

Java compiler implementation in Python: Examples

Chris Lamb

March 2007

1 Compiling Java

- Peephole optimiser
- Register colouring

2 Detecting errors

- Type checking
- Linting

3 Other languages

- Lisp
- BF
- Abusing the --lang switch

Compiling Java - Input

```
public class Example1 {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        int i = 6;
        i = i + 10;
        i++;

        if (i > 15) {
            System.out.println("i is greater than ten");
        }
    }
}
```

Pre-optimisation output (bytecode)

```
ldc          {value:6}
istore      {localvar:1}
iload      {localvar:1}
ldc          {value:10}
iadd
istore      {localvar:1}
iinc         {localvar:1, value:1}
iload      {localvar:1}
ldc          {value:15}
if_icmpgt   {target:'true-1480989268'}
iconst_0
goto         {target:'tail-1480989268'}
iconst_1     {labels:['true-1480989268']}
nop
ifeq         {target:'tail-1481130004'}
getstatic    {returntype:'Ljava/io/PrintStream;', field:'out',
              klass:'java/lang/System'}
ldc          {value:'i is greater than ten'}
invokevirtual {klass:'java/io/PrintStream', args:'(Ljava/lang/String;)V',
               name:'println'}
nop          {labels:['tail-1481130004']}
return_
```

Post-optimisation output (bytecode)

```
bipush      {value:6}
istore_1
iinc        {localvar:1, value:11}
iload_1
bipush      {value:15}
if_icmple   {target:'tail-1481539092'}
getstatic   {returntype:'Ljava/io/PrintStream;', field:'out',
            labels:[true-1481521748], klass:'java/lang/System'}
ldc         {value:'i is greater than ten'}
invokevirtual {klass:'java/io/PrintStream', args:'(Ljava/lang/String;)V',
               name:'println'}
return_     {labels:[tail-1481539092]}
```

- 50% of pre-optimised size
- Assembler generates .class representation of the code

Comparison with Sun's javac

```
0      bipush   6
2      istore_1
3      iload_1
4      bipush   10
6      iadd
7      istore_1
8      iinc index: 1 const 1
11     iload_1
12     bipush   15
14     if_icmple 25
17     getstatic #2 <Field java/lang/System.out Ljava/io/PrintStream;*>
20     ldc #3 <String "i is greater than ten">
22     invokevirtual #4 <Method java/io/PrintStream.println (Ljava/lang/String;)V>
25     return
```

- Sun: 14 instructions, Lamby: 10 instructions
- Simple rules to transform code

Register colouring

```
public class Example2 {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        int a = 0;
        int b = 0;

        a = 1;
        b = 1;

        int c = a + 1;
    }
}
```

Register colouring

```
public class Example2 {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        int a = 0;  
        int b = 0;  
  
        a = 1;  
        b = 1;  
  
        int c = a + 1;  
    }  
}
```

- Variables b and c are never live at the same time → can share register
- Sun's javac uses 3 registers, I use only 2

Detecting errors - input

```
public class Example3 {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        int i = false + 2 + 3;  
        byte b = (int) 12;  
        if ("String") { }  
        boolean bool;  
        bool++;  
        int j;  
        System.out.println(j);  
    }  
}
```

Detecting errors - output

```
Example3.java:3:16: operator + cannot be applied to boolean,int
    int i = false + 2 + 3;
           ^
```

```
Example3.java:4:8: possible loss of precision
    byte b = (int) 12;
           ^
```

```
Example3.java:5:12: incompatible types
found   : java.lang.String
required: boolean
    if ("String") { }
           ^
```

```
Example3.java:7:8: operator ++ cannot be applied to boolean
bool++;
           ^
```

```
Example3.java:9:27: variable i might not have been initialized
    System.out.println(j);
           ^
```

Linting

Detects semantic errors in syntactically valid code.

```
public class Example4
{
    public static void main(String args[])
    {
        for (int i = 0; i > 10; i++)
        {
            System.out.println(i);
        }
    }
}
```

Linting

Detects semantic errors in syntactically valid code.

```
public class Example4
{
    public static void main(String args[])
    {
        for (int i = 0; i > 10; i++)
        {
            System.out.println(i);
        }
    }
}
```

Outputs (as a compiler warning):

```
warning: Example4.java:6:24: possible wrong comparison used
      for (int i = 0; i > 10; i++)
                           ^
```

Compiling Lisp

```
(defun factorial (n)
  (if (<= n 1)
    1
    (* n (factorial (- n 1)))))

(print (factorial 3))
```

- **defun** definitions \Leftrightarrow **public static** methods
- Type checker ensures correct scoping

Compiling Lisp - bytecode output

```
Method public static factorial (int) -> int
0    iload_0
1    iconst_1
2    if_icmpgt 9
5    iconst_1
6    goto 17
9    iload_0
10   dup
11   iconst_1
12   isub
13   invokestatic #6 <Method Factorial.factorial (I)I>
16   imul
17   ireturn
```

```
Method public static main (java/lang/String []) -> void
0    iconst_3
1    invokestatic #6 <Method Factorial.factorial (I)I>
4    dup
5    getstatic #14 <Field java/lang/System.out Ljava/io/PrintStream;>
8    swap
9    invokevirtual #20 <Method java/io/PrintStream.println (I)V>
12   return
```

Compiling BF

```
++++++[>+++++>+++++++
>+++>+<<<<-]>++++.>---.-.+.>++.< b a n g !
<-----.>-----.+.+++++.-----
-----.-.++.+++++++.>.<<+.>.
-----.-.++.+++++++.+++++.
-----.+ +     +++
+++++++.      --
-----.-.++
+++++.>.<<+
+++++.>---
-----.-.++
+++++++.---.
---.-.+++++++
++++++.[ - ]+
+++++++. 
```

Compiling BF

```
+++++++[>+++++>+++++++
>+++>+<<<<-] >++++. >---. ---. +. >++. <
<----- . >----- . +. +++++. -----
----- . ---. ++++++++. >. <<+. >.
----- . ++++++++. +++++. +
----- . + + + +
+++++++. -- -
----- . ++
+++++. >. <<+
+++++. >---
----- . ++. +
+++++++. --- -
---. ++++++
+++++. [-] +
+++++++. 
```

Outputs: “Just Another Brainf*** Hacker”.

Abusing the --lang switch

```
public class Multi{public static void main(String args[//-
]) {
    // ++++++[>+++++>+
    // ++++++>++>+<<<->++
    System. // >+
    out. // +++++.
    println("Hello World!"); // .+++.>++.<<++.+
    // ++++++++.+++.-----.-----.>+.>.
}}
```

Abusing the --lang switch

```
public class Multi{public static void main(String args[//-
]) {
    // ++++++[>+++++>+
    // ++++++>++>+<<<->++
    System. // >+
    out. // +++++.
    println("Hello World!"); // .+++.>++.<<++.+
    // ++++++++.+++.-----.-----.>+.>.
}}
```

- Outputs “Hello World!” when called with `--lang=bf` or `--lang=Java` :)