Data-flow Analysis - Part 3

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NPTEL Course on Compiler Design

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- A *data-flow value* for a program point represents an abstraction of the set of all possible program states that can be observed for that point
- The set of all possible data-flow values is the *domain* for the application under consideration
 - Example: for the *reaching definitions* problem, the domain of data-flow values is the set of all subsets of of definitions in the program
 - A particular data-flow value is a set of definitions
- IN[s] and OUT[s]: data-flow values before and after each statement s
- The data-flow problem is to find a solution to a set of constraints on IN[s] and OUT[s], for all statements s

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Data-Flow Analysis Schema (2)

- Two kinds of constraints
 - Those based on the semantics of statements (*transfer functions*)
 - Those based on flow of control
- A DFA schema consists of
 - A control-flow graph
 - A direction of data-flow (forward or backward)
 - A set of data-flow values
 - A confluence operator (normally set union or intersection)
 - Transfer functions for each block
- We always compute *safe* estimates of data-flow values
- A decision or estimate is *safe* or *conservative*, if it never leads to a change in what the program computes (after the change)
- These safe values may be either subsets or supersets of actual values, based on the application

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Live Variable Analysis

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- The variable *x* is *live* at the point *p*, if the value of *x* at *p* could be used along some path in the flow graph, starting at *p*; otherwise, *x* is *dead* at *p*
- Sets of variables constitute the domain of data-flow values
- Backward flow problem, with confluence operator \bigcup
- *IN*[*B*] is the set of variables live at the beginning of *B*
- OUT[B] is the set of variables live just after B
- *DEF*[*B*] is the set of variables definitely assigned values in *B*, prior to any use of that variable in *B*
- *USE*[*B*] is the set of variables whose values may be used in *B* prior to any definition of the variable

$$DUT[B] = \bigcup_{\substack{S \text{ is a successor of } B}} IN[S]$$
$$IN[B] = USE[B] \bigcup (OUT[B] - DEF[B])$$
$$IN[B] = \phi, \text{ for all } B (\text{initialization only})$$

Live Variable Analysis: An Example



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Definition-Use Chains (d-u chains)

- For each definition, we wish to attach the statement numbers of the uses of that definition
- Such information is very useful in implementing register allocation, loop invariant code motion, etc.
- This problem can be transformed to the data-flow analysis problem of computing for a point *p*, the set of uses of a variable (say *x*), such that there is a path from *p* to the use of *x*, that does not redefine *x*.
- This information is represented as sets of (*x*, *s*) pairs, where *x* is the variable used in statement *s*
- In live variable analysis, we need information on whether a variable is used later, but in (x, s) computation, we also need the statment numbers of the uses
- The data-flow equations are similar to that of LV analysis
- Once *IN*[*B*] and *OUT*[*B*] are computed, d-u chains can be computed using a method similar to that of u-d chains

Data-flow Analysis for (x,s) pairs

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- Sets of pairs (x,s) constitute the domain of data-flow values
- Backward flow problem, with confluence operator \bigcup
- *USE*[*B*] is the set of pairs (*x*, *s*), such that *s* is a statement in *B* which uses variable *x* and such that no prior definition of *x* occurs in *B*
- *DEF*[*B*] is the set of pairs (*x*, *s*), such that *s* is a statement which uses *x*, *s* is *not in B*, and *B* contains a definition of *x*
- IN[B] (OUT[B], resp.) is the set of pairs (x, s), such that statement s uses variable x and the value of x at IN[B] (OUT[B], resp.) has not been modified along the path from IN[B] (OUT[B], resp.) to s

$$DUT[B] = \bigcup IN[S]$$

S is a successor of B

$$IN[B] = USE[B] \bigcup (OUT[B] - DEF[B])$$

 $IN[B] = \phi$, for all B (initialization only)

Definition-Use Chain Example



Definition-Use Chain Construction



Three cases while constructing d-u chains from the (x,s) pairs

def d1 and def d2

Very Busy Expressions or Anticipated Expressions

- An expression B op C is very busy or anticipated at a point p, if along every path from p, we come to a computation of B op C before any computation of B or C
- Useful in code hoisting and partial redundancy elimination
- Code hoisting does not reduce time, but reduces space
- We must make sure that no use of B op C (from X,Y, or Z below) has any definition of B or C reaching it without passing through p



Y.N. Srikant Data-flow Analysis

- Sets of expressions constitute the domain of data-flow values
- Backward flow analysis with \bigcap as confluence operator
- *V_USE*[*n*] is the set of expressions *B* op *C* computed in *n* with no prior definition of *B* or *C* in *n*
- *V_DEF*[*n*] is the set of expressions *B* op *C* in *U* (the universal set of expressions) for which either *B* or *C* is defined in *n*, prior to any computation of *B* op *C*

$$OUT[n] = \bigcap_{S \text{ is a successor of } n} IN[S]$$
$$IN[n] = V_USE[n] \bigcup (OUT[n] - V_DEF[n])$$
$$IN[n] = U, \text{ for all } n \text{ (initialization only)}$$

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Anticipated Expressions - An Example



The Reaching Definitions Problem

- Domain of data-flow values: sets of definitions
- Direction: Forwards
- Confluence operator: ∪
- Initialization: $IN[B] = \phi$
- Equations:

$$IN[B] = \bigcup_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P]$$
$$OUT[B] = GEN[B] \bigcup (IN[B] - KILL[B])$$

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The Available Expressions Problem

- Domain of data-flow values: sets of expressions
- Direction: Forwards
- Confluence operator: ∩
- Initialization: IN[B] = U
- Equations:

$$IN[B] = \bigcap_{P \text{ is a predecessor of } B} OUT[P]$$
$$OUT[B] = e_gen[B] \bigcup (IN[B] - e_kill[B])$$
$$IN[B1] = \phi$$

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The Live Variable Analysis Problem

- Domain of data-flow values: sets of variables
- Direction: backwards
- Confluence operator: ∪
- Initialization: $IN[B] = \phi$
- Equations:

$$OUT[B] = \bigcup_{S \text{ is a successor of } B} IN[S]$$
$$IN[B] = USE[B] \bigcup (OUT[B] - DEF[B])$$

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Data-Flow Problems: A Summary - 4

The Anticipated Expressions (Very Busy Expressions) Problem

- Domain of data-flow values: sets of expressions
- Direction: backwards
- Confluence operator: ∩
- Initialization: IN[B] = U
- Equations:

$$OUT[B] = \bigcap_{S \text{ is a successor of } B} IN[S]$$
$$IN[B] = V_USE[B] \bigcup (OUT[B] - V_DEF[B])$$

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