Code Optimization Techniques









Exercise: Improve Cache Hit Rate by		
rewriting the code	i=0;	
 Assume array A[16] Assume cache block size = 4 Assume total cache size= 2 blocks Assume 	<pre>while (i<16){ A[i]= A[i] *10; i= i+4; } i=1; while (i<16){ A[i] = A[i]*20; i=i+4; }</pre>	
	i=2;	
	while (i<16){ A[i]=A[i]*30;	
	<pre>i= i+4;} i=3; while (i<16){</pre>	
	A[i]= A[i]*40; i= i+4;}	



Code with Improved locality		
<pre>i=0; while (i<16){ Cache accesses: A[i]= A[i] *10; Miss A[i+1] = A[i+1]*20; Hit A[i+2] = A[i+2]*30; Hit A[i+3] = A[i+3]*40 Hit Hit Miss Hit Hit Miss </pre>		

































Register Allocation

•Storing and accessing variables from registers is much faster than accessing data from memory.

• Variables ought to be stored in registers

•It is useful to store variables as long as possible, once they are loaded into registers

•Registers are bounded in number

- "register-sharing" is needed over time.
- Some variables have to be 'flushed' to memory
- Reading from memory takes longer
- how important is Register allocation to performance?
 - efficient register allocators improved performance 25%
 - Poor allocation means repeatedly reading variables from memory

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Register Allocation
{
...
i=10;
x=y+i;
while (i<100) {
a = a*100
b = b + 100
i++;
}
•Suppose you have 3 registers available...and 5 variables
•should you place a and b into same register ?
•Can you place x and a into same register ?</pre>











 As SW developers, these should be a 'default' when you write code...

• THIS is what separates you from those who take a single programming course and claim they know CS!!

•How does it work: a large 'menu' of optimization techniques

- Some dependent on general architecture
 - $\,\circ\,$ Ex: Pipelined processors and loop unrolling
- We cover a small sample that works on all processors





Code-Optimizing Transformations

Constant folding

(1 + 2)	\Rightarrow	3
(100 > 0)	\Rightarrow	true

This saves one instruction – reduce IC





















Code Optimization Techniques: Part 2





- Recall Principle of Locality:
 - Programs tend to reuse data and instructions near those they have used recently, or that were recently referenced themselves.
 - Temporal locality: Recently referenced items are likely to be referenced in the near future.
 - Spatial locality: Items with nearby addresses tend to be referenced close together in time.
- Being able to look at code and get a qualitative sense of its locality is a key skill for a professional software developer.



Exercise: Improve Cache Hit Rate by			
rewriting the code	i=0;		
 Assume array A[16] Assume cache block size = 4 Assume total cache size= 2 blocks 	<pre>while (i<16){ A[i]= A[i] *10; i= i+4; } i=1;</pre>		
•Array access pattern: A[0], A[4], A[8], A[12], A[1], A[5], A[9],	while (i<16){ A[i] = A[i]*20; i=i+4; }		
	i=2;		
	while (i<16){ A[i]=A[i]*30; i= i+4;}		
	i=3;		
	while (i<16){ A[i]= A[i]*40; i= i+4;}		



Code with Improved locality				
i=0;				
	while (i<16){			
Cache accesses:	A[I] = A[I] 10;			
Miss	$A[1+1] = A[1+1]^{+}20;$ $A[i+2] = A[i+2]^{*}30;$			
Hit	A[i+3] = A[i+3]*40 ; }			
Hit				
Hit	Array access pattern:			
Miss	A[0], A[1], A[2], A[3], A[4], A[5], A[6],A[7],			
Hit				
Hit				
Hit				
Miss				





















```
Merging Arrays Example
/* Before: 2 sequential arrays */
int val[SIZE];
int key[SIZE];
/* After: 1 array of stuctures */
struct merge {
    int val;
    int key;
    };
struct merge merged_array[SIZE];

Reducing conflicts between val & key;
improve spatial locality
```





















