

**6.035**  
Spring 2010

**Lecture 10: Introduction to  
Dataflow Analysis**

# Value Numbering Summary

- Forward symbolic execution of basic block
- Maps
  - Var2Val – symbolic value for each variable
  - Exp2Val – value of each evaluated expression
  - Exp2Tmp – tmp that holds value of each evaluated expression
- Algorithm
  - For each statement
    - If variables in RHS not in the Var2Val add it with a new value
    - If RHS expression in Exp2Tmp use that Temp
    - If not add RHS expression to Exp2Val with new value
    - Copy the value into a new tmp and add to EXp2Tmp

# Copy Propagation Summary

- Forward Propagation within basic block
- Maps
  - tmp2var: tells which variable to use instead of a given temporary variable
  - var2set: inverse of tmp to var. tells which temps are mapped to a given variable by tmp to var

## Algorithm

- For each statement
  - If any tmp variable in the RHS is in tmp2var replace it with var
  - If LHS var in var2set remove the variables in the set in tmp2var

# Dead Code Elimination Summary

- Backward Propagation within basic block
- Map
  - A set of variables that are needed later in computation
- Algorithm
  - Every statement encountered
    - If LHS is not in the set, remove the statement
    - Else put all the variables in the RHS into the set

# Summary So far... what's next

- Till now: How to analyze and transform within a basic block
- Next: How to do it for the entire procedure

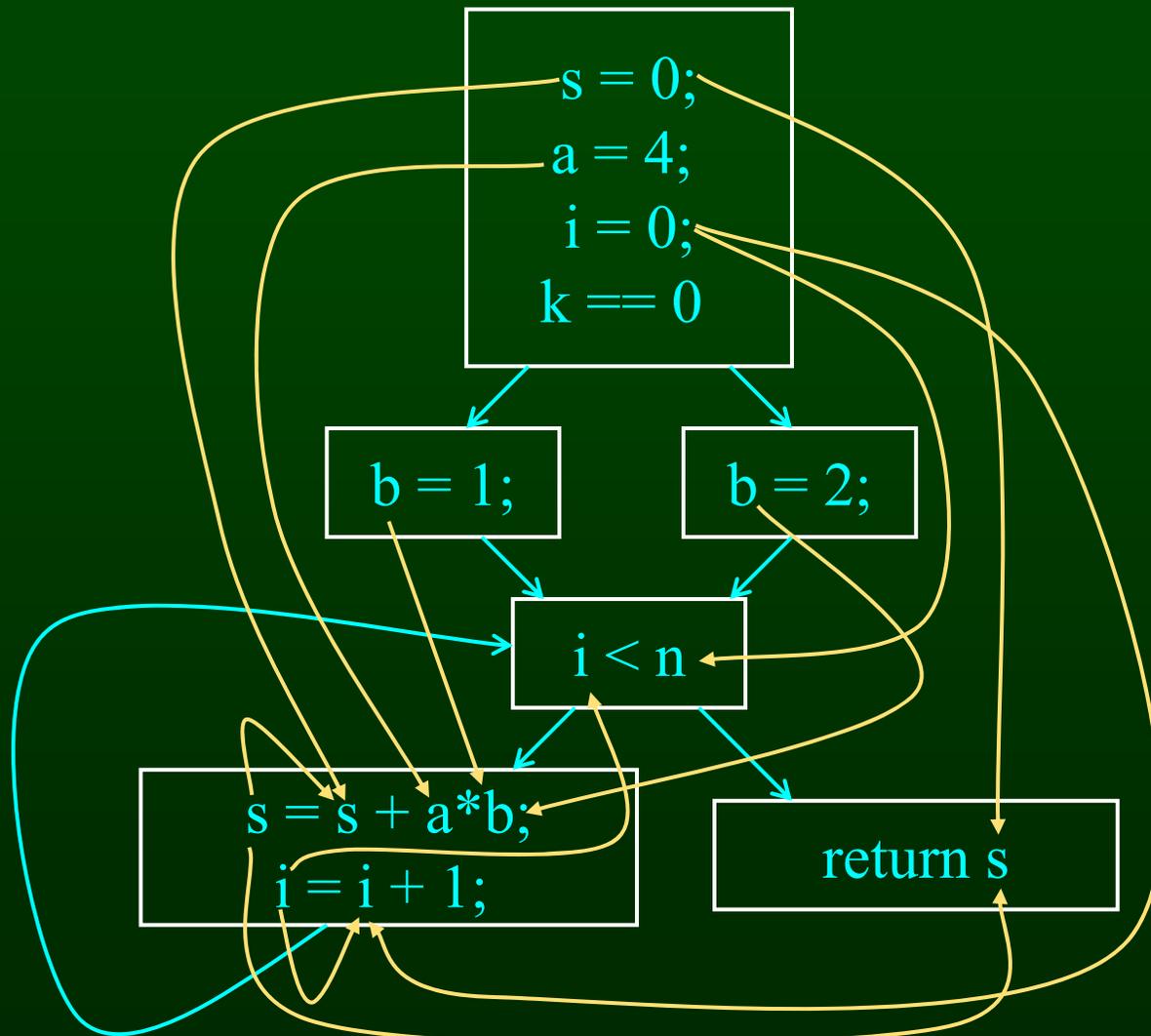
# Outline

- Reaching Definitions
- Available Expressions
- Liveness

# Reaching Definitions

- Concept of definition and use
  - $a = x + y$
  - is a definition of  $a$
  - is a use of  $x$  and  $y$
- A definition reaches a use if
  - value written by definition
  - **may** be read by use

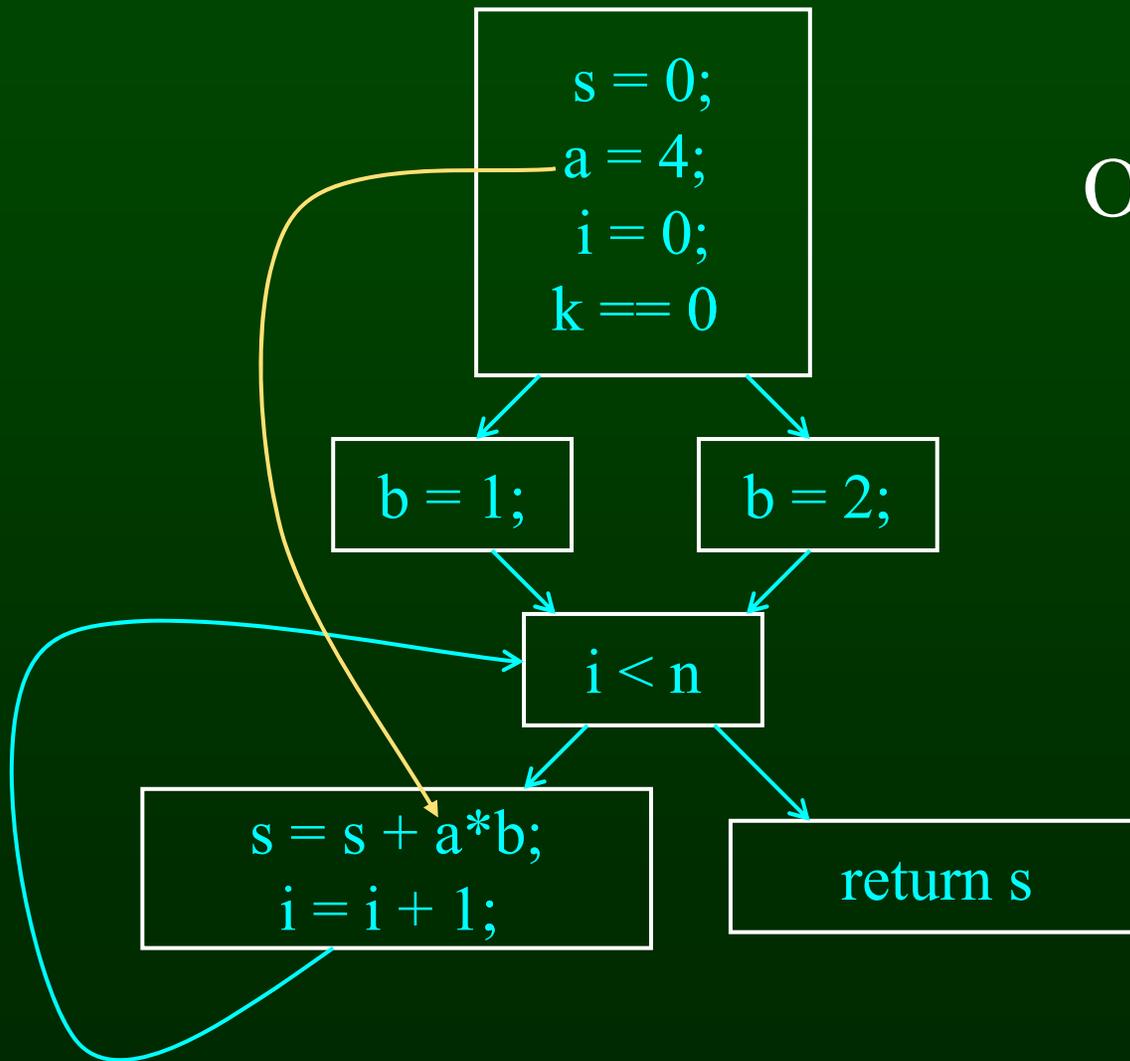
# Reaching Definitions



# Reaching Definitions and Constant Propagation

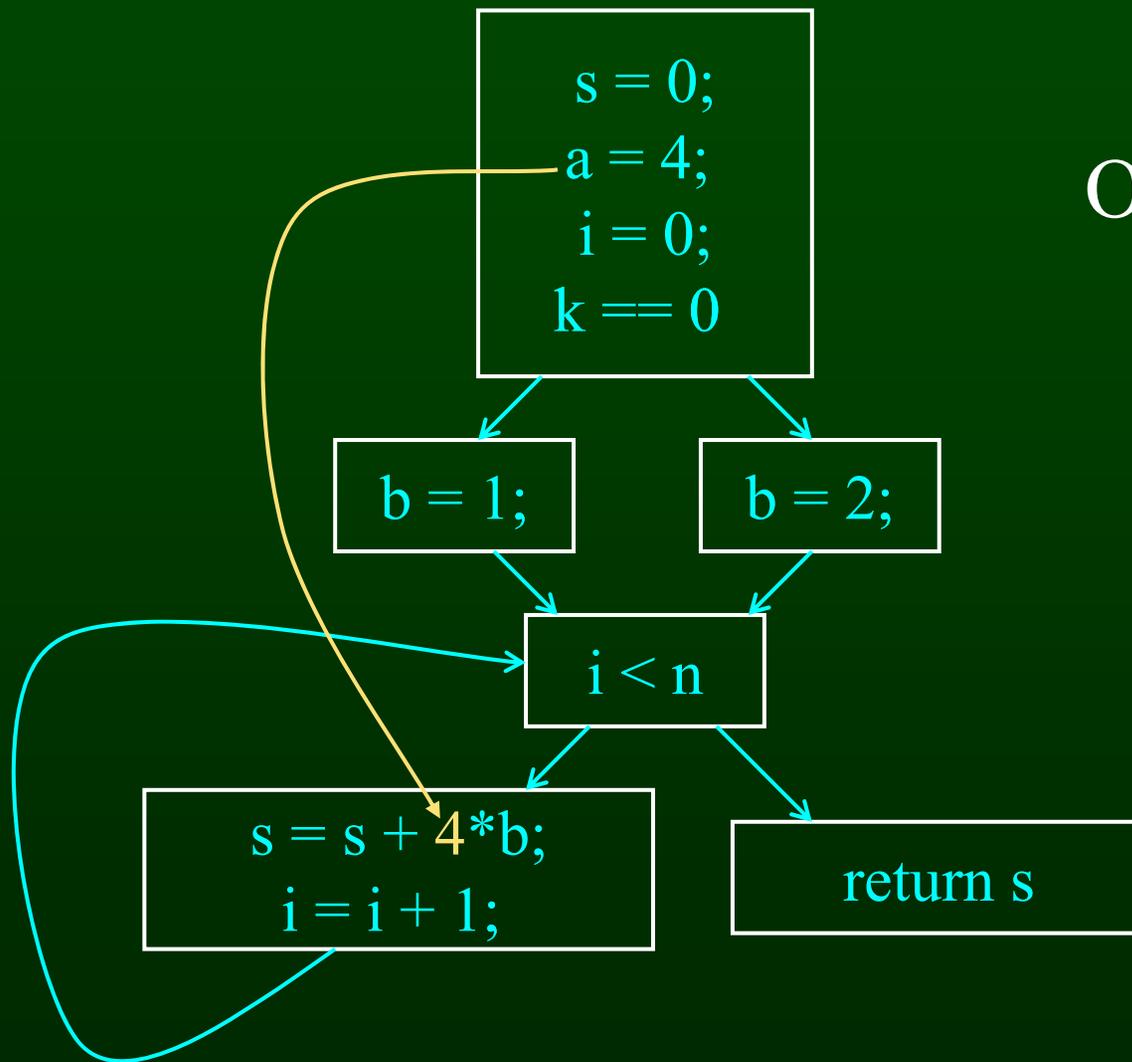
- Is a use of a variable a constant?
  - Check all reaching definitions
  - If all assign variable to same constant
  - Then use is in fact a constant
- Can replace variable with constant

# Is $a$ Constant in $s = s + a * b$ ?



Yes!  
On all reaching  
definitions  
 $a = 4$

# Constant Propagation Transform

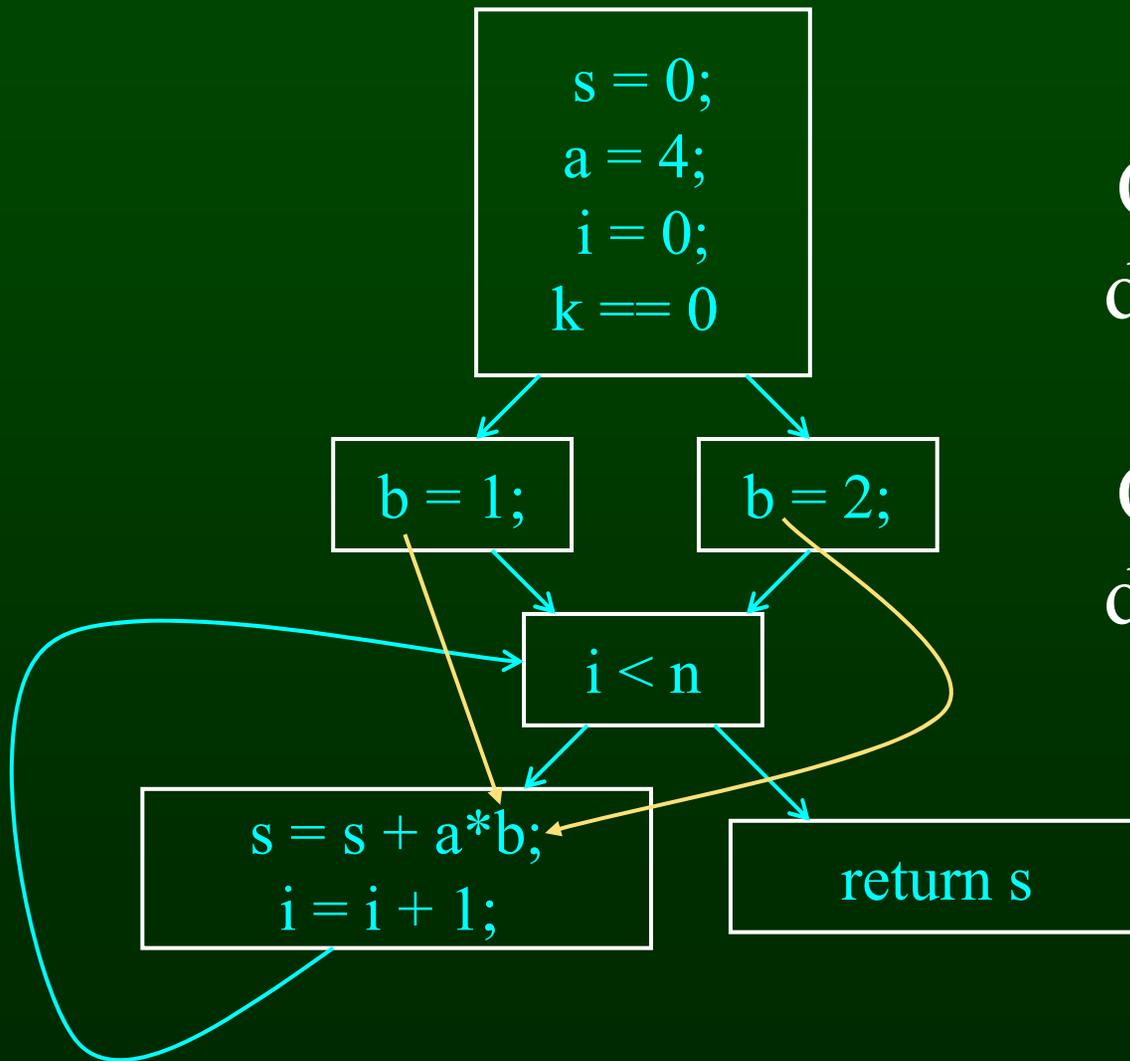


Yes!

On all reaching definitions

`a = 4`

# Is $b$ Constant in $s = s + a * b$ ?



No!

One reaching  
definition with

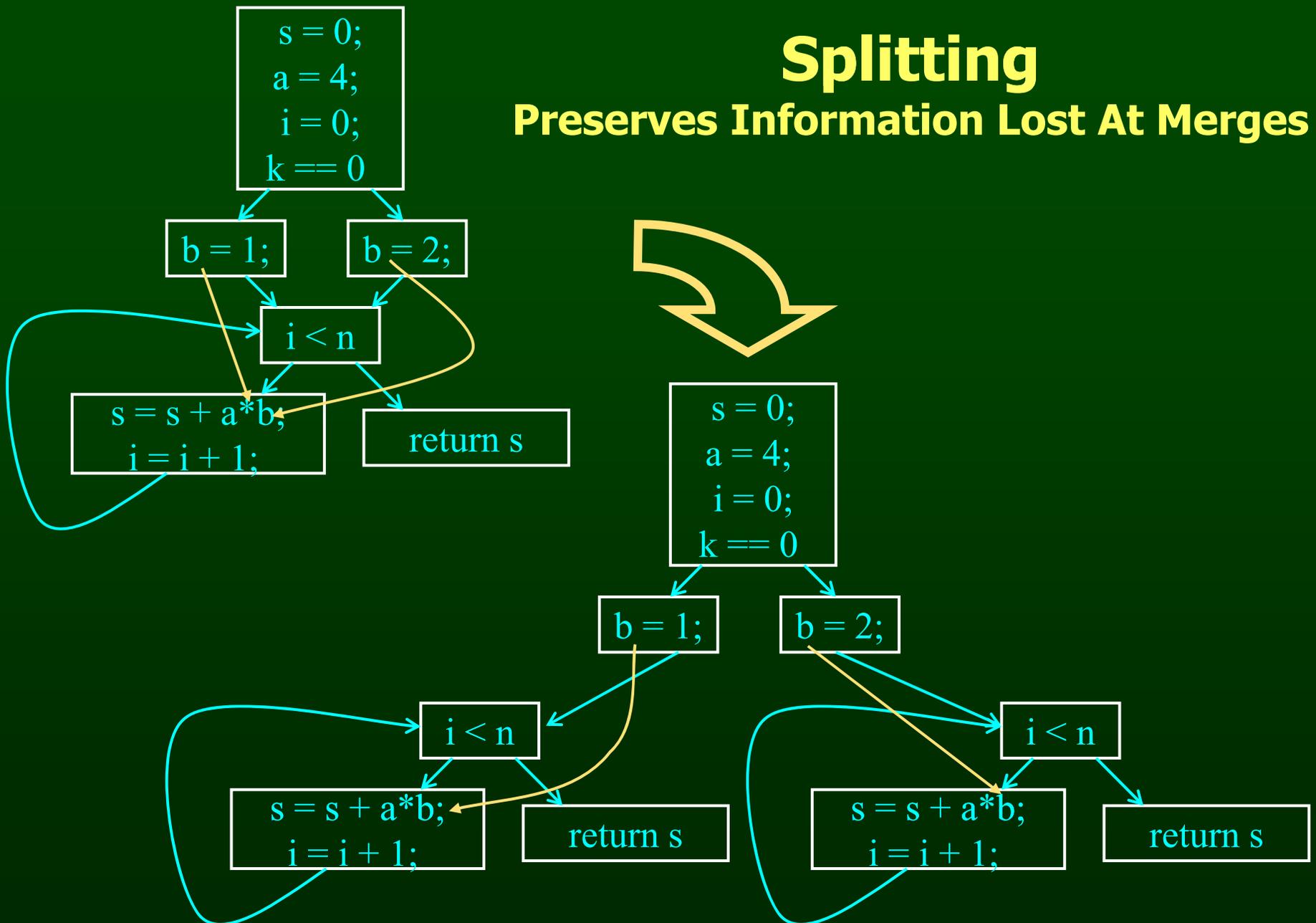
$b = 1$

One reaching  
definition with

$b = 2$

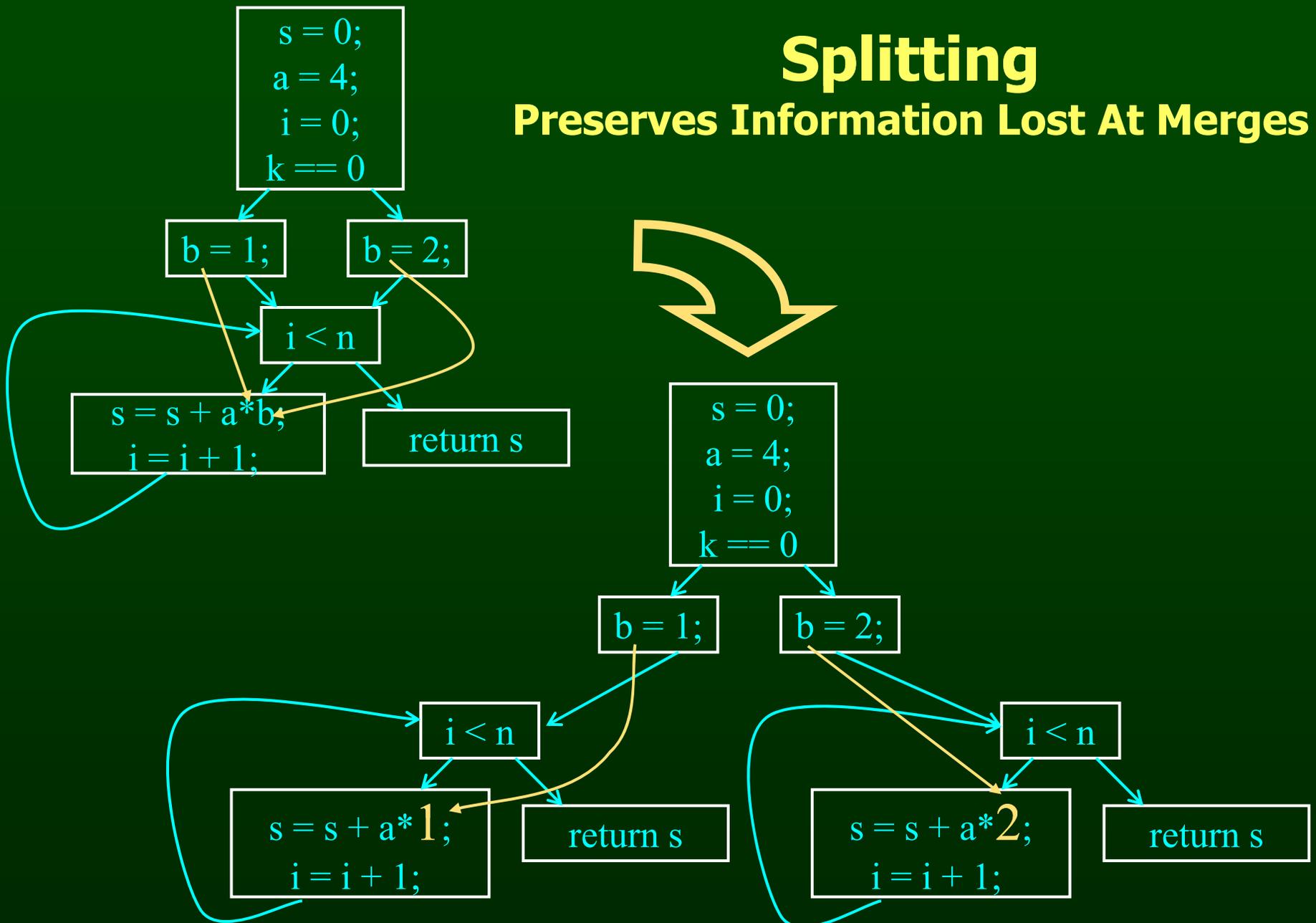
# Splitting

Preserves Information Lost At Merges



# Splitting

Preserves Information Lost At Merges



# Computing Reaching Definitions

- Compute with sets of definitions
  - represent sets using bit vectors
  - each definition has a position in bit vector
- At each basic block, compute
  - definitions that reach start of block
  - definitions that reach end of block
- Do computation by simulating execution of program until reach fixed point

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
0000000

1: s = 0;  
2: a = 4;  
3: i = 0;  
k == 0  
1110000

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1110000

4: b = 1;  
1111000

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1110000

5: b = 2;  
1110100

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

i < n  
1111111

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

6: s = s + a\*b;  
7: i = i + 1;  
0101111

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

return s  
1111111^

# Formalizing Analysis

- Each basic block has
  - IN - set of definitions that reach beginning of block
  - OUT - set of definitions that reach end of block
  - GEN - set of definitions generated in block
  - KILL - set of definitions killed in block
- $\text{GEN}[s = s + a * b; i = i + 1;] = 0000011$
- $\text{KILL}[s = s + a * b; i = i + 1;] = 1010000$
- Compiler scans each basic block to derive GEN and KILL sets

# Dataflow Equations

- $IN[b] = OUT[b_1] \cup \dots \cup OUT[b_n]$ 
  - where  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are predecessors of  $b$  in CFG
- $OUT[b] = (IN[b] - KILL[b]) \cup GEN[b]$
- $IN[entry] = 0000000$
- Result: system of equations

# Solving Equations

- Use fixed point algorithm
- Initialize with solution of  $OUT[b] = 0000000$
- Repeatedly apply equations
  - $IN[b] = OUT[b_1] \cup \dots \cup OUT[b_n]$
  - $OUT[b] = (IN[b] - KILL[b]) \cup GEN[b]$
- Until reach fixed point
- Until equation application has no further effect
- Use a worklist to track which equation applications may have a further effect

# Reaching Definitions Algorithm

```
for all nodes n in N
    OUT[n] = emptyset; // OUT[n] = GEN[n];
IN[Entry] = emptyset;
OUT[Entry] = GEN[Entry];
Changed = N - { Entry }; // N = all nodes in graph

while (Changed != emptyset)
    choose a node n in Changed;
    Changed = Changed - { n };

    IN[n] = emptyset;
    for all nodes p in predecessors(n)
        IN[n] = IN[n] U OUT[p];

    OUT[n] = GEN[n] U (IN[n] - KILL[n]);

    if (OUT[n] changed)
        for all nodes s in successors(n)
            Changed = Changed U { s };
```

# Questions

- Does the algorithm halt?
  - yes, because transfer function is monotonic
  - if increase IN, increase OUT
  - in limit, all bits are 1
- If bit is 0, does the corresponding definition ever reach basic block?
- If bit is 1, is does the corresponding definition always reach the basic block?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
0000000

1: s = 0;  
2: a = 4;  
3: i = 0;  
k == 0  
1110000

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1110000

4: b = 1;  
1111000

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1110000

5: b = 2;  
1110100

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

i < n  
1111111

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

6: s = s + a\*b;  
7: i = i + 1;  
0101111

1 2 3 4 5 6 7  
1111100

return s  
1111111^

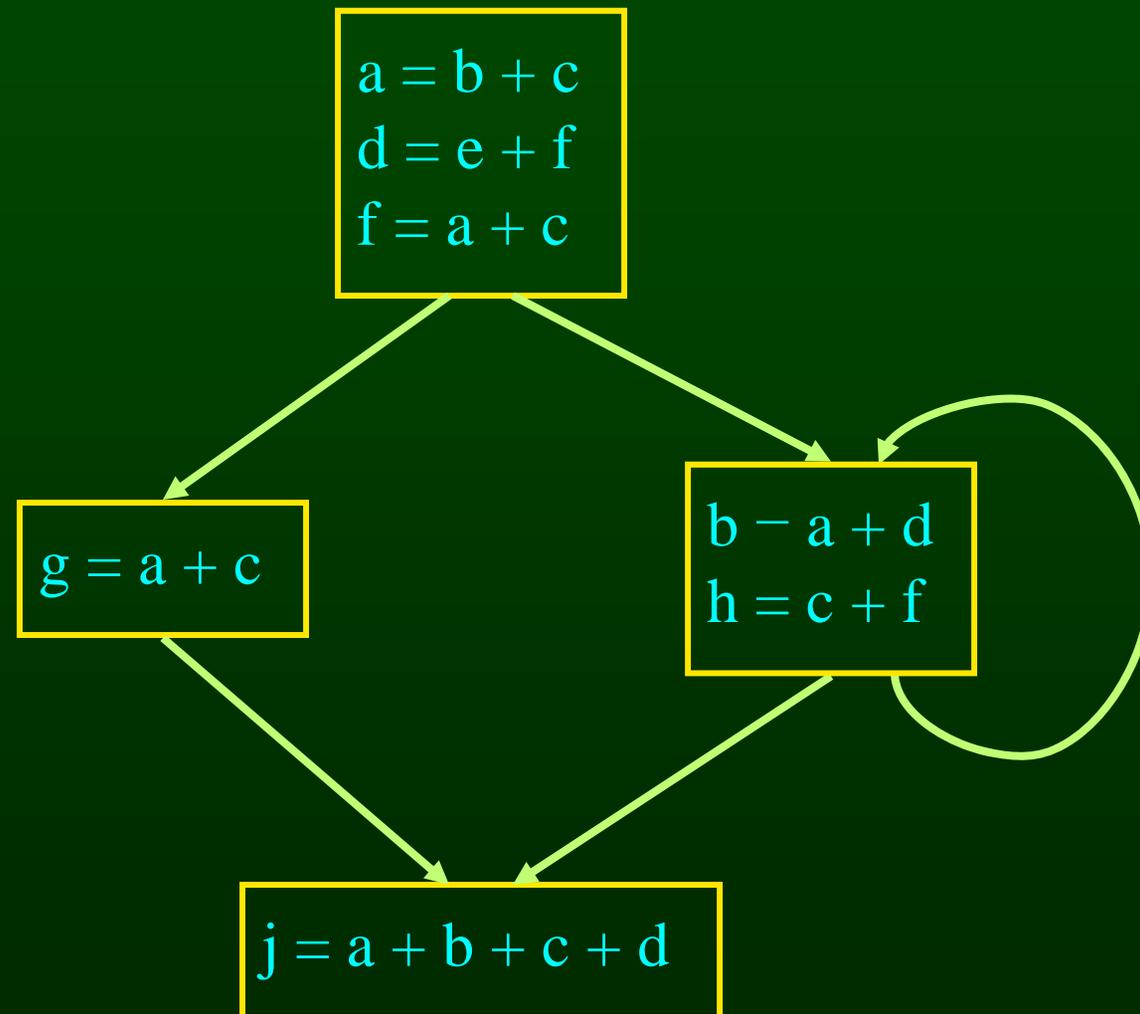
# Outline

- Reaching Definitions
- **Available Expressions**
- Liveness

# Available Expressions

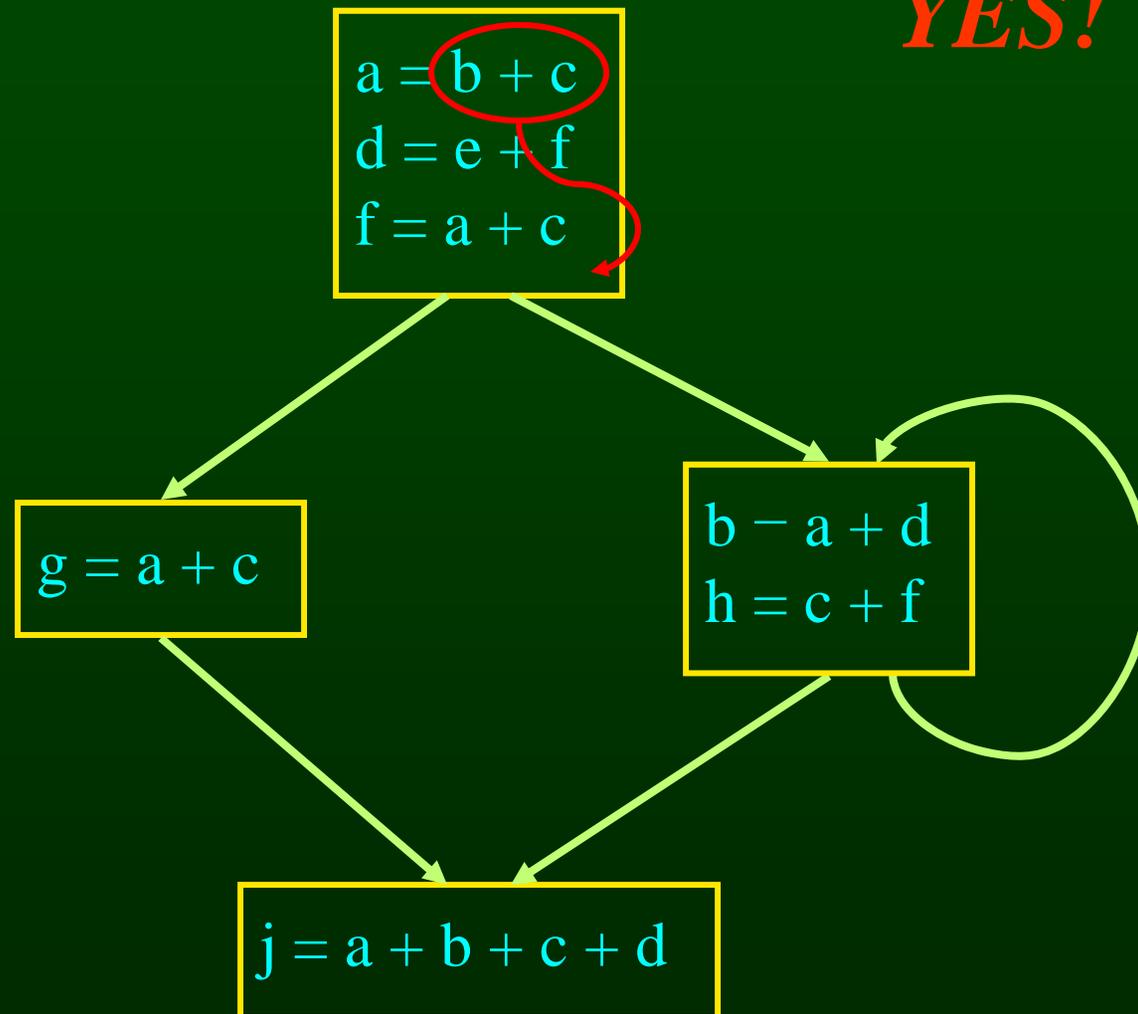
- An expression  $x+y$  is available at a point  $p$  if
  - every path from the initial node to  $p$  must evaluate  $x+y$  before reaching  $p$ ,
  - and there are no assignments to  $x$  or  $y$  after the evaluation but before  $p$ .
- Available Expression information can be used to do global (across basic blocks) CSE
- If expression is available at use, no need to reevaluate it

# Example: Available Expression



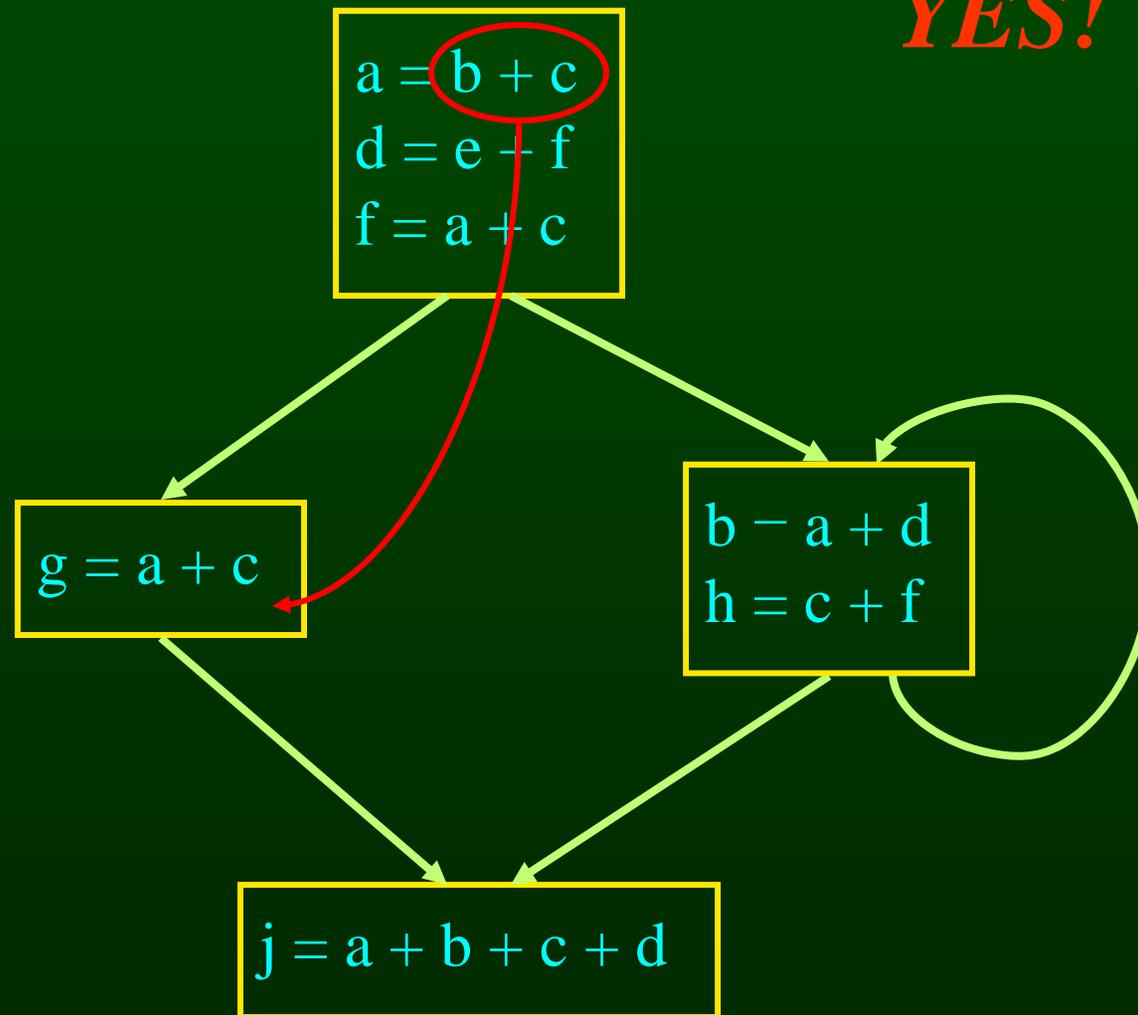
# Is the Expression Available?

**YES!**



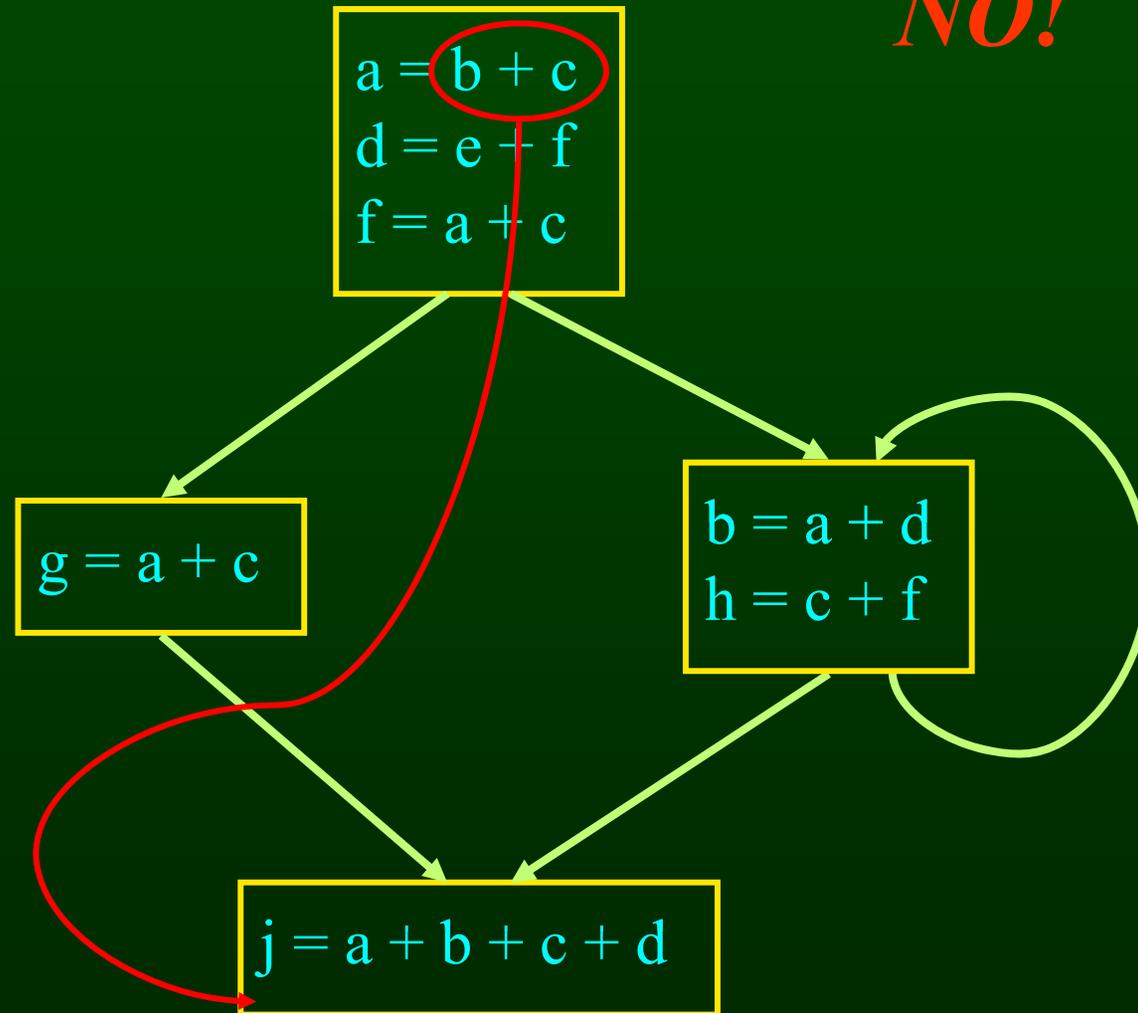
# Is the Expression Available?

**YES!**



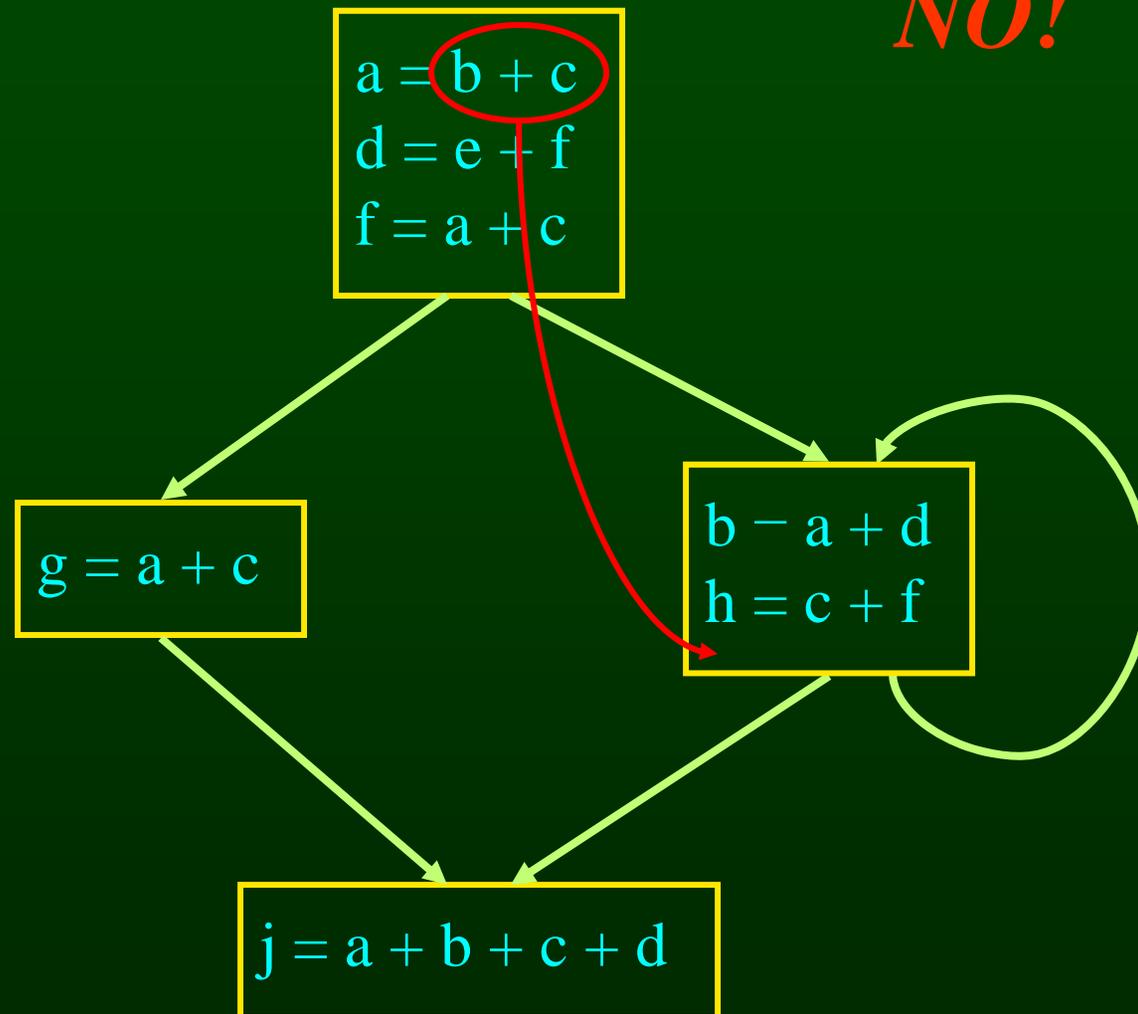
# Is the Expression Available?

*NO!*



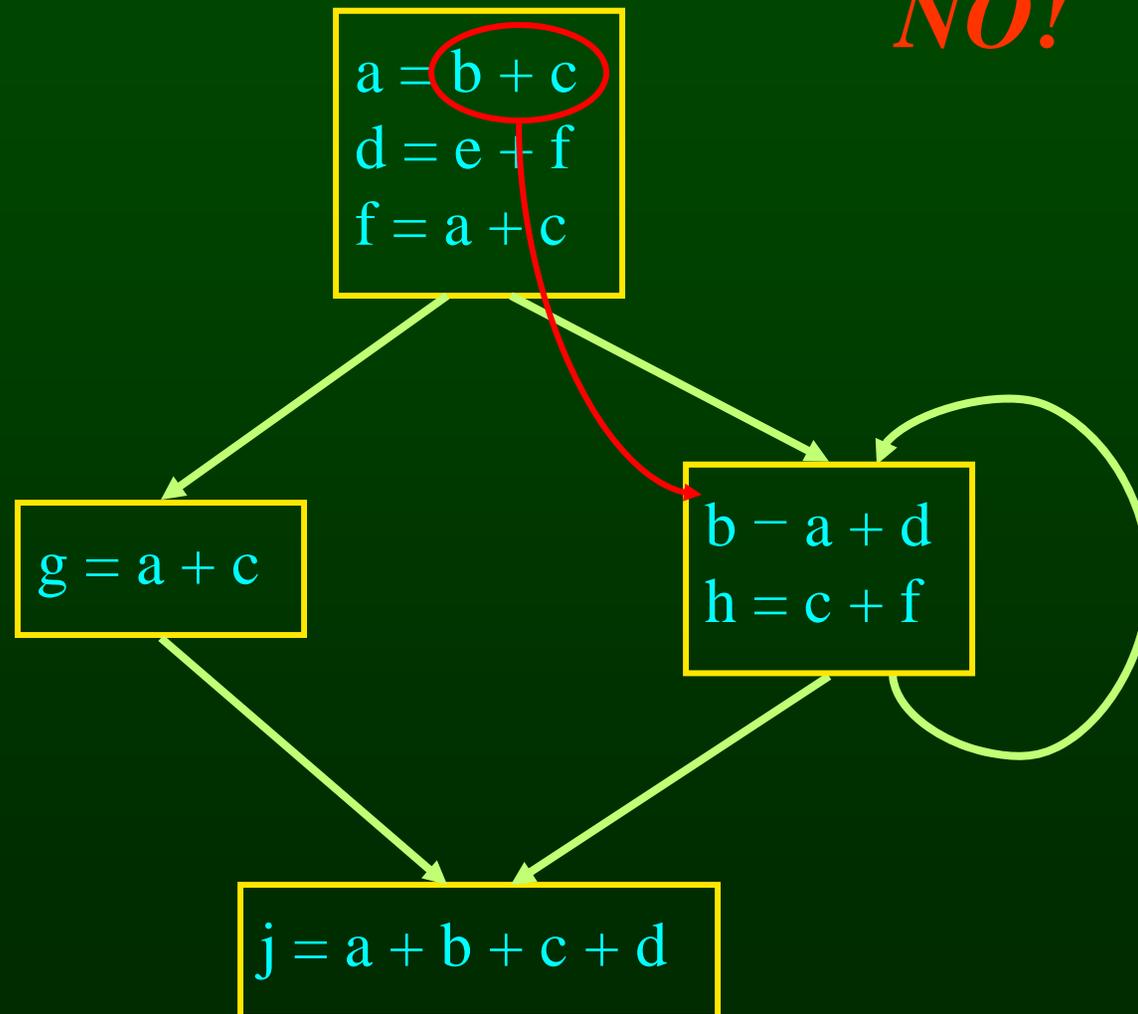
# Is the Expression Available?

*NO!*



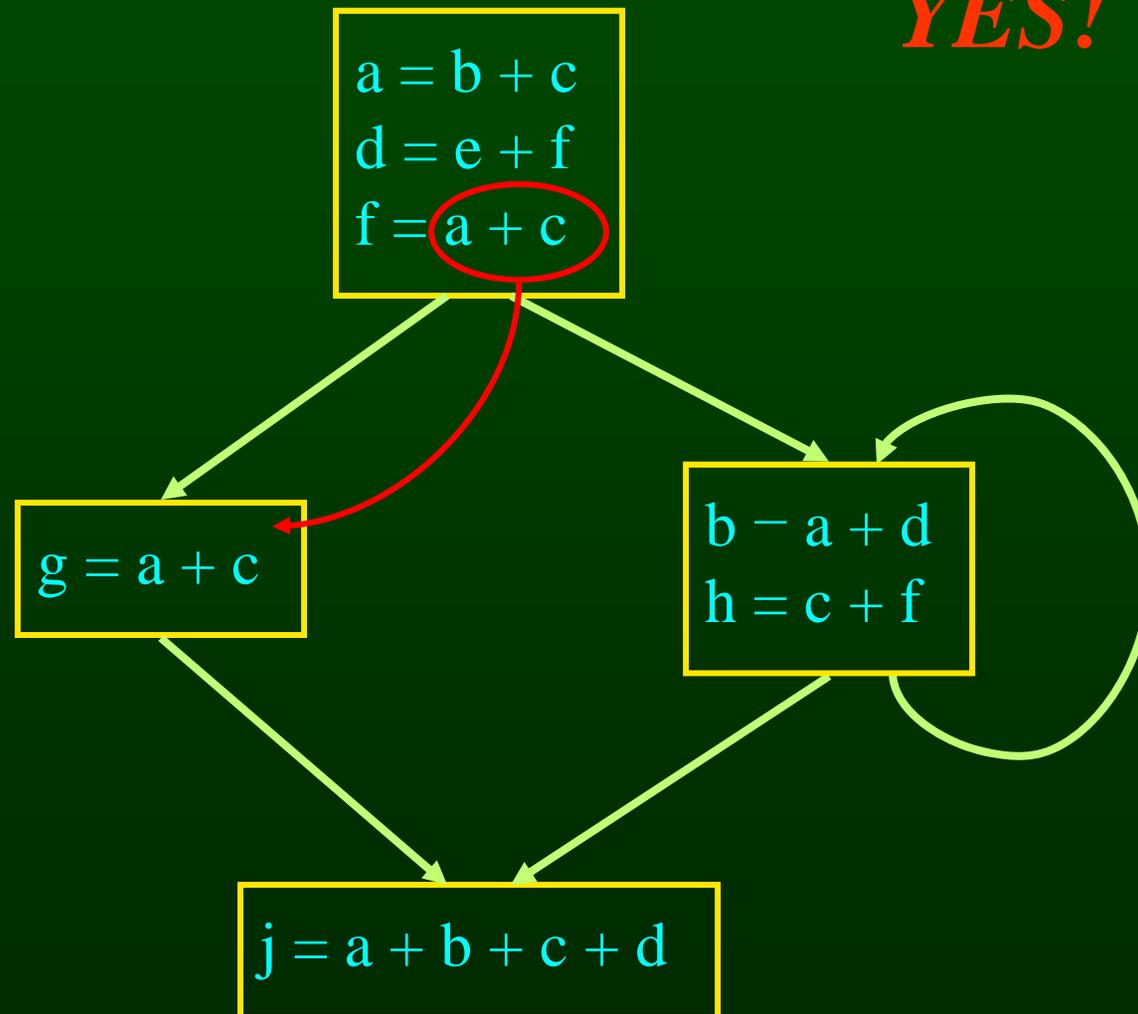
# Is the Expression Available?

*NO!*



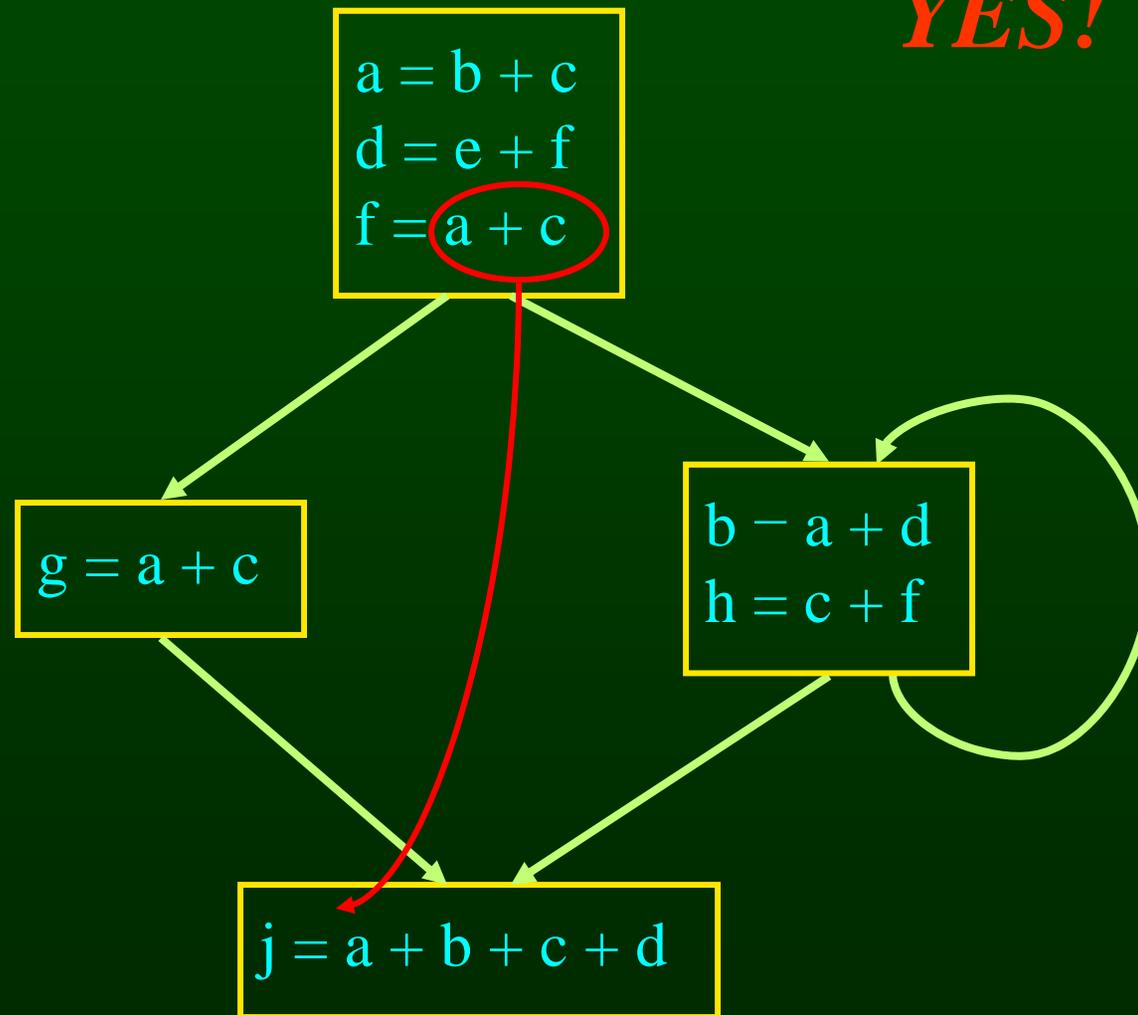
# Is the Expression Available?

**YES!**

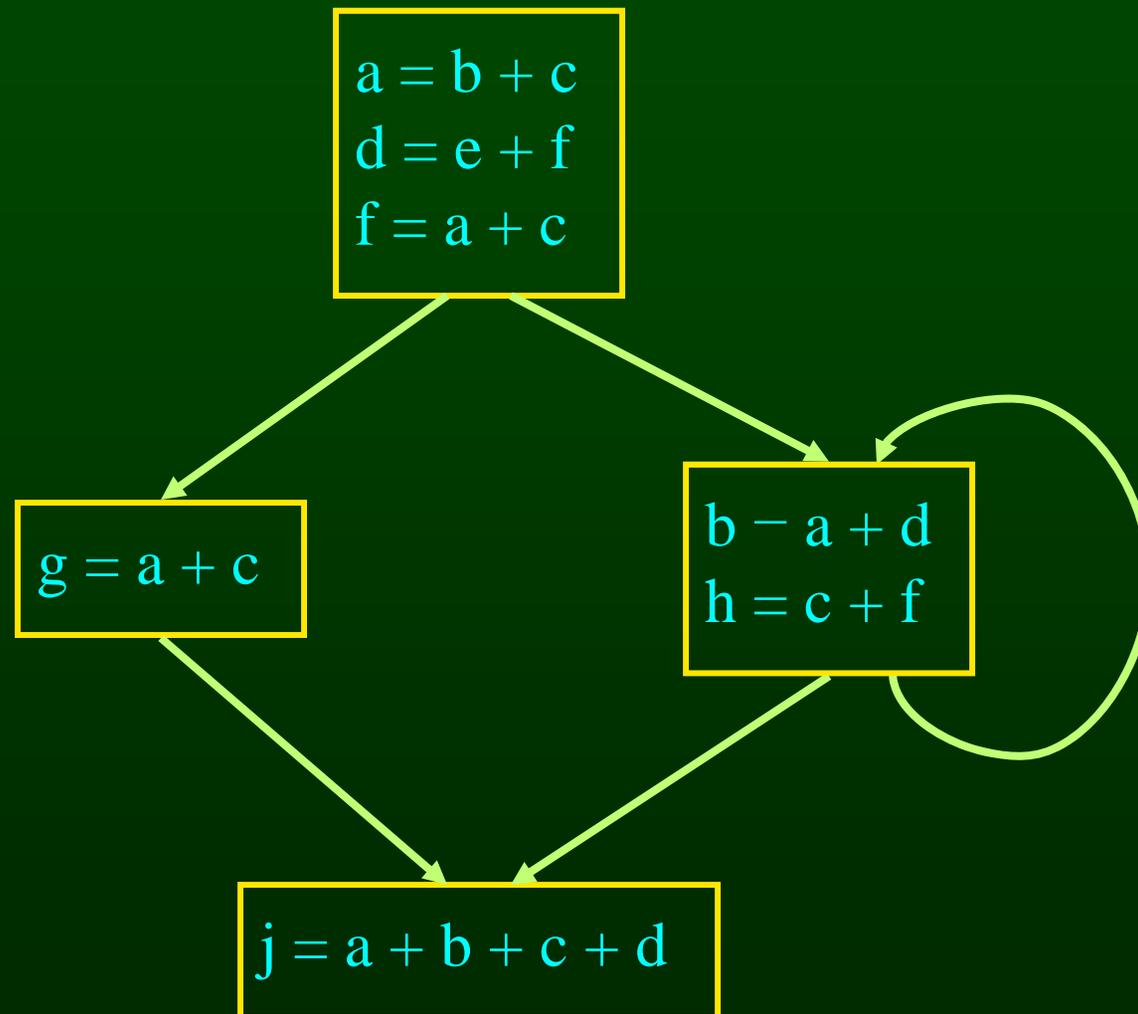


# Is the Expression Available?

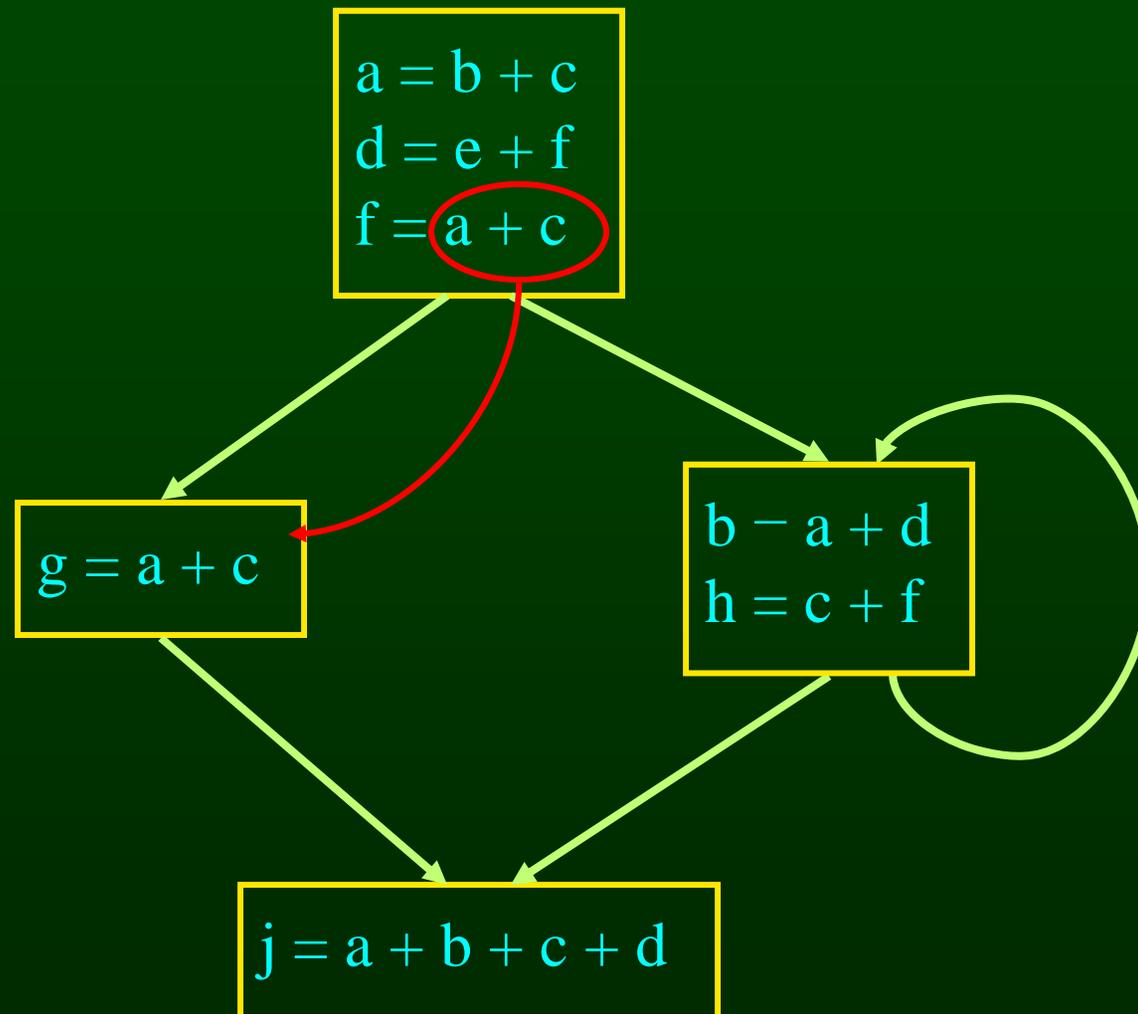
**YES!**



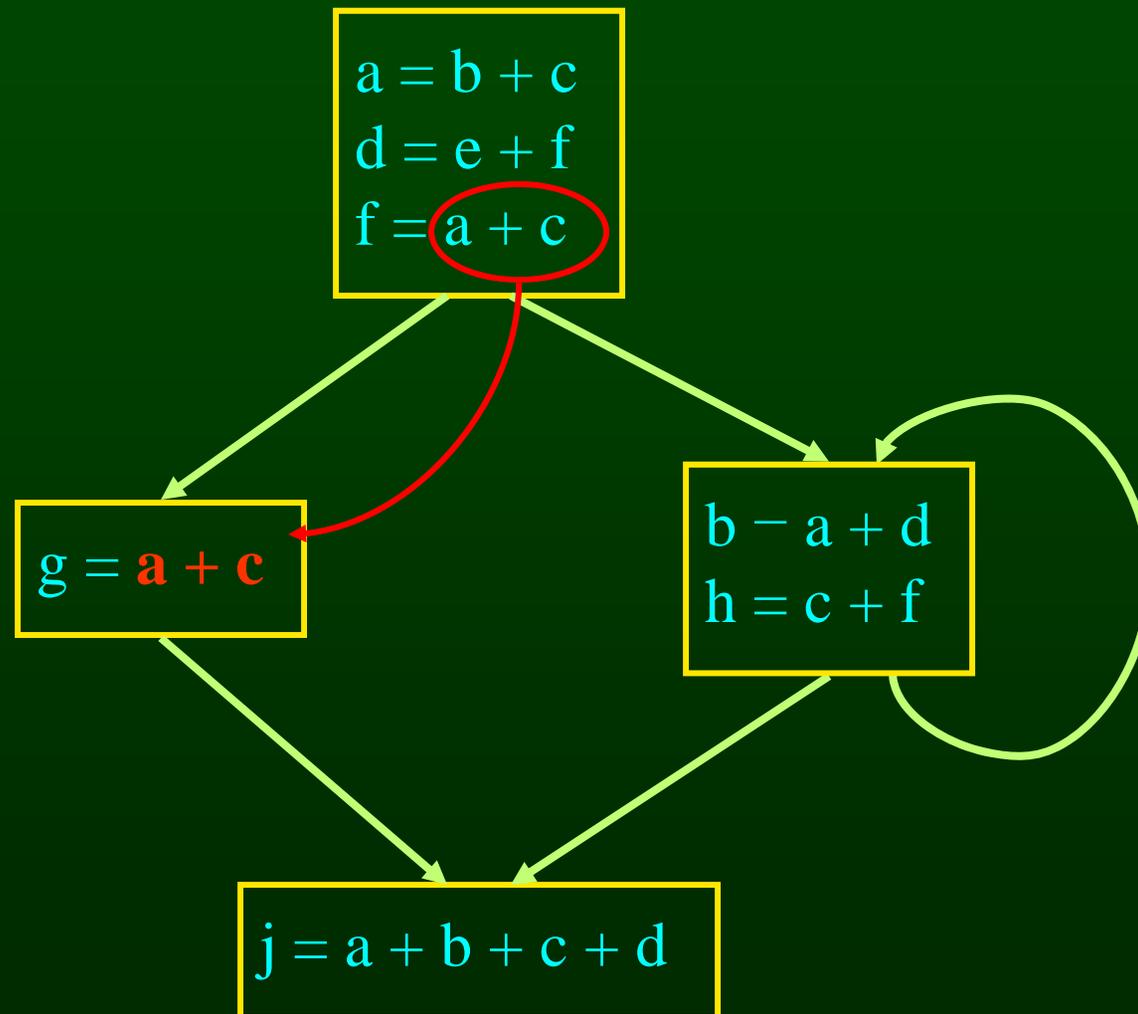
# Use of Available Expressions



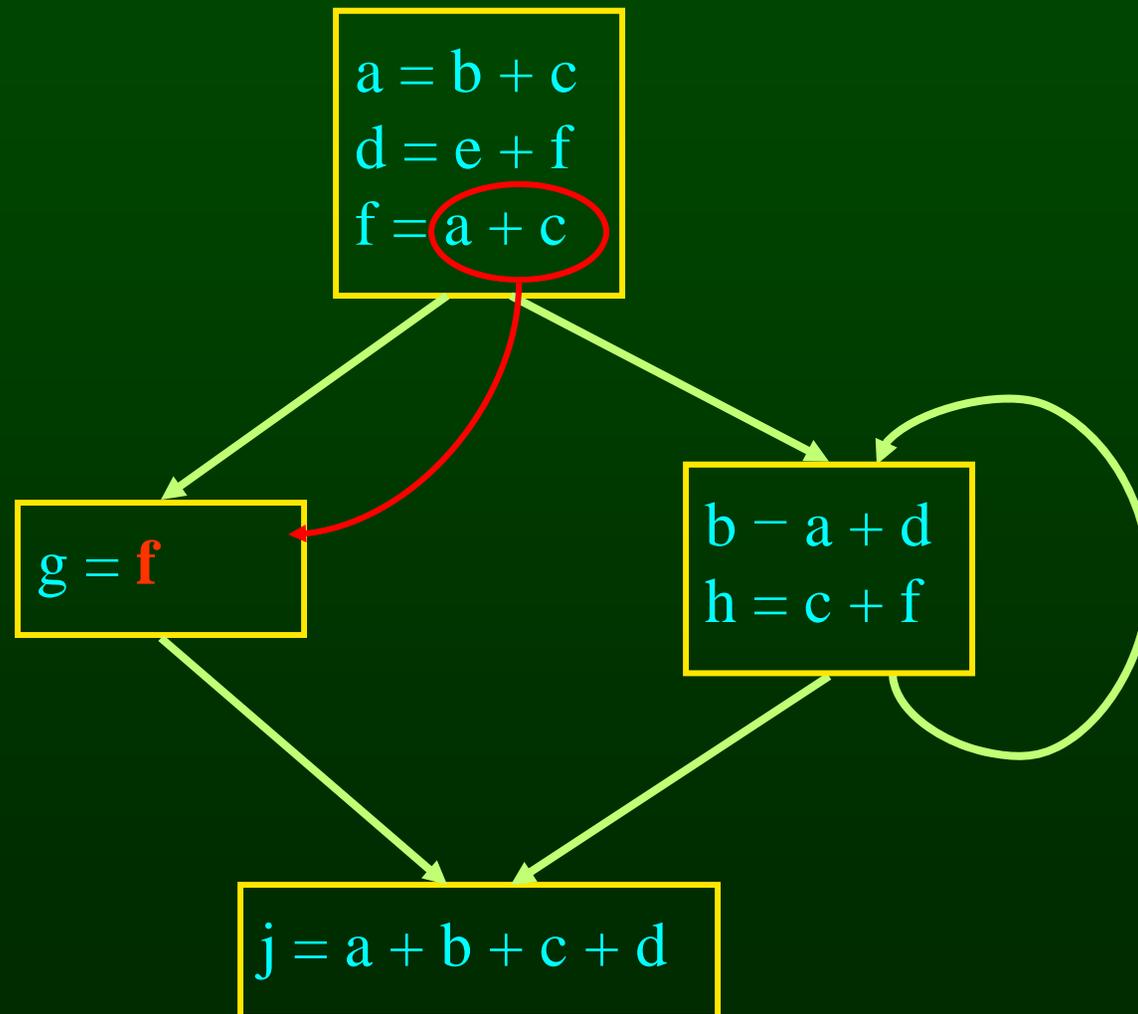
# Use of Available Expressions



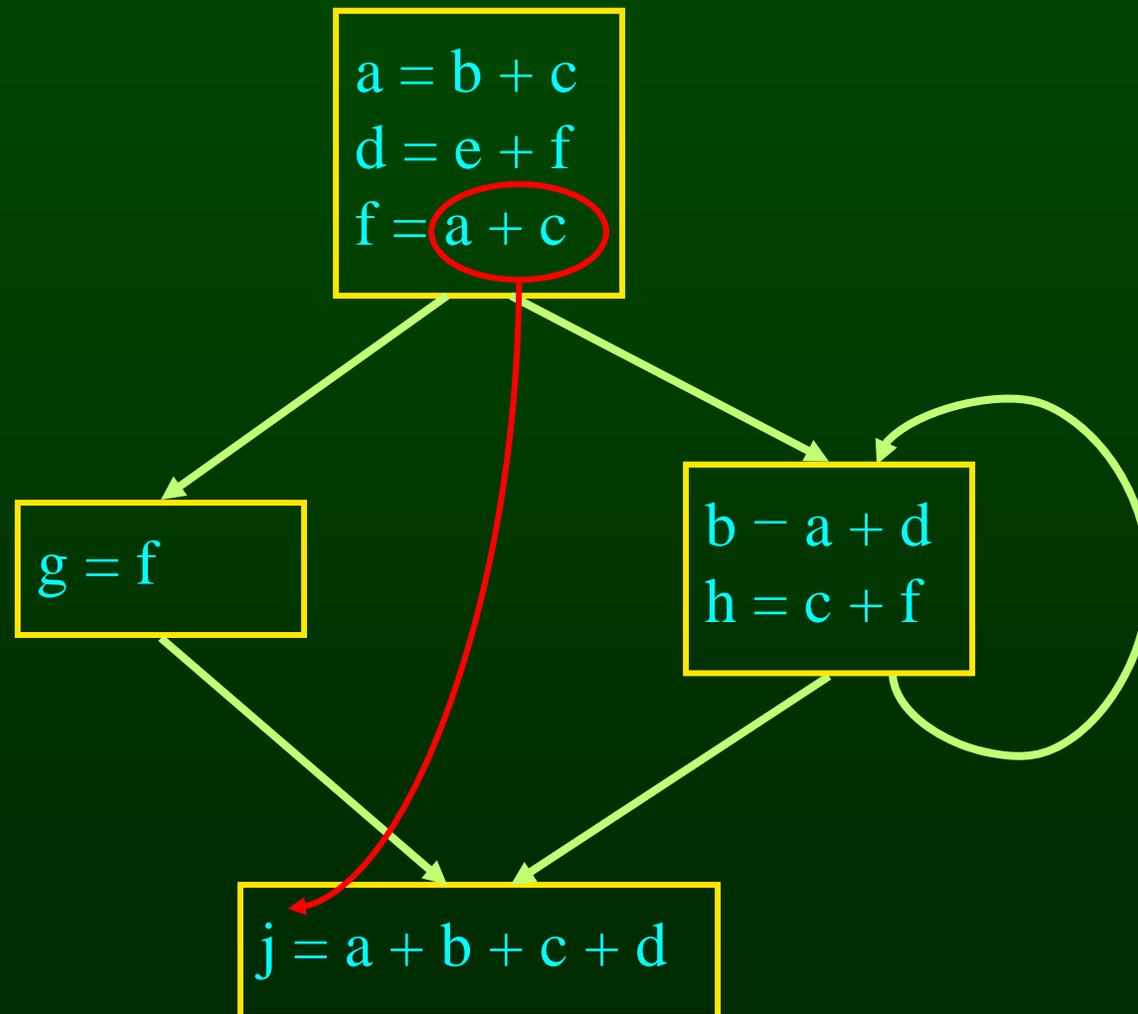
# Use of Available Expressions



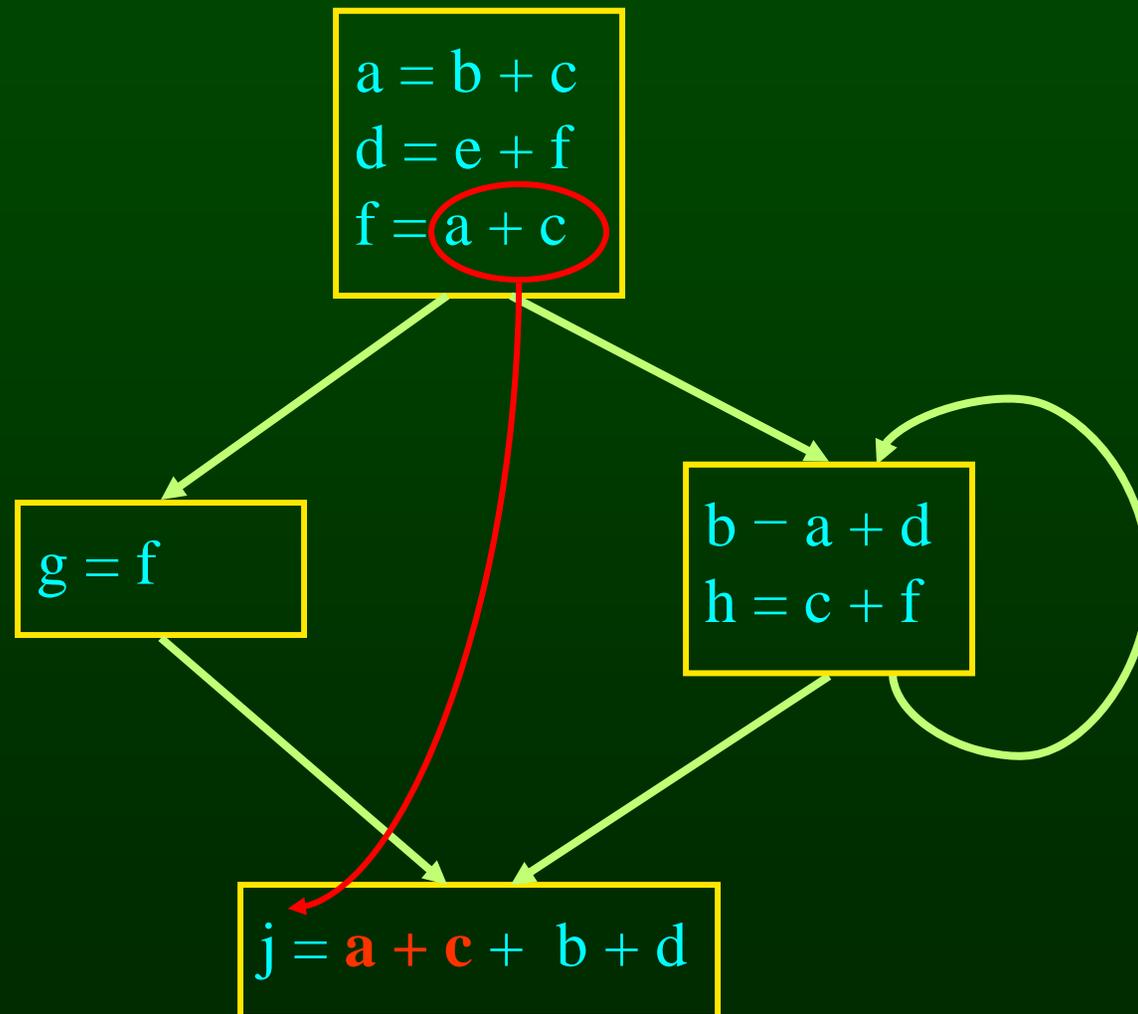
# Use of Available Expressions



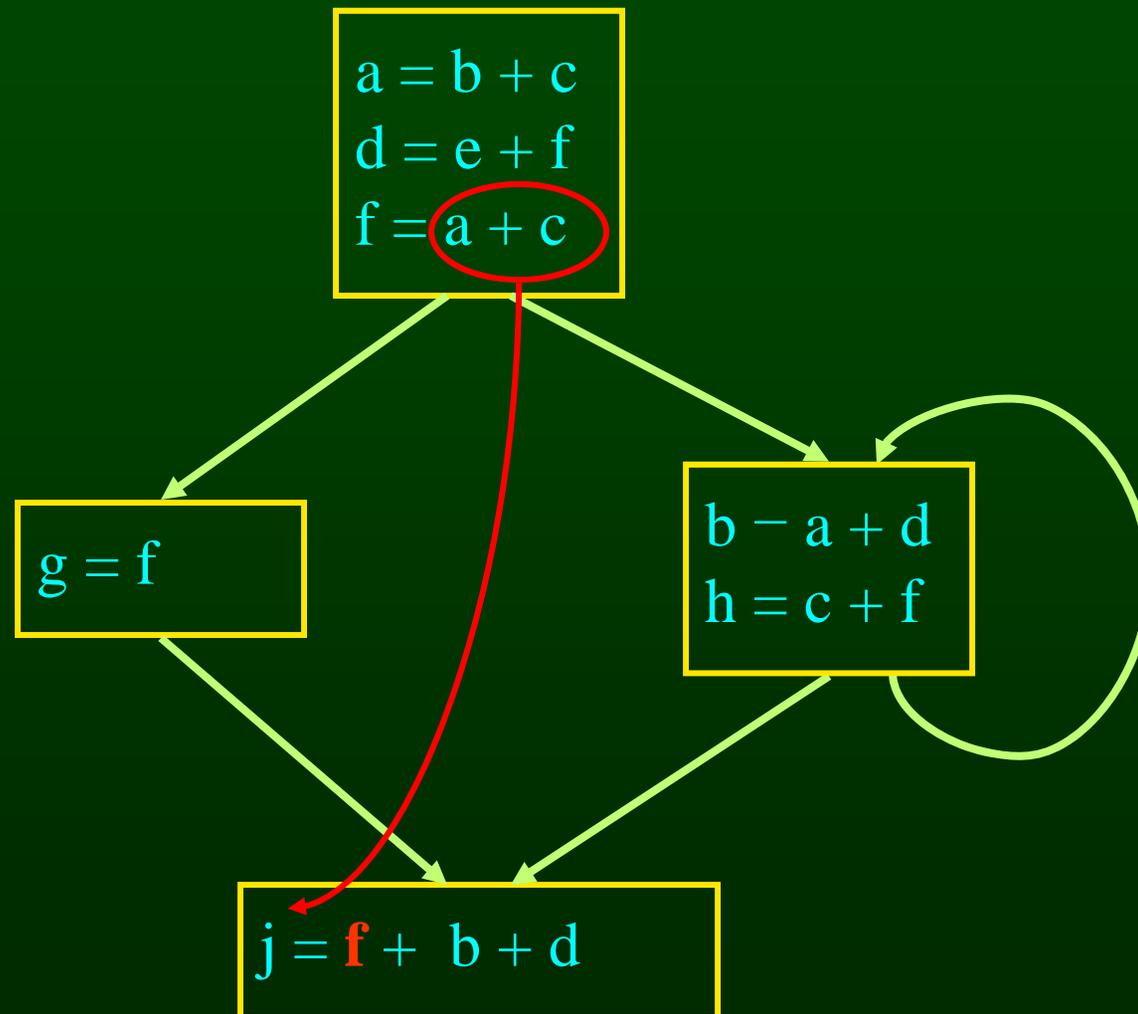
# Use of Available Expressions



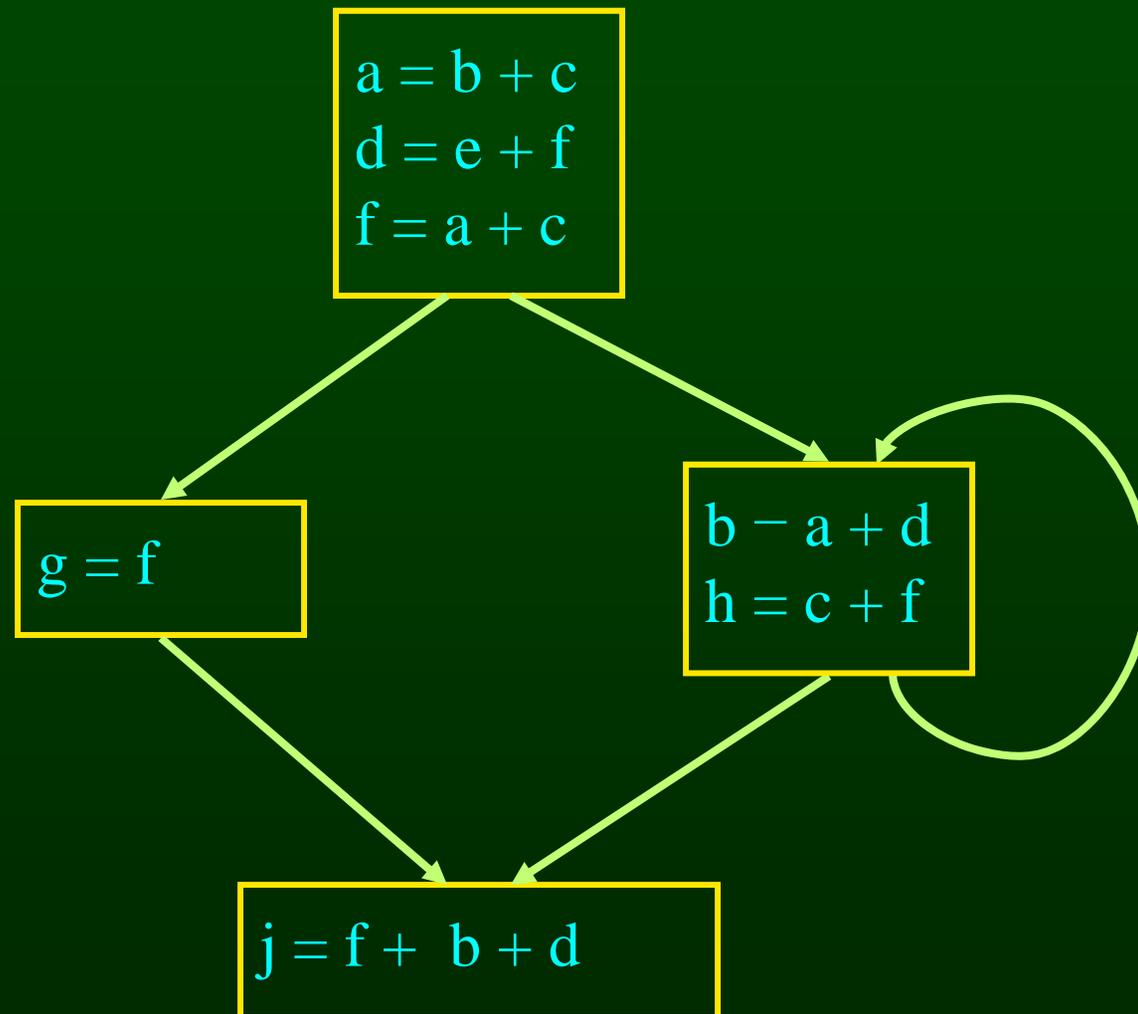
# Use of Available Expressions



# Use of Available Expressions



# Use of Available Expressions

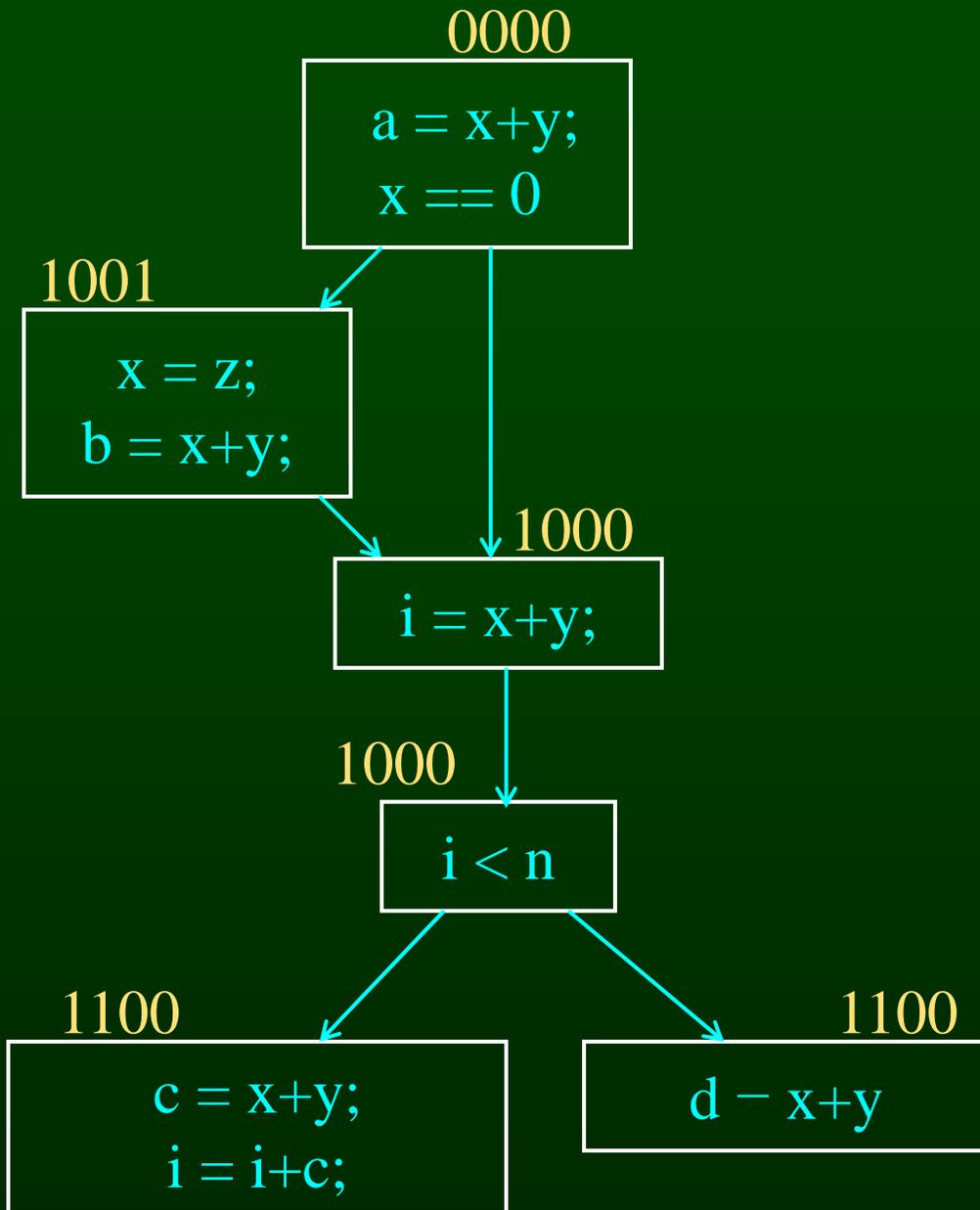


# Computing Available Expressions

- Represent sets of expressions using bit vectors
- Each expression corresponds to a bit
- Run dataflow algorithm similar to reaching definitions
- Big difference
  - definition reaches a basic block if it comes from **ANY** predecessor in CFG
  - expression is available at a basic block only if it is available from **ALL** predecessors in CFG

## Expressions

- 1:  $x+y$
- 2:  $i < n$
- 3:  $i+c$
- 4:  $x==0$



# Global CSE Transform

## Expressions

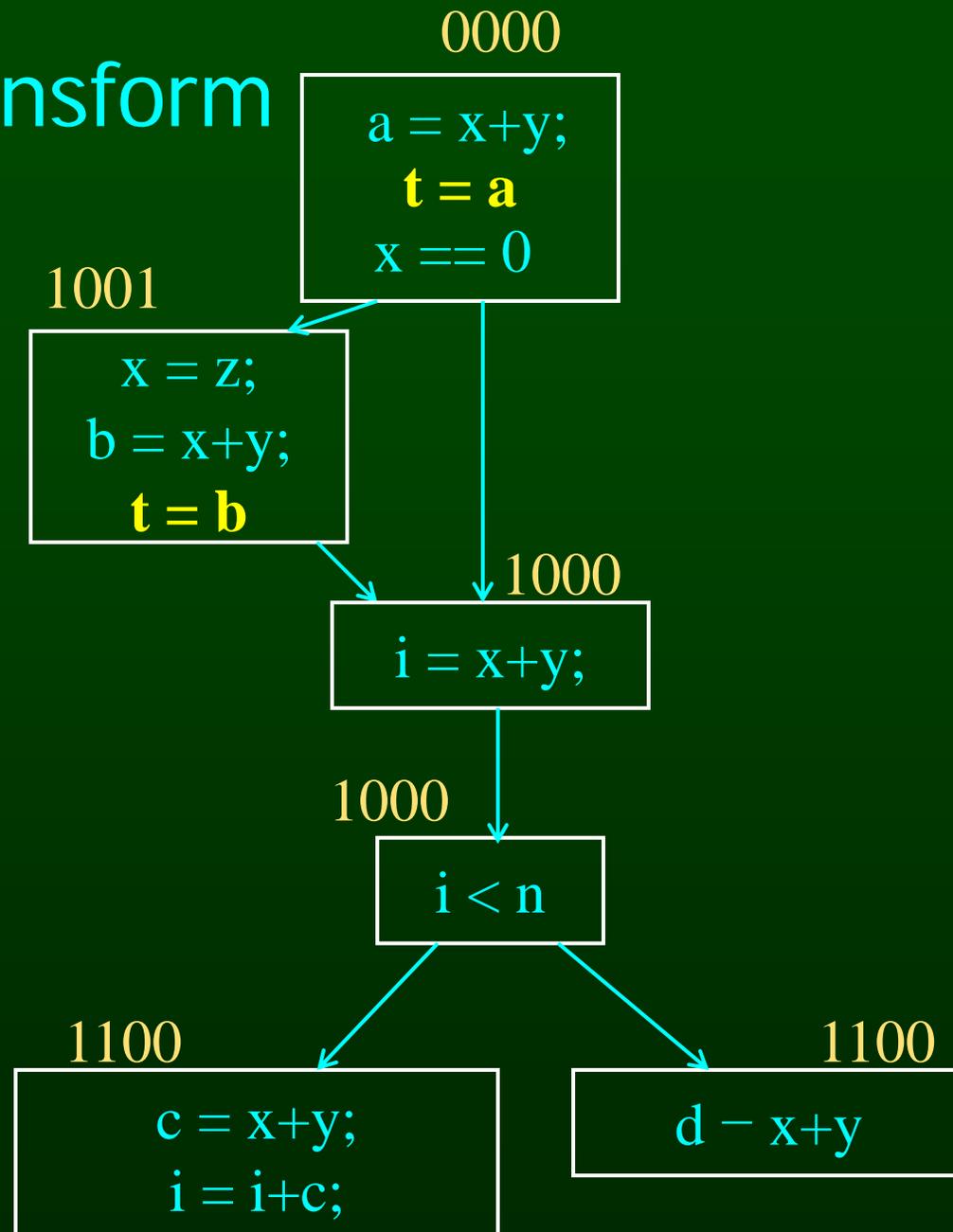
1:  $x+y$

2:  $i < n$

3:  $i+c$

4:  $x == 0$

must use same temp  
for CSE in all blocks



# Global CSE Transform

## Expressions

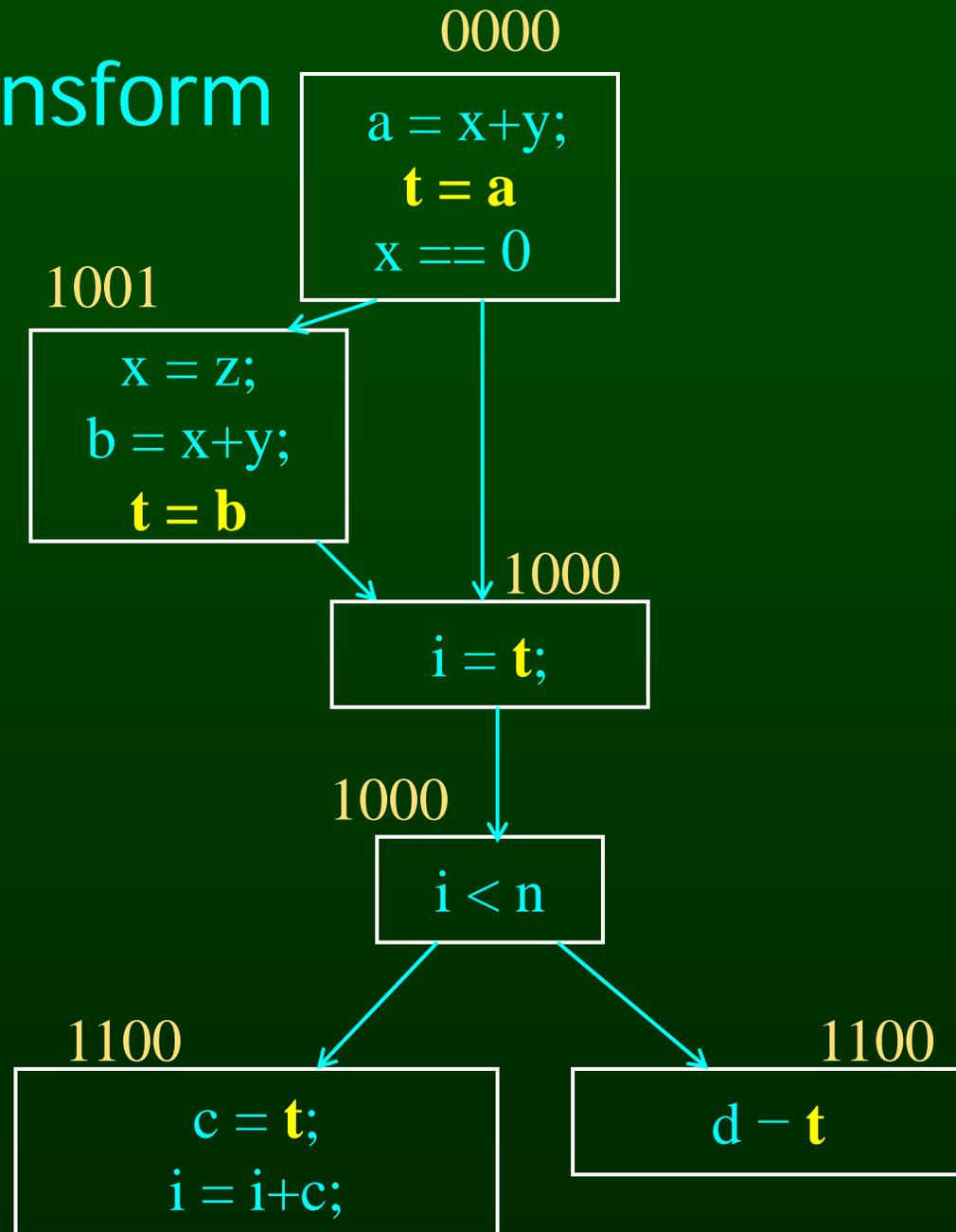
1:  $x+y$

2:  $i < n$

3:  $i+c$

4:  $x == 0$

must use same temp  
for CSE in all blocks



# Formalizing Analysis

- Each basic block has
  - IN - set of expressions available at start of block
  - OUT - set of expressions available at end of block
  - GEN - set of expressions computed in block
  - KILL - set of expressions killed in in block
- $GEN[x = z; b = x+y] = 1000$
- $KILL[x = z; b = x+y] = 1001$
- Compiler scans each basic block to derive GEN and KILL sets

# Dataflow Equations

- $IN[b] = OUT[b_1] \cap \dots \cap OUT[b_n]$ 
  - where  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  are predecessors of  $b$  in CFG
- $OUT[b] = (IN[b] - KILL[b]) \cup GEN[b]$
- $IN[entry] = 0000$
- Result: system of equations

# Solving Equations

- Use fixed point algorithm
- $IN[entry] = 0000$
- Initialize  $OUT[b] = 1111$
- Repeatedly apply equations
  - $IN[b] = OUT[b_1] \cap \dots \cap OUT[b_n]$
  - $OUT[b] = (IN[b] - KILL[b]) \cup GEN[b]$
- Use a worklist algorithm to reach fixed point

# Available Expressions Algorithm

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$

$OUT[n] = E$ ; //  $OUT[n] = E - KILL[n]$ ;

$IN[Entry] = \text{emptyset}$ ;

$OUT[Entry] = GEN[Entry]$ ;

$Changed = N - \{ Entry \}$ ; //  $N =$  all nodes in graph

while ( $Changed \neq \text{emptyset}$ )

    choose a node  $n$  in  $Changed$ ;

$Changed = Changed - \{ n \}$ ;

$IN[n] = E$ ; //  $E$  is set of all expressions

    for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )

$IN[n] = IN[n] \cap OUT[p]$ ;

$OUT[n] = GEN[n] \cup (IN[n] - KILL[n])$ ;

    if ( $OUT[n]$  changed)

        for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )

$Changed = Changed \cup \{ s \}$ ;

# Questions

- Does algorithm always halt?
- If expression is available in some execution, is it always marked as available in analysis?
- If expression is not available in some execution, can it be marked as available in analysis?

# General Correctness

- Concept in actual program execution
  - Reaching definition: definition  $D$ , execution  $E$  at program point  $P$
  - Available expression: expression  $X$ , execution  $E$  at program point  $P$
- Analysis reasons about all possible executions
- For all executions  $E$  at program point  $P$ ,
  - if a definition  $D$  reaches  $P$  in  $E$
  - then  $D$  is in the set of reaching definitions at  $P$  from analysis
- Other way around
  - if  $D$  is not in the set of reaching definitions at  $P$  from analysis
  - then  $D$  never reaches  $P$  in any execution  $E$
- For all executions  $E$  at program point  $P$ ,
  - if an expression  $X$  is in set of available expressions at  $P$  from analysis
  - then  $X$  is available in  $E$  at  $P$
- Concept of being conservative

# Duality In Two Algorithms

- Reaching definitions
  - Confluence operation is set union
  - $OUT[b]$  initialized to empty set
- Available expressions
  - Confluence operation is set intersection
  - $OUT[b]$  initialized to set of available expressions
- General framework for dataflow algorithms.
- Build parameterized dataflow analyzer once, use for all dataflow problems

# Outline

- Reaching Definitions
- Available Expressions
- **Liveness**

# Liveness Analysis

- A variable  $v$  is live at point  $p$  if
  - $v$  is used along some path starting at  $p$ , and
  - no definition of  $v$  along the path before the use.
- When is a variable  $v$  dead at point  $p$ ?
  - No use of  $v$  on any path from  $p$  to exit node, or
  - If all paths from  $p$  redefine  $v$  before using  $v$ .

# What Use is Liveness Information?

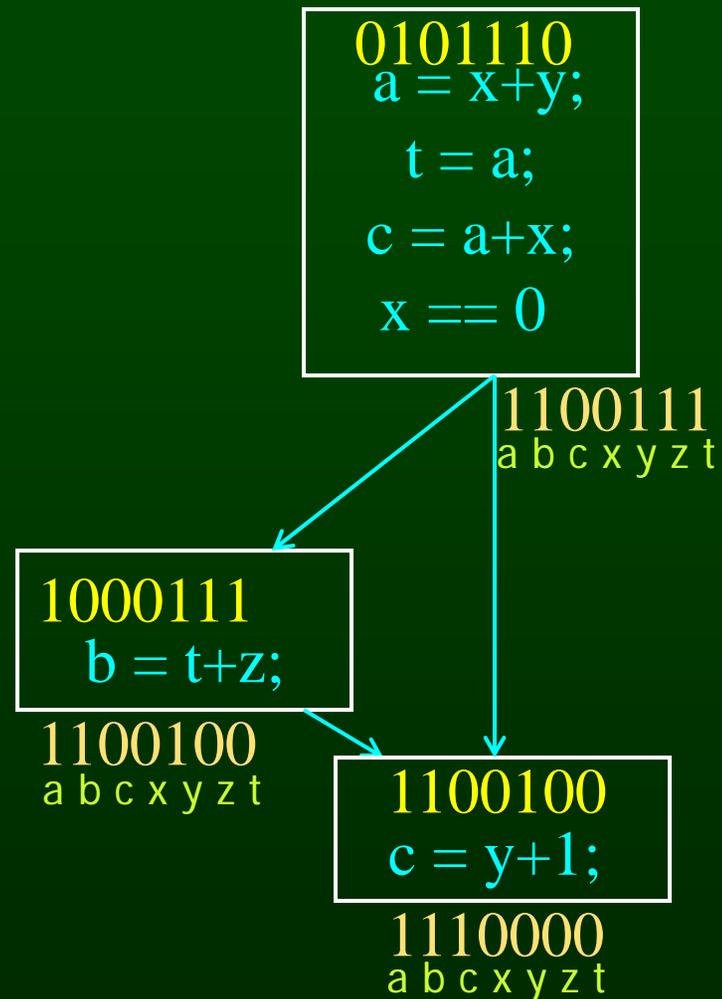
- Register allocation.
  - If a variable is dead, can reassign its register
- Dead code elimination.
  - Eliminate assignments to variables not read later.
  - But must not eliminate last assignment to variable (such as instance variable) visible outside CFG.
  - Can eliminate other dead assignments.
  - Handle by making all externally visible variables live on exit from CFG

# Conceptual Idea of Analysis

- Simulate execution
- But start from exit and go backwards in CFG
- Compute liveness information from end to beginning of basic blocks

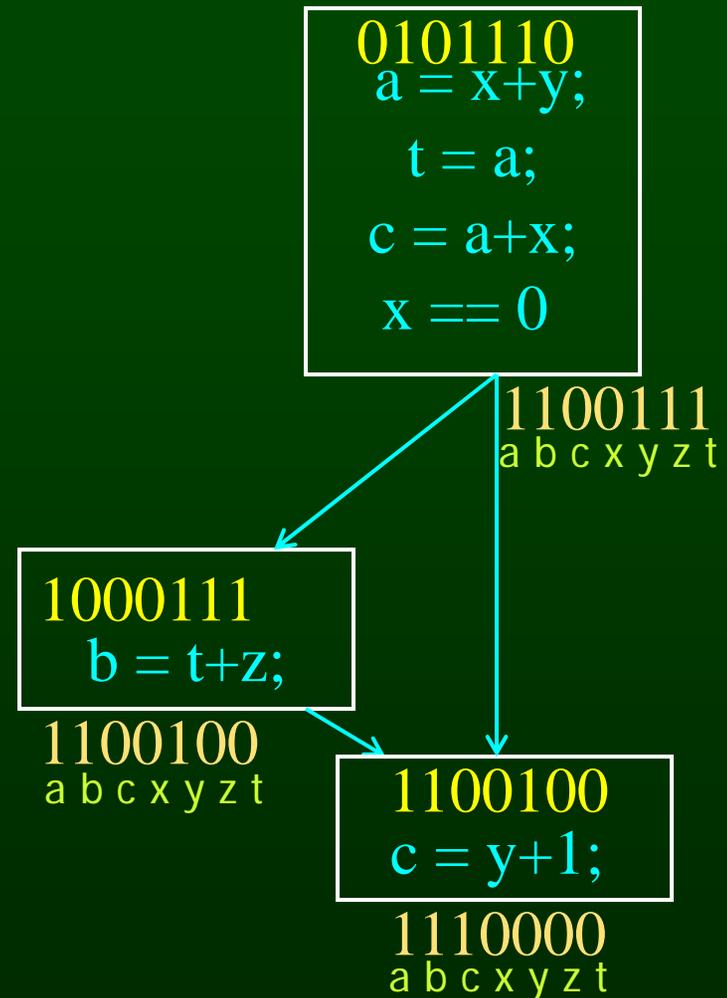
# Liveness Example

- Assume a,b,c visible outside method
- So are live on exit
- Assume x,y,z,t not visible
- Represent Liveness Using Bit Vector
  - order is abcxyzt



# Dead Code Elimination

- Assume a,b,c visible outside method
- So are live on exit
- Assume x,y,z,t not visible
- Represent Liveness Using Bit Vector
  - order is abcxyzt



# Formalizing Analysis

- Each basic block has
  - IN - set of variables live at start of block
  - OUT - set of variables live at end of block
  - USE - set of variables with upwards exposed uses in block
  - DEF - set of variables defined in block
- $USE[x = z; x = x+1;] = \{ z \}$  (x not in USE)
- $DEF[x = z; x = x+1; y = 1;] = \{ x, y \}$
- Compiler scans each basic block to derive USE and DEF sets

# Algorithm

```
for all nodes n in N - { Exit }
    IN[n] = emptyset;
OUT[Exit] = emptyset;
IN[Exit] = use[Exit];
Changed = N - { Exit };

while (Changed != emptyset)
    choose a node n in Changed;
    Changed = Changed - { n };

    OUT[n] = emptyset;
    for all nodes s in successors(n)
        OUT[n] = OUT[n] U IN[p];

    IN[n] = use[n] U (out[n] def[n]);

    if (IN[n] changed)
        for all nodes p in predecessors(n)
            Changed = Changed U { p };
```

# Similar to Other Dataflow Algorithms

- Backwards analysis, not forwards
- Still have transfer functions
- Still have confluence operators
- Can generalize framework to work for both forwards and backwards analyses

# Comparison

## Reaching Definitions

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$   
OUT[ $n$ ] = emptyset;  
IN[Entry] = emptyset;  
OUT[Entry] = GEN[Entry];  
Changed =  $N - \{ \text{Entry} \}$ ;

while (Changed  $\neq$  emptyset)  
  choose a node  $n$  in Changed;  
  Changed = Changed  $\setminus \{ n \}$ ;

IN[ $n$ ] = emptyset;  
for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )  
  IN[ $n$ ] = IN[ $n$ ]  $\cup$  OUT[ $p$ ];

OUT[ $n$ ] = GEN[ $n$ ]  $\cup$  (IN[ $n$ ] - KILL[ $n$ ]);

if (OUT[ $n$ ] changed)  
  for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )  
    Changed = Changed  $\cup \{ s \}$ ;

## Available Expressions

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$   
OUT[ $n$ ] =  $E$ ;  
IN[Entry] = emptyset;  
OUT[Entry] = GEN[Entry];  
Changed =  $N - \{ \text{Entry} \}$ ;

while (Changed  $\neq$  emptyset)  
  choose a node  $n$  in Changed;  
  Changed = Changed  $\setminus \{ n \}$ ;

IN[ $n$ ] =  $E$ ;  
for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )  
  IN[ $n$ ] = IN[ $n$ ]  $\cap$  OUT[ $p$ ];

OUT[ $n$ ] = GEN[ $n$ ]  $\cup$  (IN[ $n$ ] - KILL[ $n$ ]);

if (OUT[ $n$ ] changed)  
  for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )  
    Changed = Changed  $\cup \{ s \}$ ;

## Liveness

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N - \{ \text{Exit} \}$   
IN[ $n$ ] = emptyset;  
OUT[Exit] = emptyset;  
IN[Exit] = use[Exit];  
Changed =  $N - \{ \text{Exit} \}$ ;

while (Changed  $\neq$  emptyset)  
  choose a node  $n$  in Changed;  
  Changed = Changed  $\setminus \{ n \}$ ;

OUT[ $n$ ] = emptyset;  
for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )  
  OUT[ $n$ ] = OUT[ $n$ ]  $\cup$  IN[ $p$ ];

IN[ $n$ ] = use[ $n$ ]  $\cup$  (out[ $n$ ] - def[ $n$ ]);

if (IN[ $n$ ] changed)  
  for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )  
    Changed = Changed  $\cup \{ p \}$ ;

# Comparison

## Reaching Definitions

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$

$OUT[n] = \text{emptyset};$

$IN[\text{Entry}] = \text{emptyset};$

$OUT[\text{Entry}] = \text{GEN}[\text{Entry}];$

$\text{Changed} = N - \{ \text{Entry} \};$

while ( $\text{Changed} \neq \text{emptyset}$ )

  choose a node  $n$  in  $\text{Changed};$

$\text{Changed} = \text{Changed} - \{ n \};$

$IN[n] = \text{emptyset};$

for all nodes  $p$  in  $\text{predecessors}(n)$

$IN[n] = IN[n] \cup OUT[p];$

$OUT[n] = \text{GEN}[n] \cup (IN[n] - \text{KILL}[n]);$

if ( $OUT[n]$  changed)

  for all nodes  $s$  in  $\text{successors}(n)$

$\text{Changed} = \text{Changed} \cup \{ s \};$

## Available Expressions

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$

$OUT[n] = E;$

$IN[\text{Entry}] = \text{emptyset};$

$OUT[\text{Entry}] = \text{GEN}[\text{Entry}];$

$\text{Changed} = N - \{ \text{Entry} \};$

while ( $\text{Changed} \neq \text{emptyset}$ )

  choose a node  $n$  in  $\text{Changed};$

$\text{Changed} = \text{Changed} - \{ n \};$

$IN[n] = E;$

for all nodes  $p$  in  $\text{predecessors}(n)$

$IN[n] = IN[n] \cap OUT[p];$

$OUT[n] = \text{GEN}[n] \cup (IN[n] - \text{KILL}[n]);$

if ( $OUT[n]$  changed)

  for all nodes  $s$  in  $\text{successors}(n)$

$\text{Changed} = \text{Changed} \cup \{ s \};$

# Comparison

## Reaching Definitions

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$

```
OUT[n] = emptyset;  
IN[Entry] = emptyset;  
OUT[Entry] = GEN[Entry];  
Changed = N - { Entry };
```

```
while (Changed != emptyset)  
  choose a node  $n$  in Changed;  
  Changed = Changed - {  $n$  };
```

```
IN[n] = emptyset;  
for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )  
  IN[n] = IN[n] U OUT[p];
```

```
OUT[n] = GEN[n] U (IN[n] - KILL[n]);
```

```
if (OUT[n] changed)  
  for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )  
    Changed = Changed U {  $s$  };
```

## Liveness

for all nodes  $n$  in  $N$

```
IN[n] = emptyset;  
OUT[Exit] = emptyset;  
IN[Exit] = use[Exit];  
Changed = N - { Exit };
```

```
while (Changed != emptyset)  
  choose a node  $n$  in Changed;  
  Changed = Changed - {  $n$  };
```

```
OUT[n] = emptyset;  
for all nodes  $s$  in successors( $n$ )  
  OUT[n] = OUT[n] U IN[p];
```

```
IN[n] = use[n] U (out[n] - def[n]);
```

```
if (IN[n] changed)  
  for all nodes  $p$  in predecessors( $n$ )  
    Changed = Changed U {  $p$  };
```

# Analysis Information Inside Basic Blocks

- One detail:
  - Given dataflow information at IN and OUT of node
  - Also need to compute information at each statement of basic block
  - Simple propagation algorithm usually works fine
  - Can be viewed as restricted case of dataflow analysis

# Pessimistic vs. Optimistic Analyses

- Available expressions is optimistic (for common sub-expression elimination)
  - Assume expressions are available at start of analysis
  - Analysis eliminates all that are not available
  - Cannot stop analysis early and use current result
- Live variables is pessimistic (for dead code elimination)
  - Assume all variables are live at start of analysis
  - Analysis finds variables that are dead
    - Can stop analysis early and use current result
- Dataflow setup same for both analyses
- Optimism/pessimism depends on intended use

# Summary

- Basic Blocks and Basic Block Optimizations
  - Copy and constant propagation
  - Common sub-expression elimination
  - Dead code elimination
- Dataflow Analysis
  - Control flow graph
  - IN[b], OUT[b], transfer functions, join points
- Paired analyses and transformations
  - Reaching definitions /constant propagation
  - Available expressions/common sub-expression elimination
  - Liveness analysis/Dead code elimination
- Stacked analysis and transformations work together

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

6.035 Computer Language Engineering  
Spring 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.