

# *Constant Propagation*

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*Part 1*

*About These Slides*

## Copyright

These slides constitute the lecture notes for CS618 Program Analysis course at IIT Bombay and have been made available as teaching material accompanying the book:

- Uday Khedker, Amitabha Sanyal, and Bageshri Karkare. *Data Flow Analysis: Theory and Practice*. CRC Press (Taylor and Francis Group). 2009.

(Indian edition published by Ane Books in 2013)

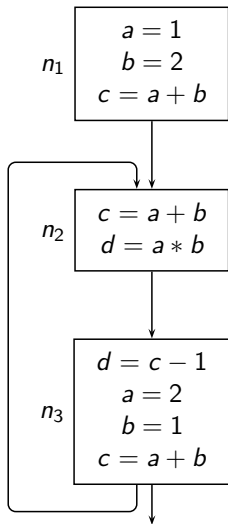
Apart from the above book, some slides are based on the material from the following book

- M. S. Hecht. *Flow Analysis of Computer Programs*. Elsevier North-Holland Inc. 1977.

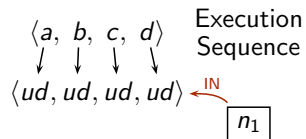
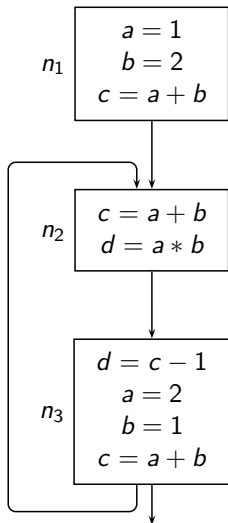
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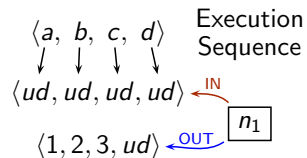
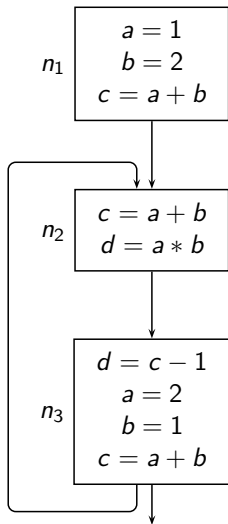
# An Introduction to Constant Propagation



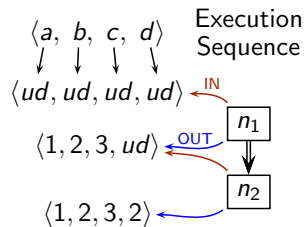
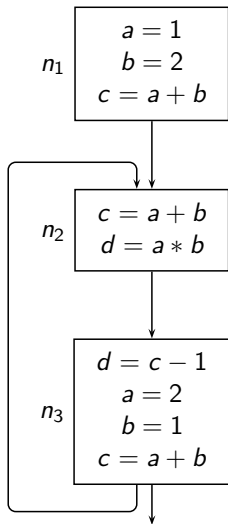
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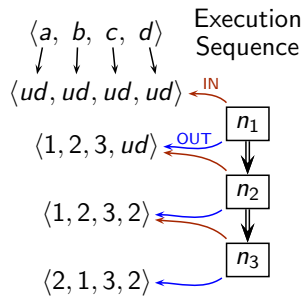
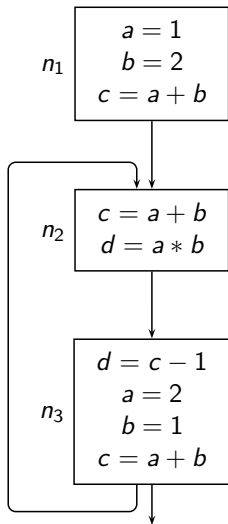
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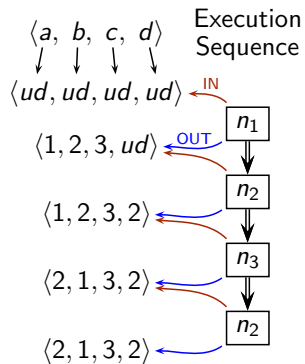
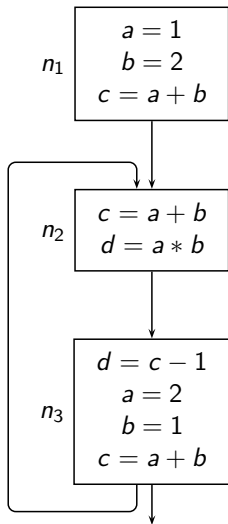


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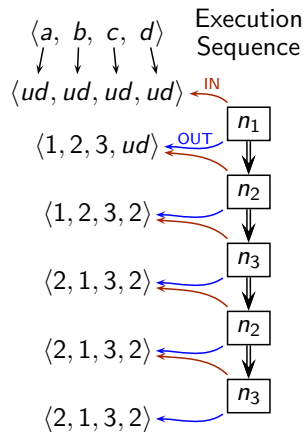
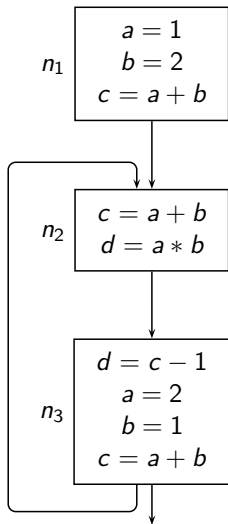




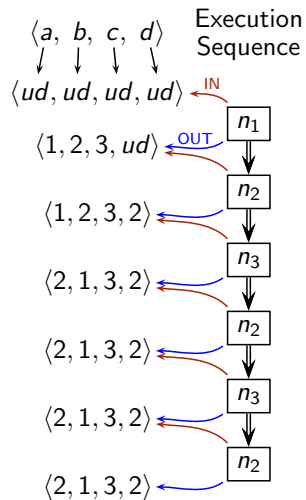
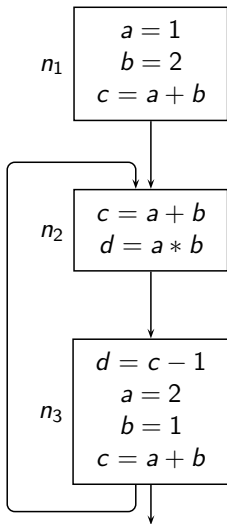
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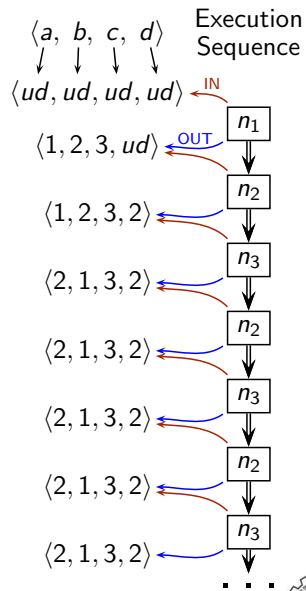
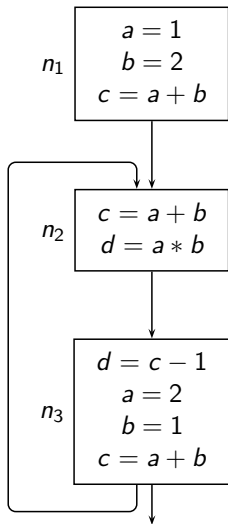
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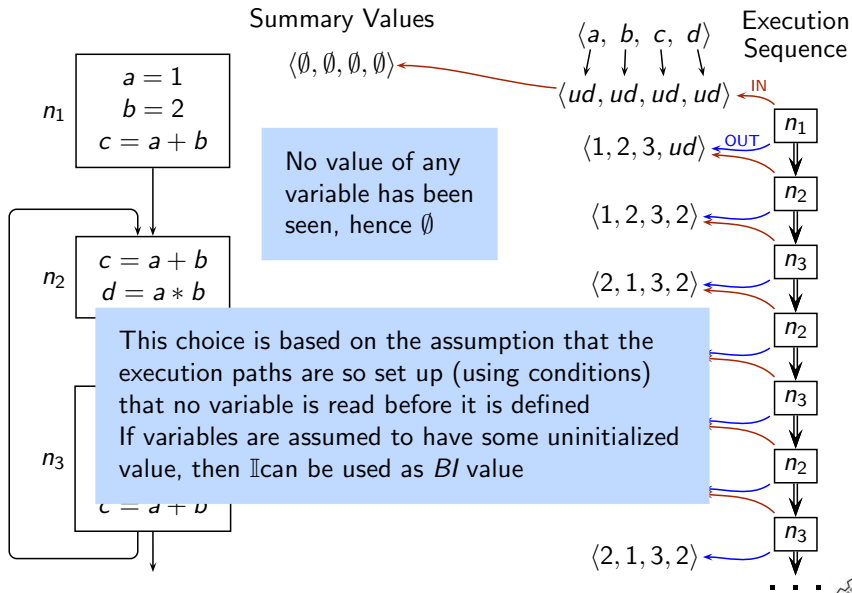
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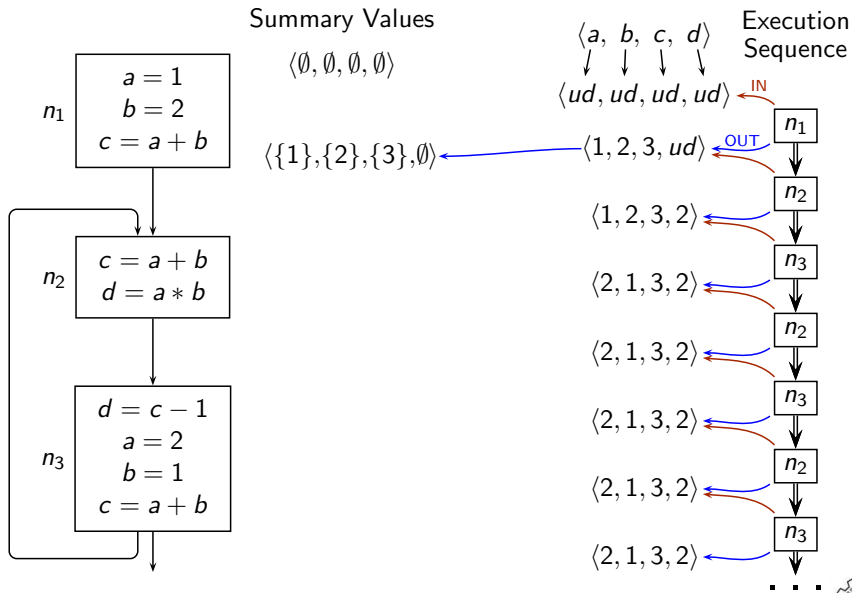
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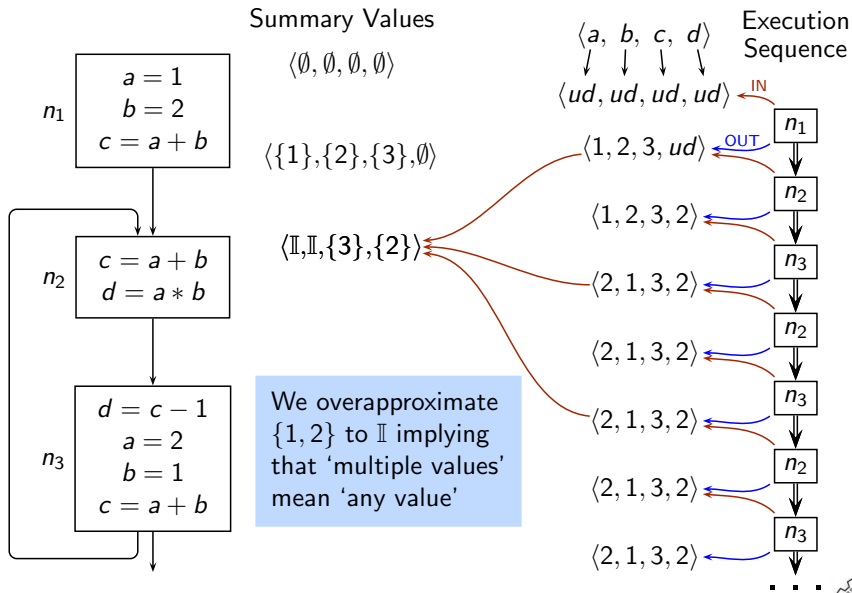
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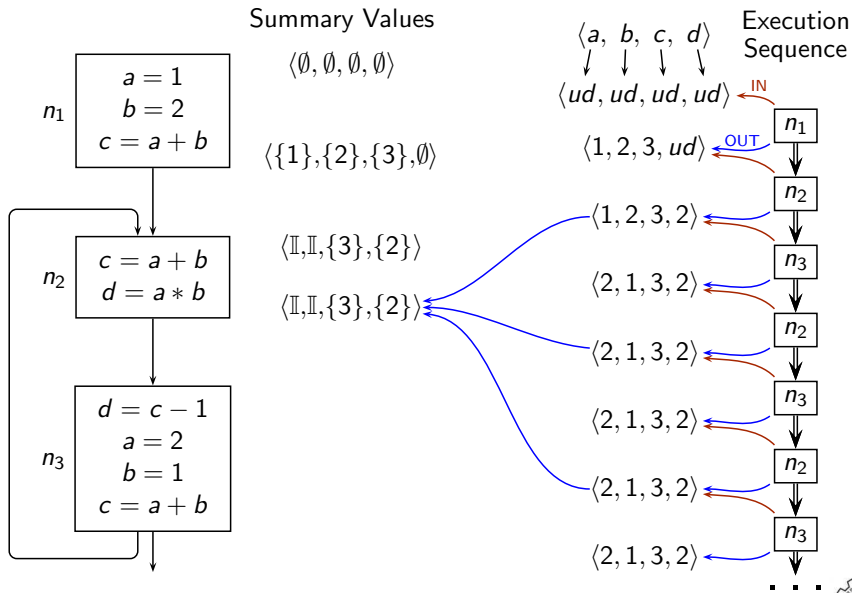
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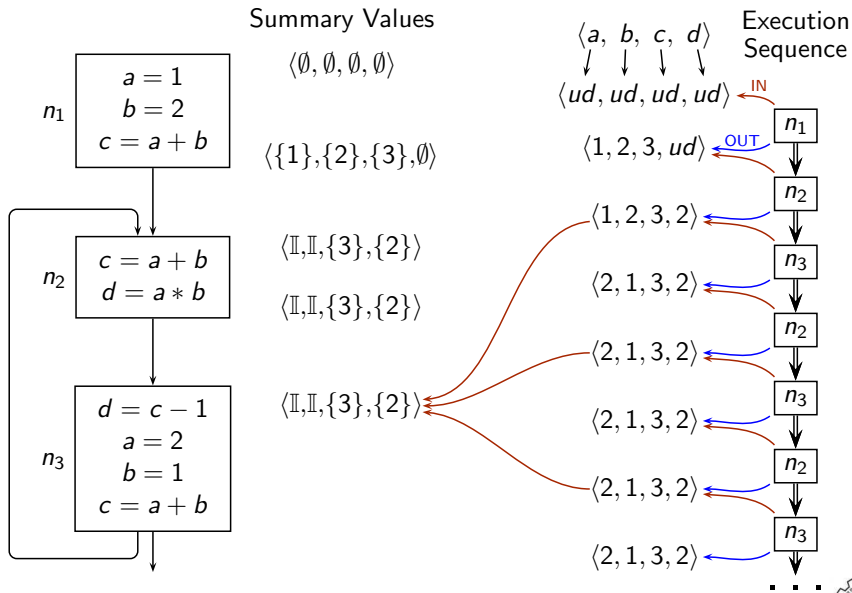


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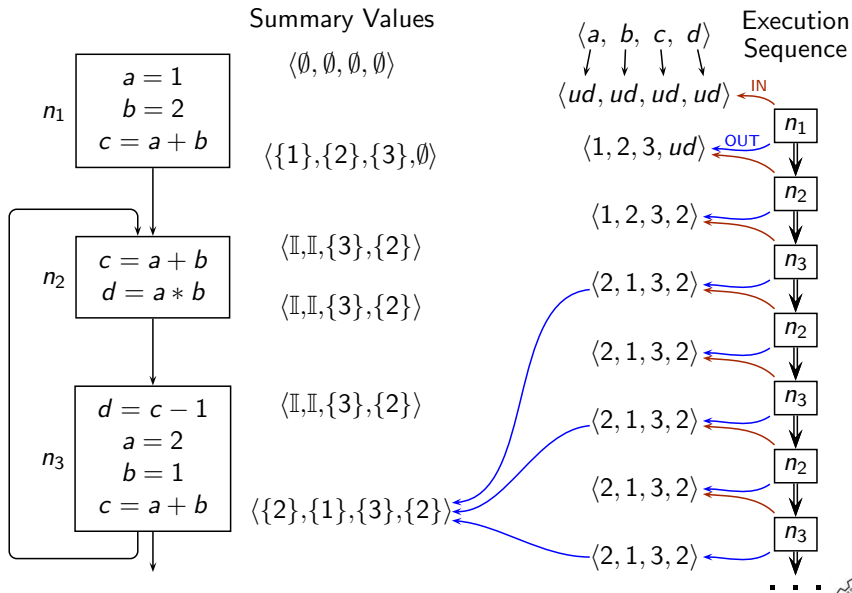




# An Introduction to Constant Propagation

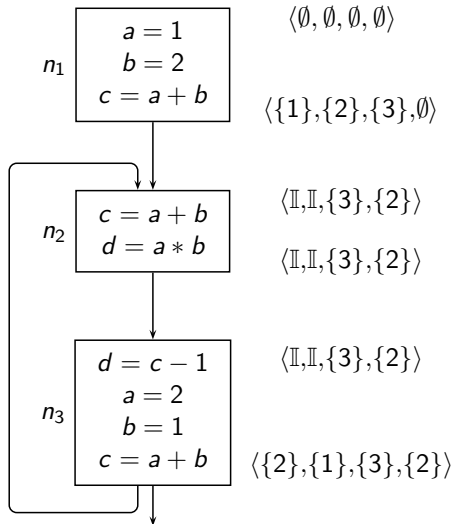


# An Introduction to Constant Propagation



# An Introduction to Constant Propagation

## Summary Values



Desired Solution



## Difference #1: Data Flow Values

- Tuples of the form  $\langle \eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_k \rangle$   
Or sets of pairs  $(v_i, \eta_i)$  or  $(v_i \mapsto \eta_i)$  where  $\eta_i$  is the data flow value for  $i^{\text{th}}$  variable

Unlike live variables analysis, value  $\eta_i$  is not 0 or 1 (i.e. true or false). Instead, it is one of the following:

- $\emptyset$  indicating that no values is known for  $v_i$
- $\mathbb{I}$  indicating that variable  $v_i$  could have multiple values
- Set  $\{c_1\}$  if the value of  $v_i$  is known to be  $c_1$  at compile time



## Difference #2: Dependence of Data Flow Values Across Entities

- In (simple) live variables analysis, data flow values of different entities are independent  
Liveness of variable  $b$  does not depend on that of any other variable
- Given a statement  $a = b * c$ , can the constantness of  $a$  be determined independently of the constantness of  $b$  and  $c$ ?

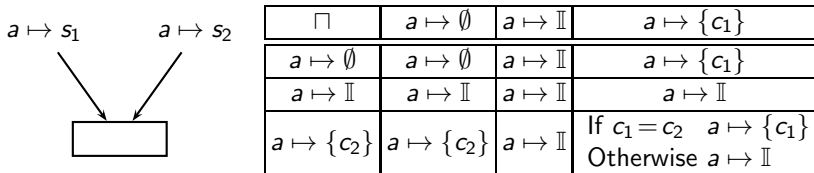
No

This is similar to strong liveness analysis



## Difference #3: Merging Information

- Merging the pairs  $a \mapsto s_1$  and  $a \mapsto s_2$



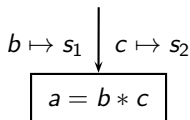
- The merge (or technically, the “meet”) operator is neither  $\cap$  nor  $\cup$

What are its properties?



## Difference #4: Flow Functions for Constant Propagation

- Flow function for  $a = b * c$



<i>mult</i>	$b \mapsto \emptyset$	$b \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$b \mapsto \{c_1\}$
$c \mapsto \emptyset$	$a \mapsto \emptyset$	$a \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$a \mapsto \emptyset$
$c \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$a \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$a \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$a \mapsto \mathbb{I}$
$c \mapsto \{c_2\}$	$a \mapsto \emptyset$	$a \mapsto \mathbb{I}$	$a \mapsto \{c_1 * c_2\}$

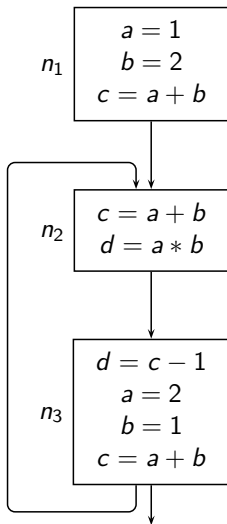
- This cannot be expressed in the form

$$f_n(X) = \text{Gen}_n \cup (X - \text{Kill}_n)$$

where  $\text{Gen}_n$  and  $\text{Kill}_n$  are constant effects of block  $n$



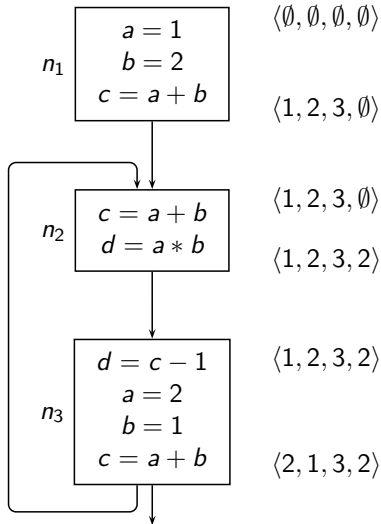
# Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method





## Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method

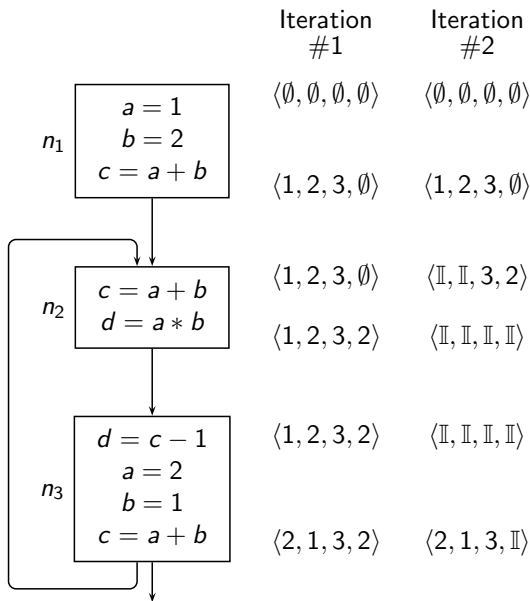
Iteration  
#1



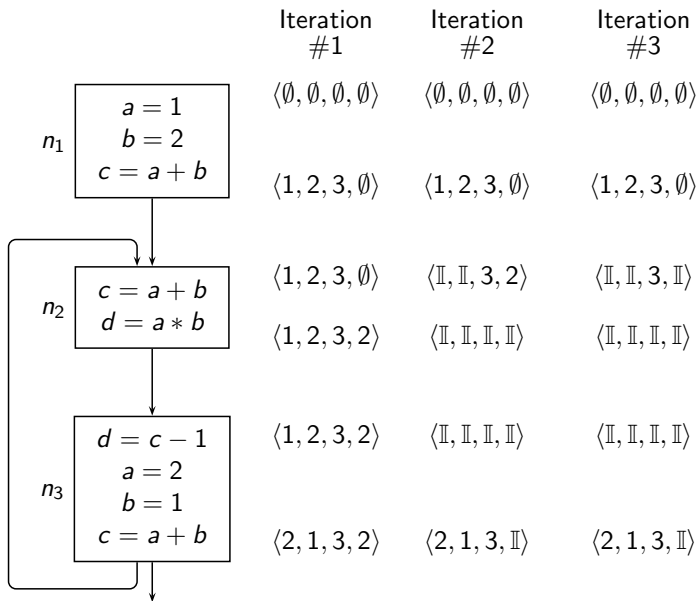
For convenience,  
we omit the braces for  
singleton sets



## Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method



## Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method



## Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method

	Iteration #1	Iteration #2	Iteration #3	Desired solution
<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <math>n_1</math> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <math>a = 1</math>  <math>b = 2</math>  <math>c = a + b</math> </div> </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <math>n_2</math> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <math>c = a + b</math>  <math>d = a * b</math> </div> </div> <div> <math>n_3</math> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <math>d = c - 1</math>  <math>a = 2</math>  <math>b = 1</math>  <math>c = a + b</math> </div> </div> </div>	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
	$\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$

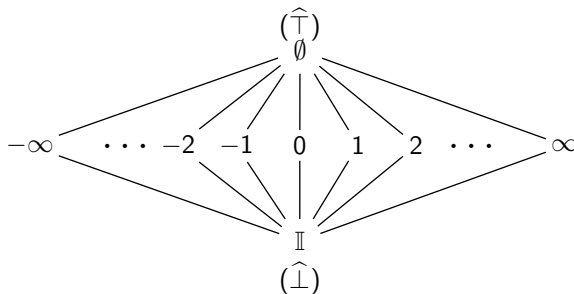


## Difference #5: Solution Computed by Iterative Method

	Iteration #1	Iteration #2	Iteration #3	Desired solution
$n_1$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <math>a = 1</math>  <math>b = 2</math>  <math>c = a + b</math> </div>	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, \emptyset \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
$n_2$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <math>c = a + b</math>  <math>d = a * b</math> </div>	$\langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
	$\langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
$n_3$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <math>d = c - 1</math>  <math>a = 2</math>  <math>b = 1</math>  <math>c = a + b</math> </div>	$\langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II}, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle \text{II}, \text{II}, 3, 2 \rangle$
	$\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, \text{II} \rangle$	$\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$



# Component Lattice for Integer Constant Propagation



$\hat{n}$	$\langle v, \hat{T} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	$\langle v, c_1 \rangle$
$\langle v, \hat{T} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{T} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	$\langle v, c_1 \rangle$
$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$
$\langle v, c_2 \rangle$	$\langle v, c_2 \rangle$	$\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$	If $c_1 = c_2$ then $\langle v, c_1 \rangle$ else $\langle v, \hat{I} \rangle$



## Overall Lattice for Integer Constant Propagation

- $In_n/Out_n$  values are mappings  $\mathbb{Var} \rightarrow \hat{L}$ :  $In_n, Out_n \in \mathbb{Var} \rightarrow \hat{L}$
- Overall lattice  $L$  is a set of mappings  $\mathbb{Var} \rightarrow \hat{L}$ :  $L = \mathbb{Var} \rightarrow \hat{L}$
- $\sqcap$  and  $\hat{\sqcap}$  get defined by  $\sqsubseteq$  and  $\hat{\sqsubseteq}$ 
  - Partial order is restricted to data flow values of the same variable  
Data flow values of different variables are incomparable

$$(x, v_1) \sqsubseteq (y, v_2) \Leftrightarrow x = y \wedge v_1 \hat{\sqsubseteq} v_2$$

OR

$$x \mapsto v_1 \sqsubseteq y \mapsto v_2 \Leftrightarrow x = y \wedge v_1 \hat{\sqsubseteq} v_2$$

- For meet operation, we assume that  $X$  is a total function  
Partial functions are made total by using  $\hat{\top}$  value

$$X \sqcap Y = \{(x, v_1 \hat{\sqcap} v_2) \mid (x, v_1) \in X, (x, v_2) \in Y\}$$

OR

$$X \sqcap Y = \{x \mapsto v_1 \hat{\sqcap} v_2 \mid x \mapsto v_1 \in X, x \mapsto v_2 \in Y\}$$



## Notations for Mappings as Data Flow Values

Accessing and manipulating a mapping  $X \subseteq A \rightarrow B$

- $X(a)$  denotes the image of  $a \in A$   
 $X(a) \in B$
- $X[a \mapsto v]$  changes the image of  $a$  in  $X$  to  $v$

$$X[a \mapsto v] = (X - \{(a, u) \mid u \in B\}) \cup \{(a, v)\}$$





# Defining Data Flow Equations for Constant Propagation

$$\begin{aligned}
 In_n &= \begin{cases} BI = \{(y, \hat{\top}) \mid y \in \mathbb{V}\text{ar}\} & n = \textit{Start} \\ \prod_{p \in \textit{pred}(n)} Out_p & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 Out_n &= f_n(In_n) \\
 f_n(X) &= \begin{cases} X[y \mapsto c] & n \text{ is } y = c, y \in \mathbb{V}\text{ar}, c \in \mathbb{C}\text{onst} \\ X[y \mapsto \hat{\perp}] & n \text{ is } \textit{input}(y), y \in \textit{var} \\ X[y \mapsto X(z)] & n \text{ is } y = z, y \in \mathbb{V}\text{ar}, z \in \mathbb{V}\text{ar} \\ X[y \mapsto \textit{eval}(e, X)] & n \text{ is } y = e, y \in \mathbb{V}\text{ar}, e \in \mathbb{E}\text{xpr} \\ X & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Defining Data Flow Equations for Constant Propagation

$$In_n = \begin{cases} BI = \{(y, \hat{\top}) \mid y \in \text{Var}\} & n = \textit{Start} \\ \prod_{p \in \textit{pred}(n)} Out_p & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$Out_n = f_n(In_n)$$

$$f_n(X) = \begin{cases} X[y \mapsto c] & n \text{ is } y = c, y \in \text{Var}, c \in \text{Const} \\ X[y \mapsto \hat{\perp}] & n \text{ is } \textit{input}(y), y \in \text{var} \\ X[y \mapsto X(z)] & n \text{ is } y = z, y \in \text{Var}, z \in \text{Var} \\ X[y \mapsto \textit{eval}(e, X)] & n \text{ is } y = e, y \in \text{Var}, e \in \text{Expr} \\ X & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\textit{eval}(e, X) = \begin{cases} \hat{\perp} & a \in \textit{Opd}(e) \cap \text{Var}, X(a) = \hat{\perp} \\ \hat{\top} & a \in \textit{Opd}(e) \cap \text{Var}, X(a) = \hat{\top} \\ -X(a) & e \text{ is } -a \\ X(a) \oplus X(b) & e \text{ is } a \oplus b \end{cases}$$



## Tutorial Problem for Constant Propagation

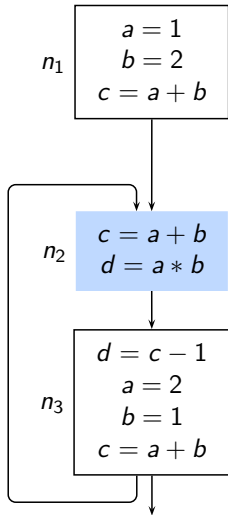
- Construct a CFG corresponding to this program and perform constant propagation

```
int f ()
{ int a, b, c, d;
  for (i=0; i<n; i++)
  { if (i==m+3)
    a=b+1;
    else if (i==m+2)
    b=c+1;
    else if (i==m+1)
    c=d+1;
    else if (i==m)
    d=2;
  }
}
```

- Repeat the analysis assuming  $BI$  to be  $\hat{\perp}$  for all variables

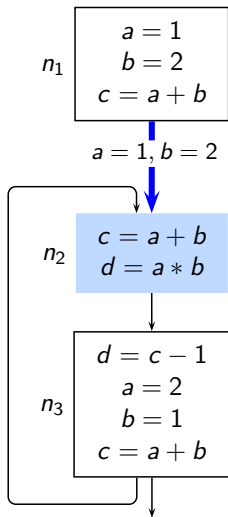


# Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation

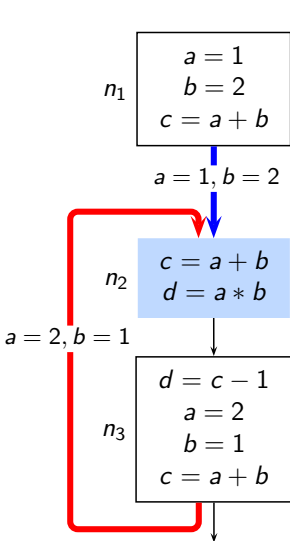


# Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation

- $x = \langle 1, 2, 3, \widehat{\top} \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_1} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )



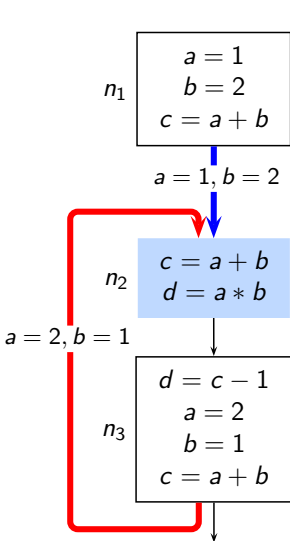
# Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation



- $x = \langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_1} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- $y = \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_3} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )



## Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation

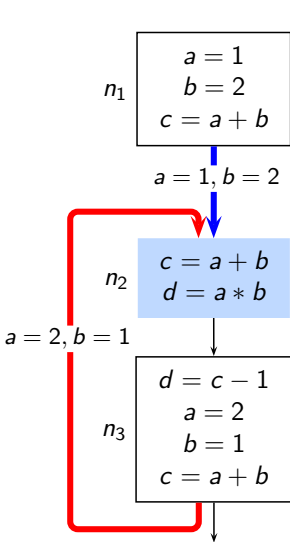


- $x = \langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_1} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- $y = \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_3} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- Function application for block  $n_2$  before merging

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) \sqcap f(y) &= f(\langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle) \sqcap f(\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle) \\
 &= \langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle \sqcap \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, 3, 2 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$



## Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation



- $x = \langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_1} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- $y = \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_3} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
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 &= \langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle \sqcap \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, 3, 2 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

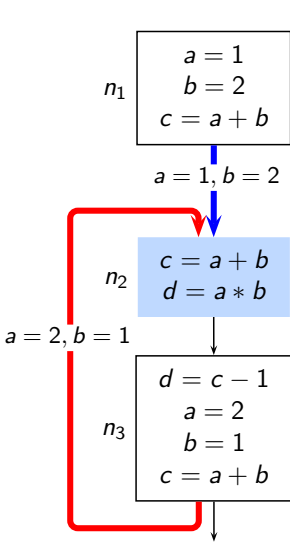
- Function application for block  $n_2$  after merging

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x \sqcap y) &= f(\langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle \sqcap \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle) \\
 &= f(\langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, 3, 2 \rangle) \\
 &= \langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp} \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$





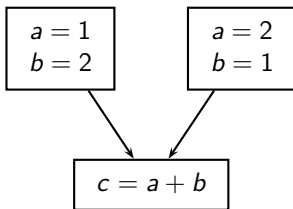
# Non-Distributivity of Constant Propagation



- $x = \langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_1} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- $y = \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle$  (Along  $Out_{n_3} \rightarrow In_{n_2}$ )
- Function application for block  $n_2$  before merging
 
$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \sqcap f(y) &= f(\langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle) \sqcap f(\langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle) \\ &= \langle 1, 2, 3, 2 \rangle \sqcap \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle \\ &= \langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, 3, 2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$
- Function application for block  $n_2$  after merging
 
$$\begin{aligned} f(x \sqcap y) &= f(\langle 1, 2, 3, \hat{\top} \rangle \sqcap \langle 2, 1, 3, 2 \rangle) \\ &= f(\langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, 3, 2 \rangle) \\ &= \langle \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp}, \hat{\perp} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
- $f(x \sqcap y) \sqsubset f(x) \sqcap f(y)$

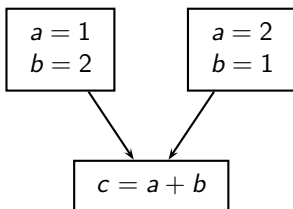


# Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?



# Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?

Possible combinations due to merging



$a = 1$

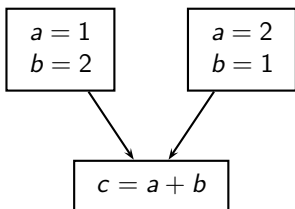
$a = 2$

$b = 1$

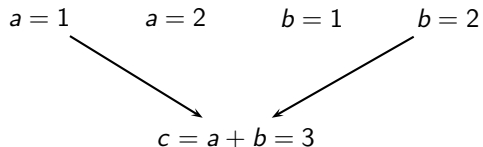
$b = 2$



# Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?



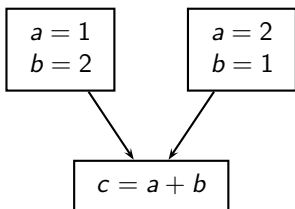
Possible combinations due to merging



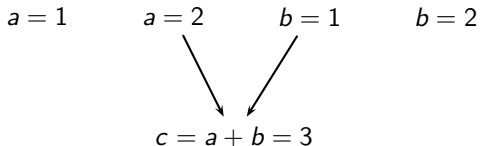
- Correct combination.



# Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?



Possible combinations due to merging

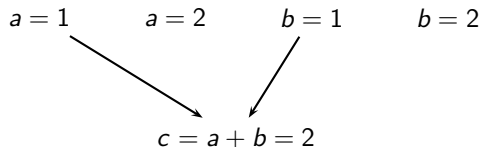
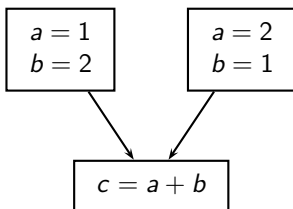


- Correct combination.



## Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?

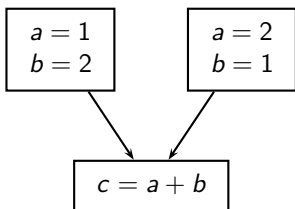
Possible combinations due to merging



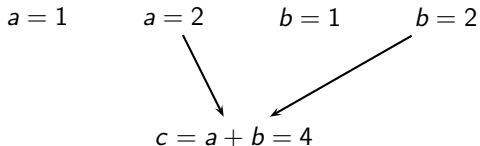
- Wrong combination.
- Mutually exclusive information.
- No execution path along which this information holds.



## Why is Constant Propagation Non-Distributive?



Possible combinations due to merging



- Wrong combination.
- Mutually exclusive information.
- No execution path along which this information holds.

