# COMPILERS Register Allocation

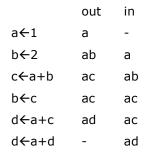
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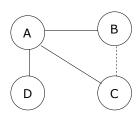
## Register Allocation

- Want to maximise use of registers for temporaries.
- Build interference graph for each program point.
  - Compute set of temporaries simultaneously live.
  - Add edge to graph for each pair in set.
- Then K-colour the graph by assigning a maximum of K colours such that interfering variables always have different colours.

#### Step 1: Build

- Start with final live sets from liveness analysis. Add an edge for each pair of simultaneously live variables to interference graph.
- □ Add a dotted line for any "MOVE a,b" instructions



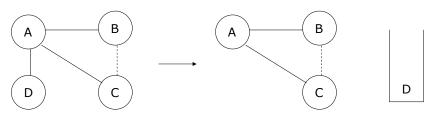


code and liveness analysis

interference graph (assume K=2)

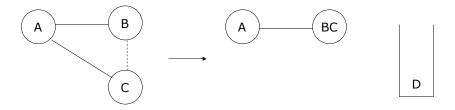
## Step 2: Simplify

- Remove any non-MOVE-related nodes with degree<K and place on stack.
  - K-colourability is maintained in the new subgraph.
  - Every node removed is guaranteed a colour.
  - The removal of edges may create other <K degree nodes.



## Step 3: Coalesce

- Merge together MOVE-related nodes if it does not decrease colourability.
  - Briggs: only if merged node ab has <K significant degree neighbours
  - George: only if all significant degree neighbours of a interfere with b



## And Repeat ...

Simplify again



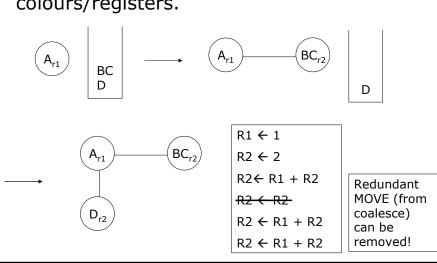
BC D

■ And simplify again

A BC D

#### Step 6: Select

Pop nodes off stack and assign colours/registers.



## Step 4: Freeze

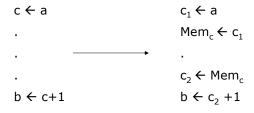
- If there are no nodes that can be simplified or coalesced AND there are MOVE-related nodes, freeze all MOVEs of a low-degree MOVE-related node.
  - Ignore the MOVE and treat the nodes like any others.
- □ Repeat steps 2-3-4

#### Step 5: Potential Spill

- If there are no nodes that can be simplified, coalesced or frozen, choose a node that isnt used much in the program and spill it.
  - Add it to the stack just like a simplify.
  - There may or may not be a colour to allocate to it during the Select step – if there isnt, the potential spill becomes an actual spill.
- □ Repeat steps 2-3-4-5

### **Actual Spills**

- □ An actual spill is when there aren't enough registers to store the temporaries.
- Rewrite program to shorten live range of spilled variable.
  - Move variable to memory after define.
  - Move memory to variable before use.
- □ Then, repeat process from Step 1.



#### Spilled Temporaries

- □ Spilled temporaries can be graph-coloured to reuse activation record slots.
  - Coalescing can be aggressive, since (unlike registers) there is no limit on the number of stack-frame locations.
  - Aggressive coalescing: Any non-interfering nodes can be coalesced since there is no upper bound K.

#### Precoloured Nodes

- Precoloured nodes correspond to machine registers (e.g., stack pointer, arguments)
  - Select and Coalesce can give an ordinary temporary the same colour as a precoloured register, if they don't interfere
    - e.g., argument registers can be reused inside procedures for a temporary
  - Simplify, Freeze and Spill cannot be performed on them
- □ Precoloured nodes interfere with other precoloured nodes.

## Temporary Copies

- □ Since precoloured nodes don't spill, their live ranges must be kept short:
  - Use MOVE instructions.
  - Move callee-save registers to fresh temporaries on procedure entry, and back on exit, spilling between as necessary.
  - Register pressure will spill the fresh temporaries as necessary, otherwise they can be coalesced with their precoloured counterpart and the moves deleted.

## Handling CALL instructions

- Variables whose live ranges span calls should go to callee-save registers, otherwise to caller-save.
- This is easy for graph coloring allocation with spilling
  - Calls define (interfere with) caller-save registers.
  - Calls use parameter registers.
  - A variable that is alive before and after a call interferes with all precoloured caller-save registers, as well as with the fresh temporaries created for callee-save copies, forcing a spill.
  - Choose nodes with high degree but few uses, to spill the fresh callee-save temporary instead of the cross-call variable. This makes the original callee-save register available for colouring the cross-call variable

#### Example

```
1
          c ← r3
2
          p ← r1
3
          if p=0 goto L1
4
          r1 \leftarrow M[p]
5
          call f
6
          s ← r1
7
          r1 \leftarrow M[p+4]
8
          call f
9
          t ← r1
10
          u \leftarrow s + t
11
          goto L2
12
     L1: u ← 1
13
     L2: r1 ← u
14
          r3 ← c
15
          return
```

- 3 Machine registers (K=3)
- □ Caller-save:
  - r1, r2
- Callee-save:
  - r3
- CALL parameters are set in r1 and results are returned in r1

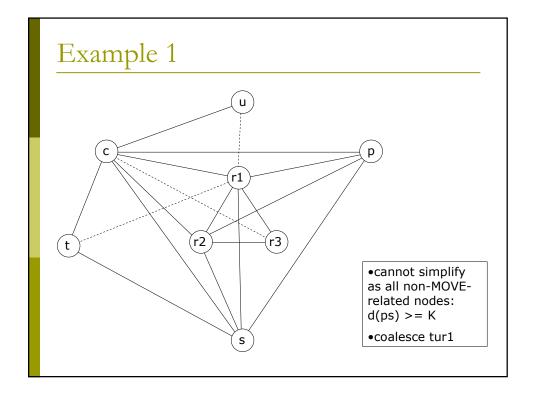
## Example: Liveness Analysis

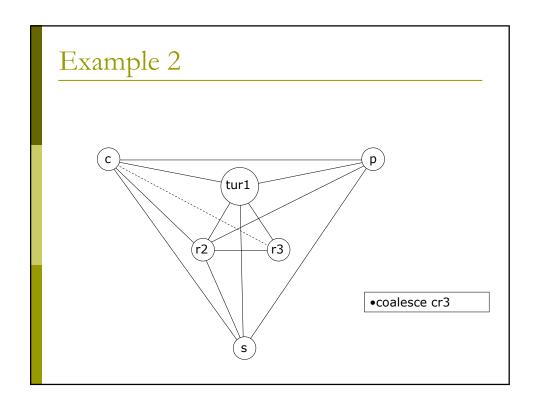
```
#
         Statement
                             Succ
                                      Use
                                              Def
                                                      Out
                                                             In
1
    f:
        c ← r3
                             2
                                      r3
                                                      cr1
                                                             r1r3
                                              С
2
         p \leftarrow r1
                             3
                                      r1
                                                      ср
                                                              cr1
                                              р
3
         if p=0 goto L1
                             4,12
                                                              ср
                                      р
                                                      ср
4
         r1 \leftarrow M[p]
                             5
                                      р
                                              r1
                                                      cpr1
                                                             ср
5
                                              r1r2
         call f
                             6
                                      r1
                                                      cpr1
                                                              cpr1
6
         s ← r1
                             7
                                      r1
                                              S
                                                      cps
                                                              cpr1
7
         r1 \leftarrow M[p+4]
                             8
                                                      cpr1
                                              r1
                                      р
                                                              cps
8
         call f
                             9
                                      r1
                                              r1r2
                                                      csr1
                                                             csr1
9
         t ← r1
                             10
                                      r1
                                              t
                                                      cst
                                                              csr1
         u \leftarrow s + t
                             11
10
                                      st
                                              u
                                                      cu
                                                              cst
11
         goto L2
                             13
                                                      cu
                                                              cu
12 L1: u ← 1
                             13
                                              u
                                                      cu
                                                              С
13 L2: r1 ← u
                             14
                                              r1
                                                      cr1
                                                              cu
                                      u
14
         r3 ← c
                             15
                                              r3
                                                      r1r3
                                      С
                                                              cr1
15
                                      r1r3
                                                             r1r3
         return
```

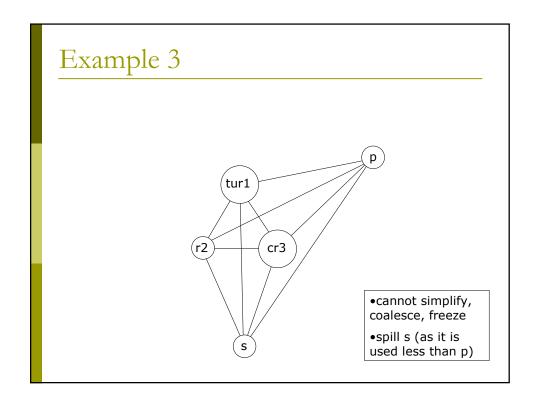
## Example: Edge Determination

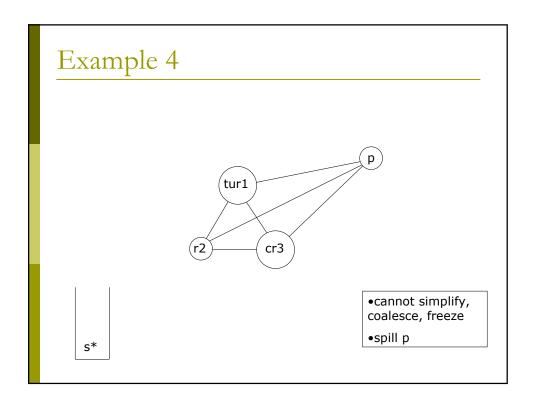
- □ Calculate live pairs based on liveness sets:
  - liveness sets: cpr1, cps, csr1, cst, cu
  - edges ⊇ {cp, cr1, cs, ct, cu, pr1, ps, sr1, st}
- For each CALL, the variables that are live-in and also live-out must interfere with all caller-save registers (r1r2).
  - cp is live-in and live-out in line 5, cs in line 8
  - edges ⊇ {cp, cs, cr1, cr2, pr1, pr2, sr1, sr2}
- Create pairs of precoloured nodes (e.g., machine registers).
  - edges 

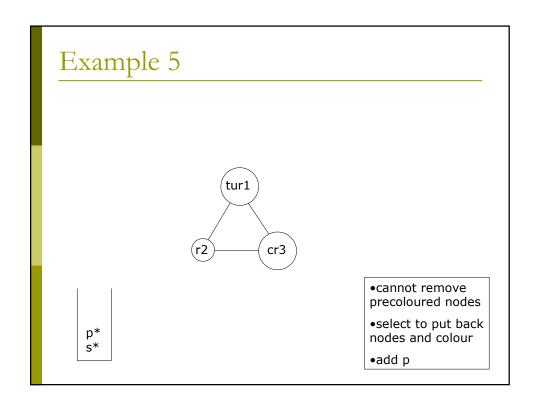
    {r1r2, r2r3, r1r3}
- Determine move instructions that are not already constrained.
  - moves = {cr3, tr1, ur1} (constrained = {pr1, sr1})

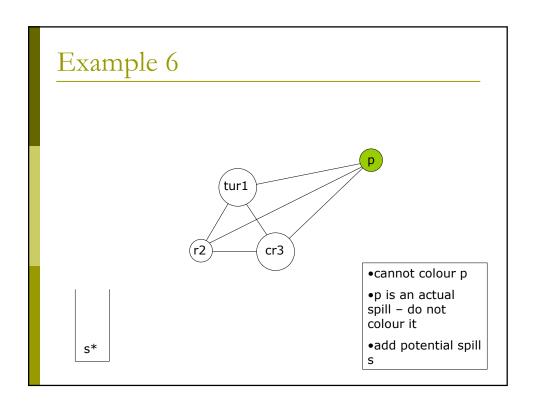


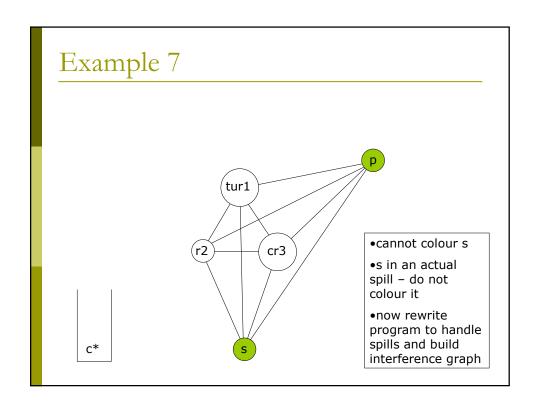












#### Example Rewritten

```
Def
                                                              Out
            Statement
                                  Succ
                                           Use
                                                                            In
1
     f:
                                                                            r1r3
            c ← r3
                                           r3
                                                    С
                                                              cr1
            p1 ← r1
                                  3
                                           r1
                                                    р
                                                              cp1
                                                                            cr1
            Mp ← p1
                                           p1
                                                                            cp1
            p2 ← Mp
                                                    p2
                                                              cp2
                                          p2
5
           if p2=0 goto L1
                                  6,18
                                                                           cp2
                                                              С
            p3 ← Mp
                                                    рЗ
                                                              ср3
                                                                            С
                                          рЗ
                                                                           ср3
           r1 \leftarrow M[p3]
                                  8
                                                    r1
                                                              cr1
            call f
                                  9
                                                    r1r2
                                                              cr1
                                                                            cr1
            s1 ← r1
                                  10
                                                              cs1
                                                                            cr1
10
            Ms ← s1
                                  11
                                                                            cs1
                                          s1
            p4 ← Mp
                                                   p4
                                                              cp4
11
                                  12
                                                                            С
                                                                           ср4
           r1 \leftarrow M[p4+4]
                                          p4
                                  13
                                                    r1
12
                                                              cr1
                                                   r1r2
13
            call f
                                  14
                                          r1
                                                              cr1
                                                                            cr1
            \mathsf{t} \leftarrow \mathsf{r} \mathsf{1}
                                  15
                                          r1
                                                              ct
                                                                            cr1
            s2 ← Ms
                                                              cs2t
                                                                            ct
                                  17
16
            u ← s2 + t
                                                                            cs2t
                                                              С
            goto L2
                                  18
17
                                                             С
                                                                           С
18
     L1:
           u ← 1
                                  19
                                                    П
                                                              cu
                                                                            С
19
     L2:
           r1 ← u
                                  20
                                          u
                                                    r1
                                                             cr1
                                                                            cu
20
            r3 ← c
                                                              r1r3
                                                                            cr1
                                           r1r3
            return
```

## Example: Edge Determination B

- Calculate live pairs based on liveness sets:
  - liveness sets: cr1, cp1, cp2, cp3, cs1, cp4, cs2t, cu
  - edges ⊇ {cr1, cp1, cp2, cp3, cs1, cp4, cs2, ct, s2t, cu}
- For each CALL, the variables that are live-in and also live-out must interfere with all caller-save registers (r1r2).
  - c is live-in and live-out in line 8 and in line 13
- Create pairs of precoloured nodes (e.g., machine registers).
  - edges 

    {r1r2, r2r3, r1r3}
- Determine move instructions that are not already constrained.
  - moves = {p1r1, s1r1, tr1, ur1, cr3}

