

#### 4.10 Patch Instructions

The second argument of the cmpq instruction must not be an immediate value (such as an integer). So if you are comparing two immediates, we recommend inserting a movq instruction to put the second argument in rax. The second argument of the movzbq must be a register. There are no special restrictions on the x86 instructions JmpIf and Jmp.

Exercise 19. Update patch-instructions to handle the new x86 instructions. Test your compiler using your previously created programs on the interp-x86 interpreter (Appendix 12.1).

## 4.11 An Example Translation

Figure 4.11 shows a simple example program in  $R_2$  translated to x86, showing the results of explicate-control, select-instructions, and the final x86 assembly code.

Figure 4.12 lists all the passes needed for the compilation of  $R_2$ .

```
start:
                                                    callq read_int
(if (eq? (read) 1) 42 0)
                                                           %rax, %rcx
                                                    movq
                                                           $1, %rcx
                                                    cmpq
                                                    je block7952
                                                    jmp block7953
start:
   tmp7951 = (read);
                                            block7953:
   if (eq? tmp7951 1) then
                                                           $0, %rax
                                                    movq
      goto block7952;
                                                    jmp conclusion
   else
                                            block7952:
      goto block7953;
                                                           $42, %rax
                                                    movq
block7952:
                                                    jmp conclusion
   return 42;
block7953:
                                                    .globl main
   return 0;
                                            main:
                                                           %rbp
                                     \Rightarrow
                                                    pushq
1
                                                           %rsp, %rbp
                                                    movq
                                                    pushq %r13
start:
                                                    pushq %r12
   callq read_int
                                                    pushq %rbx
   movq %rax, tmp7951
                                                    pushq %r14
   cmpq $1, tmp7951
                                                           $0, %rsp
                                                    subq
   je block7952
                                                    jmp start
   jmp block7953
                                            conclusion:
block7953:
                                                    addq
                                                           $0, %rsp
   movq $0, %rax
                                                    popq
                                                           %r14
   jmp conclusion
                                                           %rbx
                                                    popq
block7952:
                                                           %r12
   movq $42, %rax
                                                    popq
                                                           %r13
   jmp conclusion
                                                    popq
                                                    popq
                                                           %rbp
                                                    retq
```

Figure 4.11: Example compilation of an if expression to x86.

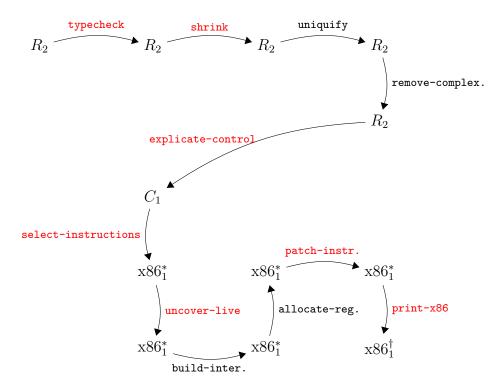


Figure 4.12: Diagram of the passes for  $R_2$ , a language with conditionals.

## 4.12 Challenge: Optimize and Remove Jumps

Recall that in the example output of explicate-control in Figure 4.10, block57 through block60 are trivial blocks, they do nothing but jump to another block. The first goal of this challenge assignment is to remove those blocks. Figure 4.13 repeats the result of explicate-control on the left and shows the result of bypassing the trivial blocks on the right. Let us focus on block61. The then branch jumps to block57, which in turn jumps to block55. The optimized code on the right of Figure 4.13 bypasses block57, with the then branch jumping directly to block55. The story is similar for the else branch, as well as for the two branches in block62. After the jumps in block61 and block62 have been optimized in this way, there are no longer any jumps to blocks block57 through block60, so they can be removed.

The name of this pass is optimize-jumps. We recommend implementing this pass in two phases. The first phrase builds a hash table that maps labels to possibly improved labels. The second phase changes the target of each goto to use the improved label. If the label is for a trivial block, then the hash table should map the label to the first non-trivial block that can be reached from this label by jumping through trivial blocks. If the label is for a non-trivial block, then the hash table should map the label to itself; we do not want to change jumps to non-trivial blocks.

The first phase can be accomplished by constructing an empty hash table, call it short-cut, and then iterating over the control flow graph. Each time you encouter a block that is just a goto, then update the hash table, mapping the block's source to the target of the goto. Also, the hash table may already have mapped some labels to the block's source, to you must iterate through the hash table and update all of those so that they instead map to the target of the goto.

For the second phase, we recommend iterating through the *tail* of each block in the program, updating the target of every goto according to the mapping in short-cut.

**Exercise 20.** Implement the optimize-jumps pass as a transformation from  $C_1$  to  $C_1$ , coming after the explicate-control pass. Check that optimize-jumps removes trivial blocks in a few example programs. Then check that your compiler still passes all of your tests.

There is another opportunity for optimizing jumps that is apparent in the example of Figure 4.11. The start block end with a jump to block7953 and there are no other jumps to block7953 in the rest of the program. In

```
block62:
   tmp54 = (read);
   if (eq? tmp54 2) then
      goto block59;
                                  block62:
   else
      goto block60;
                                      tmp54 = (read);
block61:
                                      if (eq? tmp54 2) then
   tmp53 = (read);
                                         goto block55;
   if (eq? tmp53 0) then
      goto block57;
                                         goto block56;
                                  block61:
      goto block58;
                                      tmp53 = (read);
block60:
                                      if (eq? tmp53 0) then
   goto block56;
                                         goto block55;
block59:
                                      else
   goto block55;
                                         goto block56;
block58:
                                  block56:
                                      return (+ 700 77);
   goto block56;
block57:
                                  block55:
                                      return (+ 10 32);
   goto block55;
                                  start:
block56:
                                      tmp52 = (read);
   return (+ 700 77);
block55:
                                      if (eq? tmp52 1) then
   return (+ 10 32);
                                         goto block61;
                                      else
start:
   tmp52 = (read);
                                         goto block62;
   if (eq? tmp52 1) then
      goto block61;
   else
      goto block62;
```

Figure 4.13: Optimize jumps by removing trivial blocks.

```
start:
   callq read_int
                                             start:
   movq %rax, tmp7951
                                                 callq read_int
   cmpq $1, tmp7951
                                                movq %rax, tmp7951
   je block7952
                                                 cmpq $1, tmp7951
   jmp block7953
                                                 je block7952
                                                 movq $0, %rax
block7953:
   movq $0, %rax
                                                 jmp conclusion
   jmp conclusion
                                             block7952:
block7952:
                                                movq $42, %rax
   movq $42, %rax
                                                 jmp conclusion
   jmp conclusion
```

Figure 4.14: Merging basic blocks by removing unnecessary jumps.

this situation we can avoid the runtime overhead of this jump by merging block7953 into the preceding block, in this case the start block. Figure 4.14 shows the output of select-instructions on the left and the result of this optimization on the right.

Exercise 21. Implement a pass named remove-jumps that merges basic blocks into their preceding basic block, when there is only one preceding block. The pass should translate from psuedo  $x86_1$  to pseudo  $x86_1$  and it should come immediately after select-instructions. Check that remove-jumps accomplishes the goal of merging basic blocks on several test programs and check that your compiler passes all of your tests.

# Tuples and Garbage Collection

In this chapter we study the implementation of mutable tuples (called "vectors" in Racket). This language feature is the first to use the computer's heap because the lifetime of a Racket tuple is indefinite, that is, a tuple lives forever from the programmer's viewpoint. Of course, from an implementer's viewpoint, it is important to reclaim the space associated with a tuple when it is no longer needed, which is why we also study garbage collection garbage collection techniques in this chapter.

Section 5.1 introduces the  $R_3$  language including its interpreter and type checker. The  $R_3$  language extends the  $R_2$  language of Chapter 4 with vectors and Racket's void value. The reason for including the later is that the vector-set! operation returns a value of type Void<sup>1</sup>.

Section 5.2 describes a garbage collection algorithm based on copying live objects back and forth between two halves of the heap. The garbage collector requires coordination with the compiler so that it can see all of the *root* pointers, that is, pointers in registers or on the procedure call stack.

Sections 5.4 through 5.10 discuss all the necessary changes and additions to the compiler passes, including a new compiler pass named expose-allocation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Racket's Void type corresponds to what is called the Unit type in the programming languages literature. Racket's Void type is inhabited by a single value void which corresponds to unit or () in the literature [Pierce, 2002].

```
type ::= Integer \mid Boolean \mid (Vector type...) \mid Void
exp ::= int \mid (read) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp exp) \mid (-exp exp)
\mid var \mid (let ([var exp]) exp)
\mid \#t \mid \#f \mid (and exp exp) \mid (or exp exp) \mid (not exp)
\mid (cmp exp exp) \mid (if exp exp exp)
\mid (vector exp...) \mid (vector-ref exp int)
\mid (vector-set! exp int exp)
\mid (void) \mid (has-type exp type)
R_3 ::= exp
```

Figure 5.1: The concrete syntax of  $R_3$ , extending  $R_2$  (Figure 4.1).

Figure 5.2: Example program that creates tuples and reads from them.

## 5.1 The $R_3$ Language

Figure 5.1 defines the concrete syntax for  $R_3$  and Figure 5.3 defines the abstract syntax. The  $R_3$  language includes three new forms: vector for creating a tuple, vector-ref for reading an element of a tuple, and vector-set! for writing to an element of a tuple. The program in Figure 5.2 shows the usage of tuples in Racket. We create a 3-tuple t and a 1-tuple that is stored at index 2 of the 3-tuple, demonstrating that tuples are first-class values. The element at index 1 of t is #t, so the "then" branch of the if is taken. The element at index 0 of t is 40, to which we add 2, the element at index 0 of the 1-tuple. So the result of the program is 42.

Tuples are our first encounter with heap-allocated data, which raises several interesting issues. First, variable binding performs a shallow-copy when dealing with tuples, which means that different variables can refer to the same tuple, that is, different variables can be *aliases* for the same entity. Consider the following example in which both t1 and t2 refer to the same tuple. Thus, the mutation through t2 is visible when referencing the tuple from t1, so the result of this program is 42.

Figure 5.3: The abstract syntax of  $R_3$ .

The next issue concerns the lifetime of tuples. Of course, they are created by the vector form, but when does their lifetime end? Notice that  $R_3$  does not include an operation for deleting tuples. Furthermore, the lifetime of a tuple is not tied to any notion of static scoping. For example, the following program returns 42 even though the variable  $\mathbf{w}$  goes out of scope prior to the vector-ref that reads from the vector it was bound to.

From the perspective of programmer-observable behavior, tuples live forever. Of course, if they really lived forever, then many programs would run out of memory.<sup>2</sup> A Racket implementation must therefore perform automatic garbage collection.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The  $R_3$  language does not have looping or recursive functions, so it is nigh impossible to write a program in  $R_3$  that will run out of memory. However, we add recursive functions in the next Chapter!

```
(define primitives (set ... 'vector 'vector-ref 'vector-set!))
(define (interp-op op)
 (match op
    ['vector vector]
    ['vector-ref vector-ref]
    ['vector-set! vector-set!]
    [else (error 'interp-op "unknown operator")]))
(define (interp-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (interp-exp env))
   (match e
      )))
(define (interp-R3 p)
(match p
  [(Program '() e)
   ((interp-exp '()) e)]
  ))
```

Figure 5.4: Interpreter for the  $R_3$  language.

Figure 5.4 shows the definitional interpreter for the  $R_3$  language. We define the vector, vector-ref, and vector-set! operations for  $R_3$  in terms of the corresponding operations in Racket. One subtle point is that the vector-set! operation returns the #<void> value. The #<void> value can be passed around just like other values inside an  $R_3$  program and a #<void> value can be compared for equality with another #<void> value. However, there are no other operations specific to the the #<void> value in  $R_3$ . In contrast, Racket defines the void? predicate that returns #t when applied to #<void> and #f otherwise.

Figure 5.5 shows the type checker for  $R_3$ , which deserves some explanation. As we shall see in Section 5.2, we need to know which variables contain pointers into the heap, that is, which variables contain vectors. Also, when allocating a vector, we need to know which elements of the vector are pointers. We can obtain this information during type checking. The type checker in Figure 5.5 not only computes the type of an expression, it also wraps every sub-expression e with the form (HasType e T), where T is e's type.

Subsequently, in the uncover-locals pass (Section 5.7) this type information is propagated to all variables (including the temporaries generated by remove-complex-opera\*).

To create the s-expression for the Vector type in Figure 5.5, we use the unquote-splicing operator ,@ to insert the list t\* without its usual start and end parentheses.

## 5.2 Garbage Collection

Here we study a relatively simple algorithm for garbage collection that is the basis of state-of-the-art garbage collectors [Lieberman and Hewitt, 1983, Ungar, 1984, Jones and Lins, 1996, Detlefs et al., 2004, Dybvig, 2006, Tene et al., 2011]. In particular, we describe a two-space copying collector [Wilson, 1992] that uses Cheney's algorithm to perform the copy [Cheney, 1970]. Figure 5.6 gives a coarse-grained depiction of what happens in a two-space collector, showing two time steps, prior to garbage collection (on the top) and after garbage collection (on the bottom). In a two-space collector, the heap is divided into two parts named the FromSpace and the ToSpace. Initially, all allocations go to the FromSpace until there is not enough room for the next allocation request. At that point, the garbage collector goes to work to make more room.

The garbage collector must be careful not to reclaim tuples that will be used by the program in the future. Of course, it is impossible in general to predict what a program will do, but we can over approximate the will-beused tuples by preserving all tuples that could be accessed by *any* program given the current computer state. A program could access any tuple whose address is in a register or on the procedure call stack. These addresses are called the *root set*. In addition, a program could access any tuple that is transitively reachable from the root set. Thus, it is safe for the garbage collector to reclaim the tuples that are not reachable in this way.

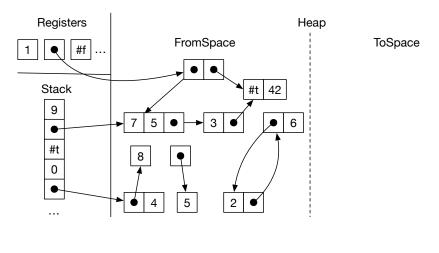
So the goal of the garbage collector is twofold:

- 1. preserve all tuple that are reachable from the root set via a path of pointers, that is, the *live* tuples, and
- 2. reclaim the memory of everything else, that is, the garbage.

A copying collector accomplishes this by copying all of the live objects from the FromSpace into the ToSpace and then performs a slight of hand, treating the ToSpace as the new FromSpace and the old FromSpace as the new ToSpace. In the example of Figure 5.6, there are three pointers in the root

```
(define (type-check-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (type-check-exp env))
   (match e
     [(Void) (values (HasType (Void) 'Void)]
     [(Prim 'vector es)
      (define-values (e* t*) (for/lists (e* t*) ([e es]) (recur e)))
      (let ([t `(Vector ,@t*)])
        (values (HasType (Prim 'vector e*) t) t))]
     [(Prim 'vector-ref (list e (Int i)))
      (define-values (e^ t) (recur e))
      (match t
        [`(Vector ,ts ...)
         (unless (and (exact-nonnegative-integer? i) (< i (length ts)))</pre>
           (error 'type-check-exp "invalid index ~a" i))
         (let ([t (list-ref ts i)])
           (values
             (HasType (Prim 'vector-ref
                        (list e^ (HasType (Int i) 'Integer)))
                t)
           t))]
        [else (error "expected a vector in vector-ref, not" t)])]
     [(Prim 'eq? (list e1 e2))
      (define-values (e1 T1) (recur e1))
      (define-values (e2^ T2) (recur e2))
      (unless (equal? T1 T2)
        (error "arguments of eq? must have the same type, but are not"
              (list T1 T2)))
      (values (HasType (Prim 'eq? (list e1^ e2^)) 'Boolean) 'Boolean)]
     )))
```

Figure 5.5: Type checker for the  $R_3$  language.



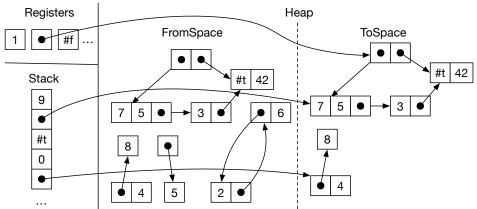


Figure 5.6: A copying collector in action.

set, one in a register and two on the stack. All of the live objects have been copied to the ToSpace (the right-hand side of Figure 5.6) in a way that preserves the pointer relationships. For example, the pointer in the register still points to a 2-tuple whose first element is a 3-tuple and whose second element is a 2-tuple. There are four tuples that are not reachable from the root set and therefore do not get copied into the ToSpace.

The exact situation in Figure 5.6 cannot be created by a well-typed program in  $R_3$  because it contains a cycle. However, creating cycles will be possible once we get to  $R_6$ . We design the garbage collector to deal with cycles to begin with so we will not need to revisit this issue.

There are many alternatives to copying collectors (and their bigger sib-

lings, the generational collectors) when its comes to garbage collection, such as mark-and-sweep [McCarthy, 1960] and reference counting [Collins, 1960]. The strengths of copying collectors are that allocation is fast (just a comparison and pointer increment), there is no fragmentation, cyclic garbage is collected, and the time complexity of collection only depends on the amount of live data, and not on the amount of garbage [Wilson, 1992]. The main disadvantages of a two-space copying collector is that it uses a lot of space and takes a long time to perform the copy, though these problems are ameliorated in generational collectors. Racket and Scheme programs tend to allocate many small objects and generate a lot of garbage, so copying and generational collectors are a good fit. Garbage collection is an active research topic, especially concurrent garbage collection [Tene et al., 2011]. Researchers are continuously developing new techniques and revisiting old trade-offs [Blackburn et al., 2004, Jones et al., 2011, Shahriyar et al., 2013, Cutler and Morris, 2015, Shidal et al., 2015, Österlund and Löwe, 2016, Jacek and Moss, 2019, Gamari and Dietz, 2020]. Researchers meet every year at the International Symposium on Memory Management to present these findings.

#### 5.2.1 Graph Copying via Cheney's Algorithm

Let us take a closer look at the copying of the live objects. The allocated objects and pointers can be viewed as a graph and we need to copy the part of the graph that is reachable from the root set. To make sure we copy all of the reachable vertices in the graph, we need an exhaustive graph traversal algorithm, such as depth-first search or breadth-first search [Moore, 1959, Cormen et al., 2001]. Recall that such algorithms take into account the possibility of cycles by marking which vertices have already been visited, so as to ensure termination of the algorithm. These search algorithms also use a data structure such as a stack or queue as a to-do list to keep track of the vertices that need to be visited. We shall use breadth-first search and a trick due to Cheney [1970] for simultaneously representing the queue and copying tuples into the ToSpace.

Figure 5.7 shows several snapshots of the ToSpace as the copy progresses. The queue is represented by a chunk of contiguous memory at the beginning of the ToSpace, using two pointers to track the front and the back of the queue. The algorithm starts by copying all tuples that are immediately reachable from the root set into the ToSpace to form the initial queue. When we copy a tuple, we mark the old tuple to indicate that it has been visited. We discuss how this marking is accomplish in Section 5.2.2. Note

that any pointers inside the copied tuples in the queue still point back to the FromSpace. Once the initial queue has been created, the algorithm enters a loop in which it repeatedly processes the tuple at the front of the queue and pops it off the queue. To process a tuple, the algorithm copies all the tuple that are directly reachable from it to the ToSpace, placing them at the back of the queue. The algorithm then updates the pointers in the popped tuple so they point to the newly copied tuples.

Getting back to Figure 5.7, in the first step we copy the tuple whose second element is 42 to the back of the queue. The other pointer goes to a tuple that has already been copied, so we do not need to copy it again, but we do need to update the pointer to the new location. This can be accomplished by storing a *forwarding pointer* to the new location in the old tuple, back when we initially copied the tuple into the ToSpace. This completes one step of the algorithm. The algorithm continues in this way until the front of the queue is empty, that is, until the front catches up with the back.

#### 5.2.2 Data Representation

The garbage collector places some requirements on the data representations used by our compiler. First, the garbage collector needs to distinguish between pointers and other kinds of data. There are several ways to accomplish this.

- 1. Attached a tag to each object that identifies what type of object it is [McCarthy, 1960].
- 2. Store different types of objects in different regions [Steele, 1977].
- 3. Use type information from the program to either generate type-specific code for collecting or to generate tables that can guide the collector [Appel, 1989, Goldberg, 1991, Diwan et al., 1992].

Dynamically typed languages, such as Lisp, need to tag objects anyways, so option 1 is a natural choice for those languages. However,  $R_3$  is a statically typed language, so it would be unfortunate to require tags on every object, especially small and pervasive objects like integers and Booleans. Option 3 is the best-performing choice for statically typed languages, but comes with a relatively high implementation complexity. To keep this chapter within a 2-week time budget, we recommend a combination of options 1 and 2, using separate strategies for the stack and the heap.

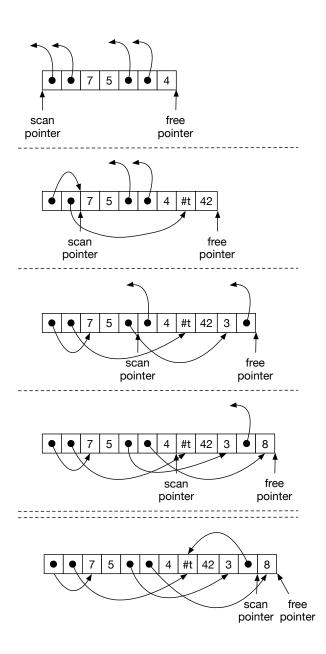


Figure 5.7: Depiction of the Cheney algorithm copying the live tuples.

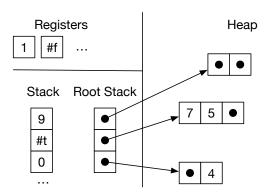


Figure 5.8: Maintaining a root stack to facilitate garbage collection.

Regarding the stack, we recommend using a separate stack for pointers, which we call a  $root\ stack$  (a.k.a. "shadow stack") [Siebert, 2001, Henderson, 2002, Baker et al., 2009]. That is, when a local variable needs to be spilled and is of type (Vector  $type_1\dots type_n$ ), then we put it on the root stack instead of the normal procedure call stack. Furthermore, we always spill vector-typed variables if they are live during a call to the collector, thereby ensuring that no pointers are in registers during a collection. Figure 5.8 reproduces the example from Figure 5.6 and contrasts it with the data layout using a root stack. The root stack contains the two pointers from the regular stack and also the pointer in the second register.

The problem of distinguishing between pointers and other kinds of data also arises inside of each tuple on the heap. We solve this problem by attaching a tag, an extra 64-bits, to each tuple. Figure 5.9 zooms in on the tags for two of the tuples in the example from Figure 5.6. Note that we have drawn the bits in a big-endian way, from right-to-left, with bit location 0 (the least significant bit) on the far right, which corresponds to the direction of the x86 shifting instructions salq (shift left) and sarq (shift right). Part of each tag is dedicated to specifying which elements of the tuple are pointers, the part labeled "pointer mask". Within the pointer mask, a 1 bit indicates there is a pointer and a 0 bit indicates some other kind of data. The pointer mask starts at bit location 7. We have limited tuples to a maximum size of 50 elements, so we just need 50 bits for the pointer mask. The tag also contains two other pieces of information. The length of the tuple (number of elements) is stored in bits location 1 through 6. Finally, the bit at location 0 indicates whether the tuple has yet to be copied to the ToSpace. If the

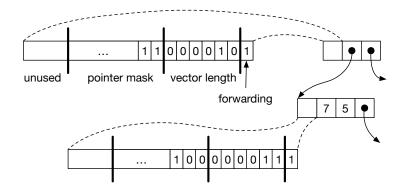


Figure 5.9: Representation of tuples in the heap.

bit has value 1, then this tuple has not yet been copied. If the bit has value 0 then the entire tag is a forwarding pointer. (The lower 3 bits of a pointer are always zero anyways because our tuples are 8-byte aligned.)

#### 5.2.3 Implementation of the Garbage Collector

An implementation of the copying collector is provided in the runtime.c file. Figure 5.10 defines the interface to the garbage collector that is used by the compiler. The initialize function creates the FromSpace, ToSpace, and root stack and should be called in the prelude of the main function. The initialize function puts the address of the beginning of the FromSpace into the global variable free\_ptr. The global variable fromspace\_end points to the address that is 1-past the last element of the FromSpace. (We use half-open intervals to represent chunks of memory [Dijkstra, 1982].) The rootstack\_begin variable points to the first element of the root stack.

As long as there is room left in the FromSpace, your generated code can allocate tuples simply by moving the free\_ptr forward. The amount of room left in FromSpace is the difference between the fromspace\_end and the free\_ptr. The collect function should be called when there is not enough room left in the FromSpace for the next allocation. The collect function takes a pointer to the current top of the root stack (one past the last item that was pushed) and the number of bytes that need to be allocated. The collect function performs the copying collection and leaves the heap in a state such that the next allocation will succeed.

The introduction of garbage collection has a non-trivial impact on our compiler passes. We introduce two new compiler passes named expose-allocation and uncover-locals. We make significant changes to select-instructions,

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```
void initialize(uint64_t rootstack_size, uint64_t heap_size);
void collect(int64_t** rootstack_ptr, uint64_t bytes_requested);
int64_t* free_ptr;
int64_t* fromspace_begin;
int64_t* fromspace_end;
int64_t* rootstack_begin;
```

Figure 5.10: The compiler's interface to the garbage collector.

build-interference, allocate-registers, and print-x86 and make minor changes in severl more passes. The following program will serve as our running example. It creates two tuples, one nested inside the other. Both tuples have length one. The program accesses the element in the inner tuple tuple via two vector references.

```
(vector-ref (vector (vector 42)) 0) 0))
```

#### 5.3 Shrink

Recall that the shrink pass translates the primitives operators into a smaller set of primitives. Because this pass comes after type checking, but before the passes that require the type information in the HasType AST nodes, the shrink pass must be modified to wrap HasType around each AST node that it generates.

# 5.4 Expose Allocation

The pass expose-allocation lowers the vector creation form into a conditional call to the collector followed by the allocation. We choose to place the expose-allocation pass before remove-complex-opera\* because the code generated by expose-allocation contains complex operands. We also place expose-allocation before explicate-control because expose-allocation introduces new variables using let, but let is gone after explicate-control.

The output of expose-allocation is a language  $R'_3$  that extends  $R_3$  with the three new forms that we use in the translation of the vector form.

```
exp ::= \cdots \mid (collect int) \mid (allocate int type) \mid (global-value name)
```

The (collect n) form runs the garbage collector, requesting n bytes. It will become a call to the collect function in runtime.c in select-instructions.

The (allocate nT) form creates an tuple of n elements. The T parameter is the type of the tuple: (Vector  $type_1 \dots type_n$ ) where  $type_i$  is the type of the ith element in the tuple. The (global-value name) form reads the value of a global variable, such as free\_ptr.

In the following, we show the transformation for the vector form into 1) a sequence of let-bindings for the initializing expressions, 2) a conditional call to collect, 3) a call to allocate, and 4) the initialization of the vector. In the following, *len* refers to the length of the vector and *bytes* is how many total bytes need to be allocated for the vector, which is 8 for the tag plus *len* times 8.

In the above, we suppressed all of the has-type forms in the output for the sake of readability. The placement of the initializing expressions  $e_0, \ldots, e_{n-1}$  prior to the allocate and the sequence of vector-set! is important, as those expressions may trigger garbage collection and we cannot have an allocated but uninitialized tuple on the heap during a collection.

Figure 5.11 shows the output of the expose-allocation pass on our running example.

# 5.5 Remove Complex Operands

The new forms collect, allocate, and global-value should all be treated as complex operands. A new case for HasType is needed and the case for Prim needs to be handled carefully to prevent the Prim node from being separated from its enclosing HasType.

# 5.6 Explicate Control and the $C_2$ language

The output of explicate-control is a program in the intermediate language  $C_2$ , whose concrete syntax is defined in Figure 5.12 and whose ab-

```
(vector-ref
(vector-ref
 (let ([vecinit7976
        (let ([vecinit7972 42])
          (let ([collectret7974
                (if (< (+ (global-value free_ptr) 16)
                       (global-value fromspace_end))
                    (void)
                    (collect 16)
                    )])
            (let ([alloc7971 (allocate 1 (Vector Integer))])
             (let ([initret7973 (vector-set! alloc7971 0 vecinit7972)])
               alloc7971)
           )
         )
        ])
   (let ([collectret7978
          (if (< (+ (global-value free_ptr) 16)</pre>
                (global-value fromspace_end))
              (void)
             (collect 16)
             )])
     (let ([alloc7975 (allocate 1 (Vector (Vector Integer)))])
       (let ([initret7977 (vector-set! alloc7975 0 vecinit7976)])
         alloc7975)
       )
     )
   )
 0)
0)
```

Figure 5.11: Output of the expose-allocation pass, minus all of the has-type forms.

```
int \mid var \mid bool
atm
            eq? | <
cmp
      ::=
           atm | (read) | (- atm) | (+ atm atm)
exp
            (not atm) | (cmp atm atm)
            (allocate int type)
            (vector-ref atm int) | (vector-set! atm int atm)
            (global-value var) | (void)
           var = exp; | (collect int)
stmt
     ::=
           return exp; | stmt tail | goto label;
            if (cmp atm atm) goto label; else goto label;
C_2
      ::=
           (label: tail) \dots
```

Figure 5.12: The concrete syntax of the  $C_2$  intermediate language.

```
(Int int) \mid (Var var) \mid (Bool bool)
atm
           eq? | <
cmp
      ::=
           atm | (Prim 'read '())
           (Prim '- (list atm )) | (Prim '+ (list atm atm))
           (Prim not (list atm)) | (Prim cmp (list atm atm))
           (Allocate int\ type)
            (Prim 'vector-ref (list atm (Int int)))
           (Prim 'vector-set! (list atm (Int int) atm))
           (GlobalValue var) | (Void)
      ::= (Assign (Var var) exp) | (Collect int)
stmt
           (Return exp) | (Seq stmt tail) | (Goto label)
tail
           (IfStmt (Prim cmp (list atm atm)) (Goto label) (Goto label))
C_2
           (Program info (CFG (label . tail)...))
```

Figure 5.13: The abstract syntax of  $C_2$ , extending  $C_1$  (Figure 4.8).

stract syntax is defined in Figure 5.13. The new forms of  $C_2$  include the allocate, vector-ref, and vector-set!, and global-value expressions and the collect statement. The explicate-control pass can treat these new forms much like the other forms.

#### 5.7 Uncover Locals

Recall that the explicate-control function collects all of the local variables so that it can store them in the *info* field of the Program structure. Also recall that we need to know the types of all the local variables for purposes of identifying the root set for the garbage collector. Thus, we create a pass named uncover-locals to collect not just the variables but the variables and their types in the form of an alist. Thanks to the HasType nodes, the types are readily available at every assignment to a variable. We recommend storing the resulting alist in the *info* field of the program, associated with the locals key. Figure 5.14 lists the output of the uncover-locals pass on the running example.

```
locals:
   vecinit7976 : '(Vector Integer), tmp7980 : 'Integer,
   alloc7975 : '(Vector (Vector Integer)), tmp7983 : 'Integer,
   collectret7974 : 'Void, initret7977 : 'Void,
   collectret7978 : 'Void, tmp7985 : '(Vector Integer),
   tmp7984 : 'Integer, tmp7979 : 'Integer, tmp7982 : 'Integer,
   alloc7971 : '(Vector Integer), tmp7981 : 'Integer,
   vecinit7972 : 'Integer, initret7973 : 'Void,
block91:
   (collect 16)
   goto block89;
block90:
   collectret7974 = (void);
   goto block89;
block89:
   alloc7971 = (allocate 1 (Vector Integer));
   initret7973 = (vector-set! alloc7971 0 vecinit7972);
   vecinit7976 = alloc7971;
   tmp7982 = (global-value free_ptr);
   tmp7983 = (+ tmp7982 16);
   tmp7984 = (global-value fromspace_end);
   if (< tmp7983 tmp7984) then
      goto block87;
   else
      goto block88;
block88:
   (collect 16)
   goto block86;
block87:
   collectret7978 = (void);
   goto block86;
block86:
   alloc7975 = (allocate 1 (Vector (Vector Integer)));
   initret7977 = (vector-set! alloc7975 0 vecinit7976);
   tmp7985 = (vector-ref alloc7975 0);
   return (vector-ref tmp7985 0);
start:
   vecinit7972 = 42;
   tmp7979 = (global-value free_ptr);
   tmp7980 = (+ tmp7979 16);
   tmp7981 = (global-value fromspace end);
   if (< tmp7980 tmp7981) then
      goto block90;
   else
      goto block91;
```

Figure 5.14: Output of uncover-locals for the running example.

### 5.8 Select Instructions and the x86<sub>2</sub> Language

In this pass we generate x86 code for most of the new operations that were needed to compile tuples, including Allocate, Collect, vector-ref, vector-set!, and void. We compile GlobalValue to Global because the later has a different concrete syntax (see Figures 5.15 and 5.16).

The vector-ref and vector-set! forms translate into movq instructions. (The plus one in the offset is to get past the tag at the beginning of the tuple representation.)

```
\begin{array}{l} \mathit{lhs} = (\mathsf{vector}\text{-ref}\ \mathit{vec}\ \mathit{n})\,;\\ \Longrightarrow\\ \mathsf{movq}\ \mathit{vec'}\,,\ \%\mathsf{r}11\\ \mathsf{movq}\ 8(\mathit{n}+1)(\%\mathsf{r}11)\,,\ \mathit{lhs'} \\\\ \mathit{lhs} = (\mathsf{vector}\text{-set!}\ \mathit{vec}\ \mathit{n}\ \mathit{arg})\,;\\ \Longrightarrow\\ \mathsf{movq}\ \mathit{vec'}\,,\ \%\mathsf{r}11\\ \mathsf{movq}\ \mathit{arg'}\,,\ 8(\mathit{n}+1)(\%\mathsf{r}11)\\ \mathsf{movq}\ \$0\,,\ \mathit{lhs'} \end{array}
```

The lhs', vec', and arg' are obtained by translating vec and arg to x86. The move of vec' to register r11 ensures that offset expression -8(n+1)(%r11) contains a register operand. This requires removing r11 from consideration by the register allocating.

Why not use rax instead of r11? Suppose we instead used rax. Then the generated code for vector-set! would be

```
movq vec', %rax movq arg', 8(n+1)(%rax) movq $0, lhs'
```

Next, suppose that arg' ends up as a stack location, so patch-instructions would insert a move through rax as follows.

```
movq vec', %rax movq arg', %rax movq %rax, 8(n+1)(%rax) movq $0, lhs'
```

But the above sequence of instructions does not work because we're trying to use rax for two different values (vec' and arg') at the same time!

We compile the allocate form to operations on the free\_ptr, as shown below. The address in the free\_ptr is the next free address in the FromSpace, so we move it into the *lhs* and then move it forward by enough space for

```
arg ::= \$int \mid \%reg \mid int(\%reg) \mid \%bytereg \mid var(\%rip) \ x86_1 ::= .globl main \ main: instr...
```

Figure 5.15: The concrete syntax of x86<sub>2</sub> (extends x86<sub>1</sub> of Figure 4.5).

```
arg ::= (Int int) \mid (Reg reg) \mid (Deref reg int) \mid (ByteReg reg) 
\mid (Global var)
x86_2 ::= (Program info (CFG (label . block) ...))
```

Figure 5.16: The abstract syntax of  $x86_2$  (extends  $x86_1$  of Figure 4.6).

the tuple being allocated, which is 8(len + 1) bytes because each element is 8 bytes (64 bits) and we use 8 bytes for the tag. Last but not least, we initialize the tag. Refer to Figure 5.9 to see how the tag is organized. We recommend using the Racket operations bitwise-ior and arithmetic-shift to compute the tag during compilation. The type annotation in the vector form is used to determine the pointer mask region of the tag.

```
lhs = (allocate len (Vector type...)); \Longrightarrow movq free_ptr(%rip), lhs' addq 8(len+1), free_ptr(%rip) movq lhs', %r11 movq \$tag, 0(%r11)
```

The collect form is compiled to a call to the collect function in the runtime. The arguments to collect are 1) the top of the root stack and 2) the number of bytes that need to be allocated. We shall use another dedicated register, r15, to store the pointer to the top of the root stack. So r15 is not available for use by the register allocator.

```
(collect bytes) \Longrightarrow movq %r15, %rdi movq $bytes, %rsi callq collect
```

The concrete and abstract syntax of the  $x86_2$  language is defined in Figures 5.15 and 5.16. It differs from  $x86_1$  just in the addition of the form for global variables. Figure 5.17 shows the output of the select-instructions pass on the running example.

```
block35:
                                           start:
   movq free_ptr(%rip), alloc9024
                                              movq $42, vecinit9021
   addq $16, free_ptr(%rip)
                                              movq free_ptr(%rip), tmp9028
                                             movq tmp9028, tmp9029
   movq alloc9024, %r11
   movq $131, 0(%r11)
                                             addq $16, tmp9029
                                             movq fromspace_end(%rip), tmp9030
   movq alloc9024, %r11
   movq vecinit9025, 8(%r11)
                                             cmpq tmp9030, tmp9029
   movq $0, initret9026
                                              jl block39
   movq alloc9024, %r11
                                              jmp block40
                                         block40:
   movq 8(%r11), tmp9034
   movq tmp9034, %r11
                                              movq %r15, %rdi
   movq 8(%r11), %rax
                                              movq $16, %rsi
                                              callq 'collect
   jmp conclusion
                                              jmp block38
block36:
   movq $0, collectret9027
   jmp block35
block38:
   movq free_ptr(%rip), alloc9020
   addq $16, free_ptr(%rip)
   movq alloc9020, %r11
   movq $3, 0(%r11)
   movq alloc9020, %r11
   movq vecinit9021, 8(%r11)
   movq $0, initret9022
   {\tt movq} alloc9020, {\tt vecinit}9025
   movq free_ptr(%rip), tmp9031
   movq tmp9031, tmp9032
   addq $16, tmp9032
   movq fromspace_end(%rip), tmp9033
   cmpq tmp9033, tmp9032
   jl block36
   jmp block37
block37:
   movq %r15, %rdi
   movq $16, %rsi
   callq 'collect
   jmp block35
block39:
   movq $0, collectret9023
   jmp block38
```

Figure 5.17: Output of the select-instructions pass.

### 5.9 Register Allocation

As discussed earlier in this chapter, the garbage collector needs to access all the pointers in the root set, that is, all variables that are vectors. It will be the responsibility of the register allocator to make sure that:

- 1. the root stack is used for spilling vector-typed variables, and
- 2. if a vector-typed variable is live during a call to the collector, it must be spilled to ensure it is visible to the collector.

The later responsibility can be handled during construction of the inference graph, by adding interference edges between the call-live vector-typed variables and all the callee-saved registers. (They already interfere with the caller-saved registers.) The type information for variables is in the Program form, so we recommend adding another parameter to the build-interference function to communicate this alist.

The spilling of vector-typed variables to the root stack can be handled after graph coloring, when choosing how to assign the colors (integers) to registers and stack locations. The Program output of this pass changes to also record the number of spills to the root stack.

#### 5.10 Print x86

Figure 5.18 shows the output of the print-x86 pass on the running example. In the prelude and conclusion of the main function, we treat the root stack very much like the regular stack in that we move the root stack pointer (r15) to make room for the spills to the root stack, except that the root stack grows up instead of down. For the running example, there was just one spill so we increment r15 by 8 bytes. In the conclusion we decrement r15 by 8 bytes.

One issue that deserves special care is that there may be a call to collect prior to the initializing assignments for all the variables in the root stack. We do not want the garbage collector to accidentally think that some uninitialized variable is a pointer that needs to be followed. Thus, we zero-out all locations on the root stack in the prelude of main. In Figure 5.18, the instruction movq \$0, (%r15) accomplishes this task. The garbage collector tests each root to see if it is null prior to dereferencing it.

Figure 5.19 gives an overview of all the passes needed for the compilation of  $R_3$ .

```
block35:
                                            start:
              free_ptr(%rip), %rcx
                                                           $42, %rbx
       movq
                                                    movq
              $16, free_ptr(%rip)
       addq
                                                    movq
                                                           free_ptr(%rip), %rdx
       movq
              %rcx, %r11
                                                    addq
                                                           $16, %rdx
              $131, 0(%r11)
                                                           fromspace_end(%rip), %rcx
       {\tt movq}
                                                    movq
              %rcx, %r11
                                                    cmpq
                                                           %rcx, %rdx
       movq
               -8(%r15), %rax
                                                    jl block39
       movq
              %rax, 8(%r11)
                                                    movq
                                                          %r15, %rdi
       movq
                                                           $16, %rsi
       movq
              $0, %rdx
                                                    movq
              %rcx, %r11
                                                    callq collect
       {\tt movq}
       movq
              8(%r11), %rcx
                                                    jmp block38
              %rcx, %r11
       movq
       movq
             8(%r11), %rax
                                                    .globl main
                                            main:
       jmp conclusion
block36:
                                                    pushq %rbp
                                                           %rsp, %rbp
       movq
              $0, %rcx
                                                    movq
       jmp block35
                                                    pushq %r13
block38:
                                                    pushq %r12
              free_ptr(%rip), %rcx
                                                    pushq %rbx
       movq
              $16, free_ptr(%rip)
       addq
                                                    pushq %r14
       movq
              %rcx, %r11
                                                    subq
                                                          $0, %rsp
                                                    movq $16384, %rdi
       movq
              $3, 0(%r11)
       movq
              %rcx, %r11
                                                    movq $16, %rsi
              %rbx, 8(%r11)
                                                    callq initialize
       movq
       movq
              $0, %rdx
                                                    movq rootstack_begin(%rip), %r15
              %rcx, -8(%r15)
       movq
                                                    movq $0, (%r15)
              free_ptr(%rip), %rcx
                                                    addq $8, %r15
       movq
       addq
              $16, %rcx
                                                    jmp start
              \label{eq:fromspace_end} \texttt{fromspace\_end(\%rip), \%rdx} \qquad \texttt{conclusion:}
       movq
              %rdx, %rcx
                                                    subq $8, %r15
       cmpq
                                                           $0, %rsp
       jl block36
                                                    addq
       movq %r15, %rdi
                                                    popq
                                                           %r14
       movq $16, %rsi
                                                    popq
                                                           %rbx
       callq collect
                                                           %r12
                                                    popq
       jmp block35
                                                           %r13
                                                    popq
block39:
                                                    popq
                                                           %rbp
       movq $0, %rcx
                                                    retq
       jmp block38
```

Figure 5.18: Output of the print-x86 pass.

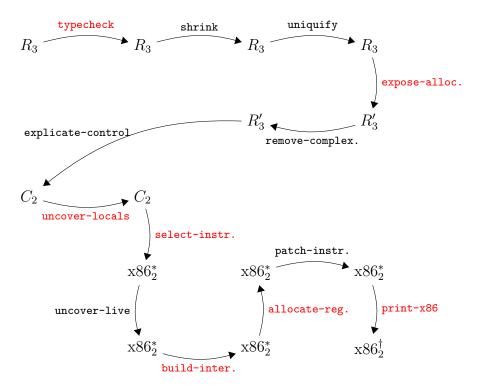


Figure 5.19: Diagram of the passes for  $R_3$ , a language with tuples.

```
type ::= Integer \mid Boolean \mid (Vector \ type \dots) \mid Void \mid var
cmp ::= eq? \mid < \mid < \mid > \mid > =
exp ::= int \mid (read) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp \ exp) \mid (-exp \ exp)
\mid var \mid (let ([var \ exp]) \ exp)
\mid \#t \mid \#f \mid (and \ exp \ exp) \mid (or \ exp \ exp) \mid (not \ exp)
\mid (cmp \ exp \ exp) \mid (if \ exp \ exp \ exp)
\mid (vector \ exp \dots) \mid (vector \ ref \ exp \ int)
\mid (vector \ exp \dots) \mid (vector \ exp)
\mid (void) \mid (var \ exp \dots)
def ::= (struct \ var ([var : type] \dots) \ \#:mutable)
R_3 ::= def \dots \ exp
```

Figure 5.20: The concrete syntax of  $R_3^s$ , extending  $R_3$  (Figure 5.1).

### 5.11 Challenge: Simple Structures

Figure 5.20 defines the concrete syntax for  $R_3^s$ , which extends  $R^3$  with support for simple structures. Recall that a **struct** in Typed Racket is a user-defined data type that contains named fields and that is heap allocated, similar to a vector. The following is an example of a structure definition, in this case the definition of a **point** type.

```
(struct point ([x : Integer] [y : Integer]) #:mutable)
```

An instance of a structure is created using function call syntax, with the name of the structure in the function position:

```
(point 7 12)
```

Function-call syntax is also used to read the value in a field of a structure. The function name is formed by the structure name, a dash, and the field name. The following example uses point-x and point-y to access the x and y fields of two point instances.

Similarly, to write to a field of a structure, use its set function, whose name starts with set-, followed by the structure name, then a dash, then the field name, and conclused with an exclamation mark. The following example uses set-point-x! to change the x field from 7 to 42.

```
(let ([pt (point 7 12)])
  (let ([_ (set-point-x! pt 42)])
        (point-x pt)))
```

**Exercise 22.** Extend your compiler with support for simple structures, compiling  $R_3^s$  to x86 assembly code. Create five new test cases that use structures and test your compiler.

### 5.12 Challenge: Generational Collection

The copying collector described in Section 5.2 can incur significant runtime overhead because the call to collect takes time proportional to all of the live data. One way to reduce this overhead is to reduce how much data is inspected in each call to collect. In particular, researchers have observed that recently allocated data is more likely to become garbage then data that has survived one or more previous calls to collect. This insight motivated the creation of generational garbage collectors that 1) segragates data according to its age into two or more generations, 2) allocates less space for younger generations, so collecting them is faster, and more space for the older generations, and 3) performs collection on the younger generations more frequently then for older generations [Wilson, 1992].

For this challenge assignment, the goal is to adapt the copying collector implemented in runtime.c to use two generations, one for young data and one for old data. Each generation consists of a FromSpace and a ToSpace. The following is a sketch of how to adapt the collect function to use the two generations.

- 1. Copy the young generation's FromSpace to its ToSpace then switch the role of the ToSpace and FromSpace
- 2. If there is enough space for the requested number of bytes in the young FromSpace, then return from collect.
- 3. If there is not enough space in the young FromSpace for the requested bytes, then move the data from the young generation to the old one with the following steps:
  - (a) If there is enough room in the old FromSpace, copy the young FromSpace to the old FromSpace and then return.

- (b) If there is not enough room in the old FromSpace, then collect the old generation by copying the old FromSpace to the old ToSpace and swap the roles of the old FromSpace and ToSpace.
- (c) If there is enough room now, copy the young FromSpace to the old FromSpace and return. Otherwise, allocate a larger FromSpace and ToSpace for the old generation. Copy the young FromSpace and the old FromSpace into the larger FromSpace for the old generation and then return.

We recommend that you generalize the chency function so that it can be used for all the copies mentioned above: between the young FromSpace and ToSpace, between the old FromSpace and ToSpace, and between the young FromSpace and old FromSpace. This can be accomplished by adding parameters to chency that replace its use of the global variables fromspace\_begin, fromspace\_end, tospace\_begin, and tospace\_end.

Note that the collection of the young generation does not traverse the old generation. This introduces a potential problem: there may be young data that is only reachable through pointers in the old generation. If these pointers are not taken into account, the collector could throw away young data that is live! One solution, called *pointer recording*, is to maintain a set of all the pointers from the old generation into the new generation and consider this set as part of the root set. To maintain this set, the compiler must insert extra instructions around every <code>vector-set!</code>. If the vector being modified is in the old generation, and if the value being written is a pointer into the new generation, than that pointer must be added to the set. Also, if the value being overwritten was a pointer into the new generation, then that pointer should be removed from the set.

Exercise 23. Adapt the collect function in runtime.c to implement generational garbage collection, as outlined in this section. Update the code generation for vector-set! to implement pointer recording. Make sure that your new compiler and runtime passes your test suite.

# **Functions**

This chapter studies the compilation of functions similar to those found in the C language. This corresponds to a subset of Typed Racket in which only top-level function definitions are allowed. This kind of function is an important stepping stone to implementing lexically-scoped functions, that is, lambda abstractions, which is the topic of Chapter 7.

### 6.1 The $R_4$ Language

The concrete and abstract syntax for function definitions and function application is shown in Figures 6.1 and 6.2, where we define the  $R_4$  language. Programs in  $R_4$  begin with zero or more function definitions. The function names from these definitions are in-scope for the entire program, including all other function definitions (so the ordering of function definitions does not matter). The concrete syntax for function application is  $(exp\ exp...)$  where the first expression must evaluate to a function and the rest are the arguments. The abstract syntax for function application is (Apply  $exp\ exp...$ ).

Functions are first-class in the sense that a function pointer is data and can be stored in memory or passed as a parameter to another function. Thus, we introduce a function type, written

$$(type_1 \cdot \cdot \cdot type_n \rightarrow type_r)$$

for a function whose n parameters have the types  $type_1$  through  $type_n$  and whose return type is  $type_r$ . The main limitation of these functions (with respect to Racket functions) is that they are not lexically scoped. That is, the only external entities that can be referenced from inside a function body are other globally-defined functions. The syntax of  $R_4$  prevents functions from being nested inside each other.

```
Integer | Boolean | (Vector type...) | Void | (type... -> type)
type
             eq? | < | <= | > | >=
cmp
             int \mid (read) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp \ exp) \mid (-exp \ exp)
exp
              var \mid (\text{Let } var \ exp \ exp)
              #t | #f | (and exp exp) | (or exp exp) | (not exp)
              (cmp \ exp \ exp) \mid (If \ exp \ exp \ exp)
              (\texttt{vector}\ exp\ldots)\mid(\texttt{vector-ref}\ exp\ int)
              (vector-set! exp int exp) | (void) | (has-type exp type)
              (exp \ exp \dots)
def
             (define (var [var:type]...):type exp)
R_4
             def \dots exp
```

Figure 6.1: The concrete syntax of  $R_4$ , extending  $R_3$  (Figure 5.1).

Figure 6.2: The abstract syntax of  $R_4$ , extending  $R_3$  (Figure 5.3).

Figure 6.3: Example of using functions in  $R_4$ .

The program in Figure 6.3 is a representative example of defining and using functions in  $R_4$ . We define a function map-vec that applies some other function f to both elements of a vector and returns a new vector containing the results. We also define a function add1. The program applies map-vec to add1 and (vector 0 41). The result is (vector 1 42), from which we return the 42.

The definitional interpreter for  $R_4$  is in Figure 6.4. The case for the ProgramDefsExp form is responsible for setting up the mutual recursion between the top-level function definitions. We use the classic back-patching approach that uses mutable variables and makes two passes over the function definitions [Kelsey et al., 1998]. In the first pass we set up the top-level environment using a mutable cons cell for each function definition. Note that the lambda value for each function is incomplete; it does not yet include the environment. Once the top-level environment is constructed, we then iterate over it and update the lambda values to use the top-level environment.

The type checker for  $R_4$  is is in Figure 6.5.

#### 6.2 Functions in x86

The x86 architecture provides a few features to support the implementation of functions. We have already seen that x86 provides labels so that one can refer to the location of an instruction, as is needed for jump instructions. Labels can also be used to mark the beginning of the instructions for a function. Going further, we can obtain the address of a label by using the leaq instruction and PC-relative addressing. For example, the following puts the address of the add1 label into the rbx register.

```
leaq add1(%rip), %rbx
```

```
(define (interp-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (interp-exp env))
   (match e
     [(Apply fun args)
      (define fun-val (recur fun))
      (define arg-vals (for/list ([e args]) (recur e)))
      (match fun-val
        [`(lambda (,xs ...) ,body ,fun-env)
         (define new-env (append (map cons xs arg-vals) fun-env))
         ((interp-exp new-env) body)])]
     )))
(define (interp-def d)
 (match d
   [(Def f (list `[,xs : ,ps] ...) rt _ body)
    (mcons f `(lambda ,xs ,body ()))]
   ))
(define (interp-R4 p)
 (match p
   [(ProgramDefsExp info ds body)
    (let ([top-level (for/list ([d ds]) (interp-def d))])
      (for/list ([b top-level])
        (set-mcdr! b (match (mcdr b)
                      [`(lambda ,xs ,body ())
                       `(lambda ,xs ,body ,top-level)])))
      ((interp-exp top-level) body))]
   ))
```

Figure 6.4: Interpreter for the  $R_4$  language.

```
(define (fun-def-name d)
 (match d [(Def f (list `[,xs : ,ps] ...) rt info body) f]))
(define (fun-def-type d)
 (match d
   [(Def f (list `[,xs : ,ps] ...) rt info body) `(,@ps -> ,rt)]))
(define (type-check-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (match e
     [(Apply e es)
      (define-values (e^ ty) ((type-check-exp env) e))
      (define-values (e* ty*) (for/lists (e* ty*) ([e (in-list es)])
                                 ((type-check-exp env) e)))
      (match ty
        [`(,ty^* ... -> ,rt)
         (for ([arg-ty ty*] [prm-ty ty^*])
          (unless (equal? arg-ty prm-ty)
            (error "argument ~a not equal to parameter ~a" arg-ty prm-ty)))
         (values (HasType (Apply e^ e*) rt) rt)]
        [else (error "expected a function, not" ty)]))))
(define (type-check-def env)
 (lambda (e)
   (match e
     [(Def f (and p:t* (list `[,xs : ,ps] ...)) rt info body)
      (define new-env (append (map cons xs ps) env))
      (define-values (body^ ty^) ((type-check-exp new-env) body))
      (unless (equal? ty^ rt)
        (error "body type ~a not equal to return type ~a" ty^ rt))
      (Def f p:t* rt info body^)])))
(define (type-check env)
 (lambda (e)
     [(ProgramDefsExp info ds body)
      (define new-env (for/list ([d ds])
                       (cons (fun-def-name d) (fun-def-type d))))
      (define ds^ (for/list ([d ds])
                    ((type-check-def new-env) d)))
      (define-values (body^ ty) ((type-check-exp new-env) body))
      (unless (equal? ty 'Integer)
        (error "result of the program must be an integer, not " ty))
      (ProgramDefsExp info ds^ body^)]
     [else (error 'type-check "R4/type-check unmatched ~a" e)])))
```

Figure 6.5: Type checker for the  $R_4$  language.

The instruction pointer register rip (aka. the program counter) always points to the next instruction to be executed. When combined with an label, as in add1(%rip), the linker computes the distance d between the address of add1 and where the rip would be at that moment and then changes add1(%rip) to d(%rip), which at runtime will compute the address of add1.

In Section 2.2 we used of the callq instruction to jump to a function whose location is given by a label. To support function calls in this chapter we instead will be jumping to a function whose location is given by an address in a register, that is, we need to make an *indirect function call*. The x86 syntax for this is a callq instruction but with an asterisk before the register name.

callq \*%rbx

#### 6.2.1 Calling Conventions

The callq instruction provides partial support for implementing functions: it pushes the return address on the stack and it jumps to the target. However, callq does not handle

- 1. parameter passing,
- 2. pushing frames on the procedure call stack and popping them off, or
- 3. determining how registers are shared by different functions.

These issues require coordination between the caller and the callee, which is often assembly code written by different programmers or generated by different compilers. As a result, people have developed *conventions* that govern how functions calls are performed. Here we use conventions that are compatible with those of the gcc compiler [Matz et al., 2013].

Regarding (1) parameter passing, the convention is to use the following six registers:

```
rdi rsi rdx rcx r8 r9
```

in that order, to pass arguments to a function. If there are more than six arguments, then the convention is to use space on the frame of the caller for the rest of the arguments. However, to ease the implementation of efficient tail calls (Section 6.2.2), we arrange to never need more than six arguments. The register rax is for the return value of the function.

Regarding (2) frames and the procedure call stack, recall from Section 2.2 that the stack grows down, with each function call using a chunk of space called a frame. The caller sets the stack pointer, register rsp, to the last data item in its frame. The callee must not change anything in the caller's frame, that is, anything that is at or above the stack pointer. The callee is free to use locations that are below the stack pointer.

Recall that we are storing variables of vector type on the root stack. So the prelude needs to move the root stack pointer r15 up and the conclusion needs to move the root stack pointer back down. Also, the prelude must initialize to 0 this frame's slots in the root stack to signal to the garbage collector that those slots do not yet contain a pointer to a vector. Otherwise the garbage collector will interpret the garbage bits in those slots as memory addresses and try to traverse them, causing serious mayhem!

Regarding (3) the sharing of registers between different functions, recall from Section 3.1 that the registers are divided into two groups, the caller-saved registers and the callee-saved registers. The caller should assume that all the caller-saved registers get overwritten with arbitrary values by the callee. That is why we recommend in Section 3.1 that variables that are live during a function call should not be assigned to caller-saved registers.

On the flip side, if the callee wants to use a callee-saved register, the callee must save the contents of those registers on their stack frame and then put them back prior to returning to the caller. That is why we recommended in Section 3.1 that if the register allocator assigns a variable to a callee-saved register, then the prelude of the main function must save that register to the stack and the conclusion of main must restore it. This recommendation now generalizes to all functions.

Also recall that the base pointer, register rbp, is used as a point-of-reference within a frame, so that each local variable can be accessed at a fixed offset from the base pointer (Section 2.2). Figure 6.6 shows the general layout of the caller and callee frames.

#### 6.2.2 Efficient Tail Calls

In general, the amount of stack space used by a program is determined by the longest chain of nested function calls. That is, if function  $f_1$  calls  $f_2$ ,  $f_2$  calls  $f_3$ , ..., and  $f_{n-1}$  calls  $f_n$ , then the amount of stack space is bounded by O(n). The depth n can grow quite large in the case of recursive or mutually recursive functions. However, in some cases we can arrange to use only constant space, i.e. O(1), instead of O(n).

If a function call is the last action in a function body, then that call is

Caller View	Callee View	Contents	Frame
8(%rbp)		return address	
$0(\mbox{\em {\it '}}{ m {\it ''}}{ m {\it ''}}{\rm {\it ''}}{\rm {\it ''}}{\rm {\it ''}}{$		old rbp	
$-8(\%\mathtt{rbp})$		callee-saved 1	Caller
-8j(%rbp)		callee-saved $j$	
-8(j+1)(%rbp)		local variable 1	
$-8(j+k)(\mbox{\ensuremath{\mbox{\%}}}{\rm rbp})$		local variable $k$	
	8(%rbp)	return address	
	0(%rbp)	old rbp	
	-8(%rbp)	callee-saved 1	Callee
	$-8n(%{\tt rbp})$	callee-saved $n$	
	$-8(n+1)(%{rbp})$	local variable 1	
	• • •		
	-8(n+m)(%rsp)	local variable $m$	

Figure 6.6: Memory layout of caller and callee frames.

said to be a *tail call*. For example, in the following program, the recursive call to tail-sum is a tail call.

```
(define (tail-sum [n : Integer] [r : Integer]) : Integer
  (if (eq? n 0)
        r
        (tail-sum (- n 1) (+ n r))))
(+ (tail-sum 5 0) 27)
```

At a tail call, the frame of the caller is no longer needed, so we can pop the caller's frame before making the tail call. With this approach, a recursive function that only makes tail calls will only use O(1) stack space. Functional languages like Racket typically rely heavily on recursive functions, so they typically guarantee that all tail calls will be optimized in this way.

However, some care is needed with regards to argument passing in tail calls. As mentioned above, for arguments beyond the sixth, the convention is to use space in the caller's frame for passing arguments. But for a tail call we pop the caller's frame and can no longer use it. Another alternative is to use space in the callee's frame for passing arguments. However, this option

is also problematic because the caller and callee's frame overlap in memory. As we begin to copy the arguments from their sources in the caller's frame, the target locations in the callee's frame might overlap with the sources for later arguments! We solve this problem by not using the stack for passing more than six arguments but instead using the heap, as we describe in the Section 6.5.

As mentioned above, for a tail call we pop the caller's frame prior to making the tail call. The instructions for popping a frame are the instructions that we usually place in the conclusion of a function. Thus, we also need to place such code immediately before each tail call. These instructions include restoring the callee-saved registers, so it is good that the argument passing registers are all caller-saved registers.

One last note regarding which instruction to use to make the tail call. When the callee is finished, it should not return to the current function, but it should return to the function that called the current one. Thus, the return address that is already on the stack is the right one, and we should not use callq to make the tail call, as that would unnecessarily overwrite the return address. Instead we can simply use the jmp instruction. Like the indirect function call, we write an *indirect jump* with a register prefixed with an asterisk. We recommend using rax to hold the jump target because the preceding conclusion overwrites just about everything else.

```
jmp *%rax
```

### 6.3 Shrink $R_4$

The shrink pass performs a minor modification to ease the later passes. This pass introduces an explicit main function and changes the top ProgramDefsExp form to ProgramDefs as follows.

```
(ProgramDefsExp info (def...) exp)
⇒ (ProgramDefs info (def... mainDef))
where mainDef is
(Def 'main '() 'Integer '() exp')
```

## 6.4 Reveal Functions and the $F_1$ language

The syntax of  $R_4$  is inconvenient for purposes of compilation in one respect: it conflates the use of function names and local variables. This is a problem

```
(Int int) | (Prim 'read '()) | (Prim '- (list exp ))
          (Prim '+ (list exp exp)) | (Prim '- (list exp exp))
          (Var \ var) \mid (Let \ var \ exp \ exp)
          (Bool bool) | (Prim 'and (list exp \ exp))
          (Prim 'or (list exp exp)) | (Prim 'not (list exp ))
          (Prim cmp (list exp exp)) | (If exp exp exp)
          (Prim 'vector (list exp^*))
          (Prim 'vector-ref (list exp (Int int)))
          (Prim 'vector-set! (list exp (Int int) exp))
          (Void) | (HasType exp type) | (Apply exp exp...)
          (FunRef var)
def
     ::=
          (Def var([var:type]...) type '() exp)
F_1
          (ProgramDefs '() (def...))
```

Figure 6.7: The abstract syntax  $F_1$ , an extension of  $R_4$  (Figure 6.2).

because we need to compile the use of a function name differently than the use of a local variable; we need to use leaq to convert the function name (a label in x86) to an address in a register. Thus, it is a good idea to create a new pass that changes function references from just a symbol f to (FunRef f). This pass is named reveal-functions and the output language,  $F_1$ , is defined in Figure 6.7.

Placing this pass after uniquify will make sure that there are no local variables and functions that share the same name. On the other hand, reveal-functions needs to come before the explicate-control pass because that pass helps us compile FunRef forms into assignment statements.

#### 6.5 Limit Functions

Recall that we wish to limit the number of function parameters to six so that we do not need to use the stack for argument passing, which makes it easier to implement efficient tail calls. However, because the input language  $R_4$  supports arbitrary numbers of function arguments, we have some work to do!

This pass transforms functions and function calls that involve more than six arguments to pass the first five arguments as usual, but it packs the rest of the arguments into a vector and passes it as the sixth argument.

Each function definition with too many parameters is transformed as

follows.

```
(Def f ([x_1:T_1] ... [x_n:T_n]) T_r info body) \Rightarrow (Def f ([x_1:T_1] ... [x_5:T_5] [vec : (Vector T_6...T_n)]) T_r info body')
```

where the body is transformed into body' by replacing the occurrences of the later parameters with vector references.

```
(Var x_i) \Rightarrow (Prim 'vector-ref (list vec (Int (i-6))))
```

For function calls with too many arguments, the limit-functions pass transforms them in the following way.

```
(e_0 \ e_1 \dots e_n) \Rightarrow (e_0 \ e_1 \dots e_5 \ (\text{vector} \ e_6 \dots e_n))
```

### 6.6 Remove Complex Operators and Operands

The primary decisions to make for this pass is whether to classify FunRef and Apply as either simple or complex expressions. Recall that a simple expression will eventually end up as just an "immediate" argument of an x86 instruction. Function application will be translated to a sequence of instructions, so Apply must be classified as complex expression. Regarding FunRef, as discussed above, the function label needs to be converted to an address using the leaq instruction. Thus, even though FunRef seems rather simple, it needs to be classified as a complex expression so that we generate an assignment statement with a left-hand side that can serve as the target of the leaq.

### 6.7 Explicate Control and the $C_3$ language

Figures 6.8 and 6.9 define the concrete and abstract syntax for  $C_3$ , the output of explicate-control. The three mutually recursive functions for this pass, for assignment, tail, and predicate contexts, must all be updated with cases for FunRef and Apply. In assignment and predicate contexts, Apply becomes Call in  $C_3$ , whereas in tail position Apply becomes TailCall in  $C_3$ . We recommend defining a new function for processing function definitions. This code is similar to the case for Program in  $R_3$ . The top-level explicate-control function that handles the ProgramDefs form of  $R_4$  can then apply this new function to all the function definitions.

```
int \mid var \mid \texttt{\#t} \mid \texttt{\#f}
atm
cmp
             eq? | <
            atm \mid (read) \mid (-atm) \mid (+atm \ atm) \mid (not \ atm) \mid (cmp \ atm \ atm)
exp
             (allocate int type) | (vector-ref atm int)
             (vector-set! atm int atm) | (global-value name) | (void)
             (fun-ref \ label) \mid (call \ atm \ atm \dots)
      ::= (Assign var exp) | (Return exp) | (collect int)
stmt
       ::= (Return exp) | (seq stmt \ tail)
tail
            (goto label) | (If (cmp atm atm) (goto label) (goto label))
             (tail-call atm atm...)
       ::= (define (label [var:type]...):type ((label . tail)...))
def
             def \dots
C_3
       ::=
```

Figure 6.8: The  $C_3$  language, extending  $C_2$  (Figure 5.12) with functions.

```
(Int int) \mid (Var var) \mid (Bool bool)
atm
cmp
           eq? <
           atm | (Prim 'read '())
            (Prim '- (list atm )) | (Prim '+ (list atm atm))
            (Prim not (list atm)) | (Prim cmp (list atm atm))
            (Allocate int type)
            (Prim 'vector-ref (list atm (Int int)))
           (Prim 'vector-set! (list atm (Int int) atm))
            (GlobalValue var) | (Void)
            (FunRef label) | (Call atm \ atm \dots)
           (Assign (Var var) exp) | (Collect int)
stmt
      ::=
           (Return exp) | (Seq stmt tail) | (Goto label)
tail
            (IfStmt (Prim cmp (list atm atm)) (Goto label) (Goto label))
            (TailCall atm \ atm \dots)
           (Def label ([var:type]...) type ((label . tail)...))
def
C_3
            (ProgramDefs info\ (def...))
```

Figure 6.9: The abstract syntax of  $C_3$ , extending  $C_2$  (Figure 5.13).

```
(Int int) \mid (Reg req) \mid (deref req int)
arg
              (byte-reg req) | (global name)
              (fun-ref label)
            e | 1 | 1e | g | ge
cc
             (addq arg arg) | (subq arg arg) | (negq arg) | (movq arg arg)
instr
              (callq \ label) \mid (pushq \ arg) \mid (popq \ arg) \mid (retq)
              (xorq arg arg) | (cmpq arg arg) | (set cc arg)
              (movzbq \ arg \ arg) \mid (jmp \ label) \mid (jcc \ label) \mid (label \ label)
              (indirect-callq arg) \mid (tail-jmp arg)
              (leag arg arg)
block
       ::=
             (block info instr...)
             (define (label) info ((label . block)...))
def
x86_{3}
              (program info def...)
```

Figure 6.10: The concrete syntax of  $x86_3$  (extends  $x86_2$  of Figure 5.16).

#### UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Figure 6.11: The abstract syntax of x86<sub>3</sub> (extends x86<sub>2</sub> of Figure 5.16).

#### 6.8 Uncover Locals

The function for processing tail should be updated with a case for TailCall. We also recommend creating a new function for processing function definitions. Each function definition in  $C_3$  has its own set of local variables, so the code for function definitions should be similar to the case for the Program form in  $C_2$ .

### 6.9 Select Instructions and the x86<sub>3</sub> Language

The output of select instructions is a program in the  $x86_3$  language, whose syntax is defined in Figure 6.11.

An assignment of a function reference to a variable becomes a load-effective-address instruction as follows:

```
lhs = (fun-ref f); \Rightarrow leaq (fun-ref f), lhs'
```

Regarding function definitions, we need to remove the parameters and instead perform parameter passing using the conventions discussed in Sec-

tion 6.2. That is, the arguments are passed in registers. We recommend turning the parameters into local variables and generating instructions at the beginning of the function to move from the argument passing registers to these local variables.

```
(Def f '([x_1 : T_1] [x_2 : T_2] ...) T_r info G) \Rightarrow (Def f '() 'Integer info' G')
```

The G' control-flow graph is the same as G except that the **start** block is modified to add the instructions for moving from the argument registers to the parameter variables. So the **start** block of G shown on the left is changed to the code on the right.

By changing the parameters to local variables, we are giving the register allocator control over which registers or stack locations to use for them. If you implemented the move-biasing challenge (Section 3.6), the register allocator will try to assign the parameter variables to the corresponding argument register, in which case the patch-instructions pass will remove the move instruction. Also, note that the register allocator will perform liveness analysis on this sequence of move instructions and build the interference graph. So, for example,  $x_1$  will be marked as interfering with rsi and that will prevent the assignment of  $x_1$  to rsi, which is good, because that would overwrite the argument that needs to move into  $x_2$ .

Next, consider the compilation of function calls. In the mirror image of handling the parameters of function definitions, the arguments need to be moved to the argument passing registers. The function call itself is performed with an indirect function call. The return value from the function is stored in rax, so it needs to be moved into the *lhs*.

```
lhs = (call \ fun \ arg_1 \ arg_2...)); \Rightarrow movq arg_1, %rdi movq arg_2, %rsi
```

```
:
callq *fun
movg %rax, lhs
```

Regarding tail calls, the parameter passing is the same as non-tail calls: generate instructions to move the arguments into to the argument passing registers. After that we need to pop the frame from the procedure call stack. However, we do not yet know how big the frame is; that gets determined during register allocation. So instead of generating those instructions here, we invent a new instruction that means "pop the frame and then do an indirect jump", which we name TailJmp.

Recall that in Section 2.6 we recommended using the label start for the initial block of a program, and in Section 2.7 we recommended labeling the conclusion of the program with conclusion, so that (Return arg) can be compiled to an assignment to rax followed by a jump to conclusion. With the addition of function definitions, we will have a starting block and conclusion for each function, but their labels need to be unique. We recommend prepending the function's name to start and conclusion, respectively, to obtain unique labels. (Alternatively, one could gensym labels for the start and conclusion and store them in the info field of the function definition.)

#### 6.10 Uncover Live

The IndirectCallq instruction should be treated like Callq regarding its written locations W, in that they should include all the caller-saved registers. Recall that the reason for that is to force call-live variables to be assigned to callee-saved registers or to be spilled to the stack.

# 6.11 Build Interference Graph

With the addition of function definitions, we compute an interference graph for each function (not just one for the whole program).

Recall that in Section 5.9 we discussed the need to spill vector-typed variables that are live during a call to the collect. With the addition of functions to our language, we need to revisit this issue. Many functions will perform allocation and therefore have calls to the collector inside of them. Thus, we should not only spill a vector-typed variable when it is live during a call to collect, but we should spill the variable if it is live during any function call. Thus, in the build-interference pass, we recommend

adding interference edges between call-live vector-typed variables and the callee-saved registers (in addition to the usual addition of edges between call-live variables and the caller-saved registers).

### 6.12 Patch Instructions

In patch-instructions, you should deal with the x86 idiosyncrasy that the destination argument of leaq must be a register. Additionally, you should ensure that the argument of TailJmp is rax, our reserved register—this is to make code generation more convenient, because we will be trampling many registers before the tail call (as explained below).

#### 6.13 Print x86

For the print-x86 pass, we recommend the following translations:

```
(FunRef label) \Rightarrow label(%rip)
(IndirectCallq arg) \Rightarrow callq *arg
```

Handling TailJmp requires a bit more care. A straightforward translation of TailJmp would be jmp \*arg, which is what we will want to do, but before the jump we need to pop the current frame. So we need to restore the state of the registers to the point they were at when the current function was called. This sequence of instructions is the same as the code for the conclusion of a function.

Note that your print-x86 pass needs to add the code for saving and restoring callee-saved registers, if you have not already implemented that. This is necessary when generating code for function definitions.

# 6.14 An Example Translation

Figure 6.12 shows an example translation of a simple function in  $R_4$  to x86. The figure also includes the results of the explicate-control and select-instructions passes. We have omitted the HasType AST nodes for readability.

Exercise 24. Expand your compiler to handle  $R_4$  as outlined in this chapter. Create 5 new programs that use functions, including examples that pass functions and return functions from other functions and including recursive functions. Test your compiler on these new programs and all of your previously created test programs.

```
(define (add [x : Integer] [y : Integer])
                                                     (define (add86) : Integer
   : Integer
                                                        add86start:
   (+ x y))
                                                           movq %rdi, x87
(add 40 2)
                                                           movq %rsi, y88
                                                           movq x87, %rax
\downarrow \downarrow
                                                           addq y88, %rax
                                                           jmp add11389conclusion
(define (add86 [x87 : Integer]
                [y88 : Integer]) : Integer
                                                 \Rightarrow (define (main) : Integer
   add86start:
                                                        mainstart:
     return (+ x87 y88);
                                                           leaq (fun-ref add86), tmp89
                                                           movq $40, %rdi
(define (main) : Integer ()
                                                           movq $2, %rsi
  mainstart:
                                                           tail-jmp tmp89
     tmp89 = (fun-ref add86);
      (tail-call tmp89 40 2)
   )
                                                     \downarrow \downarrow
                                       .globl main
                                       .align 16
                              main:
                                              %rbp
                                       pushq
        .globl add86
                                              %rsp, %rbp
                                      movq
        .align 16
                                              $16384, %rdi
                                      movq
add86:
                                      movq
                                              $16384, %rsi
       pushq
               %rbp
                                       callq
                                              initialize
       movq
               %rsp, %rbp
                                              rootstack_begin(%rip), %r15
                                      movq
               add86start
       jmp
                                      jmp
                                              mainstart
add86start:
                              mainstart:
               %rdi, %rax
       movq
                                              add86(%rip), %rcx
                                      leaq
       addq
               %rsi, %rax
                                              $40, %rdi
                                      movq
       jmp add86conclusion
                                              $2, %rsi
                                      {\tt movq}
add86conclusion:
                                              %rcx, %rax
                                      movq
       popq
               %rbp
                                      popq
                                              %rbp
       {\tt retq}
                                              *%rax
                                       jmp
                              mainconclusion:
                                              %rbp
                                      popq
                                      retq
```

Figure 6.12: Example compilation of a simple function to x86.

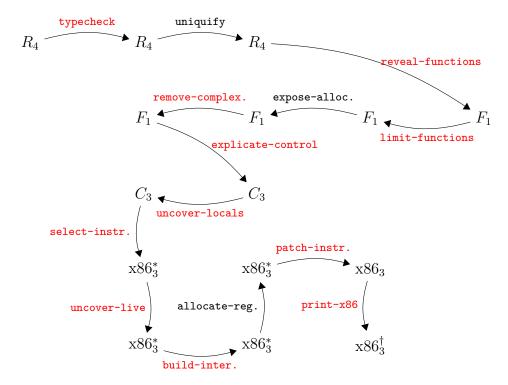


Figure 6.13: Diagram of the passes for  $R_4$ , a language with functions.

Figure 6.13 gives an overview of the passes needed for the compilation of  $\mathbb{R}_4$ .

134 6. FUNCTIONS

# Lexically Scoped Functions

This chapter studies lexically scoped functions as they appear in functional languages such as Racket. By lexical scoping we mean that a function's body may refer to variables whose binding site is outside of the function, in an enclosing scope. Consider the example in Figure 7.1 written in  $R_5$ , which extends  $R_4$  with anonymous functions using the lambda form. The body of the lambda, refers to three variables: x, y, and z. The binding sites for x and y are outside of the lambda. Variable y is bound by the enclosing let and x is a parameter of function f. The lambda is returned from the function f. The main expression of the program includes two calls to f with different arguments for f, first f then f the functions returned from f are bound to variables f and f h. Even though these two functions were created by the same lambda, they are really different functions because they use different values for f an f are really different functions applying f to 15 produces 22. The result of this program is 42.

The approach that we shall take for implementing lexically scoped func-

Figure 7.1: Example of a lexically scoped function.

tions is to compile them into top-level function definitions, translating from  $R_5$  into  $R_4$ . However, the compiler will need to provide special treatment for variable occurrences such as  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  in the body of the lambda of Figure 7.1. After all, an  $R_4$  function may not refer to variables defined outside of it. To identify such variable occurrences, we review the standard notion of free variable.

**Definition 25.** A variable is free in expression e if the variable occurs inside e but does not have an enclosing binding in e.

For example, in the expression (+ x (+ y z)) the variables x, y, and z are all free. On the other hand, only x and y are free in the following expression because z is bound by the lambda.

```
(lambda: ([z : Integer]) : Integer
  (+ x (+ y z)))
```

So the free variables of a lambda are the ones that will need special treatment. We need to arrange for some way to transport, at runtime, the values of those variables from the point where the lambda was created to the point where the lambda is applied. An efficient solution to the problem, due to Cardelli [1983], is to bundle into a vector the values of the free variables together with the function pointer for the lambda's code, an arrangement called a *flat closure* (which we shorten to just "closure"). Fortunately, we have all the ingredients to make closures, Chapter 5 gave us vectors and Chapter 6 gave us function pointers. The function pointer shall reside at index 0 and the values for the free variables will fill in the rest of the vector.

Let us revisit the example in Figure 7.1 to see how closures work. It's a three-step dance. The program first calls function f, which creates a closure for the lambda. The closure is a vector whose first element is a pointer to the top-level function that we will generate for the lambda, the second element is the value of x, which is 5, and the third element is 4, the value of y. The closure does not contain an element for z because z is not a free variable of the lambda. Creating the closure is step 1 of the dance. The closure is returned from f and bound to g, as shown in Figure 7.2. The second call to f creates another closure, this time with 3 in the second slot (for x). This closure is also returned from f but bound to h, which is also shown in Figure 7.2.

Continuing with the example, consider the application of g to 11 in Figure 7.1. To apply a closure, we obtain the function pointer in the first element of the closure and call it, passing in the closure itself and then the regular arguments, in this case 11. This technique for applying a closure

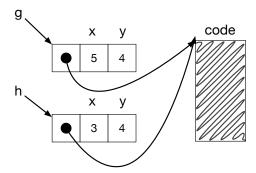


Figure 7.2: Example closure representation for the lambda's in Figure 7.1.

is step 2 of the dance. But doesn't this lambda only take 1 argument, for parameter z? The third and final step of the dance is generating a top-level function for a lambda. We add an additional parameter for the closure and we insert a let at the beginning of the function for each free variable, to bind those variables to the appropriate elements from the closure parameter. This three-step dance is known as *closure conversion*. We discuss the details of closure conversion in Section 7.2 and the code generated from the example in Section 7.3. But first we define the syntax and semantics of  $R_5$  in Section 7.1.

## 7.1 The $R_5$ Language

The concrete and abstract syntax for  $R_5$ , a language with anonymous functions and lexical scoping, is defined in Figures 7.3 and 7.4. It adds the lambda form to the grammar for  $R_4$ , which already has syntax for function application.

Figure 7.5 shows the definitional interpreter for  $R_5$ . The clause for lambda saves the current environment inside the returned lambda. Then the clause for Apply uses the environment from the lambda, the lam-env, when interpreting the body of the lambda. The lam-env environment is extended with the mapping of parameters to argument values.

Figure 7.6 shows how to type check the new lambda form. The body of the lambda is checked in an environment that includes the current environment (because it is lexically scoped) and also includes the lambda's parameters. We require the body's type to match the declared return type.

```
 type ::= Integer | Boolean | (Vector type...) | Void | (type... \rightarrow type) \\ exp ::= int | (read) | (-exp) | (+exp exp) | (-exp exp) \\ | var | (Let var exp exp) \\ | #t | #f | (and exp exp) | (or exp exp) | (not exp) \\ | (eq? exp exp) | (If exp exp exp) \\ | (vector exp...) | (vector-ref exp int) \\ | (vector-set! exp int exp) | (void) | (exp exp...) \\ | (lambda: ([var:type]...): type exp) \\ def ::= (define (var [var:type]...): type exp) \\ R_5 ::= (program def... exp)
```

Figure 7.3: Concrete syntax of  $R_5$ , extending  $R_4$  (Figure 6.2) with lambda.

```
(Int int) | (Prim 'read '()) | (Prim '- (list exp ))
exp ::=
          (Prim '+ (list exp exp)) | (Prim '- (list exp exp))
          (Var \ var) \mid (Let \ var \ exp \ exp)
          (Bool bool) | (Prim 'and (list exp exp))
          (Prim 'or (list exp exp)) | (Prim 'not (list exp ))
          (Prim cmp (list exp exp)) | (If exp exp exp)
          (Prim 'vector (list exp^*))
          (Prim 'vector-ref (list exp (Int int)))
          (Prim 'vector-set! (list exp (Int int) exp))
          (Void) | (HasType exp type) | (Apply exp exp...)
          (Lambda [var:type]\dots type exp)
def
          (Def var([var:type]...) type '() exp)
R_5
          (ProgramDefsExp '() (def...) exp)
```

Figure 7.4: The abstract syntax of  $R_5$ , extending  $R_4$  (Figure 6.2).

```
(define (interp-exp env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (interp-exp env))
   (match e
     [(Lambda (list `[,xs : ,Ts] ...) rT body)
      `(lambda ,xs ,body ,env)]
     [(Apply fun args)
      (define fun-val ((interp-exp env) fun))
      (define arg-vals (map (interp-exp env) args))
      (match fun-val
        [`(lambda ,xs ,body ,lam-env)
         (define new-env (append (map cons xs arg-vals) lam-env))
         ((interp-exp new-env) body)]
        [else (error "interp-exp, expected function, not" fun-val)])]
     [else (error 'interp-exp "unrecognized expression")]
     )))
```

Figure 7.5: Interpreter for  $R_5$ .

Figure 7.6: Type checking the lambda's in  $R_5$ .

#### 7.2 Closure Conversion

The compiling of lexically-scoped functions into top-level function definitions is accomplished in the pass convert-to-closures that comes after reveal-functions and before limit-functions.

As usual, we shall implement the pass as a recursive function over the AST. All of the action is in the clauses for lambda and Apply. We transform a lambda expression into an expression that creates a closure, that is, creates a vector whose first element is a function pointer and the rest of the elements are the free variables of the lambda. The *name* is a unique symbol generated to identify the function.

```
(lambda: (ps \dots) : rt \ body) \Rightarrow (vector name \ fvs \dots)
```

In addition to transforming each lambda into a vector, we must create a top-level function definition for each lambda, as shown below.

```
(define (name [clos : (Vector \_ fvts ...)] ps ...)

(let ([fvs_1 (vector-ref clos 1)])

...

(let ([fvs_n (vector-ref clos n)])

body')...))
```

The clos parameter refers to the closure. The *ps* parameters are the normal parameters of the lambda. The types *fvts* are the types of the free variables in the lambda and the underscore is a dummy type because it is rather difficult to give a type to the function in the closure's type, and it does not matter. The sequence of let forms bind the free variables to their values obtained from the closure.

We transform function application into code that retrieves the function pointer from the closure and then calls the function, passing in the closure as the first argument. We bind e' to a temporary variable to avoid code duplication.

```
(app e \ es \ldots) \Rightarrow (let ([tmp \ e']) (app (vector-ref tmp \ 0) tmp \ es'))
```

There is also the question of what to do with top-level function definitions. To maintain a uniform translation of function application, we turn function references into closures.

```
(fun-ref f) \Rightarrow (vector (fun-ref f))
```

The top-level function definitions need to be updated as well to take an extra closure parameter.

### 7.3 An Example Translation

Figure 7.7 shows the result of closure conversion for the example program demonstrating lexical scoping that we discussed at the beginning of this chapter.

```
(define (f [x : Integer]) : (Integer -> Integer)
    (let ([y 4])
      (lambda: ([z : Integer]) : Integer
         (+ x (+ y z))))
 (let ([g (f 5)])
   (let ([h (f 3)])
    (+ (g 11) (h 15))))
\downarrow \downarrow
  (define (f (x : Integer)) : (Integer -> Integer)
    (let ((y 4))
      (lambda: ((z : Integer)) : Integer
        (+ x (+ y z))))
   (let ((g (app (fun-ref f) 5)))
     (let ((h (app (fun-ref f) 3)))
        (+ (app g 11) (app h 15)))))
\downarrow \downarrow
  (define (f (clos.1 : _) (x : Integer)) : (Integer -> Integer)
    (let ((y 4))
       (vector (fun-ref lam.1) x y)))
  (define (lam.1 (clos.2 : _) (z : Integer)) : Integer
    (let ((x (vector-ref clos.2 1)))
       (let ((y (vector-ref clos.2 2)))
          (+ x (+ y z)))))
   (let ((g (let ((t.1 (vector (fun-ref f))))
             (app (vector-ref t.1 0) t.1 5))))
     (let ((h (let ((t.2 (vector (fun-ref f))))
                (app (vector-ref t.2 0) t.2 3))))
        (+ (let ((t.3 g)) (app (vector-ref t.3 0) t.3 11))
           (let ((t.4 h)) (app (vector-ref t.4 0) t.4 15))))))
```

Figure 7.7: Example of closure conversion.

Figure 7.8 provides an overview of all the passes needed for the compilation of  $R_5$ .

**Exercise 26.** Expand your compiler to handle  $R_5$  as outlined in this chap-

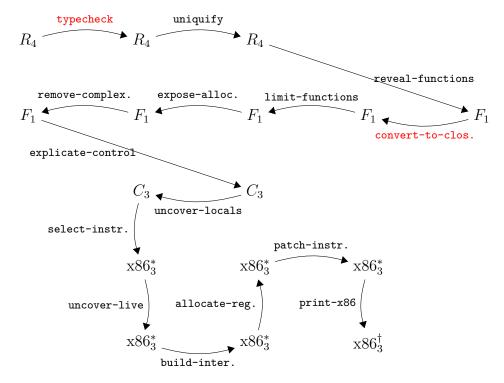


Figure 7.8: Diagram of the passes for  $R_5$ , a language with lexically-scoped functions.

ter. Create 5 new programs that use lambda functions and make use of lexical scoping. Test your compiler on these new programs and all of your previously created test programs.

# **Dynamic Typing**

In this chapter we discuss the compilation of a dynamically typed language, named  $R_7$ , that is a subset of the Racket language. (Recall that in the previous chapters we have studied subsets of the *Typed* Racket language.) In dynamically typed languages, an expression may produce values of differing type. Consider the following example with a conditional expression that may return a Boolean or an integer depending on the input to the program.

```
(not (if (eq? (read) 1) #f 0))
```

Languages that allow expressions to produce different kinds of values are called *polymorphic*. There are many kinds of polymorphism, such as subtype polymorphism and parametric polymorphism [Cardelli and Wegner, 1985]. The kind of polymorphism we are talking about here does not have a special name, but it is the usual kind that arises in dynamically typed languages.

Another characteristic of dynamically typed languages is that primitive operations, such as not, are often defined to operate on many different types of values. In fact, in Racket, the not operator produces a result for any kind of value: given #f it returns #t and given anything else it returns #f. Furthermore, even when primitive operations restrict their inputs to values of a certain type, this restriction is enforced at runtime instead of during compilation. For example, the following vector reference results in a run-time contract violation.

```
(vector-ref (vector 42) #t)
```

The syntax of  $R_7$ , our subset of Racket, is defined in Figure 8.1. The definitional interpreter for  $R_7$  is given in Figure 8.2.

Let us consider how we might compile  $R_7$  to x86, thinking about the first example above. Our bit-level representation of the Boolean #f is zero and

```
eq? | < | <= | > | >=
cmp
      ::=
            int \mid (read) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp exp) \mid (-exp exp)
exp
             var | (Let var exp exp)
            \#t \mid \#f \mid (and exp exp) \mid (or exp exp) \mid (not exp)
             (cmp \ exp \ exp) \mid (If \ exp \ exp \ exp)
             (vector exp...) | (vector-ref exp exp)
             (vector-set! exp exp exp) | (void)
             (exp \ exp \dots) \mid (lambda \ (var \dots) \ exp)
             (boolean? exp) | (integer? exp)
             (vector? exp) | (procedure? exp) | (void? exp)
def
            (define (var var ...) exp)
            (program \ def \dots \ exp)
```

Figure 8.1: Syntax of  $R_7$ , an untyped language (a subset of Racket).

similarly for the integer 0. However, (not #f) should produce #t whereas (not 0) should produce #f. Furthermore, the behavior of not, in general, cannot be determined at compile time, but depends on the runtime type of its input, as in the example above that depends on the result of (read).

The way around this problem is to include information about a value's runtime type in the value itself, so that this information can be inspected by operators such as **not**. In particular, we shall steal the 3 right-most bits from our 64-bit values to encode the runtime type. We shall use 001 to identify integers, 100 for Booleans, 010 for vectors, 011 for procedures, and 101 for the void value. We shall refer to these 3 bits as the *tag* and we define the following auxiliary function.

```
tagof(\mathtt{Integer}) = 001

tagof(\mathtt{Boolean}) = 100

tagof((\mathtt{Vector}...)) = 010

tagof((\mathtt{Vectorof}...)) = 010

tagof((...->...)) = 011

tagof((\mathtt{Void}) = 101
```

(We shall say more about the new Vectorof type shortly.) This stealing of 3 bits comes at some price: our integers are reduced to ranging from  $-2^{60}$  to  $2^{60}$ . The stealing does not adversely affect vectors and procedures because those values are addresses, and our addresses are 8-byte aligned so the rightmost 3 bits are unused, they are always 000. Thus, we do not lose

```
(define (get-tagged-type v) (match v [`(tagged ,v1 ,ty) ty]))
(define (valid-op? op) (member op '(+ - and or not)))
(define (interp-r7 env)
 (lambda (ast)
   (define recur (interp-r7 env))
   (match ast
     [(? symbol?) (lookup ast env)]
     [(? integer?) `(inject ,ast Integer)]
     [#t `(inject #t Boolean)]
     [#f `(inject #f Boolean)]
     [`(read) `(inject ,(read-fixnum) Integer)]
     [`(lambda (,xs ...) ,body)
      `(inject (lambda ,xs ,body ,env) (,@(map (lambda (x) 'Any) xs) -> Any))]
     [`(define (,f ,xs ...) ,body)
      (mcons f `(lambda ,xs ,body))]
     [`(program ,ds ... ,body)
      (let ([top-level (for/list ([d ds]) ((interp-r7 '()) d))])
        (for/list ([b top-level])
         (set-mcdr! b (match (mcdr b)
                       [`(lambda ,xs ,body)
                         (inject (lambda ,xs ,body ,top-level)
                                (,@(map (lambda (x) 'Any) xs) -> Any))])))
        ((interp-r7 top-level) body))]
     [`(vector ,(app recur elts) ...)
      (define tys (map get-tagged-type elts))
      `(inject ,(apply vector elts) (Vector ,@tys))]
     [`(vector-set! ,(app recur v1) ,n ,(app recur v2))
        (match v1
         [`(inject ,vec ,ty)
           (vector-set! vec n v2)
          `(inject (void) Void)])]
     [`(vector-ref ,(app recur v) ,n)
      (match v [`(inject ,vec ,ty) (vector-ref vec n)])]
     [`(let ([,x ,(app recur v)]) ,body)
      ((interp-r7 (cons (cons x v) env)) body)]
     [`(,op ,es ...) #:when (valid-op? op)
      (interp-r7-op op (for/list ([e es]) (recur e)))]
     [`(eq? ,(app recur 1) ,(app recur r))
      `(inject ,(equal? 1 r) Boolean)]
     [`(if ,(app recur q) ,t ,f)
      (match q
        [`(inject #f Boolean) (recur f)]
        [else (recur t)])]
     [`(,(app recur f-val) ,(app recur vs) ...)
      (match f-val
        [`(inject (lambda (,xs ...) ,body ,lam-env) ,ty)
         (define new-env (append (map cons xs vs) lam-env))
         ((interp-r7 new-env) body)]
        [else (error "interp-r7, expected function, not" f-val)]))))
```

Figure 8.2: Interpreter for the  $R_7$  language. UPDATE ME -Jeremy

information by overwriting the rightmost 3 bits with the tag and we can simply zero-out the tag to recover the original address.

In some sense, these tagged values are a new kind of value. Indeed, we can extend our typed language with tagged values by adding a new type to classify them, called Any, and with operations for creating and using tagged values, yielding the  $R_6$  language that we define in Section 8.1. The  $R_6$  language provides the fundamental support for polymorphism and runtime types that we need to support dynamic typing.

There is an interesting interaction between tagged values and garbage collection. A variable of type Any might refer to a vector and therefore it might be a root that needs to be inspected and copied during garbage collection. Thus, we need to treat variables of type Any in a similar way to variables of type Vector for purposes of register allocation, which we discuss in Section 8.4. One concern is that, if a variable of type Any is spilled, it must be spilled to the root stack. But this means that the garbage collector needs to be able to differentiate between (1) plain old pointers to tuples, (2) a tagged value that points to a tuple, and (3) a tagged value that is not a tuple. We enable this differentiation by choosing not to use the tag 000. Instead, that bit pattern is reserved for identifying plain old pointers to tuples. On the other hand, if one of the first three bits is set, then we have a tagged value, and inspecting the tag can differentiation between vectors (010) and the other kinds of values.

We shall implement our untyped language  $R_7$  by compiling it to  $R_6$  (Section 8.5), but first we describe the how to extend our compiler to handle the new features of  $R_6$  (Sections 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4).

## 8.1 The $R_6$ Language: Typed Racket + Any

The syntax of  $R_6$  is defined in Figure 8.3. The (inject eT) form converts the value produced by expression e of type T into a tagged value. The (project eT) form converts the tagged value produced by expression e into a value of type T or else halts the program if the type tag is equivalent to T. We treat (Vectorof Any) as equivalent to (Vector Any ...).

Note that in both inject and project, the type T is restricted to the flat types ftype, which simplifies the implementation and corresponds with what is needed for compiling untyped Racket. The type predicates, (boolean? e) etc., expect a tagged value and return #t if the tag corresponds to the predicate, and return #t otherwise. Selections from the type checker for  $R_6$  are shown in Figure 8.4 and the interpreter for  $R_6$  is in Figure 8.5.

```
::= Integer | Boolean | (Vector type...) | (Vector of type) | Void
type
             (type... \rightarrow type) \mid Any
ftype ::= Integer \mid Boolean \mid Void \mid (Vector of Any) \mid (Vector Any...) \mid
            (Any . . . -> Any)
       ::= eq? | < | <= | > | >=
cmp
       ::= int \mid (read) \mid (-exp) \mid (+exp exp) \mid (-exp exp)
exp
            var | (Let var exp exp)
             #t | #f | (and exp exp) | (or exp exp) | (not exp)
             (cmp \ exp \ exp) \mid (If \ exp \ exp \ exp)
             (vector exp...) | (vector-ref exp int)
             (vector-set! exp int exp) | (void)
             (exp \ exp \dots) \mid (lambda: ([var:type] \dots):type \ exp)
             (inject exp ftype) | (project exp ftype)
             (boolean? exp) | (integer? exp)
             (vector? exp) | (procedure? exp) | (void? exp)
def
       ::= (define (var [var:type]...):type exp)
       ::= (program \ def \dots \ exp)
R_6
```

Figure 8.3: Syntax of  $R_6$ , extending  $R_5$  (Figure 7.4) with Any.

```
(define (flat-ty? ty) ...)
(define (typecheck-R6 env)
 (lambda (e)
   (define recur (typecheck-R6 env))
   (match e
      [`(inject ,e ,ty)
       (unless (flat-ty? ty)
         (error "may only inject a value of flat type, not ~a" ty))
       (define-values (new-e e-ty) (recur e))
        [(equal? e-ty ty)
        (values `(inject ,new-e ,ty) 'Any)]
         (error "inject expected ~a to have type ~a" e ty)])]
      [`(project ,e ,ty)
       (unless (flat-ty? ty)
         (error "may only project to a flat type, not ~a" ty))
       (define-values (new-e e-ty) (recur e))
       (cond
        [(equal? e-ty 'Any)
         (values `(project ,new-e ,ty) ty)]
         (error "project expected ~a to have type Any" e)])]
      [`(vector-ref ,e ,i)
       (define-values (new-e e-ty) (recur e))
       (match e-ty
         [`(Vector ,ts ...) ...]
         [`(Vectorof ,ty)
          (unless (exact-nonnegative-integer? i)
           (error 'type-check "invalid index ~a" i))
         (values `(vector-ref ,new-e ,i) ty)]
         [else (error "expected a vector in vector-ref, not" e-ty)])]
     )))
```

Figure 8.4: Type checker for parts of the  $R_6$  language.

```
(define primitives (set 'boolean? ...))
(define (interp-op op)
 (match op
    ['boolean? (lambda (v)
                (match v
                   [`(tagged ,v1 Boolean) #t]
                   [else #f]))]
    ...))
;; Equivalence of flat types
(define (tyeq? t1 t2)
 (match `(,t1 ,t2)
   [`((Vectorof Any) (Vector ,t2s ...))
    (for/and ([t2 t2s]) (eq? t2 'Any))]
   [`((Vector ,t1s ...) (Vectorof Any))
    (for/and ([t1 t1s]) (eq? t1 'Any))]
   [else (equal? t1 t2)]))
(define (interp-R6 env)
 (lambda (ast)
   (match ast
      [`(inject ,e ,t)
       `(tagged ,((interp-R6 env) e) ,t)]
      [`(project ,e ,t2)
       (define v ((interp-R6 env) e))
       (match v
          [`(tagged ,v1 ,t1)
          (cond [(tyeq? t1 t2)
                 v1]
                [else
                 (error "in project, type mismatch" t1 t2)])]
          (error "in project, expected tagged value" v)])]
      ...)))
```

Figure 8.5: Interpreter for  $R_6$ .

### 8.2 Shrinking $R_6$

In the shrink pass we recommend compiling project into an explicit if expression that uses three new operations: tag-of-any, value-of-any, and exit. The tag-of-any operation retrieves the type tag from a tagged value of type Any. The value-of-any retrieves the underlying value from a tagged value. Finally, the exit operation ends the execution of the program by invoking the operating system's exit function. So the translation for project is as follows. (We have omitted the has-type AST nodes to make this output more readable.)

```
(\text{project } e \ type) \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} (\text{let } ([tmp \ e']) \\ (\text{if } (\text{eq? } (\text{tag-of-any} \ tmp) \ tag) \\ (\text{value-of-any} \ tmp) \\ (\text{exit}))) \end{array}
```

Similarly, we recommend translating the type predicates (boolean?, etc.) into uses of tag-of-any and eq?.

#### 8.3 Instruction Selection for $R_6$

**Inject** We recommend compiling an inject as follows if the type is Integer or Boolean. The salq instruction shifts the destination to the left by the number of bits specified its source argument (in this case 3, the length of the tag) and it preserves the sign of the integer. We use the orq instruction to combine the tag and the value to form the tagged value.

```
(assign \ \mathit{lhs}\ (inject \ e\ T)) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad (salq \ (int \ 3) \ \mathit{lhs'}) \\ (orq \ (int \ \mathit{tagof}(T)) \ \mathit{lhs'})
```

The instruction selection for vectors and procedures is different because their is no need to shift them to the left. The rightmost 3 bits are already zeros as described above. So we just combine the value and the tag using orq.

```
(assign \ \mathit{lhs} \ (inject \ e \ T)) \qquad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{(movq \ e' \ \mathit{lhs'})}{(orq \ (int \ \mathit{tagof}(T)) \ \mathit{lhs'})}
```

Tag of Any Recall that the tag-of-any operation extracts the type tag from a value of type Any. The type tag is the bottom three bits, so we obtain the tag by taking the bitwise-and of the value with 111 (7 in decimal).

(assign 
$$lhs$$
 (tag-of-any  $e$ ))  $\Rightarrow$  (movq  $e'$   $lhs'$ ) (andq (int 7)  $lhs'$ )

Value of Any Like inject, the instructions for value-of-any are different depending on whether the type T is a pointer (vector or procedure) or not (Integer or Boolean). The following shows the instruction selection for Integer and Boolean. We produce an untagged value by shifting it to the right by 3 bits.

```
(assign lhs (project e T)) \Rightarrow (movq e' lhs') (sarq (int 3) lhs')
```

In the case for vectors and procedures, there is no need to shift. Instead we just need to zero-out the rightmost 3 bits. We accomplish this by creating the bit pattern ...0111 (7 in decimal) and apply bitwise-not to obtain ...1000 which we movq into the destination *lhs*. We then generate andq with the tagged value to get the desired result.

(assign 
$$lhs$$
 (project  $e$   $T$ ))  $\Rightarrow$  (movq (int ...1000)  $lhs$ ')
(and  $e'$   $lhs$ ')

## 8.4 Register Allocation for $R_6$

As mentioned above, a variable of type Any might refer to a vector. Thus, the register allocator for  $R_6$  needs to treat variable of type Any in the same way that it treats variables of type Vector for purposes of garbage collection. In particular,

- If a variable of type Any is live during a function call, then it must be spilled. One way to accomplish this is to augment the pass build-interference to mark all variables that are live after a callq as interfering with all the registers.
- If a variable of type Any is spilled, it must be spilled to the root stack instead of the normal procedure call stack.

Exercise 27. Expand your compiler to handle  $R_6$  as discussed in the last few sections. Create 5 new programs that use the Any type and the new operations (inject, project, boolean?, etc.). Test your compiler on these new programs and all of your previously created test programs.

### 8.5 Compiling $R_7$ to $R_6$

Figure 8.6 shows the compilation of many of the  $R_7$  forms into  $R_6$ . An important invariant of this pass is that given a subexpression e of  $R_7$ , the pass will produce an expression e' of  $R_6$  that has type Any. For example, the first row in Figure 8.6 shows the compilation of the Boolean #t, which must be injected to produce an expression of type Any. The second row of Figure 8.6, the compilation of addition, is representative of compilation for many operations: the arguments have type Any and must be projected to Integer before the addition can be performed.

The compilation of lambda (third row of Figure 8.6) shows what happens when we need to produce type annotations: we simply use Any. The compilation of if and eq? demonstrate how this pass has to account for some differences in behavior between  $R_7$  and  $R_6$ . The  $R_7$  language is more permissive than  $R_6$  regarding what kind of values can be used in various places. For example, the condition of an if does not have to be a Boolean. For eq?, the arguments need not be of the same type (but in that case, the result will be #f).

Exercise 28. Expand your compiler to handle  $R_7$  as outlined in this chapter. Create tests for  $R_7$  by adapting all of your previous test programs by removing type annotations. Add 5 more tests programs that specifically rely on the language being dynamically typed. That is, they should not be legal programs in a statically typed language, but nevertheless, they should be valid  $R_7$  programs that run to completion without error.

```
#t
                              (inject #t Boolean)
                              (inject
                                 (+ (project e_1' Integer)
(+ e_1 e_2)
                        \Rightarrow
                                    (project e_2' Integer))
                                 Integer)
                              (inject (lambda: ([x_1:Any]...):Any e')
(lambda (x_1...) e) \Rightarrow
                                       (Any...Any -> Any))
                              (app (project e_0' (Any...Any -> Any))
(app e_0 e_1 \dots e_n)
                              (let ([tmp1 (project e_1^\prime (Vectorof Any))])
(vector-ref e_1 e_2) \Rightarrow
                                (let ([tmp2 (project e_2' Integer)])
                                    (vector-ref tmp1 tmp2)))
                              (if (eq? e_1^\prime (inject #f Boolean))
(if e_1 e_2 e_3)
                                 e_3' e_2')
                        \Rightarrow
(eq? e_1 \ e_2)
                              (inject (eq? e_1' e_2') Boolean)
```

Figure 8.6: Compiling  $R_7$  to  $R_6$ .

# **Gradual Typing**

This chapter will be based on the ideas of Siek and Taha [2006].

# Parametric Polymorphism

This chapter may be based on ideas from Cardelli [1984], Leroy [1992], Shao [1997], or Harper and Morrisett [1995].

# **High-level Optimization**

This chapter will present a procedure inlining pass based on the algorithm of Waddell and Dybvig [1997].

# Appendix

### 12.1 Interpreters

We provide interpreters for each of the source languages  $R_0$ ,  $R_1$ , ... in the files interp-R1.rkt, interp-R2.rkt, etc. The interpreters for the intermediate languages  $C_0$  and  $C_1$  are in interp-C0.rkt and interp-C1.rkt. The interpreters for the rest of the intermediate languages, including pseudo-x86 and x86 are in the interp.rkt file.

## 12.2 Utility Functions

The utility functions described here are in the utilities.rkt file.

interp-tests The interp-tests function runs the compiler passes and the interpreters on each of the specified tests to check whether each pass is correct. The interp-tests function has the following parameters:

name (a string) a name to identify the compiler,

typechecker a function of exactly one argument that either raises an error using the error function when it encounters a type error, or returns #f when it encounters a type error. If there is no type error, the type checker returns the program.

passes a list with one entry per pass. An entry is a list with three things: a string giving the name of the pass, the function that implements the pass (a translator from AST to AST), and a function that implements the interpreter (a function from AST to result value) for the language of the output of the pass.

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**source-interp** an interpreter for the source language. The interpreters from Appendix 12.1 make a good choice.

test-family (a string) for example, "r1", "r2", etc.

**tests** a list of test numbers that specifies which tests to run. (see below)

The interp-tests function assumes that the subdirectory tests has a collection of Racket programs whose names all start with the family name, followed by an underscore and then the test number, ending with the file extension .rkt. Also, for each test program that calls read one or more times, there is a file with the same name except that the file extension is .in that provides the input for the Racket program. If the test program is expected to fail type checking, then there should be an empty file of the same name but with extension .tyerr.

compiler-tests runs the compiler passes to generate x86 (a .s file) and then runs the GNU C compiler (gcc) to generate machine code. It runs the machine code and checks that the output is 42. The parameters to the compiler-tests function are similar to those of the interp-tests function, and consist of

- a compiler name (a string),
- a type checker,
- description of the passes,
- name of a test-family, and
- a list of test numbers.

compile-file takes a description of the compiler passes (see the comment for interp-tests) and returns a function that, given a program file name (a string ending in .rkt), applies all of the passes and writes the output to a file whose name is the same as the program file name but with .rkt replaced with .s.

read-program takes a file path and parses that file (it must be a Racket program) into an abstract syntax tree.

parse-program takes an S-expression representation of an abstract syntax tree and converts it into the struct-based representation.

assert takes two parameters, a string (msg) and Boolean (bool), and displays the message msg if the Boolean bool is false.

**lookup** takes a key and an alist, and returns the first value that is associated with the given key, if there is one. If not, an error is triggered. The alist may contain both immutable pairs (built with cons) and mutable pairs (built with mcons).

### 12.3 x86 Instruction Set Quick-Reference

Table 12.1 lists some x86 instructions and what they do. We write  $A \to B$  to mean that the value of A is written into location B. Address offsets are given in bytes. The instruction arguments A, B, C can be immediate constants (such as \$4), registers (such as %rax), or memory references (such as -4(%ebp)). Most x86 instructions only allow at most one memory reference per instruction. Other operands must be immediates or registers.

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Instruction	Operation
addq $A, B$	$A + B \rightarrow B$
$\mathtt{negq}\ A$	-A  o A
$\mathtt{subq}\;A,B$	$B - A \rightarrow B$
$\mathtt{callq}\ L$	Pushes the return address and jumps to label $L$
$\mathtt{callq} *A$	Calls the function at the address $A$ .
retq	Pops the return address and jumps to it
$popq\ A$	$* extsf{rsp}  o A;  extsf{rsp} + 8  o  extsf{rsp}$
pushq ${\cal A}$	$\mathtt{rsp}-8  o \mathtt{rsp}; A  o *\mathtt{rsp}$
$\mathtt{leaq}\ A{,}B$	$A \to B \ (B \text{ must be a register})$
${\tt cmpq}\;A,B$	compare $A$ and $B$ and set the flag register ( $B$ must not be an immediate)
je ${\cal L}$	Jump to label $L$ if the flag register matches the
jl $L$	condition code of the instruction, otherwise go to the
jle $L$	next instructions. The condition codes are e for
jg $L$	"equal", 1 for "less", le for "less or equal", g for
jge $L$	"greater", and ge for "greater or equal".
$\mathtt{jmp}\ L$	Jump to label $L$
$\mathtt{movq}\ A, B$	A  o B
${ t movzbq}\ A, B$	$A \to B$ , where A is a single-byte register (e.g., al or
	c1), $B$ is a 8-byte register, and the extra bytes of $B$ are
	set to zero.
$\mathtt{notq}\ A$	$\sim A \to A$ (bitwise complement)
$\mathtt{orq}\ A, B$	$A B \to B$ (bitwise-or)
andq $A,B$	$A\&B \to B$ (bitwise-and)
$\mathtt{salq}\ A, B$	$B \ll A \rightarrow B$ (arithmetic shift left, where A is a constant)
$\mathtt{sarq}\ A, B$	$B \gg A \rightarrow B$ (arithmetic shift right, where A is a constant)
sete $A$	If the flag matches the condition code, then $1 \to A$ , else
$\mathtt{setl}\ A$	$0 \rightarrow A$ . Refer to je above for the description of the
setle $A$	condition codes. A must be a single byte register (e.g.,
$\operatorname{setg} A$	al or cl).
setge $A$	<del>/</del> .

Table 12.1: Quick-reference for the x86 instructions used in this book.

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