CS 526
Advanced Compiler Construction
http://misailo.cs.illinois.edu/courses/cs526
Goals of the Course

Develop a fundamental understanding of the major approaches to program analysis and optimization

Understand published research on various novel compiler techniques

Solve a significant compiler problem by reading the literature and implementing your solution in LLVM

Learn about current research in compiler technology
Compiler Overview

Preprocessing Source
- Automatic Parallelization
- Vectorization
- Cache Management
- Performance Modeling

Code Generation
- Source Code Portability
- Back-end Optimizations
- Static Profiling
- Power Management

Linking/Loading
- Interprocedural optimization
- Load-time optimization
- Security checking

Runtime compilation
- JIT code generation
- Runtime optimization
- Fault tolerance
COMPILER = Program Analysis + Program Transformation
Compiler Overview

Program → Front-end → Optimizer → Back-end
COURSE LOGISTICS
Schedule

Twice a week – Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:45 pm

Course Format

• Lectures – most of the weeks (sometimes guest)
• Projects – two programming assignments (LLVM)
• Exams – midterm and final exams
• Mini-quizzes – before (almost) every lecture
Prerequisites

Helpful (I will assume you took it):
Basic compilers course (e.g., CS 426)

Also helpful:
Basic programming languages course (e.g., CS 421)

Basic computer architecture (e.g., CS 233)

Most important: commitment to learn as you go
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Miniquizzes

**Test background** knowledge (like the one today)

- **5 minutes** at the beginning of the class
- Concept from compiler theory, something that was covered in previous courses or lectures
- We will discuss the solution immediately afterwards

Each miniquiz is **worth ~0.5%** (up to 10%).

- **Self-graded**, the main purpose is to bring everyone to the same page before we start the discussions
- In total 25 quizzes; can miss 5 without penalty
Exams

Midterm
• In class (March 16; before the break)
• Focuses on analysis (SSA, dataflow, dependency)
• 75 minutes

Final
• In the finals week
• Pointer analysis, optimization and special topics
• Also include the materials from the midterm
• Up to 3 hours
Books

No official book, but many times you will need to look into one of these:

Available online via Illinois University Library

- Engineering a Compiler
  - Keith D. Cooper & Linda Torczon

- Advanced Compiler Design & Implementation
  - Steven S. Muchnick

- Optimizing Compilers for Modern Architectures
  - Randy Allen & Ken Kennedy
And More Books

No official book, but many times you will need to look into one of these:

Available online via the Publisher
Projects

Gain experience solving existing compiler problems

• Read the literature for the problems
• Find or develop a solution
• Implement the solution in a realistic compiler
• Test it on realistic benchmarks
Projects

P1 – Warm-up exercise:
• **Individual**, 3 weeks but do it sooner
• Scalar replacement of aggregates via SSA (Muchnick, Chapter 12)
• Goal: become familiar with the infrastructure

P2 – Main problem
• **Groups of two**, 12 weeks, also do it sooner!
• Choose and solve a harder problem (Suggestions coming soon)
Infrastructure

**LLVM: Low Level Virtual Machine** [http://llvm.org](http://llvm.org)

- Virtual instruction set: RISC-like, SSA-form
- Powerful link-time (interprocedural) optimization system
- Many front-ends: C/C++, D, Fortran, Julia, Haskell, Objective-C, OpenMP, OpenCL, Python, Swift, ...
- Software: 1.3M+ lines of C++
- Open source: In use at many universities and major companies
Infrastructure

Prepare for the project, during this week:
Read LLVM Documentation at http://llvm.org/docs:
Introduction to the LLVM Compiler Infrastructure

Follow instructions in the Getting Started and Writing an LLVM Pass guides to:
(a) Download LLVM 7.0.1, with Clang and test-suite
(b) Do a full build (no need to run "make install")
(c) Compile and run the “Hello” pass

Install on your EWS: ssh <netid>@linux.ews.illinois.edu
Get in Touch

Email: misailo@illinois.edu
• Please include “CS 526” in the subject line

Office: Siebel Center, office 4110

Office Hours:
• By appointment (send me an email)
• I am typically free right after the class
• We can organize dedicated office hours before the exams
QUESTIONS SO FAR?
CONTROL FLOW ANALYSIS

The slides adapted from Vikram Adve
Flow Graphs

Flow Graph: A triple $G=(N,A,s)$, where $(N,A)$ is a (finite) directed graph, $s \in N$ is a designated “initial” node, and there is a path from node $s$ to every node $n \in N$.

- An *entry node* in a flow graph has no predecessors.
- An *exit node* in a flow graph has no successors.
- There is exactly one entry node, $s$. We can modify a general DAG to ensure this. *How?*
Control Flow Graph (CFG)

**Flow Graph:** A triple $G=(N,A,s)$, where $(N,A)$ is a (finite) directed graph, $s \in N$ is a designated “initial” node, and there is a path from node $s$ to every node $n \in N$.

**Control Flow Graph (CFG)** is a flow graph that represents all *paths* (sequences of statements) that might be traversed during program execution.

- Nodes in CFG are program statements, and edge $(S_1,S_2)$ denotes that statement $S_1$ can be followed by $S_2$ in execution.
- In CFG, a node unreachable from $s$ can be safely deleted. *Why?*
- Control flow graphs are usually *sparse*. I.e., $|A| = O(|N|)$. In fact, if only binary branching is allowed $|A| \leq 2|N|$. 
Control Flow Graph (CFG)

**Basic Block** is a sequence of statements $S_1 \ldots S_n$ such that execution control must reach $S_1$ before $S_2$, and, if $S_1$ is executed, then $S_2 \ldots S_n$ are all executed in that order.

- Unless a statement causes the program to halt

**Leader** is the first statement of a basic block.

**Maximal Basic Block** is a basic block with a maximum number of statements ($n$)
Control Flow Graph (CFG)

Let us refine our previous definition

CFG is a directed graph in which:
• Each node is a single basic block
• There is an edge $b_1 \rightarrow b_2$ if block $b_2$ may be executed after block $b_1$ in some execution

We typically define it for a single procedure

A CFG is a conservative approximation of the control flow! Why?
Example

Source Code

unsigned fib(unsigned n) {
    int i;
    int f0 = 0, f1 = 1, f2;
    if (n <= 1) return n;
    for (i = 2; i <= n; i++) {
        f2 = f0 + f1;
        f0 = f1;
        f1 = f2;
    }
    return f2;
}

LLVM bitcode (ver 3.9.1)

define i32 @fib(i32) {
    %2 = icmp ult i32 %0, 2
    br i1 %2, label %12, label %3

    ; <label>:3:
    br label %4

    ; <label>:4:
    %5 = phi i32 [ %8, %4 ], [ 1, %3 ]
    %6 = phi i32 [ %5, %4 ], [ 0, %3 ]
    %7 = phi i32 [ %9, %4 ], [ 2, %3 ]
    %8 = add i32 %5, %6
    %9 = add i32 %7, 1
    %10 = icmp ugt i32 %9, %0
    br i1 %10, label %11, label %4

    ; <label>:11:
    br label %12

    ; <label>:12:
    %13 = phi i32 [ %0, %1 ], [ %8, %11 ]
    ret i32 %13
}
See You Next Time!

Review in the next few weeks:
Muchnick, Chapter 21: Case Studies of Compilers

Review by next Tuesday:
Cytron, Ferrante, Rosen, Wegman, and Zadeck,
“Efficiently Computing Static Single Assignment Form and the Control Dependence Graph,”
If you see this, I clicked a wrong button