Program Analysis (470)
Data Flow Analysis

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Data Flow Analysis

The general approch for determining program properties for procedural languages via a dataflow analysis:

- Extract Data Flow Information
- Formulate Data Flow Equations
  - Update Local Information
  - Collect Global Information
- Construct Solution(s) of Equations

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Available Expressions

The *Available Expressions Analysis* will determine:

> *For each program point, which expressions must (are guaranteed to) have already been computed, and not later modified, on all paths to that program point.*

This information can be used to avoid the re-computation of an expression. For clarity, we will concentrate on arithmetic expressions.

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Example

Consider the following simple program:

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\begin{array}{l}
[\ x := a + b\ ]^1; \\
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It should be clear that the expression a+b is available every time the execution reaches the test (label 3) in the loop; as a consequence, the expression need not be recomputed.

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AE Analysis

$$kill_{\mathsf{AE}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

$$gen_{\mathsf{AE}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

$$\mathsf{AE}_{entry} : \mathbf{Lab}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

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AE Auxiliary Functions

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\begin{aligned}
kill_{\mathsf{AE}}([\, x := a \,]^\ell) &= \{a' \in \mathbf{AExp}_\star \mid x \in FV(a')\} \\
kill_{\mathsf{AE}}([\, \mathbf{skip} \,]^\ell) &= \emptyset \\
kill_{\mathsf{AE}}([b]^\ell) &= \emptyset
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AE Equation Schemes

$$\mathsf{AE}_{entry}(\ell) \;=\; \begin{cases} \emptyset, \text{ if } \ell = init(S_\star) \\ \bigcap\{\mathsf{AE}_{exit}(\ell') \mid (\ell', \ell) \in flow(S_\star)\}, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathsf{AE}_{exit}(\ell) \;=\; (\mathsf{AE}_{entry}(\ell) \setminus kill_{\mathsf{AE}}([B]^\ell)) \cup gen_{\mathsf{AE}}(([B]^\ell) \quad \text{where } [B]^\ell \in blocks(S_\star)$$

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Largest Solution

The analysis is a *forward analysis* and we are interested in the *largest* sets satisfying the equation for AE_{entry} and AE_{exit}.

$$[\, z := x + y \,]^{\ell}; \textbf{while } [\mathit{true}]^{\ell'} \textbf{ do } [\, \textbf{skip} \,]^{\ell''}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{AE}_{entry}(\ell) &= \emptyset \\
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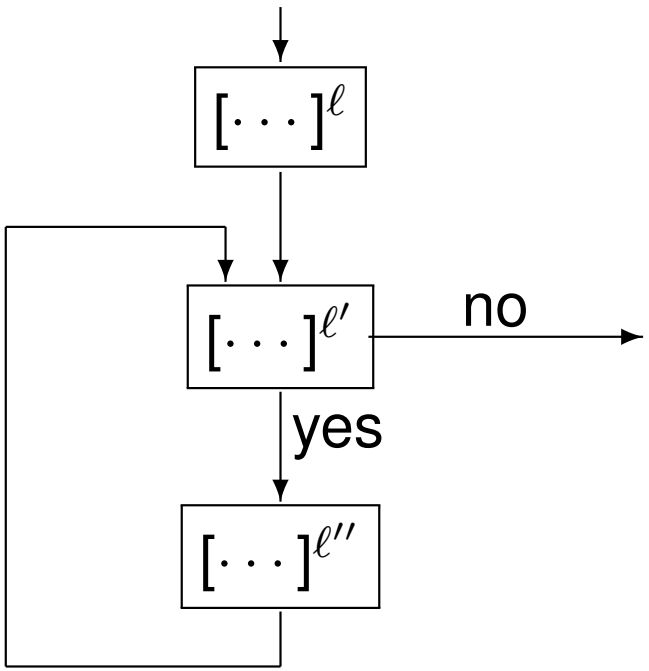

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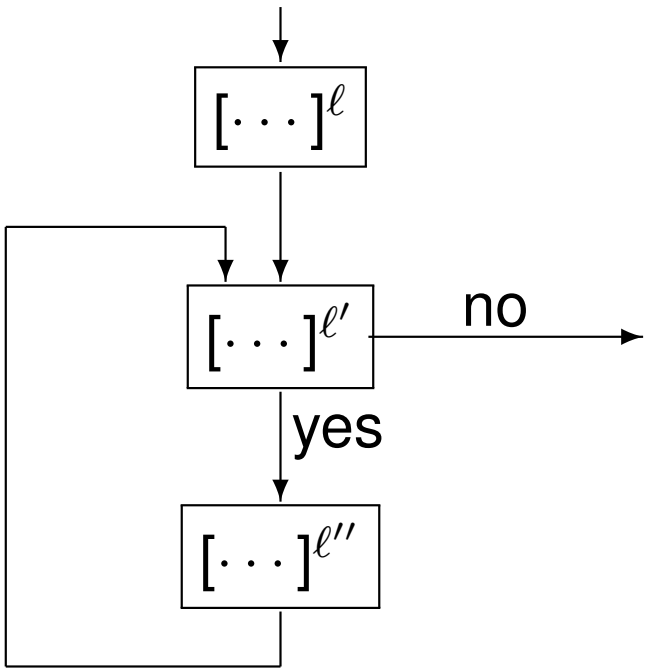

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Note that, even though a is redefined in the loop, the expression a+b is re-evaluated in the loop and so it is always available on entry to the loop. On the other hand, a*b is available on the first entry to the loop but is killed before the next iteration.

Reaching Definitions Analysis

The *Reaching Definitions Analysis* is analogous to the previous one except that we are interested in:

> *For each program point, which assignments may have been made and not overwritten, when program execution reaches this point along some path.*

A main application of Reaching Definitions Analysis is in the construction of direct links between blocks that produce values and blocks that use them.

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Example

A simple example to illustrate the *RD* analysis would be:

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\begin{array}{l}
[\ x := 5\ ]^1; \\
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\textbf{while}\ [x > 1]^3\ \textbf{do}\ (\\
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All of the assignments reach the entry of 4 (the assignments labelled 1 and 2 reach there on the first iteration); only the assignments labelled 1, 4 and 5 reach the entry of 5.

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$$kill_{\mathrm{RD}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star \times \mathbf{Lab}_\star)$$

$$gen_{\mathrm{RD}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star \times \mathbf{Lab}_\star)$$

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Remark: Strictly speaking we need $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star \times (\mathbf{Lab}_\star \cup \{?\}))$.

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Smallest Solution

Similar to before, this is a *forward analysis* but we are interested in the *smallest* sets satisfying the equation for RD_{entry}.

$$[\ z := x + y\ ]^{\ell};\textbf{while}\ [true]^{\ell'}\ \textbf{do}\ [\ \textbf{skip}\ ]^{\ell''}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(\ell) & = & \{(x,?),(y,?),(z,?)\} \\
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Smallest Solution

Similar to before, this is a *forward analysis* but we are interested in the *smallest* sets satisfying the equation for RD_{entry}.

$$[\ z := x + y\ ]^{\ell};\textbf{while}\ [true]^{\ell'}\ \textbf{do}\ [\ \textbf{skip}\ ]^{\ell''}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(\ell) & = & \{(x,?),(y,?),(z,?)\} \\
\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(\ell') & = & \mathrm{RD}_{exit}(\ell) \cup \mathrm{RD}_{exit}(\ell'') \\
\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(\ell'') & = & \mathrm{RD}_{exit}(\ell')
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\mathrm{RD}_{exit}(\ell) & = & (\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(\ell) \setminus \{(z,?)\}) \cup \{(z,\ell)\} \\
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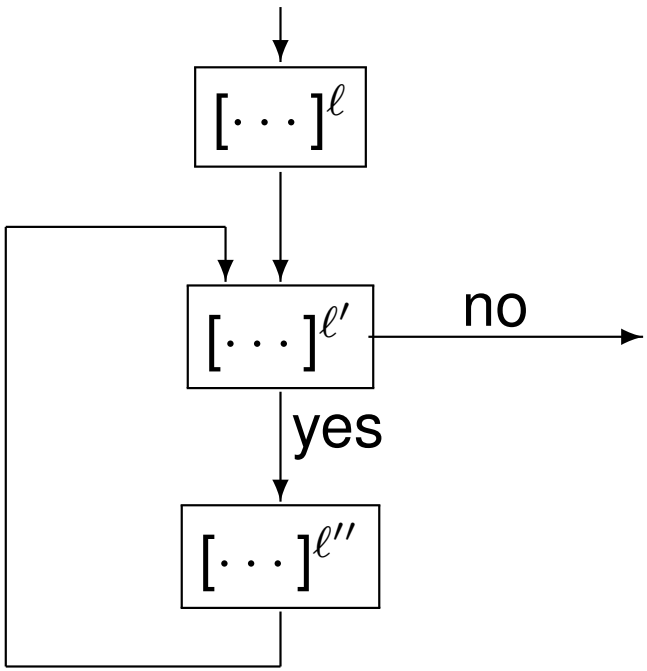
\end{array}$$

Obtaining Solutions



After some simplification, we find that:

$$\mathsf{RD}_{entry}(\ell') = \{(x, ?), (y, ?), (z, \ell)\} \cup \mathsf{RD}_{entry}(\ell')$$

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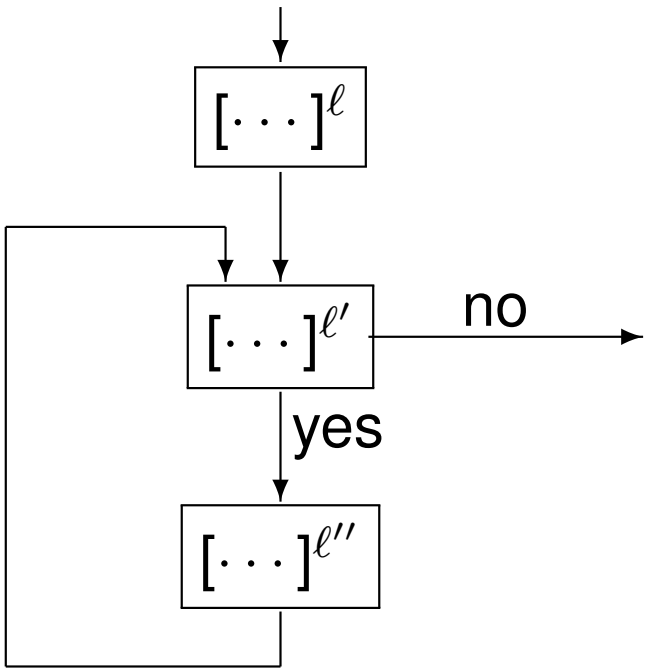

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RD Variations

Sometimes, when the Reaching Definitions analysis is presented in the literature, one has $\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(init(S_\star)) = \emptyset$ rather than $\mathrm{RD}_{entry}(init(S_\star)) = \{((x, ?) \mid x \in FV(S_\star)\}$.

This is correct only for programs that always assign variables before their first use; incorrect optimisations may result if this is not the case. The advantage of our formulation is that it is always semantically sound.

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RD Example

$$
\begin{array}{l}
[\ x := 5\ ]^1; \\
[\ y := 1\ ]^2; \\
\textbf{while}\ [x > 1]^3\ \textbf{do}\ (\\
\qquad [\ y := x * y\ ]^4; \\
\qquad [\ x := x - 1\ ]^5\ )
\end{array}
$$

ℓ	$kill_{\mathrm{RD}}(\ell)$	$gen_{\mathrm{RD}}(\ell)$
1	$\{(x,?),(x,1),(x,5)\}$	$\{(x,1)\}$
2	$\{(y,?),(y,2),(y,4)\}$	$\{(y,2)\}$
3	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
4	$\{(y,?),(y,2),(y,4)\}$	$\{(y,4)\}$
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RD Example: Equations

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$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
RD_{exit}(1) & = & (RD_{entry}(1) \setminus \{(x,?),(x,1),(x,5)\}) \cup \{(x,1)\} \\
RD_{exit}(2) & = & (RD_{entry}(2) \setminus \{(y,?),(y,2),(y,4)\}) \cup \{(y,2)\} \\
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RD Example: Solutions

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3	$\{(x,1),(y,2),(y,4),(x,5)\}$	$\{(x,1),(y,2),(y,4),(x,5)\}$
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Very Busy Expression Analysis

An expression is *very busy* at the exit from a label if, no matter what path is taken from the label, the expression *must* (is guaranteed to) always be used before any of the variables occurring in it are redefined. The aim of the *Very Busy Expressions Analysis* is to determine:

> *For each program point, which expressions* must *(is guaranteed to) be very busy at exit from the point.*

A possible optimisation based on this information is to evaluate the expression at the block and store its value for later use; this optimisation is sometimes called *hoisting* the expression.

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Example

We illustrate this analysis with the following example:

$$\begin{array}{l}\textbf{if } [a > b]^1 \\ \quad \textbf{then } (\ [\ x := b - a\ ]^2; \\ \qquad\qquad [\ y := a - b\ ]^3\ ) \\ \quad \textbf{else } (\ [\ y := b - a\ ]^4; \\ \qquad\qquad [\ x := a - b\ ]^5\ )\end{array}$$

The expressions $a - b$ and $b - a$ are both very busy at the start of the program (label 1). They can be hoisted resulting in a code size reduction.

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The expressions $a - b$ and $b - a$ are both very busy at the start of the program (label 1). They can be hoisted resulting in a code size reduction.

VB Analysis

$$\mathit{kill}_{\mathrm{VB}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

$$\mathit{gen}_{\mathrm{VB}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

$$\mathrm{VB}_{\mathit{entry}} : \mathbf{Lab}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

$$\mathrm{VB}_{\mathit{exit}} : \mathbf{Lab}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{AExp}_\star)$$

The analysis is a *backward analysis* and we are interested in the *largest* sets satisfying the equation for $\mathrm{VB}_{\mathit{exit}}$.

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VB Auxiliary Functions

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}
kill_{\mathsf{VB}}([\, x := a \,]^\ell) & = & \{a' \in \mathbf{AExp}_\star \mid x \in FV(a')\} \\
kill_{\mathsf{VB}}([\, \mathbf{skip} \,]^\ell) & = & \emptyset \\
kill_{\mathsf{VB}}([b]^\ell) & = & \emptyset
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}
gen_{\mathsf{VB}}([\, x := a \,]^\ell) & = & \mathbf{AExp}(a) \\
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VB Equation Schemes

$$\mathsf{VB}_{exit}(\ell) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, \text{if } \ell \in final(S_\star) \\ \bigcap\{\mathsf{VB}_{entry}(\ell') \mid (\ell', \ell) \in flow^R(S_\star)\}, \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathsf{VB}_{entry}(\ell) = (\mathsf{VB}_{exit}(\ell) \setminus kill_{\mathsf{VB}}([B]^\ell)) \cup gen_{\mathsf{VB}}(B^\ell)$$
$$\text{where } [B]^\ell \in blocks(S_\star)$$

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$$\begin{array}{l}\textbf{if } [a > b]^1 \\ \quad \textbf{then } ([\, x := b - a \,]^2; \\ \qquad\qquad [\, y := a - b \,]^3 \,) \\ \quad \textbf{else } ([\, y := b - a \,]^4; \\ \qquad\qquad [\, x := a - b \,]^5 \,)\end{array}$$

ℓ	$kill_{\mathsf{VB}}(\ell)$	$gen_{\mathsf{VB}}(\ell)$
1	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
2	$\emptyset$	$\{b - a\}$
3	$\emptyset$	$\{a - b\}$
4	$\emptyset$	$\{b - a\}$
5	$\emptyset$	$\{a - b\}$

VB Example

$$
\begin{array}{l}
\textbf{if } [a > b]^1 \\
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VB Example: Equations

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\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
VB_{entry}(1) & = & VB_{exit}(1) \\
VB_{entry}(2) & = & VB_{exit}(2) \cup \{b - a\} \\
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VB_{entry}(5) & = & \{a - b\}
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$$\begin{array}{lcl}VB_{exit}(1) & = & VB_{entry}(2) \cap VB_{entry}(4) \\ VB_{exit}(2) & = & VB_{entry}(3) \\ VB_{exit}(3) & = & \emptyset \\ VB_{exit}(4) & = & VB_{entry}(5) \\ VB_{exit}(5) & = & \emptyset\end{array}$$

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\mathrm{VB}_{exit}(3) &= \emptyset \\
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\mathrm{VB}_{exit}(5) &= \emptyset
\end{aligned}
$$

VB Example: Solutions

ℓ	$\mathrm{VB}_{entry}(\ell)$	$\mathrm{VB}_{exit}(\ell)$
1	$\{a-b, b-a\}$	$\{a-b, b-a\}$
2	$\{a-b, b-a\}$	$\{a-b\}$
3	$\{a-b\}$	$\emptyset$
4	$\{a-b, b-a\}$	$\{a-b\}$
5	$\{a-b\}$	$\emptyset$

$$\textbf{if } [a > b]^1 \textbf{ then } ([x := b-a]^2; [y := a-b]^3) \textbf{ else } ([y := b-a]^4; [x := a-b]^5)$$

VB Example: Solutions

ℓ	$\mathrm{VB}_{entry}(\ell)$	$\mathrm{VB}_{exit}(\ell)$
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\begin{array}{l}
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\end{array}
$$

Live Variable Analysis

A variable is *live* at the exit from a label if there exists a path from the label to a use of the variable that does not re-define the variable. The *Live Variables Analysis* will determine:

> *For each program point, which variables may be live at the exit from the point.*

This analysis might be used as the basis for *Dead Code Elimination*. If the variable is not live at the exit from a label then, if the elementary block is an assignment to the variable, the elementary block can be eliminated.

Live Variable Analysis

A variable is *live* at the exit from a label if there exists a path from the label to a use of the variable that does not re-define the variable. The *Live Variables Analysis* will determine:

> *For each program point, which variables* may *be live at the exit from the point.*

This analysis might be used as the basis for *Dead Code Elimination*. If the variable is not live at the exit from a label then, if the elementary block is an assignment to the variable, the elementary block can be eliminated.

Example

The example program to illustrate the *LV* analysis is:

$$
\begin{array}{l}
[\ x := 2\ ]^1; \\
[\ y := 4\ ]^2; \\
[\ x := 1\ ]^3; \\
(\ \textbf{if}\ [y > x]^4 \\
\quad \textbf{then}\ [\ z := y\ ]^5 \\
\quad \textbf{else}\ [\ z := y * y\ ]^6\ ); \\
[\ x := z\ ]^7
\end{array}
$$

The variable x is not live at the exit from 1; the first assignment to x is thus redundant and can be eliminated. Both x and y are alive at the exit from label 3.

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LV Analysis

$$kill_{\mathsf{LV}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star)$$

$$gen_{\mathsf{LV}} : \mathbf{Block}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star)$$

$$\mathsf{LV}_{entry} : \mathbf{Lab}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star)$$

$$\mathsf{LV}_{exit} : \mathbf{Lab}_\star \to \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Var}_\star)$$

The analysis is a *backward analysis* and we are interested in the *smallest* sets satisfying the equation for LV_{exit}.

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LV Auxiliary Functions

$$
\begin{aligned}
kill_{\mathsf{LV}}([\ x := a\ ]^\ell) &= \{x\} \\
kill_{\mathsf{LV}}([\ \textbf{skip}\ ]^\ell) &= \emptyset \\
kill_{\mathsf{LV}}([b]^\ell) &= \emptyset
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
gen_{\mathsf{LV}}([\ x := a\ ]^\ell) &= FV(a) \\
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LV Equation Schemes

$$\mathsf{LV}_{exit}(\ell) \quad = \quad \begin{cases} \emptyset, \text{if } \ell \in final(S_\star) \\ \bigcup\{\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(\ell') \mid (\ell', \ell) \in flow^R(S_\star)\}, \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(\ell) \quad = \quad (\mathsf{LV}_{exit}(\ell) \setminus kill_{\mathsf{LV}}([B]^\ell) \cup gen_{\mathsf{LV}}([B]^\ell)$$
$$\text{where } [B]^\ell \in blocks(S_\star)$$

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LV Example

$[\ x := 2\ ]^1; [\ y := 4\ ]^2; [\ x := 1\ ]^3;$
$(\textbf{if}\ \ [y > x]^4\ \textbf{then}\ \ [\ z := y\ ]^5\ \textbf{else}\ \ [\ z := y * y\ ]^6\ );$
$[\ x := z\ ]^7$

ℓ	$kill_{\mathsf{LV}}(\ell)$	$gen_{\mathsf{LV}}(\ell)$
1	$\{x\}$	$\emptyset$
2	$\{y\}$	$\emptyset$
3	$\{x\}$	$\emptyset$
4	$\emptyset$	$\{x, y\}$
5	$\{z\}$	$\{y\}$
6	$\{z\}$	$\{y\}$
7	$\{x\}$	$\{z\}$

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LV Example: Equations

$$[\, x := 2 \,]^1; [\, y := 4 \,]^2; [\, x := 1 \,]^3;$$
$$(\textbf{if } [y > x]^4 \textbf{ then } [\, z := y \,]^5 \textbf{ else } [\, z := y * y \,]^6);$$
$$[\, x := z \,]^7$$

$$\begin{aligned}
LV_{entry}(1) &= LV_{exit}(1) \setminus \{x\} \\
LV_{entry}(2) &= LV_{exit}(2) \setminus \{y\} \\
LV_{entry}(3) &= LV_{exit}(3) \setminus \{x\} \\
LV_{entry}(4) &= LV_{exit}(4) \cup \{x, y\} \\
LV_{entry}(5) &= (LV_{exit}(5) \setminus \{z\}) \cup \{y\} \\
LV_{entry}(6) &= (LV_{exit}(6) \setminus \{z\}) \cup \{y\} \\
LV_{entry}(7) &= \{z\}
\end{aligned}$$

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\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(1) &= \mathsf{LV}_{exit}(1) \setminus \{x\} \\
\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(2) &= \mathsf{LV}_{exit}(2) \setminus \{y\} \\
\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(3) &= \mathsf{LV}_{exit}(3) \setminus \{x\} \\
\mathsf{LV}_{entry}(4) &= \mathsf{LV}_{exit}(4) \cup \{x, y\} \\
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LV_{exit}(1) &= LV_{entry}(2)\\
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\mathsf{LV}_{exit}(4) &= \mathsf{LV}_{entry}(5) \cup \mathsf{LV}_{entry}(6) \\
\mathsf{LV}_{exit}(5) &= \mathsf{LV}_{entry}(7) \\
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\end{aligned}$$

LV Example: Solutions

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3	$\{y\}$	$\{x, y\}$
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$[\ x := 2\ ]^1; [\ y := 4\ ]^2; [\ x := 1\ ]^3;$
(**if** $[y > x]^4$ **then** $[\ z := y\ ]^5$ **else** $[\ z := y * y\ ]^6$);
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LV Variations

Some authors assume that the variables of interest are output at the end of the program.

In that case $\mathrm{LV}_{exit}(7)$ should be $\{x, y, z\}$ which means that $\mathrm{LV}_{entry}(7)$, $\mathrm{LV}_{exit}(5)$ and $\mathrm{LV}_{exit}(6)$ should all be $\{y, z\}$.

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