

CSC2/455 Software Analysis and Improvement

Instruction Selection/Instruction Scheduling/Register Allocation

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URCS

Outline

Review

Instruction Selection

Instruction Scheduling

Global Register Allocation

Postscript

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Optimizations

- Analysis
 - Iterative Dataflow Analysis
 - SSA Form
 - Interprocedural Analysis
 - Loop Analysis
 - Type Checking [next class]
- Optimization
 - Dead Code Elimination
 - Partial Redundancy Elimination
- Code Generation
 - Instruction Selection
 - Instruction Scheduling
 - Register Allocation

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The Problem

```
a = b + c  
c = c + 1
```

gets converted to (in some pseudo-assembly language):

```
add a, b, c  
inc c
```

Pattern Matching

`$x = $x + 1` \Rightarrow `inc $x`

- A pattern (or “macro”) is specified and when it matches on the 3-address code, instructions are emitted.
- Pattern matching is no longer used to select instructions
 - but still useful for something called *peephole optimization*

Tree Covering

- Pattern matching operates on sequences of instructions
 - Usually one, but could be more
- Tree-based systems operate on *trees* of expressions
 - Limited to basic blocks

Example

See Figure 1 from the Twig Paper

Tree rewriting rules

See Table 1 from the Twig Paper

Tree Matching

See Page 501 of the Twig Paper.

- Informally, a tree pattern can be viewed as a string formed by a pre-order traversal of the tree.
- All patterns can then be viewed as strings and an automaton constructed to search for strings and substrings.

Code Generation

See the discussion in Section 5 of the Twig Paper.

- Evaluate costs of subtrees
- Use that to evaluate cost of tree
- Use dynamic programming to pick the tree "covering" with the lowest cost.

Outline

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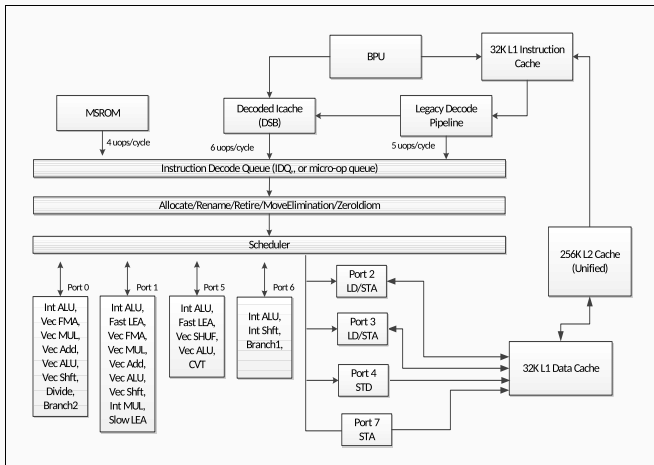
Global Register Allocation

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The need for instruction scheduling

- Code is in 3-address form
- Instructions have been selected
 - e.g. `a / 4` becomes `shr a, 2` (shift-right) or `sar a, 2` (shift-arithmetic right)
- What (linear) order should we output instructions?

A modern CPU pipeline



Source: Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Optimization Manual

Pipeline Details Known to Compiler

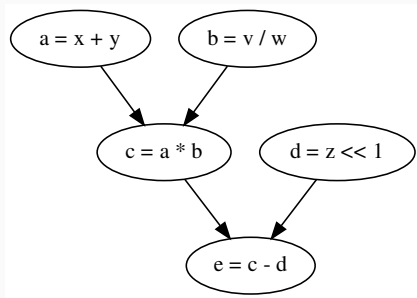
- Number of functional units and their types
 - Which instructions can be issued together
- Latencies of operations
 - Note some operations can have variable latencies (e.g. memory operations)
- Forwarding latencies
 - Delays when sending values from one functional unit to another
 - Or from one instruction to another
- And other sundry architecture details
 - See the architecture manuals for processor of interest

Two metrics of interest

- Throughput: Instructions completed per cycle
 - Higher is better
- Latency: Total cycles for execution
 - Lower is better

Basic block to data dependence graph

```
a = x + y  
b = v / w  
c = a * b  
d = z << 2  
e = c - d
```



Schedule

Assume the following delays:

- Add, Shifts, Subtraction: 1 cycle
- Multiplication: 2 cycles
- Division: 3 cycles

Cycle	ALU1	ALU2
0	$a = x + y$	$b = v / w$
1	$d = z \ll 1$	(busy)
2	(idle)	(busy)
3	$c = a * b$	(idle)
4	(busy)	(idle)
5	$e = c - d$	(idle)

What determines the total time of the path?

Critical Path

- The path that takes the longest to execute
 - Equivalently, has zero *slack*
- Delaying operations on critical path will increase total time

List scheduling

Goal: Schedule instructions on every cycle (i.e. build a table like in previous figure)

- Overall structure:
 - Mark operations whose predecessors have completed as ready
 - Pick operations that are ready
 - Schedule them **in some order** if resources available
 - Proceed to next cycle
 - Repeat until all operations are scheduled

(Figure 12.3 in Cooper and Torczon)

Always prioritize instructions on critical path.

- Can be hard to achieve
- Variable delays
- Multiple functional units
- Other architecture-specific constraints

Other Complications

- Small basic block sizes
 - Loop unrolling
 - Trace scheduling
- Long dependence chains with little parallelism
 - Software Pipelining

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The Memory Hierarchy (on CPUs)

- Registers (on chip, few tens to low hundreds)
- L1 cache (tens of KB)
- L2 cache (tens of MB)
- DRAM (tens of GB)
 - off-chip

Numbers every programmer should know

- Register access: 1 cycle
- L1 cache: less than 10 cycles
- L2 cache: less than 100 cycles
- DRAM: hundreds of cycles

Bottomline: Placing frequently used variables in registers can improve performance

The Problem of Global Register Allocation

- Code is in SSA form (with ϕ -functions removed)
- SSA form uses infinite registers (each temporary is a “register”)
- Must map these logical registers to physical machine registers

Problem and Setup

Must answer two main questions:

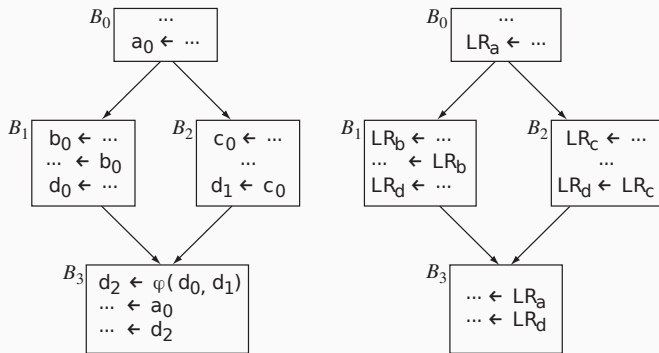
- How many physical registers are needed? (k is the number of physical registers)
 - $< k$, fewer than available – everybody gets a register!
 - $> k$, more than available – results in *spill code*
 - Spilled registers are stored in memory and reloaded later
- Which physical register is assigned to which variable?

Live Ranges

A *live range* is a set of all definitions and uses of the same variable such that:

- If a use u for variable i is in LR_i , then all definitions d that reach u are also in LR_i
- If a definition d for variable i is in LR_i , then all uses u reached by d are also in LR_i

Live range example

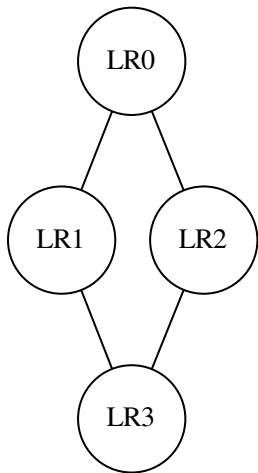


- Live ranges

- $LR_a = \{a_0\}$
- $LR_b = \{b_0\}$
- $LR_c = \{c_0\}$
- $LR_d = \{d_0, d_1, d_2\}$

Interference Graphs

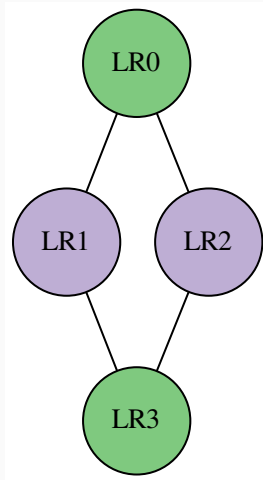
- Two live ranges "interfere" if they are both live at an operation
 - Implies that they must be in different registers
- Represented by an interference graph
 - Nodes are live ranges
 - An (undirected) edge between nodes n and m indicates interference



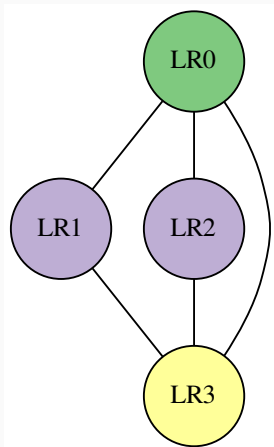
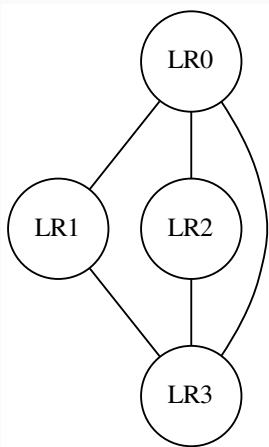
Register Allocation as Graph Coloring

Given an interference graph, the minimal number of physical registers required is equal to the *chromatic number* of the graph (due to Chaitin).

- Chromatic number is the minimum number of colors required such adjacent nodes have different colors
- NP-complete problem



Three Color Example



Parting thoughts

What order should instruction selection, instruction scheduling, and register allocation be performed?

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References

- Aho, Ganapathi, and Tjiang, Code Generation Using Tree Matching and Dynamic Programming, ACM TOPLAS *
 - Required reading for x455 students
- Blindell, Survey on Instruction Selection: An Extensive and Modern Literature Review, arXiv
 - Recommended reading for all
- Chapter 12 of Cooper and Torczon (Instruction Scheduling)
- Chapter 13 of Cooper and Torczon (Register Allocation)
- Also recommended: Chapter 8 of the Dragon Book