







# A compiler

Source code High level (algorithm level) statements Front-end Middle-end Explicit, simple, and architecture-independent instructions Back-end Register allocation Assembly generation Only a few registers, explicit instructions with Machine code constraints (e.g., lea)

The language needs to help humans to write (efficient and robust) code

The language needs to be easy to be analyzed and transformed

The language needs to be easy to execute efficiently 2

### Outline

• L3

• Translating L3 to L2: calling convention and labels

Translating L3 to L2: instruction selection

# From L2 to IR going through L3

Explicit, simple, and architecture-independent instructions designed for code analysis and transformation

Explicit semantic (e.g., add)

no registers, no calling convention

Small piece of computation (no lea) e.g., add, br, load, store

# L2 language

- Explicit entry point
- Explicit calling convention
- Complex per-instruction semantic
- Registers and variables

```
(@go (@go 0
      rdi <- 5
      mem rsp -8 <- :myF ret
      call @myF 1
      :myF ret
      %myRes <- rax
      %myRes @ %myRes %myRes 4
      return )
    (@myF 1
      rax <- rdi
      return
```

### L3 language

- Pre-defined entry point
- Hidden calling convention
- Simple per-instruction semantic
- Variables only

```
define @main (){
  %myRes <- call @myF(5)
 %v1 <- %myRes * 4
  %myRes <- %myRes + %v1
  return
define @myF (%p1){
 %p2 <- %p1 + 1
 return %p2
```

```
L2
```

```
::= (| f+)
   ::= (| N i<sup>+</sup>)
     ::= w <- s | w <- mem x M | mem x M <- s | w <- stack-arg M |
        waopt | wsopsx | wsopN | memxM += t | memxM -= t | w += memxM | w -= memxM |
        w <- t cmp t | cjump t cmp t label | label | goto label |
         return | call u N | call print 1 | call input 0 | call allocate 2 | call tuple-error 3 | call tensor-error F |
        w ++ | w -- | w @ w w E
     ::= a | rax
W
     ::= rdi | rsi | rdx | sx | r8 | r9
sx ::= rcx | var
    ::= t | label | l
t ::= x | N
u ::= w | |
x ::= w | rsp
aop ::= += | -= | *= | &=
sop ::= <<= | >>=
cmp ::= < | <= | =
E ::= 1 | 2 | 4 | 8
F ::= 1 | 3 | 4
M ::= multiplicative of 8 constant (e.g., 0, 8, 16)
N ::= (+|-)? [1-9][0-9]* | 0
     ::= @name
label ::= :name
name ::= sequence of chars matching [a-zA-Z ][a-zA-Z 0-9]*
var ::= %name
```

```
Explicit signature
   ::= f+
    ::= define | ( vars ) { i<sup>+</sup> }
    ::= var <- s | var <- t op t | var <- t cmp t |
                                              No CISC instructions
        var <- load var | store var <- s |
       return | return t | label | br label | br t label |
       callee ::= u | print | allocate | input | tuple-error | tensor-error
vars ::= | var | var (, var)*
args ::= |t|t(,t)^*
s ::= t | label | l
t ::= var | N
u ::= var | |
                                            The scope of labels is the function!
op ::= + | - | * | & | << | >>
cmp ::= < | <= | = | >= | >
N ::= (+|-)? [0-9]^+
    ::= @name
label ::= :name
var ::= %name
```

name::= sequence of chars matching [a-zA-Z ][a-zA-Z 0-9]\*

# L3 program examples

```
define @main (){
%myRes <- call @myF(5)
%v1 <- %myRes * 4
 %v2 <- %myRes + %v1
 return %v2
define @myF (%p1){
%|1 <- %p1 + 1
 return %l1
```

```
define @main (){
    %v1 <- 1
    %v2 <- 2
    %v3 <- %v1 >= %v2
    return %v3
}
```

```
define @myEqual (%p1, %p2){
%v3 <- %p1 = %p2
 br %v3 :myLabelTrue
 return 0
 :myLabelTrue
return 1
define @main (){
%ret <- call @myEqual(3,5)
return %ret
```

#### Final notes on L3

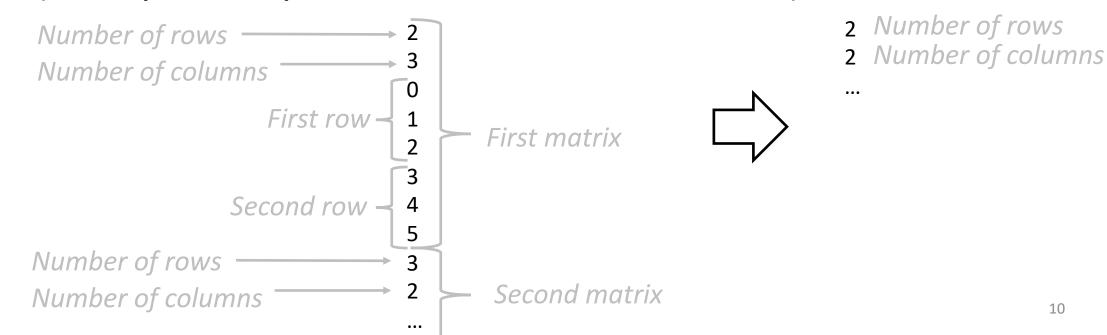
#### As for L2:

- Values are encoded following the same rules of L1
- Same rules for memory heap allocation
- Same undefined behaviors

#### Now that you know the L3 language

1. Rewrite your sorting L2 program using L3 and

2. Write a new L3 program to perform matrix multiplication (Example of input file = MM.L3.in on canvas)



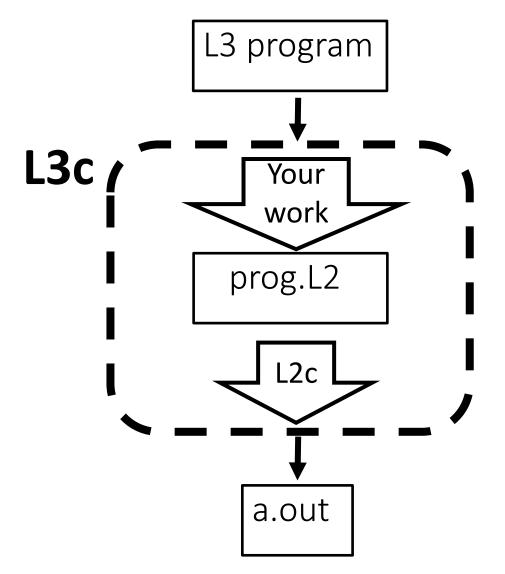
#### Outline

• L3

• Translating L3 to L2: calling convention and labels

• Translating L3 to L2: instruction selection

# The L3 compiler (L3c)



- To build L3c: translate an L3 program to an equivalent L2
- We need to encode the calling convention

API -> ABI

We need to select which
 L2 instructions to use for the L3 ones
 Instruction selection

### L3 parser

- Significantly simpler than the L2 parser
- Pay attention to the L3 grammar

```
call callee ( args ) | var <- call callee ( args )

callee ::= u | print | allocate | tuple-error | tensor-error

u ::= var | |

args ::= t | t (, t)*

t ::= var | N
```

Same rule for all call instructions

### Parsing an L3 program

```
define @main (){
  %myRes <- call @myF(5)
  call @myF(5)
  return
}</pre>
```

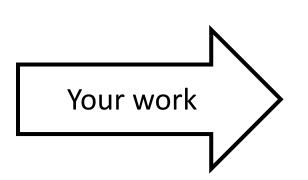
```
define @main (){
    %myA <- call allocate(3, 1)
    call allocate(3, 1)
    return
}</pre>
```

# Entry point

```
(@main
define @main(){
                                                    (@main
  ...
                               Your work
                                                     . . .
```

# Making the calling convention explicit: caller

```
define @main(){
   %v1 <- call @myF(3)
   ...
}
```



```
(@main
(@main
  mem rsp -8 <- :myF ret
  rdi <- 3
  call @myF 1
  :myF_ret
  %v1 <- rax
```

# Making the calling convention explicit: callee

# Stack arguments, registers, and variables

• L3c is responsible to allocate space on the stack for >6 arguments

• L3c can generate L2 code with registers and variables

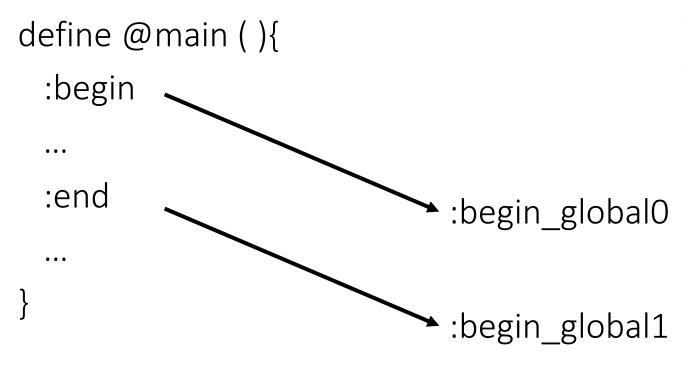
- L2c already performs a good register allocation
- Good engineering: don't replicate functionality
  - L3c should not perform register allocation
  - L3c should use variables always with the only exceptions of implementing the calling convention

### Labels

- The L3 compiler needs to translate
   L3 instruction labels to L2 instruction labels
  - No need to change function names
  - L3 labels: the scope is the function
    - 2 labels with the exact name in 2 different function are possible
  - L2 labels: the scope is the program
    - 2 labels with the exact name are not possible
- A possible mapping from L3 labels to L2 ones:
  - 1. Find the longest label for the whole L3 program: LL
  - 2. Append "\_global\_" to it: LLG
  - 3. For every L3 label :LABELNAME of a function F, generate an L2 label by increasing a global counter and appending it to LLG

You can design your own translation scheme (it must be correct)

# Label example



- LL is ":begin"
- LLG is ":begin\_global\_"

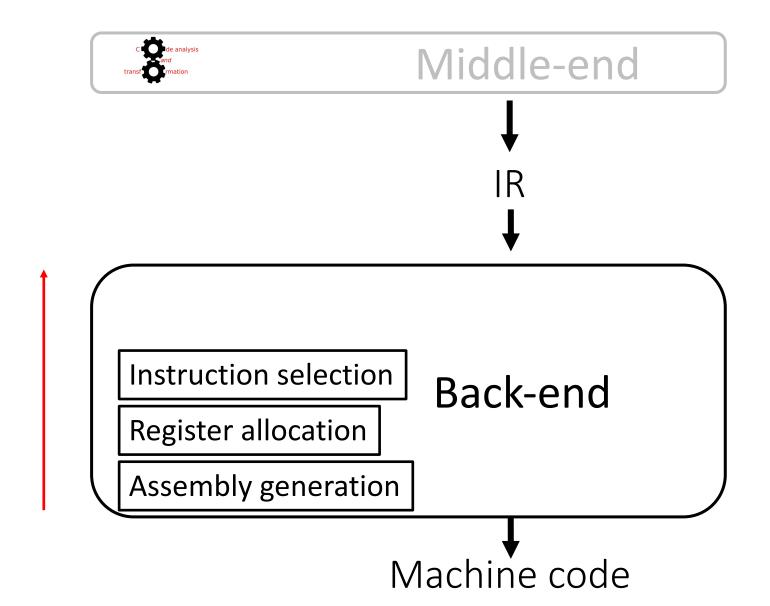
#### Outline

• L3

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• Translating L3 to L2: instruction selection

# A compiler



#### Instruction selection

The process of selecting the lower-level instructions (assembly instructions) to use to translate a higher-level representation (e.g., L3)

Instruction selection is intra-procedural

### Naive instruction selection for L3

```
define @myF (%p1, %p2){
→ %v1 <- %p1 * 4
...
}
```

Translate L3
instructions
one by one and
independently
with the
surrounding ones

```
@myF
%p1 <- rdi
%p2 <- rsi
%v1 <- %p1
%v1 *= 4
```

### Naive translation of an L3 function: problem

```
define @myF (%p1, %p2){

→ %v1 <- %p1 * 4

%v2 <- %v1 + %p2

...
}
```

Translate L3
instructions
one by one and
independently
with the
surrounding ones

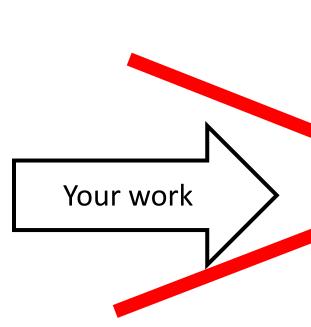
Instruction selection depends on the context!

```
(@myF
 20
 %p1 <- rdi
 %p2 <- rsi
 %v1 <- %p1
 %v1 *= 4
 %v2 <- %v1
 %v2 += %p2
Is there a
better translation?
```

```
(@myF
 2.0
 %p1 <- rdi
 %p2 <- rsi
 %v2 @ %p2 %p1 4
 • • •
```

### Instruction selection: it isn't that easy

```
define @myF (%p1, %p2){
    %v1 <- %p1 * 3
    %v2 <- %v1 + %p2
    ...
}
```



(@myF %p1 <- rdi %p2 %√2 @ %pz

Instruction selection must satisfy all constraints of the target language!

#### Instruction selection: context

- Instruction selection depends on the context
- Context for this class: sequence of instructions that does not include
  - a label instruction or
  - a call instruction
- The sequence must end when a branch or a return is encountered (the branch or return are part of the context)

```
%V3 <- %v2 + %v1
%V4 <- %v3 * 4
:a_label
%V5 <- %V4 * 2
br :another_label</pre>
```

# Instruction selection step 1: identify contexts

```
Inst = F.entryPoint()
C = new Context()
While (Inst != nullptr){
 if (Inst is not Label or a call) C.add(Inst)
 if (Inst is Label, Branch, Call, Return) {
    C = new Context()
 Inst = F.nextInst(Inst)
Delete empty contexts
```

```
:myLabel

'%v1 <- %p1 * 4

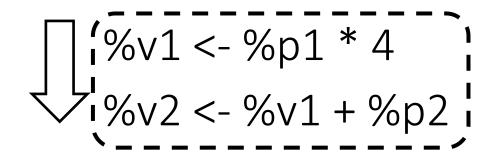
'%v2 <- %v1 + %p2

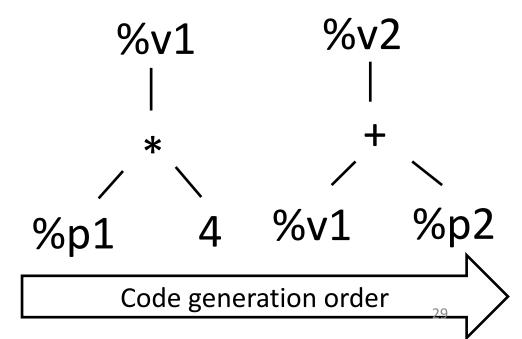
br :otherLabel
```

# Instruction selection step 2: tree generation

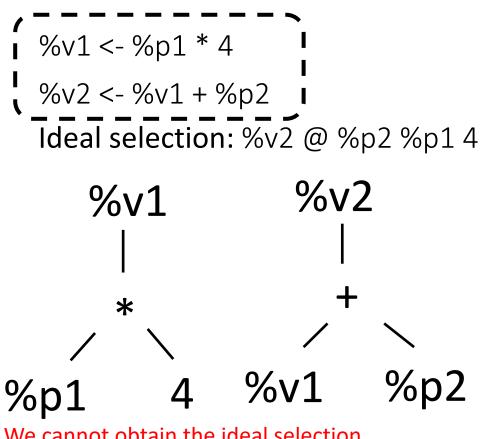
We need to generate the tree representation of the instructions of a context, for every context

- Generate a separate tree for every instruction
- The order of the trees define the order of translation/code generation (e.g., the first L2 instructions generated translate the first tree)



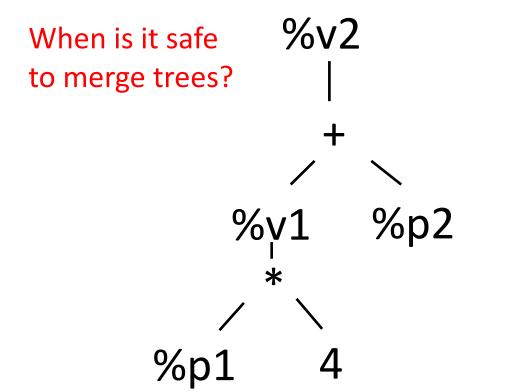


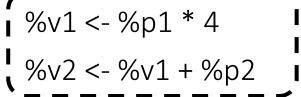
- We perform instruction selection per tree
  - A target instruction (e.g., @ in L2) cannot cover nodes that belong to different trees
  - The bigger is the tree, the more optimal the instruction selection can be
- We aim to make trees as big as possible
  - We have generated the smallest trees (one per instruction)
  - Now we need to merge them as much as possible
  - Quality complexity tradeoff: this class targets what is reasonable for one week of work

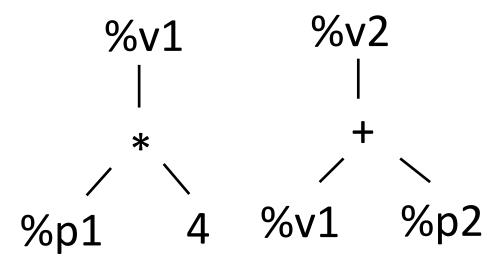


We cannot obtain the ideal selection because the target instruction (@) would cover nodes of different trees

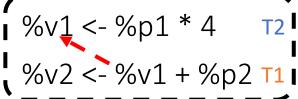
- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context, -
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context

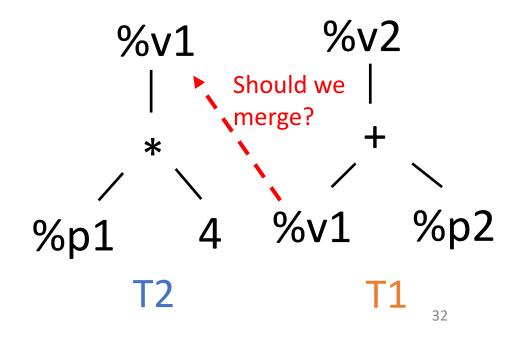


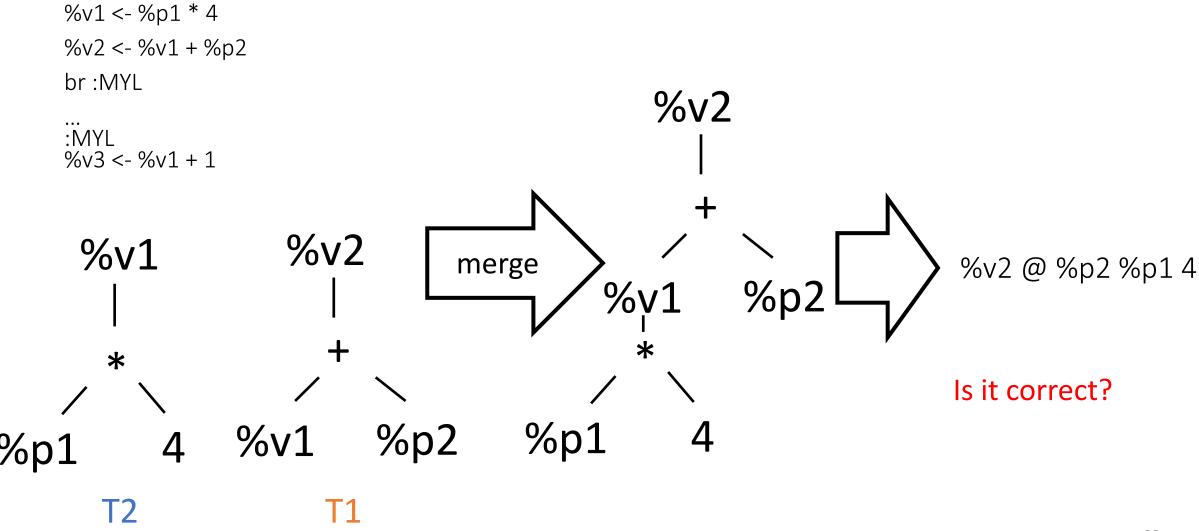




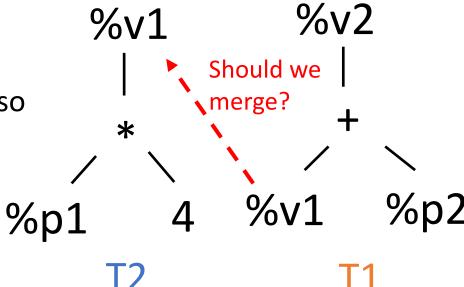
- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - I. T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. What else?

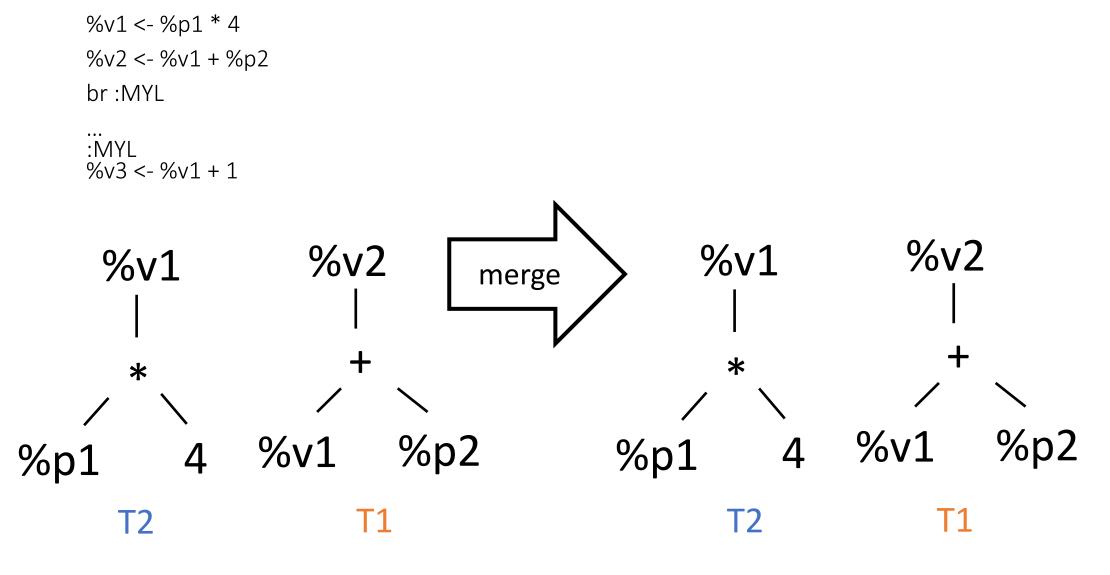






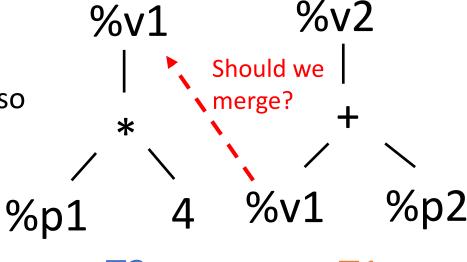
- Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - %v is dead after the instruction related to T1 or %v is only used by T1

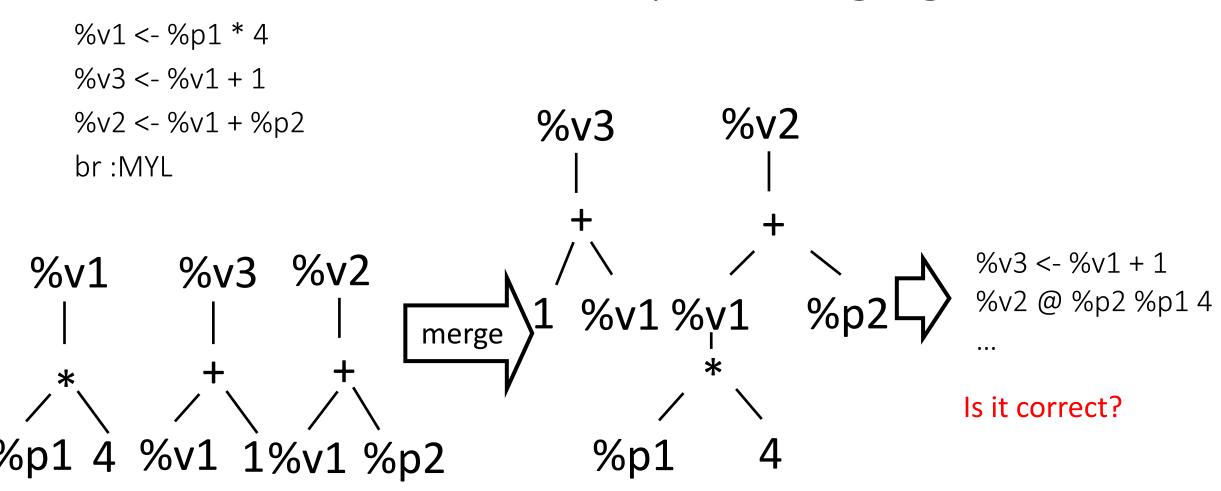




- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %V is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. What else?

```
%v1 <- %p1 * 4 T2 %v2 <- %v1 + %p2 T1
```

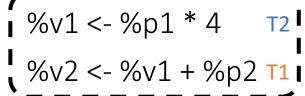


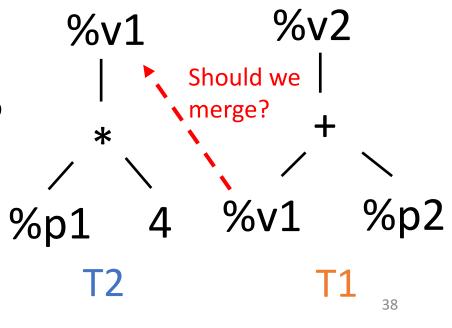


T2 T1

- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- 2. Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - I. T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No instruction that depends on T2 between T2 and T1

      Including T2 in this range

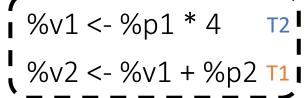


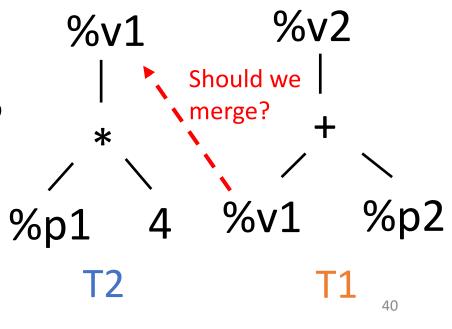


- Dependences exist between instructions when they both access a variable or memory location and one of them is a write
- For variables the condition B of the previous slide becomes the following

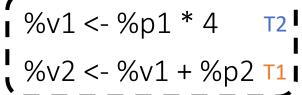
- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - I. T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No instruction that depends on T2 between T2 and T1

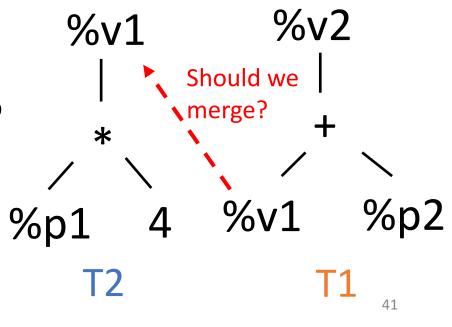
      Including T2 in this range



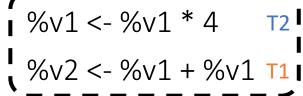


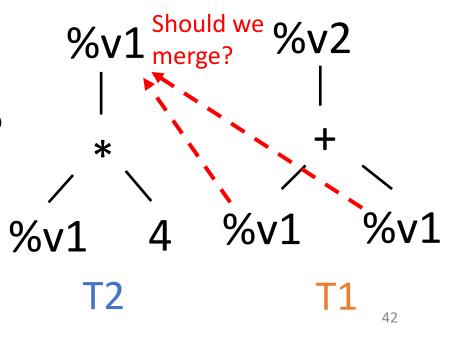
- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - I. T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No other uses of %v between T2 and T1 and Including T2 in this range





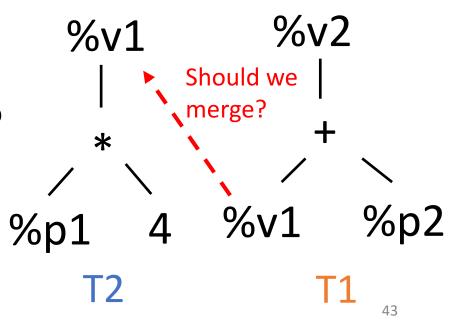
- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
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  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No other uses of %v between T2 and T1 and Including T2 in this range





- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - T1 uses a variable %v defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No other uses of %v between T2 and T1 and What else?

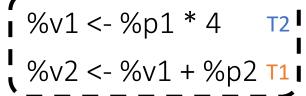
```
%v1 <- %p1 * 4 T2
%v2 <- %v1 + %p2 T1
```

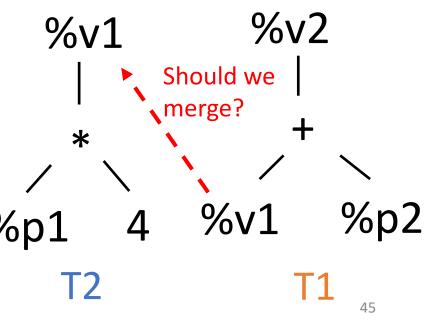


**T2** 

T1

- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context,
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - T1 uses a variable %V defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction represented by T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No other uses of %v between T2 and T1 and no definitions of variables used by T2 between T2 and T1





• The previous condition excludes the possibility to have instructions between T2 and T1 that depends on T2

#### • Dependence definition:

two generic instructions depend on each other if they both access a variable or memory location and one of them is a write

 If T2 accesses a memory location, then condition B becomes the following

- 1. Cluster trees that belong to the same context
- Merge trees (as much as possible) that belong to the same context
  - Let T1, T2 be two trees that belong to the same context
  - I. T1 uses a variable %V defined by T2
  - II. Merge T2 into T1 only when it is safe to do so
    - A. %v is dead after the instruction attached to T1 or %v is only used by T1
    - B. No memory instruction between T2 and T1

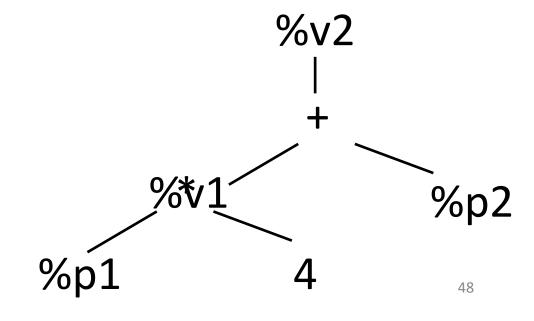
      Including T2 in this range

```
%p1 <- load %p0 T2 1
store 3, %p2
%z <- load %p1
                  load
 load
 %p0
```

# Instruction selection step 4: tiling trees

- Tile = instruction of the target language (e.g., L2) = pattern
- Instruction selectors use pattern-matching on trees with tiles
  - Use a tree-based code representation
  - Each target instruction defines a tile (pattern) that can be used to cover the tree
  - Used tiles (patterns) = selected target instructions to generate

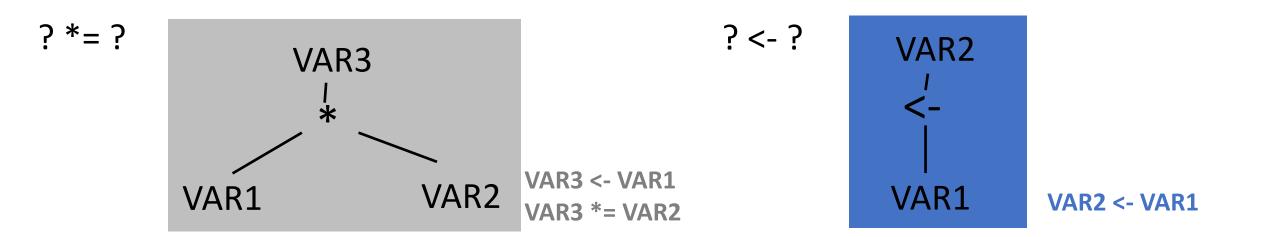


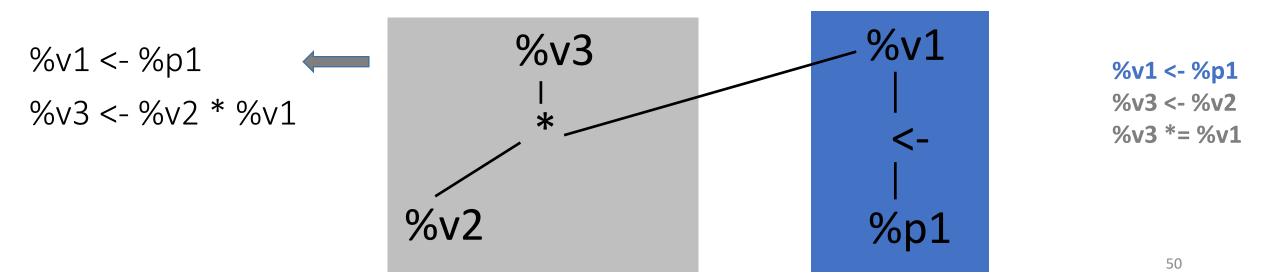


#### From L3 instructions to L2 instructions

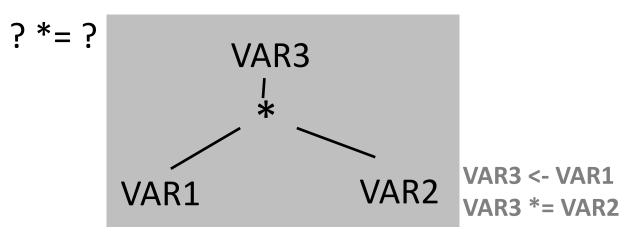
- 1. Translate L3 instructions of a context into a list of trees
  - Order needs to be preserved
- 2. Merge as many trees as possible
- 3. For each tree (in order):
  - **A.** Tiling: cover the tree with L2 tiles
  - **B.** Code generation: from the bottom to the top of the tree:
    - i. Get the next tile
    - ii. Append L2 instructions generated by the current tile

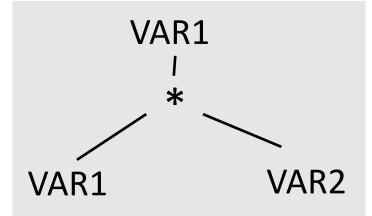
# Example: tiles and tiling



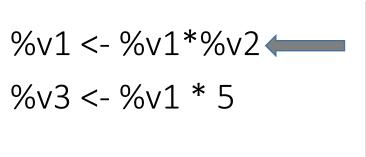


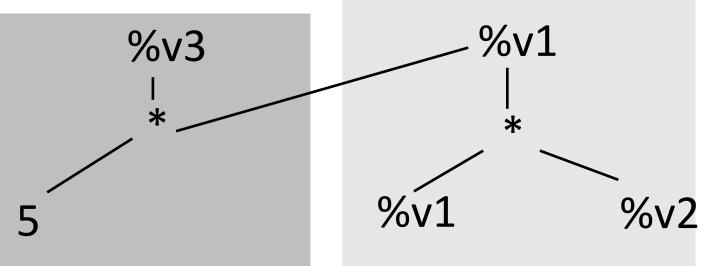
# Specialized tiles





var1 \*= var2

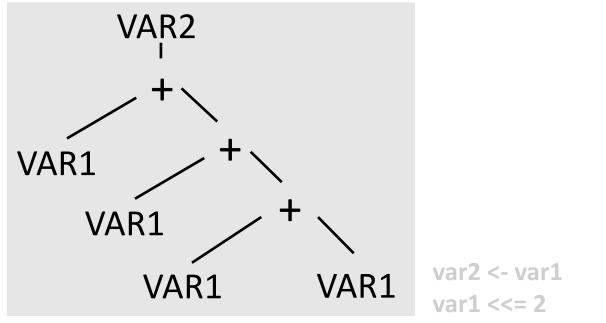




%v1 \*= %v2 %v3 <- %v1 %v3 \*= 5

# Large tiles





# Tiles and tiling

 Tiles capture compiler's understanding of the target instruction set

- In general, for any given tree, many tilings are possible
  - Each resulting in a different instruction sequence
- We ensure pattern coverage by covering, at a minimum, all atomic L3 trees

### The instruction selection problem

Many solutions to cover a tree are possible

 How to pick tiles that cover our tree with minimum execution time?

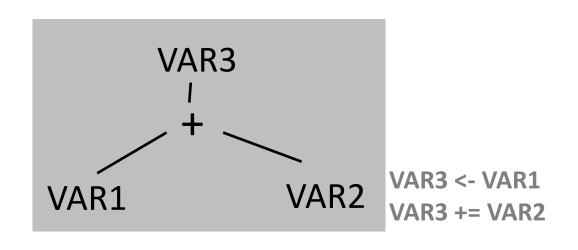
- Need a good selection of tiles
  - Small tiles to make sure we can tile every tree
  - Large tiles for efficiency

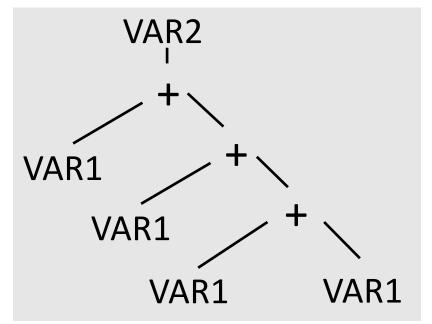
# Quality of a tile in CC

- Instruction selection should prefer high-quality tiles
- The quality of a tile t is related to the latency of the instructions generated by t
- In this class, we use the number of instructions as proxy to the latency
- Hence, if two tiles cover the same sub-tree, then we choose the one that has less instructions
  - Each tile reports the number of instructions generated by it

#### Tiles in CC

- Tiles need to be designed such that
   a large tile t has <= instructions
   than a possible set of small tiles that cover the same sub-tree</li>
- Hence, we prefer larger tiles: fewer instructions





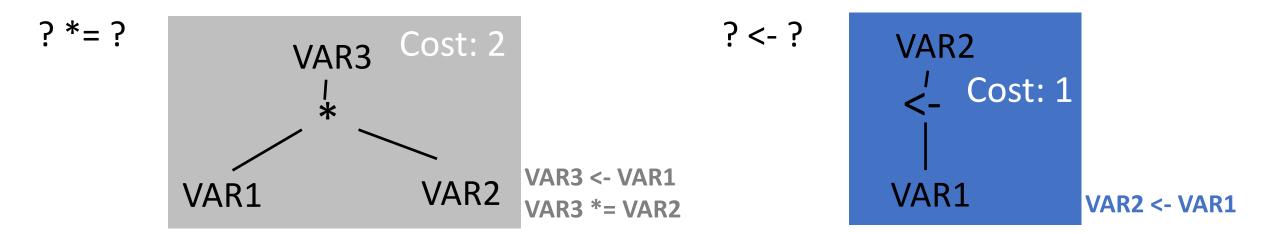
# Quality of a solution of the tiling problem

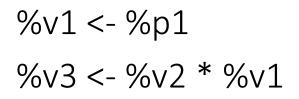
• Tiling problem: choose a set of tiles to cover a tree

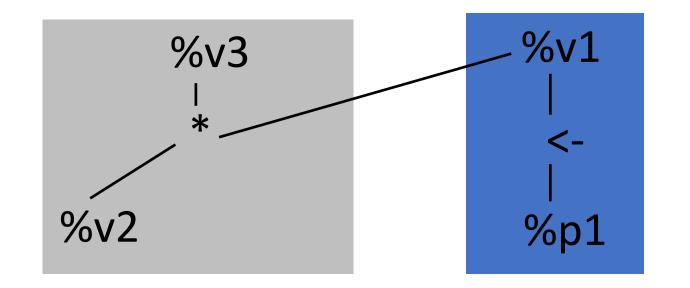
 Quality of a tiling solution: the cumulative execution time of all instructions generated to cover a tree

- In instruction selection, we estimate the total execution time as the sum of costs of all tiles
  - In this class: the cost of a tile is the number of instructions of it
  - Hence, in in this class: the quality of a tiling solution is the total number of instructions generated

# Example of tiling cost for L3





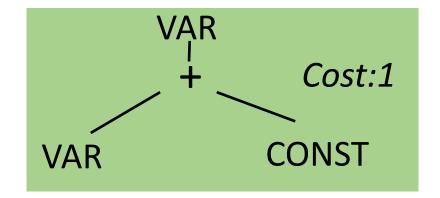


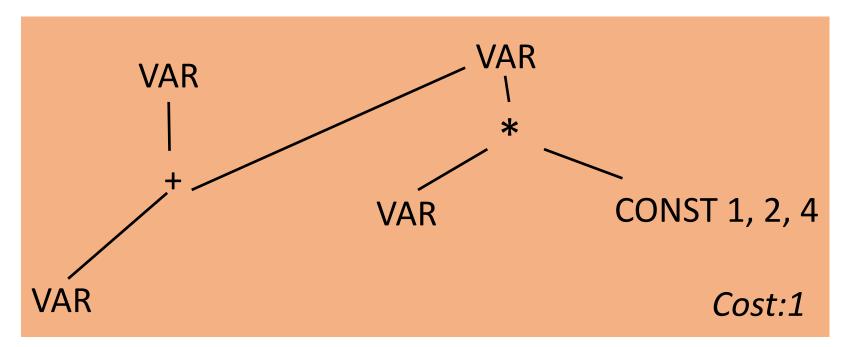
%v1 <- %p1 %v3 <- %v2

%v3 \*= %v1

Total cost: 3

# Other examples of L2 tiles





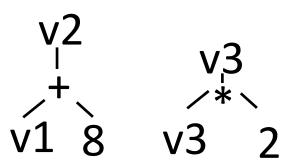
### Global vs. local optimal solution

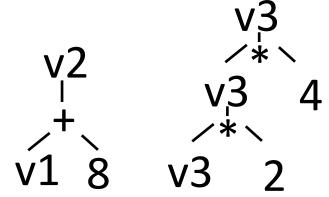
- We want the "lowest cost" tiling
  - Take into account cost/delay of each instruction (i.e., timing model)

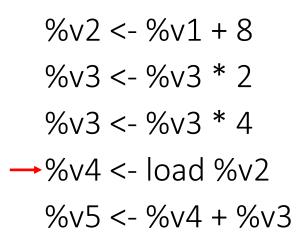
- Optimum tiling: lowest-cost tiling
- Locally Optimal tiling:
   no two adjacent tiles can be combined
   into one tile of lower cost

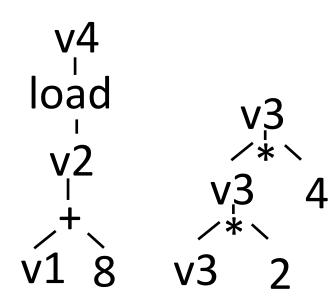
# Locally optimal tilings

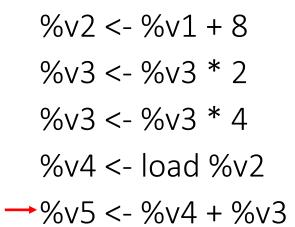
- A simple greedy algorithm works extremely well in practice:
   Maximal munch
- Choose the largest pattern with lowest cost, i.e., the "maximal munch"
- Algorithm:
  - Start at root
  - Use "biggest" match (in # of nodes)
    - This is the munch
    - Use cost to break ties
  - Recursively apply maximal much at each subtree of this munch

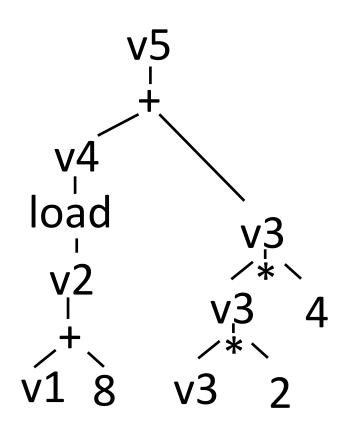


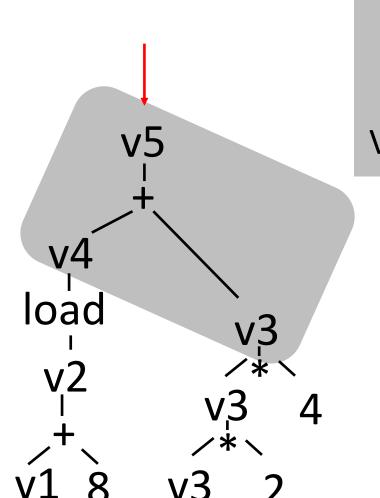


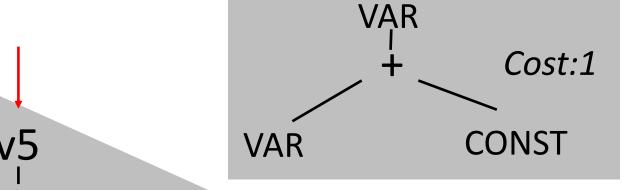




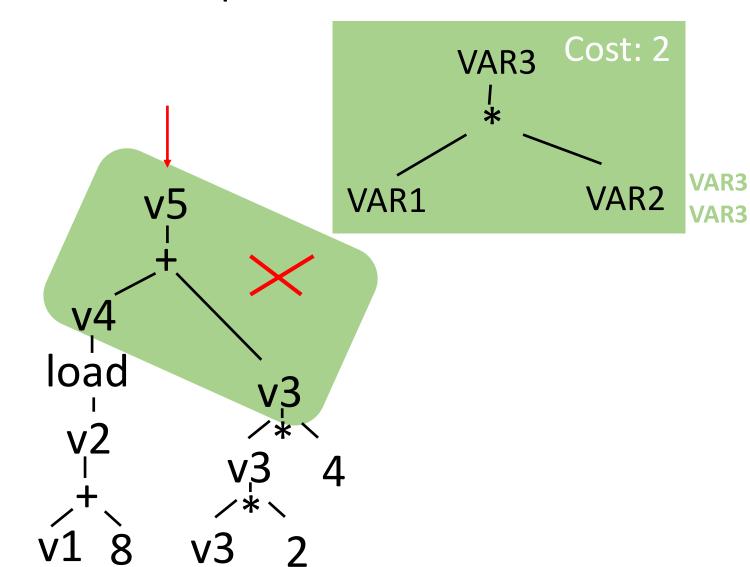




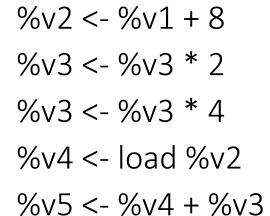


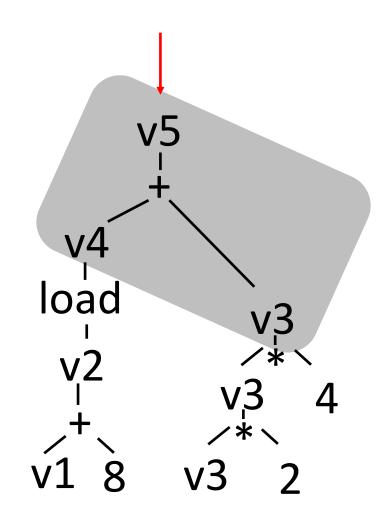


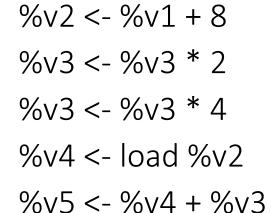
%v2 <- %v1 + 8 %v3 <- %v3 \* 2 %v3 <- %v3 \* 4 %v4 <- load %v2 %v5 <- %v4 + %v3

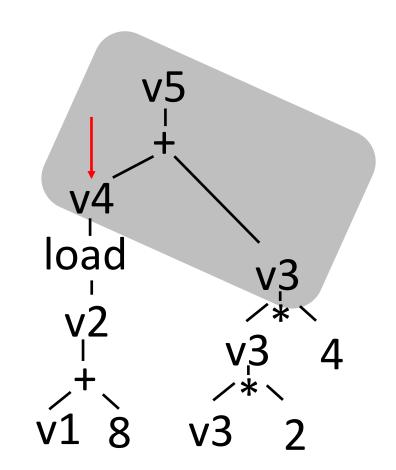


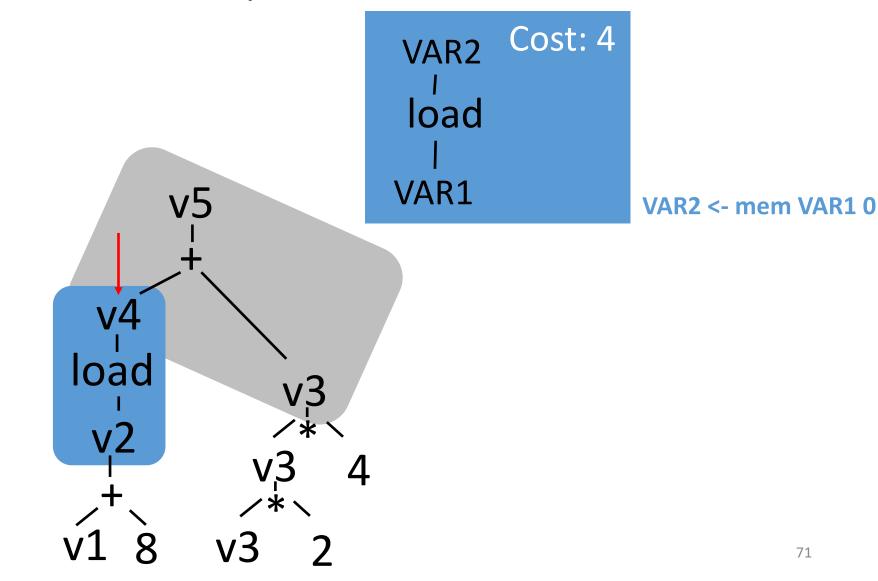
%v2 <- %v1 + 8 %v3 <- %v3 \* 2 %v3 <- %v3 \* 4 %v4 <- load %v2 %v5 <- %v4 + %v3









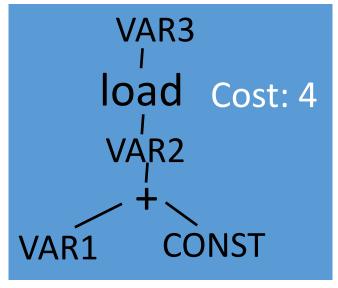


%v3 <- %v3 \* 2 %v3 <- %v3 \* 4 %v4 <- load %v2 %v5 <- %v4 + %v3

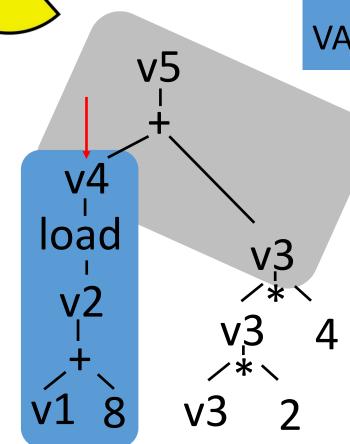
%v2 <- %v1 + 8

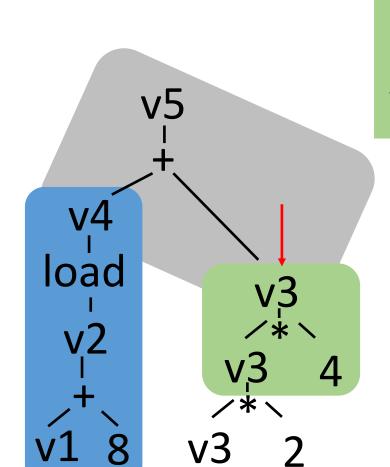
VAR2 Cost: 4
load
l
VAR1

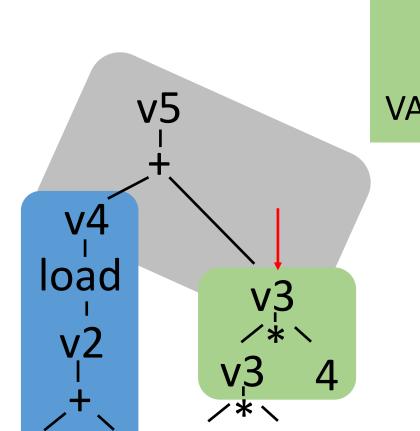


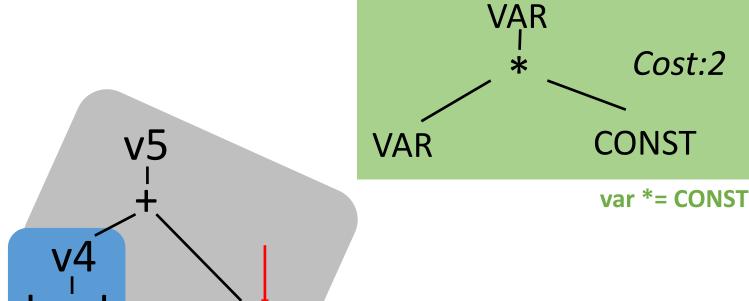


var3 <- mem var1 CONST







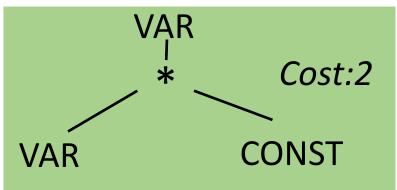


%v4 <- load %v2 %v5 <- %v4 + %v3

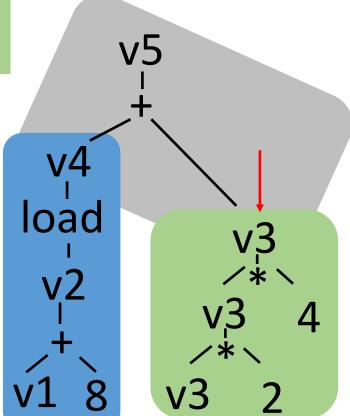
%v2 <- %v1 + 8

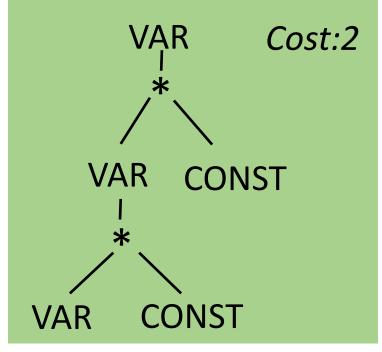
%v3 <- %v3 \* 2

%v3 <- %v3 \* 4



var \*= CONST





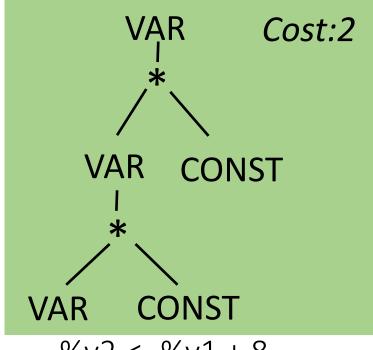


%v4 <- load %v2

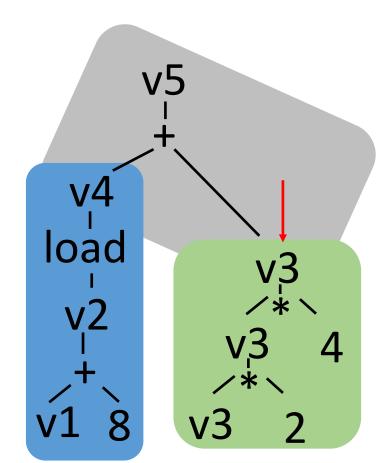
%v2 <- %v1 + 8

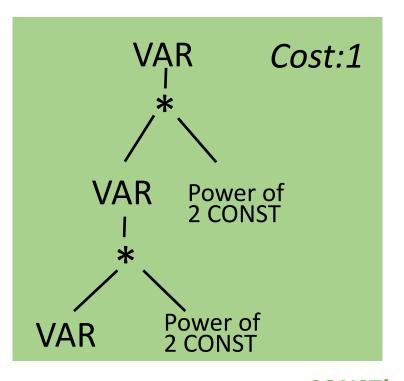
%v3 <- %v3 \* 2

%v3 <- %v3 \* 4

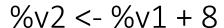




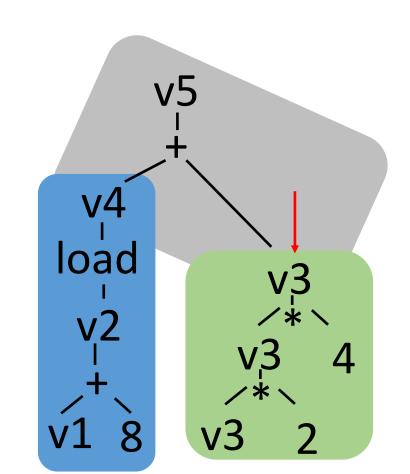


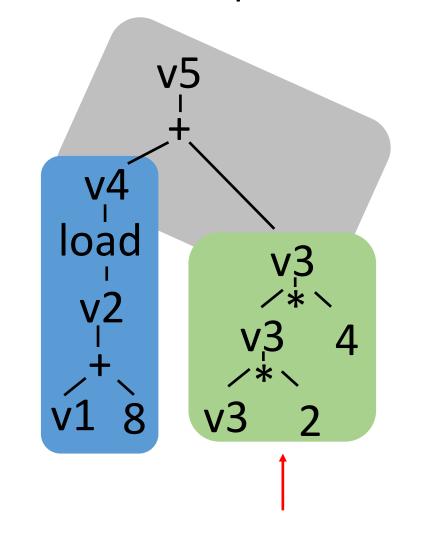


var <<= CONST'



%v5 <- %v4 + %v3





%v3 <<= 8

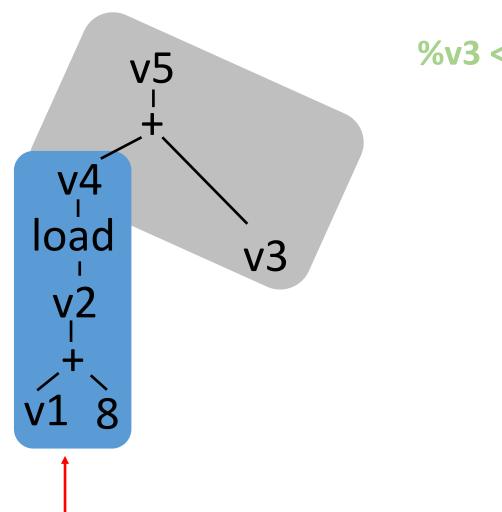
%v2 <- %v1 + 8

%v3 <- %v3 \* 2

%v3 <- %v3 \* 4

%v4 <- load %v2

%v5 <- %v4 + %v3



%v3 <<= 8

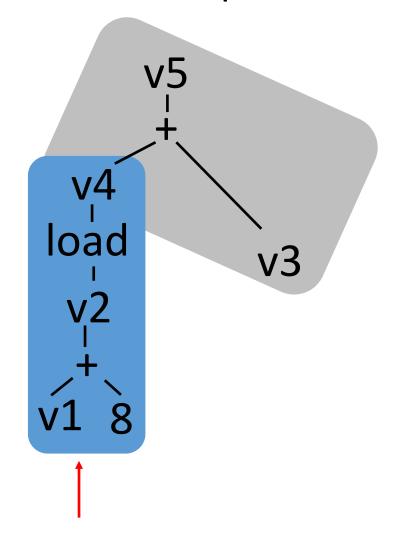
%v2 <- %v1 + 8

%v3 <- %v3 \* 2

%v3 <- %v3 \* 4

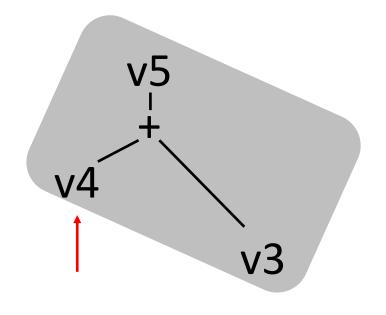
%v4 <- load %v2

%v5 <- %v4 + %v3



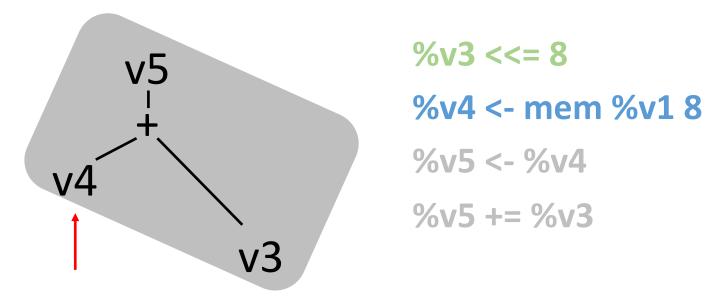
%v3 <<= 8

%v4 <- mem %v1 8



%v4 <- mem %v1 8

$$%v2 <- %v1 + 8$$



#### Maximal munch

 Maximal munch does not necessarily produce the optimum selection of instructions

- But:
  - it is easy to implement
  - it tends to work "well" for current instruction-set architectures

... but if we want the optimum?

### Instruction selection complexity

Finding the optimum for tree: P

- Finding the optimum for DAG: NP
  - Countless number of heuristics proposed (including the one described in this class)
  - Dynamic programming

Most (all) of programs we run are DAGs

# Homework #3: the L3 compiler

For every L3 function f L3 function f

Label globalization

Instruction selection

Excluding only step 3 (merging trees) of instruction selection

API -> ABI

L2 function

Always have faith in your ability

Success will come your way eventually

**Best of luck!**