gccjit Documentation

Release 0.4

David Malcolm

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This document describes the Python bindings to libgccjit.

The bindings support both CPython 2 and CPython 3 (using Cython).

Note that both libgccjit and the bindings are of “Alpha” quality; the APIs are not yet set in stone, and they shouldn’t be used in production yet.

Contents:
1.1 Creating a trivial machine code function

Consider this C function:

```c
int square(int i) {
    return i * i;
}
```

How can we construct this from within Python using libgccjit?

First we need to import the Python bindings to libgccjit:

```python
>>> import gccjit
```

All state associated with compilation is associated with a `gccjit.Context`:

```python
>>> ctxt = gccjit.Context()
```

The JIT library has a system of types. It is statically-typed: every expression is of a specific type, fixed at compile-time. In our example, all of the expressions are of the C `int` type, so let’s obtain this from the context, as a `gccjit.Type`:

```python
>>> int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
```

The various objects in the API have reasonable `__str__` methods:

```python
>>> print(int_type)
int
```

Let’s create the function. To do so, we first need to construct its single parameter, specifying its type and giving it a name:

```python
>>> param_i = ctxt.new_param(int_type, b'i')
>>> print(param_i)
i
```

Now we can create the function:

```python
>>> fn = ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.EXPORTED, ...
...    int_type, # return type
...    b"square", # name
...    [param_i]) # params
>>> print(fn)
square
```
To define the code within the function, we must create basic blocks containing statements. Every basic block contains a list of statements, eventually terminated by a statement that either returns, or jumps to another basic block.

Our function has no control-flow, so we just need one basic block:

```python
context = fn.new_block(b'entry')
print(context)
```

Our basic block is relatively simple: it immediately terminates by returning the value of an expression. We can build the expression:

```python
expr = context.new_binary_op(gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT,
...                        int_type,
...                       param_i, param_i)
print(expr)
i * i
```

This in itself doesn’t do anything; we have to add this expression to a statement within the block. In this case, we use it to build a return statement, which terminates the basic block:

```python
context.end_with_return(expr)
```

OK, we’ve populated the context. We can now compile it:

```python
result = context.compile()
```

and get a `gccjit.Result`.

We can now look up a specific machine code routine within the result, in this case, the function we created above:

```python
void_ptr = result.get_code(b"square")
```

We can now use `ctypes.CFUNCTYPE` to turn it into something we can call from Python:

```python
import ctypes
int_int_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int)
callable = int_int_func_type(void_ptr)
```

It should now be possible to run the code:

```python
callable(5)
25
```

### 1.1.1 Options

To get more information on what’s going on, you can set debugging flags on the context using `gccjit.Context.set_bool_option()`.

Setting `gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE` will dump a C-like representation to stderr when you compile (GCC’s “GIMPLE” representation):

```python
context.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE, True)
result = context.compile()
square (signed int i)
{
  signed int D.260;
```
entry:
    D.260 = i * i;
    return D.260;
}

We can see the generated machine code in assembler form (on stderr) by setting gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_GENERATED_CODE on the context before compiling:

```python
>>> ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_GENERATED_CODE, True)
>>> jit_result = ctxt.compile()
```

```
.file  "fake.c"
.text
.globl square
.type  square, @function

.square:
.LFB6:
    .cfi_startproc
    pushq  %rbp
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    .cfi_offset 6, -16
    movq   %rsp, %rbp
    .cfi_def_cfa_register 6
    movl   %edi, -4(%rbp)
.L14:
    movl   -4(%rbp), %eax
    imull  -4(%rbp), %eax
    popq   %rbp
    .cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
    ret
    .cfi_endproc

.LFE6:
    .size  square, .-square
    .ident  "GCC: (GNU) 4.9.0 20131023 (Red Hat 0.2-0.5.1920c315ff984892399893b380305ab36e07b455.fc20)"
    .section  .note.GNU-stack,"",@progbits
```

By default, no optimizations are performed, the equivalent of GCC's `-O0` option. We can turn things up to e.g. `-O3` by calling gccjit.Context.set_int_option() with gccjit.IntOption.OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL:

```python
>>> ctxt.set_int_option(gccjit.IntOption.OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL, 3)
>>> jit_result = ctxt.compile()
```

```
.p2align 4,,15
.globl square
.type  square, @function

.square:
.LFB7:
    .cfi_startproc
    movl   %edi, %eax
    imull  %edi, %eax
    ret
    .cfi_endproc

.LFE7:
    .size  square, .-square
    .ident  "GCC: (GNU) 4.9.0 20131023 (Red Hat 0.2-0.5.1920c315ff984892399893b380305ab36e07b455.fc20)"
    .section  .note.GNU-stack,"",@progbits
```

Naturally this has only a small effect on such a trivial function.
1.1.2 Full example

Here's what the above looks like as a complete program:

```python
import ctypes
import gccjit

def create_fn():
    # Create a compilation context:
    ctxt = gccjit.Context()

    # Turn these on to get various kinds of debugging:
    if 0:
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_TREE, True)
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE, True)
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_GENERATED_CODE, True)

    # Adjust this to control optimization level of the generated code:
    if 0:
        ctxt.set_int_option(gccjit.IntOption.OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL, 3)

    int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)

    # Create parameter "i":
    param_i = ctxt.new_param(int_type, b'i')

    # Create the function:
    fn = ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.EXPORTED,
                            int_type, b'square', [param_i])

    # Create a basic block within the function:
    block = fn.new_block(b'entry')

    # This basic block is relatively simple:
    block.end_with_return(
        ctxt.new_binary_op(gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT, int_type, param_i, param_i))

    # Having populated the context, compile it.
    jit_result = ctxt.compile()

    # This is what you get back from ctxt.compile():
    assert isinstance(jit_result, gccjit.Result)

    return jit_result

def test_calling_fn(i):
    jit_result = create_fn()

    # Look up a specific machine code routine within the gccjit.Result,
    # in this case, the function we created above:
    void_ptr = jit_result.get_code(b'square')

    # Now use ctypes.CFUNCTYPE to turn it into something we can call
    # from Python:
    int_int_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int)
```

1.2 Loops and variables

Consider this C function:

```c
int loop_test (int n)
{
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
        sum += i * i;
    return sum;
}
```

This example demonstrates some more features of libgccjit, with local variables and a loop.

Let’s construct this from Python. To break this down into libgccjit terms, it’s usually easier to reword the `for` loop as a `while` loop, giving:

```python
int loop_test (int n)
{
    int sum = 0;
    int i = 0;
    while (i < n)
    {
        sum += i * i;
        i++;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

Here’s what the final control flow graph will look like:

As before, we import the libgccjit Python bindings and make a `gccjit.Context`:

```python
>>> import gccjit
>>> ctxt = gccjit.Context()
```

The function works with the C `int` type:

```python
>>> the_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
```

though we could equally well make it work on, say, `double`:

```python
>>> the_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.DOUBLE)
```

Let’s build the function:

```python
>>> return_type = the_type
>>> param_n = ctxt.new_param(the_type, b"n")
```
entry:
i = (int)0;
sum = (int)0;
goto cond;

cond:
if (i < n) goto loop; else goto after_loop;

loop:
sum += i * i;
i += (int)1;
goto cond;

after_loop:
return sum;
The base class of expression is the `gccjit.RValue`, representing an expression that can be on the right-hand side of an assignment: a value that can be computed somehow, and assigned to a storage area (such as a variable). It has a specific `gccjit.Type`.

Another important class is `gccjit.LValue`. A `gccjit.LValue` is something that can of the left-hand side of an assignment: a storage area (such as a variable).

In other words, every assignment can be thought of as:

```
LVALUE = RVALUE;
```

Note that `gccjit.LValue` is a subclass of `gccjit.RValue`, where in an assignment of the form:

```
LVALUE_A = LVALUE_B;
```

the `LVALUE_B` implies reading the current value of that storage area, assigning it into the `LVALUE_A`.

So far the only expressions we’ve seen are `i * i`:

```
ctxt.new_binary_op(gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT,
    int_type,
    param_i, param_i)
```

which is a `gccjit.RValue`, and the various function parameters: `param_i` and `param_n`, instances of `gccjit.Param`, which is a subclass of `gccjit.LValue` (and, in turn, of `gccjit.RValue`): we can both read from and write to function parameters within the body of a function.

Our new example has a couple of local variables. We create them by calling `gccjit.Function.new_local()`, supplying a type and a name:

```
>>> local_i = fn.new_local(the_type, b"i")
>>> print(local_i)
i
>>> local_sum = fn.new_local(the_type, b"sum")
>>> print(local_sum)
sum
```

These are instances of `gccjit.LValue` - they can be read from and written to.

Note that there is no precanned way to create and initialize a variable like in C:

```
int i = 0;
```

Instead, having added the local to the function, we have to separately add an assignment of 0 to `local_i` at the beginning of the function.

This function has a loop, so we need to build some basic blocks to handle the control flow. In this case, we need 4 blocks:

1. before the loop (initializing the locals)
2. the conditional at the top of the loop (comparing `i < n`)
3. the body of the loop
4. after the loop terminates (`return sum`)
so we create these as `gccjit.Block` instances within the `gccjit.Function`:

```python
>>> entry_block = fn.new_block(b'entry')
>>> cond_block = fn.new_block(b'cond')
>>> loop_block = fn.new_block(b'loop')
>>> after_loop_block = fn.new_block(b'after_loop')
```

We now populate each block with statements.

The entry block consists of initializations followed by a jump to the conditional. We assign 0 to `i` and to `sum`, using `gccjit.Block.add_assignment()` to add an assignment statement, and using `gccjit.Context.zero()` to get the constant value 0 for the relevant type for the right-hand side of the assignment:

```python
>>> entry_block.add_assignment(local_i, ctxt.zero(the_type))
>>> entry_block.add_assignment(local_sum, ctxt.zero(the_type))
```

We can then terminate the entry block by jumping to the conditional:

```python
>>> entry_block.end_with_jump(cond_block)
```

The conditional block is equivalent to the line `while (i < n)` from our C example. It contains a single statement: a conditional, which jumps to one of two destination blocks depending on a boolean `gccjit.RValue`, in this case the comparison of `i` and `n`. We build the comparison using `gccjit.Context.new_comparison()`:

```python
>>> guard = ctxt.new_comparison(gccjit.Comparison.LT, local_i, param_n)
>>> print(guard)
i < n
```

and can then use this to add `cond_block`'s sole statement, via `gccjit.Block.end_with_conditional()`:

```python
>>> cond_block.end_with_conditional(guard,
...     loop_block, # on true
...     after_loop_block) # on false
```

Next, we populate the body of the loop.

The C statement `sum += i * i;` is an assignment operation, where an lvalue is modified “in-place”. We use `gccjit.Block.add_assignment_op()` to handle these operations:

```python
>>> loop_block.add_assignment_op(local_sum,
...     gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
...     ctxt.new_binary_op(gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT,
...         the_type,
...         local_i, local_i))
```

The `i++` can be thought of as `i += 1`, and can thus be handled in a similar way. We use `gccjit.Context.one()` to get the constant value 1 (for the relevant type) for the right-hand side of the assignment:

```python
>>> loop_block.add_assignment_op(local_i,
...     gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
...     ctxt.one(the_type))
```

The loop body completes by jumping back to the conditional:

```python
>>> loop_block.end_with_jump(cond_block)
```

Finally, we populate the `after_loop` block, reached when the loop conditional is false. At the C level this is simply:

```python
return sum;
```

so the block is just one statement:
We’ve finished populating the function. As before, we can now compile it to machine code:

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
>>> after_loop_block.end_with_return(local_sum)
```

**Note:** You can intermingle block creation with statement creation, but given that the terminator statements generally include references to other blocks, I find it’s clearer to create all the blocks, *then* all the statements.

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
>>> jit_result = ctxt.compile()  
>>> void_ptr = jit_result.get_code(b'loop_test')  
``` 

and use `ctypes` to turn it into a Python callable:

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
>>> import ctypes  
>>> int_int_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int)  
>>> callable = int_int_func_type(void_ptr)
``` 

Now we can call it:

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
>>> callable(10)  
285
``` 

### 1.2.1 Visualizing the control flow graph

You can see the control flow graph of a function using `gccjit.Function.dump_to_dot()`:

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
>>> fn.dump_to_dot('/tmp/sum-of-squares.dot')
``` 

giving a `.dot` file in GraphViz format.

You can convert this to an image using `dot`:

```
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
$ dot -Tpng /tmp/sum-of-squares.dot -o /tmp/sum-of-squares.png
``` 

or use a viewer (my preferred one is xdot.py; see https://github.com/jrfonseca/xdot.py; on Fedora you can install it with `yum install python-xdot`):

### 1.2.2 Full example

Here’s what the above looks like as a complete program:

```python
gccjit.Documentation.Release.0.4
import ctypes
import gccjit

def populate ctxt(ctxt):
    the_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
    return_type = the_type
    param_n = ctxt.new_param(the_type, b"n")
    fn = ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.EXPORTED,
                           return_type,
                           b"loop_test",
                           [param_n])

    # Build locals
    local_i = fn.new_local(the_type, b"i")
    local_sum = fn.new_local(the_type, b"sum")
``` 

### 1.2. Loops and variables

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entry:
i = (int)0;
sum = (int)0;
goto cond;

cond:
if (i < n) goto loop; else goto after_loop;

loop:
sum += i * i;
i += (int)1;
goto cond;

after_loop:
return sum;
assert str(local_i) == 'i'

# Build blocks
entry_block = fn.new_block(b'entry')
cond_block = fn.new_block(b'cond')
loop_block = fn.new_block(b'loop')
after_loop_block = fn.new_block(b'after_loop')

# entry_block: #########################################

# sum = 0
entry_block.add_assignment(local_sum, ctxt.zero(the_type))

# i = 0
entry_block.add_assignment(local_i, ctxt.zero(the_type))

entry_block.end_with_jump(cond_block)

### cond_block: ########################################

# while (i < n)
cond_block.end_with_conditional(ctxt.new_comparison(gccjit.Comparison.LT, local_i, param_n),
                                   loop_block, after_loop_block)

### loop_block: ########################################

# sum += i * i
loop_block.add_assignment_op(local_sum,
                              gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
                              ctxt.new_binary_op(gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT, the_type,
                                                  local_i, local_i))

# i++
loop_block.add_assignment_op(local_i,
                              gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
                              ctxt.one(the_type))

# goto cond_block
loop_block.end_with_jump(cond_block)

### after_loop_block: ##################################

# return sum
after_loop_block.end_with_return(local_sum)

def create_fn():
    # Create a compilation context:
    ctxt = gccjit.Context()

    if 0:
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_TREE, True)
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE, True)
        ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.KEEP_INTERMEDIATES, True)

    if 0:

1.2. Loops and variables
ctxt.set_int_option(gccjit.IntOption.OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL, 3)

populate_ctxt(ctxt)

jit_result = ctxt.compile()
return jit_result

def test_calling_fn(i):
    jit_result = create_fn()

    int_int_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int)
    code = int_int_func_type(jit_result.get_code(b"loop_test"))

    return code(i)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    print(test_calling_fn(10))

1.3 Implementing a “brainf” compiler

In this example we use libgccjit to construct a compiler for an esoteric programming language that we shall refer to as “brainf”.

The compiler can run the generated code in-process (JIT compilation), or write the generated code as a machine code executable (classic ahead-of-time compilation).

1.3.1 The “brainf” language

brainf scripts operate on an array of bytes, with a notional data pointer within the array.

brainf is hard for humans to read, but it’s trivial to write a parser for it, as there is no lexing; just a stream of bytes. The operations are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>idx += 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;</td>
<td>idx -= 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>data[idx] += 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>data[idx] -= 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.</td>
<td>output {data[idx]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>,</td>
<td>data[idx] = input ()</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[</td>
<td>loop until data[idx] == 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>]</td>
<td>end of loop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anything else</td>
<td>ignored</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unlike the previous example, we’ll implement an ahead-of-time compiler, which reads .bf scripts and outputs executables (though it would be trivial to have it run them JIT-compiled in-process).

Here’s what a simple .bf script looks like:

```
[  Emit the uppercase alphabet
]

cell 0 = 26
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
```
cell l = 65
>++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

while cell#0 != 0
[
>.
+. emit cell#1
+ increment cell@1
<- decrement cell@0
]

Note: This example makes use of whitespace and comments for legibility, but could have been written as:
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
[>.+<-]

It’s not a particularly useful language, except for providing compiler-writers with a test case that’s easy to parse.

1.3.2 Converting a brainf script to libgccjit IR

We write simple code to populate a `gccjit.Context`.

```python
class Paren:
    def __init__(self, b_test, b_body, b_after):
        self.b_test = b_test
        self.b_body = b_body
        self.b_after = b_after

class CompileError(Exception):
    def __init__(self, compiler, msg):
        self.filename = compiler.filename
        self.line = compiler.line
        self.column = compiler.column
        self.msg = msg

    def __str__(self):
        return "(%s:%i:%i:%s)" % (self.filename, self.line, self.column, self.msg)

class Compiler:
    def __init__(self, filename):
        self.ctx = gccjit.Context()
        if 1:
            self.ctx.set_int_option(gccjit.IntOption.OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL, 3);
            self.ctx.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE, 0);
            self.ctx.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_GENERATED_CODE, 0);
            self.ctx.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO, 1);
            self.ctx.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_EVERYTHING, 0);
            self.ctx.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.KEEP_INTERMEDIATES, 0);
```

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self.void_type = self.ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.VOID)
self.int_type = self.ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
self.byte_type = self.ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.UNSIGNED_CHAR)
self.array_type = self.ctxt.new_array_type(self.byte_type, 30000)

self.func_getchar = (self.ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.IMPORTED, self.int_type, b"getchar", [ ]))
self.func_putchar = (self.ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.IMPORTED, self.void_type, b"putchar", [self.ctxt.new_param(self.int_type, b"c")]))

self.func = self.ctxt.new_function(gccjit.FunctionKind.EXPORTED, self.void_type, b'func', [ ])
self.curblock = self.func.new_block(b"initial")
self.int_zero = self.ctxt.zero(self.int_type)
self.int_one = self.ctxt.one(self.int_type)
self.byte_zero = self.ctxt.zero(self.byte_type)
self.byte_one = self.ctxt.one(self.byte_type)
self.data_cells = self.ctxt.new_global(gccjit.GlobalKind.INTERNAL, self.array_type, b"data_cells")

self.idx = self.func.new_local(self.int_type, b"idx")

self.open_parens = []

self.curblock.add_comment(b"idx = 0;")
self.curblock.add_assignment(self.idx, self.int_zero)

def get_current_data(self, loc):
    ""
    Get 'data_cells[idx]' as an lvalue.
    ""
    return self.ctxt.new_array_access(self.data_cells, self.idx, loc)

def current_data_is_zero(self, loc):
    ""
    Get 'data_cells[idx] == 0' as a boolean rvalue.
    ""
    return self.ctxt.new_comparison(gccjit.Comparison.EQ, self.get_current_data(loc), self.byte_zero, loc)

def compile_char(self, ch):
    ""
    Compile one bf character.
    ""
    loc = self.ctxt.new_location(self.filename, self.line, self.column)

    # Turn this on to trace execution, by injecting putchar()
    # of each source char.
    if 0:
        arg = self.ctxt.new_rvalue_from_int (self.int_type,
ch)
call = self ctxt.new_call (self.func_putchar,
    [arg],
    loc)
self curblock.add_eval (call, loc)
if ch == ‘>’:
    self curblock.add_comment (b"'>': idx += 1;", loc)
    self curblock.add_assignment_op (self.idx,
        gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
        self.int_one,
        loc)
elif ch == ‘<’:
    self curblock.add_comment (b"'<': idx -= 1;", loc)
    self curblock.add_assignment_op (self.idx,
        gccjit.BinaryOp.MINUS,
        self.int_one,
        loc)
elif ch == ‘+’:
    self curblock.add_comment (b"'+': data[idx] += 1;", loc)
    self curblock.add_assignment_op (self.get_current_data (loc),
        gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
        self.byte_one,
        loc)
elif ch == ‘-’:
    self curblock.add_comment (b"'-': data[idx] -= 1;", loc)
    self curblock.add_assignment_op (self.get_current_data (loc),
        gccjit.BinaryOp.MINUS,
        self.byte_one,
        loc)
elif ch == ‘.’:
    arg = self ctxt.new_cast (self.get_current_data (loc),
        self.int_type,
        loc)
call = self ctxt.new_call (self.func_putchar,
    [arg],
    loc)
self curblock.add_comment (b"'.': putchar ((int)data[idx]);", loc)
    self curblock.add_eval (call, loc)
elif ch == ‘,’:
    call = self ctxt.new_call (self.func_getchar, [], loc)
    self curblock.add_comment (b"',': data[idx] = (unsigned char)getchar ();", loc)
    self curblock.add_assignment (self.get_current_data (loc),
        self ctxt.new_cast (call, self.byte_type,
        loc),
    loc)
elif ch == ‘[‘:
    loop_test = self func.new_block ()
on_zero = self func.new_block ()
on_non_zero = self func.new_block ()

    self curblock.end_with_jump (loop_test, loc)
    loop_test.add_comment (b"'[', loc)
    loop_test.end_with_conditional (self.current_data_is_zero (loc),
        1.3. Implementing a “brainf” compiler 17
def parse_into_ctxt(self, filename):
    
    Parse the given .bf file into the gccjit.Context, containing a single "main" function suitable for compiling into an executable.
    
    self.filename = filename;
    self.line = 1
    self.column = 0
    with open(filename) as f_in:
        for ch in f_in.read():
            self.compile_char(ch)
    self.curblock.end_with_void_return()

    # Compiling to an executable

1.3.3 Compiling a context to a file

In previous examples, we compiled and ran the generated machine code in-process. We can do that:

    def run(self):
        import ctypes
        result = self.ctxt.compile()
        py_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(None)
        py_func = py_func_type(result.get_code(b'func'))
        py_func()

but this time we’ll also provide a way to compile the context directly to an executable, using gccjit.Context.compile_to_file().

To do so, we need to export a main function. A helper function for doing so is provided by the JIT API:

    def make_main(ctxt):
        
        Make "main" function:
        int
        main (int argc, char **argv)
        {
        ...
\[\]

Return (func, param_argc, param_argv)

```cpp
int_type = ctxt.get_type(TypeKind.INT)
param_argc = ctxt.new_param(int_type, b"argc")
char_ptr_ptr_type =
    ctxt.get_type(TypeKind.CHAR).get_pointer().get_pointer()
param_argv = ctxt.new_param(char_ptr_ptr_type, b"argv")
func_main = ctxt.new_function(FunctionKind.EXPORTED,
    int_type,
    b"main",
    [param_argc, param_argv])

return (func_main, param_argc, param_argv)
```

which we can use (as gccjit.make_main) to compile the function to an executable:

```python
def compile_to_file(self, output_path):
    # Wrap "func" up in a "main" function
    mainfunc, argv, argv = gccjit.make_main(self.ctxt)
    block = mainfunc.new_block()
    block.add_eval(self.ctxt.new_call(self.func, []))
    block.end_with_return(self.int_zero)
    self.ctxt.compile_to_file(gccjit.OutputKind.EXECUTABLE,
        output_path)
```

Finally, here's the top-level of the program:

```python
def main(argv):
    from optparse import OptionParser
    parser = OptionParser()
    parser.add_option("-o", "--output", dest="outputfile",
        help="compile to FILE", metavar="FILE")
    (options, args) = parser.parse_args()
    if len(args) != 1:
        raise ValueError('No input file')
    inputfile = args[0]
    c = Compiler()
    c.parse_into_ctxt(inputfile)
    if options.outputfile:
        c.compile_to_file(options.outputfile)
    else:
        c.run()

if __name__ == '__main__':
    try:
        main(sys.argv)
    except Exception as exc:
        print(exc)
        sys.exit(1)
```

The overall script examples/bf.py is thus a bf-to-machine-code compiler, which we can use to compile .bf files, either to run in-process,

```
$ PYTHONPATH=. python examples/bf.py \\
emit-alphabet.bf
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
```

or to compile into machine code executables:

### 1.3. Implementing a “brainf” compiler
which we can run independently:

```bash
$ ./a.out
```

which shows that libcgcjit has managed to optimize the function somewhat (for example, the runs of 26 and 65 increment operations have become integer constants 0x1a and 0x41):

```assembly
0000000000400620 <main>:  
  400620: 80 3d 39 0a 20 00 00 cmpb $0x0,0x200a39(%rip) # 601060 <data 
  400627: 74 07 je 400630 <main 
  400629: eb fe jmp 400629 <main+0x9> 
  40062b: 0f 1f 44 00 00 nopl 0x0(%rax,%rax,1) 
  400630: 48 83 ec 08 sub $0x8,%rsp 
  400634: c6 05 1e 0a 20 00 1a movb $0x1a,0x200a1e(%rip) # 601060 <data_cells> 
  40063b: 8d 78 41 lea 0x41(%rax),%edi 
  400642: 40 88 3d 15 0a 20 00 mov %dil,0x200a15(%rip) # 601061 <data_cells+0x1> 
  400645: e8 87 fe ff ff callq 4004e0 <putchar@plt> 
  400646: 0f b6 05 01 0a 20 00 movzb1 0x200a01(%rip),%eax # 601061 <data_cells+0x1> 
  400649: 80 2d f9 09 20 00 01 subb $0x1,0x200f9(%rip) # 601060 <data_cells> 
  40064c: 31 c0 xor %eax,%eax 
  40064e: 48 83 c4 08 add $0x8,%rsp 
  400650: c3 retq 
```

We also set up debugging information (via `gccjit.Context.new_location()` and `gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO`), so it’s possible to use `gdb` to singlestep through the generated binary and inspect the internal state `idx` and `data_cells`:

```bash
(gdb) break main
Breakpoint 1 at 0x400790
(gdb) run
Starting program: a.out
```

```bash
Breakpoint 1, 0x00000000000400790 in main (argc=1, argv=0x7fffffffe448) 
(gdb) stepi
0x00000000000400797 in main (argc=1, argv=0x7fffffffe448) 
(gdb) stepi
0x000000000004007a0 in main (argc=1, argv=0x7fffffffe448) 
(gdb) stepti
9 >+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++< 
(gdb) list
4
```
1.3.4 Other forms of ahead-of-time-compilation

The above demonstrates compiling a `gccjit.Context` directly to an executable. It’s also possible to compile it to an object file, and to a dynamic library. See the documentation of `gccjit.Context.compile_to_file()` for more information.
2.1 Compilation contexts

class gccjit.Context
   The top-level of the API is the gccjit.Context class.
   A gccjit.Context instance encapsulates the state of a compilation.
   You can set up options on it, and add types, functions and code. Invoking gccjit.Context.compile() on it gives you a gccjit.Result.

- dump_to_file(path, update_locations)
- get_first_error()
- new_location(filename, line, column)
   Make a gccjit.Location representing a source location, for use by the debugger:

   loc = ctxt.new_location('web.js', 5, 0)

   Note: You need to enable gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO on the context for these locations to actually be usable by the debugger:

   ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO, True)

   Return type gccjit.Location

new_global (Type type_, name, Location loc=None)
   Return type gccjit.LValue

new_array_type (Type element_type, int num_elements, Location loc=None)
   Return type gccjit.Type

new_field (Type type_, name, Location loc=None)
   Return type gccjit.Field

new_struct (name, fields=None, Location loc=None)
   Return type gccjit.Struct

new_union (name, fields=None, Location loc=None)
   Construct a new “union” type.
   Return type gccjit.Type
   Parameters
• field – The fields that make up the union
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None

For example, to create the equivalent of:

union u
{
    int as_int;
    float as_float;
};

you can use:

ctxt = gccjit.Context()
int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
float_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.FLOAT)
as_int = ctxt.new_field(int_type, b‘as_int’)
as_float = ctxt.new_field(float_type, b‘as_float’)
u = ctxt.new_union(b‘u’, [as_int, as_float])

new_function_ptr_type (return_type, param_types, loc=None, is_variadic=False)

Parameters
• return_type (gccjit.Type) – The return type of the function
• param_types (A sequence of gccjit.Type) – The types of the parameters
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None
• is_variadic (bool) – Is the function variadic (i.e. accepts a variable number of arguments)

Return type gccjit.Type

For example, to create the equivalent of:

typedef void (*fn_ptr_type) (int, int int);

you can use:

>>> ctxt = gccjit.Context()
>>> void_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.VOID)
>>> int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
>>> fn_ptr_type = ctxt.new_function_ptr_type (void_type, [int_type, int_type, int_type])

>>> print(fn_ptr_type)
void (*) (int, int, int)

new_param (Type type_, name, Location loc=None)

Return type gccjit.Param

new_function (kind, Type return_type, name, params, Location loc=None, is_variadic=False)

Return type gccjit.Function

get_builtin_function (name)

Return type gccjit.Function

zero (type_)

Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a numeric type, get the constant 0 as a gccjit.RValue of that type.

Return type gccjit.RValue
one (type_)
Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a numeric type, get the constant 1 as a gccjit.RValue of that type.
Return type gccjit.RValue

new_rvalue_from_double (numeric_type, value)
Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a numeric type, get a floating-point constant as a gccjit.RValue of that type.
Return type gccjit.RValue

new_rvalue_from_int (type_, value)
Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a numeric type, get an integer constant as a gccjit.RValue of that type.
Return type gccjit.RValue

new_rvalue_from_ptr (pointer_type, value)
Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a pointer type, and an address, get a gccjit.RValue representing that address as a pointer of that type:

ptr = ctxt.new_rvalue_from_ptr(int_star, 0xDEADBEEF)

Return type gccjit.RValue

null (pointer_type)
Given a gccjit.Type, which must be a pointer type, get a gccjit.RValue representing the NULL pointer of that type:

ptr = ctxt.null(int_star)

Return type gccjit.RValue

new_string_literal (value)
Make a gccjit.RValue for the given string literal value (actually bytes):

msg = ctxt.new_string_literal(b'hello world\n')

Parameters value (bytes) – the bytes of the string literal
Return type gccjit.RValue

new_unary_op (op, result_type, rvalue, loc=None)
Make a gccjit.RValue for the given unary operation.
Parameters
• op (gccjit.UnaryOp) – Which unary operation
• result_type (gccjit.Type) – The type of the result
• rvalue (gccjit.RValue) – The input expression
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None
Return type gccjit.RValue

new_binary_op (op, result_type, a, b, loc=None)
Make a gccjit.RValue for the given binary operation.
Parameters
• op (gccjit.BinaryOp) – Which binary operation
• result_type (gccjit.Type) – The type of the result
• a (gccjit.RValue) – The first input expression
• b (gccjit.RValue) – The second input expression
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None
Return type gccjit.RValue
new_comparison (op, a, b, loc=None)

Make a gccjit.RValue of boolean type for the given comparison.

Parameters
• op (gccjit.Comparison) – Which comparison
• a (gccjit.RValue) – The first input expression
• b (gccjit.RValue) – The second input expression
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None

Return type gccjit.RValue

new_child_context (self)

Return type gccjit.Context

new_cast (RValue rvalue, Type type_, Location loc=None)

Return type gccjit.RValue

new_array_access (ptr, index, loc=None)

Parameters
• ptr (gccjit.RValue) – The pointer or array
• index (gccjit.RValue) – The index within the array
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None

Return type gccjit.LValue

new_call (Function func, args, Location loc=None)

Return type gccjit.RValue

new_call_through_ptr (fn_ptr, args, loc=None)

Parameters
• fn_ptr (gccjit.RValue) – A function pointer
• args (A sequence of gccjit.RValue) – The arguments to the function call
• loc (gccjit.Location) – The source location, if any, or None

Return type gccjit.RValue

For example, to create the equivalent of:

typedef void (*fn_ptr_type) (int, int, int);
fn_ptr_type fn_ptr;

fn_ptr (a, b, c);

you can use:

block.add_eval (ctxt.new_call_through_ptr(fn_ptr, [a, b, c]))

### 2.1.1 Debugging

gccjit.Context.dump_reproducer_to_file (self, path)

Write C source code into path that can be compiled into a self-contained executable (i.e. with libgccjit as the only dependency). The generated code will attempt to replay the API calls that have been made into the given context, at the C level, eliminating any dependency on Python or on client code or data.

This may be useful when debugging the library or client code, for reducing a complicated recipe for reproducing a bug into a simpler form.

Typically you need to supply -Wno-unused-variable when compiling the generated file (since the result of each API call is assigned to a unique variable within the generated C source, and not all are necessarily then used).
GCCJIT Documentation, Release 0.4

```
gccjit.Context.set_logfile(self, f)
    To help with debugging; enable ongoing logging of the context’s activity to the given file object.
    For example, the following will enable logging to stderr:
    ctxt.set_logfile(sys.stderr)

    Examples of information logged include:
    • API calls
    • the various steps involved within compilation
    • activity on any gccjit.Result instances created by the context
    • activity within any child contexts

    The precise format and kinds of information logged is subject to change.
    Unfortunately, doing so creates a leak of an underlying FILE * object.
    There may a performance cost for logging.

2.1.2 Options

String options
```
```gccjit.Context.set_str_option(self, opt, val)
    Set a string option of the context; see gccjit.StrOption for notes on the options and their meanings.

    Parameters
    • opt (gccjit.StrOption) – Which option to set
    • val (str) – The new value
```

```
class gccjit.StrOption
    PROGNAME
        The name of the program, for use as a prefix when printing error messages to stderr. If None, or default, “libgccjit.so” is used.

Boolean options
```
```gccjit.Context.set_bool_option(self, opt, val)
    Set a boolean option of the context; see gccjit.BoolOption for notes on the options and their meanings.

    Parameters
    • opt (gccjit.BoolOption) – Which option to set
    • val (str) – The new value
```

```
class gccjit.BoolOption
    DEBUGINFO
        If true, gccjit.Context.compile() will attempt to do the right thing so that if you attach a debugger to the process, it will be able to inspect variables and step through your code.
```
Note that you can’t step through code unless you set up source location information for the code (by creating and passing in `gccjit.Location` instances).

**DUMP_INITIAL_TREE**

If true, `gccjit.Context.compile()` will dump its initial “tree” representation of your code to stderr (before any optimizations).

Here’s some sample output (from the `square` example):

```cpp
<statement_list 0x7f4875a62cc0
  type <void_type 0x7f4875a64bd0 VOID
    align 8 symtab 0 alias set -1 canonical type 0x7f4875a64bd0
    pointer_to_this <pointer_type 0x7f4875a64c78>>
  side-effects head 0x7f4875a761e0 tail 0x7f4875a761f8 stmts 0x7f4875a62d20 0x7f4875a62d00
stmt <label_expr 0x7f4875a62d20 type <void_type 0x7f4875a64bd0>
  side-effects
  arg 0 <label_decl 0x7f4875a79080 entry type <void_type 0x7f4875a64bd0>
    VOID file (null) line 0 col 0
    align 1 context <function_decl 0x7f4875a77500 square>>>
stmt <return_expr 0x7f4875a62d00 type <integer_type 0x7f4875a645e8 public SI
  size <integer_cst 0x7f4875a623a0 constant 32>
  unit size <integer_cst 0x7f4875a623c0 constant 4>
  align 32 symtab 0 alias set -1 canonical type 0x7f4875a645e8 precision 32 min <integer_cst 0x7f4875a62340 -2147483648> max <integer_cst 0x7f4875a62360 2147483647>
  pointer_to_this <pointer_type 0x7f4875a6b348>>
  side-effects
  arg 0 <modify_expr 0x7f4875a72a78 type <integer_type 0x7f4875a645e8>
    side-effects arg 0 <result_decl 0x7f4875a7a000 D.54>
    arg 1 <mult_expr 0x7f4875a72a50 type <integer_type 0x7f4875a645e8>
      arg 0 <parm_decl 0x7f4875a79000 i> arg 1 <parm_decl 0x7f4875a79000 i>>>>>
```
.cfi_def_cfa_register 6
movl %edi, -4(%rbp)
.L2:
movl -4(%rbp), %eax
imull -4(%rbp), %eax
popq %rbp
.cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
ret
.cfi_endproc
.LFE0:
.size square, .-square
.ident "GCC: (GNU) 4.9.0 20131023 (Red Hat 0.1-%{gcc_release})"
.section .note.GNU-stack,"",@progbits

DUMP_SUMMARY
If true, gccjit.Context.compile() will print information to stderr on the actions it is performing, followed by a profile showing the time taken and memory usage of each phase.

DUMP_EVERYTHING
If true, gccjit.Context.compile() will dump copious amount of information on what it’s doing to various files within a temporary directory. Use gccjit.BoolOption.KEEP_INTERMEDIATES (see below) to see the results. The files are intended to be human-readable, but the exact files and their formats are subject to change.

SELCHECK_GC
If true, libgccjit will aggressively run its garbage collector, to shake out bugs (greatly slowing down the compile). This is likely to only be of interest to developers of the library. It is used when running the selftest suite.

KEEP_INTERMEDIATES
If true, the gccjit.Context will not clean up intermediate files written to the filesystem, and will display their location on stderr.

Integer options

gccjit.Context.set_int_option(seld, opt, val)
Set an integer option of the context; see gccjit.IntOption for notes on the options and their meanings.

Parameters

  • opt (gccjit.IntOption) – Which option to set
  • val (str) – The new value

class gccjit.IntOption

OPTIMIZATION_LEVEL
How much to optimize the code.

Valid values are 0-3, corresponding to GCC’s command-line options -O0 through -O3.
The default value is 0 (unoptimized).

2.2 Types

Types can be created in several ways:
• fundamental types can be accessed using `gccjit.Context.get_type()`:
  ```python
ing_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
```
  See `gccjit.TypeKind` for the available types.
  You can get `int` types of specific sizes (in bytes) using `gccjit.Context.get_int_type()`:
  ```python
  int_type = ctxt.get_int_type(4, is_signed=True)
  ```
• derived types can be accessed by calling methods on an existing type:
  ```python
  const_int_star = int_type.get_const().get_pointer()
  int_const_star = int_type.get_pointer().get_const()
  ```
• by creating structures (see below).

class gccjit.Type

    get_pointer()
    Given type $T$ get type $T^*$.
    
    Return type gccjit.Type

gccjit.TypeKind

    VOID
    C’s “void” type.

    VOID_PTR
    C’s “void *”.

    BOOL
    C++’s bool type; also C99’s “_Bool” type, aka “bool” if using stdbool.h.

    CHAR

    SIGNED_CHAR
    C’s “char” (of some signedness) and the variants where the signedness is specified.

    UNSIGNED_CHAR

    2.2.1 Standard types

gccjit.Context.get_type(self, type_enum)
    Look up one of the standard types (see gccjit.TypeKind):
    ```python
    int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)
    ```
    Parameters type_enum (gccjit.TypeKind) – Which type to lookup
SHORT
UNSIGNED_SHORT
C's “short” (signed) and “unsigned short”.

INT
UNSIGNED_INT
C's “int” (signed) and “unsigned int”:
int_type = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.INT)

LONG
UNSIGNED_LONG
C's “long” (signed) and “unsigned long”.

LONG_LONG
UNSIGNED_LONG_LONG
C99's “long long” (signed) and “unsigned long long”.

FLOAT
DOUBLE
LONG_DOUBLE
Floating-point types

CONST_CHAR_PTR
C type: (const char *):
const_char_p = ctxt.get_type(gccjit.TypeKind.CONST_CHAR_PTR)

SIZE_T
The C “size_t” type.

FILE_PTR
C type: (FILE *)
gccjit.Context.get_int_type(self, num_bytes, is_signed)
Look up an integer type of the given size:
int_type = ctxt.get_int_type(4, is_signed=True)

2.2.2 Structures

You can model C struct types by creating gccjit.Struct and gccjit.Field instances, in either order:

• by creating the fields, then the structure. For example, to model:
  
  struct coord {
    double x; double y;
  };

  you could call:
  
  field_x = ctxt.new_field(double_type, b'x')
  field_y = ctxt.new_field(double_type, b'y')
  coord = ctxt.new_struct(b'coord', [field_x, field_y])

  (see gccjit.Context.new_field() and gccjit.Context.new_struct()), or

• by creating the structure, then populating it with fields, typically to allow modelling self-referential structs such as:
struct node { int m_hash; struct node *m_next; };

like this:
node = ctxt.new_struct(b’node’)
node_ptr = node.get_pointer()
field_hash = ctxt.new_field(int_type, b’m_hash’)
field_next = ctxt.new_field(node_ptr, b’m_next’)
node.set_fields([field_hash, field_next])

(see gccjit.Struct.set_fields())

class gccjit.Field
class gccjit.Struct

set_fields (fields, loc=None)
Populate the fields of a formerly-opaque struct type. This can only be called once on a given struct type.

2.3 Expressions

class gccjit.RValue
dereference_field (Field field, Location loc=None)
dereference (loc=None)
get_type ()
class gccjit.LValue

get_address (loc=None)
Get the address of this lvalue, as a gccjit.RValue of type T*.

2.3.1 Unary Operations

Unary operations are gccjit.RValue instances built using gccjit.Context.new_unary_op() with an operation from one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unary Operation</th>
<th>C equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.UnaryOp.MINUS</td>
<td>-(EXPR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.UnaryOp.BITWISE_NEGATE</td>
<td>~(EXPR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.UnaryOp.LOGICAL_NEGATE</td>
<td>!(EXPR)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

class gccjit.UnaryOp

MINUS
Negate an arithmetic value; analogous to:
- (EXPR)
in C.

BITWISE_NEGATE
Bitwise negation of an integer value (one’s complement); analogous to:
- (EXPR)

in C.

**LOGICAL_NEGATE**

Logical negation of an arithmetic or pointer value; analogous to:

```c
!(EXPR)
```

in C.

### 2.3.2 Binary Operations

Unary operations are `gccjit.RValue` instances built using `gccjit.Context.new_binary_op()` with an operation from one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Binary Operation</th>
<th>C equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS</code></td>
<td><code>x + y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.MINUS</code></td>
<td><code>x - y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.MULT</code></td>
<td><code>x * y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.DIVIDE</code></td>
<td><code>x / y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.MODULO</code></td>
<td><code>x % y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.BITWISE_AND</code></td>
<td><code>x &amp; y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.BITWISE_XOR</code></td>
<td><code>x ^ y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.BITWISE_OR</code></td>
<td>`x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.LOGICAL_AND</code></td>
<td><code>x &amp;&amp; y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>gccjit.BinaryOp.LOGICAL_OR</code></td>
<td>`x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLUS**

Addition of arithmetic values; analogous to:

```c
(EXPR_A) + (EXPR_B)
```

in C. 

For pointer addition, use `gccjit.Context.new_array_access()`.

**MINUS**

Subtraction of arithmetic values; analogous to:

```c
(EXPR_A) - (EXPR_B)
```

in C.

**MULT**

Multiplication of a pair of arithmetic values; analogous to:

```c
(EXPR_A) * (EXPR_B)
```

in C.

**DIVIDE**

Quotient of division of arithmetic values; analogous to:

```c
(EXPR_A) / (EXPR_B)
```
The result type affects the kind of division: if the result type is integer-based, then the result is truncated towards zero, whereas a floating-point result type indicates floating-point division.

**MODULO**

Remainder of division of arithmetic values; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) \% (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

**BITWISE_AND**

Bitwise AND; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) \& (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

**BITWISE_XOR**

Bitwise exclusive OR; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) \^ (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

**BITWISE_OR**

Bitwise inclusive OR; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) \| (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

**LOGICAL_AND**

Logical AND; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) \&\& (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

**LOGICAL_OR**

Logical OR; analogous to:

\[(EXPR_A) || (EXPR_B)\]

in C.

### 2.3.3 Comparisons

Comparisons are `gccjit.RValue` instances of boolean type built using `gccjit.Context.new_comparison()` with an operation from one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>C equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.EQ</td>
<td><code>x == y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.NE</td>
<td><code>x /= y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.LT</td>
<td><code>x &lt; y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.LE</td>
<td><code>x &lt;= y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.GT</td>
<td><code>x &gt; y</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.Comparison.GE</td>
<td><code>x &gt;= y</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
class gccjit.Comparison

   EQ
   NE
   LT
   LE
   GT
   GE

2.4 Functions

class gccjit.Param

class gccjit.Function

   new_local(type_, name, loc=None)
       Add a new local variable to the function:
       i = fn.new_local(int_type, b'i')

       Return type gccjit.LValue

   new_block(name)
       Create a gccjit.Block.
       The name can be None, or you can give it a meaningful name, which may show up in dumps of the internal representation, and in error messages:
       entry = fn.new_block('entry')
       on_true = fn.new_block('on_true')

   get_param(index)

   dump_to_dot(path)
       Write a dump in GraphViz format to the given path.

class gccjit.Block
   A gccjit.Block is a basic block within a function, i.e. a sequence of statements with a single entry point and a single exit point.

   The first basic block that you create within a function will be the entrypoint.

   Each basic block that you create within a function must be terminated, either with a conditional, a jump, or a return.

   It’s legal to have multiple basic blocks that return within one function.

   add_eval(rvalue, loc=None)
       Add evaluation of an rvalue, discarding the result (e.g. a function call that “returns” void), for example:
       call = ctxt.new_call(some_fn, args)
       block.add_eval(call)

       This is equivalent to this C code:
(void) expression;

**add_assignment** *(lvalue, rvalue, loc=None)*

Add evaluation of an rvalue, assigning the result to the given lvalue, for example:

```c
# i = 0
entry_block.add_assignment(local_i, ctxt.zero(the_type))
```

This is roughly equivalent to this C code:

```c
lvalue = rvalue;
```

**add_assignment_op** *(lvalue, op, rvalue, loc=None)*

Add evaluation of an rvalue, using the result to modify an lvalue via the given gccjit.BinaryOp. For example:

```c
# i++
loop_block.add_assignment_op(local_i,
    gccjit.BinaryOp.PLUS,
    ctxt.one(the_type))
```

This is analogous to “+=” and friends:

```c
lvalue += rvalue;
lvalue *= rvalue;
lvalue /= rvalue;
/* etc */
```

**add_comment** *(text, Location loc=None)*

Add a no-op textual comment to the internal representation of the code. It will be optimized away, but will be visible in the dumps seen via gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_TREE and gccjit.BoolOption.DUMP_INITIAL_GIMPLE and thus may be of use when debugging how your project’s internal representation gets converted to the libgccjit IR.

**end_with_conditional** *(boolval, on_true, on_false=None, loc=None)*

Terminate a block by adding evaluation of an rvalue, branching on the result to the appropriate successor block.

This is roughly equivalent to this C code:

```c
if (boolval)
    goto on_true;
else
    goto on_false;
```

Example:

```c
# while (i < n)
cond_block.end_with_conditional(
    ctxt.new_comparison(gccjit.Comparison.LT, local_i, param_n),
    loop_block,
    after_loop_block)
```

**end_with_jump** *(target, loc=None)*

Terminate a block by adding a jump to the given target block.

This is roughly equivalent to this C code:

```c
goto target;
```

Example:
loop_block.end_with_jump(cond_block)

**end_with_return** (*RValue rvalue, loc=None*)

Termine a block by adding evaluation of an rvalue, returning the value.

This is roughly equivalent to this C code:

```c
return expression;
```

Example:

```python
# return sum
after_loop_block.end_with_return(local_sum)
```

**end_with_void_return** (*loc=None*)

Termine a block by adding a valueless return, for use within a function with “void” return type.

This is equivalent to this C code:

```c
return;
```

**get_function**()

Get the `gccjit.Function` that this block is within.

```python
class gccjit.FunctionKind

    EXPORTED
    INTERNAL
    IMPORTED
    ALWAYS_INLINE

2.5 Source Locations

```python
class gccjit.Location

A `gccjit.Location` encapsulates a source code location, so that you can (optionally) associate locations in your language with statements in the JIT-compiled code, allowing the debugger to single-step through your language.

You can construct them using `gccjit.Context.new_location()`.

You need to enable `gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO` on the `gccjit.Context` for these locations to actually be usable by the debugger:

```python
ctxt.set_bool_option(gccjit.BoolOption.DEBUGINFO, True)
```

`gccjit.Location` instances are optional; most API entrypoints accepting one default to `None`.

2.5.1 Faking it

If you don’t have source code for your internal representation, but need to debug, you can generate a C-like representation of the functions in your context using `gccjit.Context.dump_to_file()`:

```python
ctxt.dump_to_file(b'/tmp/something.c', True)
```
This will dump C-like code to the given path. If the `update_locations` argument is `True`, this will also set up `gccjit.Location` information throughout the context, pointing at the dump file as if it were a source file, giving you something you can step through in the debugger.

### 2.6 Compiling a context

Once populated, a `gccjit.Context` can be compiled to machine code, either in-memory via `gccjit.Context.compile()` or to disk via `gccjit.Context.compile_to_file()`.

You can compile a context multiple times (using either form of compilation), although any errors that occur on the context will prevent any future compilation of that context.

#### 2.6.1 In-memory compilation

```python
gccjit.Context.compile(self)

rtype gccjit.Result
```

This calls into GCC and builds the code, returning a `gccjit.Result`.

```python
class gccjit.Result
```

A `gccjit.Result` encapsulates the result of compiling a `gccjit.Context` in-memory, and the lifetimes of any machine code functions or globals that are within the result.

```python
get_code(funcname)
```

Locate the given function within the built machine code.

Functions are looked up by name. For this to succeed, a function with a name matching `funcname` must have been created on `result`'s context (or a parent context) via a call to `gccjit.Context.new_function()` with `kind` `gccjit.FunctionKind.EXPORTED`.

The returned value is an `int`, actually a pointer to the machine code within the address space of the process. This will need to be wrapped up with `ctypes` to be callable:

```python
import ctypes

# "[int] -> int" functype:
int_int_func_type = ctypes.CFUNCTYPE(ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int)

code = int_int_func_type(jit_result.get_code(b"square"))

assert code(5) == 25
```

The code has the same lifetime as the `gccjit.Result` instance; the pointer becomes invalid when the result instance is cleaned up.

#### 2.6.2 Ahead-of-time compilation

Although libgccjit is primarily aimed at just-in-time compilation, it can also be used for implementing more traditional ahead-of-time compilers, via the `gccjit.Context.compile_to_file()` API entrypoint.

```python
gccjit.Context.compile_to_file(self, kind, path)
```

Compile the context to a file of the given kind:

```python
ctxt.compile_to_file(gccjit.OutputKind.EXECUTABLE, 'a.out')
```
gccjit.Context.compile_to_file() ignores the suffix of path, and instead uses kind to decide what to do.

**Note:** This is different from the gcc program, which does make use of the suffix of the output file when determining what to do.

The available kinds of output are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output kind</th>
<th>Typical suffix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.OutputKind.ASSEMBLER</td>
<td>.s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.OutputKind.OBJECT_FILE</td>
<td>.o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.OutputKind.DYNAMIC_LIBRARY</td>
<td>.so or .dll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gccjit.OutputKind.EXECUTABLE</td>
<td>None, or .exe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### class gccjit.OutputKind

#### ASSEMBLER

Compile the context to an assembler file.

#### OBJECT_FILE

Compile the context to an object file.

#### DYNAMIC_LIBRARY

Compile the context to a dynamic library.

There is currently no support for specifying other libraries to link against.

#### EXECUTABLE

Compile the context to an executable.

There is currently no support for specifying libraries to link against.
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