

CS3300 - Compiler Design Semantic Analysis - IR Generation

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Intermediate representations

Why use an intermediate representation?

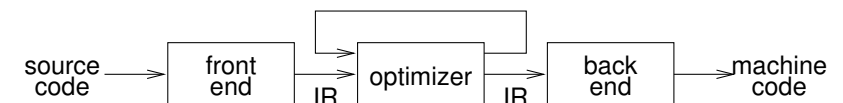
- 1 break the compiler into manageable pieces
– good software engineering technique
- 2 simplifies retargeting to new host
– isolates back end from front end
- 3 simplifies handling of “poly-architecture” problem
– m lang’s, n targets $\Rightarrow m + n$ components
- 4 enables machine-independent optimization
– general techniques, multiple passes

(myth)

An intermediate representation is a compile-time data structure



Intermediate representations



Generally speaking:

- front end produces IR
- optimizer transforms that representation into an equivalent program that may run more efficiently
- back end transforms IR into native code for the target machine



Intermediate representations

Representations talked about in the literature include:

- abstract syntax trees (AST)
- linear (operator) form of tree
- directed acyclic graphs (DAG)
- control flow graphs
- program dependence graphs
- static single assignment form
- 3-address code
- hybrid combinations



Intermediate representations - properties

Important IR Properties

- ease of generation
- ease of manipulation
- cost of manipulation
- level of abstraction
- freedom of expression
- size of typical procedure

Subtle design decisions in the IR have far reaching effects on the speed and effectiveness of the compiler.

Level of exposed detail is a crucial consideration.



IR design issues

- Is the chosen IR appropriate for the (analysis/ optimization/ transformation) passes under consideration?
- What is the IR level: close to language/machine.
- Multiple IRs in a compiler: for example, High, Medium and Low

$t1 \leftarrow a[i, j+2]$	$t1 \leftarrow j + 2$	$r1 \leftarrow [fp-4]$
	$t2 \leftarrow i * 20$	$r2 \leftarrow r1 + 2$
	$t3 \leftarrow t1 + t2$	$r3 \leftarrow [fp-8]$
	$t4 \leftarrow 4 * t3$	$r4 \leftarrow r3 * 20$
	$t5 \leftarrow \text{addr } a$	$r5 \leftarrow r4 + r2$
	$t6 \leftarrow t5 + t4$	$r6 \leftarrow 4 * r5$
	$t7 \leftarrow *t6$	$r7 \leftarrow fp - 216$
		$f1 \leftarrow [r7+r6]$

(a) High-, (b) medium-, and (c) low-level representations of a C array reference.

- In reality, the variables etc are also only pointers to other data structures.



Intermediate representations

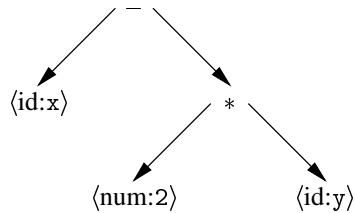
Broadly speaking, IRs fall into three categories:

- Structural
 - structural IRs are graphically oriented
 - examples include trees, DAGs
 - heavily used in source to source translators
 - nodes, edges tend to be large
- Linear
 - pseudo-code for some abstract machine
 - large variation in level of abstraction
 - simple, compact data structures
 - easier to rearrange
- Hybrids
 - combination of graphs and linear code
 - attempt to take best of each
 - e.g., control-flow graphs
 - Example: GCC Tree IR.



Abstract syntax tree

An abstract syntax tree (AST) is the procedure's parse tree with the nodes for most non-terminal symbols removed.



This represents "x - 2 * y".

For ease of manipulation, can use a linearized (operator) form of the tree.

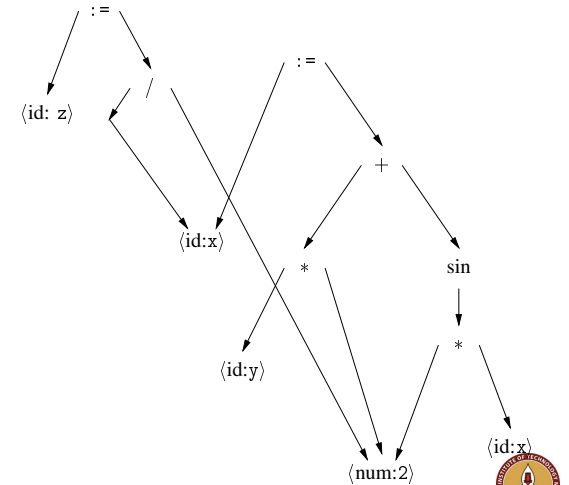
e.g., in postfix form: x 2 y * -



Directed acyclic graph

A directed acyclic graph (DAG) is an AST with a unique node for each value.

```
x := 2 * y + sin(2*x)
z := x / 2
```



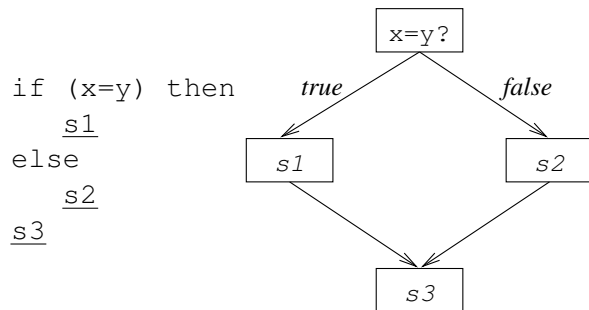
Q: What to do for matching names present across different functions



Control flow graph

The control flow graph (CFG) models the transfers of control in the procedure

- nodes in the graph are basic blocks straight-line blocks of code
- edges in the graph represent control flow loops, if-then-else, case, goto



3-address code

- At most one operator on the right side of an instruction.
- 3-address code can mean a variety of representations.
- In general, it allows statements of the form:

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

with a single operator and, at most, three names.

Simpler form of expression:

$$x - 2 * y$$

becomes

$$t1 \leftarrow 2 * y$$

$$t2 \leftarrow x - t1$$

Advantages

- compact form (direct naming)
- names for intermediate values

Can include forms of prefix or postfix code



Three-address code is built from two concepts: addresses and instructions.

- An address can be
 - A name: source variable program name or pointer to the Symbol Table name.
 - A constant: Constants in the program.
 - Compiler generated temporary.



Typical instructions types include:

- 1 assignments $x \leftarrow y \text{ op } z$
- 2 assignments $x \leftarrow \text{op } y$
- 3 assignments $x \leftarrow y[i]$
- 4 assignments $x \leftarrow y$
- 5 branches `goto L`
- 6 conditional branches
`if x goto L`
- 7 procedure calls
`param x1, param x2, ... param xn`
`and`
`call p, n`
- 8 address and pointer assignments

How to translate:

```
if (x < y) S1 else
S2
```

?



3-address code - implementation

Quadruples

- Has four fields: op, arg1, arg2 and result.
- Some instructions (e.g. unary minus) do not use arg2.
- For copy statement : the operator itself is ≡; for others it is implied.
- Instructions like `param` don't use neither arg2 nor result.
- Jumps put the target label in result.

$x - 2 * y$				
	op	result	arg1	arg2
(1)	load	t1	y	
(2)	loadi	t2	2	
(3)	mult	t3	t2	t1
(4)	load	t4	x	
(5)	sub	t5	t4	t3

- simple record structure with four fields
- easy to reorder
- explicit names



3-address code - implementation

Triples

$x - 2 * y$			
(1)	load	y	
(2)	loadi	2	
(3)	mult	(1)	(2)
(4)	load	x	
(5)	sub	(4)	(3)

- use table index as implicit name
- require only three fields in record
- harder to reorder



3-address code - implementation

Indirect Triples

x - 2 * y					
	exec-order	stmt	op	arg1	arg2
(1)	(100)	(100)	load	y	
(2)	(101)	(101)	loadi	2	
(3)	(102)	(102)	mult	(100)	(101)
(4)	(103)	(103)	load	x	
(5)	(104)	(104)	sub	(103)	(102)

- simplifies moving statements (change the execution order)
- more space than triples
- implicit name space management



Indirect triples advantage

```
for i:=1 to 10 do
begin
  a=b*c
  d=i*3
end
(a)
```

Optimized version

```
a=b*c
for i:=1 to 10 do
begin
  d=i*3
end
(b)
```

```
(1) := 1 i
(2) nop
(3) * b c
(4) := (2) a
(5) * 3 i
(6) := (4) d
(7) + 1 i
(8) LE I 10
(9) IFT goto (2)
```

Execution Order (a) : 123456789

Execution Order (b) : 341256789



Other hybrids

An attempt to get the best of both worlds.

- graphs where they work
- linear codes where it pays off

Unfortunately, there appears to be little agreement about where to use each kind of IR to best advantage.

For example:

- PCC and FORTRAN 77 directly emit assembly code for control flow, but build and pass around expression trees for expressions.
- Many people have tried using a control flow graph with low-level, three address code for each basic block.



Intermediate representations

But, this isn't the whole story

Symbol table:

- identifiers, procedures
- size, type, location
- lexical nesting depth

Constant table:

- representation, type
- storage class, offset(s)

Storage map:

- storage layout
- overlap information
- (virtual) register assignments



- Many kinds of IR are used in practice.
- There is no widespread agreement on this subject.
- A compiler may need several different IRs
- Choose IR with right level of detail
- Keep manipulation costs in mind



Translating expressions

```

S → id = E ;      { gen( top.get(id.lexeme) != E.addr); }
E → E1 + E2    { E.addr = new Temp();
                  gen(E.addr != E1.addr '+' E2.addr); }
E → E1 - E2    { E.addr = new Temp();
                  gen(E.addr != 'minus' E1.addr); }
E → ( E1 )      { E.addr = E1.addr; }
E → id          { E.addr = top.get(id.lexeme); }
    
```

- Builds the three-address code for an assignment statement.
- addr is an synthetic-attribute of *E*.
 - denotes the address that will hold the value of *E*.
- Constructs a three-address instruction and appends the instruction to the sequence of instructions.



Gap between HLL and IR

- High level languages may allow complexities that are not allowed in IR (such as expressions with multiple operators).
- High level languages have many syntactic constructs, not present in the IR (such as if-then-else or loops)

Challenges in translation:

- Deep nesting of constructs.
- Recursive grammars.
- We need a systematic approach to IR generation.

Goal:

- A HLL to IR translator.
- Input: A program in HLL.
- Output: A program in IR (may be an AST or program text)



IR generation for flow-of-control statements

$P \rightarrow S$	$S.next = newlabel()$ $P.code = S.code label(S.next)$
$S \rightarrow assign$	$S.code = assign.code$
$S \rightarrow if (B) S_1$	$B.true = newlabel()$ $B.false = S_1.next = S.next$ $S.code = B.code label(B.true) S_1.code$
$S \rightarrow if (B) S_1 else S_2$	$B.true = newlabel()$ $B.false = newlabel()$ $S_1.next = S_2.next = S.next$ $S.code = B.code$ $ label(B.true) S_1.code$ $ gen('goto' S.next)$ $ label(B.false) S_2.code$

- *code* is an synthetic attribute: giving the code for that node.
- Assume: *gen* only creates an instruction.
- $||$ concatenates the code.



IR generation for flow-of-control statements

```

S → while ( B ) S1
    begin = newlabel()
    B.true = newlabel()
    B.false = S.next
    S1.next = begin
    S.code = label(begin) || B.code
             || label(B.true) || S1.code
             || gen('goto' begin)

S → S1 S2
    S1.next = newlabel()
    S2.next = S.next
    S.code = S1.code || label(S1.next) || S2.code
    
```

- *code* is a synthetic attribute: giving the code for that node.
- Assume: *gen* only creates an instruction.
- `||` concatenates the code.



IR generation for boolean expressions

```

B → B1 || B2
    B1.true = B.true
    B1.false = newlabel()
    B2.true = B.true
    B2.false = B.false
    B.code = B1.code || label(B1.false) || B2.code

B → B1 && B2
    B1.true = newlabel()
    B1.false = B.false
    B2.true = B.true
    B2.false = B.false
    B.code = B1.code || label(B1.true) || B2.code

B → ! B1
    B1.true = B.false
    B1.false = B.true
    B.code = B1.code

B → E1 rel E2
    B.code = E1.code || E2.code
             || gen('if' E1.addr rel.op E2.addr 'goto' B.true)
             || gen('goto' B.false)

B → true
    B.code = gen('goto' B.true)

B → false
    B.code = gen('goto' B.false)
    
```



Array elements dereference (Recall)

- Elements are typically stored in a block of consecutive locations.
- If the width of each array element is *w*, then the *i*th element of array *A* (say, starting at the address *base*), begins at the location: *base* + *i* × *w*.
- For multi-dimensions, beginning address of *A*[*i*₁][*i*₂] is calculated by the formula:
 $base + i_1 \times w_1 + i_2 \times w_2$
 where, *w*₁ is the width of the row, and *w*₂ is the width of one element.
- We declare arrays by the number of elements (*n_j* is the size of the *j*th dimension) and the width of each element in an array is fixed (say *w*).
 The location for *A*[*i*₁][*i*₂] is given by
 $base + (i_1 \times n_2 + i_2) \times w$
- Q: If the array index does not start at '0', then ?
- Q: What if the data is stored in column-major form?



Translation of Array references

- Extending the expression grammar with arrays:

```

S → id = E ;
L → id [ E ]
E → E1 + E2
L → id
L → L1 [ E ]
L → L
    
```



Translation of Array references (contd)

```
S → id = E ; { gen( top.get(id.lexeme) != E.addr); }
  | L = E ; { gen(L.addr.base '[' L.addr ']' != E.addr); }
E → E1 + E2 { E.addr = new Temp();
                 gen(E.addr != E1.addr '+' E2.addr); }
  | id          { E.addr = top.get(id.lexeme); }
  | L          { E.addr = new Temp();
                 gen(E.addr != L.array.base '[' L.addr ']); }
```

Nonterminal L has three synthesized attributes

- 1 $L.addr$ denotes a temporary that is used while computing the offset for the array reference.
- 2 $L.array$ is a pointer to the ST entry for the array name. The field $base$ gives the actual l-value of the array reference.



Translation of Array references (contd)

```
L → id [ E ] { L.array = top.get(id.lexeme);
               L.type = L.array.type.elem;
               L.addr = new Temp();
               gen(L.addr != E.addr '*' L.type.width); }
  | L1 [ E ] { L.array = L1.array;
               L.type = L1.type.elem;
               t = new Temp();
               L.addr = new Temp();
               gen(t != E.addr '*' L.type.width); }
               gen(L.addr != L1.addr '+' t); }
```

- 3 $L.type$ is the type of the subarray generated by L .
 - For any type t : $t.width$ gives get the width of the type.
 - For any type t : $t.elem$ gives the element type.



Translation of Array references (contd)

Example:

- Let a denotes a 2×3 integer array.
- Type of a is given by $array(2, array(3, integer))$
- Width of $a = 24$ (size of $integer = 4$).
- Type of $a[i]$ is $array(3, integer)$, width = 12.
- Type of $a[i][j] = integer$

Exercise:

- Write three address code for $c + a[i][j]$

```
t1 = i * 12
t2 = j * 4
t3 = t1 + t2
t4 = a [ t3 ]
t5 = c + t4
```



Q: What if we did not know the size of $integer$ (machine dependent)?

Some challenges/questions

- Avoiding redundant gotos. ??
- Multiple passes. ??
- How to translate implicit branches: `break` and `continue`?
- How to translate `switch` statements efficiently?
- How to translate procedure code?



What have we done in last few classes?

- Intermediate Code Generation.

To read

- Dragon Book. Sections 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9 and 2.8

