CS226/326 Compilers for Computer Languages

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Why Study Compilers?

• To learn to write compilers and interpreters for various programming languages and domain specific languages

E.g. Java, Javascript, C, C++, C#, Modula-3, Scheme, ML, Tcl, SQL, MatLab, Mathematica, Shell, Perl, Python, HTML, XML, TeX, PostScript

- To enhance understanding of programming languages
- To understand how programs work at the machine level
- To learn useful system-building tools like Lex and Yacc
- To learn interesting compiler theory and algorithms
- To experience building a significant system in a modern programming language (SML)

Compilers are Translators



L ₁	Translator	L ₂
C, ML, Java,	compiler	assembly/machine code
assembly language	assembler	machine code
object code (.o files)	link loader	executable code
macros+text	macro processor (cpp)	text
troff/TeX	document formatter	PostScript/PDF

Compilers and Interpreters

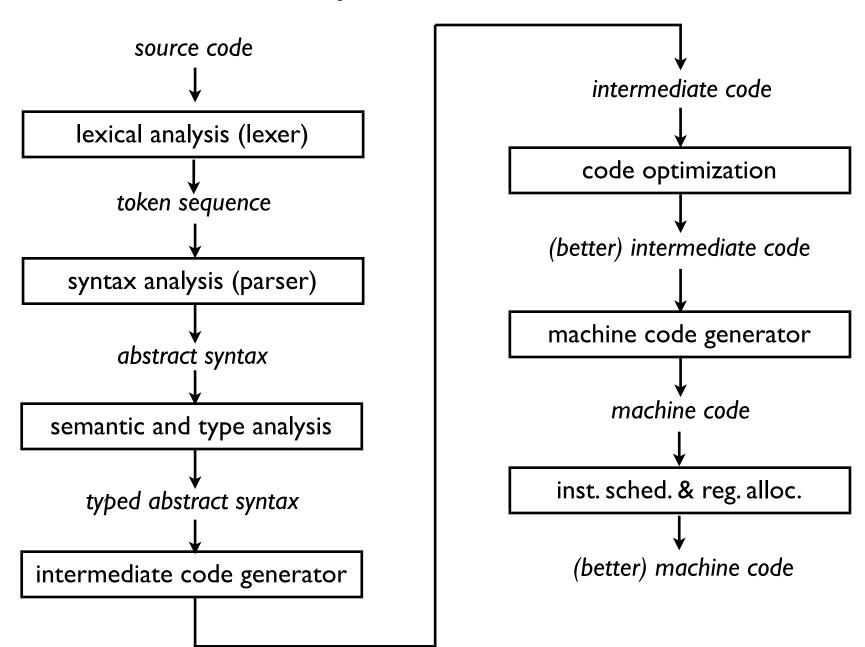
Given a program P (source code) written in language L

- A **compiler** is simply a translator; compiling P produces the corresponding *machine code* (PowerPC, Sparc), also known as the *object code*.
- An **interpreter** is a virtual machine (i.e. a program) for directly executing P (or some machine representtion of P).
- A **virtual machine-based compiler** is a hybrid involving translation P into a virtual machine code M and an virtual machine interpreter that executes M (e.g. the Java Virtual Machine). Virtual machine code is sometimes called *byte code*.

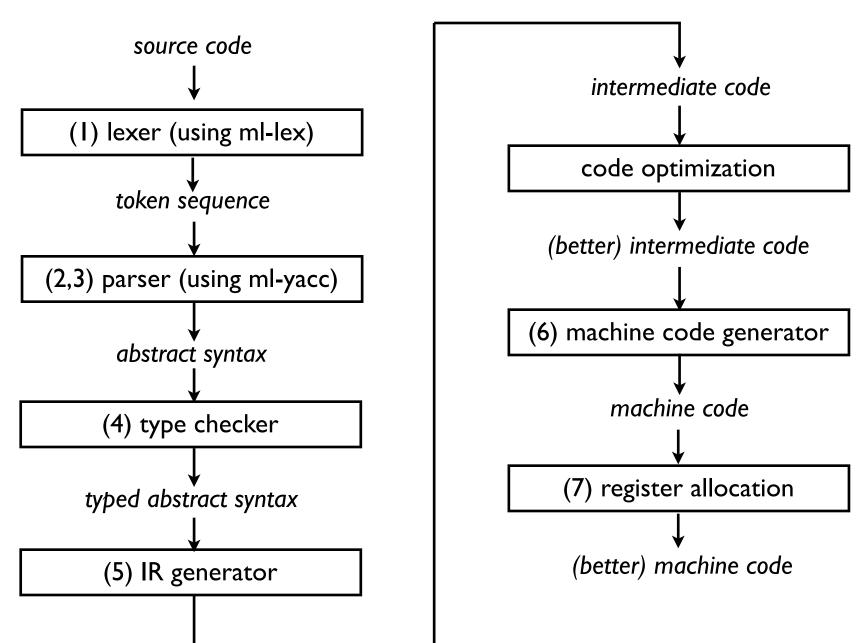
We will focus on the following:

- How to characterize the source language L and the target language.
- How to translate from one to the other.

Compilation Phases



Programming Assignments



A Tiger Program

```
/* A program to solve the 8-queens problem */
let
   var N := 8
   type intArray = array of int
   var row := intArray [ N ] of 0
   var col := intArray [ N ] of 0
   var diag1 := intArray [N+N-1] of 0
   var diag2 := intArray [N+N-1] of 0
    function printboard() =
       (for i := 0 to N-1
        do (for j := 0 to N-1
            do print(if col[i]=j then " O" else " .");
            print("\n"));
        print("\n"))
    function try(c:int) =
      if c=N
      then printboard()
      else for r := 0 to N-1
           do if row[r]=0 \& diag1[r+c]=0 \& diag2[r+7-c]=0
              then (row[r]:=1; diag1[r+c]:=1; diag2[r+7-c]:=1;
                    col[c]:=r; try(c+1);
                    row[r]:=0; diag1[r+c]:=0; diag2[r+7-c]:=0)
in try(0)
end
```

Why Standard ML?

A language particularly suited to compiler implementation.

- Efficiency
- Safety
- Simplicity
- Higher-order functions
- Static type checking with type inference
- Polymorphism
- Algebraic types and pattern matching
- Modularity
- Garbage collection
- Exception handling
- Libraries and tools

Using the SML/NJ Compiler

Type "sml" to run the SML/NJ compiler

Normally installed in /usr/local/bin, which should be in your PATH.

- Cntl-d exits the compiler, Cntl-c interrupts execution.
- Three ways to run ML programs:
 - I. type in code in the interactive read-eval-print loop
 - 2. edit ML code in a file, say foo.sml, then type command use "foo.sml";
 - 3. use Compilation Manager (CM):

```
CM.make "sources.cm";
```

• Template code in dir /stage/classes/current/22600-1/code

Expressions

- Integers: 3, 54, ~3, ~54
- Reals: 3.0, 3.14159, ~3.2E2
- Overloaded arithmetic operators: +, -, *, /, <, =
- Booleans: true, false, not, orelse, andalso
- Strings: "abc", "hello world\n", x^".sml"
- Lists: [], [1,2,3], ["x","str"], 1::2::nil
- Tuples: (), (1,true), (3,"abc",true)
- Records: {a=1,b=true}, {name="fred",age=21}
- conditionals, function applications, let expressions, functions

Declarations: binding a name to a value

Let expressions: local definitions

```
let decl in expr end
let val x = 3
  fun f y = (y, x*y)
in f(4+x)
end
```

Function expressions

The expression "fn var => exp" denotes a function with formal parameter var and body exp.

val inc =
$$\underline{fn} \times => \times + 1$$

is equivalent to

fun inc
$$x = x + 1$$

Compound values

```
Tuples: (exp_1, \dots, exp_n)
  (3, 4.5)
  val x = ("foo", x*1.5, true)
  val first = \#1(x)
  val third = \#3(x)
Records: \{lab_1 = exp_1, \dots, lab_n = exp_n\}
  val car = {make = "Ford", year = 1910}
  val mk = #make car
  val yr = #year car
```

Patterns

a form to decompose compound values, commonly used in value bindings and function arguments

tuple and record patterns:

```
val pair = (3,4.0)
val (x,y) = pair
\Rightarrow x = 3, y = 4.0

val {make=mk, year=yr} = car
\Rightarrow mk = "Ford", yr = 1910
```

Patterns

```
constant patterns: 3, "a"

fun iszero(0) = true
   | iszero(_) = false

constructor patterns:

val list = [1,2,3]
val fst::rest = list
   ⇒ fst = 1, rest = [2,3]

val [x,_,y] = list
   ⇒ x = 1, y = 3
```

wildcard pattern: _ (underscore)

Pattern matching

match rule: pat => exp

match:
$$pat_1 \Rightarrow exp_1 \mid \dots \mid pat_n \Rightarrow exp_n$$

When a match is applied to a value v, we try rules from left to right, looking for the first rule whose pattern matches v. We then bind the variables in the pattern and evaluate the expression.

```
case expression: case exp of match function expression: fn match clausal functional defn: fun f pat_1 = exp_1

| f pat_2 = exp_2

| ...

| f pat_2 = exp_2
```

Pattern matching examples (function definitions)

```
fun length l =
    case 1 of
      of [] => 0
       | [a] => 1
| :: r => 1 + length r
fun length [] = 0
  | length [a] = 1
| length (_ :: r) = 1 + length r
fun even 0 = true
  | even n = odd(n-1)
and odd 0 = false
  odd n = even(n-1)
```

Types

```
basic types: int, real, string, bool
   3 : int, true : bool, "abc" : string
function types: t_1 \rightarrow t_2
   even: int -> bool
product types: t_1 * t_2, unit
   (3, true): int * bool, (): unit
record types: \{lab_1 : t_1, \ldots, lab_n : t_n\}
   car: {make : string, year : int}
type operators: t list (for example)
   [1,2,3]: int list
```

Type abbreviations

```
type tycon = ty
examples:
   type point = real * real
   type line = point * point
   type car = {make: string, year: int}
type tyvar tycon = ty
examples:
   type 'a pair = 'a * 'a
   type point = real pair
```

Datatypes

datatype
$$tycon = con_1$$
 of $ty_1 \mid \dots \mid con_n$ of ty_n

This is a tagged union of variant types ty_1 through ty_n . The tags are the data constructors con_1 through con_n .

The data constructors can be used both in expressions to build values, and in patterns to deconstruct values and discriminate variants.

The "of ty" can be omitted, giving a nullary constructor.

Datatypes can be recursive.

datatype intlist = Nil | Cons of int * intlist

Datatype example

```
datatype btree = LEAF
                 NODE of int * btree * btree
fun depth LEAF = 0
  depth (NODE( ,t1,t2)) = max(depth t1, depth t2)
fun insert(LEAF,k) = NODE(k,LEAF,LEAF)
  insert(NODE(i,t1,t2),k) =
      if k > i then NODE(i,t1,insert(t2,k))
      else if k < i then NODE(i,insert(t1,k),t2)</pre>
      else NODE(i,t1,t2)
(* in-order traversal of btrees *)
fun inord LEAF = []
   inord(NODE(i,t1,t2)) =
      inord(t1) @ (i :: inord(t2))
```

Representing programs as datatypes

```
type id = string
datatype binop = PLUS | MINUS | TIMES | DIV
datatype stm = SEQ of stm * stm
              ASSIGN of id * exp
PRINT of exp list
and exp = VAR of id
         CONST of int
        | BINOP of binop * exp * exp
         ESEQ of stm * exp
val prog =
    SEQ(ASSIGN("a", BINOP(PLUS, CONST 5, CONST 3)),
        PRINT[VAR "a"])
```

Computing properties of programs: size

```
fun sizeS (SEQ(s1,s2)) = sizeS s1 + sizeS s2
  sizeS (ASSIGN(i,e)) = 2 + sizeE e
  | sizeS (PRINT es) = 1 + sizeEL es
and sizeE (BINOP(_,e1,e2)) = sizeE e1 + sizeE e2 + 2
  sizeE (ESEQ(s,e)) = sizeS s + sizeE e
  sizeE = 1
and sizeEL [] = 0
  sizeEL (e::es) = sizeE e + sizeEL es
sizeS prog ⇒ 8
```