

15-745: Optimizing Compilers, Spring 2013

Exam Coverage Information

The exam is closed book, closed notes. Most of the questions on the exam will be short-answer questions. Regarding the material that will be covered in the exam, the lectures have been broken down into the following three categories:

1. Lectures that may be covered in depth:

- Lecture 2: Local Optimizations
- Lecture 4: Data Flow Analysis: Examples
- Lecture 5: Data Flow Analysis: Theory
- Lecture 7: Common Subexpressions, Constant Folding
- Lecture 8: Loop Invariant Code Motion
- Lecture 10: Partial Redundancy Elimination
- Lecture 14: SSA-Style Optimizations
- Lecture 15: Register Allocation: Coloring and Spilling
- Lecture 18: List Scheduling, Global Scheduling
 - Note: only *list scheduling* may be covered in depth (not global scheduling).
- Lecture 20: Pointer Analysis
- Lecture 25: Memory Hierarchy Optimizations
- Lecture 28: Array Dependence Analysis

2. Lectures where you may see one or two high-level questions (*to demonstrate that you understood some of the key high-level points of the lecture*):

- Lecture 9: Induction Variables, Strength Reduction
- Lecture 11: Lazy Code Motion
- Lecture 12: Region-Based Analysis
- Lecture 13: Intro to Static Single Assignment (SSA)
- Lecture 16: Register Allocation: Coalescing
- Lecture 17: Intro to Instruction Scheduling
- Lecture 19: Software Pipelining
- Lecture 26: Prefetching Arrays
- Lecture 27: Prefetching Pointer-Based Structures

3. Lectures that will not be covered on the exam:

- Lecture 1: Overview of Optimizations
- Lecture 3: The LLVM Compiler: Getting Started
- Lecture 6: The LLVM Compiler: Further Details
- Lecture 21: Dynamic Code Optimization

- Lecture 22: Recent Research on Optimization I
- Lecture 23: Recent Research on Optimization II
- Lecture 24: Recent Research on Optimization III
- Lecture 29: Thread-Level Speculation