COSE312: Compilers

Lecture 14 — Code Optimization (1)

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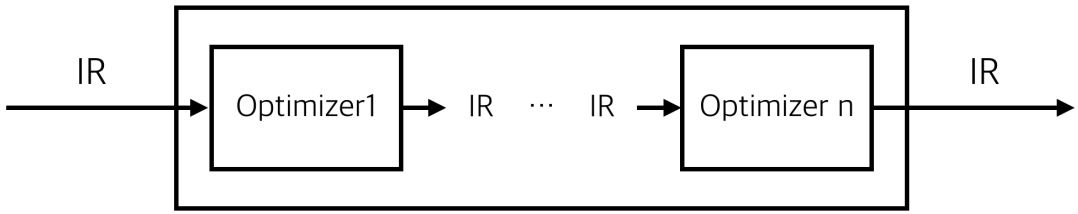
Optimizer



Common optimization passes:

- Common subexpressions elimination
- Copy propagation
- Deadcode elimination
- Constant folding

Common Subexpression Elimination

- An occurrence of an expression E is called a *common subexpression* if E was previously computed and the values of the variables in E have not changed since the previous computation.

```
x = 2*k+1
...          // no defs to k
y = 2*k+1
```

- We can avoid recomputing E by replacing E by the variable that holds the previous value of E.

```
x = 2*k+1
...          // no defs to k
y = x
```

Copy Propagation

After the copy statement $u = v$, use v for u unless u is re-defined.

```
u = v                          u = v
x = u + 1                      x = v + 1
u = x              =>          u = x
y = u + 2                      y = u + 2
```

Deadcode Elimination

- A variable is *live* at a point in a program if its value is used eventually; otherwise it is *dead* at that point.
- A statement is said to be *deadcode* if it computes values that never get used.

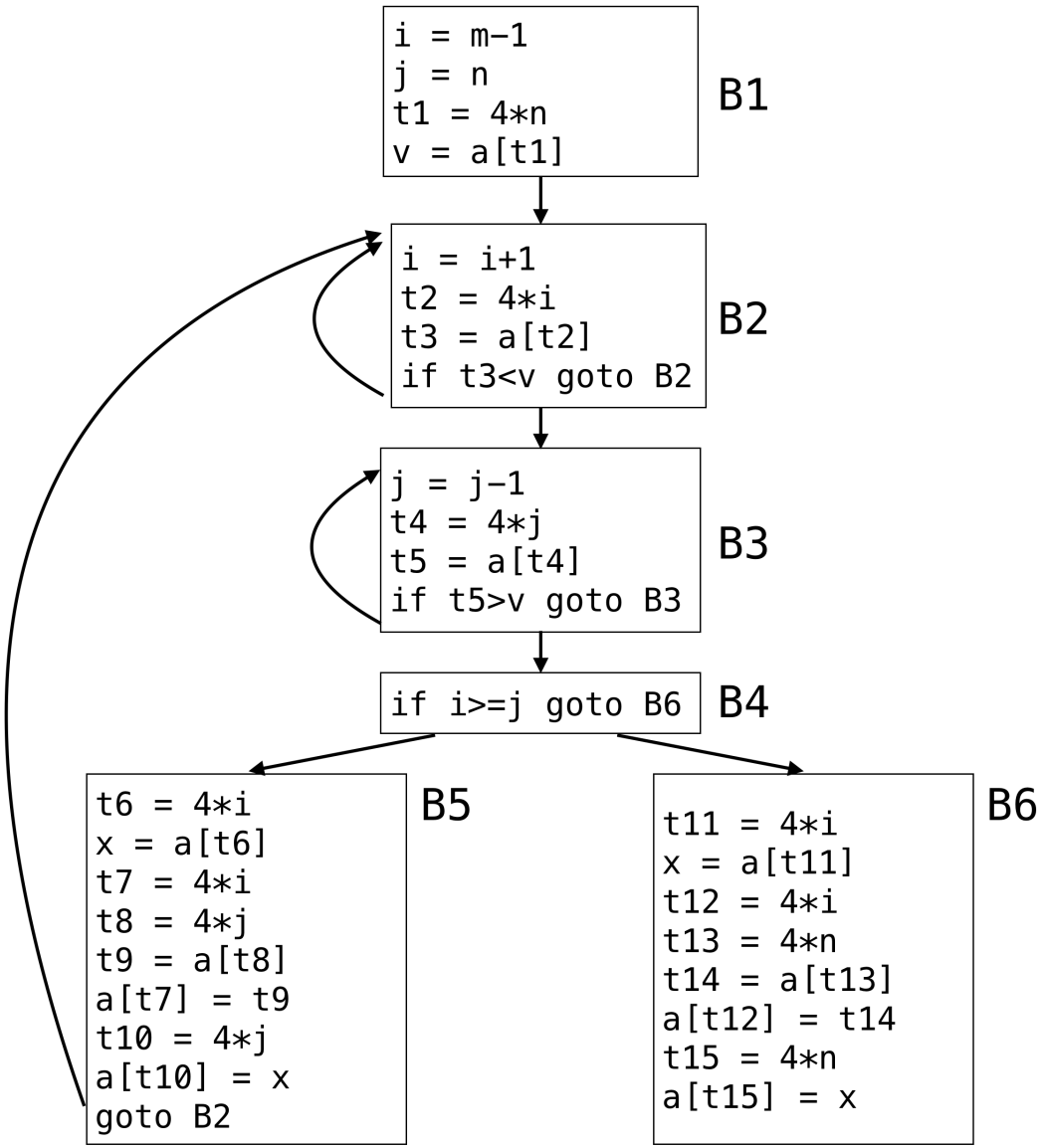
```
u = v      // deadcode
x = v + 1
u = x
y = u + 2
```

Constant Folding

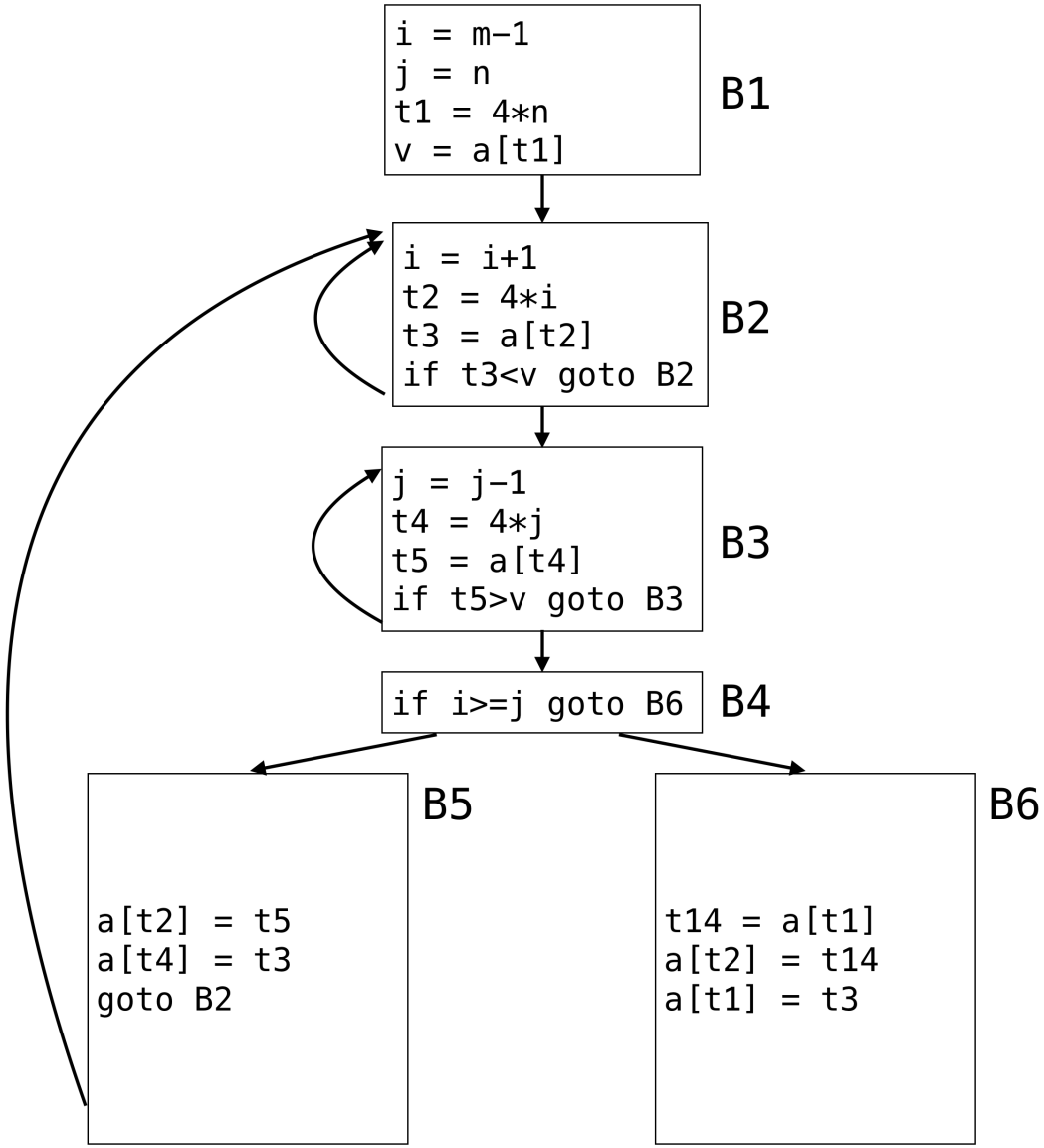
Decide that the value of an expression is a constant and use the constant instead.

```
c = 1                          c = 1
x = c + c          =>          x = 2
y = x + x                      y = 4
```

Example: Original Program



Example: Optimized Program



Data-Flow Analysis

A program analysis technique that derives information about the flow of data along program execution paths. Examples:

- Do the two textually identical expressions evaluate to the same value along any possible execution path of the program? (If so, we can apply common subexpression elimination)
- Is the result of an assignment not used along any subsequent execution path? (If so, we can apply deadcode elimination).