



# Compilers

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## Local Optimization

- The simplest form of optimization
- Optimize one basic block
  - No need to analyze the whole procedure body

- Some statements can be deleted

*x: Int*

$x := x + 0$

$x := x * 1$

- Some statements can be simplified

*Algebraic  
Simplifications*

$x := x * 0$   $\Rightarrow$   $x := 0$

$y := y ** 2$   $\Rightarrow$   $y := y * y$

$x := x * 8$   $\Rightarrow$   $x := x << 3$

$x := x * 15$   $\Rightarrow$   $t := x << 4; x := t - x$

(on some machines  $<<$  is faster than  $*$ ; but not on all!)

- Operations on constants can be computed at compile time

- If there is a statement  $x := y \text{ op } z$

- And  $y$  and  $z$  are constants

- Then  $y \text{ op } z$  can be computed at compile time

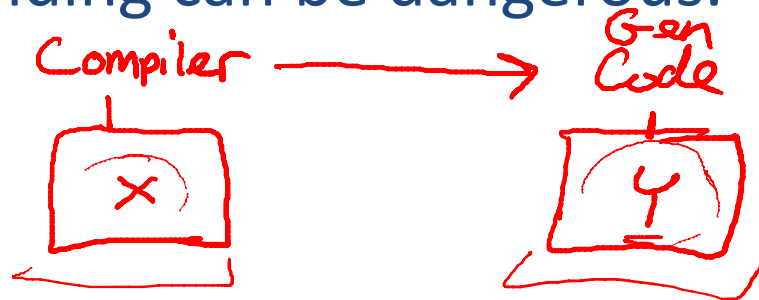
[ constant folding ]

- Example:  $x := 2 + 2 \Rightarrow x := 4$

- Example: if  $2 < 0$  jump L can be deleted

if <sup>false</sup>  $2 > 0$  jump L  $\Rightarrow$  jump L

- Constant folding can be dangerous.



$X$  and  $Y$  are different archs.

$a := \underline{1.5 + 3.7}$   
 $a := 5.2$

$a := 5.19$

- Eliminate unreachable basic blocks:
  - Code that is unreachable from the initial block
    - E.g., basic blocks that are not the target of any jump or “fall through” from a conditional
- Removing unreachable code makes the program smaller
  - And sometimes also faster
    - Due to memory cache effects
    - Increased spatial locality

- Why would unreachable basic blocks occur?

#define DEBUG 0  
if (DEBUG) then  $\Rightarrow$  if (0) then  
≡ [≡

libraries

result of optimizations

- Some optimizations are simplified if each register occurs only once on the left-hand side of an assignment
- Rewrite intermediate code in single assignment form

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{x} := z + y \\ a := \underline{x} \\ \underline{x} := 2 * \underline{x} \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \underline{b} = z + y \\ a = \underline{b} \\ x := 2 * \underline{b} \end{array}$$

( $b$  is a fresh register)

- More complicated in general, due to loops



# Local Optimization

- If
  - Basic block is in single assignment form
  - A definition  $x :=$  is the first use of  $x$  in a block
- Then
  - When two assignments have the same rhs, they compute the same value

- Example:

$x := y + z$

...

$w := y + z$

$\Rightarrow$

$x := y + z$

...

$w := x$

common  
subexpression  
elimination

(the values of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  do not change in the ... code)

- If  $w := x$  appears in a block, replace subsequent uses of  $w$  with uses of  $x$ 
  - Assumes single assignment form

- Example:

$b := z + y$   
 $a := b$   
 $x := 2 * \underline{a}$

$\Rightarrow$

$b := z + y$   
 $a := b$   
 $x := 2 * \underline{b}$

copy  
propagation

- Only useful for enabling other optimizations
  - Constant folding
  - Dead code elimination

- Example:

$a := 5$   
 $x := 2 * a$   
 $y := x + 6$   
 $t := x * y$   
 $\Rightarrow$

Handwritten annotations:  $5 \rightarrow 10$ ,  $2 * 5 = 10$ ,  $10 + 6 = 16$ ,  $10 * 16 = 160$ .

$a := 5$   
 $x := 10$   
 $y := 16$   
 $t := x * y$

Handwritten annotations:  $10$ ,  $16$ ,  $160$ .

If

w := rhs appears in a basic block

w does not appear anywhere else in the program

Then

the statement w := rhs is dead and can be eliminated

– Dead = does not contribute to the program's result

Example: (a is not used anywhere else)

~~x~~ := z + y    a := ~~x~~    x := 2 \* ~~a~~    ⇒    b := z + y    a := b    x := 2 \* b

- Each local optimization does little by itself
- Typically optimizations interact
  - Performing one optimization enables another
- Optimizing compilers repeat optimizations until no improvement is possible
  - The optimizer can also be stopped at any point to limit compilation time

- Initial code:

$a := x ** 2$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := c * c$

$e := b * 2$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Algebraic optimization:

$a := \underline{x ** 2}$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := c * c$

$e := b * 2$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Algebraic optimization:

a := x \* x

b := 3

c := x

d := c \* c

e := b << 1

f := a + d

g := e \* f



- Copy propagation:

$a := x * x$

$b := \underline{3}$

$c := \underline{x}$

$d := \underline{c * c}$

$e := \underline{b} \ll 1$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Copy propagation:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := x * x$

$e := 3 \ll 1$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Constant folding:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := x * x$

$e := \underline{3 \ll 1}$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Constant folding:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := x * x$

$e := 6$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Common subexpression elimination:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := x * x$

$e := 6$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Common subexpression elimination:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := a$

$e := 6$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Copy propagation:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d$   $:= a$

$e$   $:= 6$

$f := a + d$

$g := e * f$

- Copy propagation:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := a$

$e := 6$

$f := a + a$

$g := 6 * f$



- Dead code elimination:

$a := x * x$

$b := 3$

$c := x$

$d := a$

$e := 6$

$f := a + a$

$g := 6 * f$

- Dead code elimination:

$a := x * x$

~~$f := a + a$~~

$g := 6 * f$

$2 * a$

$g := 12 * a$

- This is the final form

# Local Optimization

Which of the following are valid local optimizations for the given basic block? Assume that only **g** and **x** are referenced outside of this basic block.

- ☐ Copy propagation: Line 4 becomes  $d := a * b$ .
- ☐ Common subexpression elimination:  
Line 5 becomes  $e := d$ .
- ☐ Dead code elimination: Line 3 is removed.
- ☐ After many rounds of valid optimizations, the entire block can be reduced to  $g := 5$ .

```
1  a := 1
2  b := 3
3  c := a + x
4  d := a * 3
5  e := b * 3
6  f := a + b
7  g := e - f
```