



## Report

# On code generation in a PASCAL compiler

**Author(s):**

Ammann, Urs

**Publication Date:**

1976

**Permanent Link:**

<https://doi.org/10.3929/ethz-a-000147300> →

**Rights / License:**

[In Copyright - Non-Commercial Use Permitted](#) →

This page was generated automatically upon download from the [ETH Zurich Research Collection](#). For more information please consult the [Terms of use](#).

---

Eidgenössische  
Technische  
Hochschule  
Zürich

*Institut  
für  
Informatik*

---

Urs Ammann

*On Code  
Generation  
in a PASCAL  
Compiler*

On Code Generation in a PASCAL Compiler

by

Urs Ammann

Abstract: PASCAL has been implemented at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich for the CDC 6000 computer series. This report deals with code generation in the resulting one-pass compiler (which is written in the language it compiles). The paper gives insight into the runtime organization of data as well as into the use of the hardware registers. It is shown how the compiler maintains a description of the register contents and uses this description to generate efficient code. Several examples of compiled code are discussed.

Author's address: Institut für Informatik  
ETH-Zentrum  
CH-8092 Zürich

Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Introduction   | 3  |
| 2. The Representation of Data at Runtime                          | 5  |
| 3. The Compilation of Expressions                                 | 8  |
| 3.1. The Data Structure Describing Partially Compiled Expressions | 8  |
| 3.2. The Data Structure Describing the Register Contents          | 15 |
| 3.2.1. The Contents of the X Registers                            | 15 |
| 3.2.2. The Contents of the A Registers                            | 17 |
| 3.2.3. The Contents of the B Registers                            | 18 |
| 3.3. The Register Allocation Procedures                           | 21 |
| 3.4. Loading an Expression  | 22 |
| 3.5. The Compilation of Operations                                | 27 |
| 4. The Compilation of Assignments                                 | 28 |
| 5. The Compilation of the Control Statements                      | 32 |
| References  | 35 |
| Appendix: An Example of the Code Generation                       | 36 |

## 1. Introduction

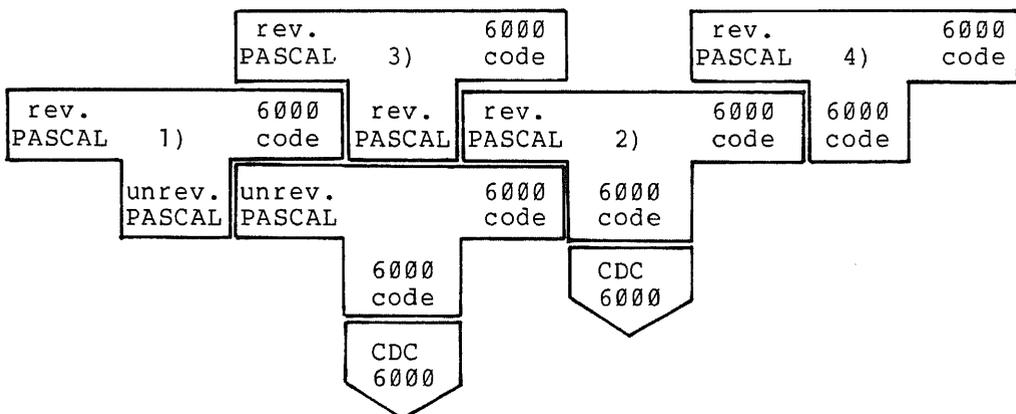
PASCAL is an ALGOL-like general purpose programming language. It was developed by N. Wirth at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ) and was first published in [7]. In 1973 an axiomatic definition of the language followed [4]. Compared to ALGOL 60, PASCAL offers essential extensions in the domain of user defined data structures. In spite of its power of expression PASCAL is characterized by its simplicity and ease of implementation, thereby favourably measuring with other modern programming languages as e.g. PL/I and ALGOL 68.

Parallel with the development and the definition of the language the first PASCAL compiler - for the CDC 6000 computer family - was written at the Computer Science Department of ETHZ during the years 1970 and 1971 [8]. This experience on the one hand led to the definition of a revised language [3] and on the other hand to the decision to write a new compiler from scratch. Thereby, both the language and the implementation matured from the previous project.

The second compiler was started in summer 1972, and completed about two years later. It was developed with the aid of the already existing PASCAL compiler (from now on called the old compiler) using the commonly known bootstrapping technique. This subdivided the whole task into the following four phases:

- 1) Programming the new compiler in unrevised PASCAL.
- 2) Compilation of the result of phase 1) with the old compiler.
- 3) Translation "by hand" of the result of phase 1) into revised PASCAL.
- 4) Compilation of the result of phase 3) by means of the compiler obtained in phase 2).

The therewith completed separation from the old compiler can be figured with T-diagrams:



The compilers resulting from phase 1) to 4) are herein marked with the respective numbers.

Concerning this bootstrap process, it is worthwhile to note the following:

- The old and the new compiler differ greatly one from the other. This is not so much because of the language revisions but is rather due to the fact that the new compiler generates better code. To reach this goal a total reorganization of the compiler in its code generation parts was necessary and led to a far more complex program structure.
- The compiler resulting from phase 2) obviously compiled revised PASCAL. Nevertheless, it was in two respects not satisfying the demands. First, because it had still been written in unrevised PASCAL and hence could not profit from the language revisions. Second, it had been compiled by the old compiler, which did not translate into sufficiently efficient code. Therefore the compile speed of compiler 2) was rather moderate and its storage requirements were quite high.
- Thanks to the relatively few language changes the hand translation in the third phase of the bootstrap proved to be a more or less negligible task.
- With the realization of phase 4), the influence of the old compiler on the new one finally vanished.

A compiler bootstrap as performed and described above usually runs into three difficulties:

- 1) The implementation languages (in this case revised and unrevised PASCAL) have to be powerful enough to express programs of the complexity of a compiler with elegance and ease.
- 2) The resulting compiler has to produce sufficiently good code. Otherwise it will itself become a victim of its own shortcomings. To be competitive, it must neither be slow nor spacious.
- 3) Unrecognized errors in the compiler will often become perceptible after a bootstrap in an ugly way. If for example texts of the form  $f$  are compiled incorrectly and the compiler itself contains such texts, then, after a bootstrap, the compiler will fail to translate not only these texts correctly but also those texts which are translated by the compiler making use of texts of the form  $f$ . Such errors are sometimes very hard to find. Once detected, it can, however, even be more cumbersome to fix them. This is typically the case when, due to the compiler error in question, the intended correction is not correctly compiled.

On the other hand, writing a compiler in a high level programming language has many advantages which nowadays are commonly accepted: saving in programming time, low error rate, easy error detection especially in case of source oriented error messages, and self-documentation - not to speak of (hopefully) improved reliability, modularity and maintainability.

Furthermore, when a compiler is written in the language it compiles, an additional advantage is that improvements in code generation often happen to pay back after a bootstrap. In spite of a larger source text, the compiler is quicker and uses less memory than before. This feed-back is of course most welcome to every implementor.

The new PASCAL compiler compiles in one pass. The characteristics of its syntax analysis are: top-down, one symbol look-ahead, no backtrack. It is implemented by means of recursive descent. By using the method of Structured Programming, the compiler was developed in six explicit steps that are naturally derived from the process of compilation.

- step 1: Syntax analysis for syntactically correct programs.
- step 2: Recovery from syntactical errors.
- step 3: Analysis of declarations.
- step 4: Treatment of context-sensitive errors.
- step 5: Address assignment.
- step 6: Code generation.

Every step has to be understood as an enrichment of its predecessor.

It is noteworthy that steps 1 to 4 do not depend on the machine type for which the compiler is to generate code. Advantage was taken of this fact during the development of the new PASCAL compiler for the CDC 6000 computer family. Proceeding from step 4, a compiler for a hypothetical stack computer was also built [1][5]. An exhaustive description of both compiler projects can be found in [2].

This report gives a survey of the code generation part of the CDC 6000 PASCAL compiler. Instead of producing assembler programs as other compilers do, this compiler generates machine code directly, therewith providing an efficient compilation process. To guarantee full flexibility at load time loader compatible relocatable code is generated.

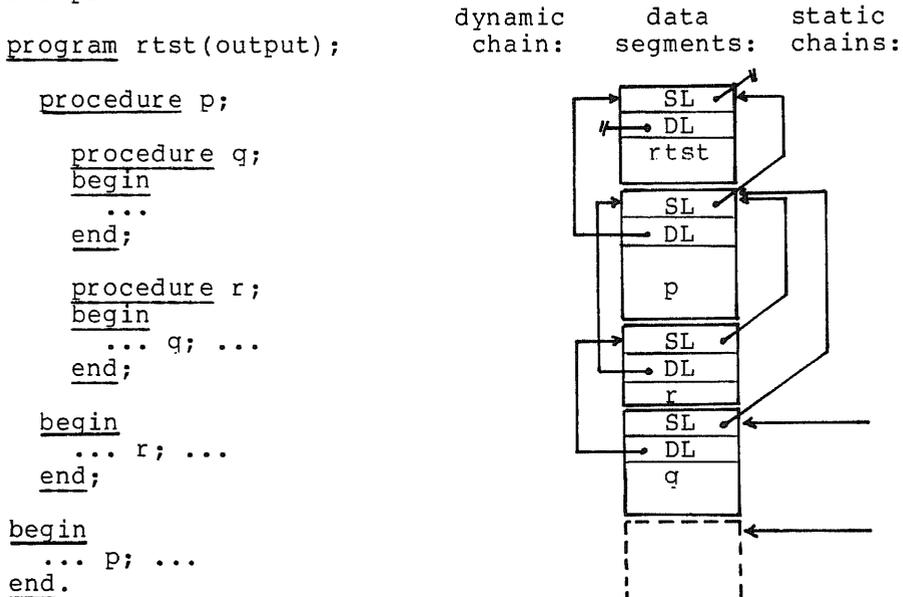
## 2. The Representation of Data at Runtime

According to a commonly known organization code and data are separated from each other at runtime. The local data of every procedure (or function) are united in a data segment and are therein addressed by an offset relative to the segment origin (the so called base address). For runtime a stack containing the data segments of all activated procedures is provided. As the base addresses of the data segments vary during runtime, variable addressing is nontrivial. However, this way to organize data guarantees maximum storage economy: Every data segment

exists only during the execution of the procedure to which it belongs. It is created at procedure entry and discarded at exit. Both of these stack operations can be implemented at relatively low expense.

To allow stacking and unstacking of data segments, a link is needed. It is called dynamic link (DL) and chains every data segment to its immediate predecessor in the stack. Variable addressing is done through a second link. It is called static link (SL) and chains only those data segments which - according to the scope rules of PASCAL - are currently accessible. SL as well as DL are incorporated in the head of every data segment (as first and second word respectively).

Example:



program and corresponding stack (growing downwards) of data segments belonging to the calling sequence rtst --> p --> r --> q

BASE is the base address of the most recently created data segment. It is the head of the two chains and is hence used both for addressing variables and for the two stack manipulations. Stacking also requires another pointer (NEXT) defining the base address of the segment to be stacked.

As shown in the following figure a data segment is, in general, divided into six logically distinguishable areas.

offset with respect  
to segment origin:

|     |                       |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 0   | segment head          |
| 1   | function result       |
| 2   | parameter descriptors |
| 3   | .                     |
| n+2 | .                     |
| n+3 | parameter copies      |
| .   | .                     |
| .   | local variables       |
| .   | anonymous values      |

segment head: It contains the two links SL and DL described above.

function result: This word is reserved for the eventual function result. In data segments belonging to procedures it is not used.

parameter descriptors: For each of the n parameters a descriptor word is reserved; thereby the descriptor of the i-th parameter gets an offset of i+2. The information stored therein depends on the kind of the parameter. For those value parameters needing at most one word of memory, the descriptor contains the actual value. For variable parameters and for value parameters needing more than one word of memory, the descriptor is used to hold the (first word) address of the actual parameter. Finally, in case of a parameter procedure the descriptor consists of its entry point and static link.

parameter copies: Local copies of those value parameters which need more than one word of memory are stored in this area.

local variables: This area is reserved for the values of the local variables.

anonymous values: In this last section of a data segment anonymous values are temporarily stored (e.g. upper bounds of for-loops, which - according to the definition of PASCAL - are computed only once).

Any of the last four areas may be absent in a particular data segment.

The following example shows a function declaration and the data segment derived therefrom:

```

const n = 3;
type inx = 1..n;
  arr = array [inx] of real;

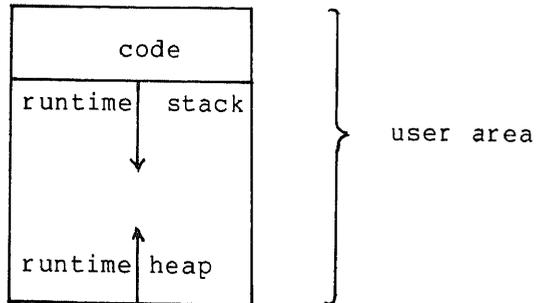
function scalprod(a,b: arr;k: inx): real;
  var s: real; i: inx;
begin s := 0;
  for i := 1 to k do s := s + a[i]*b[i];
  scalprod := s
end

```

offset:

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| SL                  | 0  |
| DL                  | 1  |
| scalproc            | 2  |
| address of a        | 3  |
| address of b        | 4  |
| value of k          | 5  |
| value of b          | 6  |
| value of a          | 7  |
| value of s          | 8  |
| value of i          | 9  |
| loop bound value(k) | 10 |
|                     | 11 |
|                     | 12 |
|                     | 13 |
|                     | 14 |

After completion of the loading process a contiguous piece of yet unused store remains at the upper end of the user area. During execution this piece of storage is used for the runtime stack as well as for the runtime heap. The former grows from the lower end while the latter uses the upper part and grows in the opposite direction.



### 3. The Compilation of Expressions

#### 3.1. The Data Structure Describing Partially Compiled Expressions

The expression or subexpression currently in compilation is described by a global variable called GATTR (global attribute record) of type ATTR (to be defined later).

Whenever a dyadic operation has to be compiled the attributes of the first operand are stored in a local variable LATTR after its

compilation. LATTR is, of course, local to that one procedure which translates the operation (e.g. for a multiplication, local to the compiler procedure TERM). After the compilation of the second operand, the attributes of both operands are available in LATTR and GATTR respectively - thereby allowing the operation to be compiled. Besides defining the attributes of the result in GATTR, this action generally involves code generation.

Example:

```

procedure term;
  var lattr: attr; lsymbol: pascalsymbol;
begin factor;
  while symbol in mulops do
    begin lattr := gattr; lsymbol := symbol;
      readnextpascalsymbol; factor;
      case lsymbol of
        mulop: generate multiplication code  
and define attributes of result 1)
        divop: ...
        .
        .
        .
      end (*case*)
    end (*while*)
end (*term*)

```

1) A rectangle x occurring in a piece of program usually stands for a statement performing the computation which is verbally defined by x. However, it may - as in the next example - also stand for the declaration of data described by x.

In the attribute record ATTR the following four classes of expressions are distinguished: constants (CST), variables (VARBL), conditions (COND), and other expressions (EXPR). With a minimum of discriminations this classification allows the generation of efficient code.

Hence, the type ATTR has the following form:

```

attr = record typtr: pointertotypeentry;
      case kind: attrkind of
        cst: attributes of the constant ;
        varbl: attributes of the variable ;
        cond: attributes of the condition ;
        expr: attributes of the expression ;
      end
whereby attrkind = (cst,varbl,cond,expr).

```

The following remarks are destined to give some insight into this data structure and its usage.

TYPTR: holds the pointer to the type entry. It is used not only

for type checking but also for code generation. On the one hand it allows the access to size information (i.e. the number of words and bits associated with the type). On the other hand it makes available index and subrange bounds which are needed for address calculations and assignment checks.

KIND = CST: The only additional attribute of a constant is its internal value (CVAL).

In connection with some operations, constant operands give rise to a special treatment. This applies to

a) Indexing:

The address calculation is done at compile time.

b) Integer multiplication:

If one of the operands has the form  $c = 2^{**n}$  (power of two) and  $n > 2$ , a shift instruction is generated. However, for multiplications by two ( $n = 1$ ) an add instruction is compiled:

```

if n ≠ 0 then
  if n = 1 then
    begin [IXj Xi+Xi] ; i := j end
  else [LXi n]
    (* result register is Xi *)

```

1) For the CDC 6000 instruction set cf. [9].

The reason is that the shift destroys the other operand (in Xi), while the add instruction leaves it untouched, thereby enriching the register contents.

For constants of the form  $c = 2^{**n} * (2^{**m} + 1)$  with  $m ≥ 1$ , i.e. for sums and differences of powers of two, the code generation is defined by

```

if n ≠ 0 then [LXi n] ;
[BXj Xi]
[LXj m]
[IXj Xj±Xi]
(* result register is Xj *)

```

These trivial optimizations reduce the execution time considerably. While loading c and doing a multiply instruction takes 6.3 microseconds the optimized code is executed in 0.6 to 2.3 microseconds. It is noteworthy that only three of the integers up to 20 (namely 11, 13, and 19) are not of one of the distinguished forms.

This code improvement is most important for the hidden multiplications that have to be compiled in order to address components of structured variables. Experience shows that such code is frequently executed.

c) The operations div and mod:

When the second operand is a power of two, both operations

are compiled with shifts.

d) Checks verifying the legality of an operation:

Example: Indexing is an illegal operation if the actual index is out of the declared index range. Thus, given the declaration

a: array[1..10] of integer,  
a[0] is illegal and is diagnosed at compile time. Similar checks hold for such operations as assignments to variables of subrange type and integer division (dividend  $\neq$  0).

KIND = VARBL: The three kinds of access naturally given by the language split this class into three subclasses. The discriminating field WORDACC is of type

accesskind = (drct,indrct,inxd).

The value of WORDACC specifies the access to the word containing the variable as follows:

WORDACC = DRCT: (direct access) The word address is represented by the pair <declaration level, relative address> (<VLEVEL,CWDISPL>). VLEVEL determines which data segment has to be accessed and CWDISPL holds the offset relative to the segment origin.

Examples: entire actual variables, entire value parameters, and record components.

WORDACC = INDRCT: (indirect access) The word address is obtained by adding an offset (CWDISPL) to the value of an X register (the one with index VWDISPL).

Examples: variable parameters, file elements, variables referenced through pointers.

WORDACC = INXD: (indexed access) The word address is composed from an array address given by the pair <VLEVEL,CWDISPL>, and the value of the X register with index VWDISPL. The sum of these two address components yields the word address of the variable.

Example: actual array elements.

In the case of packed variables another field (CBDISPL) is needed to hold the constant part of the bit address. With indexed access to packed variables, CBDISPL has to be added to the value of the X register with index VBDISPL to get the bit address.

Notice that indirect access to packed variables does not exist in this implementation. The reason for this is threefold.

First: as an implementation restriction, no component of a packed variable may be substituted for a variable parameter. Without this restriction either packed variables or variable parameters could not be implemented in a sensible way.

Second: The only files for the components of which less than one word of memory is allocated are the text files (of type packed file of char). However, for these files the PASCAL runtime support provides and manages a character buffer wherein the actual file element appears in unpacked form.

Third: The memory allocation for variables created at runtime is such that these variables always occupy an integral

multiple of words. Thus, pointers can be implemented as word addresses.

KIND = COND: In accordance with the user defined scalars, the constants FALSE and TRUE of the standard scalar

Boolean = (false,true)

are internally represented by the values 0 and 1 respectively. This representation is the only one that allows straight-forward code when Boolean expressions appear in case-statements, for-statements, index expressions, etc.

Without the case COND, every relation (e.g. i>j) would have to be compiled up to the Boolean result - regardless whether this was really necessary.

Example: For "if i > j then ..." the following code would have to be generated

```

SA1  i
SA2  j
IX0  X2-X1
MX3  1
BX0  X3*X0
LX0  1
ZR   X0,...

```

This is obviously far from optimal and can easily be done better. Instead of hastily compiling the relational operation up to the Boolean result, only the subtraction instruction is generated. The index of the condition register (0 in the above example) is kept in CDR and the field CONDCD: (ZR,NZ,PL,NG) is set to the condition code (here PL). Later, when it becomes obvious whether the Boolean value is needed or not, the appropriate code is generated. In the above example a "PL X0,..." would replace the last four instructions. (Note that in this implementation -0's are eliminated by adding a +0 whenever a -0 could possibly result. Consequently, jumps depending on the sign bit only are safe.)

The compilation of the Boolean operator not turns out to be trivial for KIND = COND. No code need be generated; CONDCD has merely to be updated.

```

case condcd of
  zr: condcd := nz;
  nz: condcd := zr;
  pl: condcd := ng;
  ng: condcd := pl
end

```

It is worthwhile noting that not even the Boolean result of a relation is needed when the relations appear as operands in one of the operations and or or. An examination of the 12 possible

combinations of CONDCD shows that in every case better code can be produced for both operations.

Example: if (i > j) and (k ≠ 3) then ... is compiled into

|     |        |   |            |
|-----|--------|---|------------|
| SA1 | i      | } | i > j      |
| SA2 | j      |   |            |
| IX0 | X2-X1  | } | k ≠ 3      |
| SA3 | k      |   |            |
| SX4 | 3      | } | <u>and</u> |
| IX5 | X3-X4  |   |            |
| BX6 | X6-X6  | } | <u>and</u> |
| IX6 | X6-X5  |   |            |
| BX5 | X5-X6  | } | <u>and</u> |
| BX6 | X0*X5  |   |            |
| PL  | X6,... |   |            |

KIND = EXPR: All other expressions fall into this class. The only attribute is the index EXPREG of the X register, which at runtime contains the value of the expression.

Now, the complete definition of ATTR can be given:

```
attr = record typtr: pointertotypeentry;
      case kind: attrkind of
        cst: (cval: value);
        varbl: (wordacc: accesskind;
               vlevel: levrage; cwdispl: integer;
               vwdispl: regnr;
               case pckd: Boolean of
                 true: (cbdispl: integer;
                       case bitreg: Boolean of
                         true: (vbdispl: regnr);
                         false: ());
                 false: ());
        cond: (cdr: regnr; concd: (zr,nz,pl,ng));
        expr: (expreg: regnr)
```

wherein regnr = end 0..7.

A couple of examples of expressions are collected in table 1. The first column shows the expression which is to be compiled by a call of the compiler procedure EXPRESSION. The second column contains the attribute record thereby created and the third column shows the code generated during the call. The underlying declarations are

```
var i,j: integer; p: ↑integer;
     a: array [1..2] of char;
     r: packed record f1: Boolean;
                               f2: packed array [1..4] of char
      end
```

The declaration level is assumed to be 1, the relative addresses range from 3 (for i) to 8 (for r).

| expression to be compiled | resulting compiler internal description of the expression<br>(to be found in GATTR after return from EXPRESSION) |       |                                     |                   |              |              |       |              |             |              | code generated during the call of EXPRESSION |                                     |
|---------------------------|--|-------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--|-------------------------------------|
|                           | typtr  | kind  | cval/<br>wordacc/<br>cdr/<br>expreq | vlevel/<br>condcd | cw-<br>displ | vw-<br>displ | packd | cb-<br>displ | bit-<br>reg | vb-<br>displ |  |                                     |
| true                      | boolptr  | cst   | 1                                   |                   |              |              |       |              |             |              | -  | -                                   |
| i                         | intptr   | varbl | drct                                | 1                 | 3            | -            | false |              |             |              | -  | -                                   |
| a[2]                      | charptr  | varbl | drct                                | 1                 | 7            | -            | false |              |             |              | -  | -                                   |
| r.f2[i]                   | charptr  | varbl | drct                                | 1                 | 8            | -            | true  | -5           | true        | eg.6         |  |                                     |
| p↑                        | intptr   | varbl | indrct                              | -                 | 0            | e.g.1        | false |              |             |              |  | SA1 p (p)                           |
| a[i]                      | charptr  | varbl | inxd                                | 1                 | 5            | e.g.2        | false |              |             |              |  | SA2 i (i)                           |
| i + 10                    | intptr   | expr  | e.g.3                               |                   |              |              |       |              |             |              |  | SA2 i<br>SX0 10<br>IX3 X2+X0 (i+10) |
| i > j                     | boolptr  | cond  | e.g.0                               | p1                |              |              |       |              |             |              |  | SA1 i<br>SA2 j<br>IX0 X2-X1 (j-i)   |

Table 1: Examples of compiled expressions

- Remarks:
- The register indexes are incidental. In a concrete compilation their choice depends on the actual register contents (cf. 3.2.-3.4.).
  - In the example "r.f2[i]" the value of WORDACC (DRCT) must not surprise. The word address of this variable is independant of the value of i.

### 3.2. The Data Structures Describing the Register Contents

The fact that the target machine offers 24 hardware registers represents a challenge to the compiler writer. He can expect that book-keeping of the register contents will prevent him from generating many superfluous instructions. Of course he must carefully weigh for what classes of expressions book-keeping pays off in so far as it is sufficiently manageable and code is considerably improved.

In this one-man compiler project the simplifications in code generation are restricted to load operations:

- The generation of load instructions is unnecessary when an inspection of the description of the register contents shows that the value of the expression in question is already in a register.
- A load operation is reduced to a single 15 bit instruction when an inspection of the register contents shows that a register holds the address in question or one of its neighbouring addresses.

Clearly, the compiler also uses this information to aim at rich register contents. Whenever a register is needed, a run through the description of all the registers is performed. Thereby the compiler decides which register can be released with supposedly least harm to further code generation (for details cf. 3.3.).

The following paragraphs intend to give insight into the compiler data structures describing the contents of the X, A, and B registers. With respect to the compiler complexity it was decided that only those classes of expressions which can be described with at most two unstructured values are worth remembering.

#### 3.2.1. The Contents of the X Registers

The simplest category of expressions are the constants. They are completely defined by their internal value. However, for the code generation, it is suitable to subdivide the set of all constants into two classes: the "short" constants (SHRTCST), and the "long" constants (LONGCST). The former can be loaded with fast SX instructions while the latter must be loaded with slow SA instructions.

No other register contents are described with the same ease. For another class of expressions, the pair <declaration level, relative address> met above is the appropriate description. These are called the simple variables (SIMPVAR). It is noteworthy that not only user defined variables but also the parameter descriptors (thus also addresses) and anonymous values fall under this notion.

Finally, a fourth class of register contents is worth remembering: the so called indirect variables (INDVAR). They are

described by a pair <X register number, relative address>. The first component references an X register with contents SIMPVAR and the second represents the offset. The sum of the two address components is the word address of the indirect variable. This class comprises variable parameters (offset 0), file elements, and variables that are referenced through pointers.

An X register, occupied by an intermediate result not belonging to one of the classes distinguished, is characterized by OTHER. A free register is marked AVAIL.

Every register not being AVAIL has a counter (REFNR), which indicates how many times the register is currently being referenced. The references either originate from the description of another X register (cf. INDVAR above), or from a variable of type ATTR. As long as a register is referenced it must obviously not be overwritten.

When no references exist, it is interesting to know for how long the register has not been referenced. An easy measure for this is the difference between the current value of the instruction counter and the one at the moment of the expiration of the last reference (LASTREF). The longer a register has not been referenced, the less interesting it is to the compiler to protect its contents from being overwritten.

Both simple and indirect variables can be packed. In such cases it will often happen that an X register is rotated by a number of bits because the last action has been the unpacking of a component of the (structured) variable. A shift count (SHFTCNT) is therefore added to the description of the two classes SIMPVAR and INDVAR. This shift count tells by how many bits the register content is actually left-rotated.

After these introductory explanations the data structure for the description of the contents of the X registers can now be given.

```

type xrgclass = (avail,shrtcst,longcst,simpvar,indvar,other);
xrgclass1 = shrtcst..indvar; xrgclass2 = simpvar..indvar;
xrgcont = packed record
  case xcont: xrgclass of
    avail: ( );
    shrtcst,longcst,
    simpvar,indvar,
    other: (refnr: shortint; lastref: icrange;
            case xrgclass1 of
              shrtcst: (cstval: shortint);
              longcst: (cstpnr: ↑csttable);
              simpvar,
              indvar: (shftcnt: 0..59;
                      case xrgclass2 of
                        simpvar:
                          (xlev: levrage;
                           xaddr: addrange);
                        indvar:
                          (xreg: regnr;
                           xdispl: addrange);
                      )
            )
    end;
xrgconts = array [regnr] of xrgcont;
var xrgs: xrgconts

```

XRGS always describes the register contents corresponding to the actual state of the code generation.

Example: The compiler internal descriptions of expressions given in table 1 reference (among others) the registers X2 and X6. The descriptions of the contents of the two registers are given below.

| register | content | description in XRGS |       |         |      |       |
|----------|---------|---------------------|-------|---------|------|-------|
|          |         | xcont               | refnr | shftcnt | xlev | xaddr |
| X2       | i       | simpvar             | 1     | 0       | 1    | 3     |
| X6       | 6*i     | other               | 1     |         |      |       |

Note that with this kind of description the compiler remembers not only unstructured variables (i.e. those of scalar, subrange, or pointer type) but also structured ones (i.e. those of set, array, or record type). For example as soon as a field of the record r (cf. the declarations underlying table 1) has been loaded, the whole record is in a register. Any succeeding access to one of its fields can therefore be performed without memory reference.

### 3.2.2. The Contents of the A Registers

The addresses which are remembered are exactly those of the variables which are remembered. Hence, three kinds of addresses are distinguishable, those of simple variables (SIMPADDR), indirect variables (INDADDR), and others (UNSPECADDR).

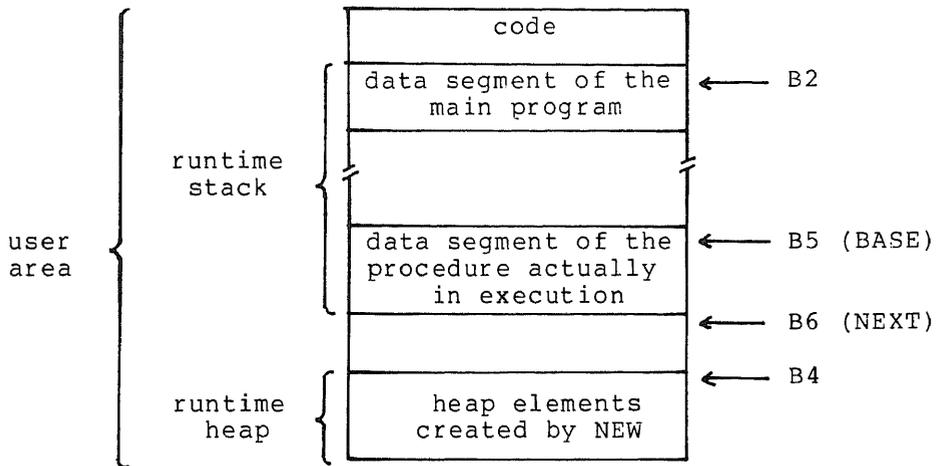
```
type argclass = (simpaddr,indaddr,unspecaddr);  
  argcont = packed record  
    case acont: argclass of  
      simpaddr: (alev: levrange;adispl: addrange);  
      indaddr: (areg: regnr; adispl: addrange);  
      unspecaddr: ( )  
    end;  
  argconts = array [regnr] of argcont;  
var args: argconts
```

ARGS also describes the register contents as they correspond to the actual state of the code generation.

### 3.2.3. The Contents of the B Registers

The uses of the B registers are manifold. Their usage as base registers for the data segments is of course the most important one. In this connection the question arises as to which of all possible methods of access to data segments should be implemented. In principle, access is possible through the static link. However, for any nonlocal variable this kind of access is indirect and therefore inefficient. A better solution consists in having all active base addresses directly accessible. This was done in an earlier implementation of PASCAL [8] in an extremely effective way by using the B registers as a hardware display. The overhead of this method is modest: at procedure entry, a B register has to be saved before it is loaded with a new value; at procedure exit, the old value has to be restored. The disadvantage is rather that the limited number of available B registers imposes a severe restriction on the degree of procedure nesting. In a high level programming language implementation this is absolutely undesirable.

In this implementation access to the data segments is therefore organized differently. Register B2 is permanently used to hold the base address of the main program variables. Besides this, only the base address of the data segment belonging to the procedure actually in execution resides in a B register, namely in B5. To insure fast stack and unstack operations of the data segments B6 is reserved for NEXT(cf. 2.). Again, for reasons of efficiency B4 always points to the "first" word in the heap. This eases the test on an eventual overlap of stack and heap as well as the implementation of the standard procedure NEW.



The remaining three B registers - except for B0 - are used as follows:

B1 always contains the constant 1. This allows a considerable condensation of the generated code in so far as in many places a 15 bit instruction can be generated instead of a 30 bit instruction. In such cases not only the length of the code is reduced to half but also the probability that fill instructions have to be generated is diminished.

The advantages of letting B1 = 1 are manifold:

- It happens relatively often that variables which are declared together - and therefore get adjacent addresses - are used in the same context. Obviously, this leads to the usage of neighbouring addresses in these program parts.
- Count variables are usually incremented or decremented by 1. In for-loops this happens even implicitly.
- Except for 0, 1 is the most frequent initial value.
- Comparisons and assignments of storage areas are done word by word using an address increment of 1.
- The constant 2 (=B1+B1) is another frequently used constant.

Finally, B3 and B7 are used for miscellaneous purposes but particularly for variable addressing. It was mentioned above that the main program variables are always directly accessible (through B2) just the same as are the local data of the procedure in execution (through B5). Now, whenever access to a data segment of intermediate level first occurs, it is achieved by following the static link. However, if one of the registers B3 or B7 is currently available, this register is immediately used to point to the origin of the data segment in question. Subsequent accesses to this data segment are then direct, i.e. without the detour along the static link. There is a good chance that indirect accesses can thereby be considerably reduced, if not nearly eliminated.

To implement this method of segment addressing the following variables were introduced

```
levels: set of levrage;  
brg: array [levrange] of regnr
```

LEVELS is the set of those declaration levels of which the data segments are currently accessible through B registers. Thus, it always contains the set [1,LEVEL]. BRG maps these levels into the corresponding B register indexes and is initialized by

```
brg[1] := 2; brg[level] := 5.
```

Access to a data segment of level l is now as follows:

```
if l in levels then direct access through Bbrg[l]  
else for k := l + 1 to level do  
    if k in levels then  
        indirect access through Bbrg[k]  
        down the static link. If a B register (Bn) is free, let it hold the base address of the accessed data segment and update LEVELS and BRG:  
        levels := levels + [l];  
        brg[l] := n
```

This kind of organization of variable addressing is quite modular. For example, it would be very easy to return to the hardware display method (levels := [1..level]; for l := 1 to level do brg[l] := l) implemented in the earlier compiler version. As a consequence, L in LEVELS would be true for all L. Hence the else-part of the above statement would never have to be executed.

To distinguish between the several uses of the B registers, the type

```
brgclass = (free, basaddr, specpurp)
```

was introduced in the compiler. FREE characterizes a B register which is currently not used. B registers containing nonpermanent base addresses are described by BASADDR, and SPECPURP indicates a special mode of use that forbids overwriting.

The complete declaration of the variable BRGS, describing the actual state of the B registers, follows.

```
type brgcont = packed record  
    case bcont: brgclass of  
        free: ();  
        basaddr: (blev: levrage);  
        specpurp: ()  
    end;  
    brgconts = array [regnr] of brgcont;  
var brgs: brgconts
```

For the registers B0, B1, B2, B4, B5 and B6 the field BCONT always has the value SPECPURP while for B3 and B7 its value varies according to the actual mode of use.

### 3.3. The Register Allocation Procedures

The procedures involved in code generation must be given the possibility to require registers. As to the A and X registers, which are coupled (cf.[9]), one procedure (NEEDX) is sufficient. Its input parameters define the interval in which the output parameter, i.e. the index of the disposed register, has to lie. Four kinds of calls have to be distinguished:

```
needx(0,7,i): A call asking for an arbitrary X register.
needx(1,5,i): A call asking for an A/X register pair to
               compile a load operation.
needx(6,7,i): A call asking for an A/X register pair to
               compile a store operation.
needx(i,i,i): A call asking for the register Xi (e.g. X6
               to pass a function result to the calling
               procedure).
```

Similarly, B registers are requested through a call of NEEDB. This procedure . . . however, has only one parameter, the index to be returned.

Both NEEDX and NEEDB choose the register to be disposed depending on the actual register contents as described by the variables XRGs and BRGS. These variables are updated immediately after the choice in order to mirror the new register contents correctly.

In the case of NEEDX the selection algorithm depends only on the contents of the X registers which are considered to be far more valuable than the corresponding A register contents. If among the registers in question there is one with XCONT = AVAIL, its index is returned. Otherwise that one register (with REFNR = 0) for which the value of BONUS[XCONT]-LASTREF is a maximum is disposed.

For this register the field XCONT is set to OTHER and REFNR is set to 1.

The array BONUS is defined as follows:

```
bonus[shrtcst] := 20; bonus[longcst] := 10;
bonus[simpvar] := 4;  bonus[indvar] := 3;
```

This initialization assigns to the short constants the least importance. The reason for this is that their occurrences are rarely clustered, and they can be loaded with fast SX instructions. The long constants are weighed more heavily, but still subordinated to the variables. This is because the probability of frequent use of the same long constant is expected to be much lower than frequent use of the same variable.

Among registers containing simple or indirect variables the choice depends heavily on the "time" of the last reference

(LASTREF).

A register which has been requested and is not used any more has to be released. In the case of the X registers this is done by calling the procedure DECREFX. Its parameter is the index of the register to be returned. DECREFX decrements the number of references REFNR by one. Once it has reached zero, LASTREF is set if XCONT  $\neq$  OTHER, otherwise XCONT gets the value AVAIL.

Hence, in the compiler, typical code generation sections using an X register have the form

```
needx(0,7,i); code generation involving Xi; decrefx(i)
```

Returning a B register is even more trivially accomplished by assigning the value FREE to BCONT. Code generation sections making use of a B register therefore show the following pattern:

```
needb(k); code generation involving Bk; brgs[k].bcont := free
```

### 3.4. Loading an Expression

Generating code to load the value of an expression into an X register is a fundamental operation and has to be done in many places in a compiler. This fact evidently calls for the introduction of a procedure (LOAD) to perform the necessary code generation and the associated updating of the register contents. Therein, the description of the expression to be loaded appears as an input parameter, and the index of the X register containing the value at completion of the load operation is the output parameter. The global register content descriptions ARGS, XRGs, and BRGS are transient. The structure of the variable FATTR (describing the expression to be loaded) determines the layout of LOAD:

```
procedure load(fattr: attr; var fi: regnr);
```

```
  var i: regnr;
```

```
  begin
```

```
    with fattr do
```

```
      if typtr  $\neq$  nil then
```

```
        case kind of
```

```
          cst:
```

```
          either find a register Xi containing the value described by CVAL or generate code to load that value into Xi; update the register content description accordingly
```

```
          varbl:
```

```
            begin
```

```
              case wordacc of
```

```
                drct:
```

```
                either find a register Xi containing the value of the memory word described by <VLEVEL,CWDISPL> or generate code to load that word into Xi; update the register content description accordingly
```

```
                indrct:
```

either find a register Xi containing the value of the memory word described by <CWDISPL,VWDISPL> or generate code to load that word into Xi; update the register content description accordingly

inxd:

generate code to load the memory word described by <VLEVEL,CWDISPL,VWDISPL> into Xi; update the register content description accordingly

end (\*case\*);

if pckd then

begin

by consulting the type of the variable determine:

- the number of bits occupied by the variable
- whether a sign bit has to be extended
- whether the value has to be left or right justified (the former in case of record and array variables)

if bitreg then

generate code rotating the value with the bit address <CBDISPL,VBDISPL> into the appropriate position for unpacking

else

generate code rotating the value with the bit address CBDISPL into the appropriate position for unpacking

generate code unpacking the value of the variable into another X register and store its index in i

end (\*pckd\*)

end (\*varbl\*);

cond:

depending on the value of the condition code CONDCD generate code to compute the Boolean value from the value of the condition register Xcdr

expr:

i := expreg

end (\*case\*)

else needx(0,7,i);

fi := i

end (\*load\*)

As a further refinement would be too detailed, the description of the procedure LOAD is concluded by summarizing the code which - depending on FATTR - is generated. It is to be noted that since the different cases are not mutually exclusive, their order is relevant.

KIND = CST:

- |                      |           |    |
|----------------------|-----------|----|
| 1. abs(cval) > 2**17 | SAi @cval |    |
| 2. cval = 0          | BXi Xi-Xi | 1) |
| 3. cval = 1          | SXi B1    |    |
| 4. cval = 2          | SXi B1+B1 |    |
| 5. else              | SXi cval  |    |

KIND = VARBL, WORDACC = DRCT:

- |  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| 1. address already in Aj                 | SAi Aj  |    |
| 2. neighbouring address<br>already in Aj | SAi Aj+B1   |    |
| 3. vlevel <u>in</u> levels               | SAi Bbrg[vlevel]+cwispl   | 2) |
| 4. else                                  | code to load the base address<br>of the data segment with<br>level VLEVEL into Xi |    |
|  | SAi Xi+cwispl   | 2) |

KIND = VARBL, WORDACC = INDRCT:

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. address already in Aj                 | SAi Aj              |
| 2. neighbouring address<br>already in Aj | SAi Aj+ B1          |
| 3. cwdispl = 0                           | SAi Xvwdispl        |
| 4. cwdispl = 1                           | SAi Xvwdispl+B1     |
| 5. else                                  | SAi Xvwdispl+cwispl |

KIND = VARBL, WORDACC = INXD:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. vlevel <u>in</u> levels                                  |   |  |
| 1.1 three quarters of the<br>actual code word<br>are filled | SXi Xvwdispl+Bbrg[vlevel] 4)<br>SAi Xi+cwispl 5)                                  |  |
| 1.2 else  | SXi Xvwdispl+cwispl 5)<br>SAi Xi+Bbrg[vlevel]                                     |  |
| 2. else   | code to load the base address<br>of the data segment with<br>level VLEVEL into Xi |  |
|   | IXi Xi+Xvwdispl 6)<br>SAi Xi+cwispl 5)  |  |

KIND = COND:

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. condcd <u>in</u> [pl,ng] | MXK 1<br>BXi(-)Xcdr*Xk 7)<br>LXi 1  |
| 2. condcd <u>in</u> [zr,nz] | BXi Xi-Xi<br>IXi Xi-Xcdr<br>BXi(-)Xi-Xcdr 8)<br>MXk 1<br>BXi Xi*Xk<br>LXi 1 |

Remarks:

- 1) The execution time for BXi Xi-Xi is 0.5 microseconds compared to 0.6 microseconds for a SXi B0 (CDC 6400).
- 2) CWDISPL in [0,1] is impossible because the first relative address assigned in every data segment is 2. Therefore this instruction is always 30 bits.
- 3) The procedure LOADBASE performs this task. Therein a search through BRGS is done to find the index k of the B register

containing the base address of the data segment with level 1 for which 1 - VLEVEL is a minimum. Then the following code is generated:

```

SAi Bk
SAi Xi
.
.
SAi Xi
} 1 - vlevel - 1 instructions

```

which is succeeded by a SBn Xi when there is an n with BRGS[n].BCONT = FREE.

- 4) This avoids the generation of a fill instruction (NO).
- 5) CWDISPL in [0,1] is possible but improbable. A special treatment to prevent a NO instruction would hardly pay off.
- 6) Alternative code would be
 

```

SBk Xi+cwdispl
SAi Xvwdispl+Bk.

```
- 7) The minus is valid for CONDCD = NG.
- 8) The minus is valid for CONDCD = NZ.

In case of a packed variable further code is necessary to unpack the relevant bits from Xi into another X register. To achieve this, a variable

```
lmode: (usradj, sradj, usladj)
```

is introduced to distinguish between three possibilities.

LMODE = USLADJ: The variable is of record or array type. Hence, the value is structured, therefore unsigned, and has to be left adjusted. It is not necessary to mask out the bits not belonging to the value.

LMODE = SRADJ: The variable is of subrange type, the lowbound of which is less than zero. The value is signed and has to be right adjusted.

LMODE = USRADJ: The variable has another type. The value in this case is unsigned and has to be right adjusted.

The corresponding code generation is defined by the next program piece. Request and release of the registers as well as the updating of the register content description are intentionally left out for easier reading.

```

with fattr do
  begin
    with typtr↑ do
      begin
        if form = subrange then
          if min.ival < 0 then lmode := sradj
          else lmode := usradj
        else if form in [arrays,records] then lmode := usladj
          else lmode := usradj;

        bitsz := size.bits
      end;
    with xrgs[i] do
      if xcont in [simpvar,indvar] then shift := shtcnt
      else shift := 0;
      mask := wordsize - bitsz; cshft := cbdispl - shift;
      if lmode = usradj then cshft := cshft + bitsz

```

```

end ;
if bitreg then
begin
  if shift ≠ 0 then
    begin LXi wordsize-shift ; cshft := cshft + shift end; 1)
    if cshft in [0,1] then SBk Xvbdispl+Bcshft
      else SBk Xvbdispl+cshft ;
    LXj Bk+Xi
  end
else
begin
  with xrgs[i] do
    if (xcont in [simpvar,indvar]) and (lmode = sradj)
      then BXj Xi
        else j := i;
    if cshft ≠ 0 then LXj cshft
  end;
case lmode of
  usradj: begin MXk mask ; BXk -Xk*Xj end;
  sradj: AXj mask ;
  usladj:
end
end

```

Remarks:

- 1) This shift is necessary as otherwise Bk could be set to a negative value. According to the CDC 6000 hardware specification the succeeding shift would then become a (sign extending) arithmetic right shift and would lead to a wrong result.
- 2) The register contents are copied to avoid destruction in the succeeding shift operation.

Table 1 showed the effect of a call of EXPRESSION for the variable r.f2[i]. The internal description produced and the code generated were therein given as summarized below.

| internal description in GATTR  | generated code   | description of the register contents |       |       |             |           |      |       |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------------|-----------|------|-------|
|  |  | X registers                          |       |       | A registers |           |      |       |
|  |  | X                                    | xcont | refnr | A           | acon      | alev | aaddr |
| typtr: charptr<br>kind: varbl<br>wordacc: drct<br>vlevel: 1<br>cwdispl: 8<br>vwdispl: -<br>pckd: true<br>cbdispl: -5<br>bitreg: true<br>vbdispl: 6 | 1)<br>SA1 B2+3<br>LX1 1<br>BX6 X1<br>LX6 1<br>IX6 X6+X1<br>i.e.<br>X6 := 6*i | 1                                    | avail |       | 1           | simp-addr | 1    | 3     |
|  |  | :                                    |       |       |             |           |      |       |
|  |  | :                                    |       |       |             |           |      |       |
|  |  | 6                                    | other | 1     |             |           |      |       |

A succeeding LOAD(GATTR,I) would have the following effect:

| internal description in GATTR | generated code   | description of the register contents |          |       |      |             |   |           |      |       |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-------|------|-------------|---|-----------|------|-------|
|                               |                  | X registers                          |          |       |      | A registers |   |           |      |       |
|                               |                  | X                                    | xcont    | refnr | xlev | xaddr       | A | acont     | alev | aaddr |
|                               | 1) SA2 B2+8      | 0                                    | avail    |       |      |             |   |           |      |       |
|                               | SB3 X6+B1        | 1                                    | avail    |       |      |             |   |           |      |       |
| typtr: charptr                | LX0 B3,X2        | 2                                    | simp-var | 0     | 1    | 8           | 2 | simp-addr | 1    | 3     |
| kind: expr                    | MX3 54           |                                      |          |       |      |             |   | simp-addr | 1    | 8     |
| expreg: 3                     | BX3-X3*X0        | 3                                    | other    | 1     |      |             |   |           |      |       |
|                               | i.e.X3:= r.f2[i] | 6                                    | avail    |       |      |             |   |           |      |       |

1) if not already loaded.

### 3.5. The Compilation of Operations

In chapter 3.1. the compiler procedure TERM, in which the operations \*, /, div, mod, and and are compiled was introduced. At that time, the associated code generation was not given since the prerequisites for understanding it were missing. This is no longer the case, and multiplication can be taken as an example.

Under the assumption that neither of the factors is a constant, which would give rise to optimized code (cf. 3.1.), the following program piece compiles the multiplication operation:

```
load(lattr,i); load(gattr,j);
decrefx(i); decrefx(j); needx(0,7,k);
[IXk Xi*Xj];
with gattr do
```

```
begin typtr := intptr; kind := expr; expreg := k end
```

The first factor (described by LATTR) is loaded into an X register. By means of the variable i its index is passed to TERM. Analogously the second factor (described by GATTR) is loaded into Xj. If a factor is recognized as being already loaded, LOAD does not, of course, generate code.

From the load operation each of the registers Xi and Xj gets a reference (REFNR = 1). However, both of them are immediately erased through calls of DECREFX because the contents of Xi and Xj need not be protected any longer. With the subsequent call of NEEDX the result register for the multiplication is required. Due to the previous erasure of the references to Xi and Xj, it is well possible that the returned register index k is equal to i or j. The above calling sequence is therefore preferable to

```
... needx(0,7,k); decrefx(i); decrefx(j); ...
```

which restricts the freedom of choice of the selection algorithm in NEEDX.

Finally, the multiplication instruction is generated and the internal description of the result GATTR is defined.

A second example shows the process of code generation for the expression (i > j) and (i >= 10). First, the left hand factor of this term is compiled (cf. table 1).

generated code:                    internal description of the result:

```
SA1 B2+3                    typtr: boolptr
SA2 A1+B1                   kind:        cond
IX0 X2-X1                   cdr:            0
                              condcd:        pl
```

Then, the right hand factor:

```
SX3 10                      typtr: boolptr
IX4 X1-X3                   kind:        cond
                              cdr:            4
                              condcd:        ng
```

Finally, the two factors are disjunctively joined in TERM.

```
BX0 -X4*X0                   typtr: boolptr
                              kind:        cond
                              cdr:            0
                              condcd:        pl
```

This terminates the compilation of the conjunction. The resulting register contents are described by XRGS and ARGS as follows:

| xrgs |         |       |         |               |       | args |          |      |       |
|------|---------|-------|---------|---------------|-------|------|----------|------|-------|
| X    | xcont   | refnr | lastref | xlev/<br>cval | xaddr | A    | acont    | alev | aaddr |
| 0    | other   | 1     |         |               |       |      |          |      |       |
| 1    | simpvar | 0     |         | 1             | 3     | 1    | simpaddr | 1    | 3     |
| 2    | simpvar | 0     |         | 1             | 4     | 2    | simpaddr | 1    | 4     |
| 3    | shrtcst | 0     |         | 10            |       |      |          |      |       |
| 4    | avail   |       |         |               |       |      |          |      |       |

Of course, TERM could load the two factors with a call to LOAD. In that case code would be generated to determine the associated Boolean values (0 for FALSE, 1 for TRUE). However, this code would be very inefficient. Instead of a single instruction seven would be necessary to compile the and.

```
MX5 1                    } Boolean value
BX5 X5*X0                } of 1. factor
LX5 1                    } into X5
MX0 1                    } Boolean value
BX0 -X4*X0               } of 2. factor
LX0 1                    } into X0
BX0 X5*X0                } and
                              typtr: boolptr
                              kind:        expr
                              expreg:       0
```

#### 4. The Compilation of Assignments

In addition to the procedure LOAD, a procedure STORE is needed to compile assignments. STORE has two input parameters, namely

the description of the variable to which a new value has to be assigned, and the index of the register containing the new value. The procedure head hence takes the following form:

```
procedure store(fattr: attr; fi: regnr)
```

In analogy to LOAD the global variables ARGS, BRGS, and XRGs are transient to the procedure.

The duality of the load and the store operation implies a certain similarity in the structure of the procedures LOAD and STORE. This manifests itself in a very similar code generation. However, despite these analogies, new problems arise with the compilation of assignments. They all originate from the update of the description of the register contents.

First of all it has to be decided which description should be preferred when alternatives are possible.

```
Example: i := 1   be compiled to   SX6 B1
                                       SA6 i
```

Should, in the description of X6, XCONT be set either to SHRTCST (1) or to SIMPVAR (i)? From a theoretical point of view it would be nice if the register description reflected that the constant 1 as well as the actual value of i can be found in X6. However, this would imply that the contents of every register would have to be described by a whole list of entries. Both searching for a particular content and the updating procedure would be more expensive by a factor. For these reasons it was decided not to maintain lists.

When an assignment of the form V := E has to be compiled, three questions are interesting and influence both code generation and the updating of the register descriptions:

- Does a copy instruction (BXi Xfi) have to be generated (fi in [0..5]) or not (fi in [6,7])?
- Is the variable V worth remembering (in the sense of 3.2.1.)?
- Is the expression E worth remembering (in the same sense)?

Depending on the associated answers, the description of the X register contents are updated in STORE as shown in the table below.

| E is \ V is           | a short constant (s) |    |      | a long constant (l)  |    |      | a variable v1 worth remembering |    |       | another expression   |    |      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----|------|----------------------|----|------|---------------------------------|----|-------|----------------------|----|------|
|                       | fi in [6,7]   [0..5] |    |      | fi in [6,7]   [0..5] |    |      | fi in [6,7]   [0..5]            |    |       | fi in [6,7]   [0..5] |    |      |
|                       | Xfi                  | Xi | Xfi  | Xfi                  | Xi | Xfi  | Xfi                             | Xi | Xfi   | Xfi                  | Xi | Xfi  |
| worth remembering     | 1) v                 | s  | 2) v | v                    | l  | v    | 3) v                            | v1 | v     | v                    | -  | 2) v |
| not worth remembering | s                    | s  | s    | l                    | -  | 2) l | v1                              | -  | 2) v1 | -                    | -  | -    |

Remarks:

- 1) Applied to the above example, this means that the variable *i* is preferred to the short constant 1.
- 2) And not the inverse as the probability for overwriting *Xi* before *Xfi* is estimated to be greater than the probability to overwrite *Xfi* before *Xi*.
- 3) The "new" variable is preferred to the "old" one.

Evidently, this more or less trivial updating of XRGs is not sufficient. Through an assignment, certain register content descriptions can become invalid when they do no longer correspond to the actual state of the code generation. Three kinds of assignments must be distinguished:

1. A simple variable (WORDACC = DRCT) is assigned a new value.
2. A simple pointer variable ((WORDACC = DRCT) and (TYPTR↑.FORM = POINTER)) gets a new value.
3. An indirect variable (WORDACC = INDCRT) is assigned a new value.

For each of these cases an example is given in the table below.

| example for case | register content description valid <u>before</u> the assignment | assignment | register content description valid <u>after</u> the assignment |
|------------------|---|------------|--|
| 1                | args[i]: @v<br>xrgs[i]: v                                       | v := ...   | args[i]: @v<br>xrgs[i]: -                                      |
| 2                | args[i]: @p↑<br>xrgs[i]: p↑                                     | p := ...   | args[i]: -<br>xrgs[i]: -                                       |
| 3                | args[i]: @p↑<br>xrgs[i]: p↑                                     | p↑ := ...  | args[i]: @p↑<br>xrgs[i]: -                                     |

The detection of these obvious coincidences and the corresponding updating of the register content descriptions poses no problem. However, things become worse if the same variable is accessed in two or more different ways. For example, a variable parameter may coincide with either an actual variable or another variable parameter. Similarly, two pointer variables can have the same value whereby the referenced variables coincide.

There are several ways of overcoming this difficulty. Sufficient, but not necessary, conditions for the exclusion of coincidences between two variables are:

- one of them resides in the stack, the other in the heap.
- their types are not compatible.

The former of these criteria is not very selective, while the latter runs into difficulties in the implementation. For matters of simplicity, a third solution was implemented. It distinguishes between two cases, one of them consisting two subcases:

case 1: A simple variable is assigned a new value. Coincidence with another simple variable (XCONT = SIMPVAR) can be excluded. Coincidence with a variable parameter, however, is possible. Now, the variable parameters are a subclass of the indirect variables (XCONT = INDVAR). In order to be able to distinguish them from the other indirect variables, the variant SIMPVAR in XRGSTAT has yet another field  
vpaddr: Boolean  
telling whether the variable is the address of a variable parameter (VPADDR = TRUE) or not. Closer inspection of case 1 indicates that it is not necessary to erase the description of all variable parameters in XRGs. It is sufficient to erase those which have a level that is greater than the level of the simple variable. Otherwise coincidence is impossible.

case 2: Another variable is assigned a new value. Unfortunately, there is no simple criterion to decide whether coincidence with an indirect variable is possible. All INDVAR descriptions in XRGs are therefore deleted. If it is a variable parameter that gets a new value, then the description of all simple variables with a level lower than the level of the variable parameter are also deleted.

Besides the updating of the register content descriptions, another interesting topic comes into view. Should one not - analogously to the load instructions - try to reduce the store instructions? This idea is certainly tempting and was therefore carefully examined during the development of the compiler. An experimental version was built, in which the generation of store instructions was delayed in the case of assignments to SIMPVARs and INDVARs. This could be done by adding a Boolean field to these variants in XRGs telling whether the register contents in question still had to be stored.

It follows that store operations can be eliminated in two cases:

- When a new value is assigned to a variable and the old value has not yet been stored, the generation of the associated store instructions becomes unnecessary. For unstructured or un-packed variables this rarely happens. However, with packed structured variables it has some importance, namely when the components of the variables are assigned values one after the other.  
Example (cf. the declarations underlying table 1):

```
with r do
  begin f1 := true; f2 := 'abcd' end
```

- When the end of a procedure body is reached and there are store operations of local variables pending, these store operations are no longer necessary.

Unfortunately, delayed store instructions complicate the compiler considerably and do not bring much in return, if no additional investments are made (as for example removing store operations from loops).

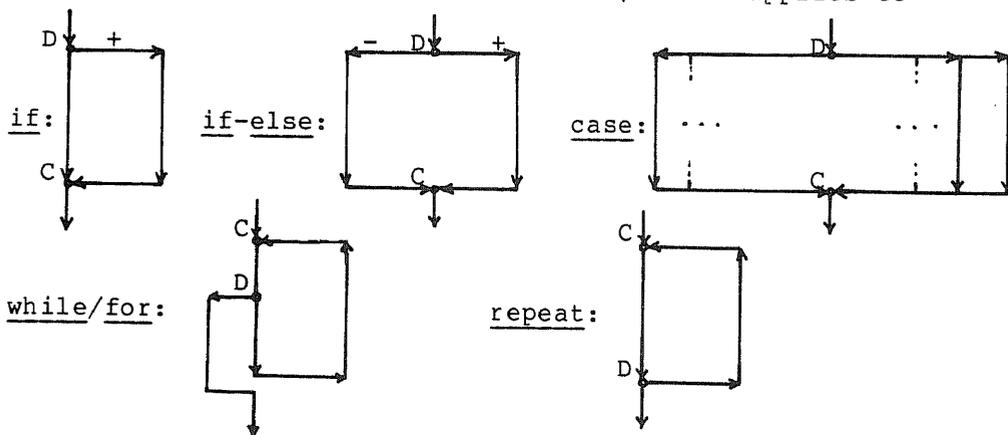
The principal difficulty originates in the fact that the memory is in general not up to date. This implies that special care must be taken when loading a variable. As soon as there is a chance that the variable to be loaded coincides with a register which has yet to be stored, the delayed store operation must take place before the loading.

In addition, it is to be stressed that delayed storing could only be considered for implementation as a compiler option. Otherwise the post-mortem dump facility offered by this implementation would have become a farce as the values printed would never have corresponded to the actual state of the computation.

For these reasons the idea of implementing delayed store operations was finally given up.

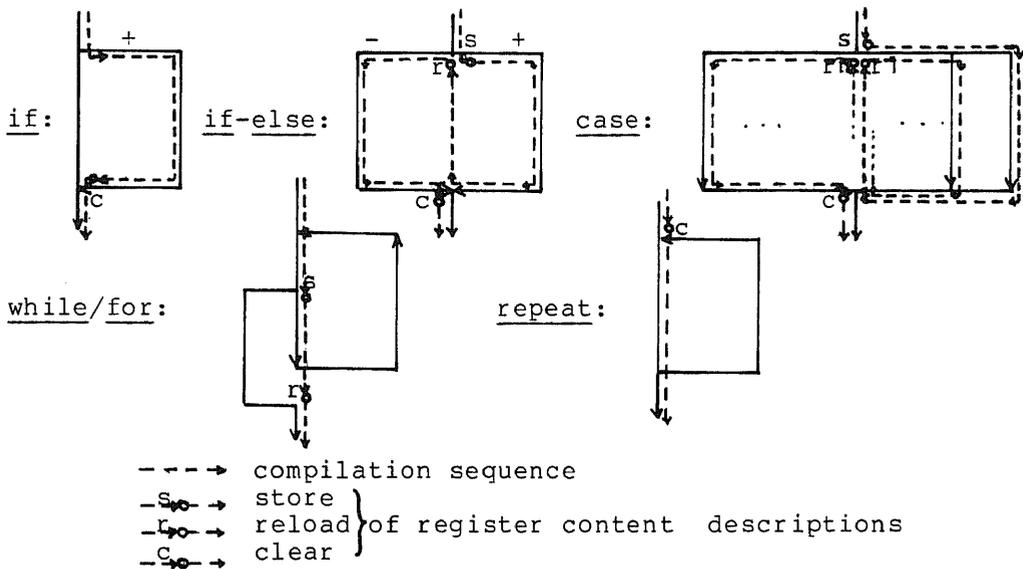
### 5. The Compilation of the Control Statements

It is characteristic of all control statements that they have a "distributor" D (from which the computation flows out in several directions) and a "concentrator" C (in which the computation flows together from several directions). This applies to



Distributors and concentrators are of great importance to the book-keeping of the register contents. When the compiler reaches a distributor, it must locally store the actually valid register content description in order to be able to reload it when needed. This is necessary because the compilation is strictly sequential, while the execution of these statements is not. Nevertheless the compilation of any stream with distributor D

should profit from the register contents which are valid when the distributor is reached. Therefore the register content descriptions are reloaded in the nodes subsequently marked with an r.



When the compiler gets to a concentrator, the descriptions of all register contents are cleared since the trade-offs are too heavy to do otherwise:

After compilation of a selective statement, the register content descriptions which are valid at the end of the compilation of every stream would have to be compared to each other. Thereby a description could be derived which would be valid when reaching the concentrator, regardless of how it was reached.

In the case of a repetitive statement the overhead would even be greater. During compilation of the repeated statement, one would be forced to keep track of how code generation depends on the register content description which was valid when the concentrator was reached. This relevant part of the register status would have to be restored at the end of the loop - and this would generally involve code generation.

The compiler procedure WHILESTATEMENT is shown below as an example for the operations of register clear, -store, and -reload.

```
procedure whilestatement;  
  var largs: argconts; lbrgs: brgconts; lxrgs: xrgconts;  
      lbrg: array [levrange] of regnr; llevels: set of levrange;  
      laddr: addrange; lpl: place;  
begin noop; laddr := ic; 1)  
      clearregs; 2)  
      expression; 3)  
      genfalsejump(0); lpl := pl; 4)  
      largs := args; lbrgs := brgs; lxrgs := xrgs; 5)  
      lbrg := brg; llevels := levels;  
      readnextpascalsymbol;  
      statement; 6)  
      gen30(04b,0,0,laddr); 7)  
      noop; insert(ic,lpl); 8)  
      args := largs; brgs := lbrgs; xrgs := lxrgs; 9)  
      brg := lbrg; levels := llevels  
end (*whilestatement*)
```

Remarks:

- 1) The current code word is filled up with NO instructions and the current value of the "instruction" counter IC is saved in LADDR (cf. remark 7) below).
- 2) The concentrator is reached: the descriptions of the register contents are cleared.
- 3) The controlling expression is compiled.
- 4) A false-jump - on the value described by GATTR - is generated. The "pointer" to the involved branch instruction (PL) is saved - thereby allowing a later fix-up of the yet unknown destination address (cf. remark 8) below).
- 5) The distributor is reached: the descriptions of the register contents are saved.
- 6) The controlled statement is compiled.
- 7) The loop is closed: an unconditional jump to LADDR is generated.
- 8) The current code word is filled up with NO instructions and the branch instruction at LPL is completed with the current "instruction" counter IC.
- 9) The actually valid register content descriptions are reloaded.

The most elementary control statement is of course the goto-statement. Here is another argument to support those who consider it harmful:

In the terminology introduced in this chapter, labels represent concentrators. These concentrators are, however, far more awkward than the concentrators in "regular" control statements. The reason for this is that, at the labels, computation can flow together from arbitrary directions. Hence, it is impossible, without a complete analysis of the computation flow, to find a nontrivial register content description which is valid when a particular label is reached. Thus, it should not be surprising that in this one-pass compiler the descriptions of the register contents are cleared whenever a label is compiled.

References

- [1] Ammann, U., "The Method of Structured Programming Applied to the Development of a Compiler", International Computing Symposium 1973, 93-99, A. Guenther et al. (eds.), North-Holland (1974)
- [2] Ammann, U., "Die Entwicklung eines PASCAL-Compilers nach der Methode des Strukturierten Programmierens", Juris-Verlag Zürich (1975)
- [3] Jensen, K. and Wirth, N., "PASCAL - User Manual and Report", Lecture Notes in Computer Science, No. 18, Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York (1974)
- [4] Hoare, C.A.R. and Wirth, N., "An Axiomatic Definition of the Programming Language PASCAL", Acta Informatica 2, 1973, 335-355
- [5] Nori, K.V. et al., "The PASCAL P-code Compiler: Implementation Notes", ETH Zürich, Berichte des Instituts für Informatik, No. 10, 1975
- [6] Knuth, D.E., "The Art of Computer Programming", 1, Addison-Wesley, 1968
- [7] Wirth, N., "The Programming Language PASCAL", Acta Informatica 1, 1971, 35-63
- [8] Wirth, N., "The Design of a PASCAL Compiler", Software - Practice and Experience, 1, 4 (1971), 309-334
- [9] Control Data 6400/6500/6600 Computer Systems Reference Manual

Appendix: An Example of the Code Generation

Knuth [6] gives an algorithm to compute the date of Easter. The following implementation of this algorithm is intended to facilitate insight into the code generated by the new PASCAL compiler.

```

    program easter(output);
    const lim1 = 1976; lim2 = 2000;
    type year = lim1..lim2; month = 3..4; day = integer;
    var ye: year; mo: month; da: day;
    procedure dateofeaster(y:year; var n:day; var m:month);
        var g,c,x,z,d,e: integer;
000002    begin
000010        g := y mod 19+1;
000013        c := y div 100+1;
000016        x := 3*c div 4-12;
000021        z := (8*c+5) div 25-5;
000026        d := 5*y div 4-x-10;
000032        e := (11*g+20+z-x) mod 30;
000040        if e < 0 then e := e+30;
000042        if (e=25) and (g>11) or (e=24) then e := e+1;
000052        n := 44-e;
000054        if n < 21 then n := n+30;
000057        n := n+7 - (d+n) mod 7;
000065        if n > 31 then
000067            begin n := n-31;
000067                m := 4
000070            end
000071        else m := 3
000072        end(*dateofeaster*);
000002    begin
000021        for ye := lim1 to lim2 do
000024            begin dateofeaster(ye,da,mo);
000026                (*output of ye,da,and mo here*)
000026            end (*for*)
000032    end.
```

The reasons for choosing this program are manifold. It contains a procedure with value and variable parameters, a for-loop, several conditional statements, and nontrivial arithmetic.

The addresses associated with the variables occurring in this program are:

|           |          |                                   |
|-----------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Variable: | Address: |                                   |
| ye        | B2+151   | } main program variables          |
| mo        | B2+152   |                                   |
| da        | B2+153   |                                   |
| y         | B5+3     | } parameter descriptors           |
| n         | B5+4     |                                   |
| m         | B5+5     |                                   |
| e         | B5+6     |                                   |
| d         | B5+7     | } variables local to DATEOFEASTER |
| z         | B5+8     |                                   |
| x         | B5+9     |                                   |
| c         | B5+10    |                                   |
| g         | B5+11    |                                   |

The compiler's internal description of the register contents during compilation of the procedure DATEOFEASTER is summarized below. Each line shows the register contents between two statements.

| program address | X registers: |    |    |    |     |    |    | A registers: |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
|-----------------|--------------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
|                 | X0           | X1 | X2 | X3 | X4  | X5 | X6 | X7           | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6 | A7 |   |
| 000002          | y            | @n | @m |    |     |    |    |              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |
| 000010          | y            | @n | @m |    |     |    |    |              |    |    |    |    |    | @m |    |   |
| 000013          | y            | @n | @m | 19 |     | 1  | g  |              |    |    |    |    |    | g  |    |   |
| 000016          | y            | @n | @m |    | 100 | 1  | g  | c            |    |    |    |    |    | g  | c  |   |
| 000021          | y            | @n | @m | 12 |     | 1  | x  | c            |    |    |    |    |    | x  | c  |   |
| 000026          | y            | @n | @m | 25 |     | 5  | z  | c            |    |    |    |    |    | z  | c  |   |
| 000032          | y            | n  | @m |    |     | x  | 10 | z            | d  |    |    |    |    | z  | d  |   |
| 000040          |              | g  |    | 30 |     | x  |    | z            | e  | g  |    |    |    | x  | z  | e |
| 000042          | 0            | g  |    | 30 |     | x  |    | e            |    | g  |    |    |    | x  | e  | e |
| 000052          | 25           |    | 1  | g  | 11  | 24 |    | e            |    | e  |    | g  |    |    | e  |   |
| 000054          | 44           | @n | e  |    |     |    |    | n            |    | @n |    |    |    |    | n  |   |
| 000057          | 44           | @n | e  | 21 | 30  |    |    | n            |    | @n |    |    |    |    | n  |   |
| 000065          | 7            | @n |    |    | d   |    |    | n            |    | @n | n  |    | d  |    | n  |   |
| 000067          | 7            | @n | 31 | n  | d   |    |    |              |    | @n | n  |    | d  |    | n  |   |
| 000067          | 7            | @n | 31 |    | d   |    |    | n            |    | @n | n  |    | d  |    | n  |   |
| 000071          | 7            | @n | 31 | @m | d   |    |    | n            | m  | @n | n  | @m | d  |    | n  | m |
| 000072          | 7            | @n | 31 | n  | d   | @m |    | m            |    | @n | n  |    | d  | @m | m  |   |

With the help of this information, the compiler generates the following code:

DATEOFEASTER:

Remarks:

000002 SX6 B5  
 LX6 18  
 BX7 X7+X6  
 SB5 B6

} procedure entry code

1)

1) stores dynamic link (B5) and return address (X7); the static link is not used and therefore not set. B5 (BASE) and B6 (NEXT) are updated.

000003 SA7 B5+B1

|        |                 |   |    |   |
|--------|-----------------|---|----|---|
|        | SB6 B6+12       | ⋮ |    |   |
|        | NO              |   |    | 2) Tests whether stack and heap risk overlapping (error address in A0).   |
| 000004 | SB7 B6+100      | } | 2) | 3) Saves the parameter descriptors passed in X registers, i.e. the value of y (in X0) and the addresses of n and m (in X1 and X2 respectively). |
|        | SA0 000005      |   |    |   |
| 000005 | GE B7,B4,000051 | } | 3) |   |
|        | BX6 X0          |   |    |   |
|        | NO              |   |    |   |
| 000006 | SA6 B5+3        | } | 3) |   |
|        | BX6 X1          |   |    |   |
|        | SA6 A6+B1       |   |    |   |
| 000007 | BX6 X2          | } | 3) |   |
|        | SA6 A6+B1       |   |    |   |

|        |           |   |    |   |
|--------|-----------|---|----|---|
|        | SX3 19    |   |    | g := y <u>mod</u> 19+1  |
| 000010 | PX5 X0    | } | 2) | 1) The value of y is already in X0.<br>2) This is the CDC 6000 standard instruction sequence for integer divisions [9].<br>3) $y \text{ mod } 19 = y - y \text{ div } 19 * 19$<br>4) makes use of $B1 \equiv 1$ . |
|        | PX4 X3    |   |    |   |
|        | NX4 X4    |   |    |   |
|        | FX4 X5/X4 |   |    |   |
| 000011 | UX4 B3,X4 | } | 3) |   |
|        | LX4 B3,X4 |   |    |   |
|        | DX4 X3*X4 |   |    |   |
|        | IX4 X0-X4 |   |    |   |

|        |           |    |  |
|--------|-----------|----|--|
| 000012 | SX5 B1    | 4) |  |
|        | IX6 X4+X5 |    |  |
|        | SA6 B5+11 |    |  |

⋮

|        |           |  |  |                                  |
|--------|-----------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 000032 | SX3 11    |  |  | e := (11*g+20+z-x) <u>mod</u> 30 |
|        | SA1 B5+11 |  |  |                                  |

|        |           |   |    |   |
|--------|-----------|---|----|---|
| 000033 | SX2 X3*X1 | } | 3) | 1) The value of z is already in X6.<br>2) The value of x is already in X4.<br>3) The hidden multiplication by 30 is optimized: $30 = 2^{**}1 * (2^{**}4 - 1)$ . |
|        | SX5 20    |   |    |   |
|        | IX2 X2+X5 |   |    |   |
| 000034 | IX2 X2+X6 | } | 2) | 4) The address of d, which is adjacent to the address of e, is already in A7.   |
|        | IX2 X2-X4 |   |    |   |
|        | SX3 30    |   |    |   |

|        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| 000035 | PX0 X2    |
|        | PX5 X3    |
|        | NX5 X5    |
|        | FX5 X0/X5 |

|        |           |
|--------|-----------|
| 000036 | UX5 B3,X5 |
|        | LX5 B3,X5 |
|        | IX0 X5+X5 |

⋮

```

BX5 X0
000037 LX5 4
IX5 X5-X0
IX7 X2-X5
SA7 A7-B1

```

```

}
3)
4)

```

·  
·  
·

```

if n > 31 then
begin n := n - 31; m := 4 end

```

```

BX3 X6
000065 SX2 31
IX5 X2-X6
NO
000066 PL X5,000070
IX6 X3-X2
SA6 A2
000067 SA3 A1+B1
SX7 4
SA7 X3

```

```

1)
2)
3)
4)
5)

```

- 1) Copying one of the bottleneck registers X6/X7 is expected to be more fruitful than generating a NO instruction.
- 2) The value of n is already in X6.
- 3) 31 was found in X2, the value of n was found in X3.
- 4) The address of n is already in A2.
- 5) An address adjacent to the one of m was found in A1.

```

000070 EQ 000072

```

·  
·

```

000072 SA1 B5+B1
SB6 B5
SB7 X1
LX1 42

```

procedure exit code

restore B5 and B6 and return

```

000073 SB5 X1
JP B7

```

EASTER:

·  
·  
·

for ye := lim1 to lim2 do

```

000021 SX6 1976
SX0 2000
000022 IX0 X0-X6
NG X0,000030
BX0 X6

```

```

1)
2)

```

- 1) Here the loop is closed. The invariant is: X0 contains the value of the upper limit and X6 contains the "new" value of the control variable.
- 2) Again, to avoid a NO instruction.

```

000023 SA6 B2+151

```

dateofeaster (ye, da, mo)

```

SX1 B2+153

```

```

1)
2)

```

- 1) The value of ye was found in X0.
- 2) Up to 5 parameter descriptors are

```
000024 SX2 B2+152      passed in X registers (X0-X4). This
      SX7 000026      shortens the calling sequence and
                                allows starting the compilation of
000025 EQ  DATEOFEASTER many procedures with a nonempty
      NO                                register status.
      NO

000026 SA1 B2+151      end (*for*)
      SX0 B1
      IX6 X1+X0      The invariant is established
                                and the loop is closed.

000027 SX0 2000
      EQ 000022

000030
```

In the whole of this example the compiler uses 12 times the fact that the value of a simple variable is already in an X register; and 5 times, it finds the value of a variable parameter in a register. In addition, it realizes 3 times that the address of a variable parameter (i.e. the value of its descriptor) happens to be in a register. Hence, the number of load instructions is reduced from 37 to 12, thereby saving 25 (=12+5\*2+3) - i.e. a saving of more than 2/3.

Several of the numerous occurrences of a constant give rise to improved code generation. Five multiplications (3\*c, 8\*c, 5\*y, and the two hidden ones in ... mod 30 and ... mod 7) are compiled to shifts and additions, and FOR two divisions (both of the form ... div 4) shift instructions are generated.

In fifteen places a 15 bit instruction can be generated instead of a 30 bit instruction. Two times the address of a local variable and ten times a neighbouring address is found to be in a register. Three times the compiler can generate code to load the constant 1 from B1.

To compare the efficiency and the tightness of the code produced by the new compiler this sample program was also input to the old PASCAL compiler. It turned out that the code generated by the old compiler was about 30 % less tight and about 25 % slower in execution.

Berichte des Instituts für Informatik

- Nr. 1 Niklaus Wirth: The Programming Language Pascal (out of print)
- Nr. 2 Niklaus Wirth: Program development by step-wise refinement  
(out of print)
- Nr. 3 Peter Läuchli: Reduktion elektrischer Netzwerke und  
Gauss'sche Elimination
- Nr. 4 Walter Gander,  
Andrea Mazzario: Numerische Prozeduren I
- Nr. 5 Niklaus Wirth: The Programming Language Pascal (Revised  
Report)
- Nr. 6 C.A.R. Hoare,  
Niklaus Wirth: An Axiomatic Definition of the Language  
Pascal (out of print)
- Nr. 7 Andrea Mazzario,  
Luciano Molinari: Numerische Prozeduren II
- Nr. 8 E. Engeler,  
E. Wiedmer,  
E. Zachos: Ein Einblick in die Theorie der Berechnungen
- Nr. 9 Hans-Peter Frei: Computer Aided Instruction: The Author  
Language and the System THALES
- Nr.10 K.V. Nori,  
U. Ammann, K. Jensen,  
H.H. Nägeli: The PASCAL 'P' Compiler: Implementation Notes
- Nr.11 G.I. Ugron,  
F.R. Lüthi: Das Informations-System ELSBETH
- Nr.12 Niklaus Wirth: PASCAL-S: A Subset and its implementation
- Nr.13 Urs Ammann: On Code Generation in a PASCAL Compiler