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# Topic 15: Static Single Assignment

COS 320

Compiling Techniques

Princeton University  
Spring 2016

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# Def-Use Chains, Use-Def Chains

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Many optimizations need to find all use-sites of a definition, and/or all def-sites of a use:

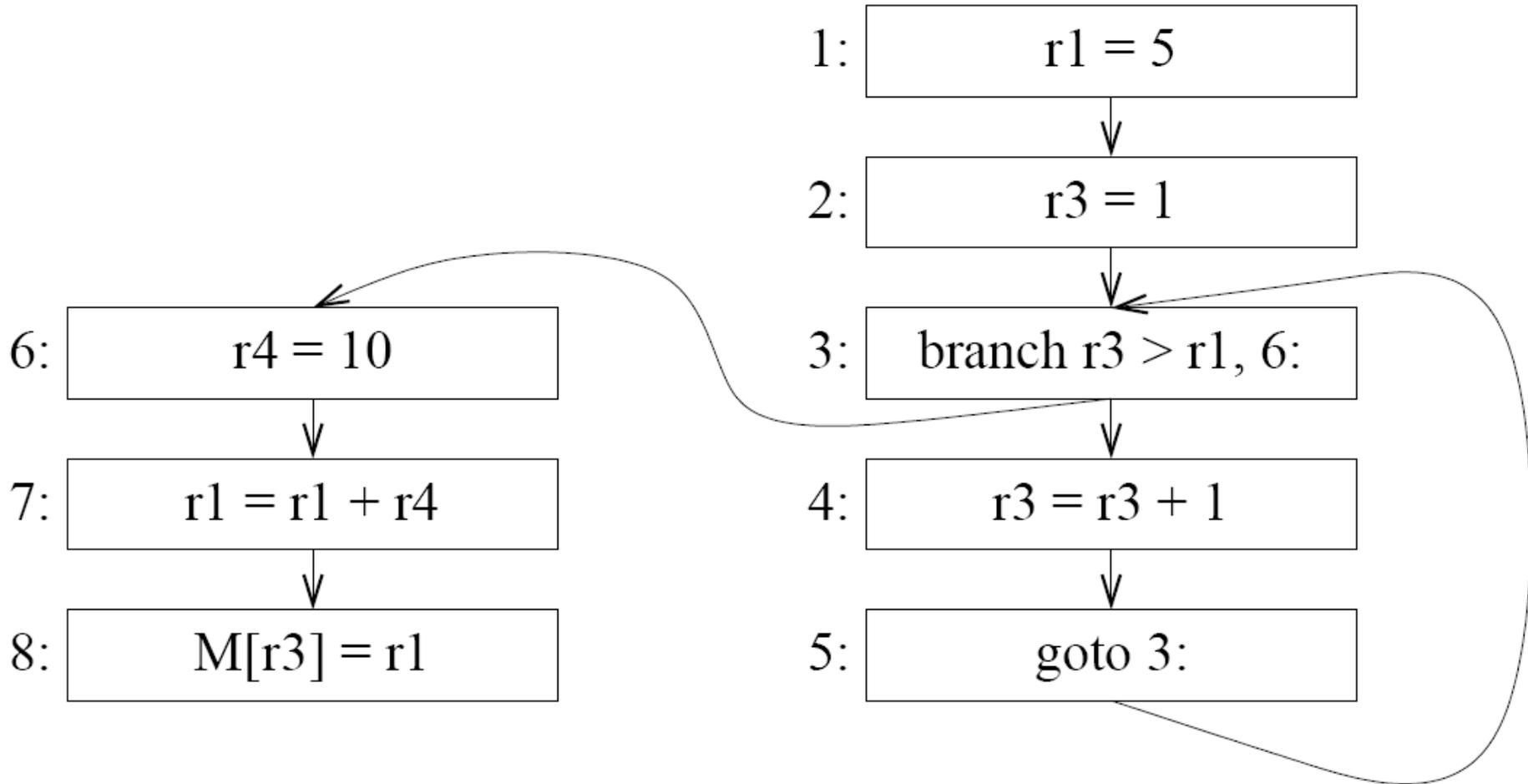
- constant propagation needs the site of the unique reaching def
- copy propagation, common subexpression elimination,...

Data structures supporting these lookups:

- **def-use** chain: for each definition **d** of variable **r**, store the use sites of **r** that **d** reaches
- **use-def** chain: for each use site **u** of variable **r**, store the def-sites of **r** that reach **u**

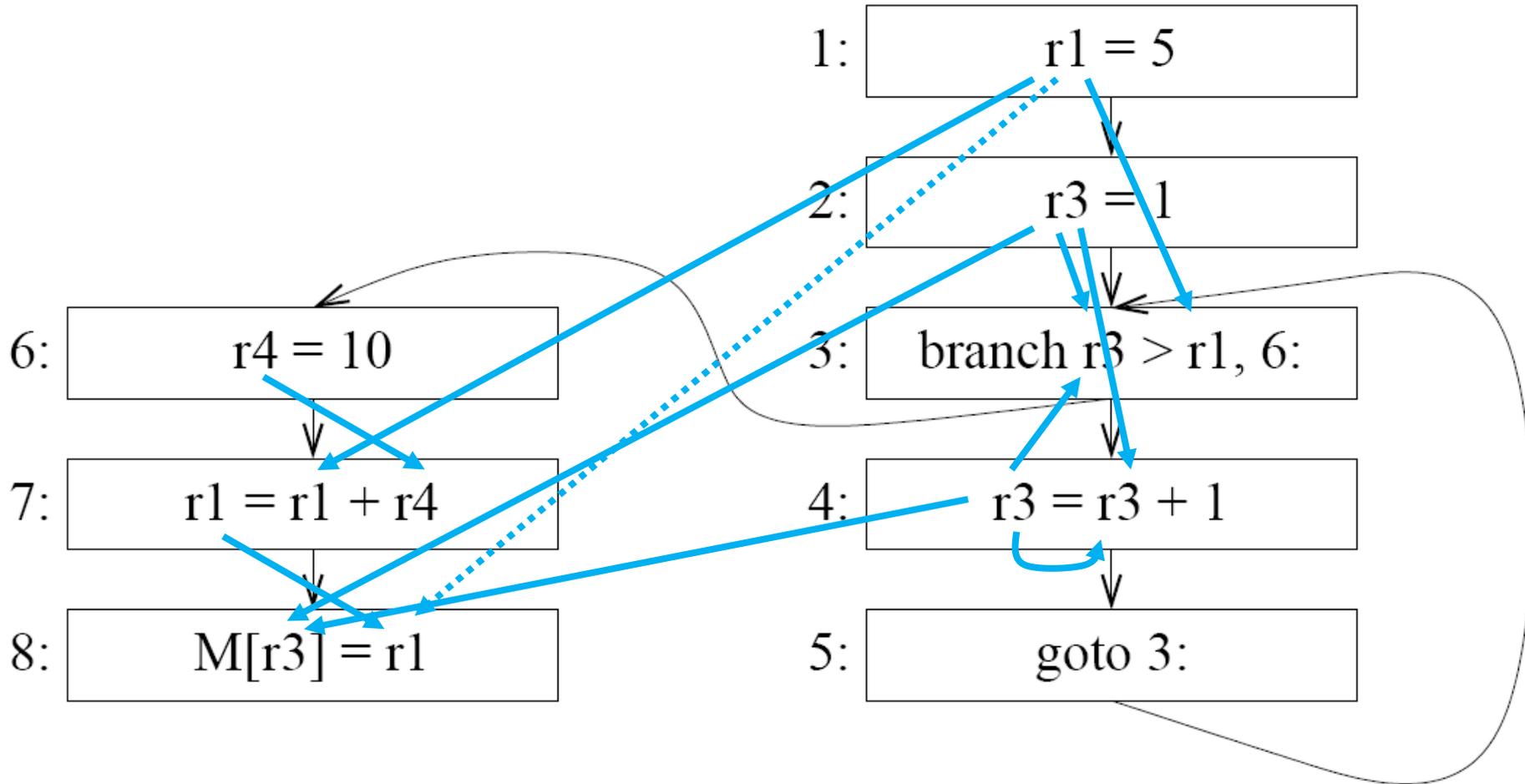
**N** definitions, **M** uses:  $2 * N * M$  relationships

# Use-Def Chains, Def-Use Chains



Add the def-use relationships...

# Use-Def Chains, Def-Use Chains

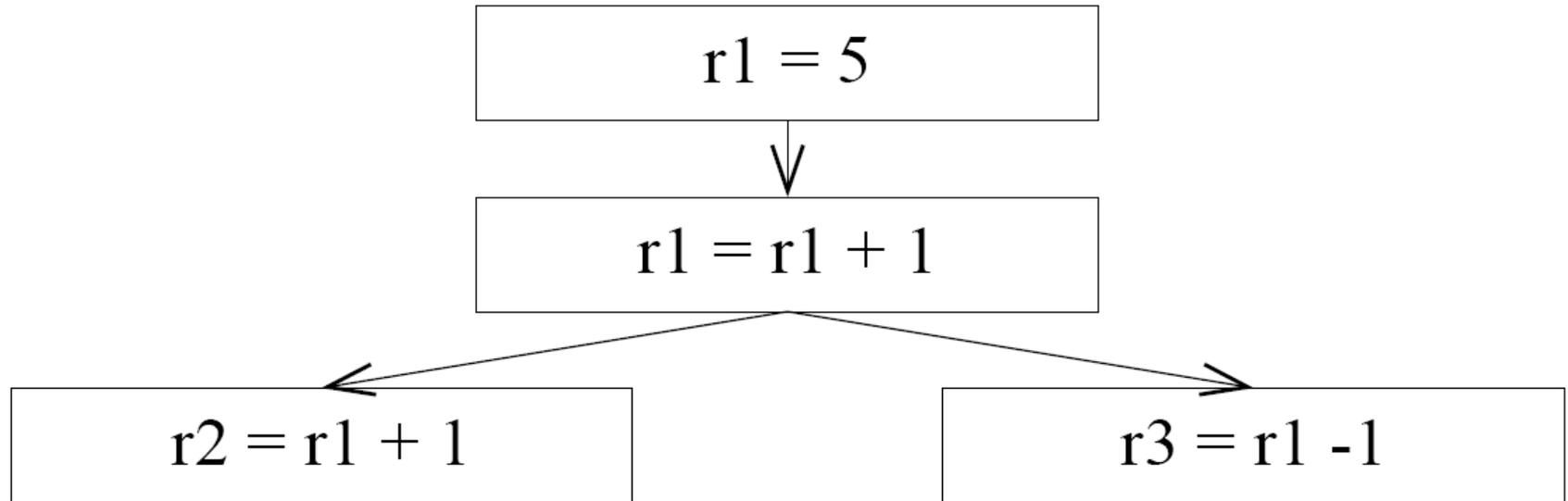


And these are just the def-use relationships...

# Static Single Assignment

## Static Single Assignment (SSA):

- improvement on def-use chains
- each register has only one definition in program
- for each use  $u$  of  $r$ , only one definition of  $r$  reaches  $u$

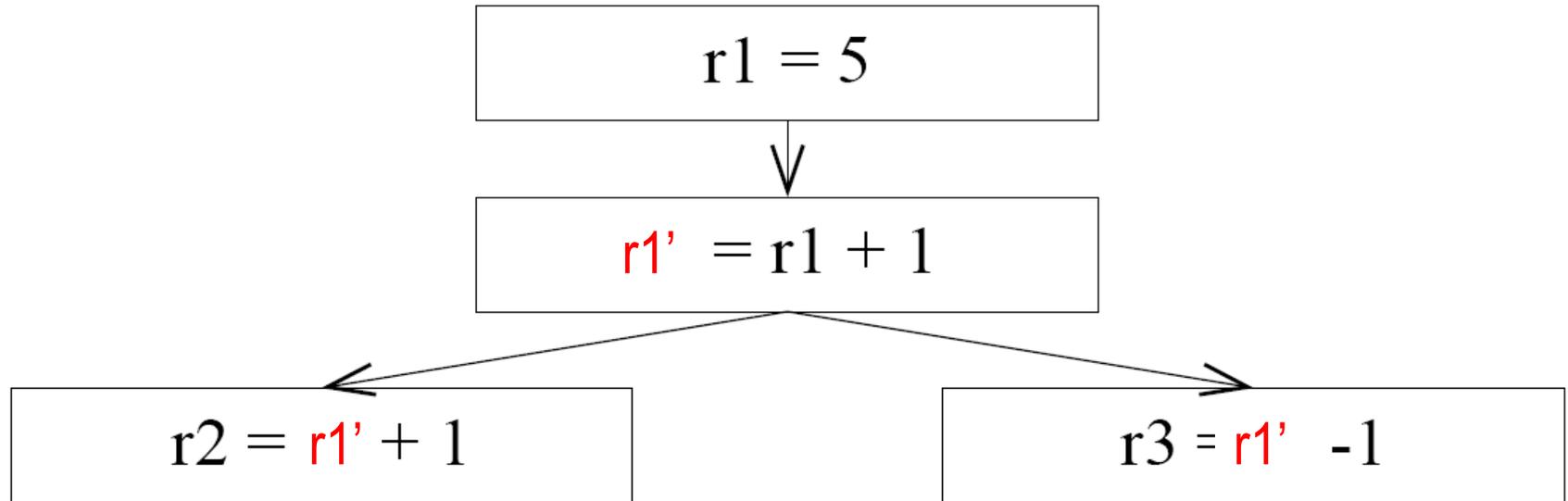


How can this be achieved?

# Static Single Assignment

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Rename variables consistently between defs and uses.

# Why SSA?

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## Static Single Assignment Advantages:

- Dataflow analysis and code optimization made simpler.
  - Variables have only one definition - no ambiguity.
  - Dominator information is encoded in the assignments.
- Less space required to represent def-use chains. For each variable, space is proportional to uses \* defs. Distinguishing different defs makes use lists shorter and more precise: less overlap.
- Eliminates unnecessary relationships:

```
for i = 1 to N do A[i] = 0
for i = 1 to M do B[i] = 1
```

- No reason why both loops should be forced to use same register to hold index register.
- SSA renames second *i* to new register which may lead to better register allocation/optimization.

(Dynamic Single Assignment is also proposed in the literature.)

# Conversion to SSA Code

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## Easy to convert basic blocks into SSA form:

- Each definition modified to define brand-new register, instead of redefining old one.
- Each use of register modified to use most recently defined version.

`r1 = r3 + r4`

`r2 = r1 - 1`

`r1 = r4 + r2`

`r2 = r5 * 4`

`r1 = r1 + r2`

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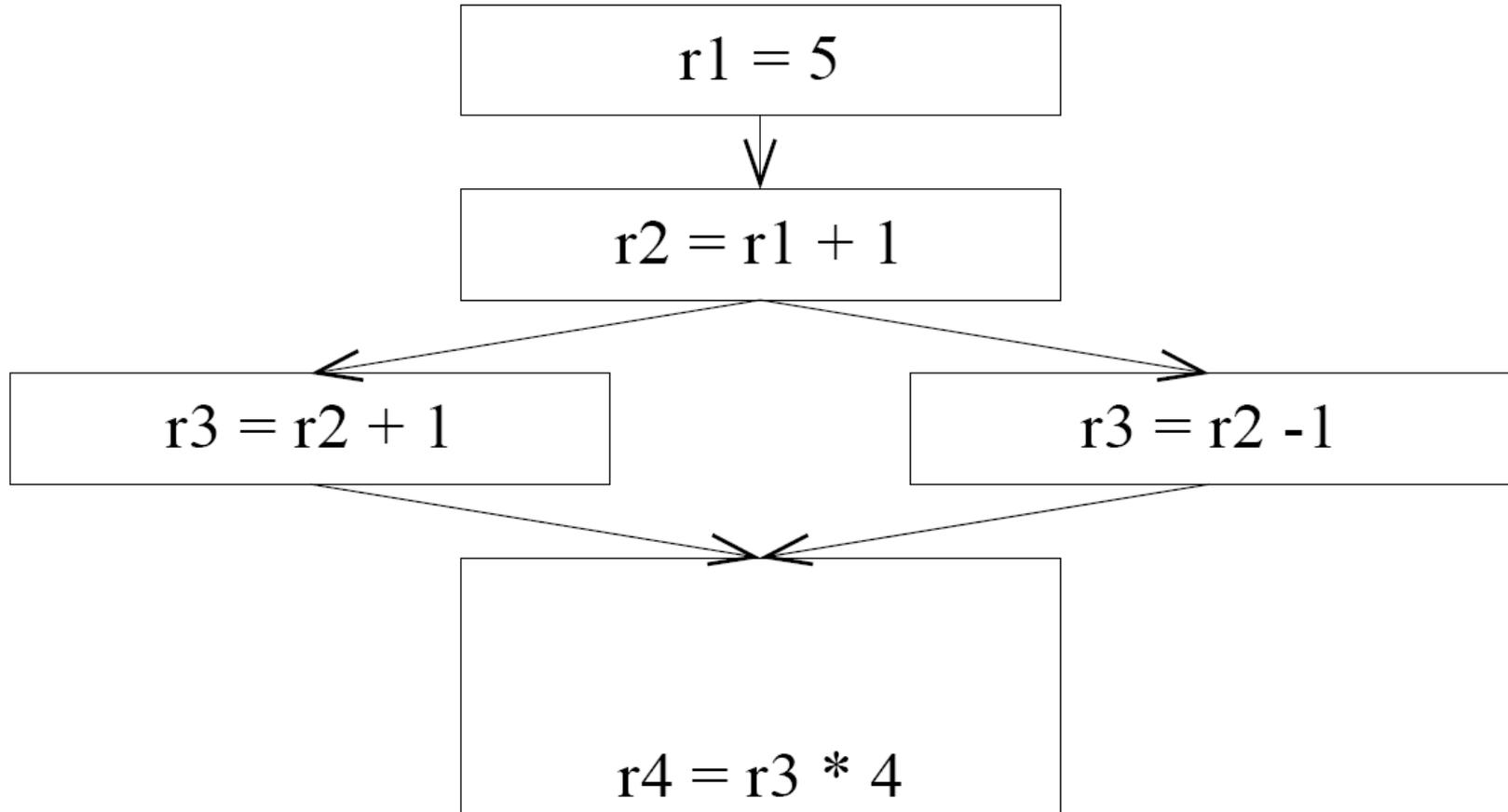
$r1' = r4 + r2$

$r2' = r5 * 4$

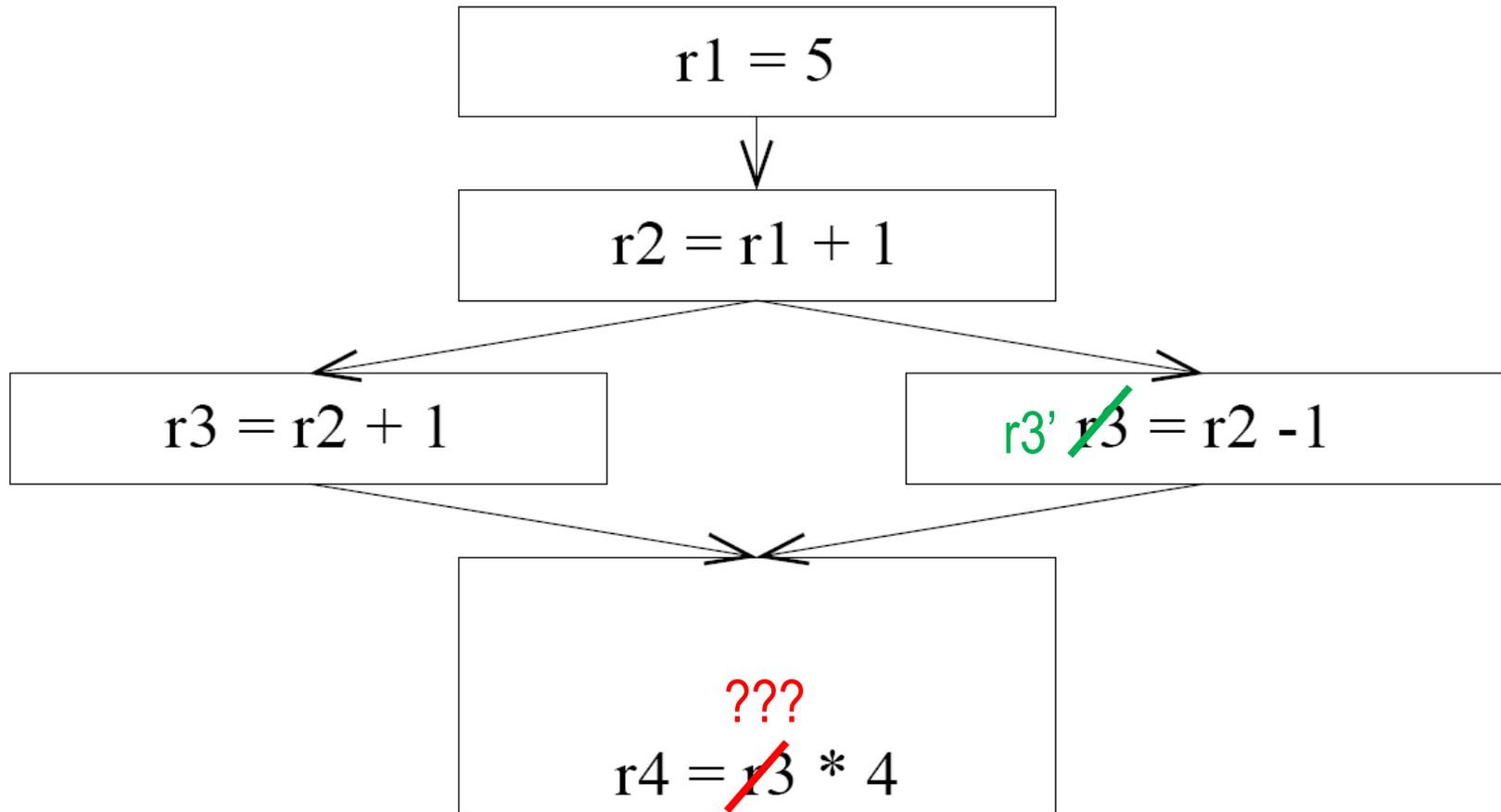
$r1'' = r1' + r2'$

**Control flow introduces problems.**

# Conversion to SSA Form

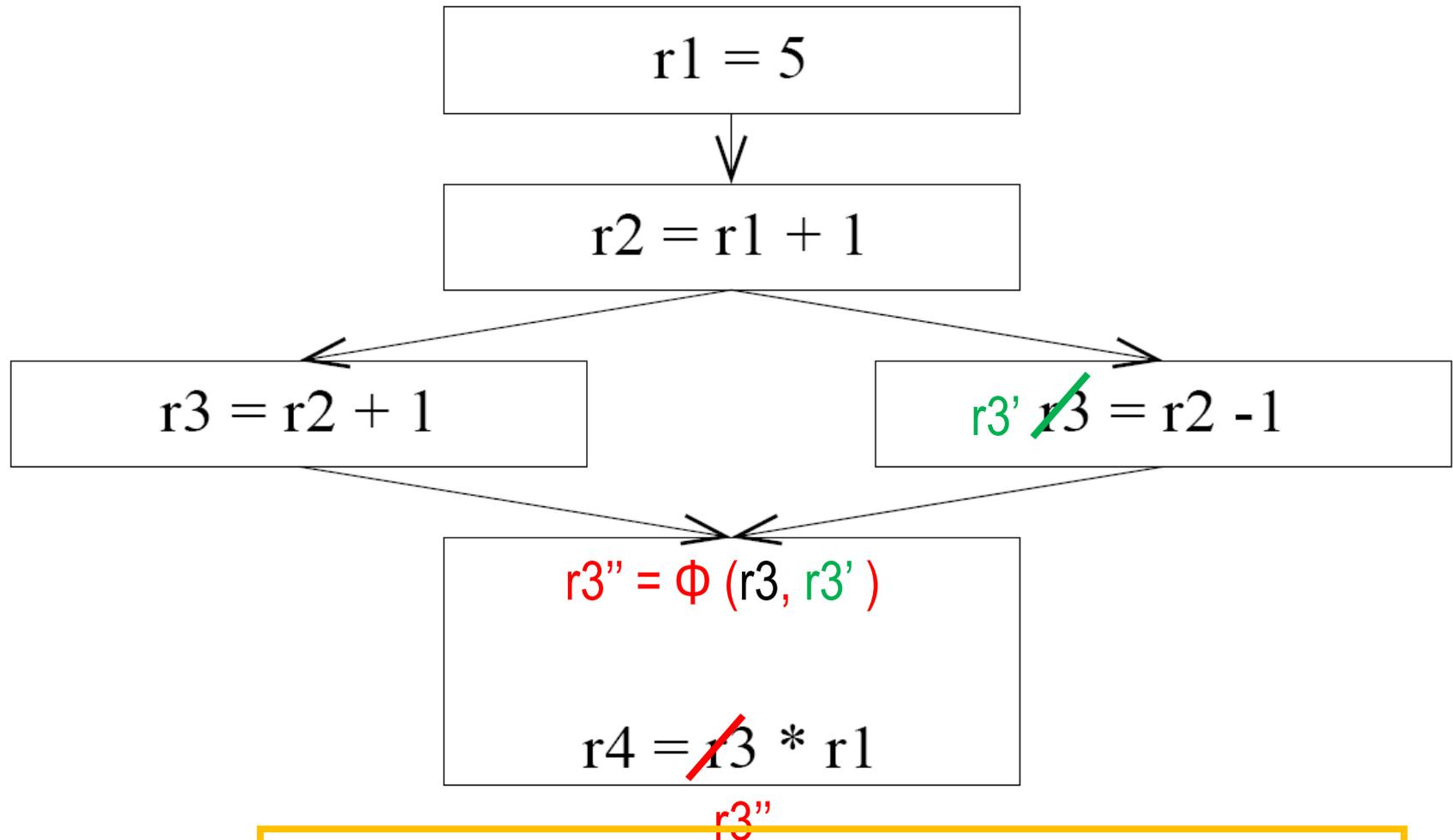


# Conversion to SSA Form



Use  $\phi$  functions.

# Conversion to SSA Form



$r3'' = \phi(r3, r3''')$ :  
–  $r3'' = r3$  if control enters from left  
–  $r3'' = r3'$  if control enters from right

# Conversion to SSA Form

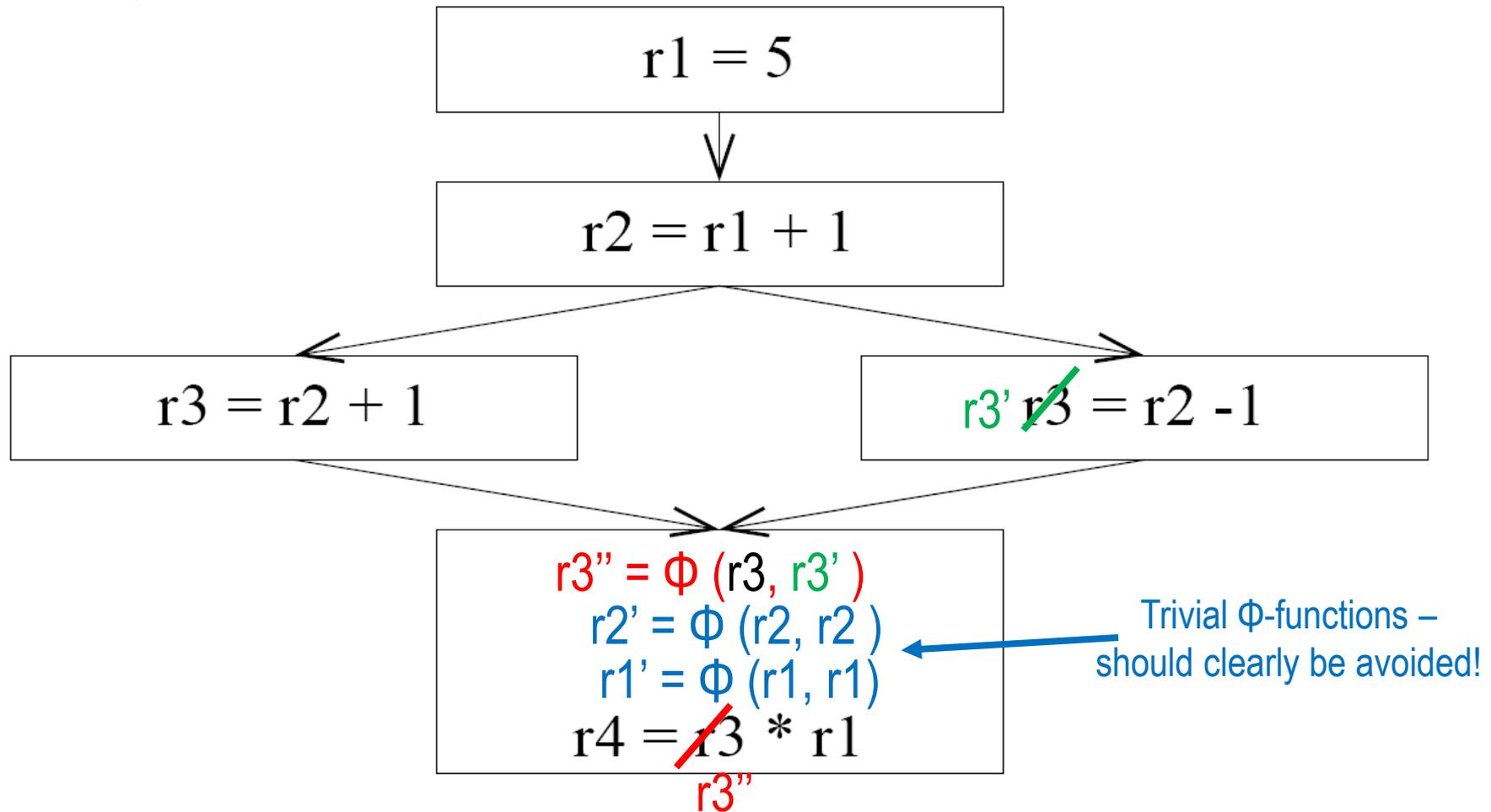
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- $\phi$ -functions enable the use of  $r3$  to be reached by exactly one definition of  $r3$ .
- Can implement  $\phi$ -functions as set of move operations on each incoming edge.
- for analysis & optimization: no implementation necessary:  
     $\Phi$  just used as notation
- **left** side of  $\Phi$ -function constitutes a **definition**; variables in **RHS** are **uses**
- ordering of argument positions corresponds to (arbitrary) order of incoming control flow arcs, but left implicit (could name positions using the labels of predecessor basic blocks...)
- elimination of  $\Phi$ -functions/translation out-of-SSA:  
    insert move instructions; often coalesced during register allocation
- typically, basic blocks have several  $\Phi$ -functions – all near the top, with identical ordering of incoming arcs from control flow predecessors

# Conversion to SSA Form

Naïve insertion:

add a  $\Phi$ -function for each register at each node with  $\geq 2$  predecessors



Can we do better?

# Conversion to SSA Form

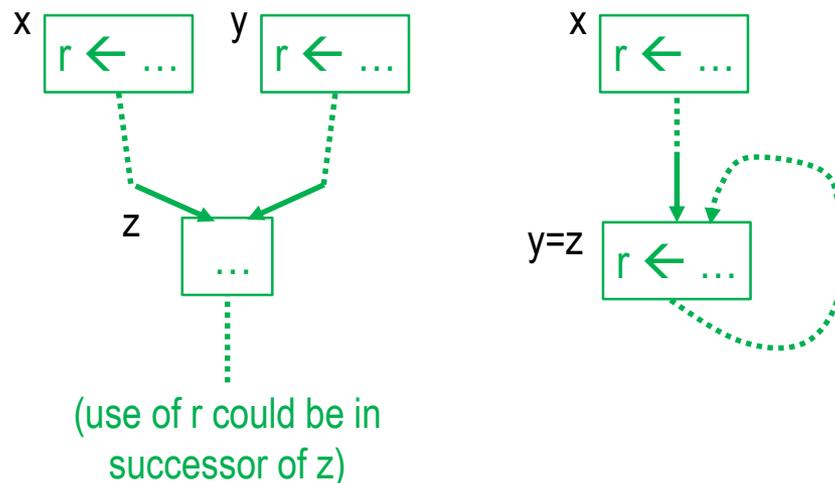
**Path-Convergence Criterion:** Insert a  $\phi$ -function for a register  $r$  at node  $z$  of the flow graph if ALL of the following are true:

1. There is a block  $x$  containing a definition of  $r$ .
2. There is a block  $y \neq x$  containing a definition of  $r$ .
3. There is a non-empty path  $P_{xz}$  of edges from  $x$  to  $z$ .
4. There is a non-empty path  $P_{yz}$  of edges from  $y$  to  $z$ .
5. Paths  $P_{xz}$  and  $P_{yz}$  do not have any node in common other than  $z$ .
6. The node  $z$  does not appear within both  $P_{xz}$  and  $P_{yz}$  prior to the end, though it may appear in one or the other. (eg if  $y=z$ )

Assume CFG entry node contains implicit definition of each register:

- $r$  = actual parameter value
- $r$  = undefined

$\phi$ -functions are counted as definitions.



# Conversion to SSA Form

---

Solve path-convergence iteratively:

WHILE (there are nodes  $x, y, z$  satisfying conditions 1-6) &&  
( $z$  does not contain a *phi*-function for  $r$ ) DO:  
insert  $r = \phi(r, r, \dots, r)$  (one per predecessor) at node  $z$ .

- Costly to compute. (3 nested loops, for  $x, y, z$ )
- Since definitions dominate uses, use domination to simplify computation.

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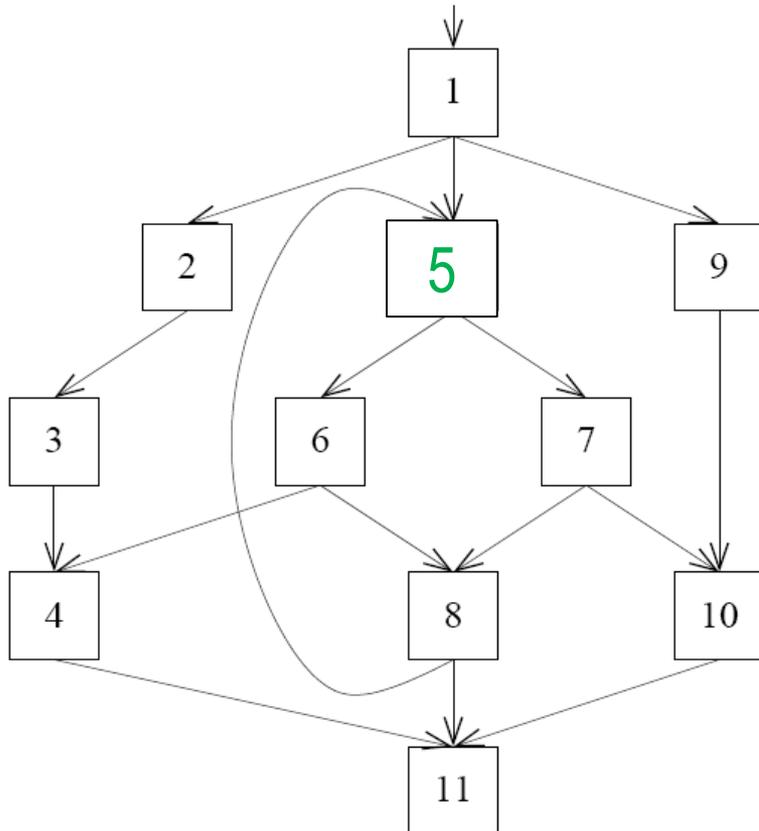
Use *Dominance Frontier*...

Remember dominance: node **x** dominates node **w** if every path from **entry** to **w** goes through **x**.  
(In particular, every node dominates itself)

# Dominance Frontier

## Definitions:

- $x$  strictly dominates  $w$  if  $x$  dominates  $w$  and  $x \neq w$ .
- dominance frontier of node  $x$  is set of all nodes  $w$  such that  $x$  dominates a predecessor of  $w$ , but does not strictly dominate  $w$ .

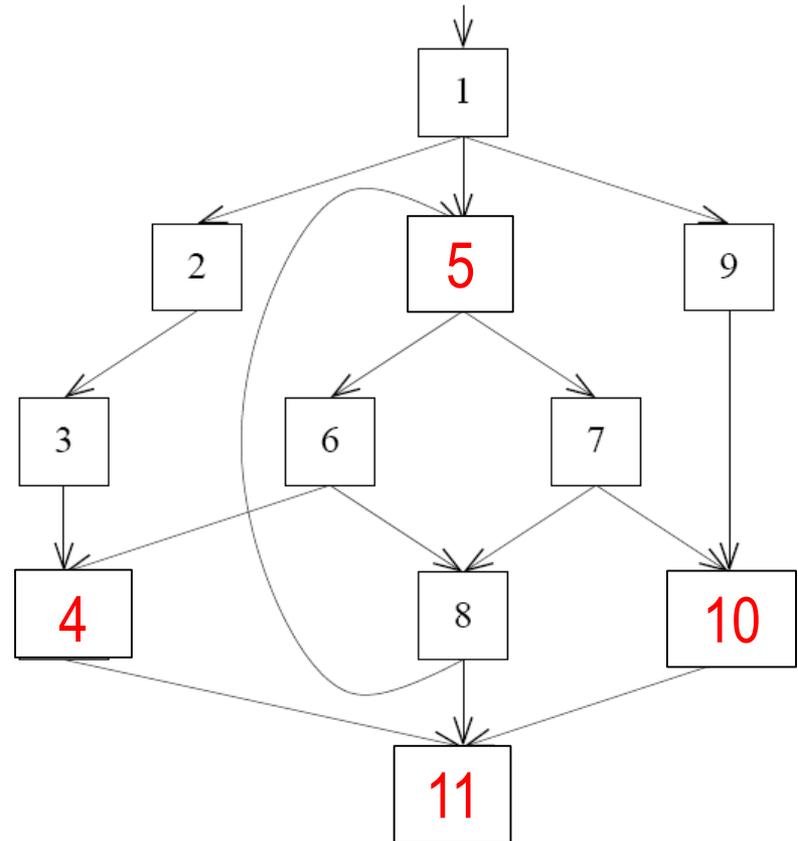
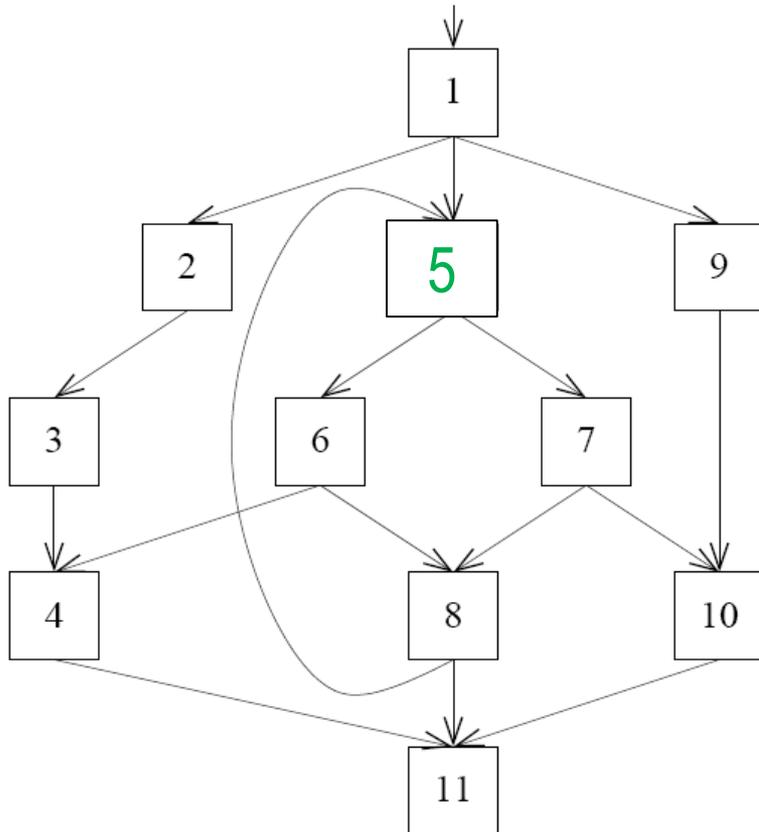


DF(5) = ?

# Dominance Frontier

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- *dominance frontier* of node  $x$  is set of all nodes  $w$  such that  $x$  dominates a predecessor of  $w$ , but does not strictly dominate  $w$ .



$$DF(5) = \{4, 5, 10, 11\}$$

# Dominance Frontier

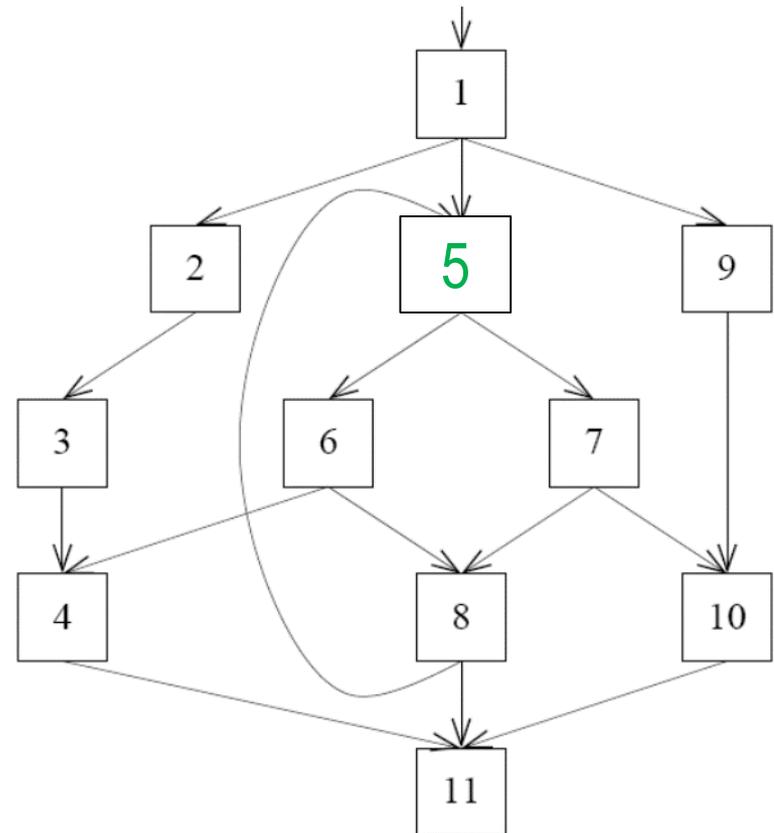
## Dominance Frontier Criterion:

Whenever node **x** contains a **definition** of a register **r**, insert a  $\Phi$ -function for **r** in all nodes **z**  $\in$  **DF(x)**.

## Iterated Dominance Frontier Criterion:

Apply dominance frontier condition repeatedly, to account for the fact that  $\Phi$ -functions constitute definitions themselves.

Suppose **5** contains a definition of **r**.



# Dominance Frontier

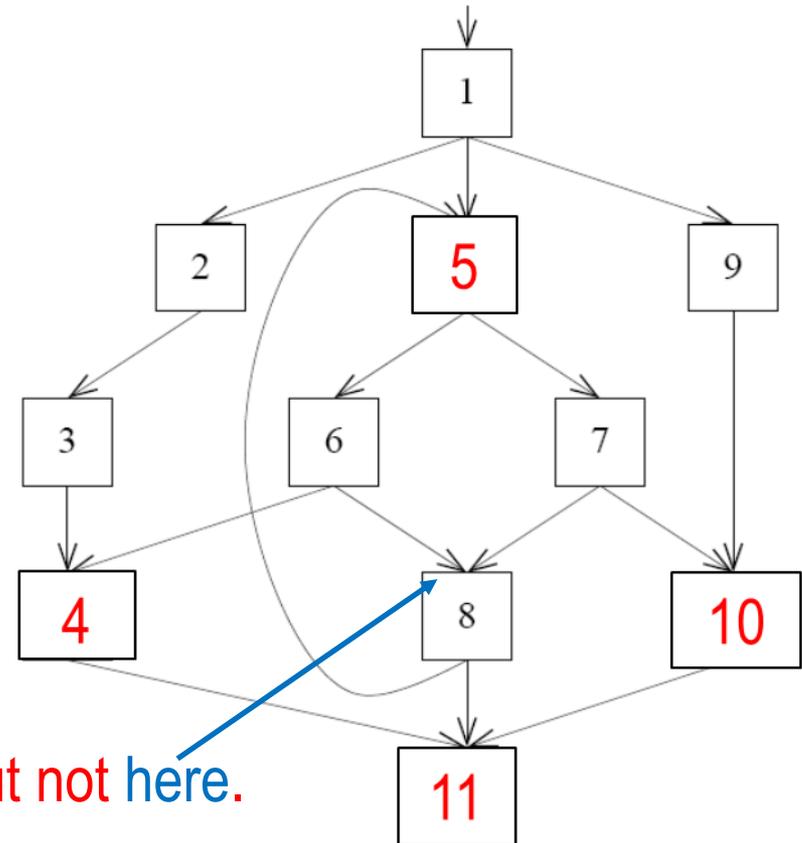
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## Iterated Dominance Frontier Criterion:

Apply dominance frontier condition repeatedly, to account for the fact that  $\Phi$ -functions constitute definitions themselves.

Suppose **5** contains a definition of **r**.  
Insert  $\Phi$ -functions for **r** in red blocks.



But not here.

# Dominance Frontier Computation

- Use dominator tree
- $DF[n]$ : dominance frontier of  $n$
- $DF_{local}[n]$ : successors of  $n$  in CFG that are not strictly dominated by  $n$
- $DF_{up}[c]$ : nodes in dominance frontier of  $c$  that are not **strictly** dominated by  $c$ 's immediate dominator

See errata list of MCIML

Alternative formulation:  $DF_{local}[n] = \text{successors } s \text{ of } n \text{ with } \text{idom}[s] \neq n.$

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$$DF[n] = DF_{local}[n] \cup \left( \bigcup_{c \in children[n]} DF_{up}[c] \right)$$

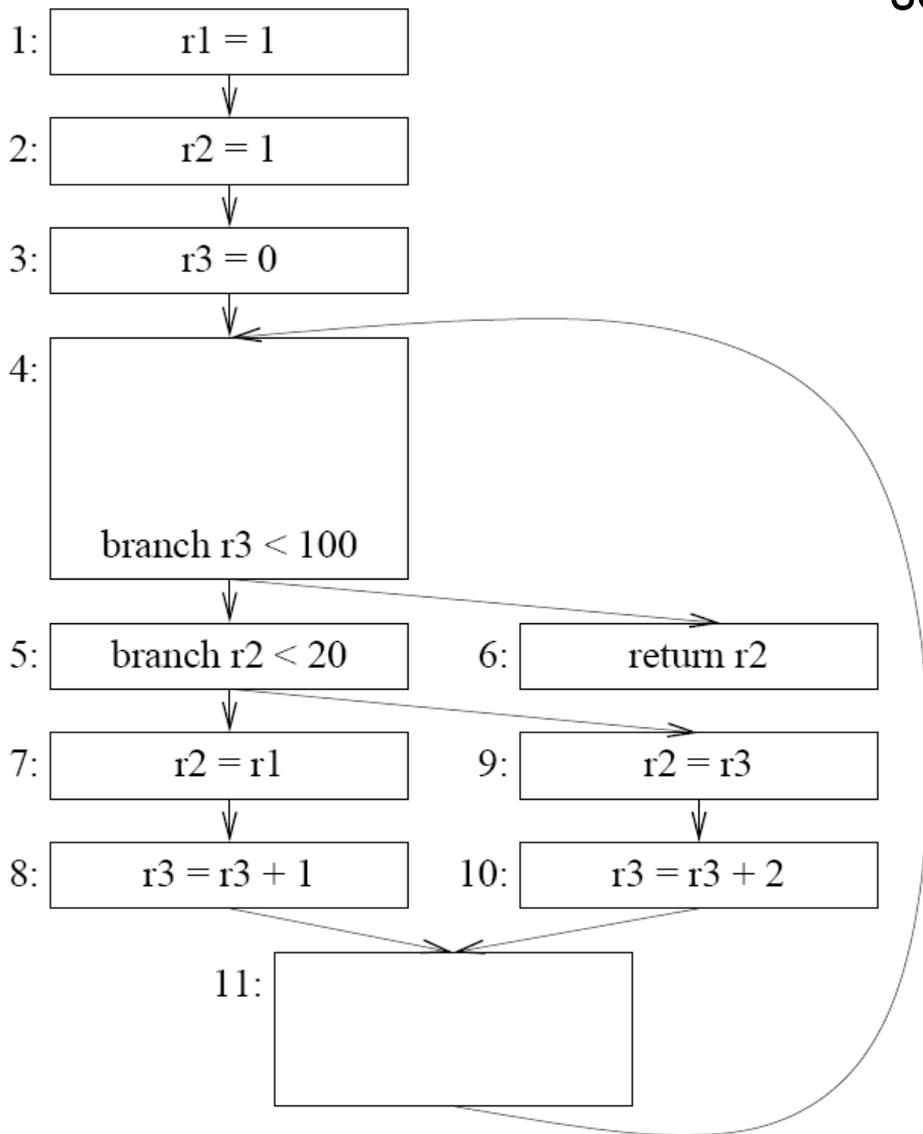
- where  $children[n]$  are the nodes whose idom is  $n$ .
- Work bottom up in dominator tree.  
Leaf  $p$  satisfies  $DF[p] = DF_{local}[p]$  since  $children[p] = \{\}$ .

Alternative formulation:  $DF_{local}[n] = \text{successors } s \text{ of } n \text{ with } idom[s] \neq n$ .

# Dominator Analysis (slide 22 from “Control Flow”)

- If  $d$  dominates each of the  $p_i$ , then  $d$  dominates  $n$ .
  - If  $d$  dominates  $n$ , then  $d$  dominates each of the  $p_i$ .
  - $Dom[n]$  = set of nodes that dominate node  $n$ .
  - $N$  = set of all nodes.
  - Computation: starting point: n dominated by all nodes
    1.  $Dom[s_0] = \{s_0\}$ .
    2. **for**  $n \in N - \{s_0\}$  **do**  $Dom[n] = N$  
    3. **while** (changes to any  $Dom[n]$  occur) **do**
    4.   **for**  $n \in N - \{s_0\}$  **do**
    5.      $Dom[n] = \{n\} \cup (\bigcap_{p \in pred[n]} Dom[p])$ . 
- nodes that dominate all predecessors of n

# SSA Example

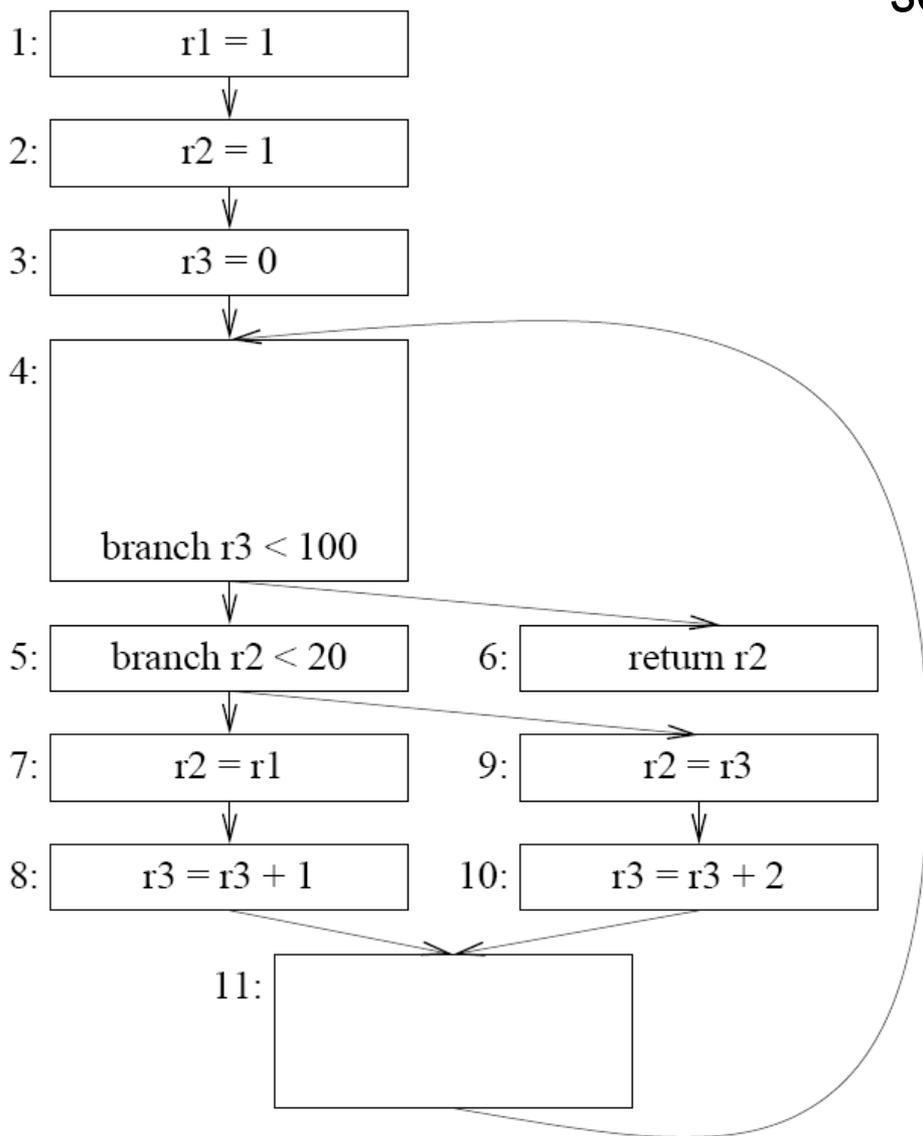


set of nodes that  
dominate  $n$



Node	$DOM[n]$	$IDOM[n]$
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

# SSA Example

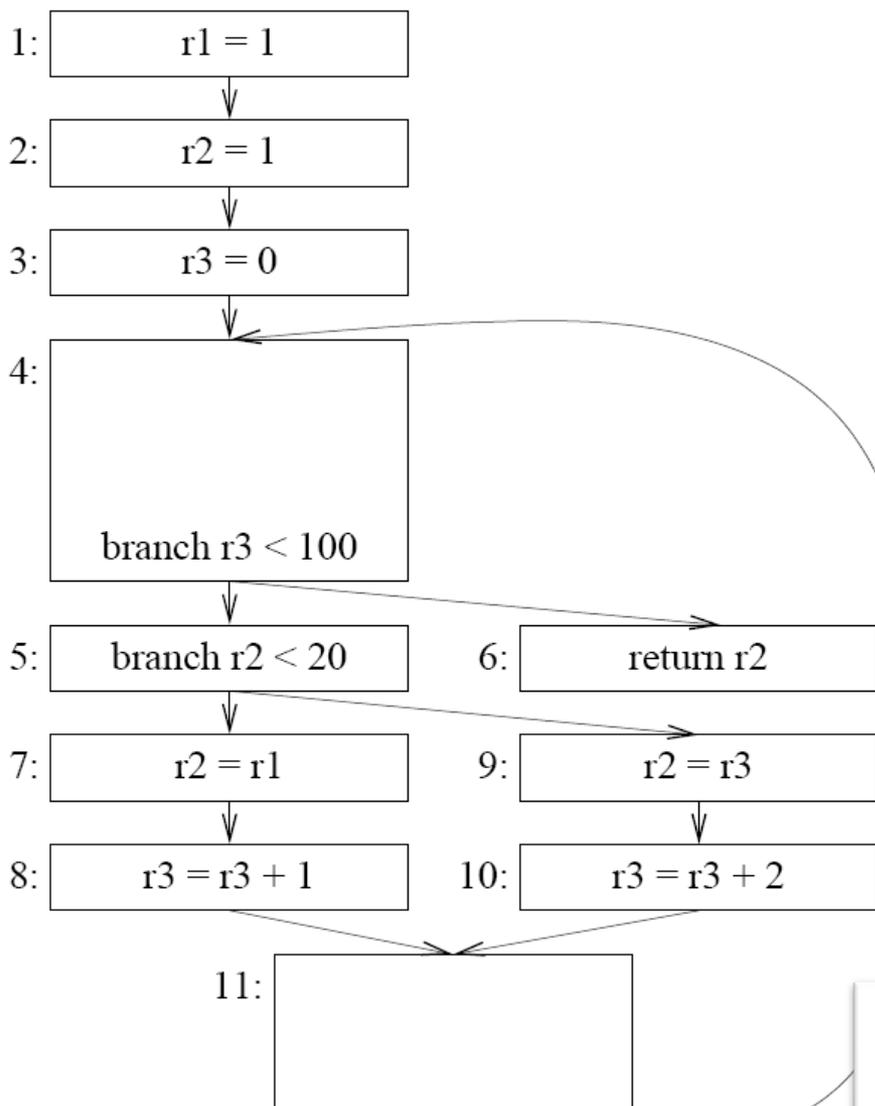


set of nodes that  
dominate n



Node	$DOM[n]$	$IDOM[n]$
1	1	
2	1, 2	
3	1, 2, 3	
4	1, 2, 3, 4	
5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
6	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	
7	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	
8	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	
9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9	
10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10	
11	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11	

# SSA Example



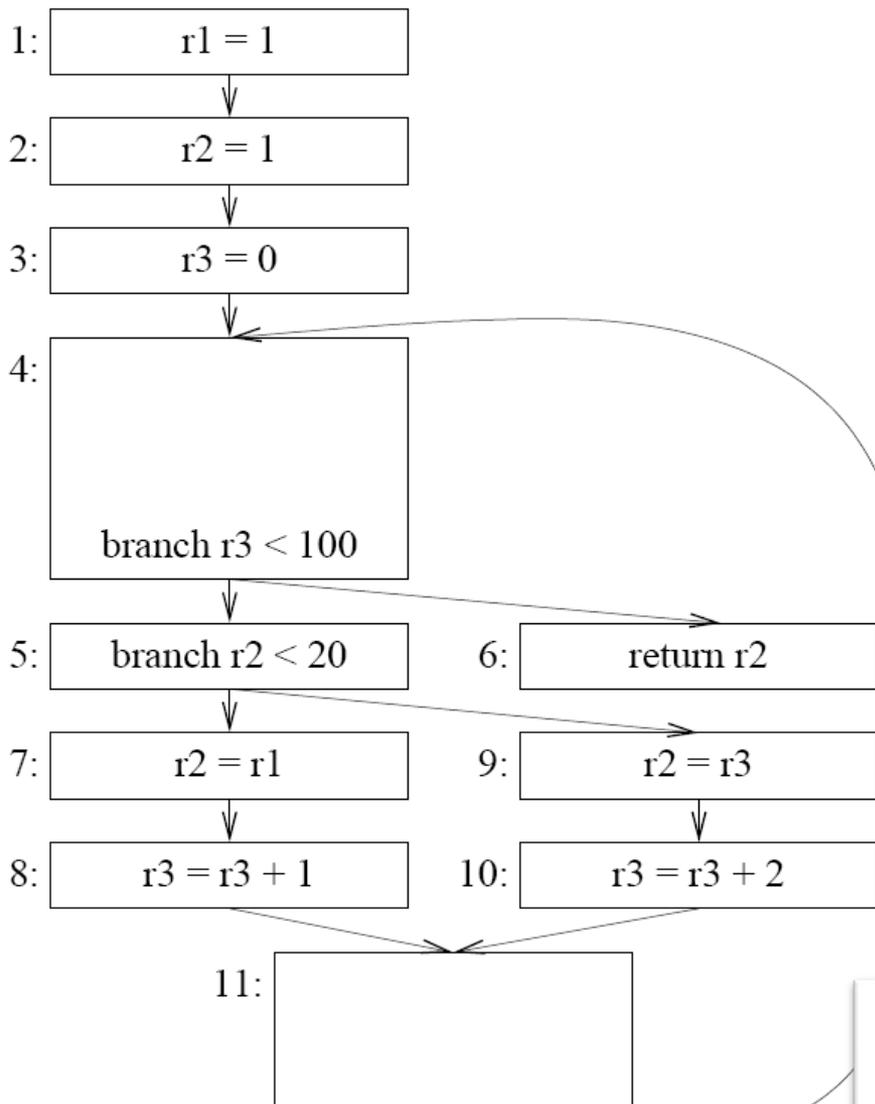
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1	1	
2	1, 2	
3	1, 2, 3	
4	1, 2, 3, 4	
5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
6	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	
7	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	
8	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	
9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9	
10	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10	
11	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11	

- Every node  $n$  ( $n \neq s_0$ ) has exactly one immediate dominator  $IDom[n]$ .
- $IDom[n] \neq n$
- $IDom[n]$  dominates  $n$
- $IDom[n]$  does not dominate any other dominator of  $n$ .

Hence: last dominator of  $n$  on any path from  $s_0$  to  $n$  is  $IDom[n]$

# SSA Example



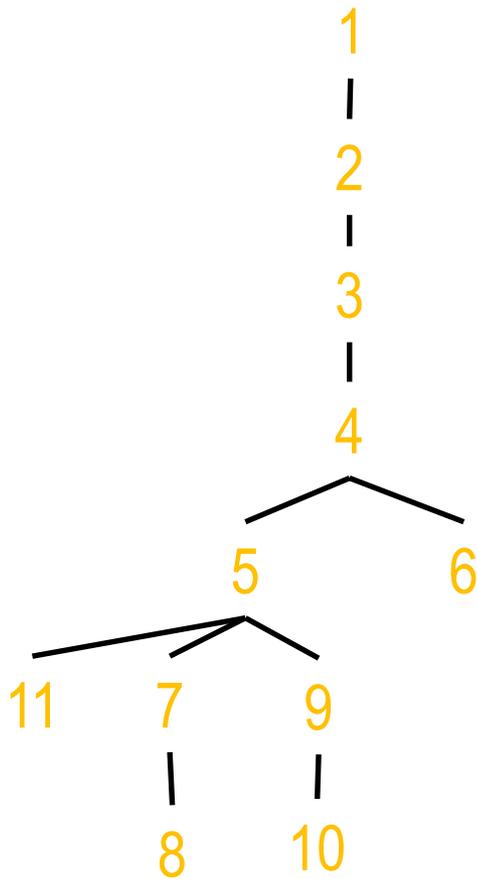
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4	1, 2, 3, 4	3
5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	4
6	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	4
7	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	5
8	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	7
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# SSA Example



Dominator Tree

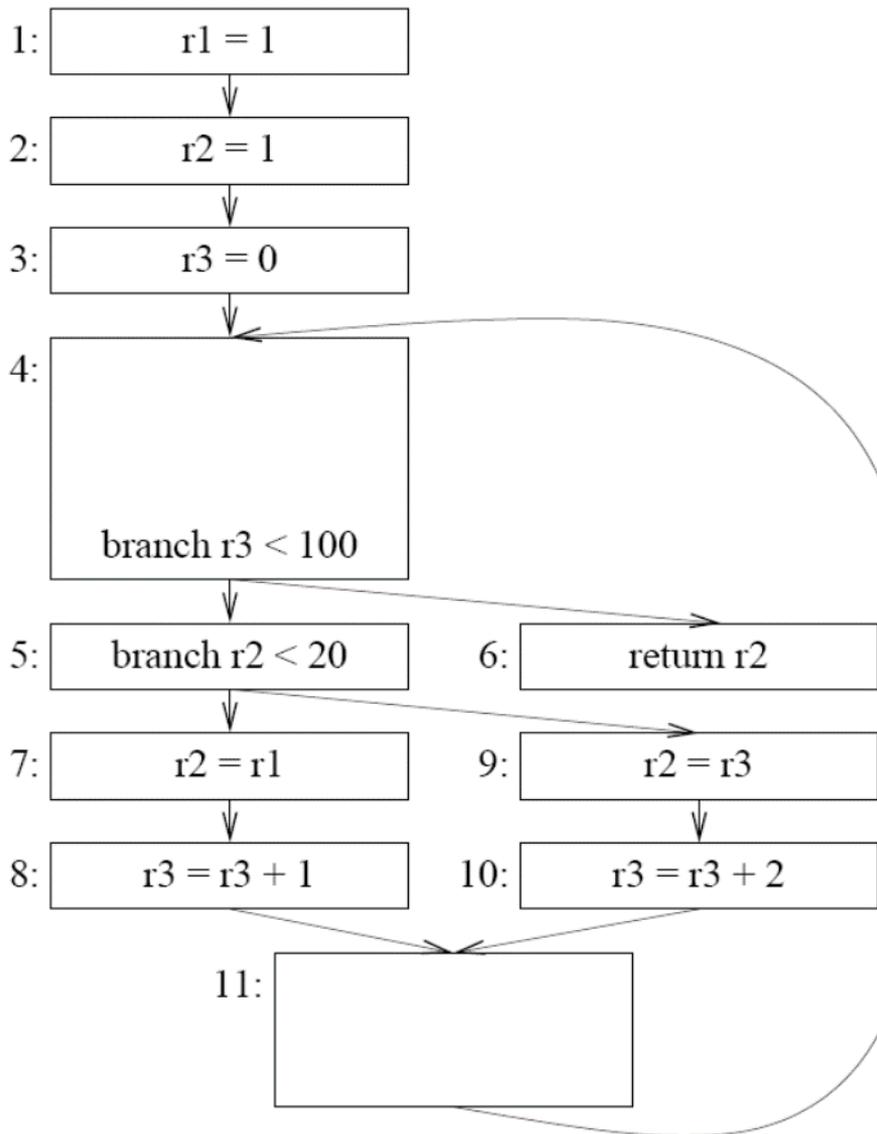
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Node	$DOM[n]$	$IDOM[n]$
1	1	--
2	1, 2	1
3	1, 2, 3	2
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5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	4
6	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	4
7	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	5
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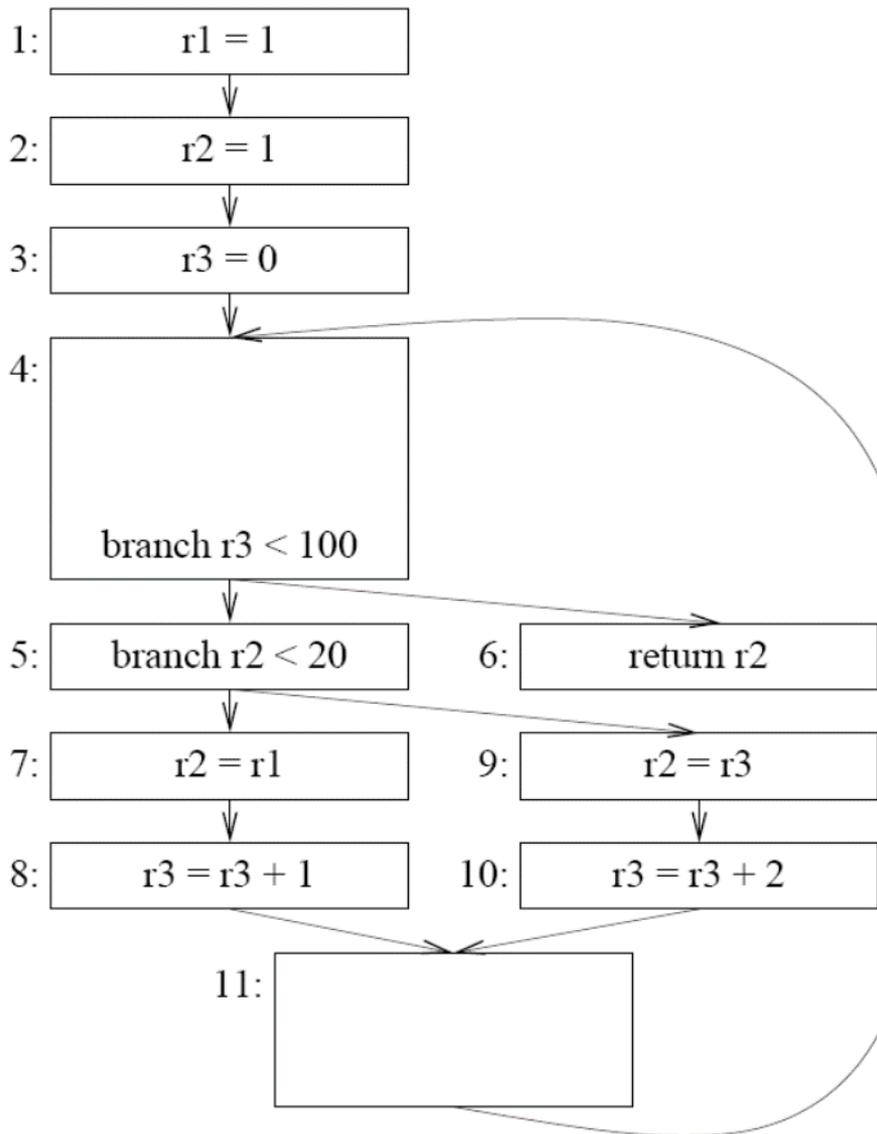
$$DF_{\text{local}}[n] = \text{successors } s \text{ of } n \text{ with } \text{idom}[s] \neq n.$$



Node	$IDOM[n]$	$DF_{\text{local}}[n]$
1	--	
2	1	
3	2	
4	3	
5	4	
6	4	
7	5	
8	7	
9	5	
10	9	
11	5	

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Node	$IDOM[n]$	$DF_{\text{local}}[n]$
1	--	--
2	1	--
3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

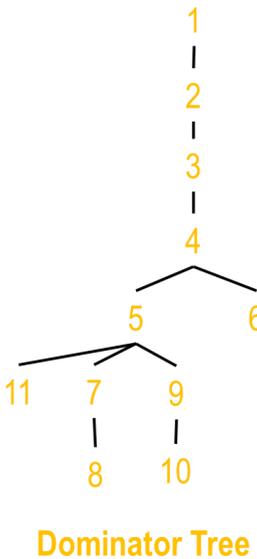
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- $DF_{local}[n]$ : successors of  $n$  in CFG that are not strictly dominated by  $n$
- $DF_{up}[c]$ : nodes in dominance frontier of  $c$  that are not strictly dominated by  $c$ 's immediate dominator

$$DF[n] = DF_{local}[n] \cup \left( \bigcup_{c \in children[n]} DF_{up}[c] \right)$$

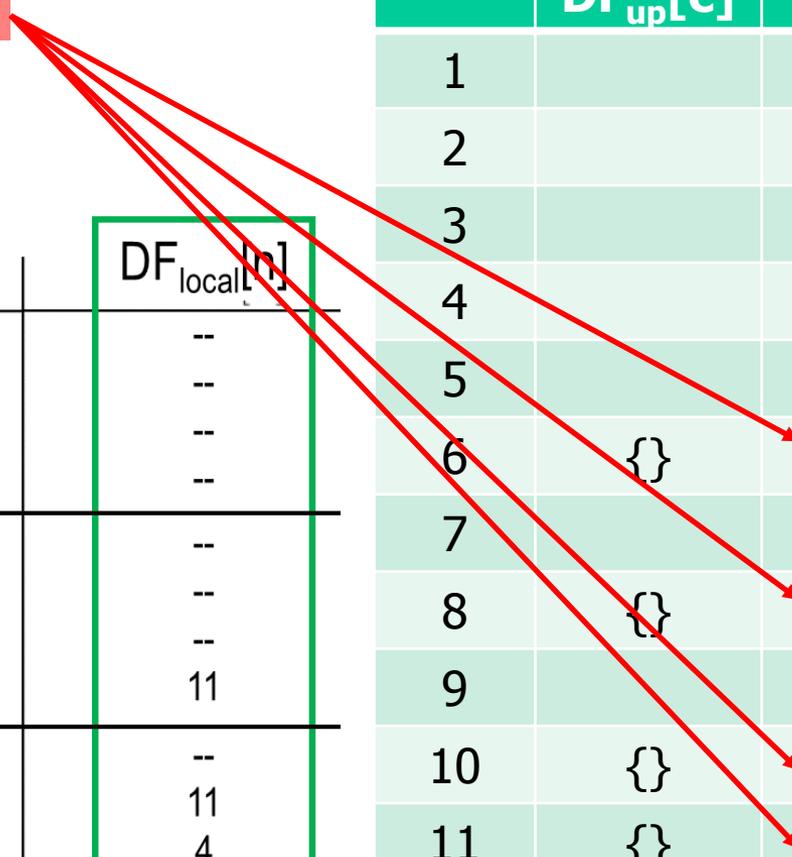
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- Work bottom up in dominator tree.  
Leaf  $p$  satisfies  $DF[p] = DF_{local}[p]$ .



Node	$IDOM[n]$	$DF_{local}[n]$
1	--	--
2	1	--
3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

n	$\bigcup_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	DF[n]	$DF_{up}[n]$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	{ }		
7			
8	{ }		
9			
10	{ }		
11	{ }		



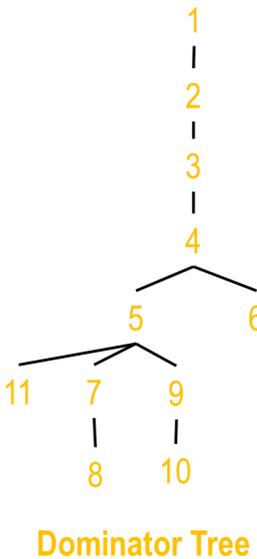
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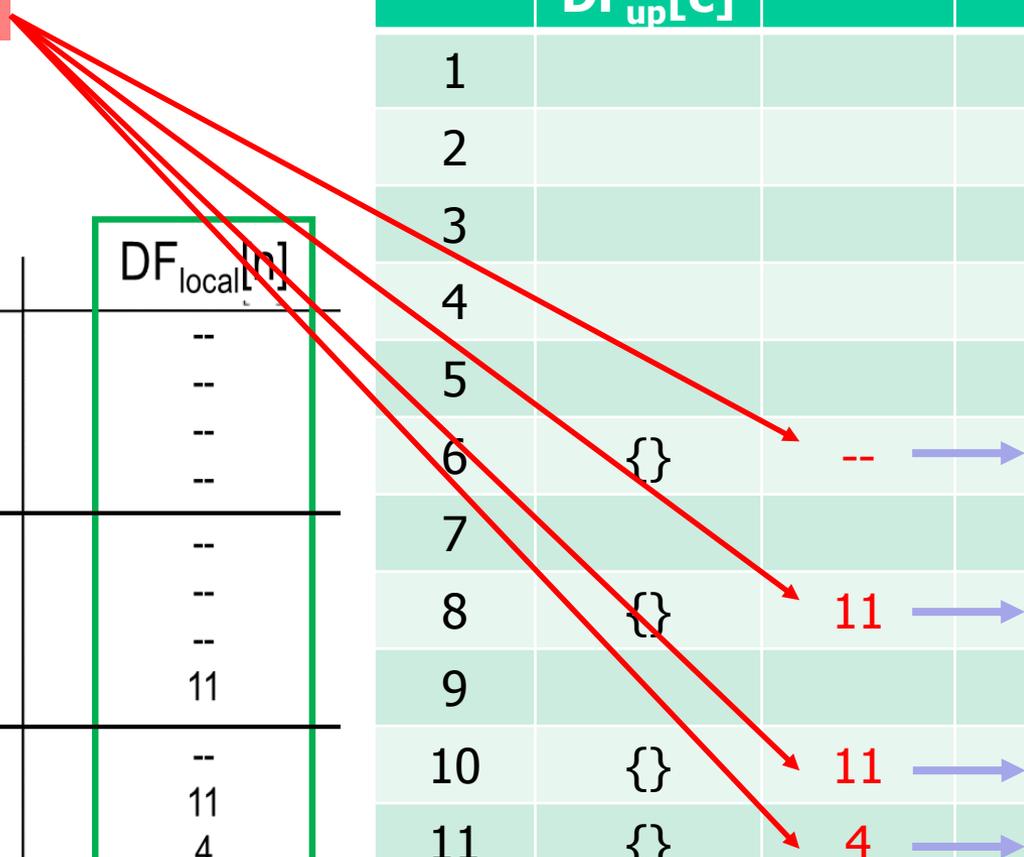
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1	--	--
2	1	--
3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

n	$U_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	DF[n]	$DF_{up}[n]$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	{ }	--	→
7			
8	{ }	11	→
9			
10	{ }	11	→
11	{ }	4	→

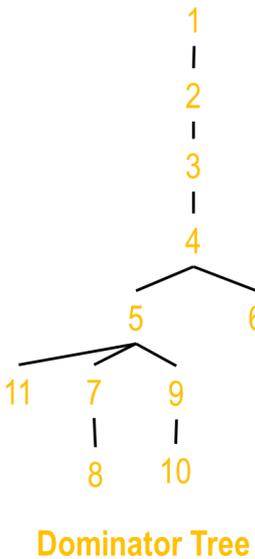


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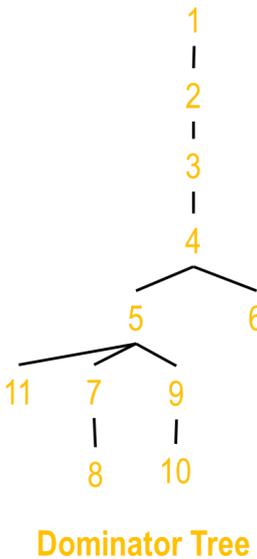
n	$U_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	$DF[n]$	$DF_{up}[n]$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	{ }	--	--
7			
8	{ }	11	11
9			
10	{ }	11	11
11	{ }	4	4

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3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

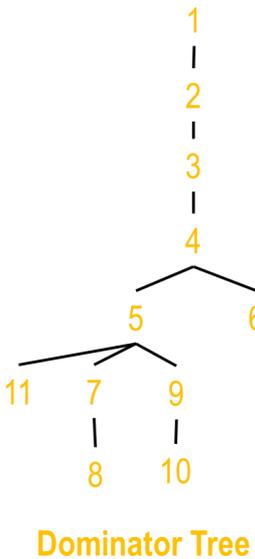
n	$\bigcup_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	DF[n]	$DF_{up}[n]$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	{ }	--	--
7	11		
8	{ }	11	11
9	11		
10	{ }	11	11
11	{ }	4	4

# SSA Example

- $DF_{local}[n]$ : successors of  $n$  in CFG that are not strictly dominated by  $n$
- $DF_{up}[c]$ : nodes in dominance frontier of  $c$  that are not strictly dominated by  $c$ 's immediate dominator

$$DF[n] = DF_{local}[n] \cup \left( \bigcup_{c \in children[n]} DF_{up}[c] \right)$$

- where  $children[n]$  are the nodes whose idom is  $n$ .
- Work bottom up in dominator tree.  
Leaf  $p$  satisfies  $DF[p] = DF_{local}[p]$



Node	$IDOM[n]$	$DF_{local}[n]$
1	--	--
2	1	--
3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

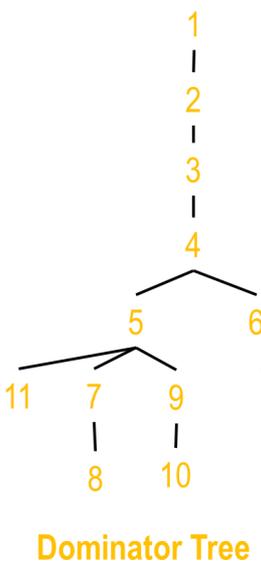
n	$U_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	DF[n]	$DF_{up}[n]$
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	{ }	--	--
7	11	11	
8	{ }	11	11
9	11	11	
10	{ }	11	11
11	{ }	4	4

# SSA Example

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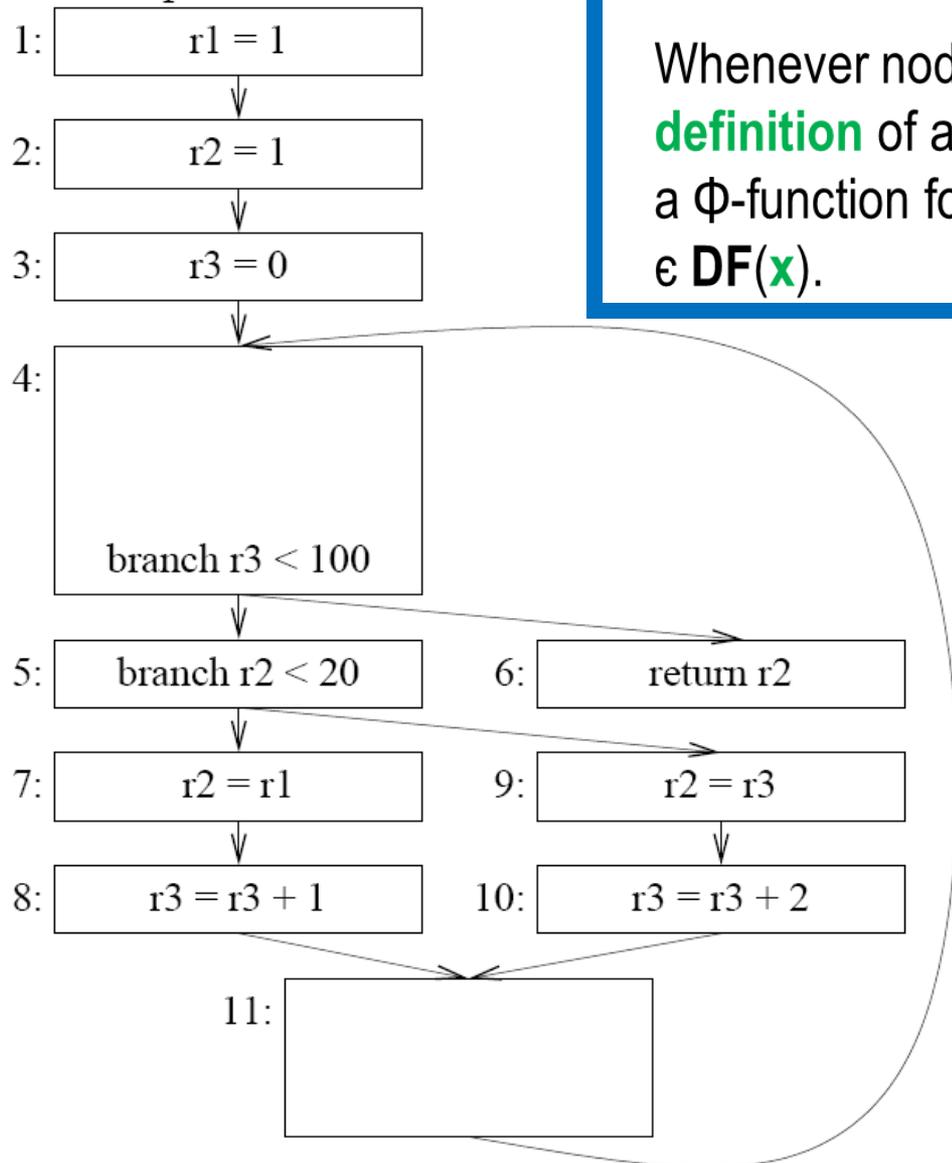


Node	$IDOM[n]$	$DF_{local}[n]$
1	--	--
2	1	--
3	2	--
4	3	--
5	4	--
6	4	--
7	5	--
8	7	11
9	5	--
10	9	11
11	5	4

n	$U_{c(n)} DF_{up}[c]$	DF[n]	DF <sub>up</sub> [n]
1		--	
2	:	--	:
3	:	--	:
4		--	
5		4	
6	{ }	--	--
7	11	11	...
8	{ }	11	11
9	11	11	...
10	{ }	11	11
11	{ }	4	4

# SSA Example

Insert *phi*-functions:



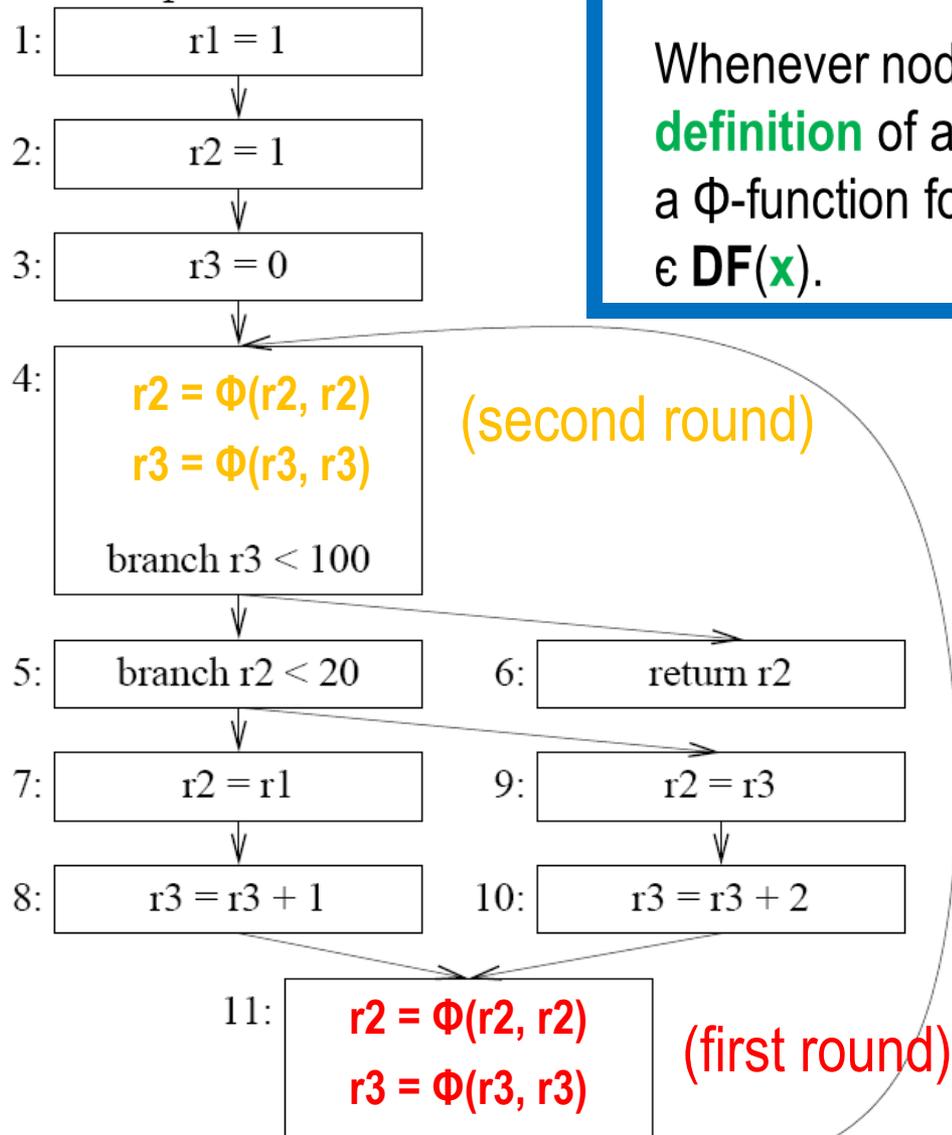
## Dominance Frontier Criterion:

Whenever node **x** contains a **definition** of a register **r**, insert a  $\Phi$ -function for **r** in all nodes **z**  $\in$  **DF(x)**.

n	DF[n]
1	{ }
2	{ }
3	{ }
4	{ }
5	4
6	{ }
7	11
8	11
9	11
10	11
11	4

# SSA Example

Insert *phi*-functions:



## Dominance Frontier Criterion:

Whenever node **x** contains a **definition** of a register **r**, insert a  $\Phi$ -function for **r** in all nodes **z**  $\in$  **DF(x)**.

n	DF[n]
1	{ }
2	{ }
3	{ }
4	{ }
5	4
6	{ }
7	11
8	11
9	11
10	11
11	4

# SSA Example

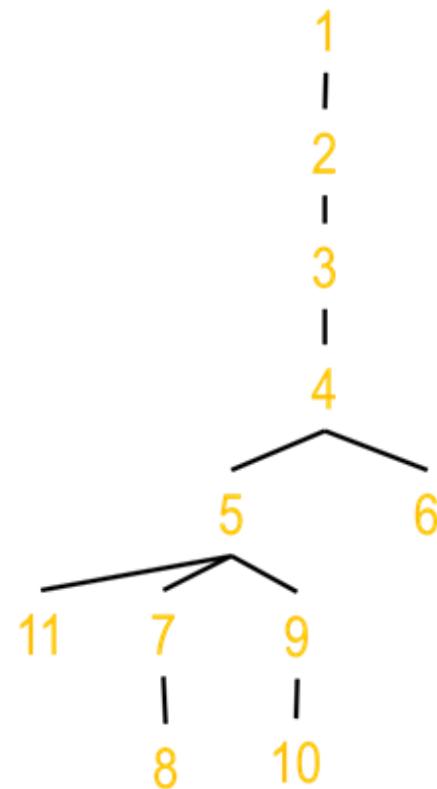
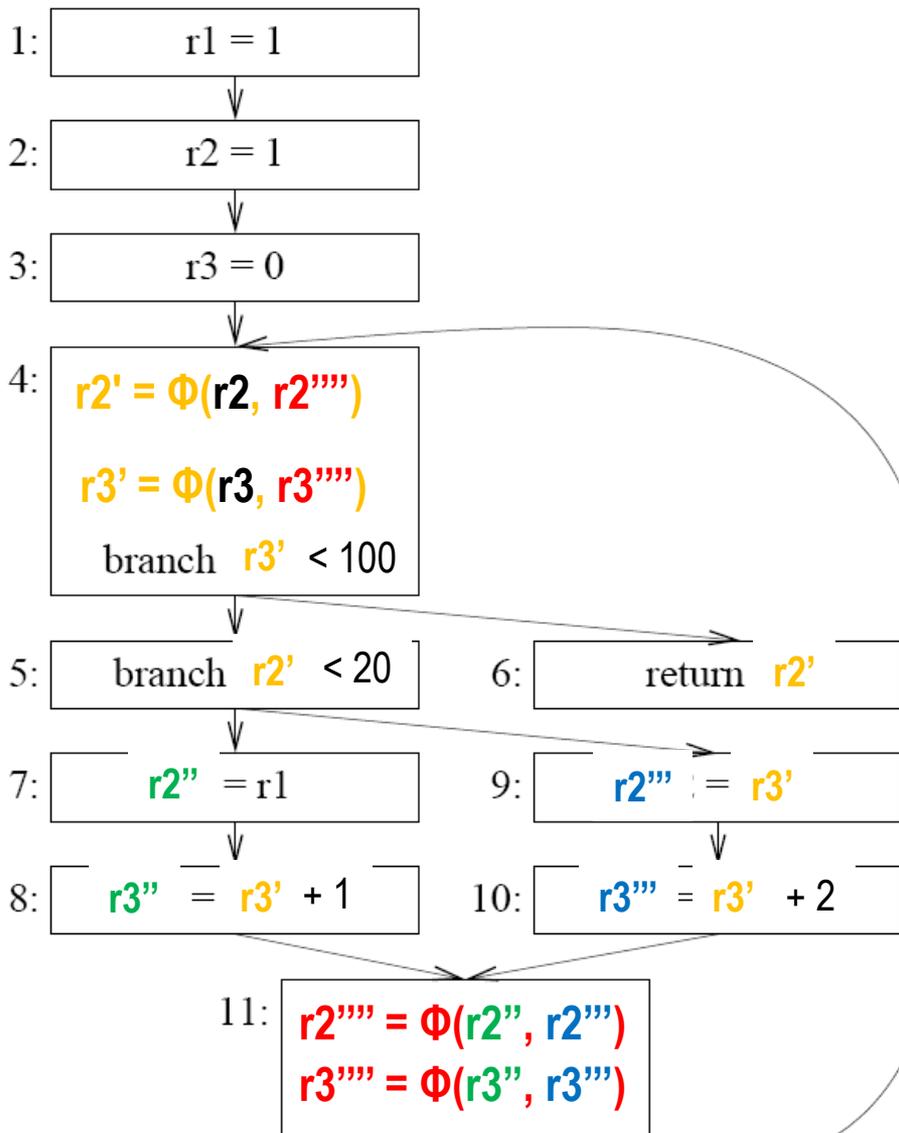
---

## **Rename Variables:**

1. traverse dominator tree, renaming different definitions of  $r$  to  $r_1, r_2, r_3 \dots$
2. rename each regular use of  $r$  to most recent definition of  $r$
3. rename  $\phi$ -function arguments with each incoming edge's unique definition

# SSA Example

## Rename Variables:



Dominator Tree

# Alternative construction methods for SSA

Lengauer-Tarjan: efficient computation of dominance tree

- near linear time
- uses depth-first spanning tree
- see MCIML, Section 19.2

John Aycock, Nigel Horspool: *Simple Generation of Static Single Assignment Form*. 9<sup>th</sup> Conference on Compiler Construction (CC 2000), pages 110—124, LNCS 1781, Springer 2000

- Starts from “crude” placement of  $\Phi$ -functions: in every block, for every variable
  - then iteratively eliminates unnecessary  $\Phi$ -functions
    - For reducible CFG

M. Braun, et al.: *Simple and Efficient Construction of Static Single Assignment Form*. 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Compiler Construction (CC 2013), pages 102—122, LNCS 7791, Springer 2013

- avoids computation of dominance or iterated DF
  - works directly on AST (avoids CFG)

# Static Single Assignment

---

## Static Single Assignment Advantages:

- Less space required to represent def-use chains. For each variable, space is proportional to uses \* defs.
- Eliminates unnecessary relationships:

```
for i = 1 to N do A[i] = 0
for i = 1 to M do B[i] = 1
```

- No reason why both loops should be forced to use same register to hold index register.
- SSA renames second *i* to new register which may lead to better register allocation.
- SSA form make certain optimizations quick and easy → dominance property.
  - Variables have only one definition - no ambiguity.
  - Dominator information is encoded in the assignments.

# SSA Dominance Property

---

Dominance property of SSA form: definitions dominate uses

- If  $x$  is  $i^{\text{th}}$  argument of  $\phi$ -function in node  $n$ , then definition of  $x$  dominates  $i^{\text{th}}$  predecessor of  $n$ .
- If  $x$  is used in non- $\phi$  statement in node  $n$ , then definition of  $x$  dominates  $n$ .

# SSA Dead Code Elimination

---

Given  $d: \tau = x \text{ op } y$

- $\tau$  is live at end of node  $d$  if there exists path from end of  $d$  to use of  $\tau$  that does not go through definition of  $\tau$ .
- if program not in SSA form, need to perform liveness analysis to determine if  $\tau$  live at end of  $d$ .
- if program is in SSA form:

# SSA Dead Code Elimination

---

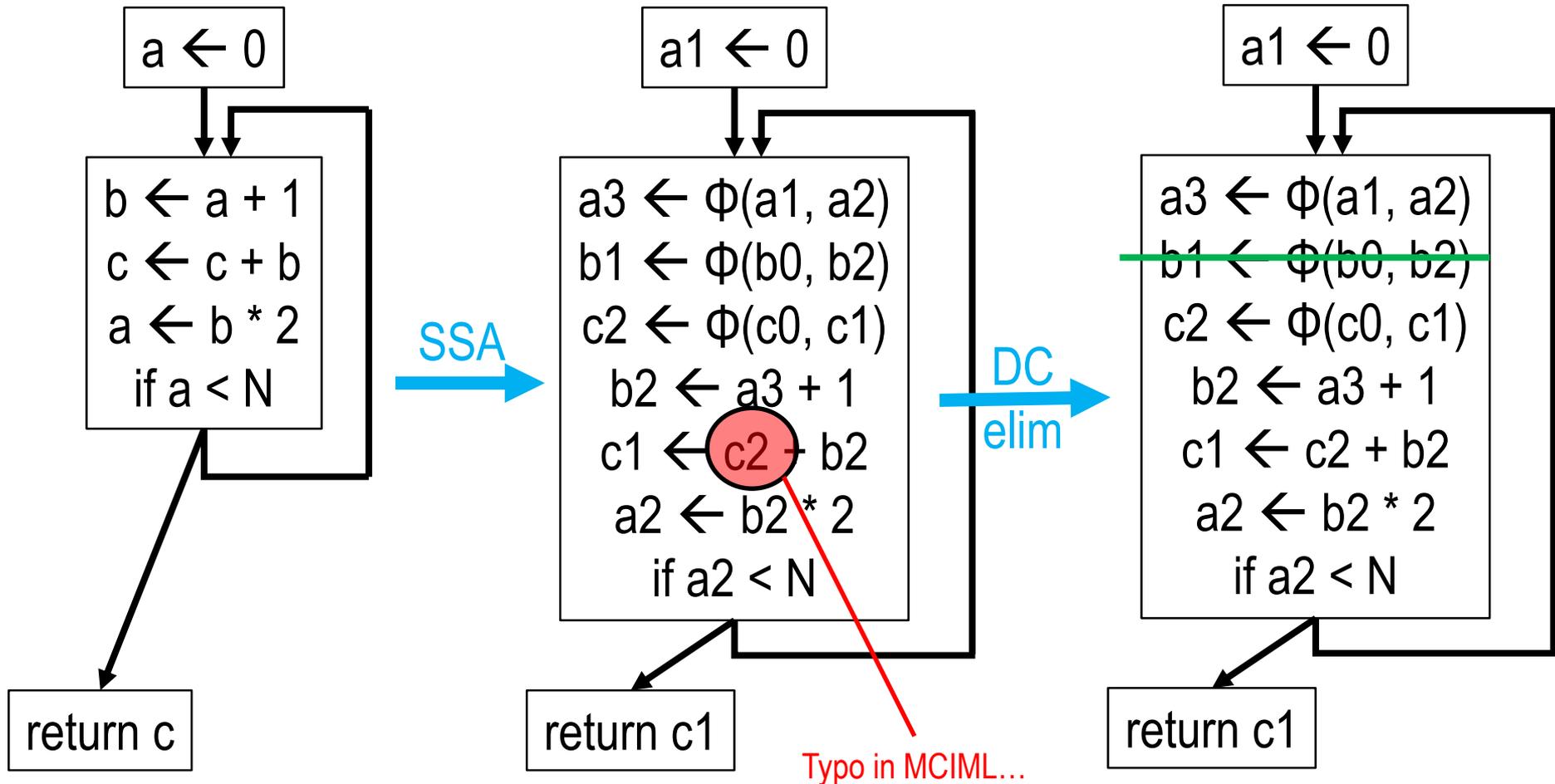
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- if program not in SSA form, need to perform liveness analysis to determine if  $\tau$  live at end of  $d$ .
- if program is in SSA form:
  - cannot be another definition of  $\tau$
  - if there exists use of  $\tau$ , then path from end of  $d$  to use exists, since definitions dominate uses.
    - \* every use has a unique definition
    - \*  $\tau$  is live at end of node  $d$  if  $\tau$  is used at least once

# SSA Dead Code Elimination

Algorithm:

WHILE (for each temporary  $t$  with no uses &&  
statement defining  $t$  has no other side-effects) DO  
delete statement definition  $t$



# SSA Simple Constant Propagation

---

Given  $d: t = c$ ,  $c$  is constant Given  $u: x = t \text{ op } b$

- if program not in SSA form:
  - need to perform reaching definition analysis
  - use of  $t$  in  $u$  may be replaced by  $c$  if  $d$  reaches  $u$  and no other definition of  $t$  reaches  $u$
- if program is in SSA form:

# SSA Simple Constant Propagation

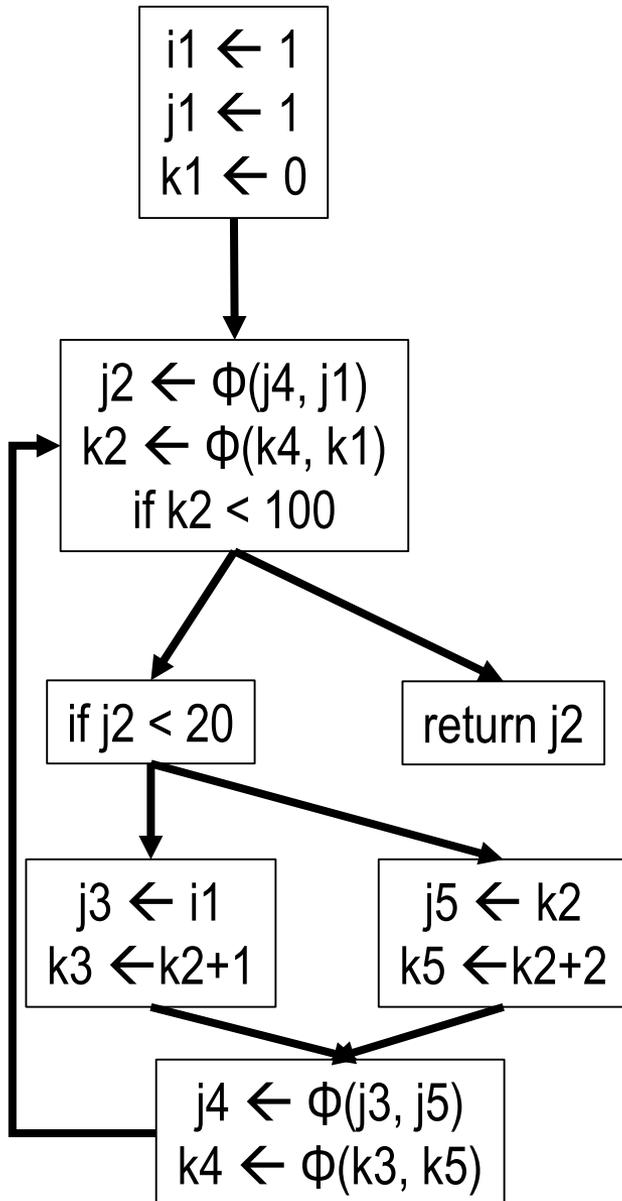
Given  $d: \tau = c$ ,  $c$  is constant Given  $u: x = \tau \text{ op } b$

- if program not in SSA form:
  - need to perform reaching definition analysis
  - use of  $\tau$  in  $u$  may be replaced by  $c$  if  $d$  reaches  $u$  and no other definition of  $\tau$  reaches  $u$
- if program is in SSA form:
  - $d$  reaches  $u$ , since definitions dominate uses, and no other definition of  $\tau$  exists on path from  $d$  to  $u$
  - $d$  is only definition of  $\tau$  that reaches  $u$ , since it is the only definition of  $\tau$ .
    - \* any use of  $\tau$  can be replaced by  $c$
    - \* any  $\phi$ -function of form  $v = \phi(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$ , where  $c_i = c$ , can be replaced by  $v = c$

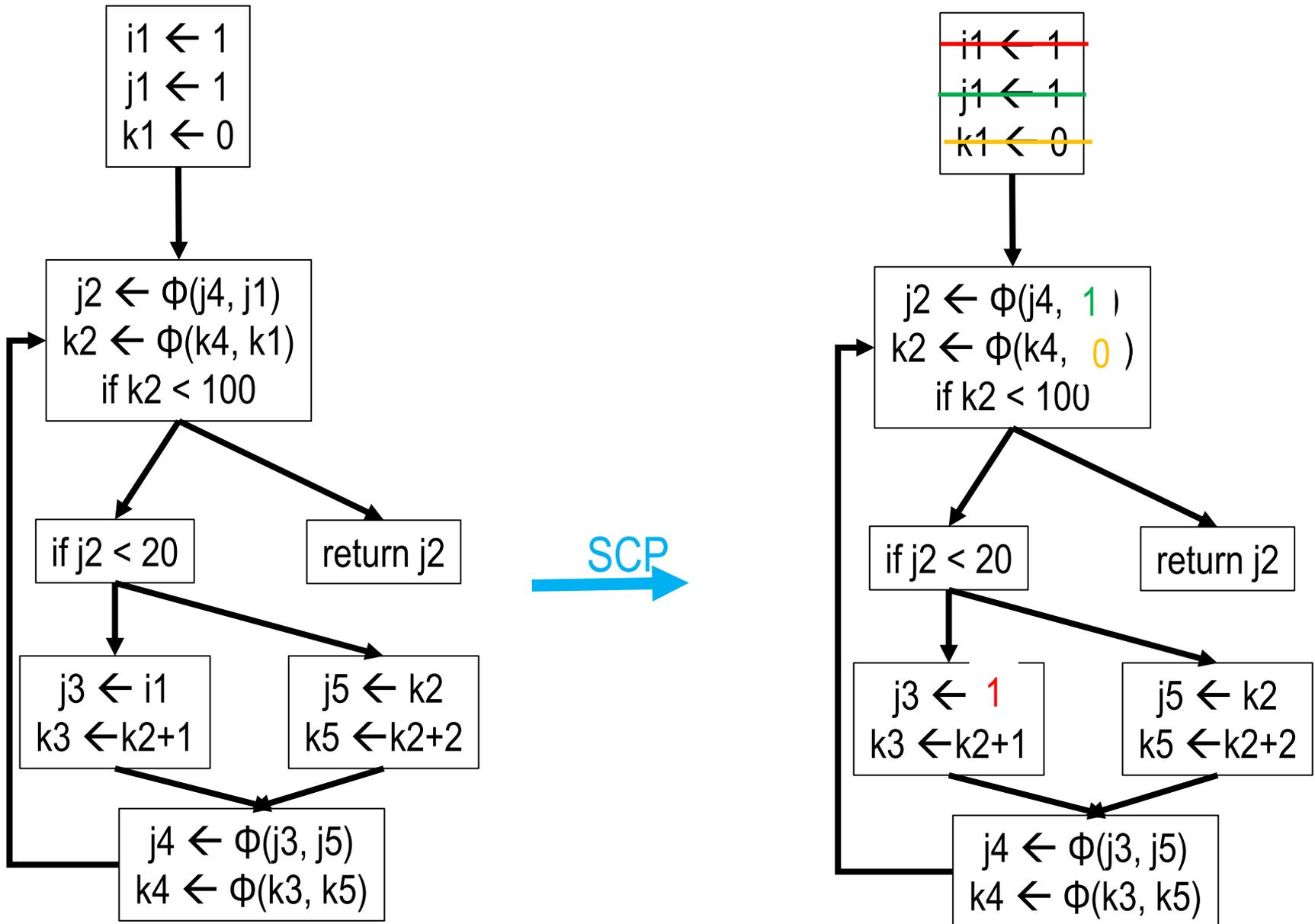
eliminate branches whose outcome is constant

Similarly: copy propagation, constant folding, constant condition,  
elimination of unreachable code

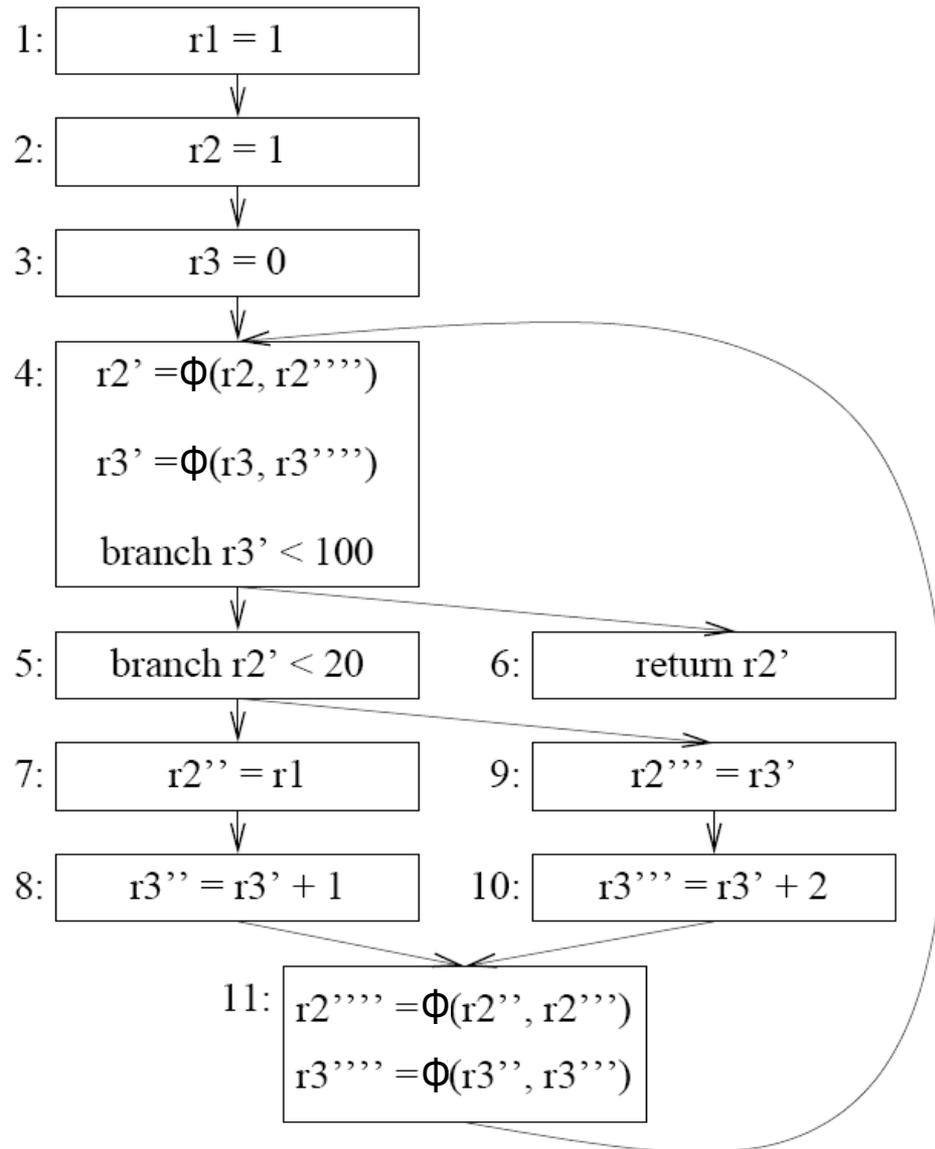
# SSA Simple Constant Propagation



# SSA Simple Constant Propagation



# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation



- $r2$  always has value of 1
- nodes 9, 10 never executed
- “simple” constant propagation algorithms assumes (through reaching definitions analysis) nodes 9, 10 may be executed.
- cannot optimize use of  $r2$  in node 5 since definitions 7 and 9 both reach 5.

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

---

Much smarter than “simple” constant propagation:

- Does not assume a node can execute until evidence exists that it can be.
- Does not assume register is non-constant unless evidence exists that it is.

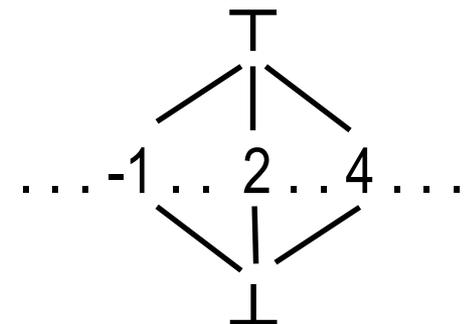
# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

Much smarter than “simple” constant propagation:

- Does not assume a node can execute until evidence exists that it can be.
- Does not assume register is non-constant unless evidence exists that it is.

Track run-time value of each register  $r$  using *lattice* of values:

- $V[r] = \perp$  (bottom): compiler has seen no evidence that any assignment to  $r$  is ever executed.
- $V[r] = 4$ : compiler has seen evidence that an assignment  $r = 4$  is executed, but has seen no evidence that  $r$  is ever assigned to another value.
- $V[r] = \top$  (top): compiler has seen evidence that  $r$  will have, at various times, two different values, or some value that is not predictable at compile-time.



# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

Much smarter than “simple” constant propagation:

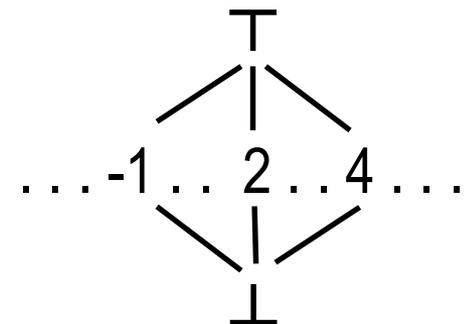
- Does not assume a node can execute until evidence exists that it can be.
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- $V[r] = \top$  (top): compiler has seen evidence that  $r$  will have, at various times, two different values, or some value that is not predictable at compile-time.

Also:

- all registers start at bottom of lattice
- new information can only move registers up in lattice



# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

---

Track executability of each node in  $N$ :

- $E[N] = \text{false}$ : compiler has seen no evidence that node  $N$  can ever be executed.
- $E[N] = \text{true}$ : compiler has seen evidence that node  $N$  can be executed.

Initially:

- $V[r] = \perp$ , for all registers  $r$
- $E[s_0] = \text{true}$ ,  $s_0$  is CFG start node
- $E[N] = \text{false}$ , for all CFG nodes  $N \neq s_0$

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

Algorithm: apply following conditions until no more changes occur to  $E$  or  $V$  values:

1. Given: register  $r$  with no definition (formal parameter, uninitialized).  
Action:  $V[r] = \top$
2. Given: executable node  $B$  with only one successor  $C$   
Action:  $E[C] = \text{true}$
3. Given: executable assignment  $r = x \text{ op } y$ ,  $V[x] = c_1$  and  $V[y] = c_2$   
Action:  $V[r] = c_1 \text{ op } c_2$  In particular, use this rule for  $r = c$ .
4. Given: executable assignment  $r = x \text{ op } y$ ,  $V[x] = \top$  or  $V[y] = \top$   
Action:  $V[r] = \top$
5. Given: executable assignment  $r = \phi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $V[x_i] = c_1$ ,  $V[x_j] = c_2$ , and predecessors  $i$  and  $j$  are executable  
Action:  $V[r] = \top$
6. Given: executable assignment  $r = M [\dots]$  or  $r = f (\dots)$ :  
Action:  $V[r] = \top$

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

7. Given: executable assignment  $r = \Phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  where  $V[x_i] = \top$   
for some  $i$  such that the  $i^{\text{th}}$  predecessor is executable:  
Action:  $V[r] = \top$
8. Given: executable assignment  $r = \Phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  where
  - $V[x_i] = c_i$  for some  $i$  where the  $i^{\text{th}}$  predecessor is executable, and
  - for each  $j \neq i$ , either the  $j^{\text{th}}$  predecessor is not executable or  $V[x_j] \in \{\perp, c_j\}$ :Action:  $V[r] = c_i$
9. Given: executable branch **br x bop y, L1 (else L2)** where  $V[x] = \top$  or  $V[y] = \top$   
Action:  $E[L1] = \text{true}$  and  $E[L2] = \text{true}$
10. Given: executable branch **br x bop y, L1 (else L2)** where  $V[x] = c_1$  and  $V[y] = c_2$   
Action:  $E[L1] = \text{true}$  or  $E[L2] = \text{true}$  depending on  $c_1$  **bop**  $c_2$

Iterate until no update possible.

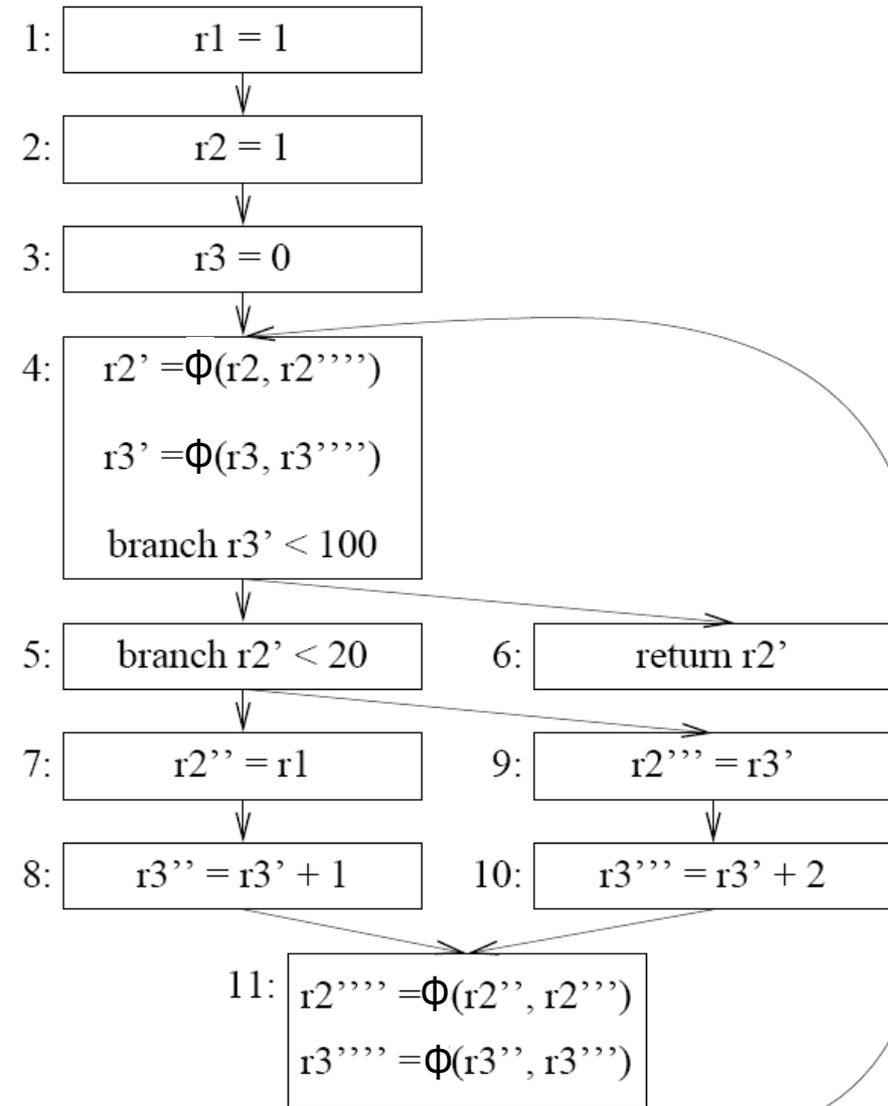
# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation

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Given  $V$ ,  $E$  values, program can be optimized as follows:

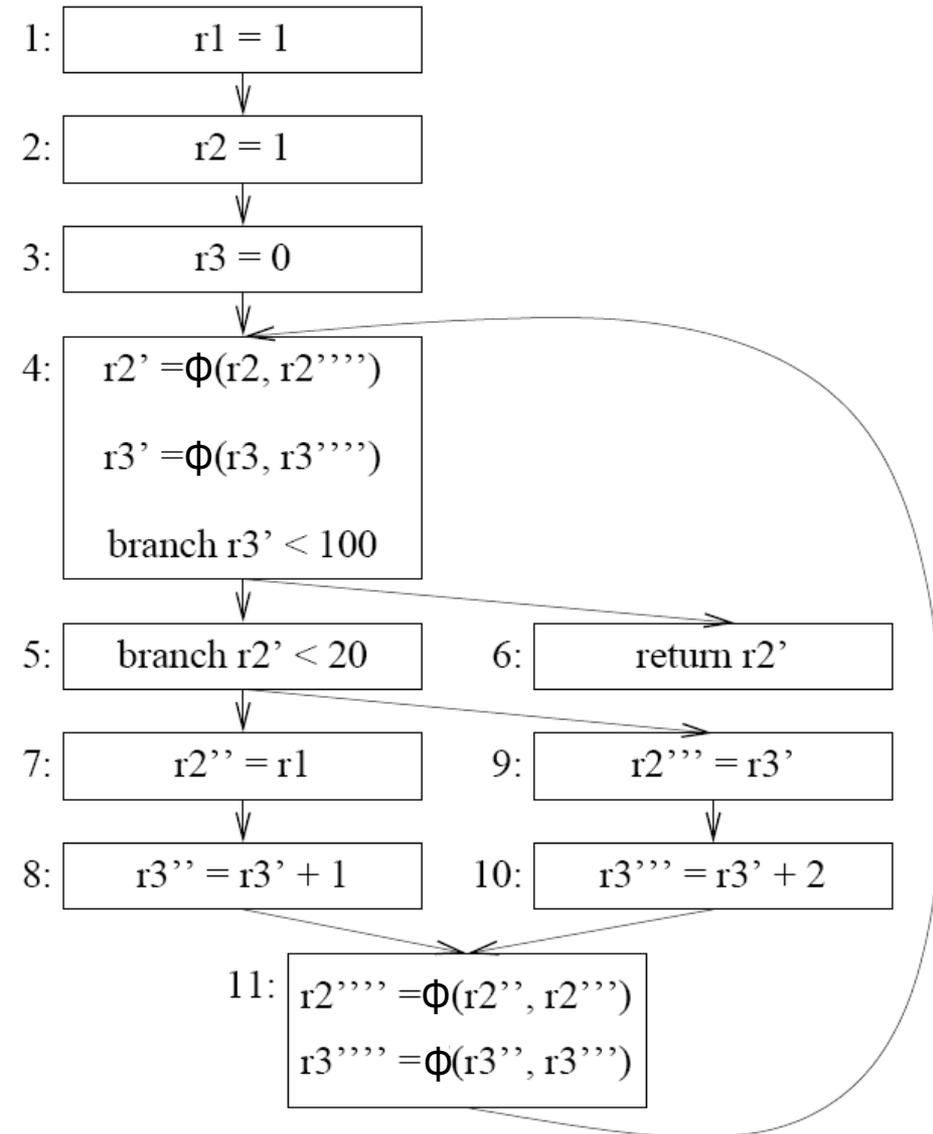
- if  $E[B] = \text{false}$ , delete node  $B$  from CFG.
- if  $V[r] = c$ , replace each use of  $r$  by  $c$ , delete assignment to  $r$ .

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation: example



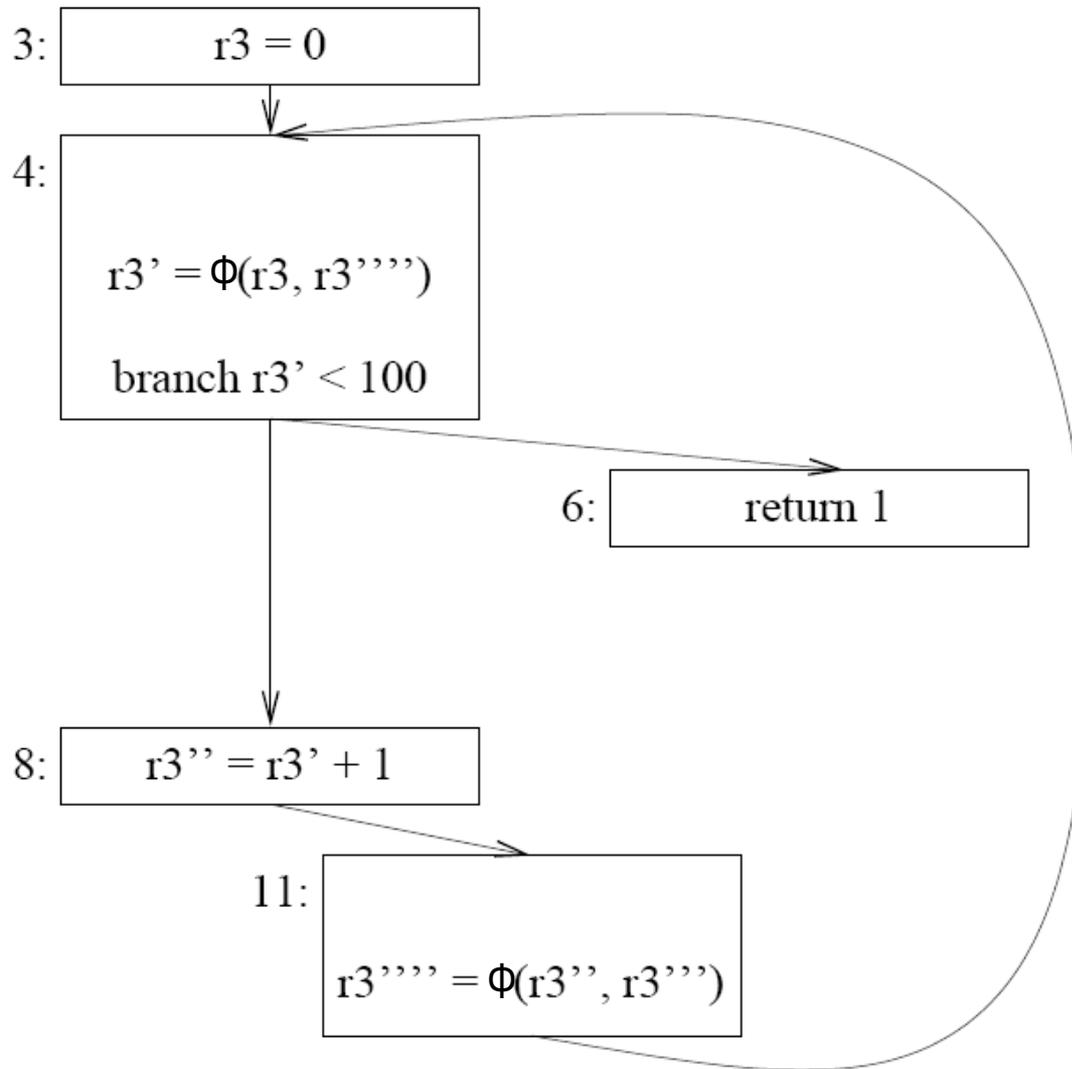
$N$	$E[N]$	$r$	$V[r]$
1	t	r1	$\perp$
2	f	r2	$\perp$
3	f	r2'	$\perp$
4	f	r2''	$\perp$
5	f	r2'''	$\perp$
6	f	r2''''	$\perp$
7	f	r3	$\perp$
8	f	r3'	$\perp$
9	f	r3''	$\perp$
10	f	r3'''	$\perp$
11	f	r3''''	$\perp$

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation: example



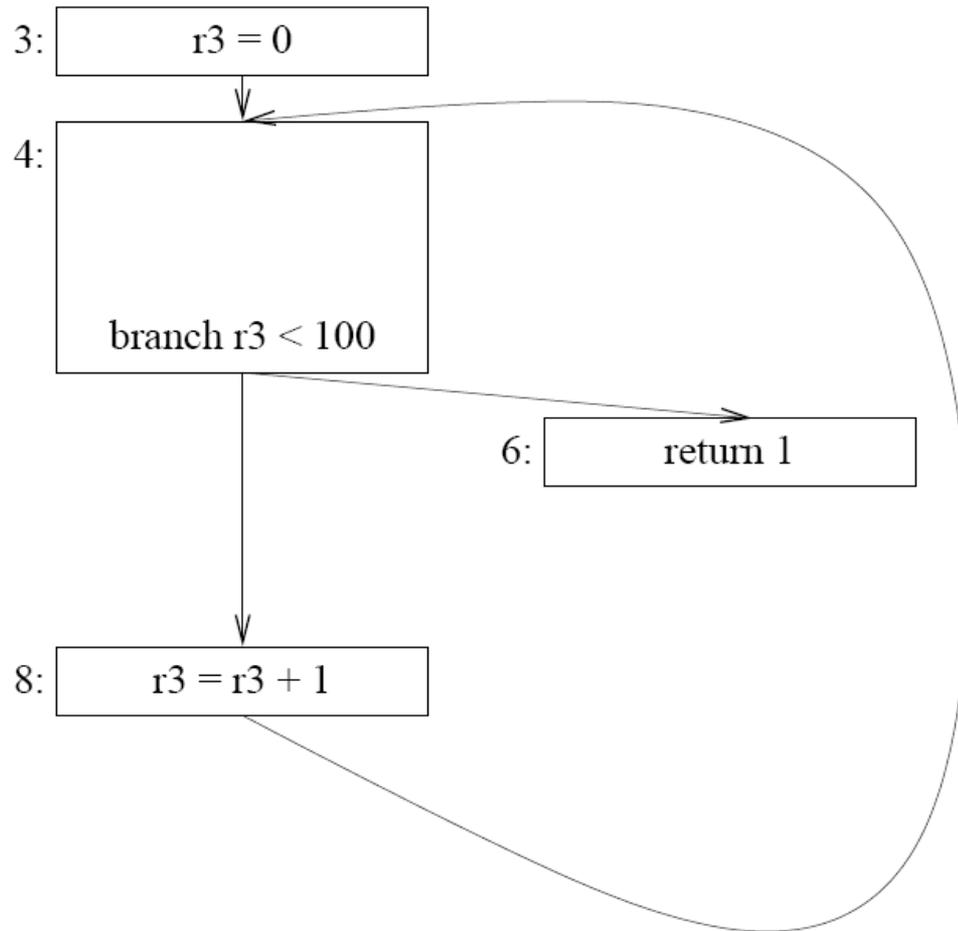
$N$	$E[N]$	$r$	$V[r]$
1		r1	
2		r2	
3		r2'	
4		r2''	
5		r2'''	
6		r2''''	
7		r3	
8		r3'	
9		r3''	
10		r3'''	
11		r3''''	

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation: example



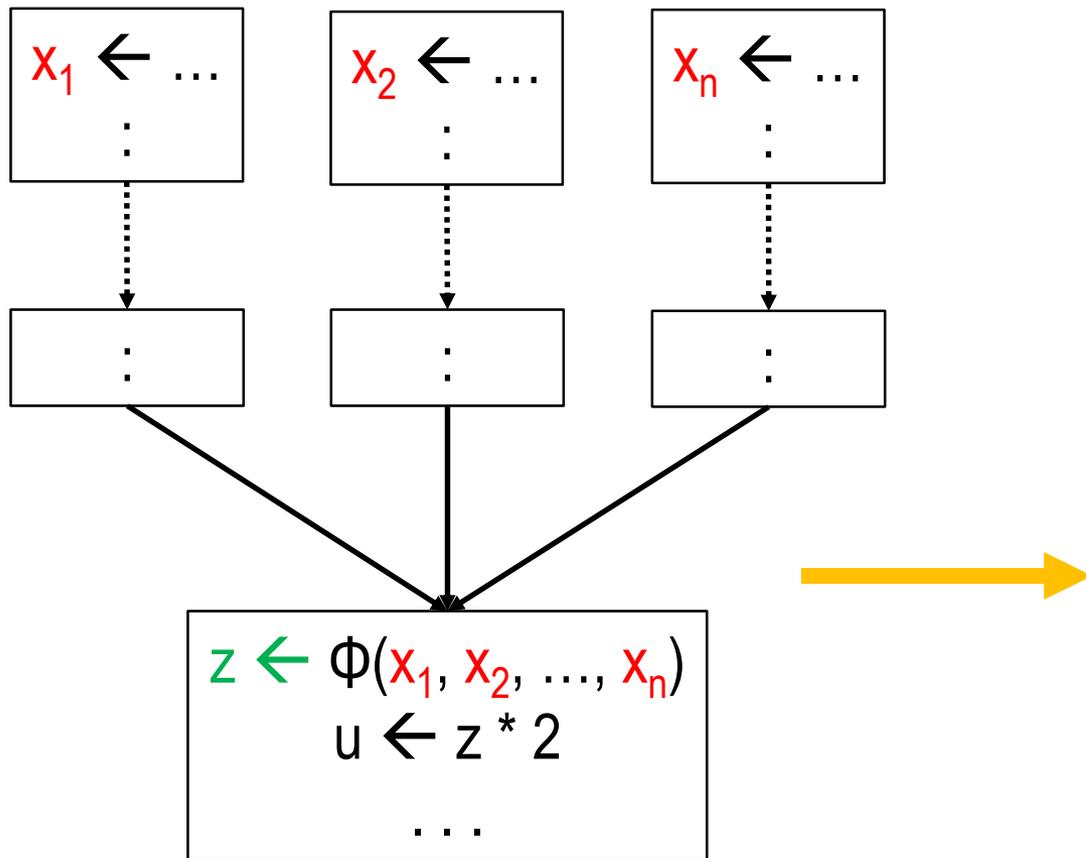
Next: eliminate  $\Phi$ -functions: easy in this case - map all versions of  $r3$  to  $r3$

# SSA Conditional Constant Propagation: example



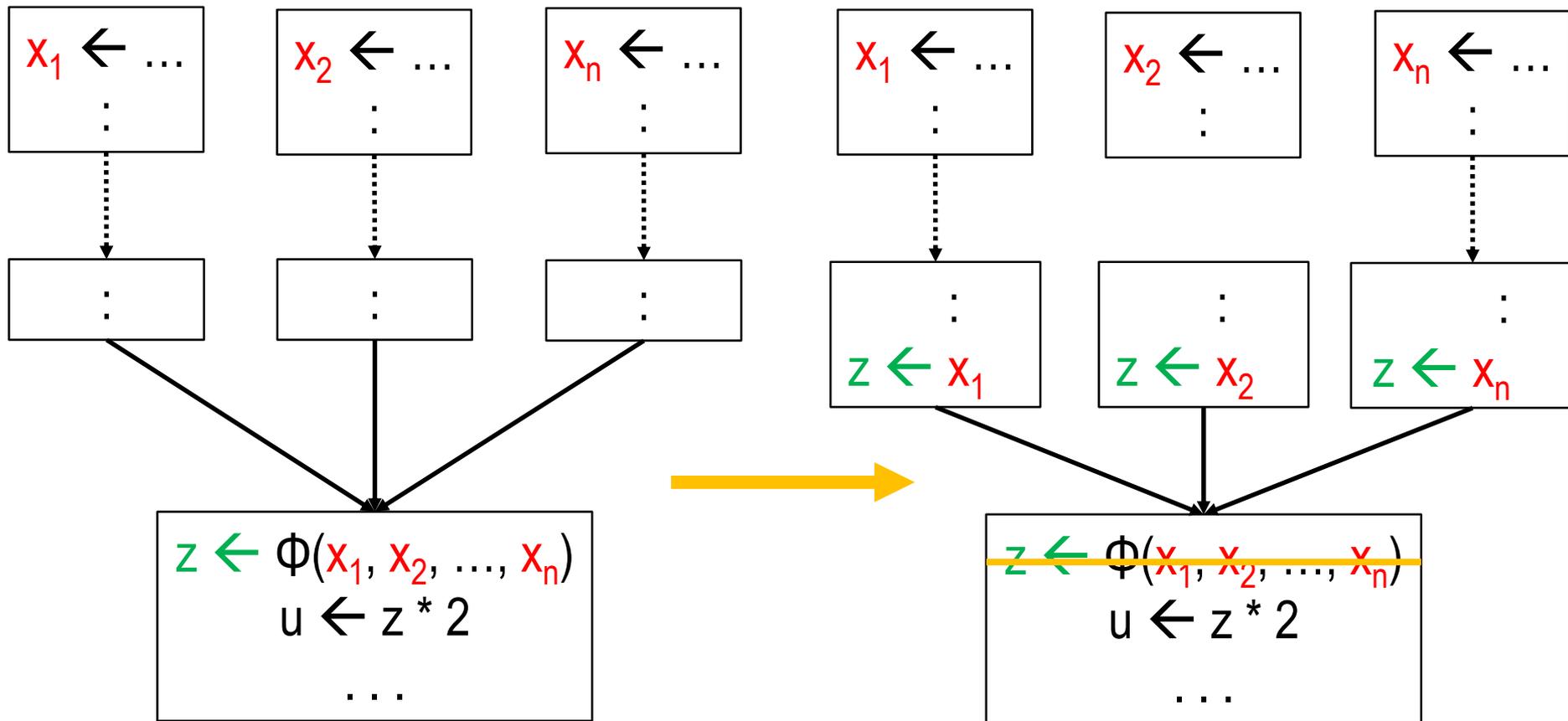
# Translating out of SSA: elimination of $\Phi$ -functions

Intuitive interpretation of  $\Phi$ -functions suggests insertion of move instructions at the end of immediate control flow predecessors



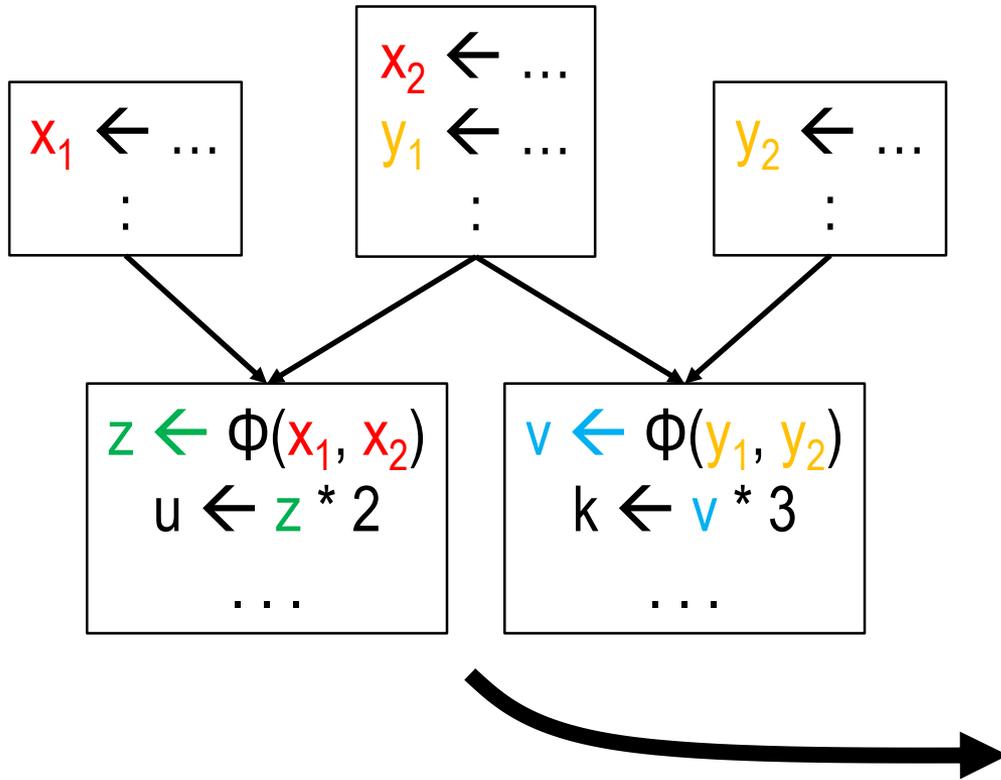
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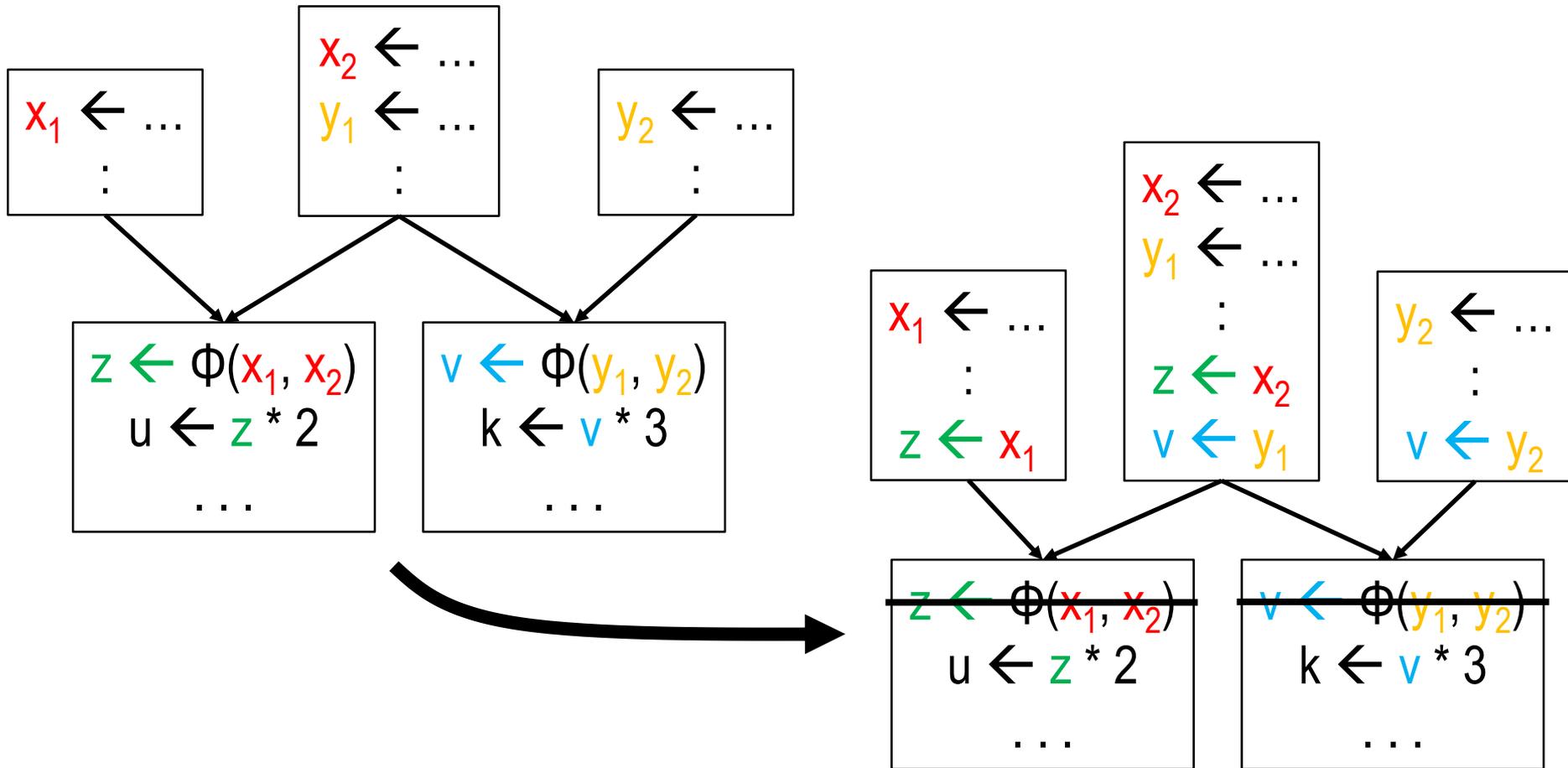


Then rely on register allocator to coalesce / eliminate moves when possible.

# Translating out of SSA -- issue I

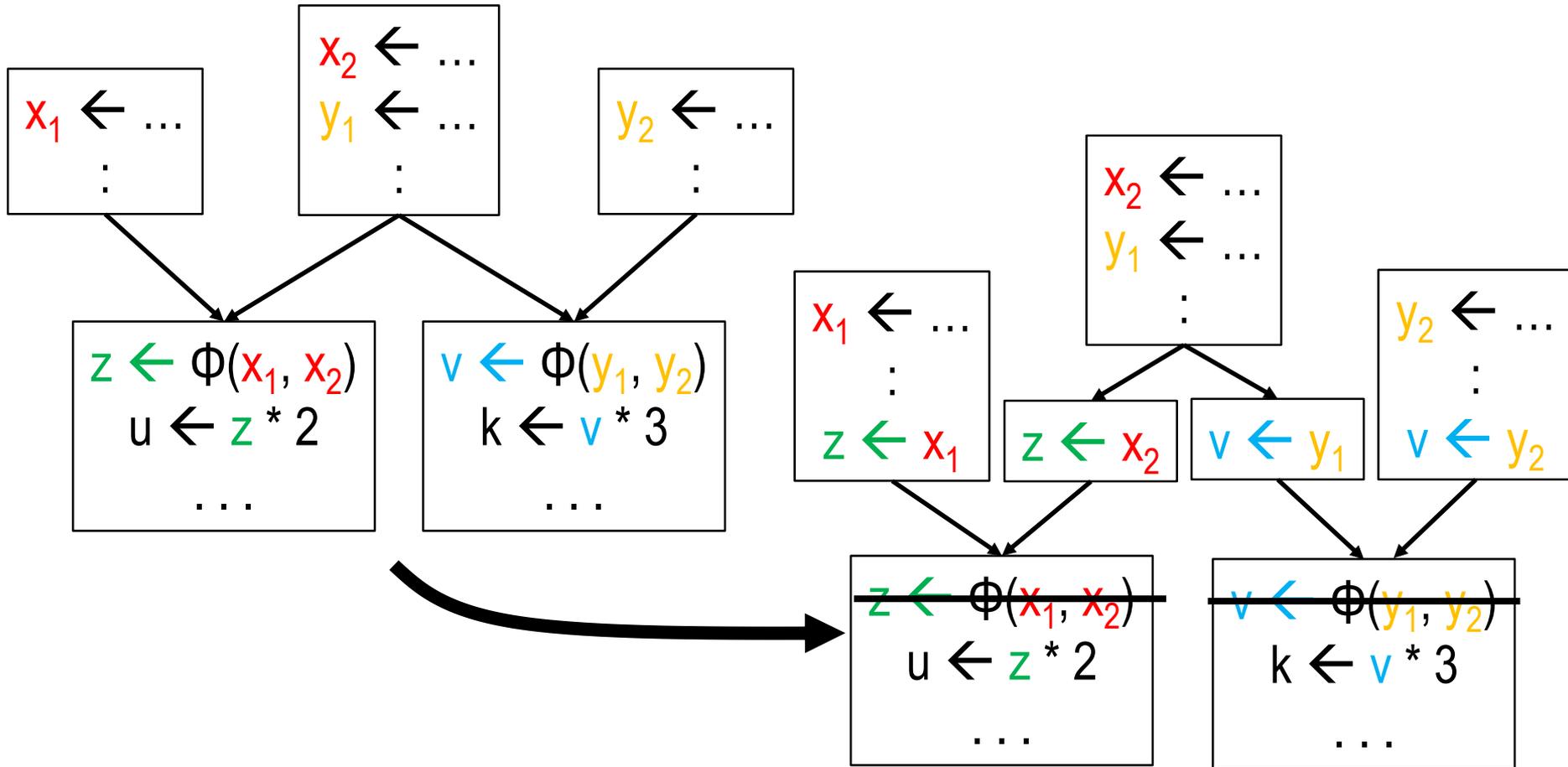


# Translating out of SSA -- issue I



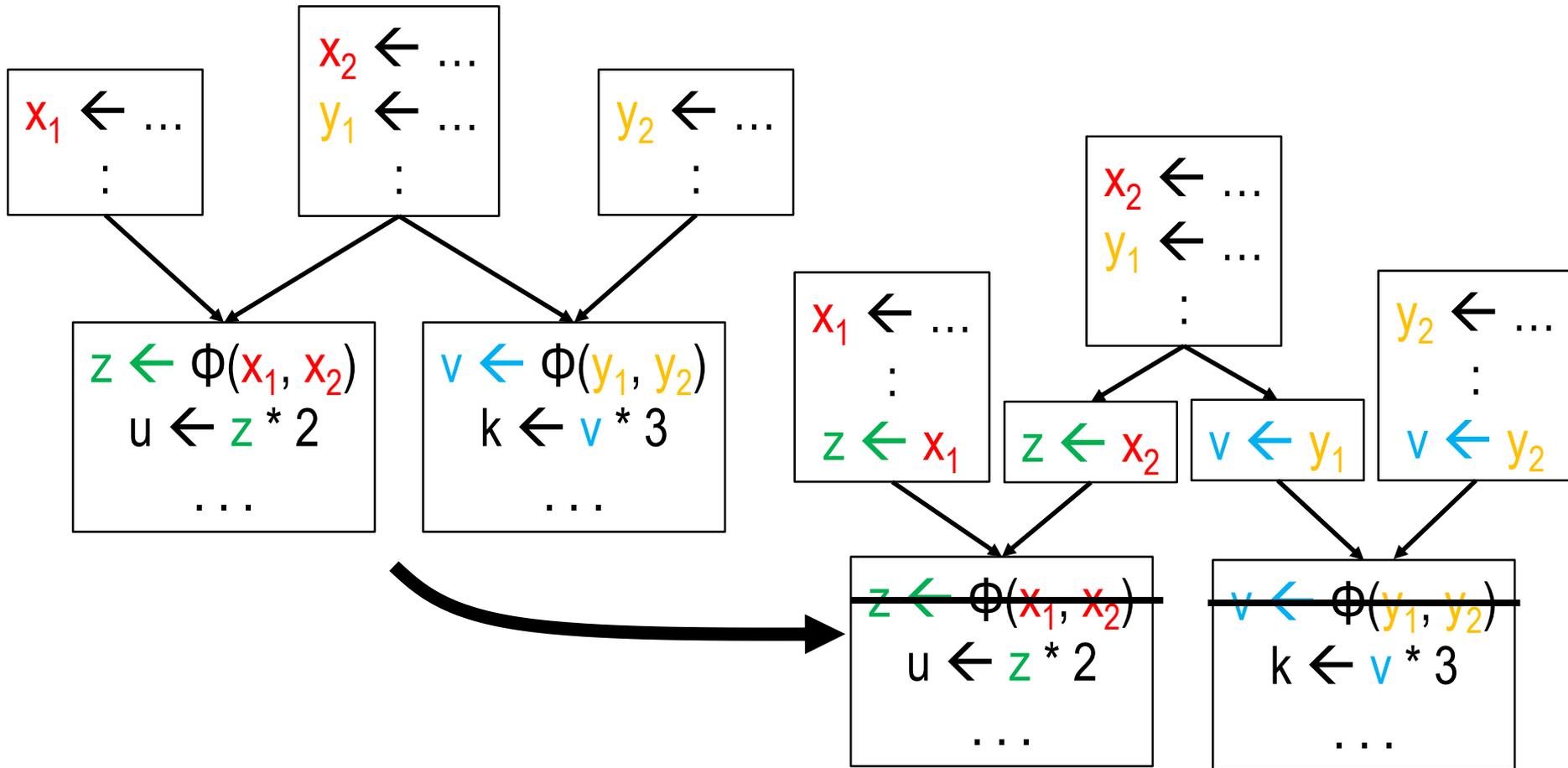
Move instructions pile up in blocks with multiple successors – they're not dead.

# Translating out of SSA -- issue I



**Solution:** place move instructions “in the CFG edge”, in a new basic block, whenever predecessor block has several successors.

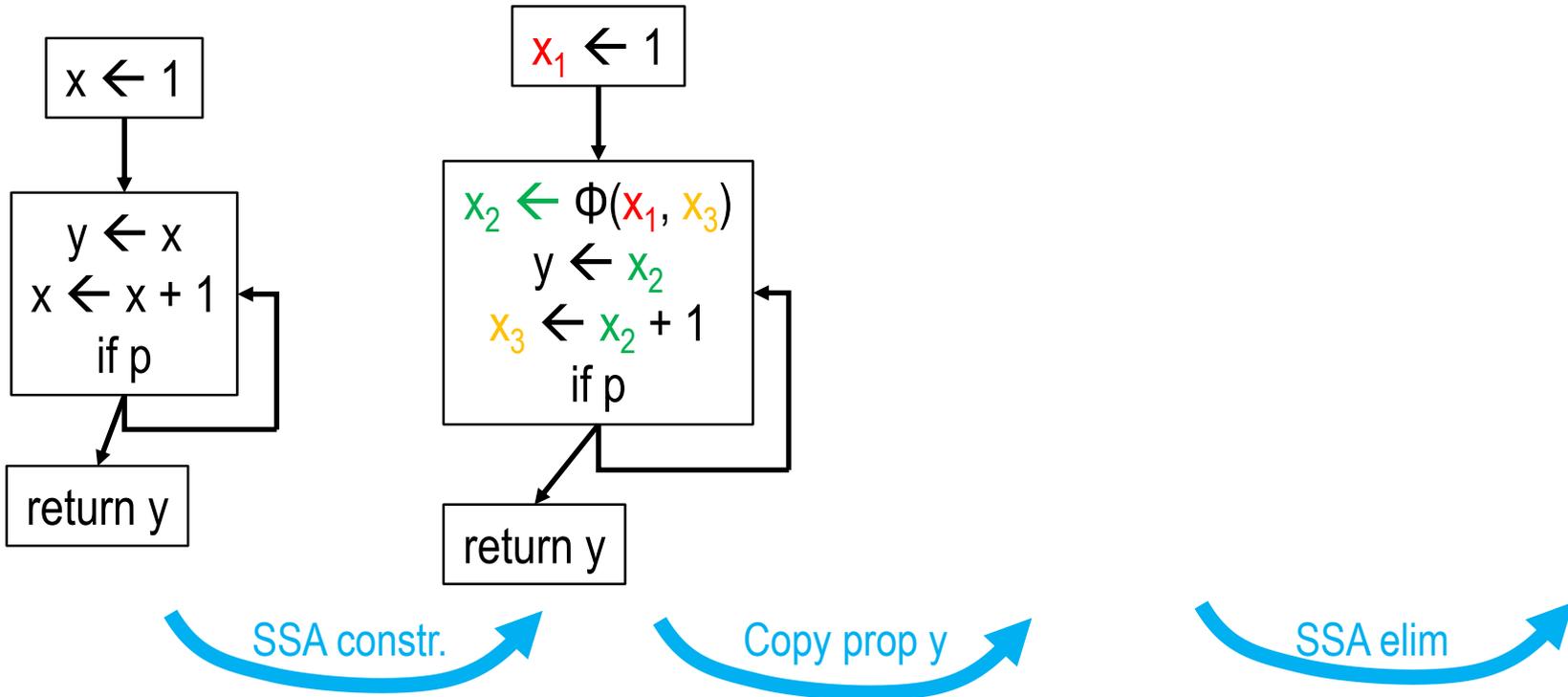
# Translating out of SSA -- issue I



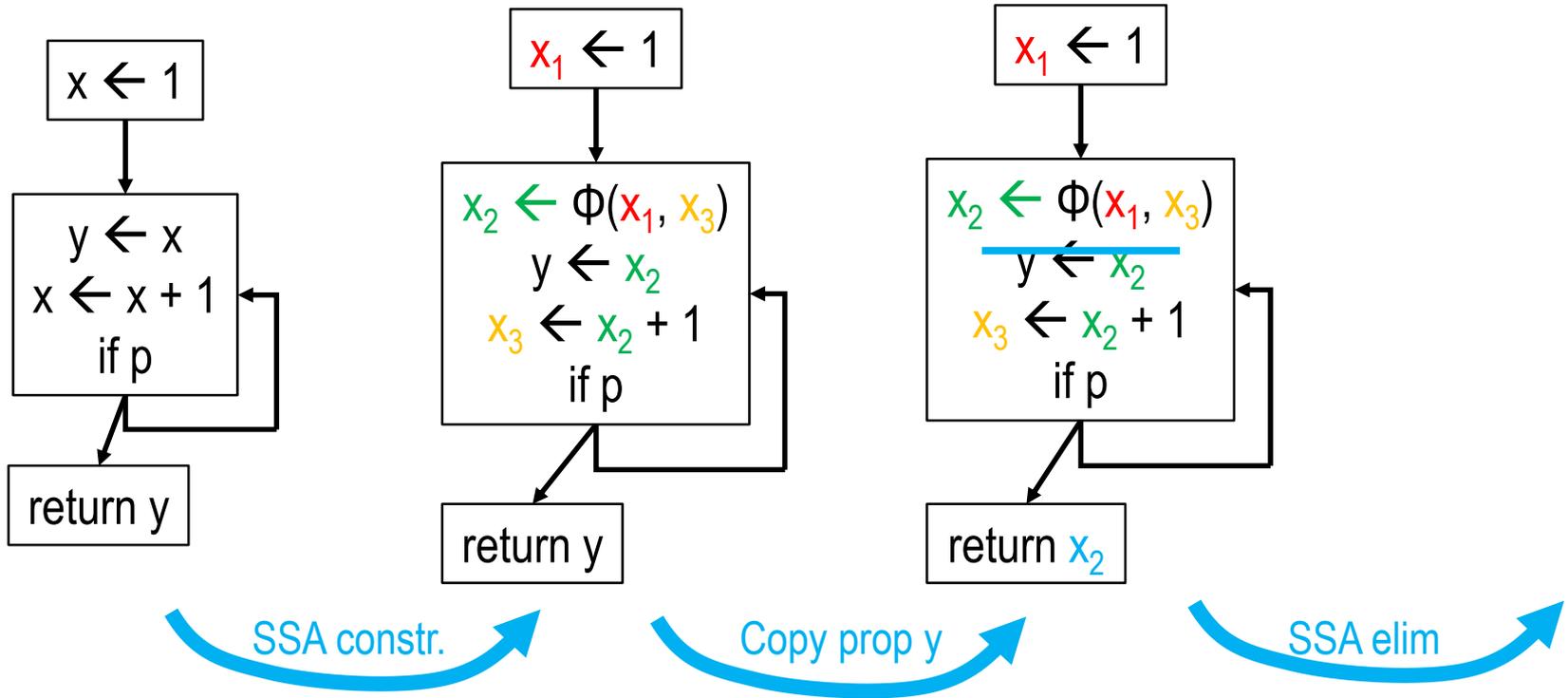
**“Edge-split SSA form”**: each CFG edge is either its source block’s only out-edge or its sink block’s only in-edge.

Easy to achieve during SSA construction: add empty blocks.

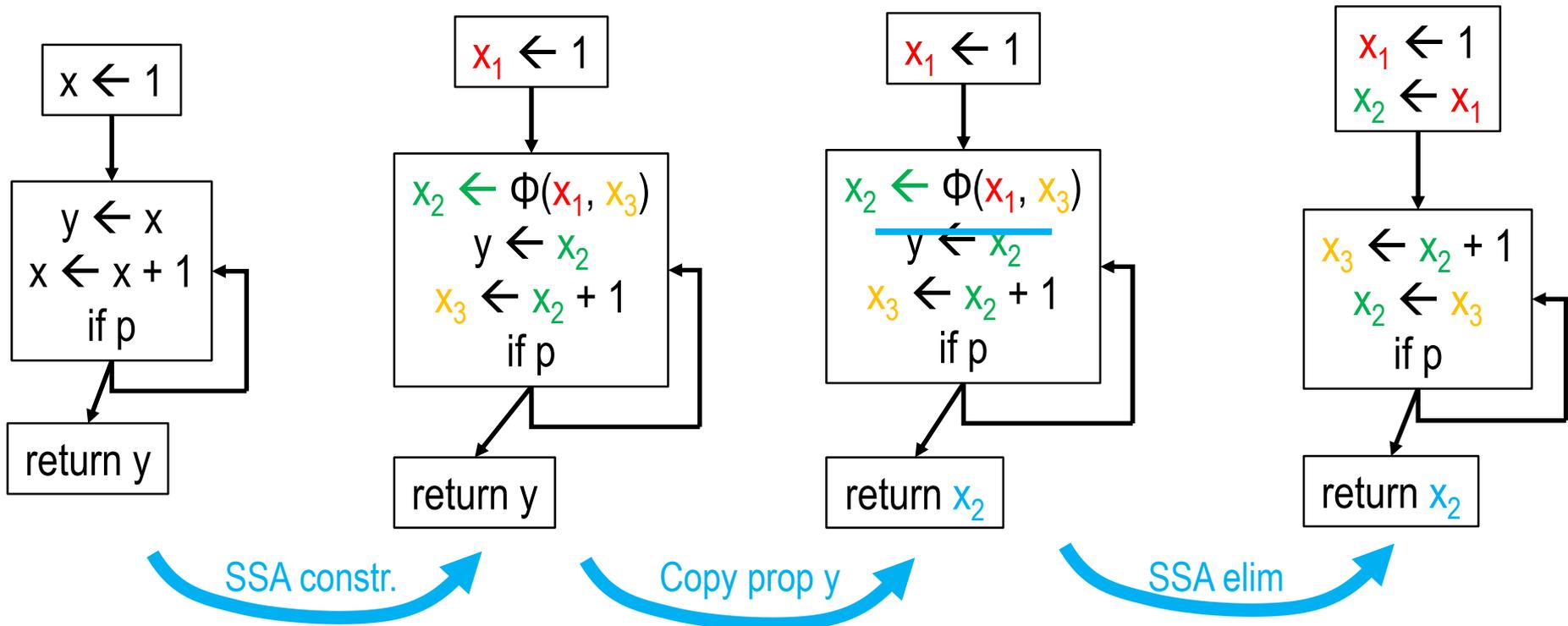
# More motivation for edge splitting: “lost copy” problem



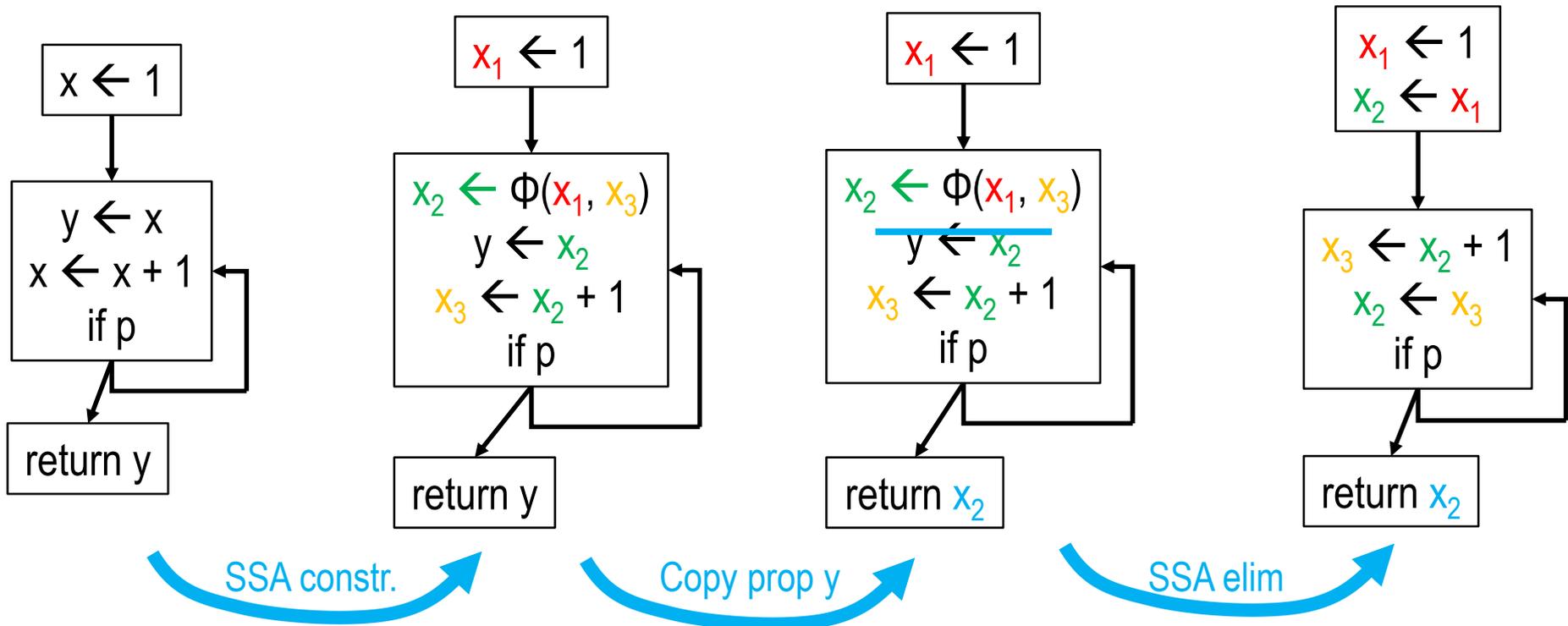
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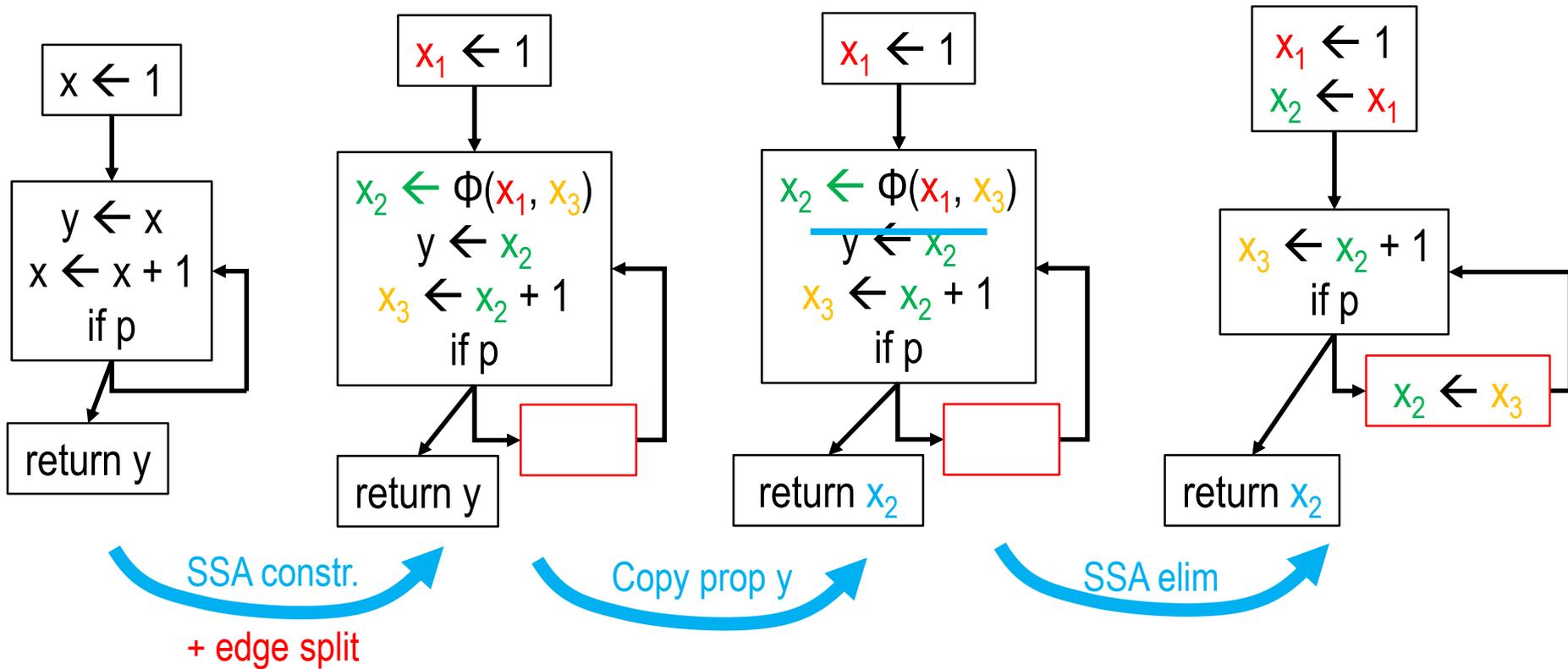


# More motivation for edge splitting: “lost copy” problem



**Incorrect result: copy propagation +  $\Phi$ -elimination incompatible.**

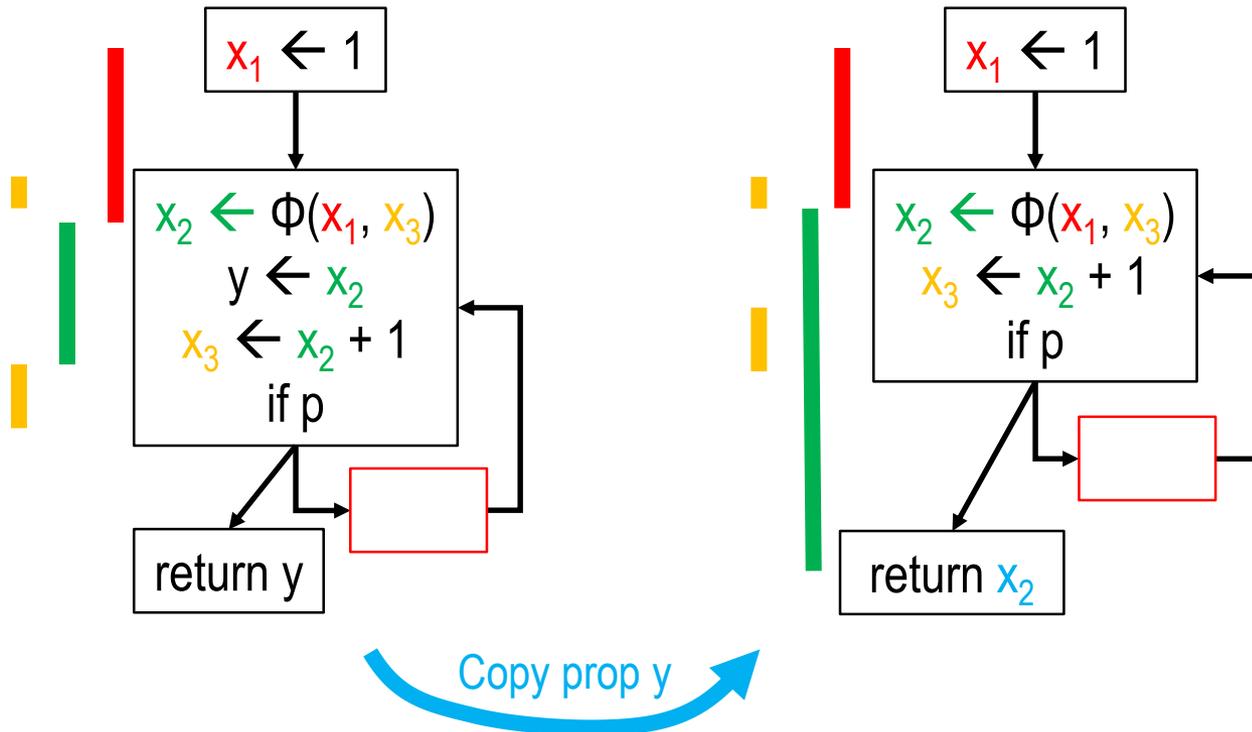
# More motivation for edge splitting: “lost copy” problem



Edge split makes copy propagation +  $\Phi$ -elimination compatible.

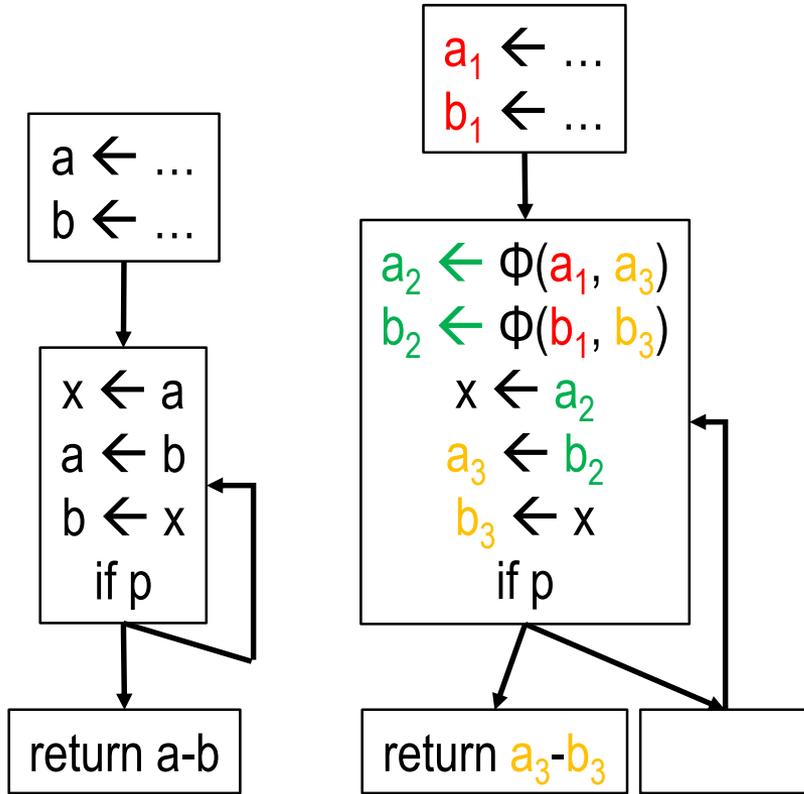
# More motivation for edge splitting: “lost copy” problem

Root cause: copy propagation (and other transformations) potentially alter liveness ranges, so that the ranges of different SSA-versions  $x_i$  of a source-program variable  $x$  are not any longer distinct.



After SSA construction, different “versions”  $x_i$  of a source-program variable  $x$  are “first-class citizens”, unrelated to each other or to  $x$ .

# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: "swap problem"

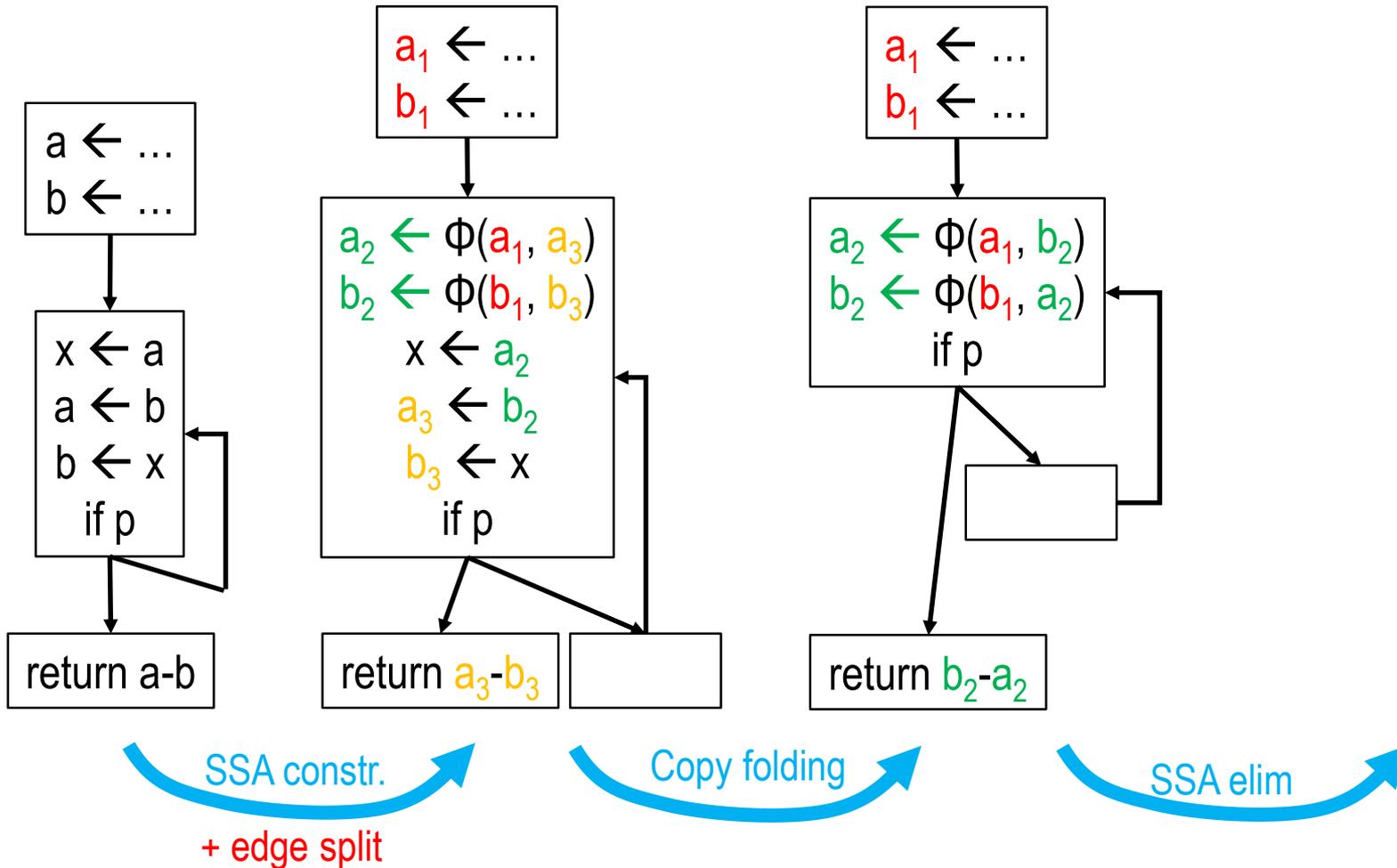


SSA constr.  
+ edge split

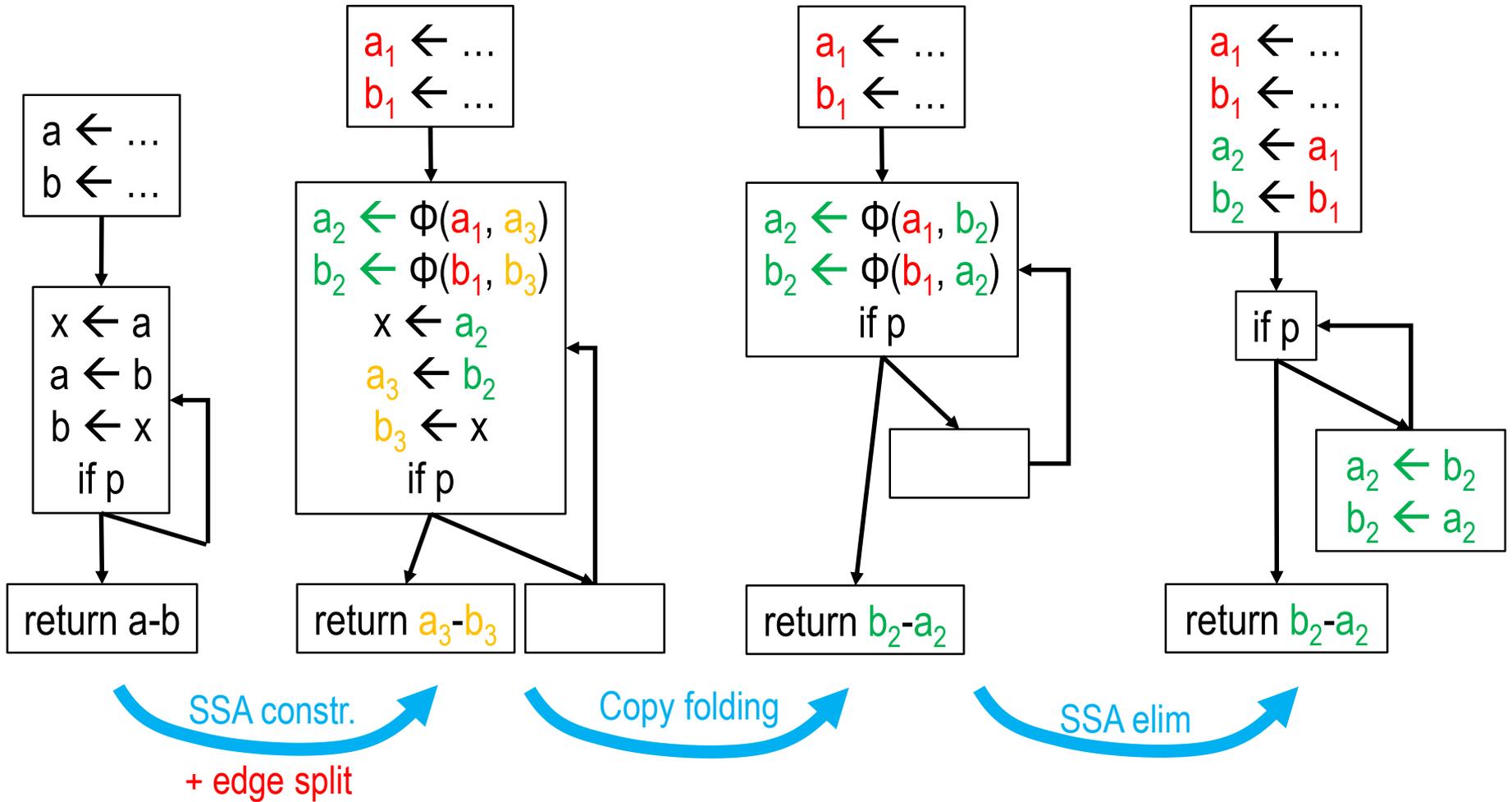
Copy folding

SSA elim

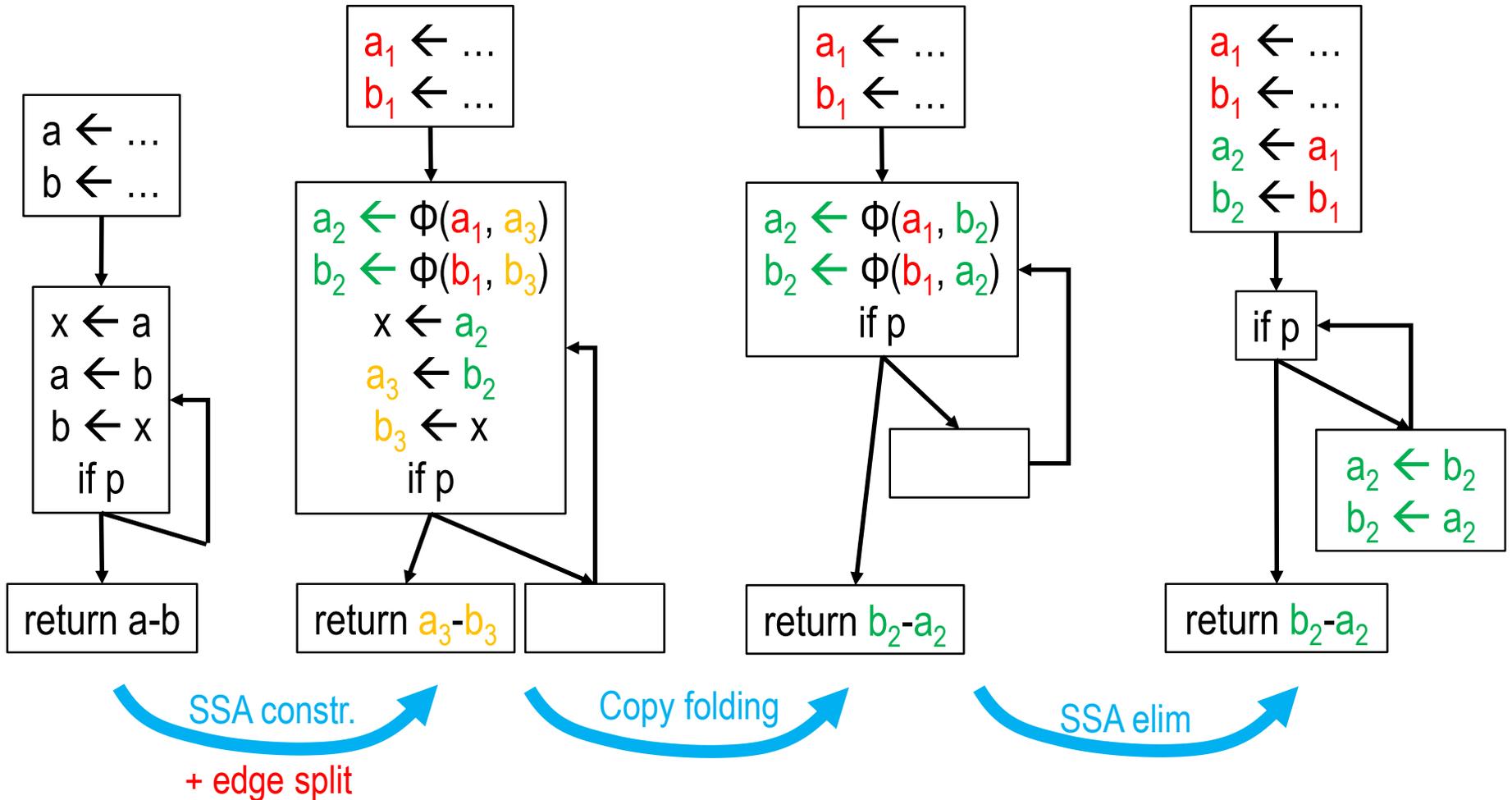
# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: "swap problem"



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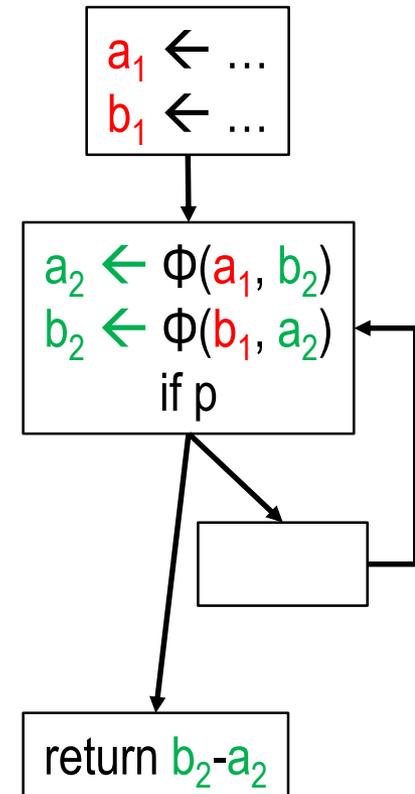
**Incorrect result: copy folding +  $\Phi$ -elimination incompatible.**

**p true:** correct result

**p false:** a and b are identified in first loop iteration, so  $b_2 = a_2$  holds upon loop exit, so return value is 0.

# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: “swap problem”

Root cause: the moves should “execute in parallel”, ie **first** read their RHS, then assign to the LHS variables in **parallel!**



$\Phi$ -functions in a basic block should be considered a single  $\Phi$ -block, of concurrent assignment, so that the relative order of  $\Phi$ -functions is irrelevant:

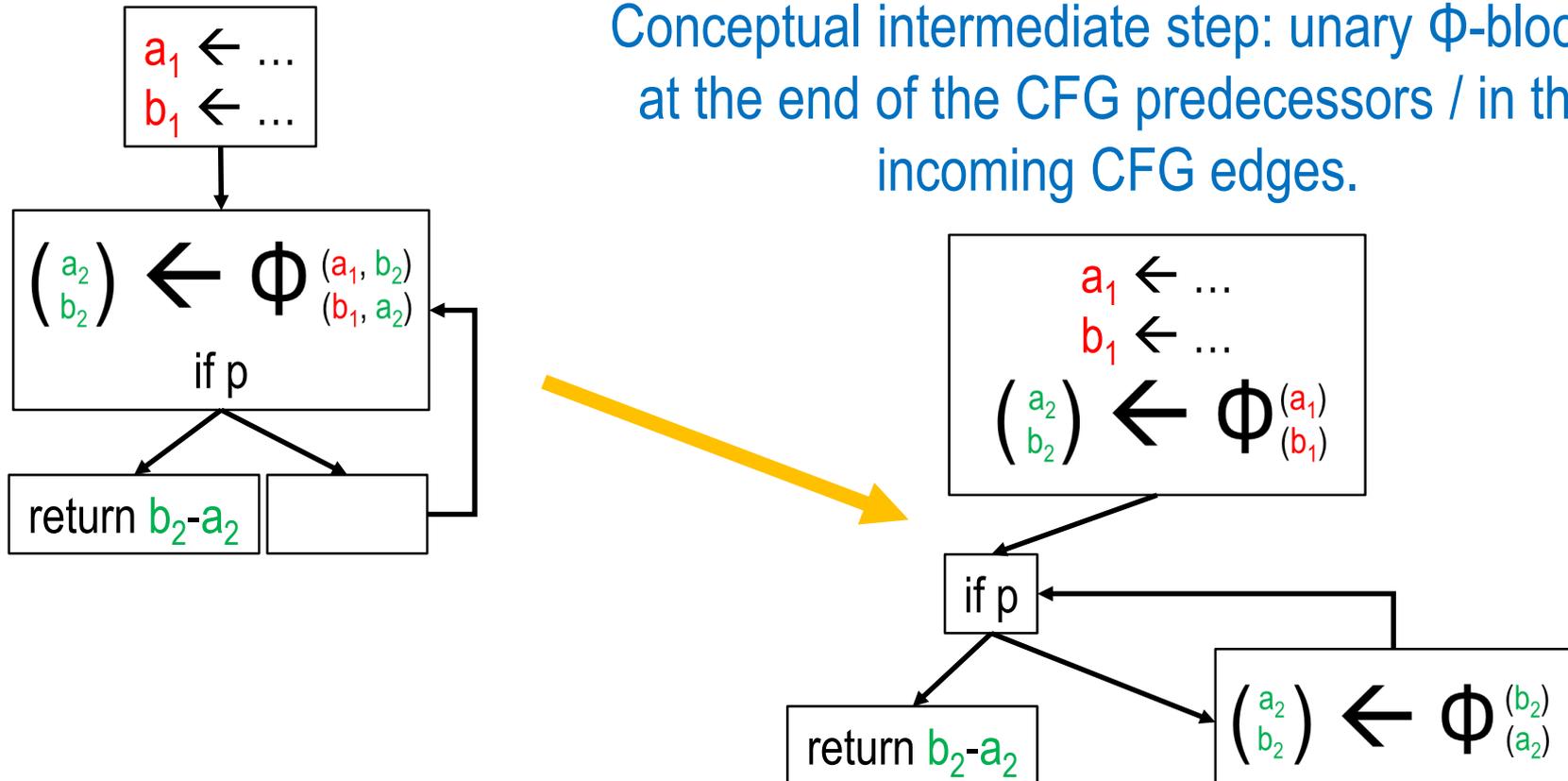
$$\begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \Phi \begin{pmatrix} a_1, b_2 \\ b_1, a_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: "swap problem"

The  $\Phi$ -functions in a basic block should be considered concurrent – as a single  $\Phi$ -block:  $\begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \Phi \begin{pmatrix} a_1, b_2 \\ b_1, a_2 \end{pmatrix}$

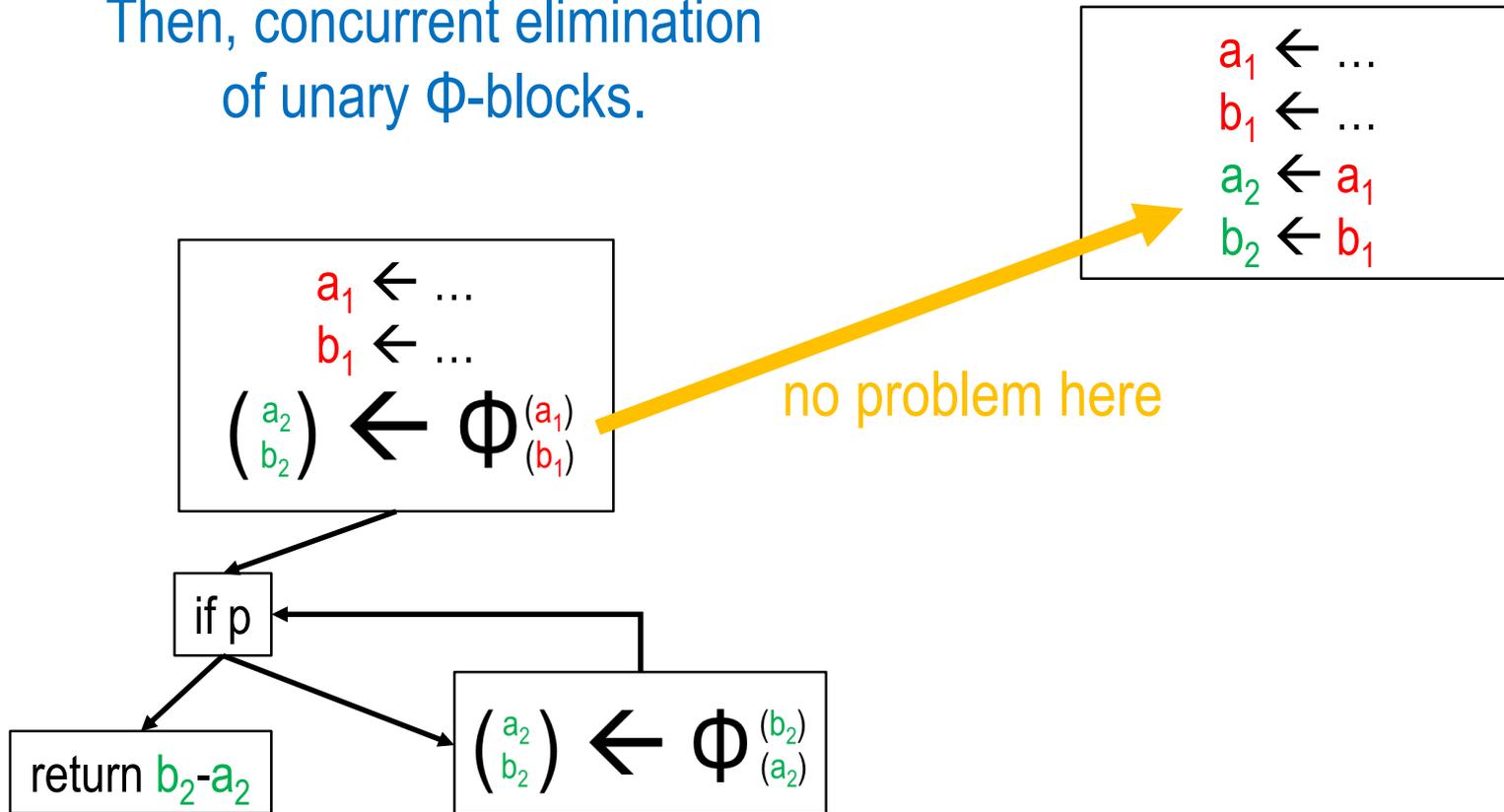
And replacement of  $\Phi$  by moves should respect this interpretation.

Conceptual intermediate step: unary  $\Phi$ -blocks at the end of the CFG predecessors / in the incoming CFG edges.



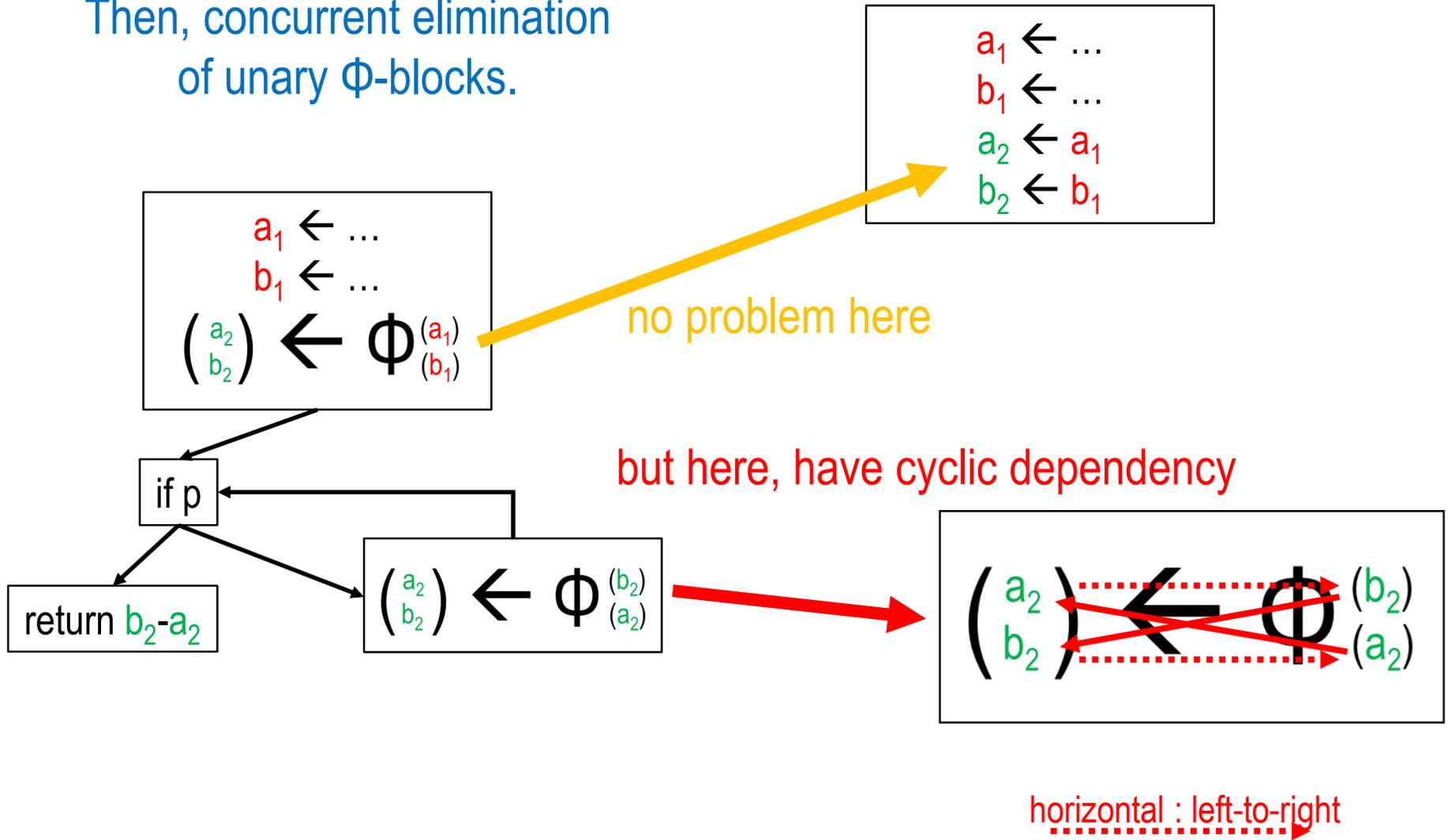
# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: “swap problem”

Then, concurrent elimination  
of unary  $\Phi$ -blocks.



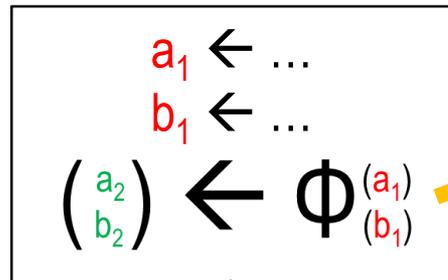
# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: "swap problem"

Then, concurrent elimination of unary  $\Phi$ -blocks.

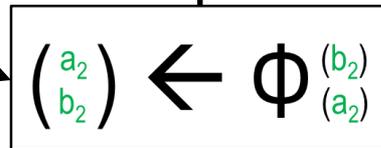
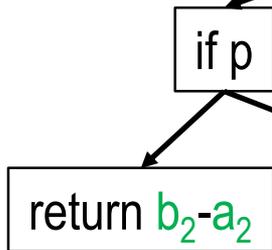
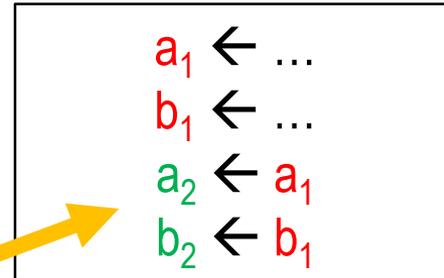


# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: "swap problem"

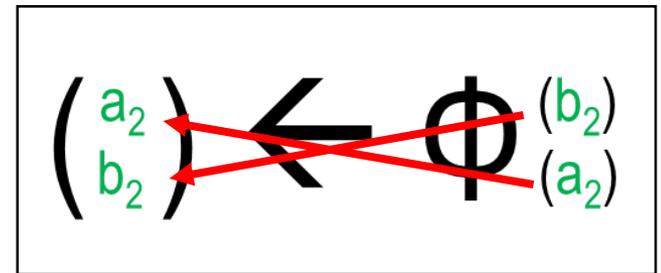
Then, concurrent elimination of unary  $\Phi$ -blocks.



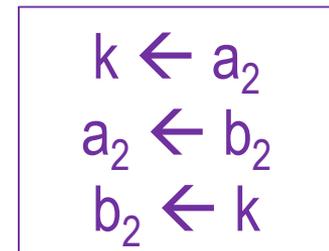
no problem here



but here, have cyclic dependency

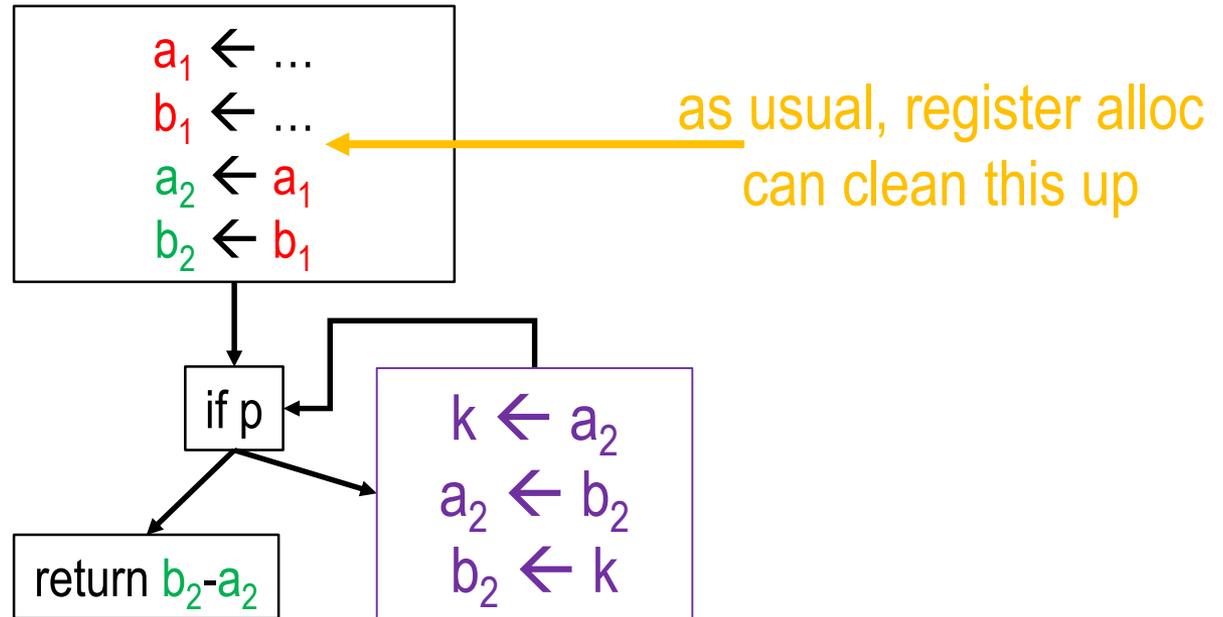


Breaking dependence cycle into sequence of move instructions requires an additional variable.



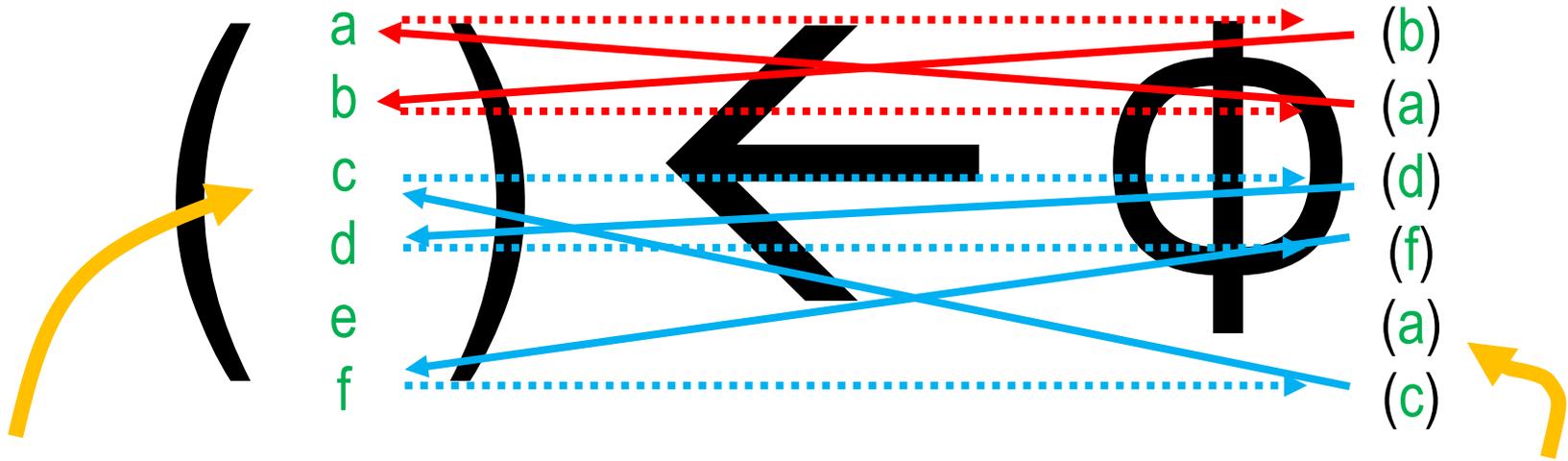
# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: “swap problem”

Resulting code has correct behavior, for  $p=\text{true}$  and  $p=\text{false}$ .



# Translating out of SSA -- issue II: “swap problem”

In general, the variables in a (unary)  $\Phi$ -block can form multiple (non-overlapping) cycles, of different length.



New (implicit) sanity condition of SSA:  
LHS variables should be distinct!

Variables may occur repeatedly  
in RHS – but only participate in  
one cycle.

The cycles can be broken in  
succession, so the single additional  
variable/register  $k$  can be reused!

The moves not involved in a cycle  
(like  $e \leftarrow a$ ) are emitted first.

# Translating out of SSA -- discussion

Some care is needed to avoid lost copies and the swap problem, but basic principle – manifest the intuitive meaning of  $\Phi$ -functions by locally inserting copy instructions “in the incoming edges” – works fine.

Alternative: globally identify groups of variables that can be unified

- first guess - the original variables: works fine, until aggressive optimizations yield overlapping liveness ranges etc.
- $\Phi$ -congruence classes (Sreedhar et al., *Translating out of static single assignment form*. 6<sup>th</sup> Static Analysis Symposium, LNCS 1694, Springer, 1999)

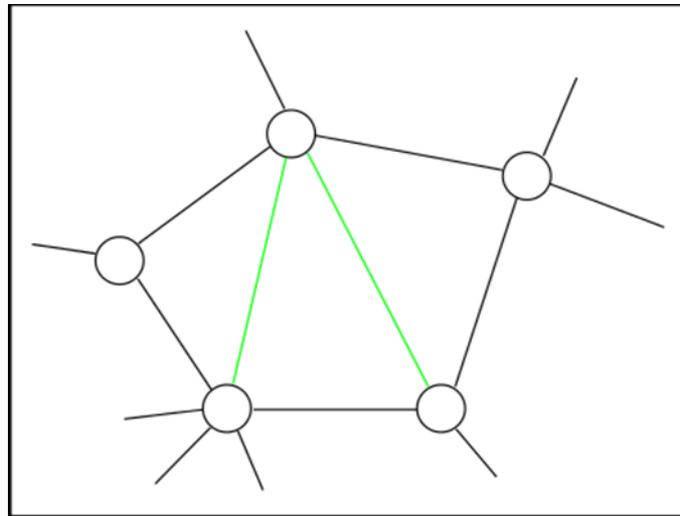
Insertion of moves, effect on liveness ranges, etc suggest exploration of interaction between SSA and register allocation

# SSA and register allocation

S. Hack et al., *Register allocation for programs in SSA form*. 15<sup>th</sup> Conference on Compiler Construction (CC'06), LNCS 3923, Springer, 2006

Interference graphs of SSA programs are **chordal** graphs.

Any cycle of  $> 3$  vertices has a *chord*, i.e. an edge that is not part of the cycle but connects two of its vertices.



Key properties of chordal graphs:

1. their chromatic number is equal to the size of the largest clique
2. they can be optimally colored in **quadratic** time (w.r.t. number of nodes)

# SSA and register allocation

S. Hack et al., *Register allocation for programs in SSA form*. 15<sup>th</sup> Conference on Compiler Construction (CC'06), LNCS 3923, Springer, 2006

**Also:** the largest clique in the interference graph of an SSA program  $P$  is locally manifest in  $P$ : there is at least one instruction  $i_P$  where all members of the clique are live.

Can hence traverse program and obtain required number of colors – and know which variables to spill/coalesce in case we don't have this many registers.

Resulting approach to register allocation:



No need for iteration!

Don't merge nodes in  $G$ , but share reg for variables in a  $\Phi$ -node.

In ordinary programs, iteration was needed since spilling/coalescing was not guaranteed to reduce the number of colors needed. For SSA, this is guaranteed, if we spill/coalesce variables live at  $i_P$ .

# SSA and register allocation: Hack et al.'s result

Remember: interference graph of an SSA program P

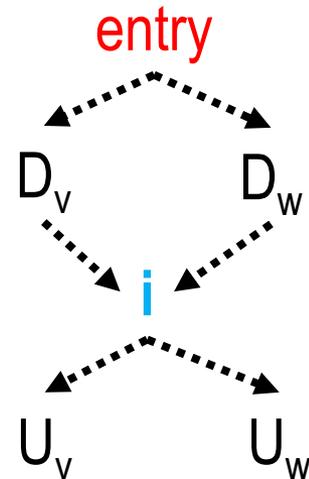
- interference graph:  $G=(V, E)$  where  
nodes  $V$ : program variables  
edges  $E$ :  $(v, w) \in E$  if there is a program point at which  $v$  and  $w$  are both live
- SSA: each use of a variable  $v$  is dominated by the (unique) definition  $D_v$  of  $v$

Lemma 1: if  $v$  and  $w$  interfere, either  $D_v$  dominates  $D_w$ , or  $D_w$  dominates  $D_v$ .

Idea: Let  $i$  be the instruction at which  $v$  and  $w$  both live.

Thus, there are paths  $i \dots \rightarrow U_v$  and  $i \dots \rightarrow U_w$   
to some uses of  $v$  and  $w$ . As  $U_v$  is dominated by  $D_v$ , there  
is a path  $D_v \dots \rightarrow i$ . Similarly, there is a path

from  $D_w$  to  $i$ . Hence,  $\text{entry} \dots \rightarrow D_v \dots \rightarrow i \dots \rightarrow U_w$   
must contain  $D_w$ , and  $\text{entry} \dots \rightarrow D_w \dots \rightarrow i \dots \rightarrow U_v$   
must contain  $D_v$ . From this obtain claim...



# SSA and register allocation: Hack et al.'s result

Lemma 1: if  $v$  and  $w$  interfere, either  $D_v$  dominates  $D_w$ , or  $D_w$  dominates  $D_v$ .

Lemma 2: if  $v$  and  $w$  interfere and  $D_v$  dominates  $D_w$ , then  $v$  is live at  $D_v$ .

# SSA and register allocation: Hack et al.'s result

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Lemma 2: if  $v$  and  $w$  interfere and  $D_v$  dominates  $D_w$ , then  $v$  is live at  $D_v$ .

**Theorem 1:** Let  $C = \{c_1, \dots, c_n\}$  be a clique in  $G$ , ie  $(c_i, c_j) \in E$  for all  $i \neq j$ . Then, there is a label in  $P$  where  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are all live.

Proof :

- by Lemma 1, the nodes  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are totally ordered by the dominance relationship:  $c_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, c_{\sigma(n)}$  for some permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$
- as dominance is transitive, all  $c_{\sigma(i)}$  dominate  $c_{\sigma(n)}$
- by Lemma 2, all  $c_{\sigma(i)}$  are hence all live at  $c_{\sigma(n)}$ .

# SSA and register allocation: Hack et al.'s result

---

- we color nodes by stack-based simplify-select (cf Kempe).
- suppose we can simplify nodes in a **perfect elimination order**: when a node is removed, its remaining neighbors form a clique
- then, when we reinsert the node, we again have a clique
- the size of the latter clique is bound by  $\omega(G)$ , the size of  $G$ ' largest clique

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**Theorem 2:**  $G$  admits simplification by a PEO.

(admitting simplification by PEO is equivalent to being chordal)

# SSA and register allocation: Hack et al.'s result

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- suppose we can simplify nodes in a **perfect elimination order**: when a node is removed, its remaining neighbors form a clique
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**Theorem 2:**  $G$  admits simplification by a PEO.

(admitting simplification by PEO is equivalent to being chordal)

**Theorem 3:** Chordal graphs are **perfect**:  
max colors needed = size of the largest clique

Thus, we can color  $G$  (using a PEO) using  $\omega(G)$  many colors, and  $P$  contains an instruction where  $\omega(G)$  variables are live (and no instruction with more).

Thus: can traverse  $P$ , search for largest **local** live-set, and obtain #registers.

# SSA and functional programming

---

- SSA:
- each variable has a unique site of **def**inition; different uses of the same source-program variable name are disambiguated
  - the **def**-site **dominates** all **uses**
  - in straight-line code, each variable is assigned to only **once**

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Functional code:

- each name has a unique site of **binding**: **let**  $x = e_1$  in  $e_2$ ; different uses of the same name are kept apart by the language definition, or can be explicitly disambiguated by  $\alpha$ -renaming
- the **binding**-site determines a **scope** that contains all **uses**
- in straight-line code, the value to which a name is bound is **never changes**

# SSA and functional programming

- SSA:
- each variable has a unique site of **def**inition; different uses of the same source-program variable name are disambiguated
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- the **binding**-site determines a **scope** that contains all **uses**
- in straight-line code, the value to which a name is bound **never changes** – and in a recursive function, we're in different stack frames (but see details on stack frames in later lecture).

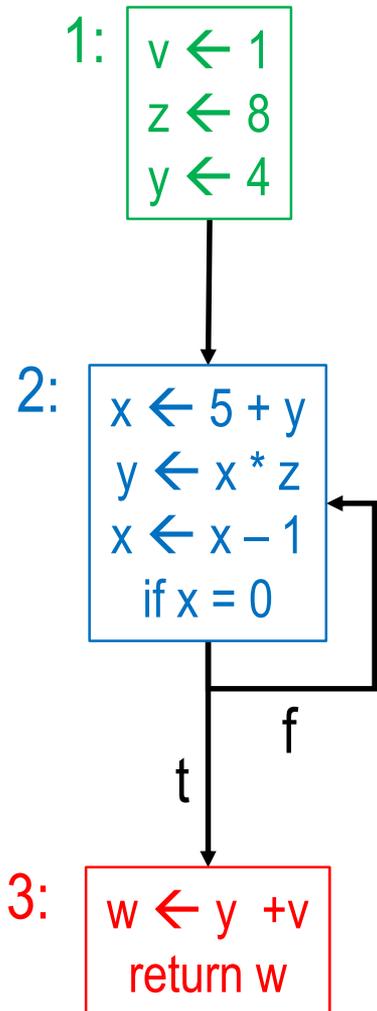
# SSA and functional programming - correspondences

Functional concept	Imperative/SSA concept
variable binding in let	assignment (point of definition)
$\alpha$ -renaming	variable renaming
unique association of binding occurrences to uses	unique association of defs to uses
formal parameter of continuation/local function	$\phi$ -function (point of definition)
lexical scope of bound variable	dominance region

Functional concept	Imperative/SSA concept
subterm relationship	control flow successor relationship
arity of function $f_i$	number of $\phi$ -functions at beginning of $b_i$
distinctness of formal parameters of $f_i$	distinctness of LHS-variables in the $\phi$ -block of $b_i$
number of call sites of function $f_i$	arity of $\phi$ -functions in block $b_i$
parameter lifting/dropping	addition/removal of $\phi$ -function
block floating/sinking	reordering according to dominator tree structure
potential nesting structure	dominator tree
nesting level	maximal level index in dominator tree

- construction of SSA can be recast as transformation of a corresponding functional program; destruction, too
- latent structural properties of SSA often explicit in FP view
- correctness arguments for SSA analyses & transformations transfer to/from functional view

# SSA construction in functional style

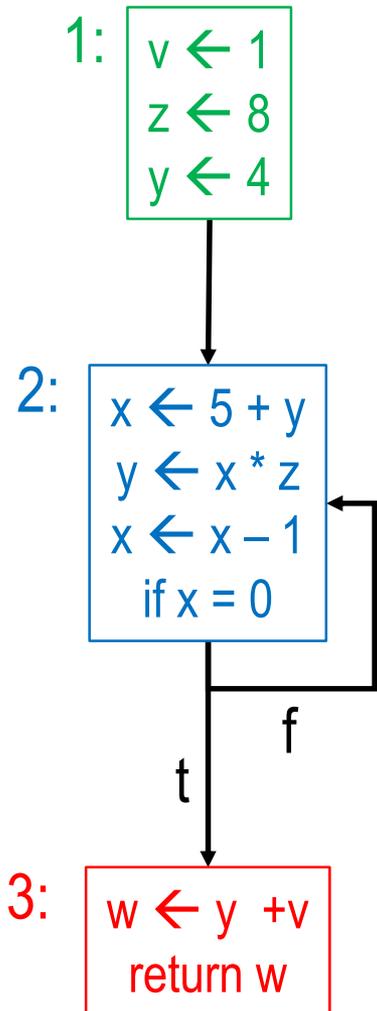


Step 1

convert into  
functional form

- one function per basic block
- all functions mutually (tail-)recursive
- entry point: top-level initial function call
- function bodies: let-bindings for basic instructions (ANF)
- liveness analysis yields formal parameter and argument lists

# SSA construction in functional style

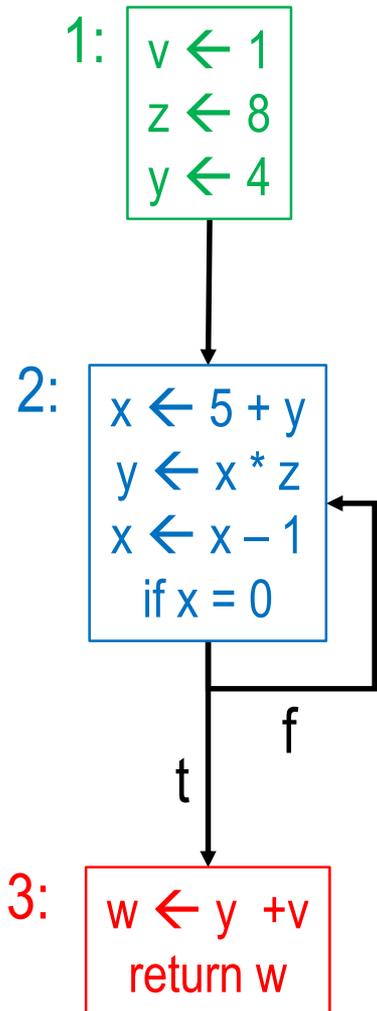


Step 1  
convert into  
functional form

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
                in f2(v, z, y) end
and f2(v, z, y) = let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
                    val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0 then f3(y, v)
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
                 in w end
in f1() end;
```

- one function per basic block
- all functions mutually (tail-)recursive
- entry point: top-level initial function call
- function bodies: let-bindings for basic instructions (ANF)
- liveness analysis yields formal parameter and argument lists

# SSA construction in functional style



- all functions *closed*
- variables not globally unique, but uses have unique defs (scope)

Step 1

convert into  
functional form

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
                in f2(v, z, y) end
and f2(v, z, y) = let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
                    val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0 then f3(y, v)
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
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# SSA construction in functional style

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let fun f1() = let val v = 1
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                    in if x=0 then f3(y, v)
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
                 in w end
in f1() end;
```

optional

make names  
unique

- as functions are closed, can rename each function definition individually

# SSA construction in functional style

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
                in f2(v, z, y) end
and f2(v, z, y) = let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
                    val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0 then f3(y, v)
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
                 in w end
in f1() end;
```

optional

make names  
unique

```
let fun f1() = let val v1 = 1
                  val z1 = 8
                  val y1 = 4
                  in f2(v1, z1, y1) end
and f2(v2, z2, y2) = let val x1 = 5 + y2
                          val y3 = x1 * z2
                          val x2 = x1 - 1
                          in if x2=0 then f3(y3, v2)
                             else f2(v2, z2, y3) end
and f3(y4, v3) = let val w1 = y4 + v3
                      in w1 end
in f1() end;
```

- as functions are closed, can rename each function definition individually

# SSA construction in functional style

1:  $v_1 \leftarrow 1$   
 $z_1 \leftarrow 8$   
 $y_1 \leftarrow 4$

2:  $v_2 \leftarrow \Phi(v_1, v_2)$   
 $z_2 \leftarrow \Phi(z_1, z_2)$   
 $y_2 \leftarrow \Phi(y_1, y_3)$   
 $x_1 \leftarrow 5 + y_2$   
 $y_3 \leftarrow x_1 * z_2$   
 $x_2 \leftarrow x_1 - 1$   
if  $x_2 = 0$

interpret back in  
imperative form

3:  $y_4 \leftarrow \Phi(y_3)$   
 $v_3 \leftarrow \Phi(v_2)$   
 $w_1 \leftarrow y_4 + v_3$   
return  $w_1$

```
let fun f1() = let val v1 = 1
                val z1 = 8
                val y1 = 4
                in f2(v1, z1, y1) end
and f2(v2, z2, y2) = let val x1 = 5 + y2
                        val y3 = x1 * z2
                        val x2 = x1 - 1
                        in if x2 = 0 then f3(y3, v2)
                          else f2(v2, z2, y2) end
and f3(y4, v3) = let val w1 = y4 + v3
                    in w1 end
in f1() end;
```

- each formal parameter of a function definition is the LHS of a  $\Phi$ -function. Arguments are the function arguments at calls
- arity of functions, distinctness of LHS variables etc all ok
- resulting code “pruned SSA”
- which functional prog avoids the unnecessary  $\Phi$ -functions?

“unnecessary”: all call sites provide identical arguments

# Removing unnecessary arguments: $\lambda$ -dropping

- transformation of functional programs to eliminate formal parameters
- can be performed before or after names are made unique - former option more instructive
- (inverse operation:  $\lambda$ -lifting)
- 2 phases: **block sinking** and **parameter dropping**

remove parameters

modify nesting structure of function definitions

# Removing unnecessary arguments: block sinking

Observation: **if**

- all calls to **g** are in body of **f** (or **g**), and
- **g** is closed (all free variables of body are parameters)

**then** the definition of **g** can be moved inside the definition of **f**

```
let fun ...  
and f(...) = let ... in g(...) end  
and g(...) = let ... in  
    if ... then g(...) else h (...) end  
and h (...) = ...(*no call to g*)  
in ... end;
```

Placing **g** near the end of **f**'s body  
is advantageous for next step...

Note: **g** is allowed to

- make recursive calls
- make calls to “host function” **f**
- make calls to other functions, like **h**

```
let fun ...  
and f(...) = let ... in  
    let fun g(...) = let ... in  
        if ... then g(...) else h (...) end  
    in g(...) end  
and h (...) = ...(*no call to g*)  
in ... end;
```

# Block sinking: example

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
                in f2(v, z, y) end
```

```
and f2(v, z, y) = let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
                    val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0 then f3(y, v)
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
```

```
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
                 in w end
```

```
in f1() end;
```

move f<sub>3</sub> into f<sub>2</sub>

move f<sub>2</sub> into f<sub>1</sub>

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
```

```
in let fun f2(v, z, y) =
        let val x = 5 + y
            val y = x * z
            val x = x - 1
            in if x=0
               then let fun f3(y, v) =
                        let val w = y + v
                          in w end
                       in f3(y, v) end
                   else f2(v, z, y) end
        in f2(v, z, y) end
```

```
in f1() end;
```

(in fact, insert f<sub>3</sub> “in the edge” is only in the then-branch – cf edge split form)

# Block sinking: example

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
                in f2(v, z, y) end
```

```
and f2(v, z, y) = let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
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```

```
and f3(y, v) = let val w = y + v
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```

```
in f1() end;
```

move f<sub>3</sub> into f<sub>2</sub>

move f<sub>2</sub> into f<sub>1</sub>

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
```

```
in let fun f2(v, z, y) =
        let val x = 5 + y
            val y = x * z
            val x = x - 1
            in if x=0
               then let fun f3(y, v) =
                        let val w = y + v
                          in w end
                       in f3(y, v) end
                   else f2(v, z, y) end
        in f2(v, z, y) end
```

```
in f1() end;
```

Block sinking makes dominance structure explicit: f<sub>2</sub> = idom(f<sub>3</sub>), and f<sub>1</sub> = idom(f<sub>2</sub>)

# Parameter dropping I

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
            in let fun f2(v, z, y) =
                    let val x = 5 + y
                        val y = x * z
                        val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0
                       then let fun f3(y, v) =
                               let val w = y + v
                                   in w end
                               in f3(y, v) end
                       else f2(v, z, y) end
                    in f2(v, z, y) end
            in f1() end;
```

Parameters **y** and **v** of  $f_3$ :  
tightest scope for **y** (ie the def of)  
surrounding the call to  $f_3$  is also the  
tightest scope surrounding the  
function definition  $f_3$ .

Can hence remove parameter **y** –  
and similarly parameter **v**.

```
let fun f1() = ... in if x=0
                    then let fun f3() =
                            let val w = y + v
                                in w end
                            in f3() end
                    else ...
```

# Parameter dropping II

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
            in let fun f2(v, z, y) =
                    let val x = 5 + y
                        val y = x * z
                        val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0
                       then let fun f3() = ...
                               in f3() end
                           else f2(v, z, y) end
                    in f2(v, z, y) end
            in f1() end;
```

Similarly, the external call to  $f_2$  from within the body of  $f_1$  would allow to remove all three parameters from  $f_2$ .

# Parameter dropping III

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
            in let fun f2(v, z, y) =
                let val x = 5 + y
                    val y = x * z
                    val x = x - 1
                in if x=0
                    then let fun f3() = ...
                        in f3() end
                    else f2(v, z, y) end
                in f2(v, z, y) end
            in f1() end;
```

Similarly, the external call to  $f_2$  from within the body of  $f_1$  would allow to remove all three parameters from  $f_2$ .

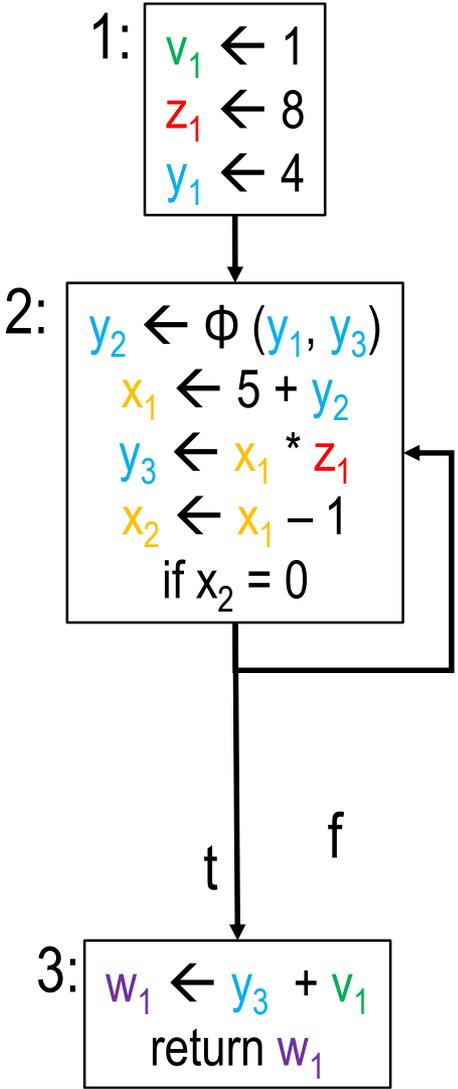
Recursive call of  $f_2$ :

- **admits** the removal of parameters  $v$  and  $z$ , since the defs associated with the uses at the call site are the defs in the formal parameter list
- does not **admit** the removal of parameters  $y$ , since the def associated with the use of  $y$  at the call site is **not** the def in the formal parameter list

# Parameter dropping IV

```
let fun f1() = let val v = 1
                val z = 8
                val y = 4
            in let fun f2(y) =
                    let val x = 5 + y
                        val y = x * z
                        val x = x - 1
                    in if x=0
                       then let fun f3() =
                               let val w = y + v
                                   in w end
                               in f3() end
                       else f2(y) end
                    in f2(y) end
            in f1() end;
```

make names distinct  
→  
read as SSA program



Superfluous  $\Phi$ -functions avoided.

# SSA and functional programming - summary

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SSA discipline shares many properties with tail-recursive, first-order fragment of functional languages

- transfer of analysis/optimization algorithms
- suitable intermediate format for compiling functional and imperative languages
  - function calls not in tail position: calls to imperative functions/methods/procedures
- alternative functional representation of control flow: continuations