



Module 09

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Module Summary

Module 09: CS31003: Compilers

Data Flow Analysis

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Module Objectives

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Module Summary

- Understanding Data Flow Analysis (DFA) to estimate various data propagation entities in programs statically
- Understanding DFA formulation with forward / backward flow and inclusive / exclusive confluence
- Understanding formulation for various DFA solutions for Reaching Definitions, Available Expressions, Live Variables, Def-Use Chains, Copy Propagation etc.
- Understanding use of DFA in global optimization



Module Outline

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Data-flow analysis

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Module Summary

- These are techniques that derive information about the flow of data along program execution paths
- An *execution path* (or *path*) from point p_1 to point p_n is a sequence of points p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n such that for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$, either
 - [1] p_i is the point immediately preceding a statement and p_{i+1} is the point immediately following that same statement, or
 - [2] p_i is the end of some block and p_{i+1} is the beginning of a successor block
- In general, there is an *infinite number of paths* through a program and there is *no bound on the length of a path*
- Program analyses *summarize all possible program states* that can occur *at a point in the program* with a *finite set of facts*
- *No analysis is necessarily a perfect representation of the state*



Path Examples

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```

p0
100: n = 5
p1
101: i = 0
p2
102: if i < n goto 106
p3
103: goto 124
p4
104: i = i + 1
p5
105: goto 102
p6
106: t4 = i << 2
p7
107: t5 = a[t4]
p8

```

```

p8
108: t6 = i << 2
p9
109: t7 = b[t6]
p10
110: if t5 >= t7 goto 120
p11
111: t8 = i << 2
p12
112: t9 = c + t8
p13
113: t10 = i << 2
p14
114: t11 = a[t10]
p15
115: t12 = i << 2
p16

```

```

p16
116: t13 = b[t12]
p17
117: t14 = t11 * t13
p18
118: *t9 = t14
p19
119: goto 104
p20
120: t15 = i << 2
p21
121: t16 = c + t15
p22
122: *t16 = 0
p23
123: goto 104
p24
124: return

```

Path-1: **OUT[S]** p0-p1-p2-p3-p24

Path-2: p0-p1-p2-p6-p7-p8-p9-p10-p20-p21-p22-p23-p4-p5-p2

Path-3: p0-p1-p2-p6-p7-p8-p9-p10-p20-p21-p22-p23-p4-p5-p2-p6-p7-p8-p9-p10-p20-p21-p22-p23-p4-p5-p2

Path-4: p0-p1-p2-p6-p7-p8-p9-p10-p20-p21-p22-p23-p4-p5-p2-p3-p24



Path Examples: Basic Block

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Module Summary

```
p0: // Block B1
  0: n = 5
  1: i = 0
p1: // goto B2

p2: // Block B2
  0: if i < n goto B4
p3: // goto B7

p12: // Block B7
  0: return
p13:

p4: // Block B4
  0: t4 = 4 * i
  1: t5 = a[t4]
  2: t6 = 4 * i
  3: t7 = b[t6]
  4: if t5 >= t7 goto B6
p5: // goto B5

p6: // Block B5
  0: t8 = 4 * i
  1: t9 = c + t8
  2: t10 = 4 * i
  3: t11 = a[t10]
  4: t12 = 4 * i
  5: t13 = b[t12]
  6: t14 = t11 * t13
  7: *t9 = t14
p7: // goto B3

p8: // Block B6
  0: t15 = 4 * i
  1: t16 = c + t15
  2: *t16 = 0
p9: // goto B3

p10: // Block B3
  0: i = i + 1
p11: // goto B2
```

Path: p0-p1-p2-p4-p5-p8-p9-p10-p11-p2-p3-p12-p13



Uses of Data-flow Analysis

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Module Summary

- **Program Debugging**

- Which are the definitions (of variables) that *may* reach a program point? These are the *reaching definitions*
- Can a variable may potentially be used without being initialized?

- **Program Optimization**

- Constant folding
- Copy propagation
- Common sub-expression elimination etc.



Data-Flow Analysis Schema

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Module Summary

- A *data-flow value* for a program point represents an abstraction of the set of all possible program states that can be observed for that point
- The set of all possible data-flow values is the *domain* for the application in consideration
 - Example: for the *reaching definitions* problem, the domain of data-flow values is the set of all subsets of definitions in the program
 - A particular data-flow value is a set of definitions
- $IN[s]$ and $OUT[s]$: data-flow values *before* and *after* each statement s
- The *data-flow problem* is to find a solution to a set of constraints on $IN[s]$ and $OUT[s]$, for all statements s - this goes first for every block and then for the entire program
- $IN[B]$ and $OUT[B]$:
 - Clearly, $IN[s'] = OUT[s]$ where s' follows s in a block B (due to fall-through within B)
 - So if $IN[B] = IN[s_0]$ and $OUT[B] = OUT[s_n]$ where s_0 and s_n are the *first* and *last* statements of block B , we have $IN[B]$ and $OUT[B]$ as data-flow values *before* and *after* for block B
 - All DFA computations then can be done at the block level



Data-Flow Analysis Schema

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Module Summary

- Two kinds of constraints
 - Those based on the semantics of statements (*transfer functions*)
 - Those based on *flow of control*
- A DFA schema consists of
 - A *control-flow graph*
 - A *direction of data-flow* (*forward* or *backward*)
 - A set of *data-flow values*
 - A *confluence operator* (usually set *union* or *intersection*)
 - *Transfer functions* for each block
- We always compute *safe* estimates of data-flow values
- A decision or estimate is *safe* or *conservative*, if it never leads to a change in what the program computes (after the change)
- These safe values may be either *subsets* or *supersets* of actual values, based on the application



DFA: Reaching Definitions

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Reaching Definitions

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Module Summary

- We *kill* a definition of a variable a , if between two points along the path, there is an assignment to a
- A definition d reaches a point p , if there is a path from the point immediately following d to p , such that d is not *killed* along that path
- *Unambiguous* and *ambiguous* definitions of a variable

$a := b+c$

(*unambiguous* definition of a)

...

$*p := d$

(*ambiguous* definition of a , if p may point to variables other than a as well; hence does not kill the above definition of a)

...

$a := k-m$

(*unambiguous* definition of a ; kills the above definition of a)



Reaching Definitions

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Module Summary

- We compute super-sets of definitions as *safe* values
- *It is safe to assume that a definition reaches a point, even if it does not*
- In the following example, we assume that both $a = 2$ and $a = 4$ reach the point after the complete if-then-else statement, even though the statement $a = 4$ is not reached by control flow

```
if (a == b)
    a = 2;
else
    if (a == b)
        a = 4;
```



Reaching Definitions: How to use them?

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Module Summary

- Build *use / def Chains*
- *Constant Propagation*: For a use like

```
n: x = ... v ...
```

if all definitions that reach *n* are of the form

```
d: v = c // c is a constant
```

we can replace *v* in *n* by *c*

- *Un-initialized Variables*: How to detect?
- *Loop-invariant Code Motion*: For

```
d1: a = . . . ;  
d2: b = . . . ;  
for ( . . . ) {  
    . . .  
    n: x = a + b;  
    . . .  
}
```

if all definitions of variables on RHS of *n* and that reach *n* are outside the loop like *d1* and *d2*, *n* can also be moved outside the loop



Reaching Definitions Problem: DFA Formulation

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Module Summary

- The data-flow equations (**constraints**)

$$IN[B] = \bigcup_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P]$$

$$OUT[B] = GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - KILL[B])$$

$$IN[B] = \phi, \text{ for all } B \text{ (initialization only)}$$

- If some definitions reach B_1 (entry), then $IN[B_1]$ is initialized to that set
- Forward flow DFA problem (since $OUT[B]$ is expressed in terms of $IN[B]$), confluence operator is \cup
 - Direction of flow does not imply traversing the basic blocks in a particular order
 - The final result does not depend on the order of traversal of the basic blocks



Reaching Definitions Problem: DFA Formulation

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Module Summary

- $GEN[B]$ = set of all definitions inside B that are *visible* immediately after the block - *downwards exposed* definitions
 - If a variable x has two or more definitions in a basic block, then only the last definition of x is downwards exposed; all others are not visible outside the block
- $KILL[B]$ = union of the definitions in all the basic blocks of the flow graph, that are killed by individual statements in B
 - If a variable x has a definition d_i in a basic block, then d_i *kills* all the definitions of the variable x in the program, except d_i



Reaching Definitions Analysis: GEN and KILL

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Module Summary

In other blocks:

d5: $b = a + 4$
d6: $f = e + c$
d7: $e = b + d$
d8: $d = a + b$
d9: $a = c + f$
d10: $c = e + a$

d1: $a = f + 1$
d2: $b = a + 7$
d3: $c = b + d$
d4: $a = d + c$

B

Set of all definitions = $\{d1, d2, d3, d4, d5, d6, d7, d8, d9, d10\}$

$GEN[B] = \{d2, d3, d4\}$

$KILL[B] = \{d4, d9, d5, d10, d1\}$



Reaching Definitions Analysis: DF Equations

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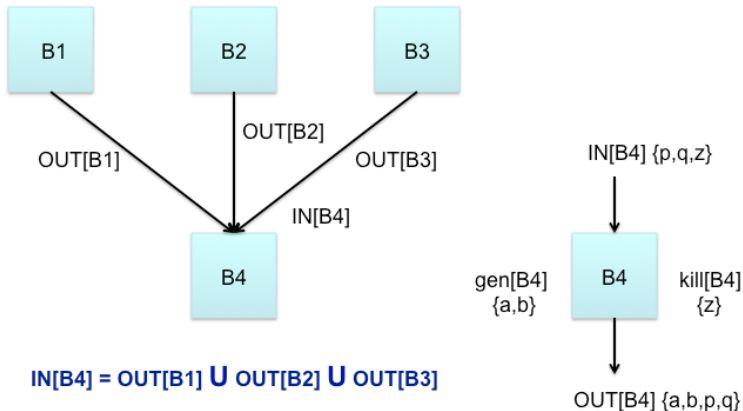
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Module Summary



$$IN[B4] = OUT[B1] \cup OUT[B2] \cup OUT[B3]$$

$$IN[B] = \bigcup_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P]$$

$$OUT[B] = GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - KILL[B])$$

$$OUT[B4] = gen[B4] \cup (IN[B4] - kill[B4])$$



Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Pass 1

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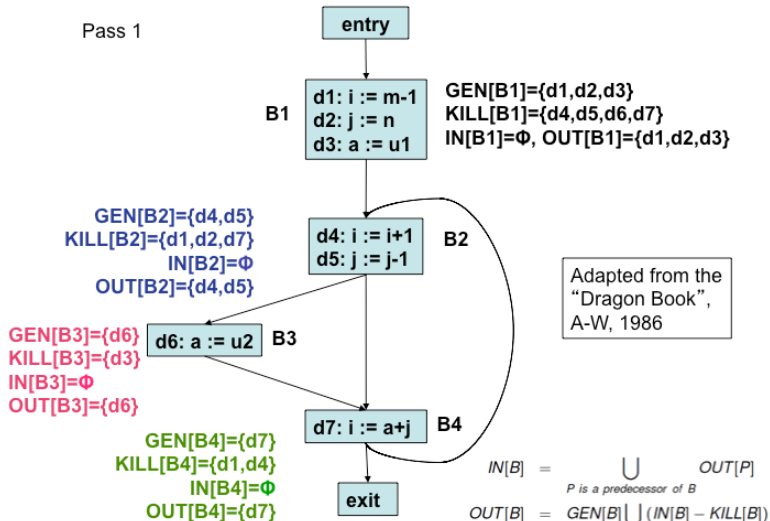
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Pass 1

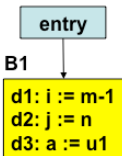




Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.1

Pass 2

$GEN[B1]=\{d1,d2,d3\}$
 $KILL[B1]=\{d4,d5,d6,d7\}$
 $IN[B1]=\Phi, OUT[B1]=\{d1,d2,d3\}$



$GEN[B1]=\{d1,d2,d3\}$
 $KILL[B1]=\{d4,d5,d6,d7\}$
 $IN[B1]=\Phi, OUT[B1]=\{d1,d2,d3\}$

$$IN[B] = \bigcup_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P]$$

$$OUT[B] = GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - KILL[B])$$



Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.2

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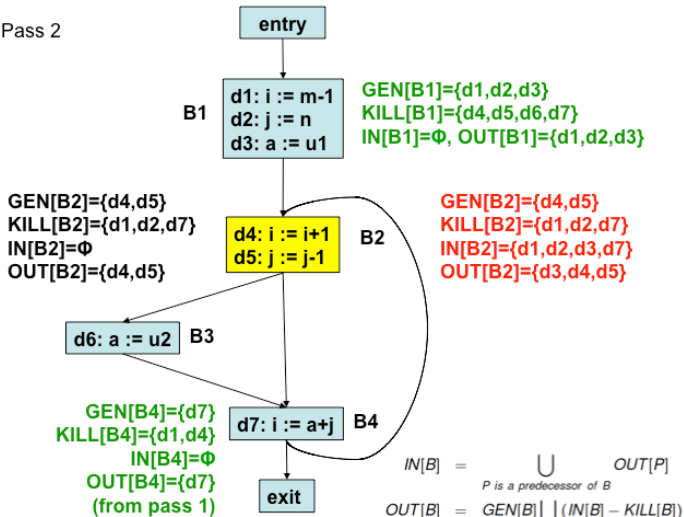
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Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.3

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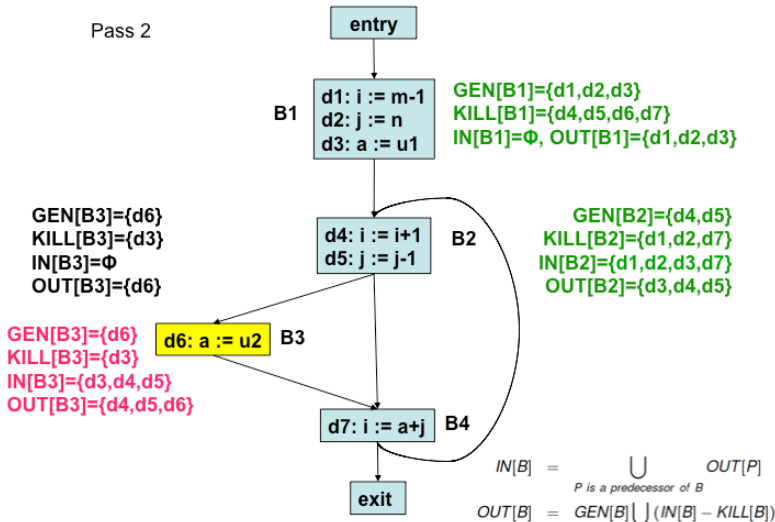
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Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.4

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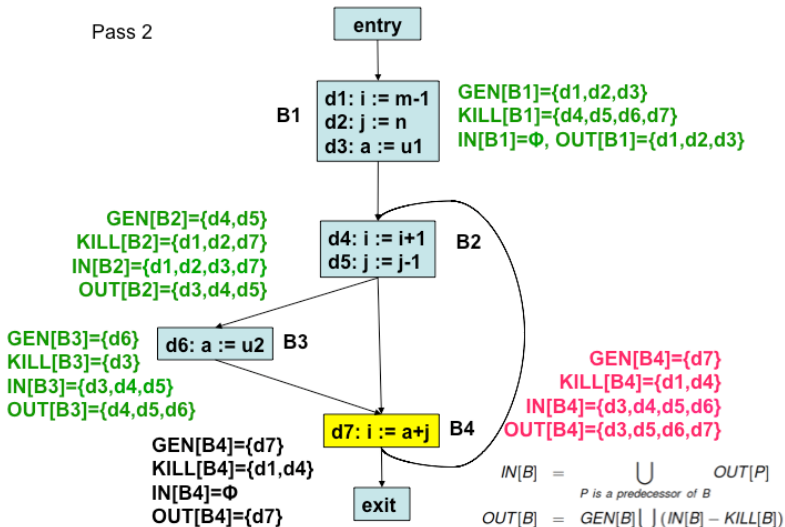
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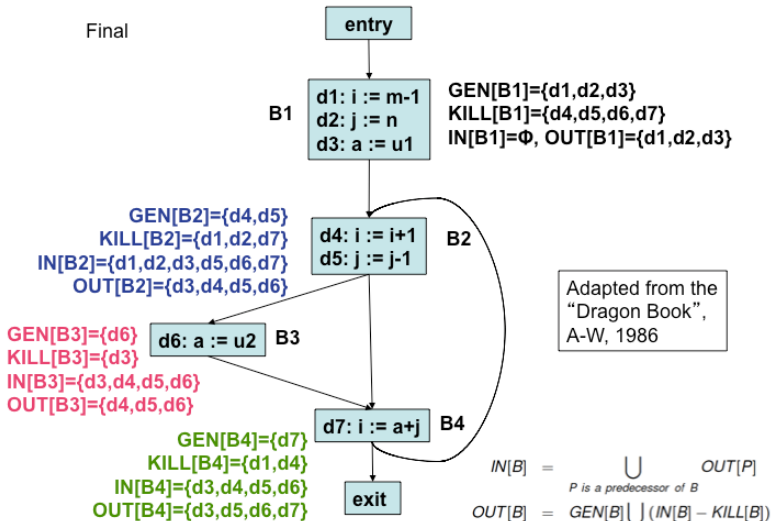
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Reaching Definitions Analysis: An Example - Final

Final





An Iterative Algorithm for Computing Reaching Definition

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Module Summary

```
for each block  $B$  do {  $IN[B] = \phi$ ;  $OUT[B] = GEN[B]$ ; }  
 $change = true$ ;  
while  $change$  do {  $change = false$ ;  
  for each block  $B$  do {
```

$$IN[B] = \bigcup_{P \text{ a predecessor of } B} OUT[P];$$

$$oldout = OUT[B];$$

$$OUT[B] = GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - KILL[B]);$$

```
    if ( $OUT[B] \neq oldout$ )  $change = true$ ;  
  }  
}
```

- GEN , $KILL$, IN , and OUT are all represented as bit vectors with one bit for each definition in the flow graph



Reaching Definitions: Bit Vector Representation

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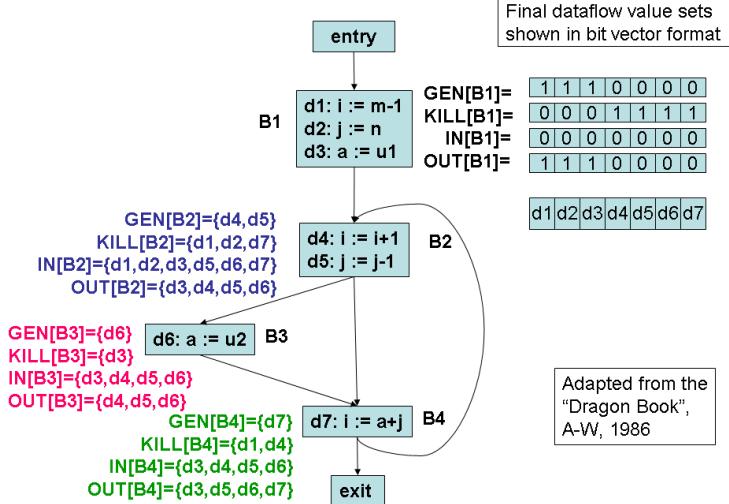
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DFA: Available Expressions

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Available Expression Computation

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Module Summary

- *Sets of expressions* constitute the domain of data-flow values
- *Forward* flow problem
- Confluence operator is \cap
- An expression $x + y$ is *available* at a point p , if every path (not *necessarily cycle-free*) from the initial node to p evaluates $x + y$, and after the last such evaluation, prior to reaching p , there are no subsequent assignments to x or y
- A block *kills* $x + y$, if it *assigns* (or *may assign*) to x or y and does not subsequently recompute $x + y$
- A block *generates* $x + y$, if it definitely evaluates $x + y$, and does not subsequently redefine x or y



Available Expression Computation

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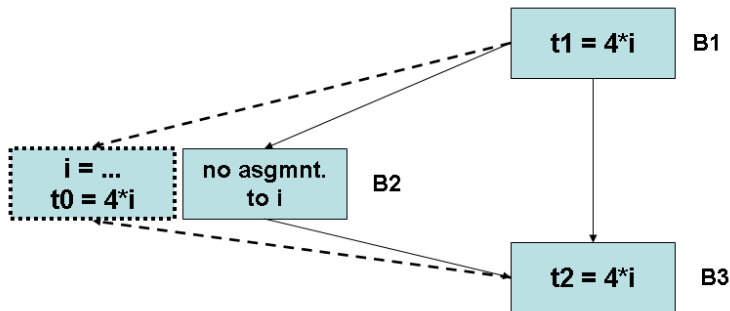
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Module Summary

- Useful for **global common sub-expression** elimination
- $4 * i$ is a CSE in **B3**, if it is available at the entry point of **B3** *that is*, if i is not assigned a new value in **B2** or $4 * i$ is recomputed after i is assigned a new value in **B2** (as shown in the dotted box)





Computing e_gen and e_kill

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Module Summary

- For statements of the form $x = a$, step 1 below does not apply
- The set of all expressions appearing as the RHS of assignments in the flow graph is assumed to be available and is represented using a hash table and a bit vector

$$e_gen[q] = A \quad \begin{matrix} q \cdot \\ x = y + z \\ p \cdot \end{matrix}$$

$$e_kill[q] = A \quad \begin{matrix} q \cdot \\ x = y + z \\ p \cdot \end{matrix}$$

Computing e_gen[p]

1. $A = A \cup \{y+z\}$
2. $A = A - \{\text{all expressions involving } x\}$
3. $e_gen[p] = A$

Computing e_kill[p]

1. $A = A - \{y+z\}$
2. $A = A \cup \{\text{all expressions involving } x\}$
3. $e_kill[p] = A$



Available Expression Computation - EGEN and EKILL

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In other blocks:

```
d5: b = a+4  
d6: f = e+c  
d7: e = b+d  
d8: d = a+b  
d9: a = c+f  
d10: c = e+a
```

```
d1: a = f + 1  
d2: b = a + 7  
d3: c = b + d  
d4: a = d + c
```

B

Set of all expressions = $\{f+1, a+7, b+d, d+c, a+4, e+c, a+b, c+f, e+a\}$

$EGEN[B] = \{f+1, b+d, d+c\}$

$EKILL[B] = \{a+4, a+b, e+a, e+c, c+f, a+7\}$



Available Expression Computation - DF Equations

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- The data-flow equations

$$IN[B] = \bigcap_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P], \text{ } B \text{ not initial}$$

$$OUT[B] = e_GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - e_KILL[B])$$

$$IN[B1] = \phi$$

$$IN[B] = U, \text{ for all } B \neq B1 \text{ (initialization only)}$$

- $B1$ is the initial or entry block and is special because nothing is available when the program begins execution
- $IN[B1]$ is always ϕ
- U is the universal set of all expressions
- Initializing $IN[B]$ to ϕ for all $B \neq B1$, is restrictive



Available Expression Computation - DF Equations

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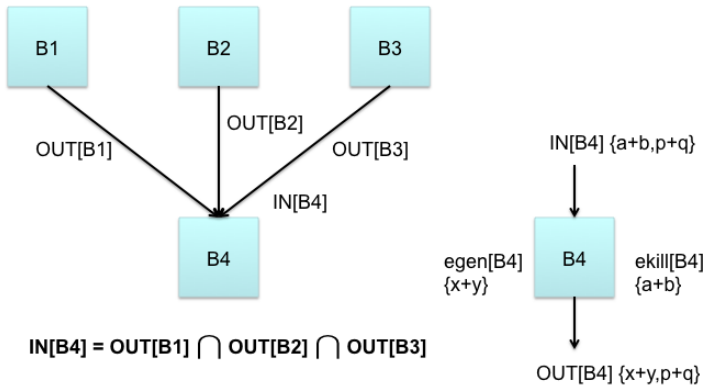
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$$IN[B4] = OUT[B1] \cap OUT[B2] \cap OUT[B3]$$

$$OUT[B4] = egen[B4] \cup (IN[B4] - ekill[B4])$$

$$IN[B] = \bigcap_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P], B \text{ not initial}$$

$$OUT[B] = e_gen[B] \cup (IN[B] - e_kill[B])$$



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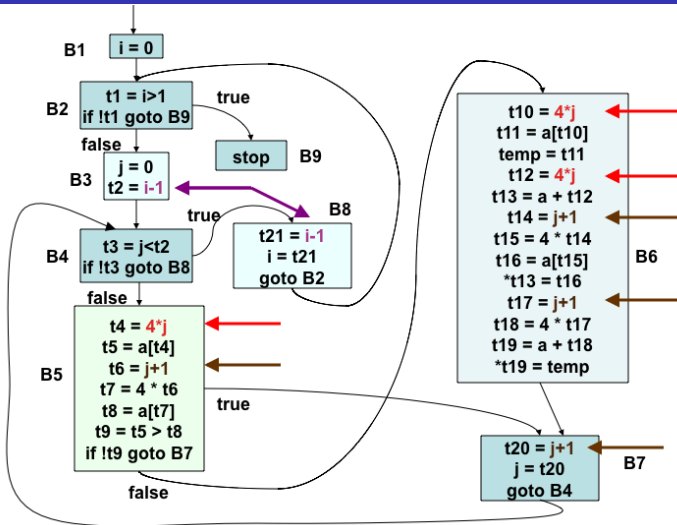
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Available Expression Computation - An Example

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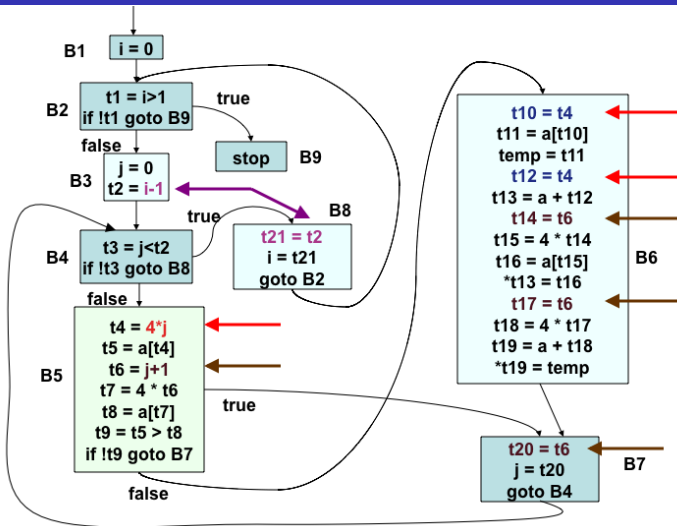
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An Iterative Algorithm for Computing Available Expressions

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```
for each block  $B \neq B1$  do {  
     $OUT[B] = U - e\_KILL[B];$   
}  
/* You could also do  $IN[B] = U;*/$   
/* In such a case, you must also interchange the order of */  
/*  $IN[B]$  and  $OUT[B]$  equations below */
```

$change = true;$

```
while  $change$  do {  $change = false;$   
    for each block  $B \neq B1$  do {
```

$$IN[B] = \bigcap_{P \text{ a predecessor of } B} OUT[P];$$

$$oldout = OUT[B];$$

$$OUT[B] = e_GEN[B] \cup (IN[B] - e_KILL[B]);$$

```
    if ( $OUT[B] \neq oldout$ )  $change = true;$ 
```

```
    }  
}
```

Compilers



Live Variables



Live Variable Analysis

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Module Summary

- The variable x is *live* at the point p , if the value of x at p could be used along *some path* in the flow graph, starting at p ; otherwise, x is *dead* at p
- Sets of variables constitute the domain of data-flow values
- *Backward flow* problem, with confluence operator \cup
- $IN[B]$ is the set of variables live at the beginning of B
- $OUT[B]$ is the set of variables live just after B
- $DEF[B]$ is the set of variables definitely assigned values in B , prior to any use of that variable in B
- $USE[B]$ is the set of variables whose values may be used in B prior to any definition of the variable

$$\begin{aligned} OUT[B] &= \bigcup_{S \text{ is a successor of } B} IN[S] \\ IN[B] &= USE[B] \cup (OUT[B] - DEF[B]) \\ OUT[B] &= \phi, \text{ for all } B \text{ (initialization only)} \end{aligned}$$



Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Pass 1

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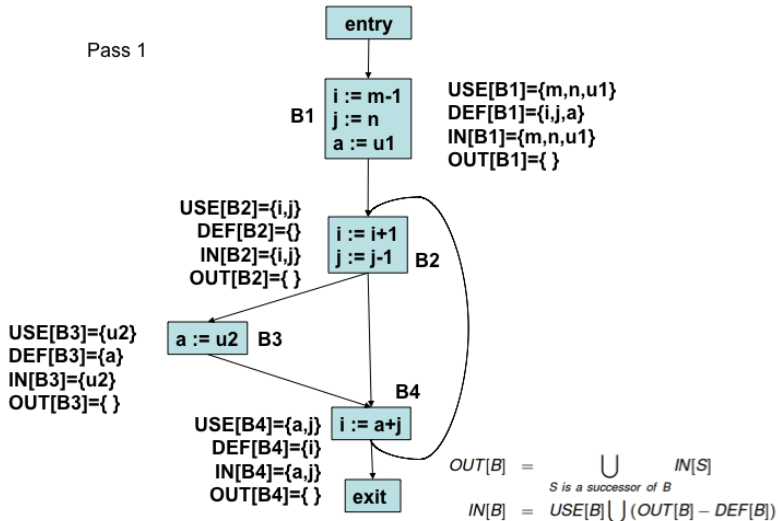
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Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.1

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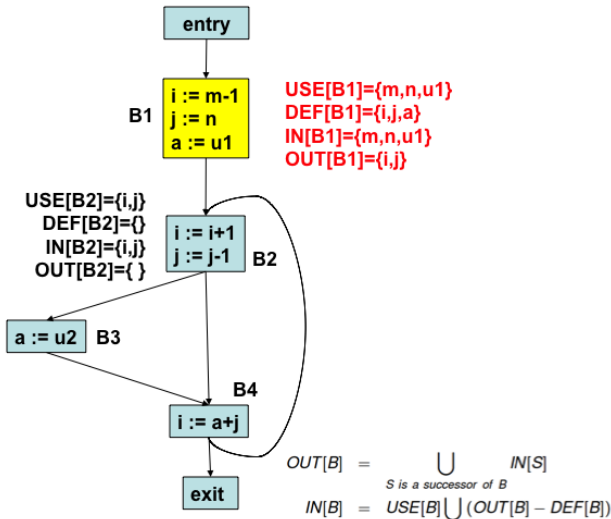
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Pass 2





Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.2

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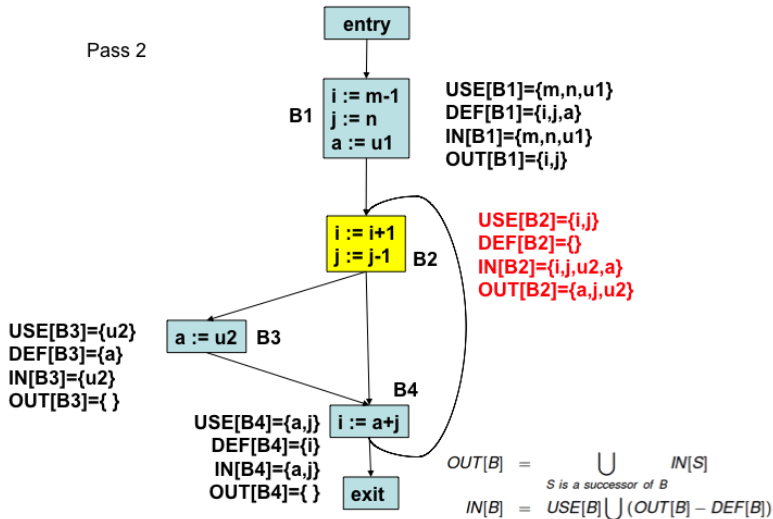
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Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.3

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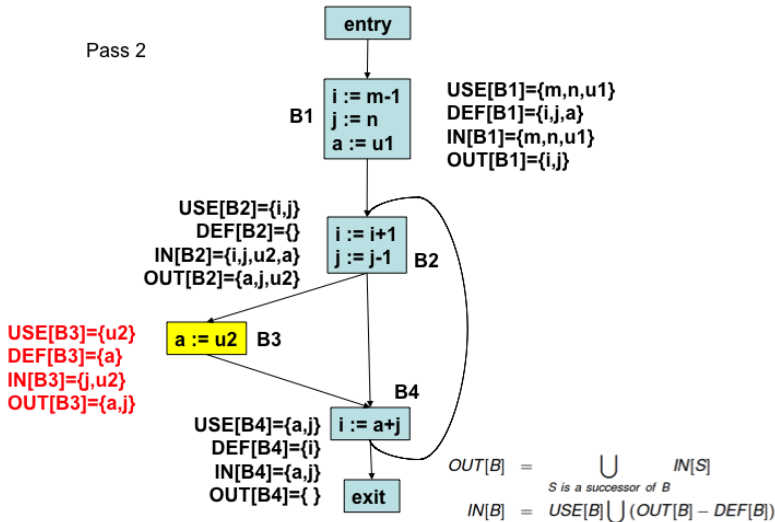
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Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Pass 2.4

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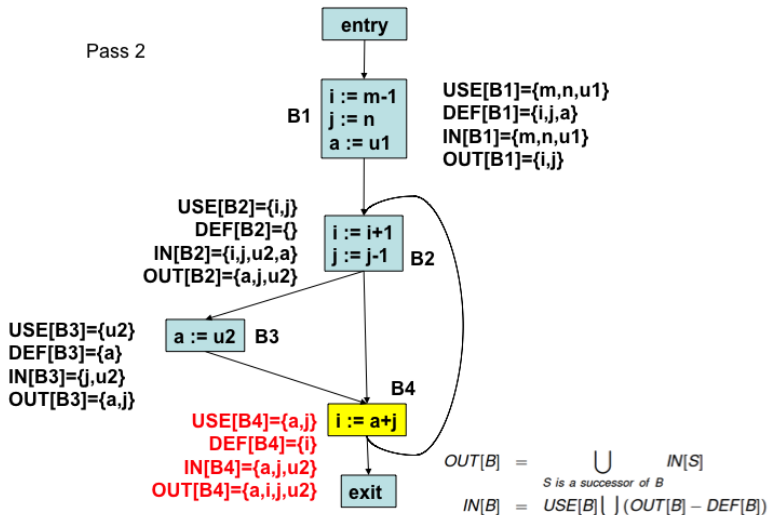
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Live Variable Analysis: An Example - Final pass

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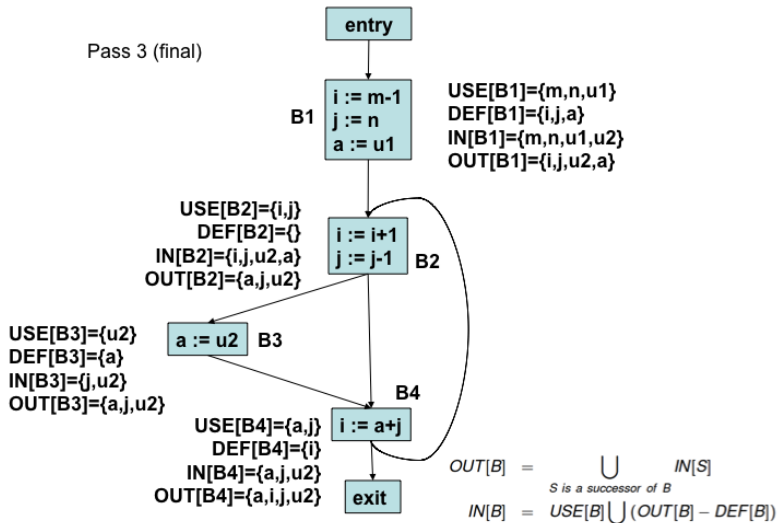
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Pass 3 (final)





DFA: Definition-Use Chains

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Definition-Use Chains



DFA: Definition-Use Chains

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Module Summary

- For each definition, we wish to attach the statement numbers of the uses of that definition
- Such information is very useful in implementing register allocation, loop invariant code motion, etc.
- This problem can be transformed to the data-flow analysis problem of computing for a point p , the set of uses of a variable (say x), such that there is a path from p to the use of x , that does not redefine x
- This information is represented as sets of $(x; s)$ pairs, where x is the variable used in statement s
- In *live variable* analysis, we need information on whether a variable is used later, but in $(x; s)$ computation, we also need the statement numbers of the uses
- The data-flow equations are similar to that of Live Variable analysis
- Once $IN[B]$ and $OUT[B]$ are computed, **d-u chains** can be computed using a method similar to that of **u-d chains**



Data Flow Analysis for (x, s) Pairs

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Module Summary

- Sets of pairs (x, s) constitute the domain of data-flow values
- Backward flow problem, with confluence operator \cup
- $IN[B]$ is the set of pairs (x, s) , such that statement s uses variable x and the value of x at $IN[B]$ has not been modified along the path from $IN[B]$ to s
- $OUT[B]$ is the set of pairs (x, s) , such that statement s uses variable x and the value of x at $OUT[B]$ has not been modified along the path from $OUT[B]$ to s
- $DEF[B]$ is the set of pairs (x, s) , such that s is a statement which uses x , s is not in B , and B contains a definition of x
- $USE[B]$ is the set of pairs (x, s) , such that s is a statement in B which uses variable x and such that no prior definition of x occurs in B



Data Flow Analysis for (x, s) Pairs

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Module Summary

$$\begin{aligned} OUT[B] &= \bigcup_{S \text{ is a successor of } B} IN[S] \\ IN[B] &= USE[B] \cup (OUT[B] - DEF[B]) \\ OUT[B] &= \phi, \text{ for all } B \text{ (initialization only)} \end{aligned}$$



DFA: Copy Propagation

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Copy Propagation

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Module Summary

- Eliminate copy statements of the form $s : x := y$, by substituting y for x in all uses of x reached by this copy
- Conditions to be checked
 - [1] u -d chain of use u of x must consist of s only. Then, s is the only definition of x reaching u
 - [2] On every path from s to u , including paths that go through u several times (but do not go through s a second time), there are no assignments to y . This ensures that the copy is valid
- The second condition above is checked by using information obtained by a new data-flow analysis problem
 - $c_GEN[B]$ is the set of all copy statements, $s : x := y$ in B , such that there are no subsequent assignments to either x or y within B , after s
 - $c_KILL[B]$ is the set of all copy statements, $s : x := y$, s not in B , such that either x or y is assigned a value in B
 - Let U be the universal set of all copy statements in the program



Copy Propagation - The Data-flow Equations

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Module Summary

- $c_IN[B]$ is the set of all copy statements, $x := y$ reaching the beginning of B along every path such that there are no assignments to either x or y following the last occurrence of $x := y$ on the path
- $c_OUT[B]$ is the set of all copy statements, $x := y$ reaching the end of B along every path such that there are no assignments to either x or y following the last occurrence of $x := y$ on the path

$$c_IN[B] = \bigcap_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} c_OUT[P], \text{ } B \text{ not initial}$$

$$c_OUT[B] = c_GEN[B] \cup (c_IN[B] - c_KILL[B])$$

$$c_in[B1] = \phi, \text{ where } B1 \text{ is the initial block}$$

$$c_OUT[B] = U - c_KILL[B], \text{ for all } B \neq B1 \text{ (initialization only)}$$



Algorithm for Copy Propagation

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Module Summary

For each copy, $s : x := y$, do the following

[1] Using the *du-chain*, determine those uses of x that are reached by s

[2] For each use u of x found in (1) above, check that

(i) u-d chain of u consists of s only

(ii) s is in $c_IN[B]$, where B is the block to which u belongs. This ensures that

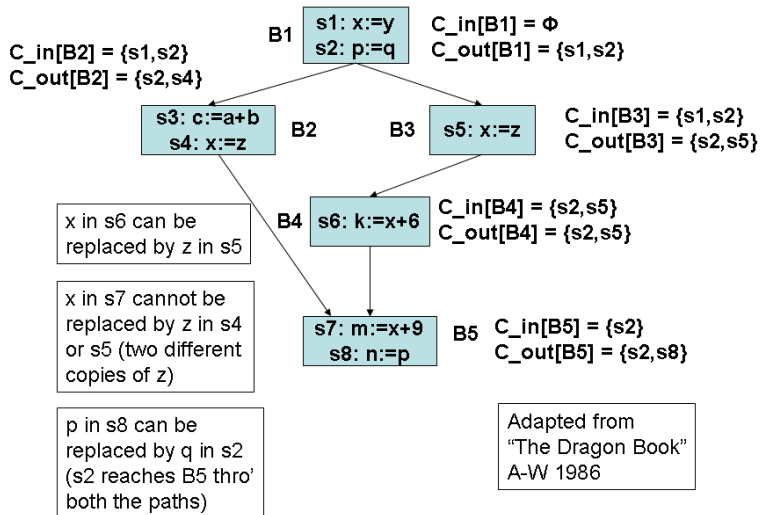
- s is the only definition of x that reaches this block
- No definitions of x or y appear on this path from s to B

(iii) no definitions x or y occur within B prior to u found in (1) above

[3] If s meets the conditions above, then remove s and replace all uses of x found in (1) above by y



Copy Propagation Example 1





Copy Propagation on Running Example 1.1

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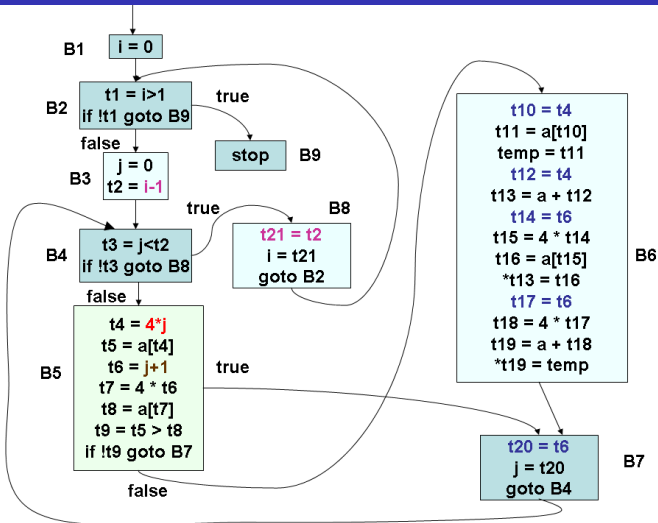
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Copy Propagation on Running Example 1.2

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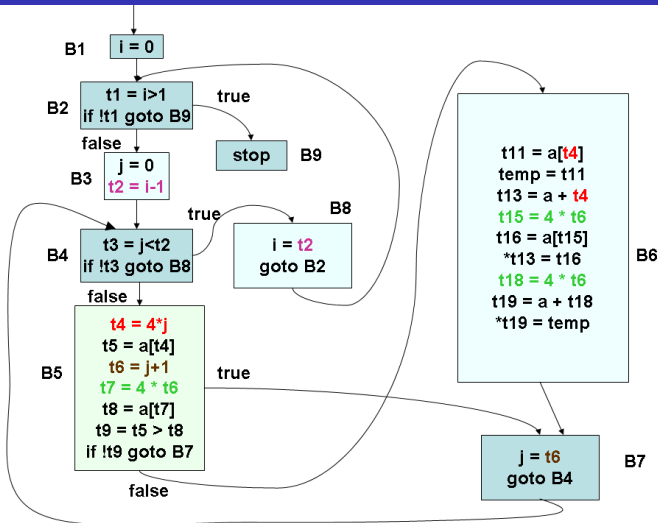
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GCSE and Copy Propagation on Running Example 1.1

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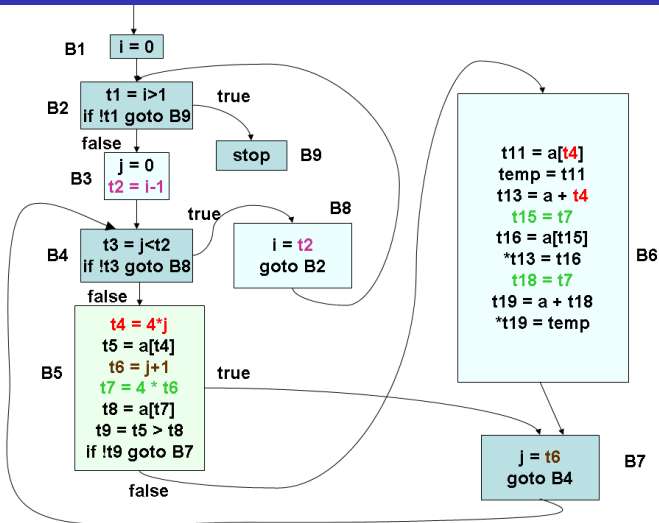
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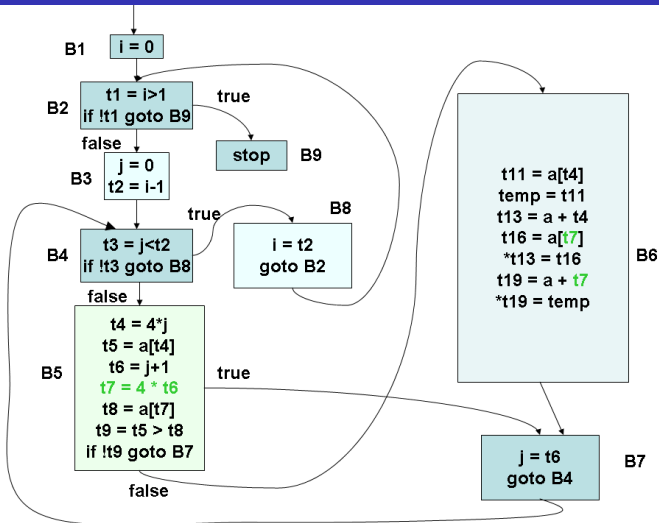
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Module Summary

- Understood Data Flow Analysis (DFA) to estimate various data propagation entities in programs statically
- Understood DFA formulation with forward / backward flow and inclusive / exclusive confluence
- Understood formulation for various DFA solutions for Reaching Definitions, Available Expressions, Live Variables, Def-Use Chains, Copy Propagation etc.
- Understood use of DFA in global optimization