Compilation Lecture 7



Getting into the back-end Noam Rinetzky

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Compilation Lecture 7



Intermediate Representation Noam Rinetzky

But first, a short reminder



What is a compiler?

"A compiler is a computer program that transforms source code written in a programming language (source language) into another language (target language).

The most common reason for wanting to transform source code is to create an executable program."

--Wikipedia

Where we were



Lexical Analysis



From scanning to parsing



Context Analysis



Code Generation



What is a compiler?

"A compiler is a computer program that transforms source code written in a programming language (source language) into another language (target language).

The most common reason for wanting to transform source code is to create an **executable program**."

A CPU is (a sort of) an *Interpreter*

"A compiler is a computer program that transforms source code written in a programming language (source language) into another language (target language).

The most common reason for wanting to transform source code is to create an **executable program**."

- Interprets machine code ...
 - Why not AST?
- Do we want to go from AST directly to MC?
 - We can, but ...
 - Machine specific
 - Very low level

Code Generation in Stages



Where we are



1 Note: Compile Time vs Runtime

- Compile time: Data structures used during program compilation
- Runtime: Data structures used during program execution
 - Activation record stack
 - Memory management
- The compiler generates code that allows the program to interact with the runtime



Intermediate Representation

Code Generation: IR



- Translating from abstract syntax (AST) to intermediate representation (IR)
 - Three-Address Code



Three-Address Code IR

• A popular form of IR

 High-level assembly where instructions have at most three operands

IR by example

Sub-expressions example

Source	IR
int a;	
int b;	
int c;	
int d;	
a = b + c + d;	_t0
b = a * a + b * b;	a =
	t1
	t2

_t0 = b + c; a = _t0 + d; _t1 = a * a; _t2 = b * b; b = _t1 + _t2;

Sub-expressions example

Source int a; int b; int c; int d; a = b + c + d;_t0 = b + c; a = _t0 + d; b = a * a + b * b; _t1 = a * a; _t2 = b * b; b = _t1 + _t2; **Temporaries explicitly** store intermediate

IR (not optimized)

values resulting from

sub-expressions

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Variable assignments

- var = constant;
- $var_1 = var_2;$
- $var_1 = var_2 op var_3;$
- var₁ = constant **op** var₂;
- var₁ = var₂ op constant;
- var = constant₁ op constant₂;
- Permitted operators are +, -, *, /, %

In the impl. var is replaced by a pointer to the symbol table

A compiler-generated temporary can be used instead of a var

Booleans

- Boolean variables are represented as integers that have zero or nonzero values
- In addition to the arithmetic operator, TAC supports <, ==, ||, and &&
- How might you compile the following?

 $b = (x \le y);$

Unary operators

• How might you compile the following assignments from unary statements?

y = -x; y = 0 - x; y = -1 * x; z := !w;z = w == 0;

Control flow instructions

• Label introduction

label_name:

Indicates a point in the code that can be jumped to

- Unconditional jump: go to instruction following label L
 Goto L;
- Conditional jump: test condition variable t; if 0, jump to label L

IfZ t Goto L;

 Similarly : test condition variable t; if not zero, jump to label L
 IfNZ t Goto L;

Control-flow example – conditions

IIIL X,			
<pre>int y;</pre>			
<pre>int z;</pre>			
if (x	<	y)	
Z	=	х;	
else			
Z	=	у;	
z = z	*	z ;	

_t0 = x < y; IfZ _t0 Goto _L0; z = x; Goto _L1; _L0: z = y; _L1: z = z * z;

Control-flow example – loops

int x;

int y;

while (x < y) {
 x = x * 2;</pre>

}

 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x};$

Procedures / Functions

```
p() {
    int y=1, x=0;
    x=f(a<sub>1</sub>,...,a<sub>n</sub>);
    print(x);
}
```

• What happens in runtime?

Memory Layout (popular convention)



A logical stack frame



Procedures / Functions

• A procedure call instruction **pushes** arguments to stack and **jumps** to the function label

A statement **x=f(a1,...,an)**; looks like

Push a1; ... Push an;

Call f;

Pop x; // **pop** returned value, and copy to it

- Returning a value is done by pushing it to the stack (return x;)
 Push x;
- Return control to caller (and roll up stack) Return;

Functions example

```
int SimpleFn(int z) {
   int x, y;
   x = x * y * z;
   return x;
}
void main() {
  int w;
  w = SimpleFunction(137);
}
```

```
_SimpleFn:
_t0 = x * y;
_t1 = _t0 * z;
x = _t1;
Push x;
Return;
```

```
main:
_t0 = 137;
Push _t0;
Call _SimpleFn;
Pop w;
```

Memory access instructions

- **Copy** instruction: a = b
- Load/store instructions:
 a = *b
 *a = b
- Address of instruction a=&b
- Array accesses:

• Field accesses:

$$a = b[f]$$
 $a[f] = b$

• **Memory allocation** instruction:

a = alloc(size)

Sometimes left out (e.g., malloc is a procedure in C)

Memory access instructions

- **Copy** instruction: a = b
- Load/store instructions:
 a = *b
 *a = b
- Address of instruction a=&b
- Array accesses:

• Field accesses:

a

$$a = b[f]$$
 $a[f] = b$

• Memory allocation instruction:

a = alloc(size)

Sometimes left out (e.g., malloc is a procedure in C)

Array operations

x := y[i]
t1 := &y ; t1 = address-of y
t2 := t1 + i ; t2 = address of y[i]
x := *t2 ; loads the value located at y[i]

x[i] := y

t1 := &x ; t1 = address-of x
t2 := t1 + i ; t2 = address of x[i]
*t2 := y ; store through pointer

IR Summary

Intermediate representation

- A language that is between the source language and the target language not specific to any machine
- Goal 1: retargeting compiler components for different source languages/target machines


Intermediate representation

- A language that is between the source language and the target language not specific to any machine
- Goal 1: retargeting compiler components for different source languages/target machines
- Goal 2: machine-independent optimizer
 - Narrow interface: small number of instruction types



Multiple IRs

- Some optimizations require high-level structure
- Others more appropriate on low-level code
- Solution: use multiple IR stages



AST vs. LIR for imperative languages

AST	LIR
Rich set of language constructs	An abstract machine language
Rich type system	Very limited type system
Declarations: types (classes, interfaces), functions, variables	Only computation-related code
Control flow statements: if-then-else, while-do, break-continue, switch, exceptions	Labels and conditional/ unconditional jumps, no looping
Data statements: assignments, array access, field access	Data movements, generic memory access statements
Expressions: variables, constants, arithmetic operators, logical operators, function calls	No sub-expressions, logical as numeric, temporaries, constants, function calls – explicit argument passing

Lowering AST to TAC



IR Generation



TAC generation

- At this stage in compilation, we have
 - an AST
 - annotated with scope information
 - and annotated with type information
- To generate TAC for the program, we do recursive tree traversal
 - Generate TAC for any subexpressions or substatements
 - Using the result, generate TAC for the overall expression

TAC generation for expressions

- Define a function cgen(expr) that generates TAC that computes an expression, stores it in a temporary variable, then hands back the name of that temporary
 - Define cgen directly for atomic expressions (constants, this, identifiers, etc.)
- Define cgen recursively for compound expressions (binary operators, function calls, etc.)

cgen for basic expressions

cgen(k) = { // k is a constant
 Choose a new temporary t
 Emit(t = k)
 Return t
}

```
cgen(id) = { // id is an identifier
  Choose a new temporary t
  Emit( t = id )
  Return t
}
```

cgen for binary operators

cgen(e₁ + e₂) = {
 Choose a new temporary t
 Let t₁ = cgen(e₁)
 Let t₂ = cgen(e₂)
 Emit(t = t₁ + t₂)
 Return t
}

```
cgen(5 + x) = {

Choose a new temporary t

Let t_1 = cgen(5)

Let t_2 = cgen(x)

Emit(t = t_1 + t_2)

Return t
```

}

```
cgen(5 + x) = {
  Choose a new temporary t
  Let t_1 = \{
    Choose a new temporary t
    Emit( t = 5; )
    Return t
  }
  Let t_2 = cgen(x)
  Emit( t = t_1 + t_2 )
  Return t
}
```





cgen as recursive AST traversal

cgen(5 + x)



t1 = 5;	
t2 = x;	
t = t1 +	t2;

Naive cgen for expressions

- Maintain a counter for temporaries in c
- Initially: c = 0

```
• cgen(e<sub>1</sub> op e<sub>2</sub>) = {
    Let A = cgen(e<sub>1</sub>)
    c = c + 1
    Let B = cgen(e<sub>2</sub>)
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A op B; )
    Return _tc
}
```

cgen((a*b)-d)

c = 0 cgen((a*b)-d)

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
  Let A = cgen(a*b)
  c = c + 1
  Let B = cgen(d)
  c = c + 1
  Emit( _tc = A - B; )
  Return _tc
}
```

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
 Let A = \{
    Let A = cgen(a)
    c = c + 1
    Let B = cgen(b)
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return tc
  }
  c = c + 1
  Let B = cgen(d)
  c = c + 1
  Emit( _tc = A - B; )
  Return _tc
}
```

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
 Let A = { here A=_t0
    Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return _tc
  }
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit( _tc = A - B; )
  Return tc
}
```

Code

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
  Let A = { here A=_t0
    Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return tc
  }
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit( _tc = A - B; )
  Return tc
}
```

```
Code
_t0=a;
```

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
  Let A = { here A=_t0
    Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return _tc
  }
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit(_tc = A - B;)
  Return tc
}
```

Code _t0=a; _t1=b;

```
c = 0
cgen( (a*b)-d) = {
  Let A = { here A=_t0
    Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return tc
  }
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit(_tc = A - B;)
  Return tc
}
```

```
Code
_t0=a;
_t1=b;
_t2=_t0*_t1
```

```
c = 0
                          here A=_t2
cgen( (a*b)
                         here A=_t0
  Let \overline{A} = {
    Let \overline{A} = \{ \text{Emit}(\text{_tc} = a;), \text{ return _tc} \}
     c = c + 1
     Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
     c = c + 1
     Emit( _tc = A * B; )
     Return _tc
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit(_tc = A - B;)
  Return _tc
```

```
Code
_t0=a;
_t1=b;
_t2=_t0*_t1
```

```
c = 0
                      here A=_t2
cgen( (a*b)
                     here A=_t0
Let A = \{
   Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return _tc
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit( _tc = A - B; )
  Return tc
```

```
Code
_t0=a;
_t1=b;
_t2=_t0*_t1
_t3=d;
```

```
c = 0
                      here A=_t2
cgen( (a*b)
                     here A=_t0
Let A = \{
   Let A = { Emit(_tc = a;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Let B = { Emit(_tc = b;), return _tc }
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A * B; )
    Return tc
  c = c + 1
  Let B = { Emit(_tc = d;), return _tc }
  c = c + 1
  Emit(_tc = A - B;)
  Return _tc
```

```
Code
_t0=a;
_t1=b;
_t2=_t0*_t1
_t3=d;
_t4=_t2-_t3
```

cgen for statements

- We can extend the **cgen** function to operate over statements as well
- Unlike cgen for expressions, cgen for statements does not return the name of a temporary holding a value.

– (Why?)

cgen for simple statements

cgen(expr;) = {
 cgen(expr)
}

cgen for if-then-else

 $cgen(if (e) s_1 else s_2)$

Let _t = **cgen**(e) Let L_{true} be a new label Let L_{false} be a new label Let L_{after} be a new label Emit(IfZ _t Goto L_{false};) $cgen(s_1)$ Emit(Goto L_{after};) Emit(L_{false}:) $cgen(s_2)$ Emit(Goto L_{after};) Emit(L_{after}:)

cgen for while loops

cgen(while (expr) stmt)

Let L_{before} be a new label. Let L_{after} be a new label. Emit(L_{before}:) Let t = **cgen**(expr) Emit(IfZ t Goto Lafter;) **cgen**(stmt) Emit(Goto L_{before};) Emit(L_{after}:)

cgen for short-circuit disjunction

cgen(e1 || e2)

Emit(t1 = 0; t2 = 0;) Let L_{after} be a new label Let t1 = cgen(e1)Emit(IfNZ _t1 Goto L_{after}) Let t2 = cgen(e2)Emit(L_{after}:) Emit(_t = _t1 || _t2;) Return t

Our first optimization



Naive cgen for expressions

- Maintain a counter for temporaries in c
- Initially: c = 0

```
• cgen(e<sub>1</sub> op e<sub>2</sub>) = {
    Let A = cgen(e<sub>1</sub>)
    c = c + 1
    Let B = cgen(e<sub>2</sub>)
    c = c + 1
    Emit( _tc = A op B; )
    Return _tc
}
```

Naïve translation

- cgen translation shown so far very inefficient
 - Generates (too) many temporaries one per subexpression
 - Generates many instructions at least one per subexpression
- Expensive in terms of running time and space
- Code bloat
- We can do much better ...

Naive cgen for expressions

- Maintain a counter for temporaries in c
- Initially: c = 0
- cgen(e₁ op e₂) = {
 Let A = cgen(e₁)
 c = c + 1
 Let B = cgen(e₂)
 c = c + 1
 Emit(_tc = A op B;)
 Return_tc
 }
- Observation: temporaries in cgen(e₁) can be reused in cgen(e₂)

Improving cgen for expressions

- Observation naïve translation needlessly generates temporaries for leaf expressions
- Observation temporaries used exactly once
 - Once a temporary has been read it can be reused for another sub-expression

• Temporaries cgen(e₁) can be reused in cgen(e₂)
Sethi-Ullman translation

- Algorithm by Ravi Sethi and Jeffrey D. Ullman to emit optimal TAC
 - Minimizes number of temporaries
- Main data structure in algorithm is a stack of temporaries
 - Stack corresponds to recursive invocations of _t = cgen(e)
 - All the temporaries on the stack are live
 - Live = contain a value that is needed later on

Live temporaries stack

- Implementation: use counter c to implement live temporaries stack
 - Temporaries _t(0), ... , _t(c) are alive
 - Temporaries _t(c+1), _t(c+2)... can be (re)used
 - Push means increment c, pop means decrement c
- In the translation of _t(c)=cgen(e₁ op e₂)

 $t(c) = cgen(e_1)$ $t(c) = cgen(e_2)$ $t(c) = t(c) = cgen(e_1)$

Using stack of temporaries example

_t0 = cgen(((c*d)-(e*f))+(a*b))



Weighted register allocation

Temporaries

- Suppose we have expression $e_1 op e_2$
 - $-e_1, e_2$ without side-effects
 - That is, no function calls, memory accesses, ++x
 - **cgen**($e_1 op e_2$) = **cgen**($e_2 op e_1$)
 - Does order of translation matter?
- Sethi & Ullman's algorithm translates heavier sub-tree first
 - Optimal local (per-statement) allocation for sideeffect-free statements

Example

_t0 = cgen(a+(b+(c*d))) + and * are commutative operators



Weighted register allocation

- Can save registers by **re-ordering** subtree **computations**
- Label each node with its weight
 - Weight = number of registers needed
 - Leaf weight known
 - Internal node weight
 - w(left) > w(right) then w = left
 - w(right) > w(left) then w = right
 - w(right) = w(left) then w = left + 1
- Choose **heavier** child as first to be translated
- WARNING: have to check that no side-effects exist before attempting to apply this optimization
 - pre-pass on the tree

Weighted reg. alloc. example _t0 = cgen(a+b[5*c])

Phase 1: - check absence of side-effects in expression tree - assign weight to each AST node



Weighted reg. alloc. example _t0 = cgen(a+b[5*c])

Phase 2: - use weights to decide on order of translation



Note on weighted register allocation

- Must reset temporaries counter after every statement: x=y; y=z
 - should **not** be translated to

_t0 = y; x = _t0; _t1 = z; y = _t1;

- But rather to
 - t0 = y;
 - x = _t0; # Finished translating statement. Set c=0
 _t0 = z;
 y= t0;

Code generation for procedure calls (+ a few words on the runtime system)



Code generation for procedure calls

• Compile time generation of code for procedure invocations

• Activation Records (aka Stack Frames)

Supporting Procedures

Stack: a new computing environment

– e.g., temporary memory for local variables

- Passing information into the new environment
 - Parameters
- Transfer of control to/from procedure
- Handling return values

Calling Conventions

• In general, compiler can use any convention to handle procedures

- In practice, CPUs specify standards
 - Aka calling conventios
 - Allows for compiler interoperability
 - Libraries!

Abstract Register Machine (High Level View)



Abstract Register Machine (High Level View)



Abstract Activation Record Stack



Abstract Stack Frame



Handling Procedures

- Store local variables/temporaries in a stack
- A function call instruction pushes arguments to stack and jumps to the function label
 A statement x=f(a1,...,an); looks like

Push a1; ... Push an; Call f;

Pop x; // copy returned value

Returning a value is done by pushing it to the stack (return x;)

Push x;

Return control to caller (and roll up stack)
 Return;

Abstract Register Machine



Abstract Register Machine



Intro: Functions Example

```
int SimpleFn(int z) {
    int x, y;
    x = x * y * z;
    return x;
}
void main() {
    int w;
    w = SimpleFunction(137);
```

}

```
_SimpleFn:
_t0 = x * y;
_t1 = _t0 * z;
x = _t1;
Push x;
Return;
```

```
main:
_t0 = 137;
Push _t0;
Call _SimpleFn;
Pop w;
```

What Can We Do with Procedures?

- Declarations & Definitions
- Call & Return
- Jumping out of procedures
- Passing & Returning procedures as parameters

Design Decisions

- Scoping rules
 - Static scoping vs. dynamic scoping
- Caller/callee conventions
 - Parameters
 - Who saves register values?
- Allocating space for local variables

Static (lexical) Scoping



a name refers to its (closest) enclosing scope

known at compile time

Declaration	Scopes
a=0	B0,B1,B3
b=0	B0
b=1	B1,B2
a=2	B2
b=3	B3

Dynamic Scoping

- Each identifier is associated with a global stack of bindings
- When entering scope where identifier is declared
 push declaration on identifier stack
- When exiting scope where identifier is declared
 pop identifier stack
- Evaluating the identifier in any context binds to the current top of stack
- Determined **at runtime**

Example

int x = 42;

```
int f() { return x; }
int g() { int x = 1; return f(); }
int main() { return g(); }
```

- What value is returned from main?
 - Static scoping?
 - Dynamic scoping?

Why do we care?

- We need to generate code to access variables
- Static scoping
 - Identifier binding is known at compile time
 - "Address" of the variable is known at compile time
 - Assigning addresses to variables is part of code generation
 - No runtime errors of "access to undefined variable"
 - Can check types of variables

Variable addresses for static scoping: first attempt

int x = 42;

```
int f() { return x; }
int g() { int x = 1; return f(); }
int main() { return g(); }
```

identifier	address
x (global)	0x42
x (inside g)	0x73