

Improving debug variable location coverage by using even more SSA



Variable location mappings



```
int ext();
extern int xyzzzy;

int foo(int bar, int baz) {
    int qux = bar + baz;
    qux *= ext();
    qux -= xyzzzy;
    return qux;
}
```

```
<foo>:
    push    %rbx
    mov     %edi,%ebx
    add     %esi,%ebx
    xor     %eax,%eax
    callq  c <foo+0xc>
    imul   %ebx,%eax
    sub    0x0(%rip),%eax
    pop    %rbx
    retq

    bar baz qux
    edi esi
    edi esi
    ebx esi
    esi ebx
    esi ebx
    ebx
    eax
    eax
```

Variable locations map between variable names and registers

dbg.value intrinsics



```
define dso_local i32 @foo(i32 %bar, i32 %baz) #0 !dbg !7 {
entry:
  call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %bar, metadata !12, metadata !DIExpression()), !dbg !15
  call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %baz, metadata !13, metadata !DIExpression()), !dbg !15
  %add = add nsw i32 %bar, %baz, !dbg !16
  call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %add, metadata !14, metadata !DIExpression()), !dbg !15
  %call = call i32 (...) @ext(), !dbg !17
  %mul = mul nsw i32 %add, %call, !dbg !18
  call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %mul, metadata !14, metadata !DIExpression()), !dbg !15
  %0 = load i32, i32* @xyzyz, align 4, !dbg !19, !tbaa !20
  %sub = sub nsw i32 %mul, %0, !dbg !24
  call void @llvm.dbg.value(metadata i32 %sub, metadata !14, metadata !DIExpression()), !dbg !15
  ret i32 %sub, !dbg !25
}
```

DBG_VALUE instructions



```
bb.0.entry:
  liveins: $edi, $esi
  %1:gr32 = COPY $esi
  DBG_VALUE %1:gr32, $noreg, !"baz", !DIExpression()
  %0:gr32 = COPY $edi
  DBG_VALUE %0:gr32, $noreg, !"bar", !DIExpression()
  %2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr %1:gr32(tied-def 0), %0:gr32, implicit-def dead $eflags
  DBG_VALUE %2:gr32, $noreg, !"qux", !DIExpression()
  %3:gr32 = MOV32r0 implicit-def dead $eflags
  %4:gr8 = COPY %3.sub_8bit:gr32
  $a1 = COPY %4:gr8
  CALL64pcrel32 @ext, <regmask>, [Many args]
  %5:gr32 = COPY $eax
  %6:gr32 = nsw IMUL32rr %5:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %2:gr32, implicit-def dead $eflags
  DBG_VALUE %6:gr32, $noreg, !"qux", !DIExpression()
  %7:gr32 = nsw SUB32rm %6:gr32(tied-def 0), $rip, 1, $noreg, @xyzyzy, [...]
  DBG_VALUE %7:gr32, $noreg, !"qux", !DIExpression()
  $eax = COPY %7:gr32
  RET 0, $eax
```

Register coalescing -- example



```
%0:gr32 = COPY killed $edi  
%2:gr32 = COPY killed %0:gr32  
%2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr killed %2:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %1:gr32  
DBG_VALUE %0:gr32, $noreg, !"baz", !DIExpression()
```

Register coalescing -- example



```
%2:gr32 = COPY killed $edi  
%2:gr32 = COPY killed %0:gr32  
%2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr killed %2:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %1:gr32  
DBG_VALUE $noreg, $noreg, !"baz", !DIExpression()
```

Live-range records



```
%0:gr32 = COPY killed $edi
```

```
%2:gr32 = COPY killed %0:gr32
```

```
%2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr killed %2:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %1:gr32
```

```
DBG_VALUE %0:gr32, $noreg, !"baz", !DIExpression()
```

%0 live range

%2 live range

Live-range with control flow



```
%0:gr32 = COPY killed $edi

%2:gr32 = COPY killed %0:gr32
JCC %bb.2
bb.1:
%2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr killed %2:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %1:gr32
JMP %bb.3
bb.2:
DBG_VALUE %0:gr32, $noreg, !"baz", !DIExpression()
```

%0 live range

%2 live range

C SSA comparison



```
int ext();
extern int xyzy;

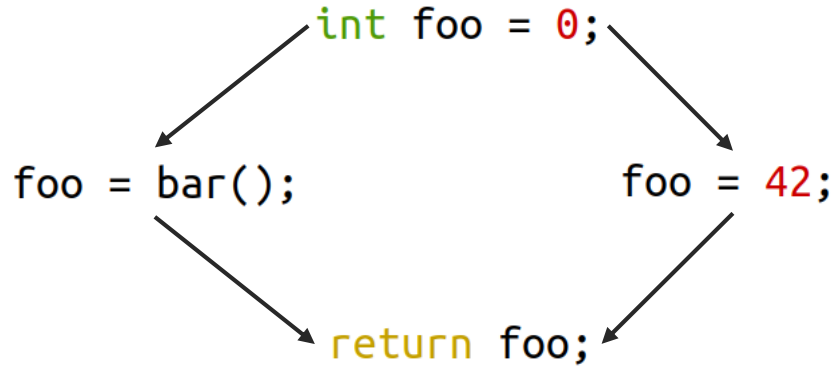
int foo(int bar, int baz) {
    int qux = bar + baz;
    qux *= ext();
    qux -= xyzy;
    return qux;
}
```

- %0:gr32 = COPY killed \$edi
- %2:gr32 = COPY killed %0:gr32
- %2:gr32 = nsw ADD32rr killed
%2:gr32(tied-def 0), killed %1:gr32
- DBG_VALUE %0:gr32, \$noreg, !"baz",
!DIExpression()

Instruction referencing



```
bb.0.entry:  
    %0 = MOV32ri 0  
    DBG_VALUE %0  
    JCC_1 %bb.2, 4  
bb.1.bb1:  
    CALL64pcrel32 @bar  
    %1 = COPY $rax  
    DBG_VALUE %1  
    JMP_1 %bb.3  
bb.2.bb2:  
    %2 = MOV32ri 42  
    DBG_VALUE %2  
bb.3.bb3:  
    %3 = PHI [%1, %2]  
    RETQ %3
```



```
bb.0.entry:  
    %0 = MOV32ri 0, debug-instr-num 1  
    DBG_INSTR_REF 1, 0  
    JCC_1 %bb.2, 4  
bb.1.bb1:  
    CALL64pcrel32 @bar, debug-instr-num 2  
    %1 = COPY $rax  
    DBG_INSTR_REF 2, 4  
    JMP_1 %bb.3  
bb.2.bb2:  
    %2 = MOV32ri 42, debug-instr-num 3  
    DBG_INSTR_REF 3, 0  
bb.3.bb3:  
    %3 = PHI [%1, %2]  
    RETQ %3
```



Optimisations must be recorded



```
bb.2.bb2:  
  %2 = MOV32ri 0, debug-instr-num 3  
  DBG_INSTR_REF 3, 0
```



```
bb.2.bb2:  
  $rax, %2 = MOV32ri 42, 0, debug-instr-num 4  
  DBG_INSTR_REF 3, 0
```

```
debugValueSubstitutions:  
- { srcinst: 3, srcop: 0, dstinst: 4, dstop: 1, subreg: 0 }
```

PHIs are and aren't instructions

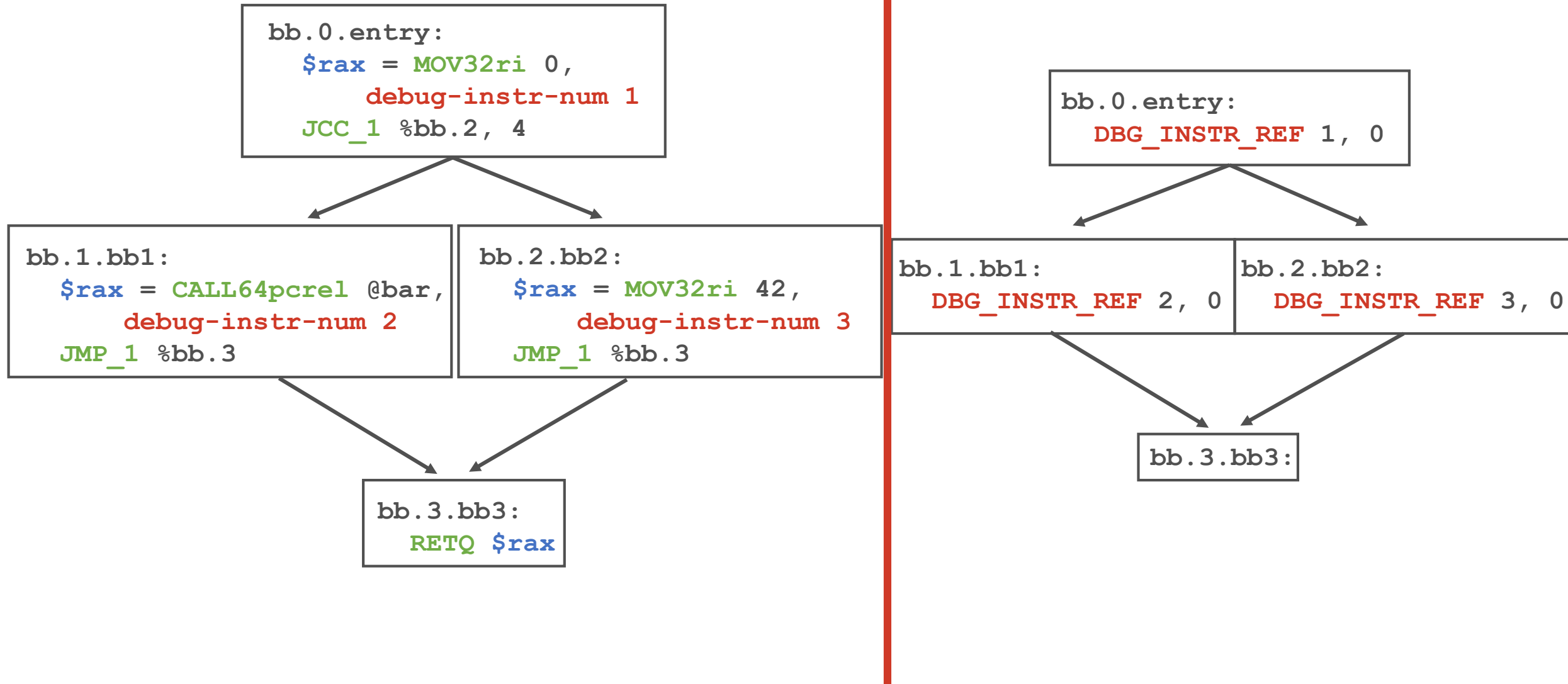


```
bb.3.bb3:  
  %3 = PHI [%1, %2], debug-instr-num 4  
  DBG_INSTR_REF 4, 0  
  RETQ %3
```

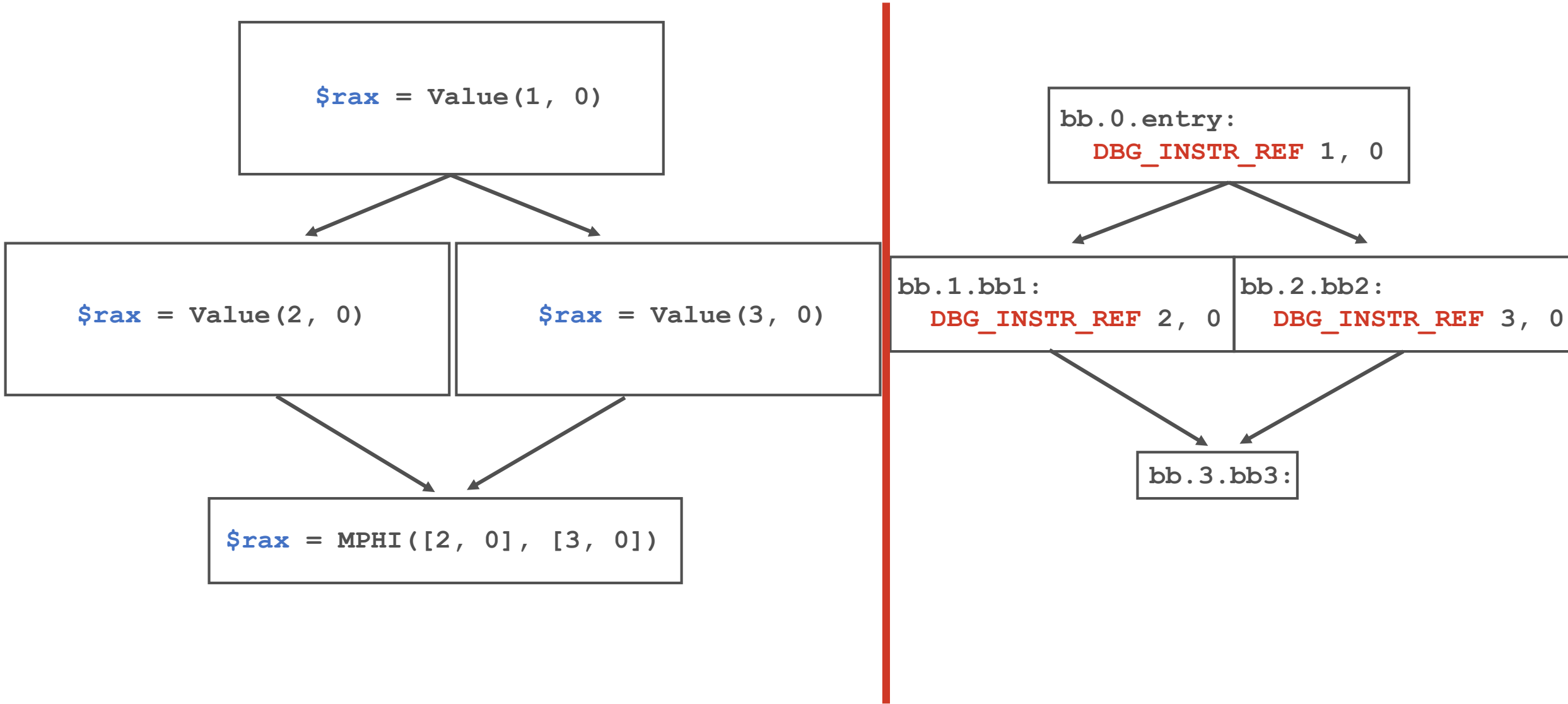


```
bb.3.bb3:  
  DBG_PHI $eax, 4  
  DBG_INSTR_REF 4, 0  
  RETQ $eax
```

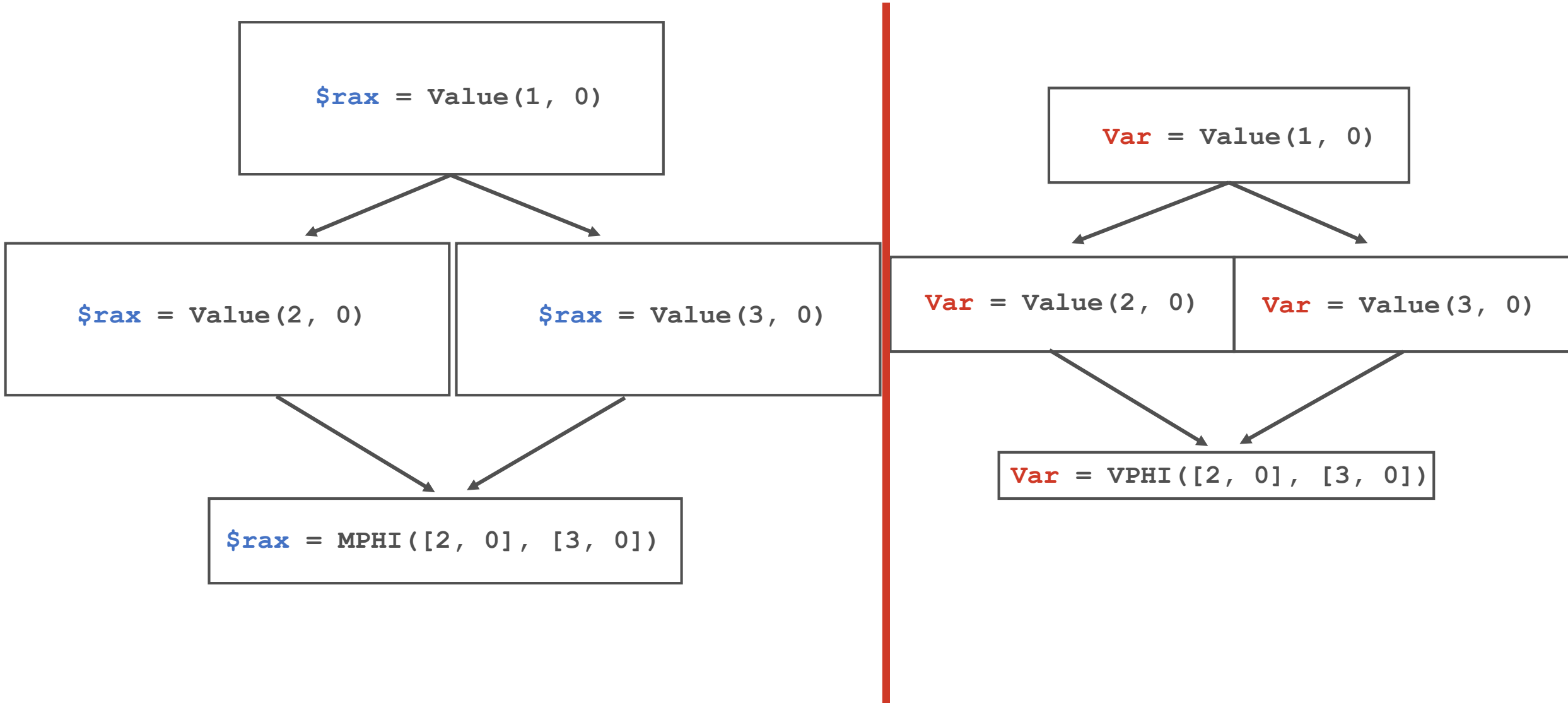
Worked example for SSA construction



Worked example for SSA construction



Worked example for SSA construction



Results



	Gain in total variables	Average coverage Normal locations	Average coverage Instr-ref locations
Game A	+3.3%	78%	81%
Game B	+6.4%	75%	79%
Clang	+1.3%	89%	90%

Gain: increase in absolute number of variables with DW_AT_location attributes

Average coverage: average of % bytes covered for all variables