

36 → 26

RSP/RBP

Functions

Next, we'll build **diamondback** which adds support for

- **User-Defined Functions**

In the process of doing so, we will learn about

- **Static Checking**
- **Calling Conventions**
- **Tail Recursion**

X86-64

↳ What TR?
How loop

Plan

1. **Defining** Functions
2. **Checking** Functions
3. **Compiling** Functions
4. **Compiling** Tail Calls

Only "loop"



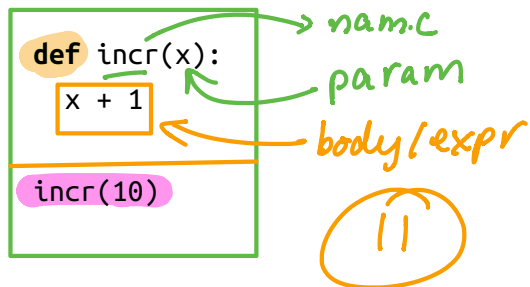
1. Defining Functions

First, lets add functions to our language.

As always, lets look at some examples.

Example: Increment

For example, a function that increments its input:



We have a function definition followed by a single “main” expression, which is evaluated to yield the program’s result 11 .

Example: Factorial

Here’s a somewhat more interesting example:

```
def fac(n):  
    let t = print(n) in  
    if (n < 1):  
        1  
    else:  
        n * fac(n - 1)  
  
fac(5)
```

5
4
3
2
1
0
120

fac(5)

5
4
3
2
1
0
120

This program should produce the result

5
4
3
2
1
0
120

Suppose we modify the above to produce intermediate results:

```

def fac(n):
    let t = print(n)
    , res = if (n < 1):
            1
            else:
            n * fac(n - 1)
    in
    print(res)

```

def/assign/writes (pink arrow pointing to `def fac(n):`)

reads/uses (green arrow pointing to `print(n)`)

reads/uses (green arrow pointing to `res`)

reads/uses (green arrow pointing to `n * fac(n - 1)`)

reads/uses (green arrow pointing to `print(res)`)

fac(5)

we should now get:

5
4
3
2
1
0
1
1
2
6
24
120
120

5

4

3

2

1

0

1

1

2

6

24

120

120

Example: Mutually Recursive Functions

For this language, **the function definitions are global**

any function can call any other function.

This lets us write *mutually recursive* functions like:


```
def even(n):  
    if (n == 0):  
        true  
    else:  
        odd(n - 1)
```

```
def odd(n):  
    if (n == 0):  
        false  
    else:  
        even(n - 1)
```

```
let t0 = print(even(0)),  
    t1 = print(even(1)),  
    t2 = print(even(2)),  
    t3 = print(even(3))
```

in

0

QUIZ What should be the result of executing the above?

1. false true false true 0
2. true false true false 0
3. false false false false 0

4. true true true true 0

Types

Lets add some new types to represent programs.

→ Expr a

→ data Func a = Func
 { fName :: Bind a
 fParams :: [Bind a]
 fBody :: Expr a

Bind a =
 Bind Id a

$f \text{ Expr} :: \text{Expr } a$
 \downarrow
 $\text{data Prog} = \text{Prog } [\text{Func } a] (\text{Expr } a)$

Bindings

Lets create a special type that represents places where **variables are bound**,

```
data Bind a = Bind Id a
```

A `Bind` is an `Id` *decorated with* an `a`

- to save extra *metadata* like **tags** or **source positions**
- to make it easy to report errors.

We will use `Bind` at two places:

1. **Let**-bindings,
2. Function **parameters**.

It will be helpful to have a function to extract the `Id` corresponding to a `Bind`

```
bindId :: Bind a -> Id
bindId (Bind x _) = x
```

Programs

A **program** is a list of declarations and *main* expression.

```
data Program a = Prog
  { pDecls :: [Decl a]    -- ^ function declarations
  , pBody  :: !(Expr a)  -- ^ "main" expression
  }
```

Declarations

Each function lives in its own **declaration**,

```
data Decl a = Decl
  { fName  :: (Bind a)    -- ^ name
  , fArgs  :: [Bind a]    -- ^ parameters
  , fBody  :: (Expr a)    -- ^ body expression
  , fLabel :: a           -- ^ metadata/tag
  }
```

Expressions

Finally, lets add *function application* (calls) to the source expressions:

data Expr a

= ...

| Let (Bind a) (Expr a) (Expr a) a

| App Id [Expr a] a

An *application* or *call* comprises

- an Id , the name of the function being called,
- a list of expressions corresponding to the parameters, and
- a metadata/tag value of type a .

(**Note:** that we are now using Bind instead of plain Id at a Let.)

Examples Revisited

Lets see how the examples above are represented:

incr fac

```

>>> parseFile "tests/input/incr.diamond"
Prog { pDecls = [Decl { fName = Bind "incr" ()
                      , fArgs = [Bind "n" ()]
                      , fBody = Prim2 Plus (Id "n" ()) (Number 1 ())
                    }
              ]
      , pBody = App "incr" [Number 5 ()] ()
    }

>>> parseFile "tests/input/fac.diamond"
Prog { pDecls = [ Decl {fName = Bind "fac" ()
                      , fArgs = [Bind "n" ()]
                      , fBody = Let (Bind "t" ()) (Prim1 Print (Id "n" ()))
                                (If (Prim2 Less (Id "n" ())) (Number 1 ()))
                                (Number 1 ()))
                    (Prim2 Times (Id "n" ()))
                    (App "fac" [Prim2 Minus (Id "n" ()))
                    (Number 1 ()) (()) (())
                    (()) (()) (())
                    , fLabel = ()}
      ]

```



```
, pBody = App "fac" [Number 5 ()] ()  
}
```

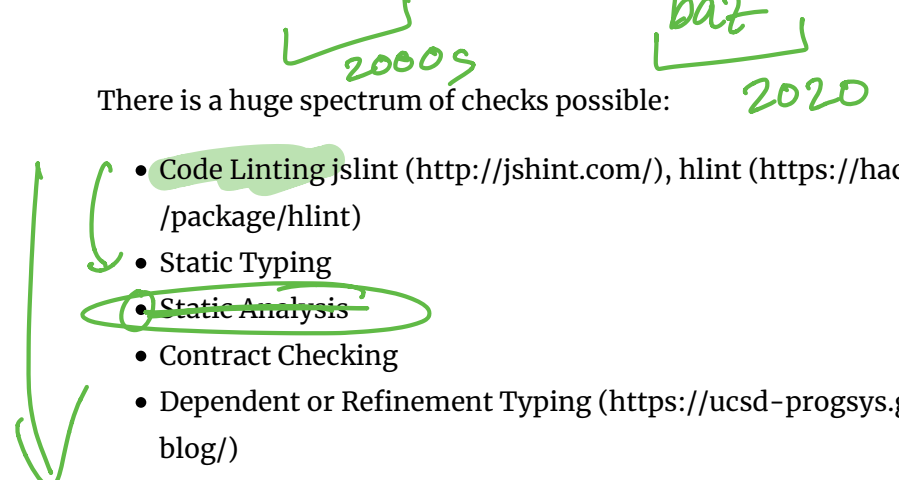
2. Static Checking

Next, we will look at an *increasingly important* aspect of compilation, **pointing out bugs in the code at compile time**

Called **Static Checking** because we do this *without* (i.e. *before*) compiling and running the code.

foo
bar

There is a huge spectrum of checks possible:

- 
- Code Linting `jslint` (<http://jshint.com/>), `hlint` (<https://hackage.haskell.org/package/hlint>)
 - Static Typing
 - ~~Static Analysis~~
 - Contract Checking
 - Dependent or Refinement Typing (<https://ucsd-progsys.github.io/liquidhaskell-blog/>)

Increasingly, *this* is the most important phase of a compiler, and modern compiler engineering is built around making these checks lightning fast. For more, see this interview of Anders Hejlsberg (<https://www.infoq.com/news/2016/05/anders-hejlsberg-compiler>) the architect of the C# and TypeScript compilers.


Language SERVERS

Static Well-formedness Checking

We will look at code linting and, later in the quarter, type systems in 131.

For the former, suppose you tried to compile:

```
def fac(n):  
    let t = print(n) in  
    if (n < 1):  
        1  
    else:  
        n * fac(n - 1)
```



```
fact(5) + fac(3, 4)
```

We would like compilation to fail, not silently, but with useful messages:

```
$ make tests/output/err-fac.result
```

Errors found!

```
tests/input/err-fac.diamond:6:13-14: Unbound variable 'm'
```

```
6|      n * fac(m - 1)
   |                ^
```

```
tests/input/err-fac.diamond:8:1-9: Function 'fact' is not defined
```

```
8| fact(5) + fac(3, 4)
   | ^^^^^^^^
```

```
tests/input/err-fac.diamond:(8:11)-(9:1): Wrong arity of arguments at
call of fac
```

```
8| fact(5) + fac(3, 4)
   | ^^^^^^^^
```

We get *multiple* errors:

1. The variable `m` is not defined,
2. The function `fact` is not defined,

3. The call `fac` has the wrong number of arguments.

Next, lets see how to update the architecture of our compiler to support these and other kinds of errors.

Types: An Error Reporting API

An error message type:

①

```
data UserError = Error
  { eMsg  :: !Text           -- ^ error message
  , eSpan :: !SourceSpan    -- ^ source position
  }
deriving (Show, Typeable)
```

We make it an *exception* (that can be *thrown*):

②

```
instance Exception [UserError]
```

We can **create** errors with:

```
mkError :: Text -> SourceSpan -> Error
mkError msg l = Error msg l
```

We can **throw** errors with:

```
abort :: UserError -> a
abort e = throw [e]
```

We **display** errors with:

```
renderErrors :: [UserError] -> IO Text
```

which takes something like:

Error

```
"Unbound variable 'm'"
{ file      = "tests/input/err-fac"
, startLine = 8
, startCol  = 1
, endLine   = 8
, endCol    = 9
}
```

and produces a **contextual message** (that requires reading the source file),

```
tests/input/err-fac.diamond:6:13-14: Unbound variable 'm'
```

```
6|      n * fac(m - 1)
   |                ^
```

We can put it all together by

```
-- bin/Main.hs
main :: IO ()
main = runCompiler catch` esHandle

esHandle :: [UserError] -> IO ()
esHandle es = renderErrors es >=> hPutStrLn stderr >> exitFailure
```

Which runs the compiler and if any `UserError` are thrown, catch -es and renders the result.

Transforms

Next, lets insert a checker phase into our pipeline:



Compiler Pipeline with Checking Phase

In the above, we have defined the types:

```
type BareP    = Program SourceSpan    -- ^ source position metadat  
a  
type AnfP     = Program SourceSpan    -- ^ sub-exprs in ANF  
type AnfTagP = Program (SourceSpan, Tag) -- ^ sub-exprs have unique t  
ag
```

Catching Multiple Errors

Its rather irritating to get errors one-by-one.

To make using a language and compiler pleasant, lets return *as many errors as possible* in each run.

We will implement this by writing the functions

```
wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]
```

which will *recursively traverse* the entire program, declaration and expression and return the *list of all errors*.

- If this list is empty, we just return the source unchanged,
- Otherwise, we throw the list of found errors (and exit.)

Thus, our check function looks like this:

```
check :: BareProgram -> BareProgram
check p = case wellFormed p of
    [] -> p
    es -> throw es
```

Well-formed Programs, Declarations and Expressions

The bulk of the work is done by three functions

PROG

-- Check a whole program

```
wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]
```

DECL

-- Check a single declaration

```
wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]
```

EXPR

-- Check a single expression

```
wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]
```

Well-formed Programs

To check the whole program

```
wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]
wellFormed (Prog ds e)
  = concat [wellFormedD fEnv d | d <- ds]
  ++ wellFormedE fEnv emptyEnv e
  where
    fEnv = funEnv ds

funEnv :: [Decl] -> FunEnv
funEnv ds = fromListEnv [(bindId f, length xs)
                        | Decl f xs _ _ <- ds]
```

This function,

1. **Creates** `FunEnv`, a map from *function-names* to the *function-arity* (number of params),
2. **Computes** the errors for each declaration (given functions in `fEnv`),
3. **Concatenates** the resulting lists of errors.

QUIZ

Which function(s) would we have to modify to add large number errors (i.e. errors for numeric literals that may cause overflow)?

1. `wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]`
2. `wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]`
3. `wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]`
4. 1 and 2
5. 2 and 3

let x = 10,
x = 20

QUIZ

Which function(s) would we have to modify to add **variable shadowing errors**?

1. wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]
 2. wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]
 3. wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]
 4. 1 and 2
 5. 2 and 3
- Handwritten annotations:
 - Orange lines and arrows group items 1, 2, and 3, with the label "dup func" pointing to them.
 - Green lines and arrows group items 2, 3, 4, and 5, with the label "dup var" pointing to them.
 - Question marks are placed to the left of items 1, 2, and 3.

QUIZ

Which function(s) would we have to modify to add duplicate parameter errors?

1. `wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]`
2. `wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]`
3. `wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]`
4. 1 and 2
5. 2 and 3

QUIZ

Which function(s) would we have to modify to add *duplicate function errors* ?

1. `wellFormed :: BareProgram -> [UserError]`
2. `wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]`
3. `wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]`
4. 1 and 2
5. 2 and 3

Diamond

- ① Checking
- ② Compile fun/calls
- ~~③ Tail calls~~

Traversals

MIDTERM : 9:30-10:50
ON TUE
MAY 4

(A) OK new policy

Let's look at how we might check for two types of errors:

1. "unbound variables"
2. "undefined functions"

(B) old policy

(In your assignment, you will look for **many** more.)

The helper function `wellFormedD` creates an *initial* variable environment `vEnv` containing the functions parameters, and uses that (and `fEnv`) to walk over the body-expressions.

```
wellFormedD :: FunEnv -> BareDecl -> [UserError]
wellFormedD fEnv (Decl _ xs e _) = wellFormedE fEnv vEnv e
  where
    vEnv = addsEnv xs emptyEnv
```

The helper function `wellFormedE` starts with the input

- `vEnv0` which has the function parameters, and
- `fEnv` that has the defined functions,

and traverses the expression:

- At each **definition** `Let x e1 e2`, the variable `x` is added to the environment used to check `e2`,
- At each **use** `Id x` we check if `x` is in `vEnv` and if not, create a suitable `UserError`

✓ mismatch
arity
of args

- At each call `App f es` we check if `f` is in `fEnv` and if not, create a suitable `UserError`.

```
wellFormedE :: FunEnv -> Env -> Bare -> [UserError]
wellFormedE fEnv vEnv0 e      = go vEnv0 e
  where
    gos vEnv es                = concatMap (go vEnv) es
    go _ (Boolean {})         = []
    go _ (Number n l)        = []
    go vEnv (Id x l)          = unboundVarErrors vEnv x l
    go vEnv (Prim1 _ e _)     = go vEnv e
    go vEnv (Prim2 _ e1 e2 _) = gos vEnv [e1, e2]
    go vEnv (If e1 e2 e3 _)   = gos vEnv [e1, e2, e3]
    go vEnv (Let x e1 e2 _)   = go vEnv e1
                                ++ go (addEnv x vEnv) e2
    go vEnv (App f es l)      = unboundFunErrors fEnv f l
                                ++ gos vEnv es
```

You should understand the above and be able to easily add extra error checks.

3. Compiling Functions

$f(es)$
↑



Compiler Pipeline for Functions

In the above, we have defined the types:

type BareP = Program SourceSpan -- ^ each sub-expression has source position metadata

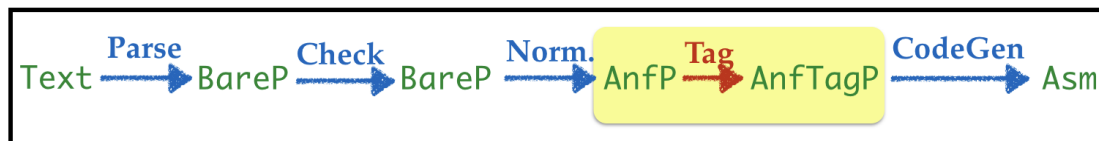
type AnfP = Program SourceSpan -- ^ each function body in A NF

type AnfTagP = Program (SourceSpan, Tag) -- ^ each sub-expression has unique tag

$(\text{Prim2 op } \underline{e_1} \ \underline{e_2})$

\downarrow $(b_{s_1}, \underline{v_1})$ \downarrow $(b_{s_2}, \underline{v_2})$

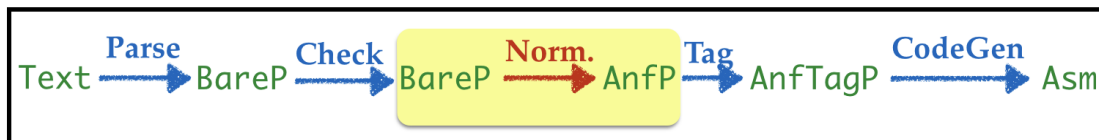
Tagging



Compiler Pipeline ANF

The tag phase simply recursively tags each function body and the main expression

ANF Conversion

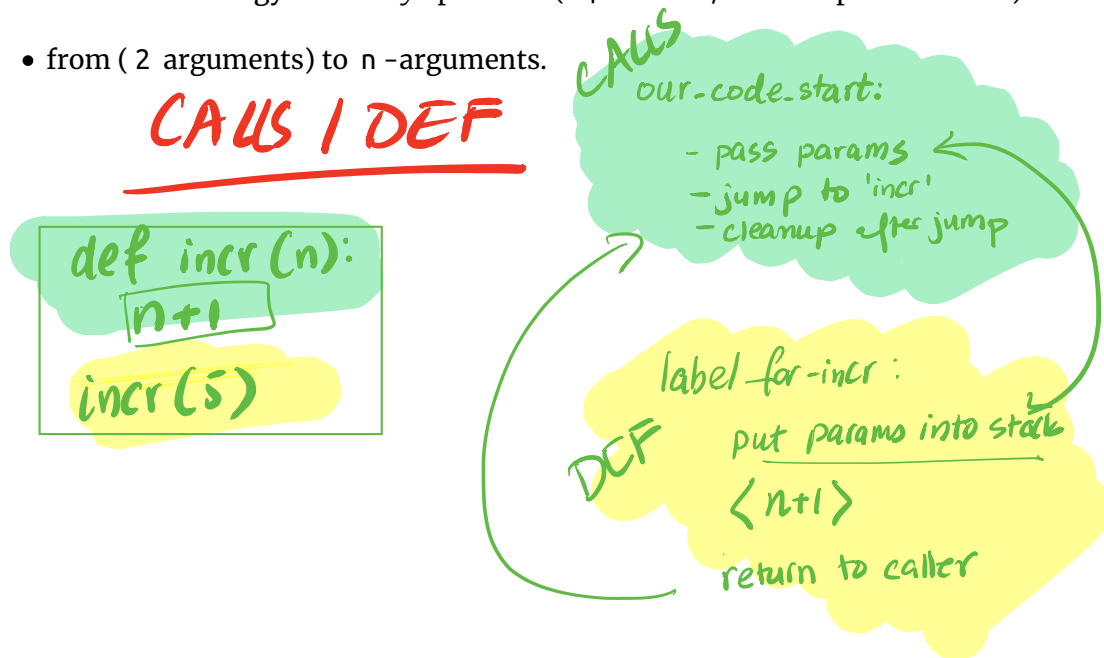


Compiler Pipeline ANF

- The `normalize` phase (i.e. `anf`) is recursively applied to each function body.
- In addition to `Prim2` operands, each call's arguments should be transformed into an immediate expression (04-boa.md/#idea-immediate-expressions)

Generalize the strategy for *binary* operators (04-boa.md/#anf-implementation)

- from (2 arguments) to `n`-arguments.



Strategy

Now, let's look at *compiling function definitions and calls*.



Compiler Pipeline with Checking Phase

We need a co-ordinated strategy for *definitions* and *calls*.

Function Definitions

- Each *definition* is compiled into a labeled block of Asm
- That implements the *body* of the definitions.
- (But what about the *parameters*)?

Function Calls

- Each *call* of $f(\text{args})$ will execute the block labeled f
- (But what about the *parameters*)?

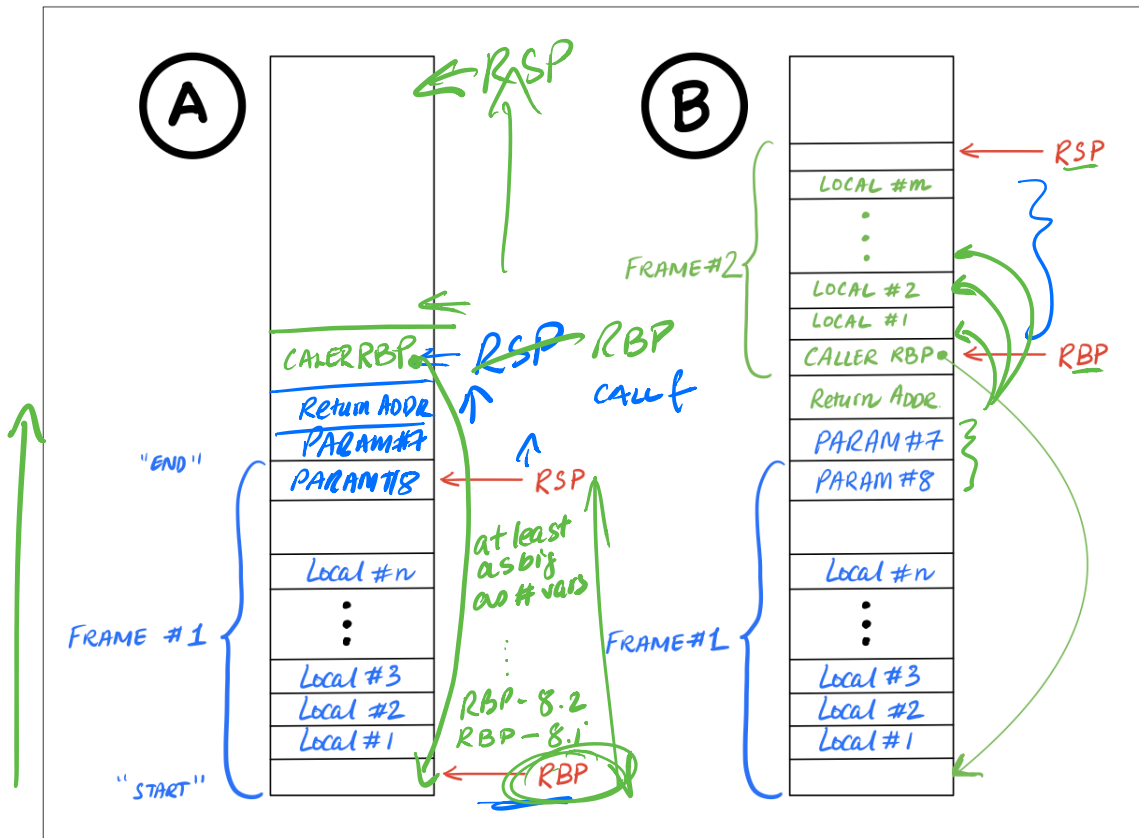
d_1
 d_2
 d_3
 e

$\langle e \rangle$
 $\langle d_1 \rangle$
 $\langle d_2 \rangle$
 $\langle d_3 \rangle$

Strategy: The Stack

$$RBP \neq RSP$$

$$RSP \leftarrow RSP - 8 * n$$

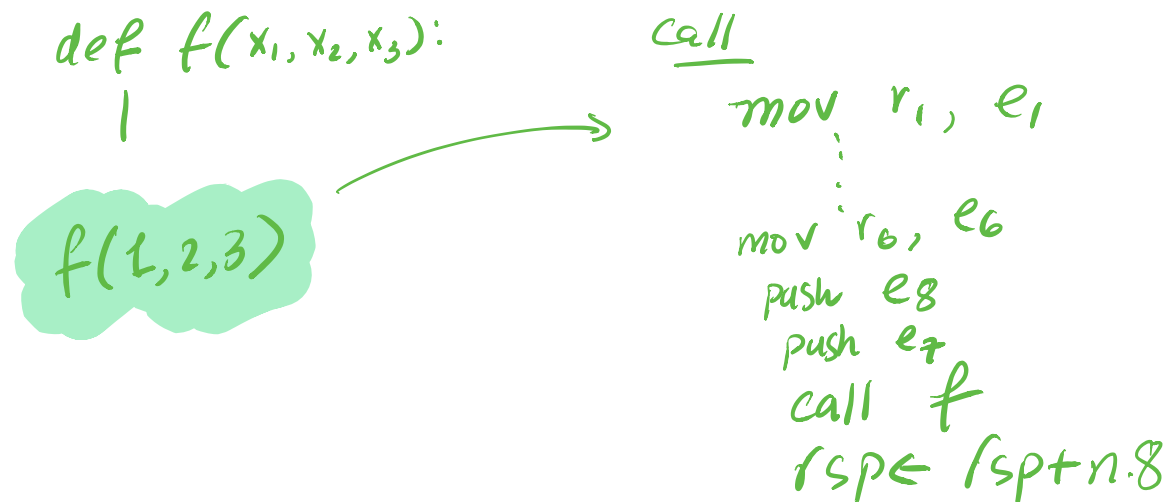


- ① setup
Frame
RBP/RSP
- ② copy
Params
- ③ EXEC
BODY
res in RAx
- ④ cleanup
- pop
 $RSP \leftarrow RSP + 8n$
pop RBP
return

Stack Frames

We will use our old friend, *the stack* to

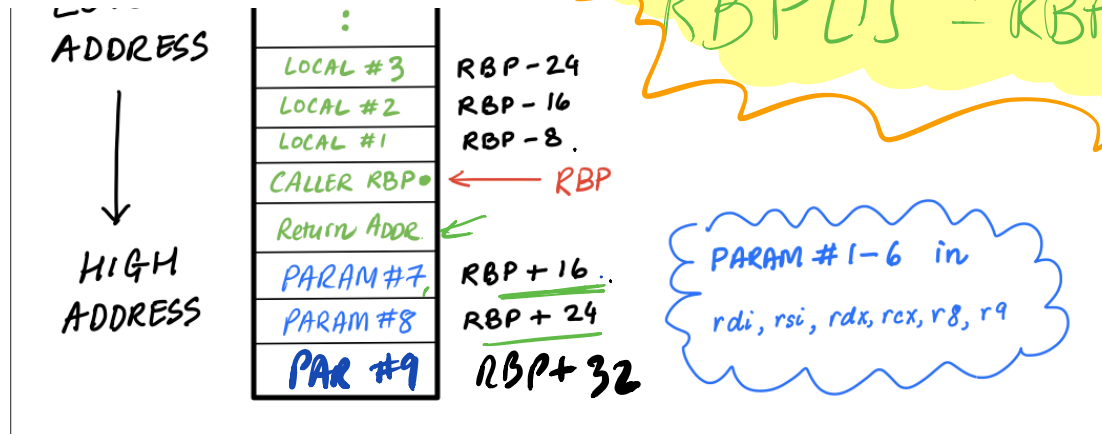
- pass *parameters*
- have *local variables* for called functions.



X86-64 Calling Convention

We are using the x86-64 calling convention (<https://aaronbloomfield.github.io/pdr/book/x86-64bit-ccc-chapter.pdf>), that ensures the following stack layout:





Stack Layout

Suppose we have a function `foo` defined as

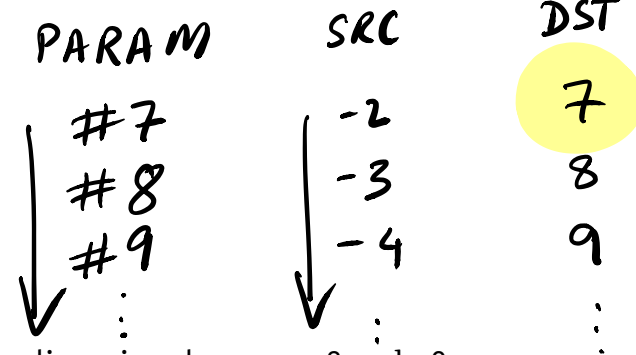
```
def foo(x1,x2,...):
    e
```

When the function body **starts** executing

- the first 6 parameters x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6 are at $rdi, rsi, rdx, rcx, r8$ and $r9$
- the remaining x_7, x_8, \dots are at $[rbp + 8 \cdot 2], [rbp + 8 \cdot 3], \dots$

When the function **exits**

- the return value is in rax



Pesky detail on Stack Alignment

At both *definition* and *call*, you need to also respect the 16-Byte Stack Alignment Invariant (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X86_calling_conventions)

Ensure *rsp* is always a multiple of 16.

i.e. pad to ensure an **even** number of arguments on stack

def inc(n):
 n+1

inc(5) + 100

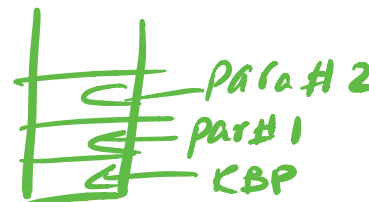
→ (main)
 < d₁ >
 < d₂ >
 < d₃ >

Strategy: Definitions | calls.

Thus to compile each definition

```
def foo(x1, x2, ...):
    body
```

we must



1. **Setup Frame** to *allocate* space for local variables by ensuring that `rsp` and `rbp` are properly managed ([../lectures/05-cobra.md/#managing-the-call-stack](#))
2. **Copy parameters** `x1`, `x2`, ... from the registers & stack into stack-slots `1`, `2`, ... so we can access them in the `body`
3. **Compile Body** `body` with initial Env mapping parameters `x1 => 1`, `x2 => 2`,
...
4. **Teardown Frame** to *restore* the caller's `rbp` and `rsp` prior to `ret urn`.

$x_7 \rightarrow 7$

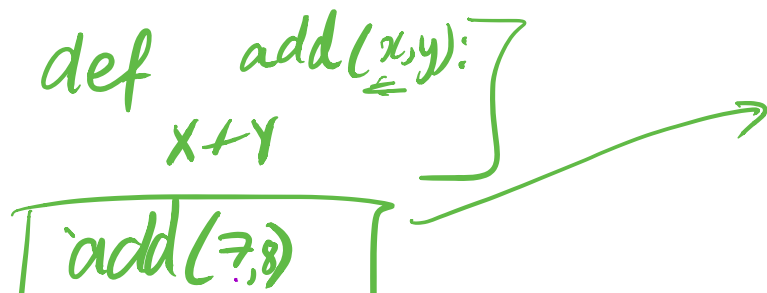
$x_8 \rightarrow 8$



Strategy: Calls

As before ([../lectures/05-cobra.md/#in-the-caller](#)) we must ensure that the parameters actually live at the above address.

1. **Push** the parameter values into the registers & stack,
2. **Call** the appropriate function (using its label),
3. **Pop** the arguments off the stack by incrementing `rsp` appropriately.



Handwritten assembly code:

```
mov rdi, <7>
mov rsi, <8>
call def_fun_incr
```

Below the assembly code, a note says: `→ ? yay! result in RAX!`

Below the note, the label `Def Fun_incr:` is written.

def add10(x_1, \dots, x_{10}):
 $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_{10}$

add10 (1, 2, 3, ..., 10)

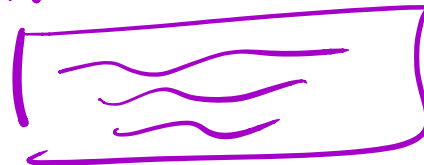
Types

We already have most of the machinery needed to compile calls.

Lets just add a new kind of Label for each user-defined function:

```
data Label
  = ...
  | DefFun Id
```

def-fun-add10:



Implementation

Lets can refactor our compile functions into:

```
-- Compile the whole program  
compileProg :: AnfTagP -> Asm
```

```
-- Compile a single function declaration  
compileDecl :: Bind -> [Bind] -> Expr -> Asm
```

```
-- Compile a single expression  
compileExpr :: Env -> AnfTagE -> Asm
```

that respectively compile Program, Decl and Expr .

Compiling Programs

To compile a Program we compile

- the *main* expression as `Decl` with no parameters and
- each *function* declaration

```
compileProg (Prog ds e) =  
  compileDecl (Bind "" ()) [] e  
  ++ concat [ compileDecl f xs e | (Decl f xs e _) <- ds ]
```

QUIZ

Does it matter whether we put the code for `e` before `ds`?

1. Yes
2. No

QUIZ

Does it matter what order we compile the ds ?

1. Yes
2. No

Compiling Declarations

To compile a single Decl we

1. **Create a block** starting with a label for the function's name (so we know where to call),
2. Invoke `compileBody` to fill in the assembly code for the body, using the initial `Env` obtained from the function's formal parameters.

```
compileDecl :: Bind a -> [Bind a] -> AExp -> [Instruction]
compileDecl f xs body =
  -- 0. Label for start of function
  [ ILabel (DefFun (bindId f)) ]
  -- 1. Setup stack frame RBP/RSP
  ++ funEntry n
  -- label the 'body' for tail-calls
  ++ [ ILabel (DefFunBody (bindId f)) ]
  -- 2. Copy parameters into stack slots
  ++ copyArgs xs
  -- 3. Execute 'body' with result in RAX
  ++ compileEnv initEnv body
  -- 4. Teardown stack frame & return
  ++ funExit n
  where
    n      = countVars body
    initEnv = paramsEnv xs
```

Setup and Tear Down Stack Frame

(As in cobra)

Setup frame

```
funEntry :: Int -> [Instruction]
funEntry n =
  [ IPush (Reg RBP)           -- save caller's RBP
  , IMov  (Reg RBP) (Reg RSP) -- set callee's RBP
  , ISub  (Reg RSP) (Const (argBytes n)) -- allocate n local-vars
  ]
```

Teardown frame

```
funExit :: Int -> [Instruction]
funExit n =
  [ IAdd (Reg RSP) (Const (argBytes n)) -- un-allocate n local-va
  , IRet
  ]
```

Copy Parameters into Frame

`copyArgs xs` returns the instructions needed to copy the parameter values

- **From** the combination of `rdi`, `rsi`, ...
- **To** this function's frame, `rdi` \rightarrow `[rbp - 8]`, `rsi` \rightarrow `[rbp - 16]`, ...

```

copyArgs :: [a] -> Asm
copyArgs xs      = copyRegArgs  rXs -- copy upto 6 register args
                  ++ copyStackArgs sXs -- copy remaining stack args

  where
    (rXs, sXs) = splitAt 6 xs

-- Copy upto 6 args from registers into offsets 1..
copyRegArgs :: [a] -> Asm
copyRegArgs xs = [ IMov (stackVar i) (Reg r) | (_,r,i) <- zipWith3 xs
regs [1..] ]
  where regs = [RDI, RSI, RDX, RCX, R8, R9]

-- Copy remaining args from stack into offsets 7..
copyStackArgs :: [a] -> Asm
copyStackArgs xs = concat [ copyArg src dst | (_,src,dst) <- zip3 xs
[-2,-3..] [7..] ]

-- Copy from RBP-offset-src to RBP-offset-dst
copyArg :: Int -> Int -> Asm
copyArg src dst =
  [ IMov (Reg RAX) (stackVar src)
  , IMov (stackVar dst) (Reg RAX)
  ]

```

Execute Function Body

(As in cobra)

`compileEnv initEnv body` generates the assembly for `e` using `initEnv`, the initial Env created by `paramsEnv`

```
paramsEnv :: [Bind a] -> Env
paramsEnv xs = fromListEnv (zip xids [1..])
  where
    xids      = map bindId xs
```

`paramsEnv xs` returns an Env mapping each parameter to its stack position

(Recall that `bindId` extracts the `Id` from each `Bind`)

Compiling Calls

Finally, lets extend code generation to account for calls:

```
compileEnv :: Env -> AnfTagE -> [Instruction]
compileEnv env (App f vs _) = call (DefFun f) [immArg env v | v <- v
s]
```

EXERCISE The hard work in compiling calls is done by:

```
call :: Label -> [Arg] -> [Instruction]
```

which implements the strategy for calls. Fill in the implementation of `call` yourself.

As an example, of its behavior, consider the (source) program:

```
def add2(x, y):
  x + y
```

```
add2(12, 7)
```

The call `add2(12, 7)` is represented as:

App "add2" [Number 12, Number 7]

The code for the above call is generated by

```
call (DefFun "add2") [arg 12, arg 7]
```

where `arg` converts source values into assembly `Arg` (`../lectures/05-cobra.md/a-typeclass-for-representing-constants`) which *should* generate the equivalent of the assembly:

```
mov rdi 24
mov rsi 14
call label_def_add2
```

4. Compiling Tail Calls

Our language doesn't have *loops*. While recursion is more general, it is more *expensive* because it uses up stack space (and requires all the attendant management overhead).

For example (the python program):

```
def sumTo(n):
    r = 0
    i = n
    while (0 <= i):
        r = r + i
        i = i - 1
    return r
```

sumTo(10000)

- Requires a *single* stack frame
- Can be implemented with 2 registers

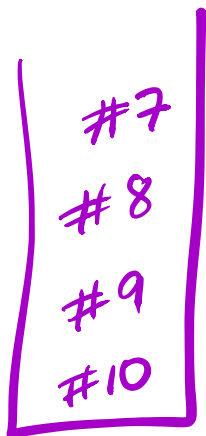
But, the “equivalent” diamond program

```
def sumTo(n):
    if (n <= 0):
        0
    else:
        n + sumTo(n - 1)

sumTo(10000)
```

- Requires 10000 stack frames ...

- One for `fac(10000)`, one for `fac(9999)` etc.



Tail Recursion

Fortunately, we can do much better.

A **tail recursive** function is one where the recursive call is the *last* operation done by the function, i.e. where the value returned by the function is the *same* as the value returned by the recursive call.

We can rewrite `sumTo` using a tail-recursive loop function:

```
def loop(r, i):  
    if (0 <= i):  
        let rr = r + i  
            , ii = i - 1  
        in  
            loop(rr, ii)  # tail call  
    else:  
        r
```

```
def sumTo(n):  
    loop(0, n)
```

```
sumTo(10000)
```

Visualizing Tail Calls

Lets compare the execution of the two versions of `sumTo`

Plain Recursion

```

sumTo(5)
==> 5 + sumTo(4)
      ^^^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + sumTo(3)]
      ^^^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + sumTo(2)]]
      ^^^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + [2 + sumTo(1)]]]
      ^^^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + [2 + [1 + sumTo(0)]]]]
      ^^^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + [2 + [1 + 0]]]]
      ^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + [2 + 1]]]
      ^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + [3 + 3]]
      ^^^^^
==> 5 + [4 + 6]
      ^^^^^
==> 5 + 10
      ^^^^^
==> 15

```

- Each call **pushes a frame** onto the call-stack;

- The results are **popped off** and *added* to the parameter at that frame.

Tail Recursion

```
sumTo(5)
==> loop(0, 5)
==> loop(5, 4)
==> loop(9, 3)
==> loop(12, 2)
==> loop(14, 1)
==> loop(15, 0)
==> 15
```

- Accumulation happens in the parameter (not with the output),
- Each call returns its result *without further computation*

No need to use call-stack, can make recursive call **in place**. * Tail recursive calls can be *compiled into loops!*

Tail Recursion Strategy

Instead of using `call` to make the call, simply:

1. **Copy** the *call*'s arguments to the (same) stack position (as current args),
 - first six in `rdi`, `rsi` etc. and rest in `[rbp+16]`, `[rbp+18]` ...
2. **Jump** to the *start* of the function
 - but *after* the bit where setup the stack frame (to not do it again!)

That is, here's what a *naive* implementation would look like:

```
mov rdi, [rbp - 8]      # push rr
mov rsi, [rbp - 16]    # push ii
call def_loop
```

but a *tail-recursive* call can instead be compiled as:

```

mov rdi, [rbp - 8]      # push rr
mov rsi, [rbp - 16]    # push ii
jmp def_loop_body

```

which has the effect of executing `loop` *literally* as if it were a while-loop!

- ① How to KNOW if call is TR?
- ② How to COMPILE the TR call?
 Add-label, replace ^{rec}call → jump

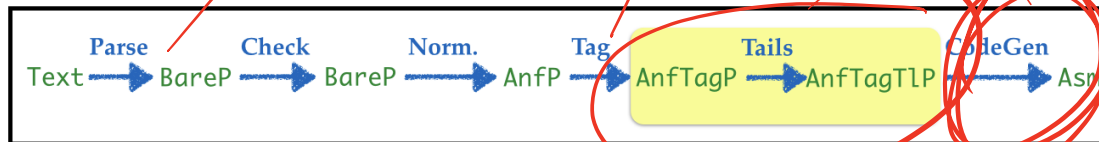
Requirements

To implement the above strategy, we need a way to:

1. **Identify** tail calls in the source Expr (AST),
2. **Compile** the tail calls following the above strategy.

Types

We can do the above in a single step, i.e., we could identify the tail calls *during* the code generation, but its cleaner to separate the steps into:



Labeling Expr with Tail Calls

In the above, we have defined the types:

$\text{Prog } a \rightarrow \text{Prog } (a, \text{Bool})$

```

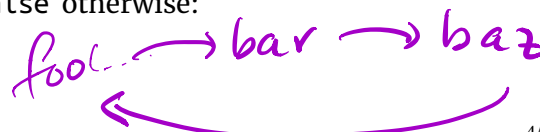
type BareP      = Program SourceSpan      -- ^ each sub-exp
ression has source position metadata
type AnfP       = Program SourceSpan      -- ^ each functio
n body in ANF
type AnfTagP    = Program (SourceSpan, Tag) -- ^ each sub-exp
ression has unique tag
type AnfTagTLP = Program ((SourceSpan, Tag), Bool) -- ^ each call is
marked as "tail" or not

```

Transforms

Thus, to implement tail-call optimization, we need to write two transforms:

1. **To Label** each call with `True` (if it is a *tail call*) or `False` otherwise:



tails :: Program a -> Program (a, Bool)

2. To Compile tail calls, by extending compileEnv

Prog = [Decl]

Decl = ([Id], Expr)

Expr = Number*

| Id*

| Prim1 Op Expr*

| Prim2 Op Expr* Expr*

| Let Id Expr* Expr*

| If Expr* Expr* Expr*

| App Id [Expr*]

10 + f(1, 2, 3): not TR

def f(x, y, z):

g(y, z) TAIL

def g(a, b):
a + b

Can we turn
this into
a JUMP?

(a) YES

(b) NO

Labeling Tail Calls

```
def facTR(acc, n):
  if (n < 1):
    acc
  else:
    if (n == 2):
      2 * facTR(n - 1, n - 1) Not Tail
    else:
      facTR(acc * n, n - 1) Tail
```

```
data Expr
= Number Integer
| Boolean Bool
| Id Id
| Prim1 Prim1 Expr
| Prim2 Prim2 Expr Expr
| If Expr Expr Expr
| Let Bind Expr Expr
| App Id [Expr]
```

① rec

② involved in bin op Prim2
involved in unary Prim1

Which Calls are Tail Calls?

The Expr in *non tail positions*

- Prim1
- Prim2
- Let (“bound expression”)
- If (“condition”)

cannot contain tail calls; all those values have some further computation performed on them.

However, the Expr in *tail positions*

- If (“then” and “else” branch)
- Let (“body”)

can contain tail calls (*unless* they appear under the first case)

Algorithm: Traverse Expr using a Bool

- Initially True but
- Toggled to False under *non-tail positions*,
- Used as “tail-label” at each call.

NOTE: All non-calls get a default tail-label of False .

involve in Recursion

```

tails :: Expr a -> Expr (a, Bool)
tails = go True                                     -- initially
flag is True
  where
    noTail l z          = z (l, False)
    go _ (Number n l)  = noTail l (Number n)
    go _ (Boolean b l) = noTail l (Boolean b)
    go _ (Id x l)      = noTail l (Id x)

    go _ (Prim2 o e1 e2 l) = noTail l (Prim2 o e1' e2')
      where
        [e1', e2']          = go False <$> [e1, e2]    -- "prim-arg
s" is non-tail

    go b (If c e1 e2 l)  = noTail l (If c' e1' e2')
      where
        c'                  = go False c                -- "cond" is
non-tail
        e1'                  = go b e1                    -- "then" may
be tail
        e2'                  = go b e2                    -- "else" may
be tail

    go b (Let x e1 e2 l) = noTail l (Let x e1' e2')

```

```

    where
      e1'          = go False e1          -- "bound-exp
r" is non-tail
      e2'          = go b      e2          -- "body-exp
r" may be tail

      go b (App f es l) = App f es' (l, b)  -- tail-label
is current flag
      where
        es'          = go False <$> es     -- "call arg
s" are non-tail

```

EXERCISE: How could we modify the above to *only* mark **tail-recursive** calls, i.e. to the *same* function (whose declaration is being compiled?)

Compiling Tail Calls

Finally, to generate code, we need only add a special case to `compileExpr`

```
compileExpr :: Env -> AnfTagTLE -> [Instruction]
compileExpr env (App f vs l)
  | isTail l = tailcall (DefFun f)      [immArg env v | v <- vs]
  | otherwise = call      (DefFunBody f) [immArg env v | v <- vs]
```

That is, if the call is *not labeled* as a tail call, generate code as before. Otherwise, use `tailcall` which implements our tail recursion strategy

```
tailcall :: Label -> [Arg] -> [Instruction]
tailcall l args
  = copyRegArgs      regArgs      -- copy into RDI, RSI, ...
  ++ copyTailStackArgs stkArgs    -- copy into [RBP + 16], [RBP + 24]
  ...
  ++ [IJump l]      -- jump to start label
  where
    (regArgs, stkArgs) = splitAt 6 args
```

instead of call

Recap

We just saw how to add support for **first-class function**

- **Definitions**, and
- **Calls**

and a way in which an important class of

- **Tail Recursive** functions can be compiled as **loops**.

Later, we'll see how to represent **functions as values** using **closures**.

● (<https://ucsd-cse131.github.io/sp21/feed.xml>)

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● (<https://plus.google.com/u/0/106612421534244742464>)

 (<https://github.com/ucsd-cse131/sp21>)

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