

CSE M226: Programming Languages

Lecture 1: Introduction to Programming Languages

ROKAN UDDIN FARUQUI

Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering
University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Email: rufaruqui@cu.ac.bd

Why Study Programming Languages?

- To choose the most appropriate language for any given task
 - **Fortran** for symbolic computing or string processing
 - **C**, **C++**, or **C#** for systems programming?
 - **Fortran** or **C** for scientific computations?
 - **PHP** or **Ruby** for a web-based application?
 - **Ada** or **C** for embedded systems?
 - **Visual Basic** or **Java** for a graphical user interface?

Why Study Programming Languages?

- Make it easier to learn new languages
 - Java and C# are easier to learn if you already know C++
 - Common Lisp if you already know Scheme
 - Haskell if you already know ML

Why Study Programming Languages?

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Why Study Programming Languages?

- **Understand obscure features**
 - variable number of arguments
 - union
 - multiple inheritance

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 - copy constructor *instead of* temporary variables
 - executor *instead of* explicit thread creation
- **Make good use of debuggers, assemblers, linkers, and related tools**

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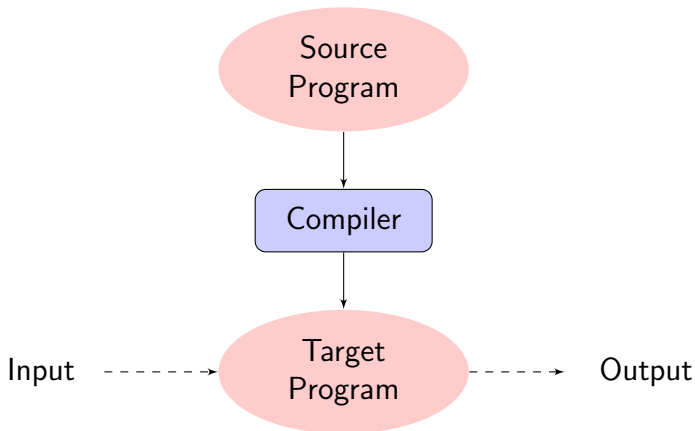
Compilation and Interpretation

- Pure compilation
- Pure interpretation
- Mixing compilation and interpretation
- Preprocessing
- Library routines and linking
- Post-compilation assembly
- The C preprocessor
- Source-to-source translation
- Bootstrapping
- Dynamic and just-in-time compilation

Compilation and Interpretation

Pure Compilation

translates - a source program to a target program



Compilation and Interpretation

Pure Compilation

translates - a source program to a target program

- compiler is the locus of control during compilation
- target program is the locus of control during its own execution
- compiler is itself a machine language program
- machine language is commonly known as object code

Compilation and Interpretation

Pure Interpretation

- *late binding* - delaying decisions about program implementation until run time
- source-level debugger

Compilation and Interpretation

Mixing compilation and interpretation

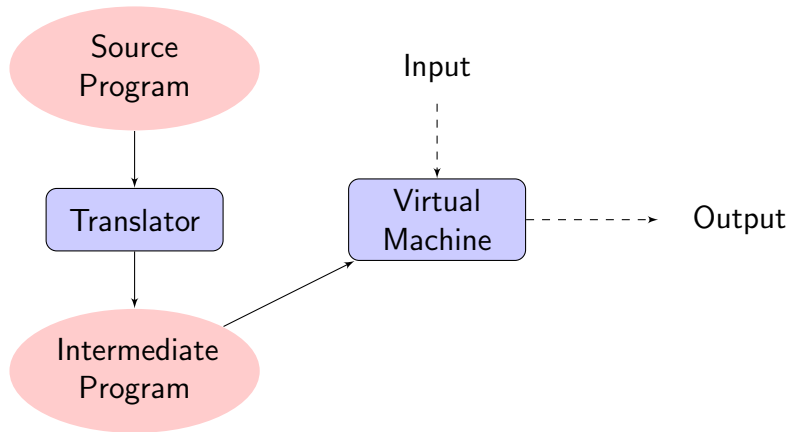


Figure: Mixing compilation and interpretation

Compilation and Interpretation

Preprocessing

- removes comments and white space
- groups characters together into tokens such as keywords, identifiers, numbers, and symbols
- produce an intermediate form that can be interpreted more efficiently

Compilation and Interpretation

Library routines and linking

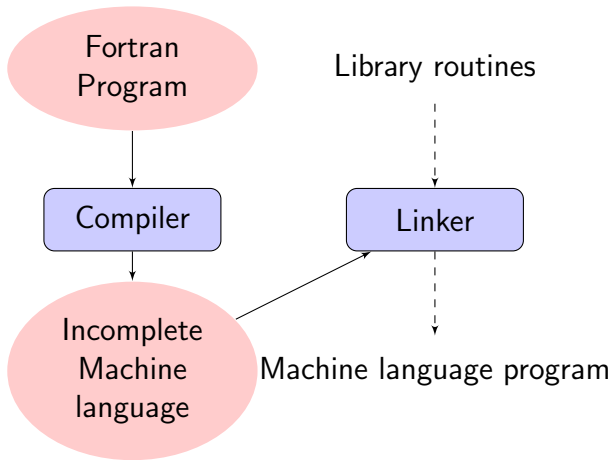


Figure: Fortran program Compilation

Compilation and Interpretation

Post-compilation assembly

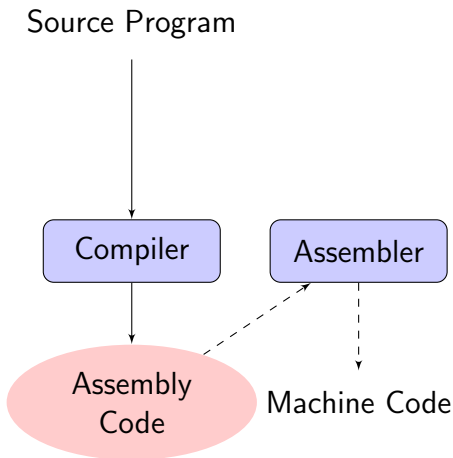
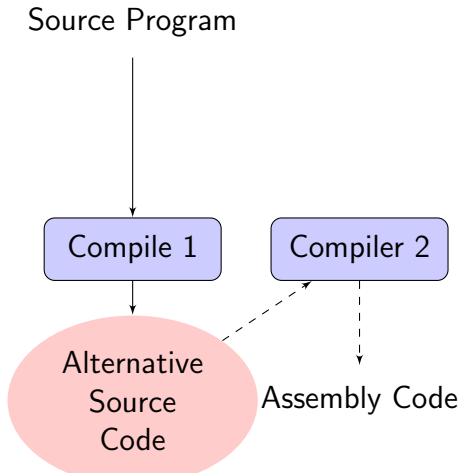


Figure: Pure compilation

Compilation and Interpretation

Source-to-source translation

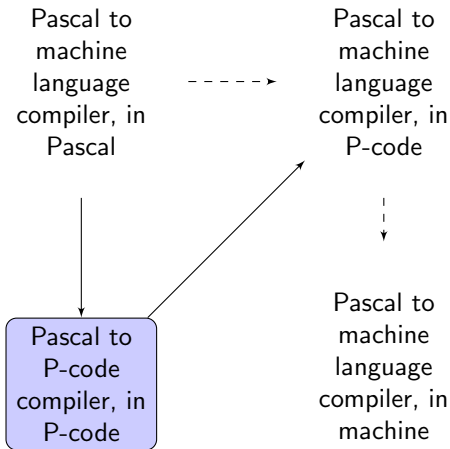
Example - AT&T's original compiler for **C++**



Compilation and Interpretation

Bootstrapping

Self-hosting - **Ada** compilers in **Ada**, **C** compilers in **C**.



Compilation and Interpretation

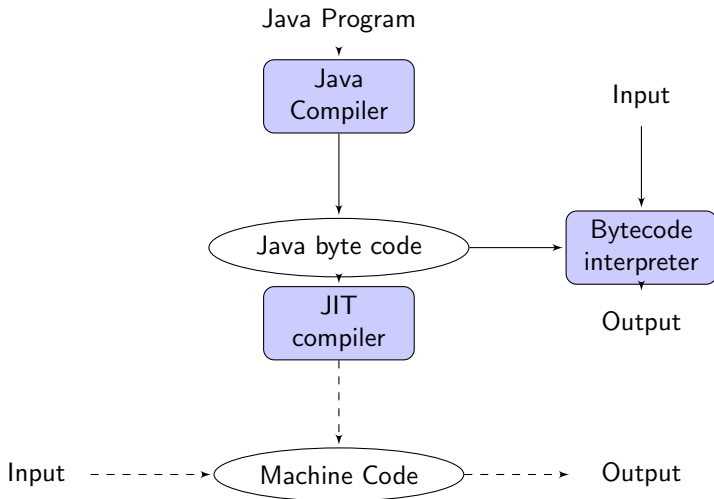


Figure: Just-In Time compilation

An overview of Compilation

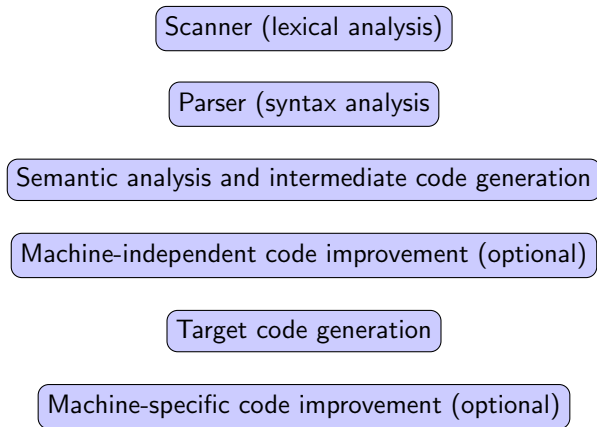


Figure: Phases of compilation

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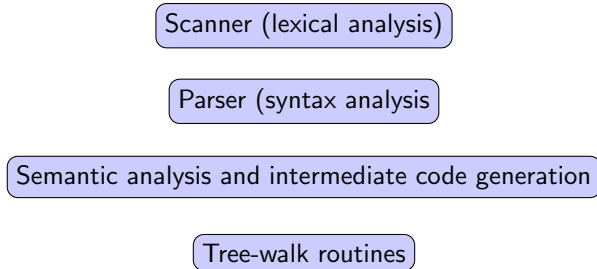


Figure: Phases of interpretation