



Intermediate-Code Generation

Cosmin E. Oancea

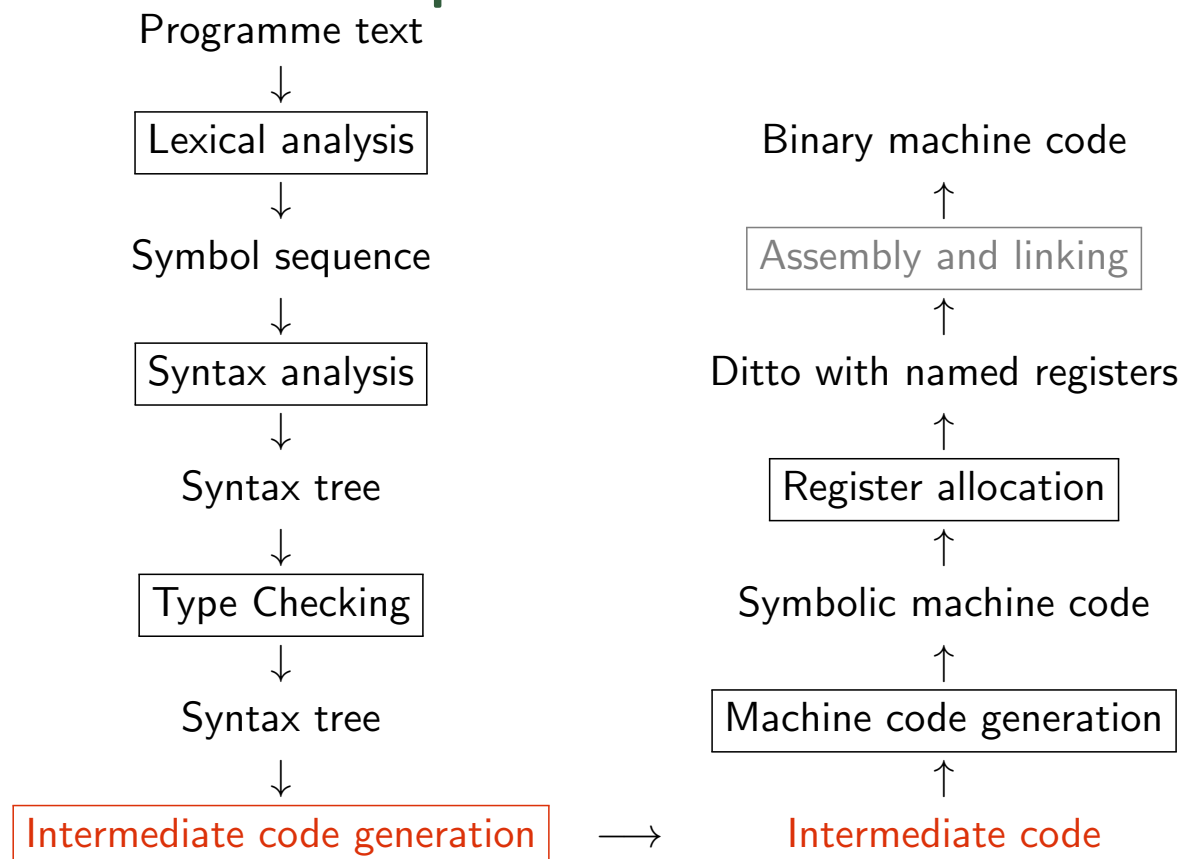
cosmin.oancea@diku.dk

Department of Computer Science
University of Copenhagen

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Structure of a Compiler



- 1 Why Intermediate Code?
 - Intermediate Language
 - To-Be-Translated Language

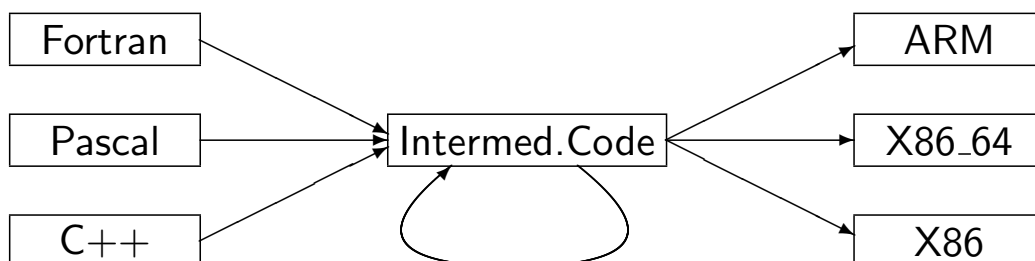
- 2 Syntax-Directed Translation
 - Arithmetic Expressions
 - Statements
 - Boolean Expressions, Sequential Evaluation

- 3 Translating More Complex Structures
 - More Control Structures
 - Arrays and Other Structured Data
 - Role of Declarations in the Translation



Why Intermediate Code

- Compilers for different platforms and languages can share parts



- Machine-independent optimisations are possible
- Also enables interpretation. . .



Intermediate Language IL

- **Machine Independent:** no limit on register and memory, no machine-specific instructions.
- **Mid-level(s)** between source and machine languages (**tradeoff**): simpler constructs, easier to generate machine code
- What features/constructs should IL support?
 - every translation loses information;
 - use the information before losing it!
- How complex should IL's instruction be?
 - complex: good for interpretation (amortizes instruction-decoding overhead),
 - simple: can more easily generate optimal machine code.



Intermediate Language

Here: Low-level language, but keeping functions (procedures).

Small instructions:

- **3-address code:** one operation per expression.
- **Memory read/write (M)** (address is atom).
- **Jump labels, GOTO and conditional jump (IF).**
- **Function calls and returns**

<i>Prg</i>	→	<i>Fcts</i>
<i>Fcts</i>	→	<i>Fct Fcts</i> <i>Fct</i>
<i>Fct</i>	→	<i>Hdr Bd</i>
<i>Hdr</i>	→	functionid (<i>Args</i>)
<i>Bd</i>	→	[<i>Instrs</i>]
<i>Instrs</i>	→	<i>Instr</i> ; <i>Instrs</i> <i>Instr</i>
<i>Instr</i>	→	id := <i>Atom</i> id := unop <i>Atom</i> id := id binop <i>Atom</i> id := <i>M</i> [<i>Atom</i>] <i>M</i> [<i>Atom</i>] := id LABEL <i>label</i> GOTO <i>label</i> IF <i>id relop</i> <i>Atom</i> THEN <i>label</i> ELSE <i>label</i> id := CALL functionid (<i>Args</i>) RETURN <i>id</i>
<i>Atom</i>	→	id num
<i>Args</i>	→	id , <i>Args</i> id



The To-Be-Translated Language

We shall translate a simple procedural language:

- Arithmetic expressions and function calls, boolean expressions,
- conditional branching (`if`),
- two loops constructs (`while` and `repeat until`).

Syntax-directed translation:

- In practice we work directly on the abstract-syntax tree `ABSYN` (but here we use a generic-grammar notation)
- Implement each syntactic category via a **translation function**: Arithmetic expressions, Boolean expressions, Statements.
- Code for subtrees is generated independent of context (i.e., context is a parameter to the translation function)



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Translating Arithmetic Expressions

Expressions in Source Language

- Variables and number literals,
- unary and binary operations,
- function calls (with argument list).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Exp} &\rightarrow \text{num} \mid \text{id} \\ &\quad \mid \text{unop } \text{Exp} \\ &\quad \mid \text{Exp } \text{binop } \text{Exp} \\ &\quad \mid \text{id}(\text{Exps}) \\ \text{Exps} &\rightarrow \text{Exp} \mid \text{Exp} , \text{Exps} \end{aligned}$$

Translation function:

$$\text{Trans}_{\text{Exp}} :: (\text{Exp}, \text{VTable}, \text{FTable}, \text{Location}) \rightarrow [\text{ICode}]$$

- Returns a list of intermediate code instructions [ICode] that ...
- ... upon execution, computes Exp's result in variable Location.
- Case analysis on Exp's abstract syntax tree (ABSYN).



Symbol Tables and Helper Functions

Translation function:

$$\text{Trans}_{\text{Exp}} :: (\text{Exp}, \text{VTable}, \text{FTable}, \text{Location}) \rightarrow [\text{ICode}]$$

Symbol Tables

- vtable* : variable names to intermediate code variables
- ftable* : function names to function labels (for call)

Helper Functions

- lookup*: retrieve entry from a symbol table
- getvalue*: retrieve value of source language literal
- getname*: retrieve name of source language variable/operation
- newvar*: make new intermediate code variable
- newlabel*: make new label (for jumps in intermediate code)
- trans_op*: translates an operator name to the name in IL.



Generating Code for an Expression

$Trans_{Exp} : (Exp, VTable, FTable, Location) \rightarrow [ICode]$

$Trans_{Exp}(exp, vtable, ftable, place) = \text{case } exp \text{ of}$

num	$v = \text{getvalue}(\text{num})$ $[place := v]$
id	$x = \text{lookup}(vtable, \text{getname}(\text{id}))$ $[place := x]$
unop Exp_1	$place_1 = \text{newvar}()$ $code_1 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp_1, vtable, ftable, place_1)$ $op = \text{trans_op}(\text{getname}(\text{unop}))$ $code_1 @ [place := op\ place_1]$
Exp_1 binop Exp_2	$place_1 = \text{newvar}()$ $place_2 = \text{newvar}()$ $code_1 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp_1, vtable, ftable, place_1)$ $code_2 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp_2, vtable, ftable, place_2)$ $op = \text{trans_op}(\text{getname}(\text{binop}))$ $code_1 @ code_2 @ [place := place_1\ op\ place_2]$



Generating Code for a Function Call

$Trans_{Exp}(exp, vtable, ftable, place) = \text{case } exp \text{ of } \dots$

id ($Exps$)	$(code_1, [a_1, \dots, a_n]) = Trans_{Exps}(Exps, vtable, ftable)$ $fname = \text{lookup}(ftable, \text{getname}(\text{id}))$ $code_1 @ [place := \text{CALL } fname(a_1, \dots, a_n)]$
----------------------	---

$Trans_{Exps}$ returns the code that evaluates the function's parameters, and the list of new-intermediate variables (that store the result).

$Trans_{Exps} : (Exps, VTable, FTable) \rightarrow ([ICode], [Location])$

$Trans_{Exps}(exps, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } exps \text{ of}$

Exp	$place = \text{newvar}()$ $code_1 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, place)$ $(code_1, [place])$
$Exp, Exps$	$place = \text{newvar}()$ $code_1 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, place)$ $(code_2, args) = Trans_{Exps}(Exps, vtable, ftable)$ $code_3 = code_1 @ code_2$ $args_1 = place :: args$ $(code_3, args_1)$



Translation Example

Assume the following symbol tables:

- $vtable = [x \mapsto v0, y \mapsto v1, z \mapsto v2]$
- $ftable = [f \mapsto _F_1]$

Translation of Exp with $place = t0$:

- $Exp = x - 3$

```

t1 := v0
t2 := 3
t0 := t1 - t2

```
- $Exp = 3 + f(x - y, z)$

```

t1 := 3
t4 := v0
t5 := v1
t3 := t4 - t5
t6 := v2
t2 := CALL _F_1(t3, t6)
t0 := t1 + t2

```



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Translating Statements

Statements in Source Language

- Sequence of statements
- Assignment
- Conditional Branching
- Loops: while and repeat
(simple conditions for now)

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{Stat} ; \text{Stat} \\
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{id} := \text{Exp} \\
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{if } \text{Cond} \text{ then } \{ \text{Stat} \} \\
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{if } \text{Cond} \text{ then } \{ \text{Stat} \} \text{ else } \{ \text{Stat} \} \\
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{while } \text{Cond} \text{ do } \{ \text{Stat} \} \\
 \text{Stat} \rightarrow \text{repeat } \{ \text{Stat} \} \text{ until } \text{Cond} \\
 \text{Cond} \rightarrow \text{Exp } \text{relop} \text{ Exp}
 \end{array}$$

We assume relational operators translate directly (using `trans_op`).

Translation function:

$$\text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}} :: (\text{Stat}, \text{VTable}, \text{FTable}) \rightarrow [\text{ICode}]$$

- As before: syntax-directed, case analysis on `Stat`
- Intermediate code instructions for statements



Generating Code for Sequences, Assignments,...

$$\text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}} : (\text{Stat}, \text{Vtable}, \text{Ftable}) \rightarrow [\text{ICode}]$$

$$\text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}}(\text{stat}, \text{vtable}, \text{ftable}) = \text{case } \text{stat} \text{ of}$$

$\text{Stat}_1 ; \text{Stat}_2$	$\text{code}_1 = \text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}}(\text{Stat}_1, \text{vtable}, \text{ftable})$ $\text{code}_2 = \text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}}(\text{Stat}_2, \text{vtable}, \text{ftable})$ $\text{code}_1 @ \text{code}_2$
$\text{id} := \text{Exp}$	$\text{place} = \text{lookup}(\text{vtable}, \text{getname}(\text{id}))$ $\text{Trans}_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Exp}, \text{vtable}, \text{ftable}, \text{place})$

... (rest coming soon)

- Sequence of statements, sequence of code.
- Symbol tables are inherited attributes.



Generating Code for Conditional Jumps: Helper

- Helper function for loops and branches
- Evaluates *Cond*, i.e., a boolean expression, then jumps to one of two labels, depending on result

$Trans_{cond} : (Cond, Label, Label, Vtable, Ftable) \rightarrow [ICode]$

$Trans_{Cond}(cond, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } cond \text{ of}$

```

Exp1 relop Exp2  t1 = newvar()
                   t2 = newvar()
                   code1 = TransExp(Exp1, vtable, ftable, t1)
                   code2 = TransExp(Exp2, vtable, ftable, t2)
                   op = trans_op(getname(relop))
                   code1 @ code2 @ [IF t1 op t2 THEN labelt ELSE labelf]

```

- Uses the IF of the intermediate language
- Expressions need to be evaluated before
(restricted IF: only variables and atoms can be used)



Generating Code for If-Statements

- Generate new labels for branches and following code
- Translate If statement to a conditional jump

$Trans_{stat}(stat, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } stat \text{ of}$

```

if Cond  labelt = newlabel()
then Stat1 labelf = newlabel()
          code1 = TransCond(Cond, labelt, labelf, vtable, ftable)
          code2 = TransStat(Stat1, vtable, ftable)
          code1 @ [LABEL labelt] @ code2 @ [LABEL labelf]

```

```

if Cond  labelt = newlabel()
then Stat1 labelf = newlabel()
else Stat2 labele = newlabel()
          code1 = TransCond(Cond, labelt, labelf, vtable, ftable)
          code2 = TransStat(Stat1, vtable, ftable)
          code3 = TransStat(Stat2, vtable, ftable)
          code1 @ [LABEL labelt] @ code2 @ [GOTO labele]
          @ [LABEL labelf] @ code3 @ [LABEL labele]

```



Generating Code for Loops

- repeat-until loop is the easy case:
Execute body, check condition, jump back if false.
- while loop needs check before body, one extra label needed.

$Trans_{Stat}(stat, vtable, ftable) =$ case $stat$ of

repeat $Stat$	$label_f = \text{newlabel}()$
until $Cond$	$label_t = \text{newlabel}()$
	$code_1 = Trans_{Stat}(Stat, vtable, ftable)$
	$code_2 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable)$
	$[LABEL\ label_f] @ code_1 @ code_2 @ [LABEL\ label_t]$
while $Cond$	$label_s = \text{newlabel}()$
do $Stat$	$label_t = \text{newlabel}()$
	$label_f = \text{newlabel}()$
	$code_1 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable)$
	$code_2 = Trans_{Stat}(Stat, vtable, ftable)$
	$[LABEL\ label_s] @ code_1$
	$@ [LABEL\ label_t] @ code_2 @ [GOTO\ label_s]$
	$@ [LABEL\ label_f]$



Translation Example

- Symbol table $vtable$: $[x \mapsto v_0, y \mapsto v_1, z \mapsto v_2]$
- Symbol table $ftable$: $[\text{getInt} \mapsto \text{libIO_getInt}]$

```
x := 3;
y := getInt();
z := 1;
while y > 0
  y := y - 1;
  z := z * x
```

```
v_0 := 3
v_1 := CALL libIO_getInt()
v_2 := 1
LABEL l_s
  t_1 := v_1
  t_2 := 0
  IF t_1 > t_2 THEN l_t else l_f
LABEL l_t
  t_3 := v_1
  t_4 := 1
  v_1 := t_3 - t_4
  t_5 := v_2
  t_6 := v_0
  v_2 := t_5 * t_6
GOTO l_s
LABEL l_f
```



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More Complex Conditions, Boolean Expressions

Boolean Expressions as Conditions

- Arithmetic expressions used as Boolean
- Logical operators (not, and, or)
- Boolean expressions used in arithmetics

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Cond} \rightarrow \text{Exp relop Exp} \\
 \quad \quad \quad | \text{Exp} \\
 \quad \quad \quad | \text{not Cond} \\
 \quad \quad \quad | \text{Cond and Cond} \\
 \quad \quad \quad | \text{Cond or Cond} \\
 \\
 \text{Exp} \rightarrow \dots | \text{Cond}
 \end{array}$$

We extend the translation functions $Trans_{Exp}$ and $Trans_{Cond}$:

- Interpret numeric values as Boolean expressions: 0 is **false**, all other values **true**.
- Likewise: truth values as arithmetic expressions



Numbers and Boolean Values, Negation

Expressions as Boolean values, negation:

$Trans_{Cond} : (Cond, Label, Label, Vtable, Ftable) \rightarrow [ICode]$

$Trans_{Cond}(cond, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } cond \text{ of}$

...

Exp $t = \text{newvar}()$
 $code = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, t)$
 $code @ [IF t \neq 0 THEN label_t ELSE label_f]$

not $Cond$ $Trans_{Cond}(Cond, label_f, label_t, vtable, ftable)$

...

Conversion of Boolean values to numbers (by jumps):

$Trans_{Exp} : (Exp, Label, Label, Vtable, Ftable) \rightarrow [ICode]$

$Trans_{Exp}(exp, vtable, ftable, place) = \text{case } exp \text{ of}$

...

$Cond$ $label_1 = \text{newlabel}()$
 $label_2 = \text{newlabel}()$
 $t = \text{newvar}()$
 $code = Trans_{Cond}(Cond, label_1, label_2, vtable, ftable)$
 $[t := 0] @ code @ [LABEL label_1, t := 1] @ [LABEL label_2, place := t]$



Fasto Implementation for Conditionals/Comparisons

Fasto Implementation

```
fun compileExp e vtable place = case e of
```

```
  ...
```

```
  | Fasto.If (e1,e2,e3,pos) =>
```

```
    let val thenLab="..." val elseLab="..." val endLab="..."
```

```
        val code1 = compileCond e1 vtable thenLab elseLab
```

```
        val code2 = compileExp e2 vtable place
```

```
        val code3 = compileExp e3 vtable place
```

```
    in code1 @ [Mips.LABEL thenLab] @ code2 @ [Mips.J endLab] @
```

```
        [Mips.LABEL elseLab] @ code3 @ [Mips.LABEL endLab] end
```

```
and compileCond c vtable tlab flab = case c of
```

```
  Fasto.Equal (e1,e2,pos) =>
```

```
    let val t1 = "..." val t2 = "..."
```

```
        val code1 = compileExp e1 vtable t1
```

```
        val code2 = compileExp e2 vtable t2
```

```
    in code1 @ code2 @ [Mips.BEQ (t1,t2,tlab), Mips.J flab] end
```



Sequential Evaluation of Conditions

```
Moscow ML version 2.01 (January 2004)
Enter 'quit();' to quit.
- fun f l = if (hd l = 1) then "one" else "not one";
> val f = fn : int list -> string
- f [];
! Uncaught exception:
! Empty
```

In most languages, logical operators are **evaluated sequentially**.

- If $B_1 = \text{false}$, do not evaluate B_2 in $B_1 \&\& B_2$ (anyway *false*).
- If $B_1 = \text{true}$, do not evaluate B_2 in $B_1 || B_2$ (anyway *true*).

```
- fun g l = if not (null l) andalso (hd l = 1) then "one" else "not one";
> val g = fn : int list -> string
- g [];
> val it = "not one" : string
```



Sequential Evaluation by “Jumping Code”

$Trans_{Cond} : \text{Cond}, \text{Label}, \text{Label}, \text{Vtable}, \text{Ftable}) \rightarrow [\text{ICode}]$
 $Trans_{Cond}(\text{cond}, \text{label}_t, \text{label}_f, \text{vtable}, \text{ftable}) = \text{case } \text{cond} \text{ of}$

...	
$Cond_1$	$label_{next} = \text{newlabel}()$
and	$code_1 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond_1, label_{next}, label_f, vtable, ftable)$
$Cond_2$	$code_2 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond_2, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable)$
	$code_1 @ [\text{LABEL } label_{next}] @ code_2$
$Cond_1$	$label_{next} = \text{newlabel}()$
or	$code_1 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond_1, label_t, label_{next}, vtable, ftable)$
$Cond_2$	$code_2 = Trans_{Cond}(Cond_2, label_t, label_f, vtable, ftable)$
	$code_1 @ [\text{LABEL } label_{next}] @ code_2$

- Note: No logical operations in intermediate language!
Logics of **and** and **or** encoded by jumps.
- Alternative: Logical operators in intermediate language
 $Cond \Rightarrow Exp \Rightarrow Exp \text{ binop } Exp$
Translated as an arithmetic operation. **Evaluates both sides!**



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More Control Structures

- Control structures determine control flow: which instruction to execute next
- A **while**-loop is enough ... but ... languages usually offer more.
- Explicit jumps: $Stat \rightarrow label :$
 $| goto label$

considered harmful

 (Dijkstra 1968)

Necessary instructions in the intermediate language.
Need to build symbol table of labels.
- Case/Switch: $Stat \rightarrow case Exp of [Alts]$
 $Alts \rightarrow num : Stat | num : Stat, Alts$

When exited after each case: chain of if-then-else
When “falling through” (f.ex. in C): if-then-else and goto.
- Break and Continue: $Stat \rightarrow break | continue$
 (break: jump behind loop, continue: jump to end of loop body).
Needs two jump target labels used only inside loop bodies
(parameters to translation function `trans_stat`)



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Translating Arrays (of int elements)

Extending the Source Language

- Array elements used as an expression
- Assignment to an array element
- Array elements accessed by an index (expression)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Exp} &\rightarrow \dots \mid \text{Idx} \\ \text{Stat} &\rightarrow \dots \mid \text{Idx} := \text{Exp} \\ \text{Idx} &\rightarrow \text{id}[\text{Exp}] \end{aligned}$$

Again we extend $\text{Trans}_{\text{Exp}}$ and $\text{Trans}_{\text{Stat}}$.

- Arrays stored in pre-allocated memory area, generated code will use memory access instructions.
- Static (compile-time) or dynamic (run-time) allocation.



Generating Code for Address Calculation

- *vtable* contains the **base address of the array**.
- Elements are `int` here, so 4 bytes per element for address.

$Trans_{Idx}(index, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } index \text{ of}$

$id[Exp] \quad \begin{array}{l} base = \text{lookup}(vtable, \text{getname}(id)) \\ addr = \text{newvar}() \\ code_1 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, addr) \\ code_2 = code_1 @ [addr := addr * 4, addr := addr + base] \\ (code_2, addr) \end{array}$

Returns:

- **Code to calculate the absolute address** ...
- of the array element **in memory** (corresponding to `index`), ...
- ... and a new variable (*addr*) where it will be stored.



Generating Code for Array Access

Address-calculation code: in expression and statement translation.

- Read access inside expressions:

$Trans_{Exp}(exp, vtable, ftable, place) = \text{case } exp \text{ of}$

...

$Idx \quad \begin{array}{l} (code_1, address) = Trans_{Idx}(Idx, vtable, ftable) \\ code_1 @ [place := M[address]] \end{array}$

- Write access in assignments:

$Trans_{Stat}(stat, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } stat \text{ of}$

...

$Idx := Exp \quad \begin{array}{l} (code_1, address) = Trans_{Idx}(Index, vtable, ftable) \\ t = \text{newvar}() \\ code_2 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, t) \\ code_1 @ code_2 @ [M[address] := t] \end{array}$



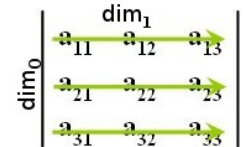
Multi-Dimensional Arrays

Arrays in Multiple Dimensions

- Only a small change to previous grammar: Idx can now be **recursive**.
- Needs to be mapped to an address in one dimension.

$$\begin{aligned} Exp &\rightarrow \dots | Idx \\ Stat &\rightarrow \dots | Idx := Exp \\ Idx &\rightarrow \mathbf{id[Exp]} | \mathbf{Idx[Exp]} \end{aligned}$$

- Arrays stored in **row-major** or **column-major** order.
Standard: **row-major**, index of $a[k][l]$ is $k \cdot dim_1 + l$
(Index of $b[k][l][m]$ is $k \cdot dim_1 \cdot dim_2 + l \cdot dim_2 + m$)



- Address calculation need to know sizes in each dimension.
symbol table: base address and list of array-dimension sizes.
- Need to change $Trans_{Idx}$, i.e., add recursive index calculation.



Address Calculation in Multiple Dimensions

$$\begin{aligned} Trans_{Idx}(index, vtable, ftable) = \\ \hline (code_1, t, base, []) = Calc_{Idx}(index, vtable, ftable) \\ code_2 = code_1 @ [t := t * 4, t := t + base] \\ \hline (code_2, t) \end{aligned}$$

Recursive index calculation, multiplies with dimension at each step.

$Calc_{Idx}(index, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } index \text{ of}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{id[Exp]} \quad &(base, dims) = \text{lookup}(vtable, \text{getname}(\mathbf{id})) \\ &addr = \text{newvar}() \\ &code = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, addr) \\ &(code, addr, base, \text{tail}(dims)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Index[Exp]} \quad &(code_1, addr, base, dims) = Calc_{Idx}(Index, vtable, ftable) \\ &d = \text{head}(dims) \\ &t = \text{newvar}() \\ &code_2 = Trans_{Exp}(Exp, vtable, ftable, t) \\ &code_3 = code_1 @ code_2 @ [addr := addr * d, addr := addr + t] \\ &(code_3, addr, base, \text{tail}(dims)) \end{aligned}$$


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Declarations in the Translation

Declarations are necessary

- to allocate space for arrays,
- to compute addresses for multi-dimensional arrays,
- ... and when the language allows local declarations (scope).

Declarations and scope

- Statements following a declarations can see declared data.
- Declaration of variables and arrays
- Here: Constant size, one dimension

$$\begin{array}{l} Stat \rightarrow Decl; Stat \\ Decl \rightarrow \text{int } id \\ \quad | \text{int } id[num] \end{array}$$

Function `trans_decl` : (Decl, VTable) -> ([ICode], VTable)

- translates declarations to code and new symbol table.



Translating Declarations to Scope and Allocation

Code with local scope (extended symbol table):

$Trans_{Stat}(stat, vtable, ftable) = \text{case } stat \text{ of}$

$Decl ; Stat_1 \quad (code_1, vtable_1) = Trans_{Decl}(Decl, vtable)$
 $code_2 = Trans_{Stat}(Stat_1, vtable_1, ftable)$
 $code_1 @ code_2$

Building the symbol table and allocating:

$Trans_{Decl} : (Decl, VTable) \rightarrow ([ICode], VTable)$

$Trans_{Decl}(decl, vtable) = \text{case } decl \text{ of}$

int id $t_1 = \text{newvar}()$
 $vtable_1 = \text{bind}(vtable, \text{getname}(\mathbf{id}), t_1)$
 $([], vtable_1)$

int id[num] $t_1 = \text{newvar}()$
 $vtable_1 = \text{bind}(vtable, \text{getname}(\mathbf{id}), t_1)$
 $([t_1 := HP, HP := HP + (4 * \text{getvalue}(\mathbf{num}))], vtable_1)$

... where HP is the heap pointer, indicating first free space in a managed heap at runtime, to provide memory to the running programme.



Other Structures that Require Special Treatment

- Floating-Point values:
 - Often stored in **different registers**
 - Always require **different machine operations**
 - Symbol table needs type information** when creating variables in intermediate code.
- Strings
 - Sometimes just arrays of (1-byte) char type, but **variable length**.
 - In modern languages/implementations, elements can be char or unicode (UTF-8 and UTF-16 variable size!)
 - Usually **handled by library functions**.
- Records and Unions
 - Linear in memory. Field types and sizes can be different.
 - Field selector** known at compile time: **compute offset** from base.



Structure of a Compiler

