GCC Translation Sequence and Gimple IR

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- GCC Translation Sequence
- An External View of Gimple
- An Internal View of Gimple
- Adding a Pass to GCC
- Working with Gimple API



Part 1

GCC Translation Sequence

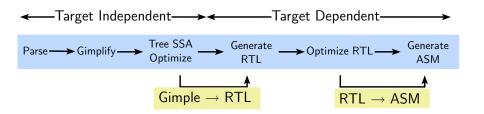
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Transformation Passes in GCC

- A total of 196 unique pass names initialized in \${SOURCE}/gcc/passes.c
 - Some passes are called multiple times in different contexts Conditional constant propagation and dead code elimination are called thrice
 - Some passes are only demo passes (eg. data dependence analysis)
 - Some passes have many variations (eg. special cases for loops) Common subexpression elimination, dead code elimination
- The pass sequence can be divided broadly in two parts
 - Passes on Gimple
 - Passes on RTL
- Some passes are organizational passes to group related passes

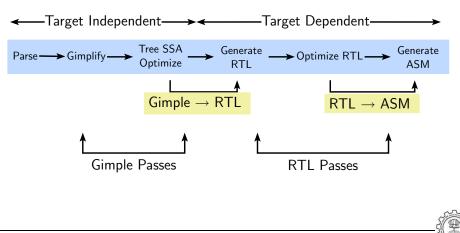


Basic Transformations in GCC





Basic Transformations in GCC



Passes On Gimple

Pass Group	Examples	Number of passes
Lowering	Gimple IR, CFG Construction	12
Interprocedural	Conditional Constant Propagation,	36
Optimizations	Inlining, SSA Construction	
Intraprocedural	Constant Propagation, Dead Code	40
Optimizations	Elimination, PRE	
Loop Optimizations	Vectorization, Parallelization	24
Remaining	Value Range Propagation,	23
Intraprocedural	Rename SSA	
Optimizations		
Generating RTL		01
Total number of passes on Gimple		136



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Passes On RTL

Pass Group	Examples	Number of passes
Intraprocedural	CSE, Jump Optimization	15
Optimizations		
Loop Optimizations	Loop Invariant Movement,	7
	Peeling, Unswitching	
Machine	Register Allocation, Instruction	59
Dependent	Scheduling, Peephole	
Optimizations	Optimizations	
Assembly Emission		03
and Finishing		
Total number of passes on RTL		84



Finding Out List of Optimizations

Along with the associated flags

• A complete list of optimizations with a brief description

gcc -c --help=optimizers

• Optimizations enabled at level 2 (other levels are 0, 1, and 3)

gcc -c -O2 --help=optimizers -Q



Dumps Produced by GCC

To see the output after each pass use the option

```
-fdump-<ir>-<pass>
```

```
where <ir> is
```

```
• tree
```

```
<pass> could be: gimple , cfg etc.
Use -all to see all dumps
```

• rtl

<pass> could be: expand, greg, vreg etc.
Use -all to see all dumps
We can also use -da option

Example:

```
gcc -fdump-tree-all -fdump-rtl-all test.c
```



Example Program

```
int main()
{
    int a=2, b=3, c=4;
    while (a<=7)
    ſ
        a = a+1;
    }
    if (a<=12)
        a = a+b+c;
}
```

Command used to compile the program

gcc -fdump-tree-all -da test.c

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GCC 4.4.2 Dumps for Our Example Program

test.c.001t.tu	test.c.157r.regclass
test.c.003t.original	<pre>test.c.160r.outof_cfglayout</pre>
test.c.004t.gimple	test.c.166r.split1
test.c.006t.vcg	test.c.168r.dfinit
test.c.007t.useless	test.c.169r.mode-sw
test.c.010t.lower	test.c.171r.asmcons
test.c.011t.ehopt	test.c.174r.subregs_of_mode_init
test.c.012t.eh	test.c.175r.lreg
test.c.013t.cfg	test.c.176r.greg
test.c.014t.cplxlower0	<pre>test.c.177r.subregs_of_mode_finish</pre>
test.c.015t.veclower	test.c.180r.split2
test.c.021t.cleanup_cfg1	test.c.182r.pro_and_epilogue
<pre>test.c.051t.apply_inline</pre>	test.c.196r.stack
test.c.131r.expand	test.c.197r.alignments
test.c.132r.sibling	test.c.200r.mach
test.c.134r.initvals	test.c.201r.barriers
test.c.135r.unshare	test.c.204r.eh-ranges
test.c.136r.vregs	test.c.205r.shorten
test.c.137r.into_cfglayout	test.c.206r.dfinish
test.c.138r.jump	test.s

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Examples of Gimple and RTL Dumps

Gimple (or Tree-SSA) dumps	RTL dumps
Dump file number ending in t	Dump file number ending in r
test.c.003t.original	test.c.166 <mark>r</mark> .split1
test.c.004t.gimple	test.c.168r.dfinit
test.c.006t.vcg	test.c.169 <mark>r</mark> .mode-sw
test.c.007t.useless	test.c.171r.asmcons
test.c.010t.lower	test.c.175 <mark>r</mark> .lreg
test.c.013t.cfg	test.c.176 <mark>r</mark> .greg



Dumping Detailed Information of a Pass

• For Gimple passes (dump file numbers ending in t)

```
gcc -fdump-tree-<name>-all
```

- For RTL passes (dump file numbers ending in r)
 gcc -fdump-rtl-<name>-all
- In each case, <name> is the dump file name extension of the pass



Selected Dumps for Our Example Program

test.c.001t.tu test.c.003t.original test.c.004t.gimple test.c.006t.vcg test.c.007t.useless test.c.010t.lower test.c.011t.ehopt test.c.012t.eh test.c.013t.cfg test.c.014t.cplxlower0 test.c.015t.veclower test.c.021t.cleanup_cfg1 test.c.051t.apply_inline test.c.131r.expand test.c.132r.sibling test.c.134r.initvals test.c.135r.unshare test.c.136r.vregs test.c.137r.into_cfglayout test.c.138r.jump test.s

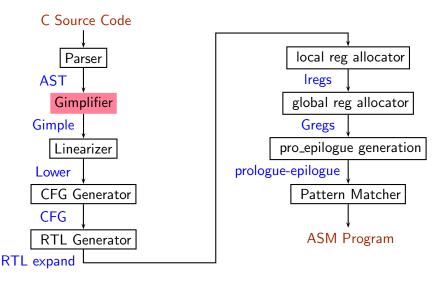
test.c.157r.regclass test.c.160r.outof_cfglayout test.c.166r.split1 test.c.168r.dfinit test.c.169r.mode-sw test.c.171r.asmcons test.c.174r.subregs_of_mode_init test.c.175r.lreg test.c.176r.greg test.c.177r.subregs_of_mode_finish test.c.180r.split2 test.c.182r.pro_and_epilogue test.c.196r.stack test.c.197r.alignments test.c.200r.mach test.c.201r.barriers test.c.204r.eh-ranges test.c.205r.shorten test.c.206r.dfinish

Part 2

An External View of Gimple

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Important Phases of GCC





Gimplifier

- Three-address language independent representation derived from Generic
 - Computation represented as a sequence of basic operations
 - Temporaries introduced to hold intermediate values
- Control construct are explicated into conditional jumps

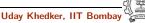


Motivation behind Gimple

- Previously, the only common IR was RTL (Register Transfer Language)
- Drawbacks of RTL for performing high-level optimizations :
 - RTL is a low-level IR, works well for optimizations close to machine (e.g., register allocation)
 - Some high level information is difficult to extract from RTL (e.g. array references, data types etc.)
 - Optimizations involving such higher level information are difficult to do using RTL.
 - Introduces stack too soon, even if later optimizations dont demand it.

Notice

Inlining at tree level could partially address the the last limitation of RTL.



Why not ASTs for optimization ?

- ASTs contain detailed function information but are not suitable for optimization because
 - Lack of a common representation
 - No single AST shared by all front-ends
 - So each language would have to have a different implementation of the same optimizations
 - Difficult to maintain and upgrade so many optimization frameworks
 - Structural Complexity
 - Lots of complexity due to the syntactic constructs of each language



Need for a new IR

- In the past, compiler would only build up trees for a single statement, and then lower them to RTL before moving on to the next statement.
- For higher level optimizations, entire function needs to be represented in trees in a language-independent way.
- Result of this effort Generic and Gimple



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What is Generic ?

What?

- Language independent IR for a complete function in the form of trees
- Obtained by removing language specific constructs from ASTs
- All tree codes defined in \$(SOURCE)/gcc/tree.def

Why?

- Each language frontend can have its own AST
- Once parsing is complete they must emit Generic



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What is Gimple ?

- Gimple is influenced by SIMPLE IR of McCat compiler
- But Gimple is not same as SIMPLE (Gimple supports GOTO)
- It is a simplified subset of Generic
 - 3 address representation
 - Control flow lowering
 - Cleanups and simplification, restricted grammar
- Benefit : Optimizations become easier



Gimple Phase Sequence in cc1 and GCC-4.3.1

```
c_genericize()
                                      c-gimplify.c
  gimplify_function_tree()
                                        gimplify.c
      gimplify_body()
                                        gimplify.c
         gimplify_stmt()
                                        gimplify.c
            gimplify_expr()
                                        gimplify.c
lang_hooks.callgraph.expand_function()
tree_rest_of_compilation()
                                   tree-optimize.c
  tree_register_cfg_hooks()
                                        cfghooks.c
  execute_pass_list()
                                          passes.c
 /* TO: Gimple Optimisations passes */
          NEXT_PASS(pass_lower_cf)
```

May have changed in GCC-4.4.2

Gimple Goals

The Goals of Gimple are

- Lower control flow Program = sequenced statements + unrestricted jump
- Simplify expressions Typically: two operand assignments!
- Simplify scope move local scope to block begin, including temporaries

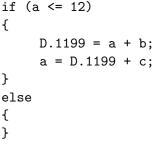
Notice

Lowered control flow \rightarrow nearer to register machines + Easier SSA!



Gimple: Translation of Composite Expressions

```
Dump file: test.c.004t.gimple
   int main()
   {
       int a=2, b=3, c=4;
                                 ł
       while (a<=7)
           a = a+1;
                                 }
       }
                                 else
        if (a<=12)
             a = a+b+c;
   }
```



```
int main()
ł
    int a=2, b=3, c=4;
     while (a<=7)
          a = a+1:
    if (a<=12)
        a = a+b+c;
}
```

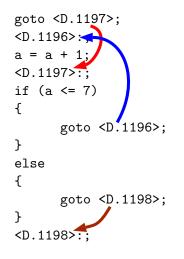
```
goto <D.1197>;
<D.1196>:;
a = a + 1;
<D.1197>:;
if (a <= 7)
ſ
      goto <D.1196>;
}
else
      goto <D.1198>;
}
<D.1198>:;
```

```
int main()
ſ
    int a=2, b=3, c=4;
     while (a<=7)
          a = a+1;
    if (a<=12)
        a = a+b+c;
}
```

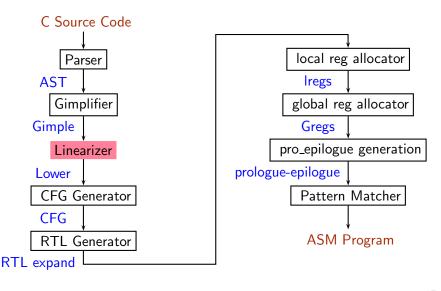
```
goto <D.1197>;
<D.1196>:;
a = a + 1;
<D.1197>:;
if (a <= 7)
ſ
      goto <D.1196>;
}
else
      goto <D.1198>;
<D.1198>:;
```

```
int main()
ł
   int a=2, b=3, c=4;
     while (a<=7)
          a = a+1;
    if (a<=12)
        a = a+b+c;
}
```

```
int main()
ſ
    int a=2, b=3, c=4;
     while (a<=7)
          a = a+1;
    if (a<=12)
        a = a+b+c;
}
```



Important Phases of GCC





Lowering Gimple

Dump file: test.c.010t.lower

if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
<D.1200>:;
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
<D.1201>:;
return;



Lowering Gimple

Dump file: test.c.010t.lower

if-then translated in terms of conditional and unconditional gotos



Lowering Gimple

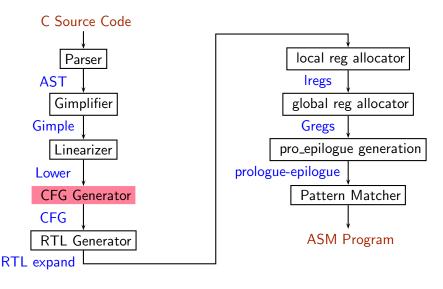
Dump file: test.c.010t.lower

ī.

if-then translated in terms of conditional and unconditional gotos



Important Phases of GCC



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```
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```

Constructing the Control Flow Graph

```
Dump file: test.c.013t.cfg
                                  else
 if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
 <D.1200>::
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
 <D.1201>:;
return;
```

```
# BLOCK 5
# PRED: 4 (false)
if (a <= 12)
  goto <bb 6>;
  goto <bb 7>;
# SUCC: 6 (true) 7 (false)
# BLOCK 6
# PRED: 5 (true)
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
# SUCC: 7 (fallthru)
# BLOCK 7
# PRED: 5 (false) 6 (fallthru)
return;
# SUCC: EXIT
```

```
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```

```
if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
<D.1200>::
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
<D.1201>:;
return;
```

Dump file: test.c.013t.cfg

```
# BLOCK 5
# PRED: 4 (false)
if (a <= 12)
  goto <bb 6>;
else
  goto <bb 7>;
# SUCC: 6 (true) 7 (false)
# BLOCK 6
# PRED: 5 (true)
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
# SUCC: 7 (fallthru)
# BLOCK 7
# PRED: 5 (false) 6 (fallthru)
return;
# SUCC: EXIT
```

```
CS 715
```

```
Dump file: test.c.013t.cfg
 if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
 <D.1200>::
D.1199 = a + b;
 a = D.1199 + c;
 <D.1201>:;
return;
```

```
# BLOCK 5
# PRED: 4 (false)
if (a <= 12)
 goto <bb 6>;
else
  goto <bb 7>;
# SUCC: 6 (true) 7 (false)
# BLOCK 6
# PRED: 5 (true)
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
# SUCC: 7 (fallthru)
# BLOCK 7
# PRED: 5 (false) 6 (fallthru)
return;
# SUCC: EXIT
```

```
if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
<D.1200>::
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
<D.1201>:;
return;
```

Dump file: test.c.013t.cfg

```
# BLOCK 5
# PRED: 4 (false)
if (a <= 12)
  goto <bb 6>;
else
  goto <bb 7>;
# SUCC: 6 (true) 7 (false)
# BLOCK 6
# PRED: 5 (true)
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
# SUCC: 7 (fallthru)
# BLOCK 7
# PRED: 5 (false) 6 (fallthru)
return;
# SUCC: EXIT
```

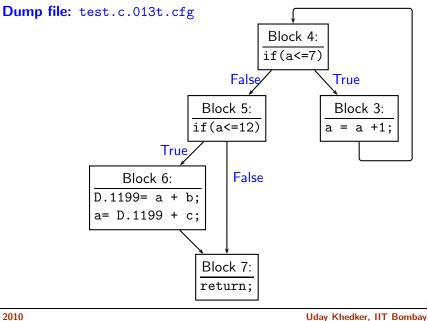
```
CS 715
```

```
Dump file: test.c.013t.cfg
 if (a <= 12) goto <D.1200>;
else goto <D.1201>;
 <D.1200>::
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
 <D.1201>:;
return;
```

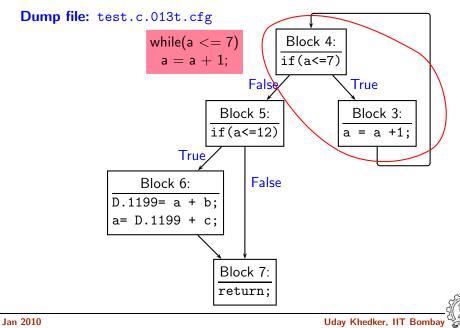
```
# BLOCK 5
# PRED: 4 (false)
if (a <= 12)
  goto <bb 6>;
else
  goto <bb 7>;
# SUCC: 6 (true) 7 (false)
# BLOCK 6
# PRED: 5 (true)
D.1199 = a + b;
a = D.1199 + c;
# SUCC: 7 (fallthru)
# BLOCK 7
# PRED: 5 (false) 6 (fallthru)
return:
# SUCC: EXIT
```



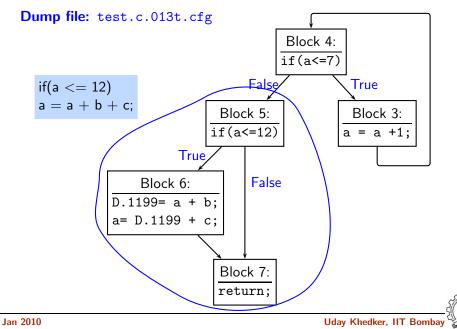
Control Flow Graph



Control Flow Graph



Control Flow Graph



Resolving doubts by inspecting Gimple

```
Inspect Gimple when in doubt
```

```
int main(void)
{
    int x=2,y=3;
    x= y++ + ++x + ++y ;
    printf("\nx = %d", x);
    printf("\ny = %d", y);
    return 0;
}
```



Resolving doubts by inspecting Gimple

```
Inspect Gimple when in doubt
```

```
int main(void)
{
    int x=2,y=3;
    x= y++ + ++x + ++y ;
    printf("\nx = %d", x);
    printf("\ny = %d", y);
    return 0;
}
```

```
x = 2;
y = 3;
x = x + 1;
D.1572 = y + x;
y = y + 1;
x = D.1572 + y;
y = y + 1;
printf (&"\nx = %d"[0], x);
printf (&"\y = %d"[0], y);
```

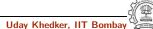


Resolving doubts by inspecting Gimple

Inspect Gimple when in doubt

```
x = 2;
int main(void)
                                     y = 3;
ł
                                     x = x + 1;
  int x=2,y=3;
                                     D.1572 = y + x;
  x = y + + + + + x + + + y;
                                     y = y + 1;
  printf("\nx = \%d", x);
                                     x = D.1572 + y;
  printf("\ny = %d", y);
                                     y = y + 1;
  return 0;
                                     printf (\&'' = \%d''[0], x);
}
                                     printf (\&" \ = \ d"[0], y);
```

x = 10, y = 5



Decisions that have been taken

- Three-address representation is generated
- All high level control flow structures are made explicit.
- Source code divided into interconnected blocks of sequential statements.
- This is a convenient structure for later analysis.



Part 3

An Internal View of Gimple in GCC-4.3.1

High Gimple in GCC-4.3.1

Gimple is based on *tree* data structure.

- Gimple that is not fully lowered.
- Consists of Intermediate Language before the pass pass_lower_cf.
- Contains some container statements like lexical scopes and nested expressions.
- High Gimple Instruction Set : GIMPLE_BIND, GIMPLE_CALL, GIMPLE_CATCH, GIMPLE_GOTO, GIMPLE_EH_FILTER, GIMPLE_RETURN, GIMPLE_SWITCH, GIMPLE_TRY, GIMPLE_ASSIGN



Low Gimple in GCC-4.3.1

Gimple is based on *tree* data structure.

- Gimple that is fully lowered after the pass *pass_lower_cf*.
- Exposes all of the implicit jumps for control and exception expressions.
- Low Gimple Instruction Set : GIMPLE_CALL, GIMPLE_GOTO, GIMPLE_RETURN, GIMPLE_SWITCH, GIMPLE_ASSIGN
- Lowered Instruction Set : GIMPLE_BIND, GIMPLE_CATCH, GIMPLE_EH_FILTER, GIMPLE_TRY



Some Gimple Node types in GCC-4.3.1

Binary Operator	MAX_EXPR
Comparison	EQ_EXPR, LT_EXPR
Constants	INTEGER_CST, STRING_CST
Declaration	FUNCTION_DECL, LABEL_DECL , VAR_DECL
Expression	PLUS_EXPR, ADDR_EXPR
Reference	COMPONENT_REF, ARRAY_RANGE_REF
Statement	GIMPLE_MODIFY_STMT, RETURN_EXPR, COND_EXPR,
	INIT_EXPR
Туре	BOOLEAN_TYPE, INTEGER_TYPE
Unary	ABS_EXPR, NEGATE_EXPR

Tip:

All tree nodes (\sim 152) in GCC are listed in: (SOURCE)/gcc/tree.def (In GCC-4.4.2, the file is (SOURCE)/gcc/gimple.def)



Part 4

Adding a Pass to GCC

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Adding a Pass on Gimple IR in GCC-4.3.1

- Step 0. Write function gccwk09_main() in file gccwk09.c.
- Step 1. Create the following data structure in file gccwk09.c. struct tree_opt_pass pass_gccwk09 =

```
ſ
   "gccwk09", /* name */
               /* gate, for conditional entry to this pass */
   NULL.
   gccwk09_main, /* execute, main entry point */
   NULL,
               /* sub-passes, depending on the gate predicate */
               /* next sub-passes, independ of the gate predicate */
   NULL,
   0,
               /* static_pass_number , used for dump file name*/
   0,
               /* tv id */
   0,
               /* properties_required, indicated by bit position */
   0,
               /* properties_provided , indicated by bit position*/
   0,
               /* properties_destroyed , indicated by bit position*/
   0,
               /* todo_flags_start */
               /* todo_flags_finish */
   0,
               /* character for RTL dump */
   0,
};
```



Adding a Pass on Gimple IR in GCC-4.4.2

Step 0. Write function gccwk09_main() in file gccwk09.c.

```
• Step 1. Create the following data structure in file gccwk09.c.
  struct gimple_opt_pass pass_gccwk09 =
  ſ
```

```
GIMPLE_PASS,
```

```
"gccwk09", /* name */
```

```
NULL,
            /* gate, for conditional entry to this pass */
```

```
gccwk09_main, /* execute, main entry point */
```

```
NULL,
            /* sub-passes, depending on the gate predicate */
```

```
NULL,
            /* next sub-passes, independ of the gate predicate */
0,
            /* static_pass_number , used for dump file name*/
```

/* properties_required, indicated by bit position */ /* properties_provided , indicated by bit position*/ /* properties_destroyed , indicated by bit position*/ /* todo flags start */

0,

0,

0, 0,

• Step 2. Add the following line to tree-pass.h extern struct gimple_opt_pass pass_gccwk09;



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- Step 3. Include the following call at an appropriate place in the function init_optimization_passes() in the file passes.c NEXT_PASS (pass_gccwk09);



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- Step 3. Include the following call at an appropriate place in the function init_optimization_passes() in the file passes.c NEXT_PASS (pass_gccwk09);
- Step 4. Add the file name in the Makefile
 - Either in \$SOURCE/gcc/Makefile.in Reconfigure and remake
 - Or in \$BUILD/gcc/Makefile Remake



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- Step 5. Build the compiler



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- Step 4. Add the file name in the Makefile
 - Either in \$SOURCE/gcc/Makefile.in Reconfigure and remake
 - Or in \$BUILD/gcc/Makefile Remake
- Step 5. Build the compiler
- Step 6. Debug using gdb if need arises



Part 5

Working with the Gimple API in GCC-4.3.1

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Gimple Statements

- Gimple Statements are nodes of type tree
- Every basic block contains a doubly linked-list of statements
- Processing of statements can be done through iterators

Gimple Statements

- Gimple Statements are nodes of type tree
- Every basic block contains a doubly linked-list of statements
- Processing of statements can be done through iterators

block_statement_iterator bsi; basic_block bb;



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Gimple Statements

- Gimple Statements are nodes of type tree
- Every basic block contains a doubly linked-list of statements
- Processing of statements can be done through iterators

```
block_statement_iterator bsi;
basic_block bb;
FOR_EACH_BB (bb)
```

Basic Block Iterator



Gimple Statements

- Gimple Statements are nodes of type tree
- Every basic block contains a doubly linked-list of statements
- Processing of statements can be done through iterators

```
block_statement_iterator bsi;
basic_block bb;
FOR_EACH_BB (bb)
for ( bsi =bsi_start(bb); !bsi_end_p(bsi); bsi_next(&bsi))
Block Statement Iterator
```



Gimple Statements

- Gimple Statements are nodes of type tree
- Every basic block contains a doubly linked-list of statements
- Processing of statements can be done through iterators

```
block_statement_iterator bsi;
basic_block bb;
FOR_EACH_BB (bb)
for ( bsi =bsi_start(bb); !bsi_end_p(bsi); bsi_next(&bsi))
print_generic_stmt (stderr, bsi_stmt(bsi), 0);
```



A simple application

Counting the number of assignment statements in Gimple

```
#include <stdio.h>
int m,q,p;
int main(void)
{
    int x,y,z,w;
    x = y + 5;
    z = x * m;
    p = m + q + w;
    return 0;
}
```

```
x = y + 5;
m.0 = m;
z = x * m.0;
m.1 = m;
q.2 = q;
D.1580 = m.1 + q.2;
p.3 = D.1580 + w;
p = p.3;
D.1582 = 0;
return D.1582;
```

The statements in blue are the assignments corresponding to the source.

A simple application

Counting the number of assignment statements in Gimple

```
struct tree_opt_pass pass_gccwk09 =
{
    "gccwk09",
     NULL,
     gccwk09_main,
     NULL,
     NULL,
     0,
     0,
     0,
     0,
     0,
     0,
     0,
     0
};
```

A simple application

Counting the number of assignment statements in Gimple

```
static unsigned int gccwk09_main(void)
ſ
   basic_block bb;
   block_stmt_iterator si;
   initialize_stats();
   FOR_EACH_BB (bb)
  {
      for (si=bsi_start(bb); !bsi_end_p(si); bsi_next(&si))
          ł
            tree stmt = bsi_stmt(si);
            process_statement(stmt);
          }
  }
   return 0;
}
```

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A simple application

Counting the number of assignment statements in Gimple

```
void process_statement(tree stmt)
      tree lval,rval;
   Ł
        switch (TREE_CODE(stmt))
        ł
             case GIMPLE_MODIFY_STMT:
                  lval=GIMPLE_STMT_OPERAND(stmt,0);
                  rval=GIMPLE_STMT_OPERAND(stmt,1);
                  if(TREE_CODE(lval) == VAR_DECL)
                       if(!DECL_ARTIFICIAL(lval))
                  Ł
                           print_generic_stmt(stderr,stmt,0);
                        ſ
                           numassigns++;
                       totalassigns++;
                  }
                  break;
            default :
                  break;
        }
                                                 Uday Khedker, IIT Bombay
Jan 2010
```

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A simple application

Counting the number of assignment statements in Gimple

- Add the following in \$(SOURCE)/gcc/common.opt :
- fpass_gccwk09
- Common Report Var (flag_pass_gccwk09)
- Enable pass named pass_gccwk09

Compile using ./gcc -fdump-tree-all -fpass_gccwk09 test.c

