

Chapter # 12

Compiler Code Optimizations

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Compiler Code Optimizations

■ Introduction

- Optimized code
 - Executes faster
 - efficient memory usage
 - yielding better performance.
- Compilers can be designed to provide code optimization.
- Users should only focus on optimizations not provided by the compiler such as choosing a faster and/or less memory intensive algorithm.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- A Code optimizer sits between the front end and the code generator.
 - Works with intermediate code.
 - Can do control flow analysis.
 - Can do data flow analysis.
 - Does transformations to improve the intermediate code.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Optimizations provided by a compiler includes:
 - Inlining small functions
 - Code hoisting
 - Dead store elimination
 - Eliminating common sub-expressions
 - Loop unrolling
 - Loop optimizations: Code motion, Induction variable elimination, and Reduction in strength.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Inlining small functions
 - Repeatedly inserting the function code instead of calling it, saves the calling overhead and enable further optimizations.
 - Inlining large functions will make the executable too large.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Code hoisting
 - Moving computations outside loops
 - Saves computing time

Compiler Code Optimizations

■ Code hoisting

- In the following example $(2.0 * \text{PI})$ is an invariant expression there is no reason to recompute it 100 times.

```
DO I = 1, 100
    ARRAY(I) = 2.0 * PI * I
ENDDO
```

- By introducing a temporary variable 't' it can be transformed to:

```
t = 2.0 * PI
DO I = 1, 100
    ARRAY(I) = t * I
END DO
```

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Dead store elimination
 - If the compiler detects variables that are never used, it may safely ignore many of the operations that compute their values.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Eliminating common sub-expressions
 - Optimization compilers are able to perform quite well:

$$X = A * \text{LOG}(Y) + (\text{LOG}(Y) ** 2)$$

- Introduce an explicit temporary variable t:

$$t = \text{LOG}(Y)$$

$$X = A * t + (t ** 2)$$

- Saves one 'heavy' function call, by an elimination of the common sub-expression LOG(Y), the exponentiation now is:

$$X = (A + t) * t$$

Compiler Code Optimizations

■ Loop unrolling

- The loop exit checks cost CPU time.
- Loop unrolling tries to get rid of the checks completely or to reduce the number of checks.
- If you know a loop is only performed a certain number of times, or if you know the number of times it will be repeated is a multiple of a constant you can unroll this loop.

Compiler Code Optimizations

- Loop unrolling

- Example:

```
// old loop
for(int i=0; i<3; i++) {
    color_map[n+i] = i;
}
```

```
// unrolled version
int i = 0;
colormap[n+i] = i;
i++;
colormap[n+i] = i;
i++;
colormap[n+i] = i;
```

Compiler Code Optimizations

■ Code Motion

- Any code inside a loop that always computes the same value can be moved before the loop.
- Example:

```
while (i <= limit-2)
do {loop code}
```

where the loop code doesn't change the limit variable. The subtraction, `limit-2`, will be inside the loop. Code motion would substitute:

```
t = limit-2;
while (i <= t)
do {loop code}
```

Compiler Code Optimizations

■ Conclusion

- Compilers can provide some code optimization.
- Programmers do have to worry about such optimizations.
- Program definition must be preserved.

- End of Chapter # 12