

CS412/CS413

Introduction to Compilers

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Lecture 18: Intermediate Code

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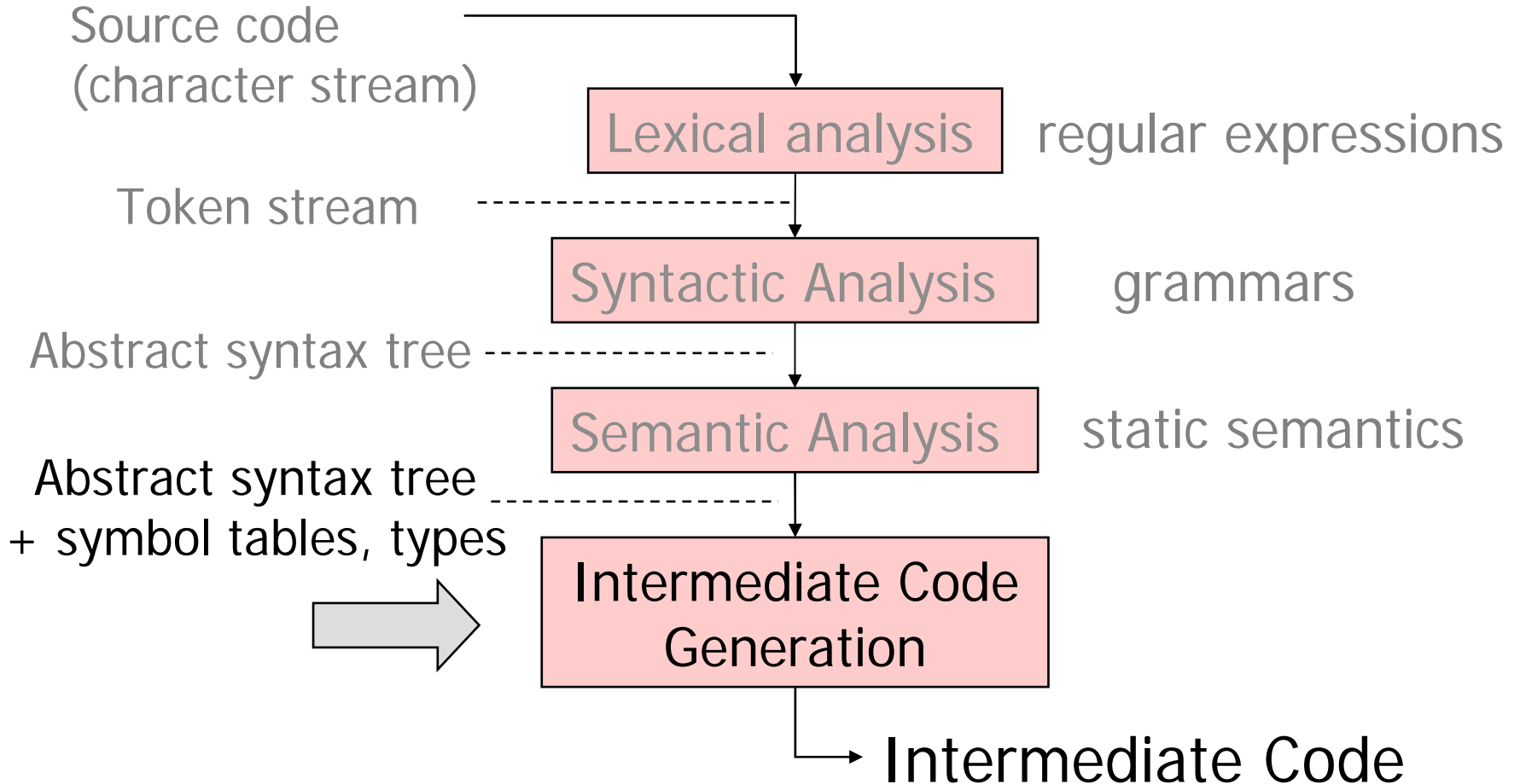
# Summary: Semantic Analysis

- Check errors not detected by lexical or syntax analysis
- Scope errors:
  - Variables not defined
  - Multiple declarations
- Type errors:
  - Assignment of values of different types
  - Invocation of functions with different number of parameters or parameters of incorrect type
  - Incorrect use of return statements

# Semantic Analysis

- Type checking
  - Use type checking rules
  - Static semantics = formal framework to specify type-checking rules
- There are also control flow errors:
  - Must verify that a **break** or **continue** statement is always enclosed by a while (or for) statement
  - Java: must verify that a **break X** statement is enclosed by a for loop with label X
  - Can easily check control-flow errors by recursively traversing the AST

# Where We Are



# Intermediate Code

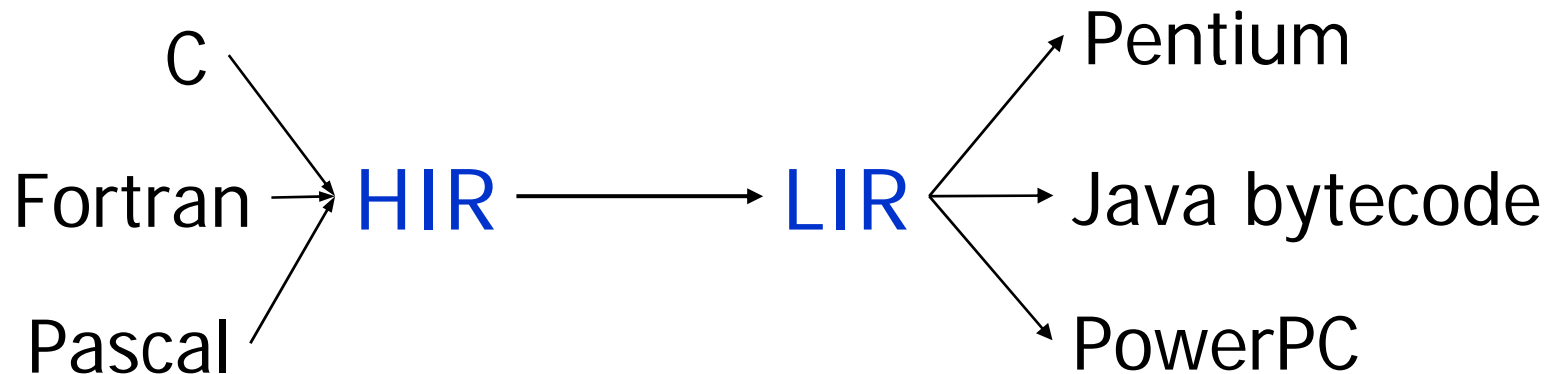
- Usually two IRs:

## High-level IR

Language-independent  
(but closer to language)

## Low-level IR

Machine independent  
(but closer to machine)



# High-level IR

- Tree node structure, essentially ASTs
- High-level constructs common to many languages
  - Expression nodes
  - Statement nodes
- Expression nodes for:
  - Integers and program variables
  - Binary operations:  $e1 \text{ OP } e2$ 
    - Arithmetic operations
    - Logic operations
    - Comparisons
  - Unary operations:  $\text{OP } e$
  - Array accesses:  $e1[e2]$

# High-level IR

- Statement nodes:
  - Block statements (statement sequences):  $(s_1, \dots, s_N)$
  - Variable assignments:  $v = e$
  - Array assignments:  $e_1[e_2] = e_3$
  - If-then-else statements: `if c then s1 else s2`
  - If-then statements: `if c then s`
  - While loops: `while (c) s`
  - Function call statements:  $f(e_1, \dots, e_N)$
  - Return statements: `return` or `return e`
- May also contain:
  - For loop statements: `for(v = e1 to e2) s`
  - `Break` and `continue` statements
  - Switch statements: `switch(e) { v1: s1, ..., vN: sN }`

# Low-Level IR

- Low-level representation is essentially an instruction set for an **abstract machine**
- Alternatives for low-level IR:
  - **Three-address code** or **quadruples** (Dragon Book):  
$$a = b \text{ OP } c$$
  - **Tree representation** (Tiger Book)
  - **Stack machine** (like Java bytecode)



# Three-Address Code

- In this class: three-address code

$$a = b \text{ OP } c$$

- Has at most three addresses (may have fewer)
- Also named **quadruples** because can be represented as:  
(a, b, c, OP)
- Example:

$$a = (b+c) * (-e);$$

$$t1 = b + c$$

$$t2 = - e$$

$$a = t1 * t2$$

# Low IR Instructions

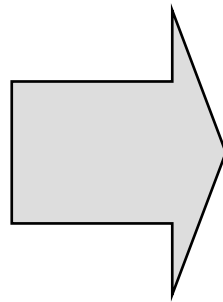
- Assignment instructions:
  - Binary operations:  $a = b \text{ OP } c$ 
    - arithmetic: ADD, SUB, MUL, DIV, MOD
    - logic: AND, OR, XOR
    - comparisons: EQ, NEQ, LT, GT, LEQ, GEQ
  - Unary operation  $a = \text{OP } b$ 
    - Arithmetic MINUS or logic NEG
  - Copy instruction:  $a = b$
  - Load /store:  $a = *b, *a = b$
  - Other data movement instructions

# Low IR Instructions, cont.

- Flow of control instructions:
  - label  $L$  : label instruction
  - jump  $L$  : Unconditional jump
  - cjump  $a L$  : conditional jump
- Function call
  - call  $f(a_1, \dots, a_n)$
  - $a = \text{call } f(a_1, \dots, a_n)$
  - Is an extension to quads
- ... IR describes the Instruction Set of an abstract machine

# Example

```
m = 0;  
if (c == 0) {  
    m = m + n * n;  
} else {  
    m = m + n;  
}
```



```
m = 0  
t1 = (c == 0)  
fjump t1 falseb  
t2 = n * n  
m = m + t2  
jump end  
label falseb  
m = m + n  
label end
```

# How To Translate?

- May have nested language constructs
  - Nested if and while statements
- Need an algorithmic way to translate
- Solution:
  - Start from the AST representation
  - Define translation for each node in the AST in terms of a (recursive) translation of its constituents

# Notation

- Use the notation  $T[e]$  = low-level IR of high-level IR construct  $e$
- $T[e]$  is sequence of low-level IR instructions
- If  $e$  is expression (or statement expression),  $T[e]$  represents a value
- Denote by  $t = T[e]$  the low-level IR of  $e$ , whose result value is stored in  $t$
- For variable  $v$ , define  $T[v]$  to be  $v$ , i.e.,  $t = T[v]$  is copy instruction  $t = v$

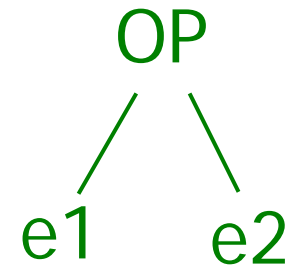
# Translating Expressions

- Binary operations:  $t = T[ e1 \text{ OP } e2 ]$   
(arithmetic operations and comparisons)

$$t1 = T[ e1 ]$$

$$t2 = T[ e2 ]$$

$$t = t1 \text{ OP } t2$$



- Unary operations:  $t = T[ \text{OP } e ]$

$$t1 = T[ e ]$$

$$t = \text{OP } t1$$



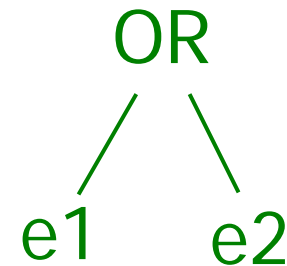
# Translating Boolean Expressions

- $t = T[ e1 \text{ OR } e2 ]$

$$t1 = T[ e1 ]$$

$$t2 = T[ e2 ]$$

$$t = t1 \text{ OR } t2$$



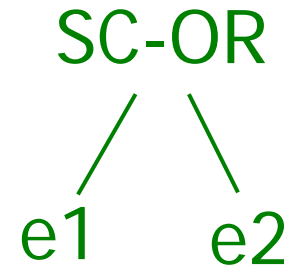
- ... but how about short-circuit OR, for which we should compute  $e2$  only if  $e1$  evaluates to false



# Translating Short-Circuit OR

- Short-circuit OR:  $t = T[ e1 \text{ SC-OR } e2 ]$

```
t = T[ e1 ]  
tjump t Lend  
t = T[ e2 ]  
label Lend
```

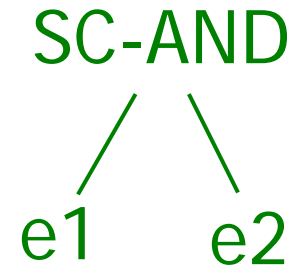


- ... how about short-circuit AND?

# Translating Short-Circuit AND

- Short-circuit AND:  $t = T[ e1 \text{ SC-AND } e2 ]$

```
t = T[ e1 ]  
fjump t Lend  
t = T[ e2 ]  
label Lend
```

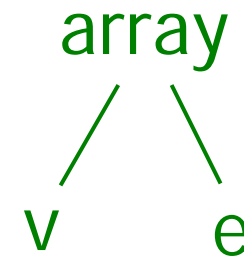


# Array and Field Accesses

- Array access:  $t = T[ v[e] ]$

$t1 = T[ e ]$

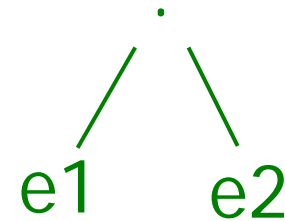
$t = v[t1]$



- Field access:  $t = T[ e1.f ]$

$t1 = T[ e1 ]$

$t = t1.f$



# Nested Expressions

- In these translations, expressions may be nested;
- Translation recurses on the expression structure

- Example:  $t = T[ (a - b) * (c + d) ]$   

$t1 = a$	}	$T[ (a - b) ]$	}	$T[ (a - b) * (c + d) ]$
$t2 = b$				
$t3 = t1 - t2$				
$t4 = b$	}	$T[ (c + d) ]$		
$t5 = c$				
$t5 = t4 + t5$				
$t = t3 * t5$				

# Translating Statements

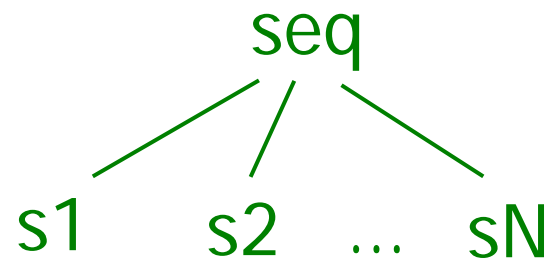
- Statement sequence:  $T[ s1; s2; \dots; sN ]$

$T[ s1 ]$

$T[ s2 ]$

...

$T[ sN ]$



- IR instructions of a statement sequence = concatenation of IR instructions of statements

# Assignment Statements

- Variable assignment:  $T[ v = e ]$

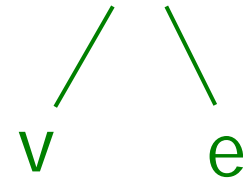
$t = T[ e ]$

$v = t$

[alternatively]

$v = T[ e ]$

var-assign



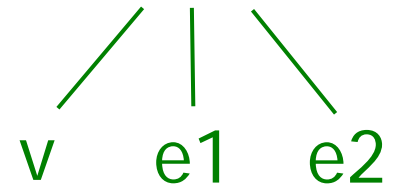
- Array assignment:  $T[ v[e1] = e2 ]$

$t1 = T[ e1 ]$

$t2 = T[ e2 ]$

$v[t1] = t2$

array-assign



# Translating If-Then-Else

- $T[ \text{if } (e) \text{ then } s1 \text{ else } s2 ]$

$t1 = T[ e ]$

fjump t1 Lfalse

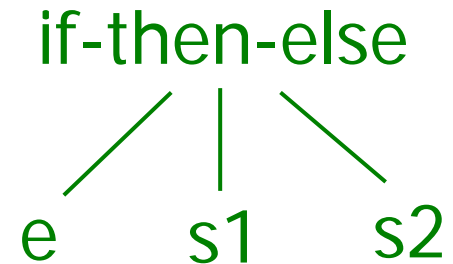
$T[ s1 ]$

jump Lend

label Lfalse

$T[ s2 ]$

label Lend



# Translating If-Then

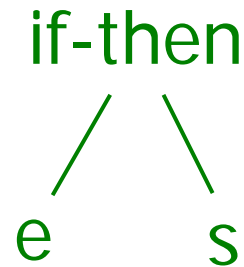
- $T[ \text{if } (e) \text{ then } s ]$

$t1 = T[ e ]$

fjump t1 Lend

$T[ s ]$

label Lend

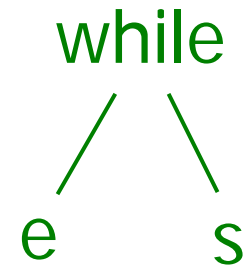




# While Statements

- $T[ \text{while } (e) \{ s \} ]$

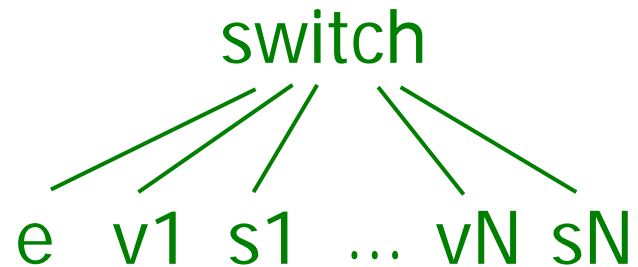
```
label Ltest
t1 =  $T[ e ]$ 
fjump t1 Lend
 $T[ s ]$ 
jump Ltest
label Lend
```



# Switch Statements

- $T[ \text{switch } (e) \{ \text{case } v1: s1, \dots, \text{case } vN: sN \} ]$

```
t = T[ e ]  
c = t != v1  
tjump c L2  
T[ s1 ]  
jump Lend  
label L2  
c = t != v2  
tjump c L3  
T[ s2 ]  
jump Lend  
...  
label LN  
c = t != vN  
tjump c Lend  
T[ sN ]  
label Lend
```



# Call and Return Statements

- $T[ \text{call } f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_N) ]$

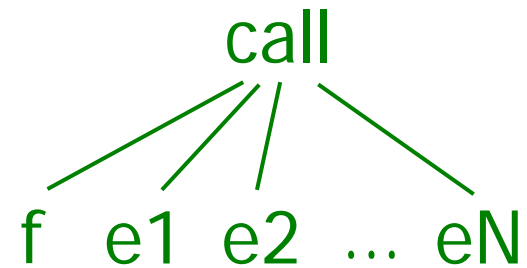
$t_1 = T[ e_1 ]$

$t_2 = T[ e_2 ]$

...

$t_N = T[ e_N ]$

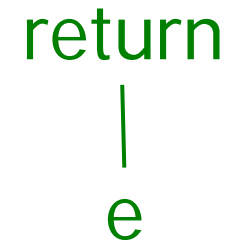
$\text{call } f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N)$



- $T[ \text{return } e ]$

$t = T[ e ]$

$\text{return } t$



# Nested Statements

- Same for statements as expressions: recursive translation

- Example:  $T[ \text{if } c \text{ then if } d \text{ then } a = b ]$

$t1 = c$

$fjump\ t1\ Lend1$

$t2 = d$

$fjump\ t2\ Lend2$

$t3 = b$

$a = t3$

$label\ Lend2$

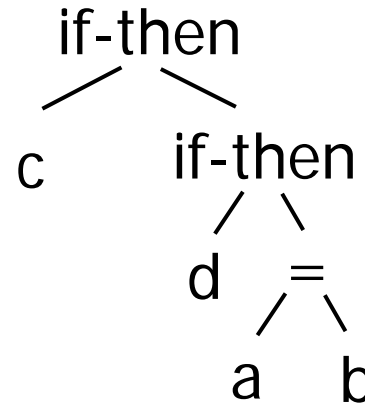
$label\ Lend1$

$T[ a = b ]$

$T[ \text{if } d \dots ]$

$T[ \text{if } c \text{ then } \dots ]$

# IR Lowering Efficiency



t1 = c  
fjump t1 Lend1  
t2 = d  
fjump t2 Lend2  
t3 = b  
a = t3  
label Lend2  
label Lend1

fjump c Lend  
fjump d Lend  
a = b  
Label Lend