

Global Optimization

Lecture 19

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Lecture Outline

- Global flow analysis
- Global constant propagation
- Liveness analysis

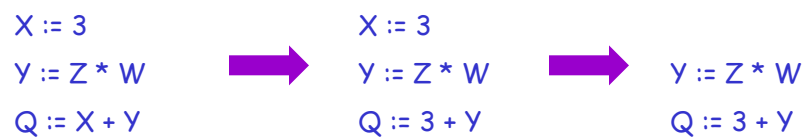
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Local Optimization

Recall the simple basic-block optimizations

- Constant propagation
- Dead code elimination

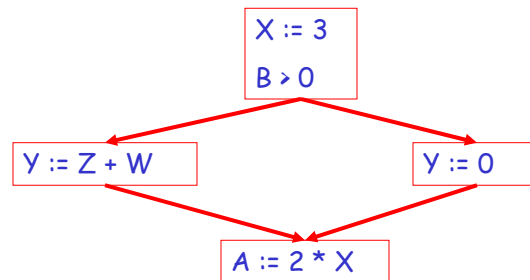


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Global Optimization

These optimizations can be extended to an entire control-flow graph

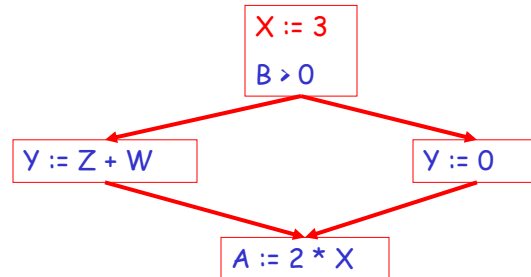


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Global Optimization

These optimizations can be extended to an entire control-flow graph

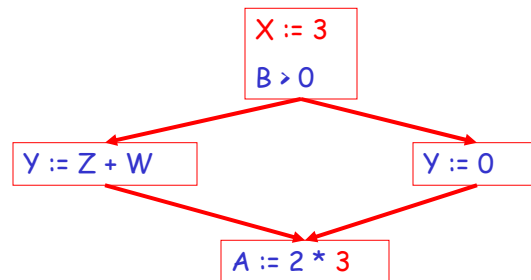


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Global Optimization

These optimizations can be extended to an entire control-flow graph

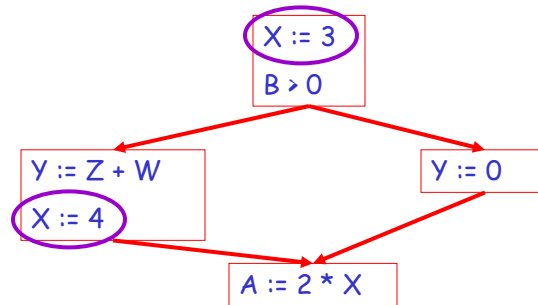


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Correctness

- How do we know it is OK to globally propagate constants?
- There are situations where it is incorrect:



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Correctness (Cont.)

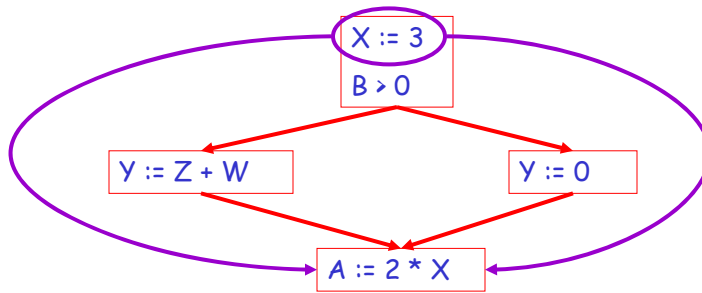
To replace a use of `x` by a constant `k` we must know that:

*On every path to the use of `x`, the last assignment to `x` is `x := k` ***

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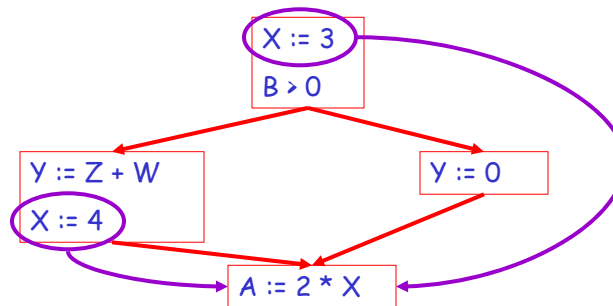
Example 1 Revisited



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Example 2 Revisited



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Discussion

- The correctness condition is not trivial to check
- "All paths" includes paths around loops and through branches of conditionals
- Checking the condition requires global analysis
 - An analysis of the entire control-flow graph for one method body

Global Analysis

Global optimization tasks share several traits:

- The optimization depends on knowing a property P at a particular point in program execution
- Proving P at any point requires knowledge of the entire method body
- Property P is typically undecidable !

Undecidability of Program Properties

- Rice's theorem: Most interesting dynamic properties of a program are undecidable:
 - Does the program halt on all (some) inputs?
 - This is called the halting problem
 - Is the result of a function **F** always positive?
 - Assume we can answer this question precisely
 - Take function **H** and find out if it halts by testing function `F(x) { H(x); return 1; }` whether it has positive result
- Syntactic properties are decidable !
 - E.g., How many occurrences of "x" are there?
- Same for programs without looping

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Conservative Program Analyses

- So, we cannot tell for sure that "x" is always 3
 - Then, how can we apply constant propagation?
- It is OK to be conservative. If the optimization requires **P** to be true, then want to know either
 - **P** is definitely true
 - Don't know if **P** is true
- It is always correct to say "don't know"
 - We try to say don't know as rarely as possible
- All program analyses are conservative

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Global Analysis (Cont.)

- *Global dataflow analysis* is a standard technique for solving problems with these characteristics
- Global constant propagation is one example of an optimization that requires global dataflow analysis

Global Constant Propagation

- Global constant propagation can be performed at any point where ****** holds
- Consider the case of computing ****** for a single variable **X** at all program points

Global Constant Propagation (Cont.)

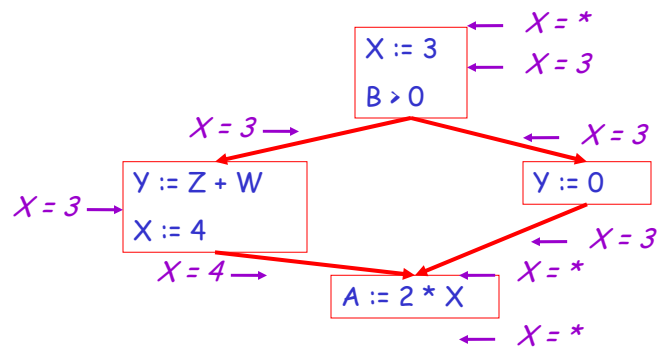
- To make the problem precise, we associate one of the following values with X at every program point

<i>value</i>	<i>interpretation</i>
#	This statement is not reachable
c	$X = \text{constant } c$
*	Don't know if X is a constant

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Example



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Using the Information

- Given global constant information, it is easy to perform the optimization
 - Simply inspect the $x = ?$ associated with a statement using x
 - If x is constant at that point replace that use of x by the constant
- But how do we compute the properties $x = ?$

The Idea

The analysis of a complicated program can be expressed as a combination of simple rules relating the change in information between adjacent statements

Explanation

- The idea is to “push” or “transfer” information from one statement to the next
- For each statement s , we compute information about the value of x immediately before and after s

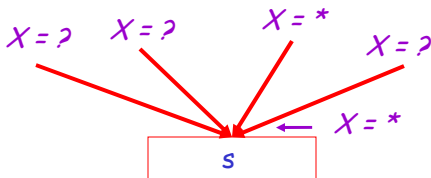
$C_{in}(x,s)$ = value of x before s

$C_{out}(x,s)$ = value of x after s

Transfer Functions

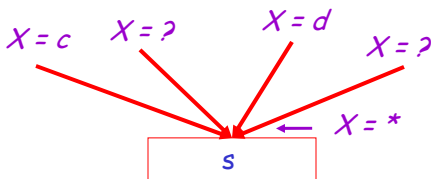
- Define a transfer function that transfers information from one statement to another
- In the following rules, let statement s have immediate predecessor statements p_1, \dots, p_n

Rule 1



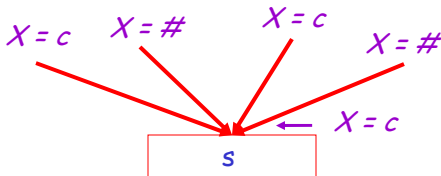
if $C_{out}(x, p_i) = *$ for some i , then $C_{in}(x, s) = *$

Rule 2



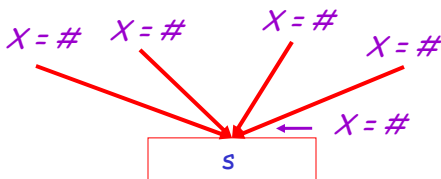
If $C_{out}(x, p_i) = c$ and $C_{out}(x, p_j) = d$ and $d \neq c$
then $C_{in}(x, s) = *$

Rule 3



if $C_{\text{out}}(x, p_i) = c$ or $\#$ for all i ,
then $C_{\text{in}}(x, s) = c$

Rule 4

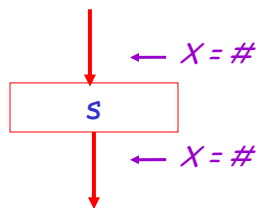


if $C_{\text{out}}(x, p_i) = \#$ for all i ,
then $C_{\text{in}}(x, s) = \#$

The Other Half

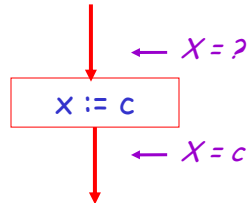
- Rules 1-4 relate the *out* of one statement to the *in* of the successor statement
 - they propagate information forward across CFG edges
- Now we need rules relating the *in* of a statement to the *out* of the same statement
 - to propagate information across statements

Rule 5



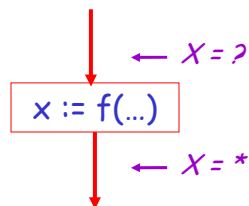
$$C_{\text{out}}(x, s) = \# \text{ if } C_{\text{in}}(x, s) = \#$$

Rule 6



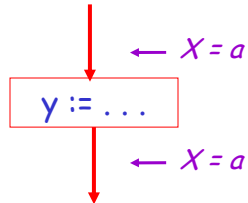
$C_{\text{out}}(x, x := c) = c$ if c is a constant

Rule 7



$C_{\text{out}}(x, x := f(\dots)) = *$

Rule 8



$$C_{\text{out}}(x, y := \dots) = C_{\text{in}}(x, y := \dots) \text{ if } x \neq y$$

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An Algorithm

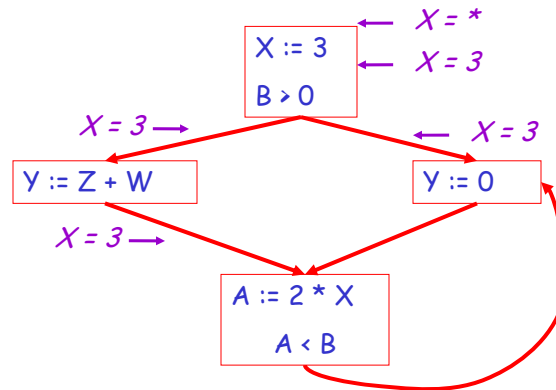
1. For every entry s to the program, set $C_{\text{in}}(x, s) = *$
2. Set $C_{\text{in}}(x, s) = C_{\text{out}}(x, s) = \#$ everywhere else
3. Repeat until all points satisfy 1-8:
Pick s not satisfying 1-8 and update using the appropriate rule

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The Value

- To understand why we need #, look at a loop



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Discussion

- Consider the statement $Y := 0$
- To compute whether X is constant at this point, we need to know whether X is constant at the two predecessors
 - $X := 3$
 - $A := 2 * X$
- But info for $A := 2 * X$ depends on its predecessors, including $Y := 0$!

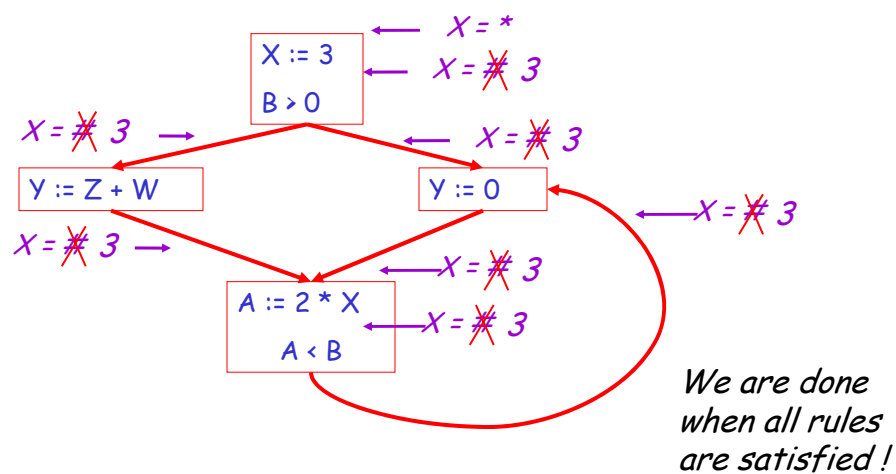
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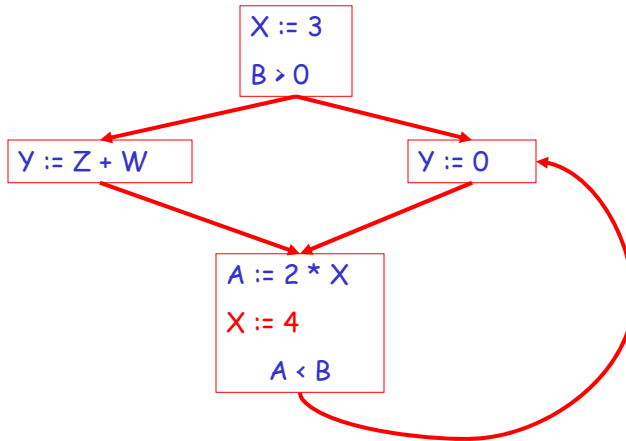
The Value # (Cont.)

- Because of cycles, all points must have values at all times
- Intuitively, assigning some initial value allows the analysis to break cycles
- The initial value # means "So far as we know, control never reaches this point"

Example



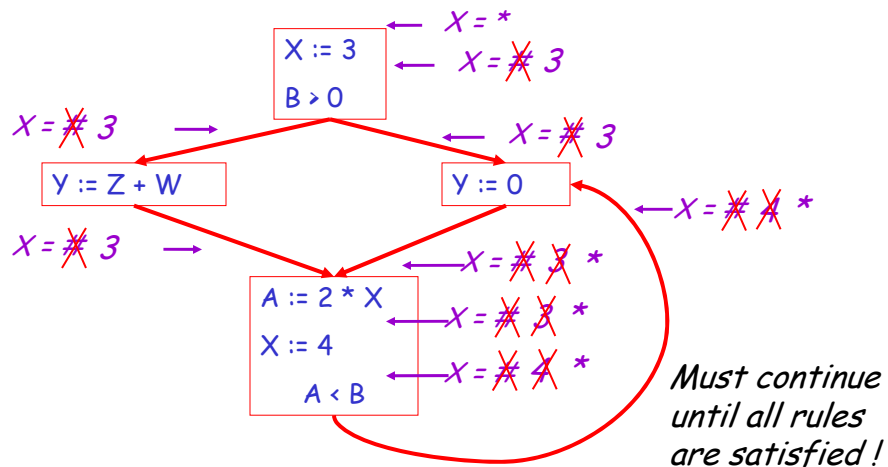
Another Example



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Another Example



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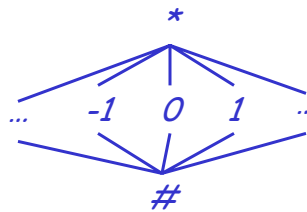
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Orderings

- We can simplify the presentation of the analysis by ordering the values

$$\# < c < *$$

- Drawing a picture with "lower" values drawn lower, we get



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Orderings (Cont.)

- $*$ is the greatest value, $\#$ is the least
 - All constants are in between and incomparable
- Let lub be the least-upper bound in this ordering
- Rules 1-4 can be written using lub :
$$C_{in}(x, s) = lub \{ C_{out}(x, p) \mid p \text{ is a predecessor of } s \}$$

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Termination

- Simply saying "repeat until nothing changes" doesn't guarantee that eventually nothing changes
- The use of lub explains why the algorithm terminates
 - Values start as $\#$ and only *increase*
 - $\#$ can change to a constant, and a constant to $*$
 - Thus, $C_(x, s)$ can change at most twice

Termination (Cont.)

Thus the algorithm is linear in program size

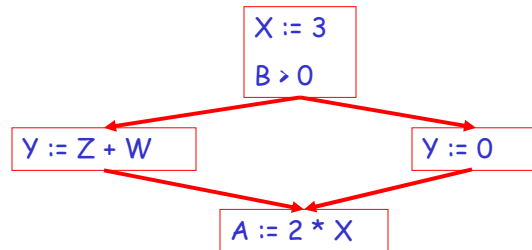
Number of steps =

Number of $C_(\dots)$ values computed * 2 =

Number of program statements * 4

Liveness Analysis

Once constants have been globally propagated, we would like to eliminate dead code



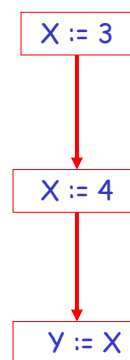
After constant propagation, `X := 3` is dead (assuming this is the entire CFG)

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Live and Dead

- The first value of `x` is *dead* (never used)
- The second value of `x` is *live* (may be used)
- Liveness is an important concept



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Liveness

A variable x is live at statement s if

- There exists a statement s' that uses x
- There is a path from s to s'
- That path has no intervening assignment to x

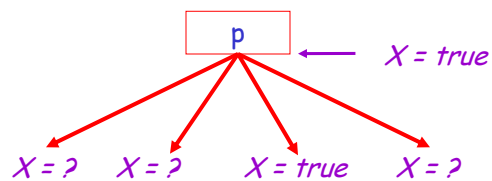
Global Dead Code Elimination

- A statement $x := \dots$ is dead code if x is dead after the assignment
- Dead statements can be deleted from the program
- But we need liveness information first . . .

Computing Liveness

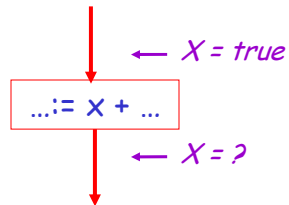
- We can express liveness in terms of information transferred between adjacent statements, just as in copy propagation
- Liveness is simpler than constant propagation, since it is a boolean property (true or false)

Liveness Rule 1



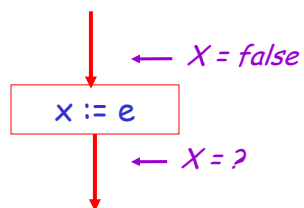
$$L_{\text{out}}(x, p) = \vee \{ L_{\text{in}}(x, s) \mid s \text{ a successor of } p \}$$

Liveness Rule 2



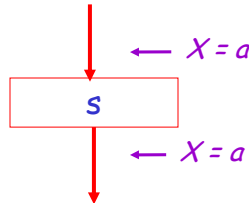
$L_{in}(x, s) = true$ if s refers to x on the rhs

Liveness Rule 3



$L_{in}(x, x := e) = false$ if e does not refer to x

Liveness Rule 4

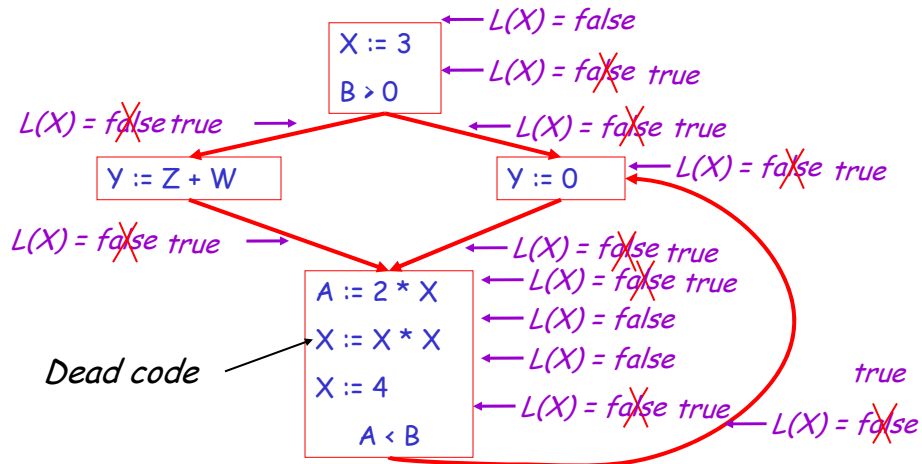


$L_{in}(x, s) = L_{out}(x, s)$ if s does not refer to x

Algorithm

1. Let all $L_{in}(\dots) = \text{false}$ initially
2. Repeat until all statements s satisfy rules 1-4
Pick s where one of 1-4 does not hold and update using the appropriate rule

Another Example



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Termination

- A value can change from **false** to **true**, but not the other way around
- Each value can change only once, so termination is guaranteed
- Once the analysis is computed, it is simple to eliminate dead code

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Forward vs. Backward Analysis

We've seen two kinds of analysis:

Constant propagation is a *forwards* analysis:
information is pushed from inputs to outputs

Liveness is a *backwards* analysis: information is
pushed from outputs back towards inputs

Analysis

- There are many other global flow analyses
- Most can be classified as either forward or backward
- Most also follow the methodology of local rules relating information between adjacent program points