15-213

Machine-Level Programming II
Control Flow
Feb. 1, 2001

Topics

- **Condition Codes**
  - Setting
  - Testing
- **Control Flow**
  - If-then-else
  - Varieties of Loops
  - Switch Statements

Condition Codes

Single Bit Registers

- **CF** Carry Flag
- **ZF** Zero Flag
- **SF** Sign Flag
- **OF** Overflow Flag

Implicit Setting By Arithmetic Operations

`addl` *Src,Dest*

C analog: `t = a+b`

- CF set if carry out from most significant bit
  - Used to detect unsigned overflow
- ZF set if `t == 0`
- SF set if `t < 0`
- OF set if two's complement overflow

```
(a>0 && b>0 && t<0) || (a<0 && b<0 && t>0)
```

Not Set by `leal` instruction

Setting Condition Codes (cont.)

Explicit Setting by Compare Instruction

`cmpl` ***Src2,Src1***

- **`cmpl b,a` like computing `a-b` without setting destination**
- **CF set if carry in/out from most significant bit**
  - Used for unsigned comparisons
- **ZF set if `a == b`**
- **SF set if `(a-b) < 0`**
- **OF set if two's complement overflow**

  `(a>0 && b<0 && (a-b)<0) || (a<0 && b>0 && (a-b)>0)`

Explicit Setting by Test instruction

`testl` ***Src2,Src1***

- **Sets condition codes based on value of *Src1* & *Src2***
  - Useful to have one of the operands be a mask
- **`testl b,a` like computing `a&b` without setting destination**
- **ZF set when `a&b == 0`**
- **SF set when `a&b < 0`**

Reading Condition Codes

SetX Instructions

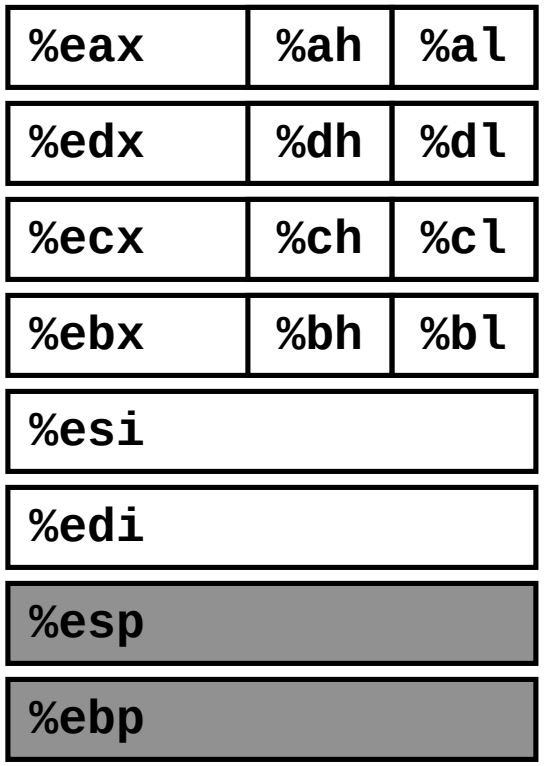
- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes

SetX	Condition	Description
sete	ZF	Equal / Zero
setne	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
sets	SF	Negative
setns	~SF	Nonnegative
setg	~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
setge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
setl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
setle	(SF^OF)|ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
seta	~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned)
setb	CF	Below (unsigned)

Reading Condition Codes (Cont.)

SetX Instructions

- **Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes**
- **One of 8 addressable byte registers**
  - Embedded within first 4 integer registers
  - Does not alter remaining 3 bytes
  - Typically use `andl 0xFF,%eax` to finish job




```
int gt (int x, int y)
{
  return x > y;
}
```

Body

```
movl 12(%ebp),%eax   # eax = y
cmpl %eax,8(%ebp)    # Compare x : eax
setg %al             # al = x > y
andl $255,%eax       # Zero rest of %eax
```

Note inverted ordering!

Jumping

jX Instructions

- Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

jX	Condition	Description
jmp	1	Unconditional
je	ZF	Equal / Zero
jne	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
js	SF	Negative
jns	~SF	Nonnegative
jg	~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
jge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
jl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
jle	(SF^OF)|ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
ja	~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned)
jb	CF	Below (unsigned)

Conditional Branch Example

```
int max(int x, int y)
{
  if (x > y)
    return x;
  else
    return y;
}
```

```
_max:
        pushl %ebp              } Set
        movl %esp,%ebp          } Up

        movl 8(%ebp),%edx       }
        movl 12(%ebp),%eax      }
        cmpl %eax,%edx          } Body
        jle L9                  }
        movl %edx,%eax          }
L9:

        movl %ebp,%esp          }
        popl %ebp               } Finish
        ret                     }
```

Conditional Branch Example (Cont.)

```
int goto_max(int x, int y)
{
  int rval = y;
  int ok = (x <= y);
  if (ok)
    goto done;
  rval = x;
done:
  return rval;
}
```

- C allows "goto" as means of transferring control
  - Closer to machine-level programming style
- Generally considered bad coding style

```
    movl 8(%ebp),%edx   # edx = x
    movl 12(%ebp),%eax  # eax = y
    cmpl %eax,%edx      # x : y
    jle L9              # if <= goto L9
    movl %edx,%eax      # eax = x
L9:                 # Done:
```

Skipped when $x \leq y$

"Do-While" Loop Example

C Code

```
int fact_do(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  do {
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
  } while (x > 1);
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
int fact_goto(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
loop:
  result *= x;
  x = x-1;
  if (x > 1)
    goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

- Use backward branch to continue looping
- Only take branch when "while" condition holds

"Do-While" Loop Compilation

Goto Version

```
int fact_goto
  (int x)
{
  int result = 1;
loop:
  result *= x;
  x = x-1;
  if (x > 1)
    goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

Assembly

```
_fact_goto:
  pushl %ebp          # Setup
  movl %esp,%ebp      # Setup
  movl $1,%eax        # eax = 1
  movl 8(%ebp),%edx   # edx = x

L11:
  imull %edx,%eax     # result *= x
  decl %edx           # x--
  cmpl $1,%edx        # Compare x : 1
  jg L11              # if > goto loop

  movl %ebp,%esp      # Finish
  popl %ebp           # Finish
  ret                 # Finish
```

Registers

%edx	x
%eax	result

General "Do-While" Translation

C Code

```
do
   Body
   while (Test);
```

Goto Version

```
loop:
   Body
   if (Test)
      goto loop
```

- ***Body* can be any C statement**
  - Typically compound statement:

```
{
   Statement1;
   Statement2;
      …
   Statementn;
}
```

- ***Test* is expression returning integer**

  = 0 interpreted as false ≠0 interpreted as true

"While" Loop Example #1

C Code

```
int fact_while
  (int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (x > 1) {
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
  };
  return result;
}
```

First Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto
  (int x)
{
  int result = 1;
loop:
  if (!(x > 1))
    goto done;
  result *= x;
  x = x-1;
  goto loop;
done:
  return result;
}
```

- Is this code equivalent to the do-while version?
- Must jump out of loop if test fails

Actual "While" Loop Translation

C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (x > 1) {
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
  };
  return result;
}
```

- Uses same inner loop as do-while version
- Guards loop entry with extra test

Second Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto2
  (int x)
{
  int result = 1;
  if (!(x > 1))
    goto done;
loop:
  result *= x;
  x = x-1;
  if (x > 1)
    goto loop;
done:
  return result;
}
```

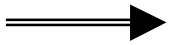
General "While" Translation

C Code

```
while (Test)
  Body
```

Do-While Version

```
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
  do
    Body
    while(Test);
done:
```



Goto Version

```
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
  Body
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

"While" Loop Example #2

```
/* Compute x raised to nonnegative power p */
int ipwr_while(int x, unsigned p)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (p) {
    if (p & 0x1)
      result *= x;
    x = x*x;
    p = p>>1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Algorithm

- Exploit property that $p = p_0 + 2p_1 + 4p_2 + \ldots 2^{n-1}p_{n-1}$
- Gives: $x^p = z_0 \cdot z_1^{\,2} \cdot (z_2^{\,2})^{\,2} \cdot \ldots \cdot (\ldots((z_{n-1}^{\,2})^{\,2})\ldots)^{\,2}$

  $z_i = 1$ when $p_I = 0$

  $z_i = x$ when $p_I = 1$

  n times
- Complexity $O(\log p)$

Example

3^{10}

$= 3^2 * 3^8$

$= 3^2 * ((3^2)^{\,2})^{\,2}$

ipwr Computation

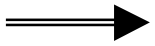
```
int ipwr(int x, unsigned p)
{
  int result = 1;
  while (p) {
    if (p & 0x1)
      result *= x;
    x = x*x;
    p = p>>1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

result	x	p
1	3	10
1	9	5
9	81	2
9	6561	1
531441	43046721	0

"While" → "Do-While " → "Goto "

```
int result = 1;
while (p) {
  if (p & 0x1)
    result *= x;
  x = x*x;
  p = p>>1;
}
```

```
  int result = 1;
  if (!p) goto done;
  do {
    if (p & 0x1)
      result *= x;
    x = x*x;
    p = p>>1;
  } while (p);
done:
```



```
  int result = 1;
  if (!p)
    goto done;
loop:
  if (!(p & 0x1))
    goto skip;
  result *= x;
skip:
  x = x*x;
  p = p>>1;
  if (p)
    goto loop;
done:
```

- Also converted conditional update into test and branch around update code

Example #2 Compilation

Goto Version

```
  int result = 1;
  if (!p)
    goto done;
loop:
  if (!(p & 0x1))
    goto skip;
    result *= x;
skip:
    x = x*x;
    p = p>>1;
  if (p)
    goto loop;
done:
```

Registers

%ecx	x
%edx	p
%eax	result

```
  pushl %ebp          # Setup
  movl %esp,%ebp      # Setup
  movl $1,%eax        # eax = 1
  movl 8(%ebp),%ecx   # ecx = x
  movl 12(%ebp),%edx  # edx = p
  testl %edx,%edx     # Test p
  je L36              # If 0, goto done
L37:                  # Loop:
  testb $1,%dl        # Test p & 0x1
  je L38              # If 0, goto skip
  imull %ecx,%eax     # result *= x
L38:                  # Skip:
  imull %ecx,%ecx     # x *= x
  shrl $1,%edx        # p >>= 1
  jne L37             # if p goto Loop
L36:                  # Done:
  movl %ebp,%esp      # Finish
  popl %ebp           # Finish
  ret                 # Finish
```

"For" Loop Example

```
int result;
for (result = 1;
     p != 0;
     p = p>>1) {
  if (p & 0x1)
    result *= x;
  x = x*x;
}
```

General Form

```
for (Init; Test; Update )
     Body
```

Init

```
result = 1
```

Test

```
p != 0
```

Update

```
p = p >> 1
```

Body

```
{
  if (p & 0x1)
    result *= x;
  x = x*x;
}
```

"For" → "While"

For Version

```
for (Init; Test; Update
)
    Body
```

While Version

```
Init;
while (Test ) {
    Body
    Update ;
}
```

Do-While Version

```
  Init;
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
  do {
    Body
    Update ;
  } while (Test)
done:
```

Goto Version

```
  Init;
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
  Body
  Update ;
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

"For" Loop Compilation

Goto Version

```
  Init;
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
  Body
  Update ;
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

```
  result = 1;
  if (p == 0)
    goto done;
loop:
  if (p & 0x1)
    result *= x;
  x = x*x;
  p = p >> 1;
  if (p != 0)
    goto loop;
done:
```

Init

```
result = 1
```

Test

```
p != 0
```

Update

```
p = p >> 1
```

Body

```
{
  if (p & 0x1)
    result *= x;
  x = x*x;
}
```

```
typedef enum
 {ADD, MULT, MINUS, DIV, MOD, BAD}
    op_type;

char unparse_symbol(op_type op)
{
  switch (op) {
  case ADD :
    return '+';
  case MULT:
    return '*';
  case MINUS:
    return '-';
  case DIV:
    return '/';
  case MOD:
    return '%';
  case BAD:
    return '?';
  }
}
```

Switch Statements

Implementation Options

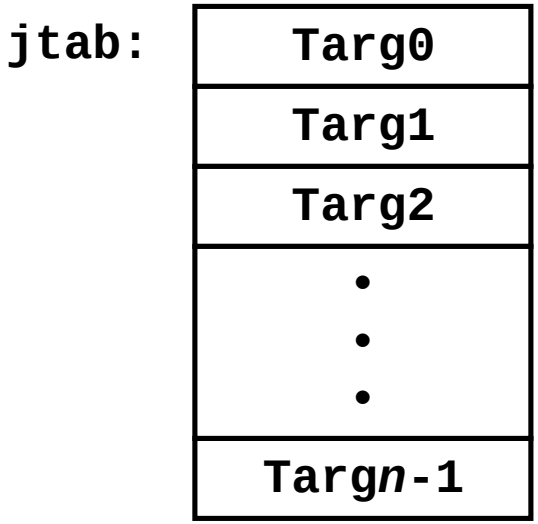
- **Series of conditionals**
  - Good if few cases
  - Slow if many
- **Jump Table**
  - Lookup branch target
  - Avoids conditionals
  - Possible when cases are small integer constants
- ***GCC***
  - Picks one based on case structure
- **Bug in example code**
  - No default given

Jump Table Structure

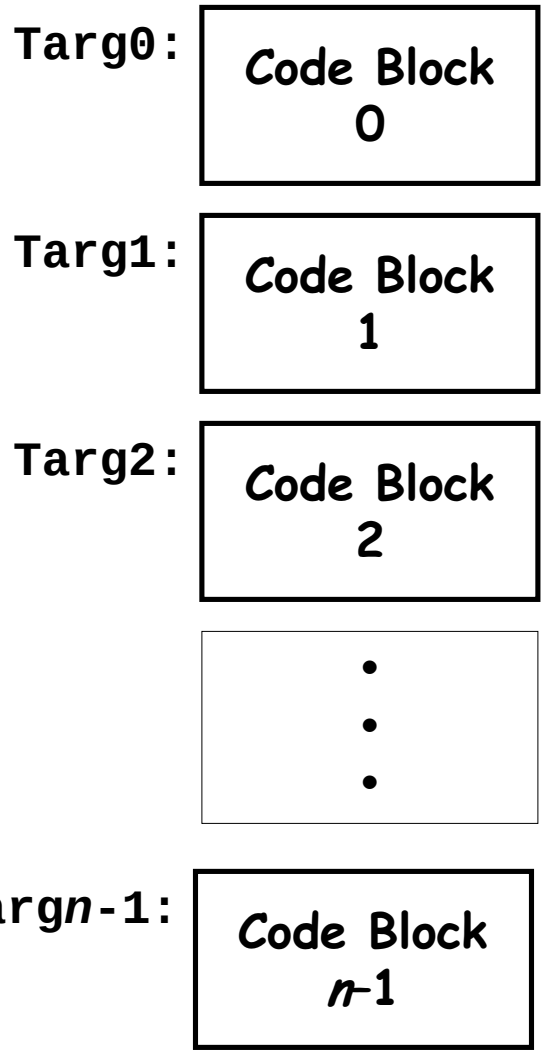
Switch Form

```
switch(op) {
  case 0:
    Block 0
  case 1:
    Block 1
    . . .
  case n-1:
    Block n-1
}
```

Jump Table



Jump Targets



Approx. Translation

```
target = JTab[op];
goto *target;
```

Switch Statement Example

Branching Possibilities

```
typedef enum
  {ADD, MULT, MINUS, DIV, MOD,
BAD}
    op_type;

char unparse_symbol(op_type op)
{
  switch (op) {
    . . .
  }
}
```

Enumerated Values

```
ADD   0
MULT  1
MINUS 2
DIV   3
MOD   4
BAD   5
```

Setup:

```
pushl %ebp              # Setup
movl %esp,%ebp          # Setup
movl 8(%ebp),%eax       # eax = op
cmpl $5,%eax            # Compare op : 5
ja .L64                 # If > goto done
jmp *.L72(,%eax,4)      # goto Table[op]
```

Assembly Setup Explanation

Symbolic Labels

- Labels of form `.LXX` translated into addresses by assembler

Table Structure

- Each target requires 4 bytes
- Base address at `.L72`

Jumping

`jmp .L64`

- Jump target is denoted by label `.L64`

`jmp *.L72(,%eax,4)`

- Start of jump table denoted by label `.L72`
- Register `%eax` holds `op`
- Must scale by factor of 4 to get offset into table
- Fetch target from effective Address `.L72 + op*4`

Jump Table

Table Contents

```
.L72:
  .long .L66 #Op = 0
  .long .L67 #Op = 1
  .long .L68 #Op = 2
  .long .L69 #Op = 3
  .long .L70 #Op = 4
  .long .L71 #Op = 5
```

Enumerated Values

```
ADD    0
MULT   1
MINUS  2
DIV    3
MOD    4
BAD    5
```

Targets & Completion

```
.L66:
    movl $43,%eax # '+'
    jmp .L64
.L67:
    movl $42,%eax # '*'
    jmp .L64
.L68:
    movl $45,%eax # '-'
    jmp .L64
.L69:
    movl $47,%eax # '/'
    jmp .L64
.L70:
    movl $37,%eax # '%'
    jmp .L64
.L71:
    movl $63,%eax # '?'
    # Fall Through to .L64
```

Switch Statement Completion

```
.L64:                # Done:
    movl %ebp,%esp   # Finish
    popl %ebp        # Finish
    ret              # Finish
```

Puzzle

- What value returned when op is invalid?

Answer

- Register %eax set to op at beginning of procedure
- This becomes the returned value

Advantage of Jump Table

- Can do k-way branch in $O(1)$ operations

Object Code

Setup

- Label .L64 becomes address 0x80487b5
- Label .L72 becomes address 0x8048770

```
 804875d:89 e5          movl   %esp,%ebp
 804875f:8b 45 08       movl   0x8(%ebp),%eax
 8048762:83 f8 05       cmpl   $0x5,%eax
 8048765:77 4e          ja     80487b5
<unparse_symbol+0x59>
 8048767:ff 24 85 70 87    jmp    *0x8048770(,%eax,4)
```

Object Code (cont.)

Jump Table

- Disassembler tries to interpret byte sequence as instructions
- Very strange results!

```
804876c:  04 08
 804876e:89 f6                movl   %esi,%esi
 8048770:88 87 04 08 90       movb   %al,0x87900804(%edi)
 8048775:87
 8048776:04 08                addb   $0x8,%al
 8048778:98                   cwtl
 8048779:87 04 08             xchgl  %eax,(%eax,%ecx,1)
 804877c:a0 87 04 08 a8       movb   0xa8080487,%al
 8048781:87 04 08             xchgl  %eax,(%eax,%ecx,1)
 8048784:b0 87                movb   $0x87,%al
 8048786:04 08                addb   $0x8,%al
```

Decoding Jump Table

Known

- Starts at 8048770
- 4 bytes / entry
- Little Endian byte ordering

```
804876c:  04 08
804876e:  89 f6
8048770:  88 87 04 08 90
8048775:  87
8048776:  04 08
8048778:  98
8048779:  87 04 08
804877c:  a0 87 04 08 a8
8048781:  87 04 08
8048784:  b0 87
8048786:  04 08
```

Address	Entry
8048770:	08048788
8048774:	08048790
8048778:	08048798
804877c:	080487a0
8048780:	080487a8
8048784:	080487b0

Alternate Decoding Technique

Use GDB

gdb code-examples

(gdb) x/6xw 0x8048770

- E*x*amine 6 he*x*adecimal format "*w*ords" (4-bytes each)
- Use command "**help x**" to get format documentation

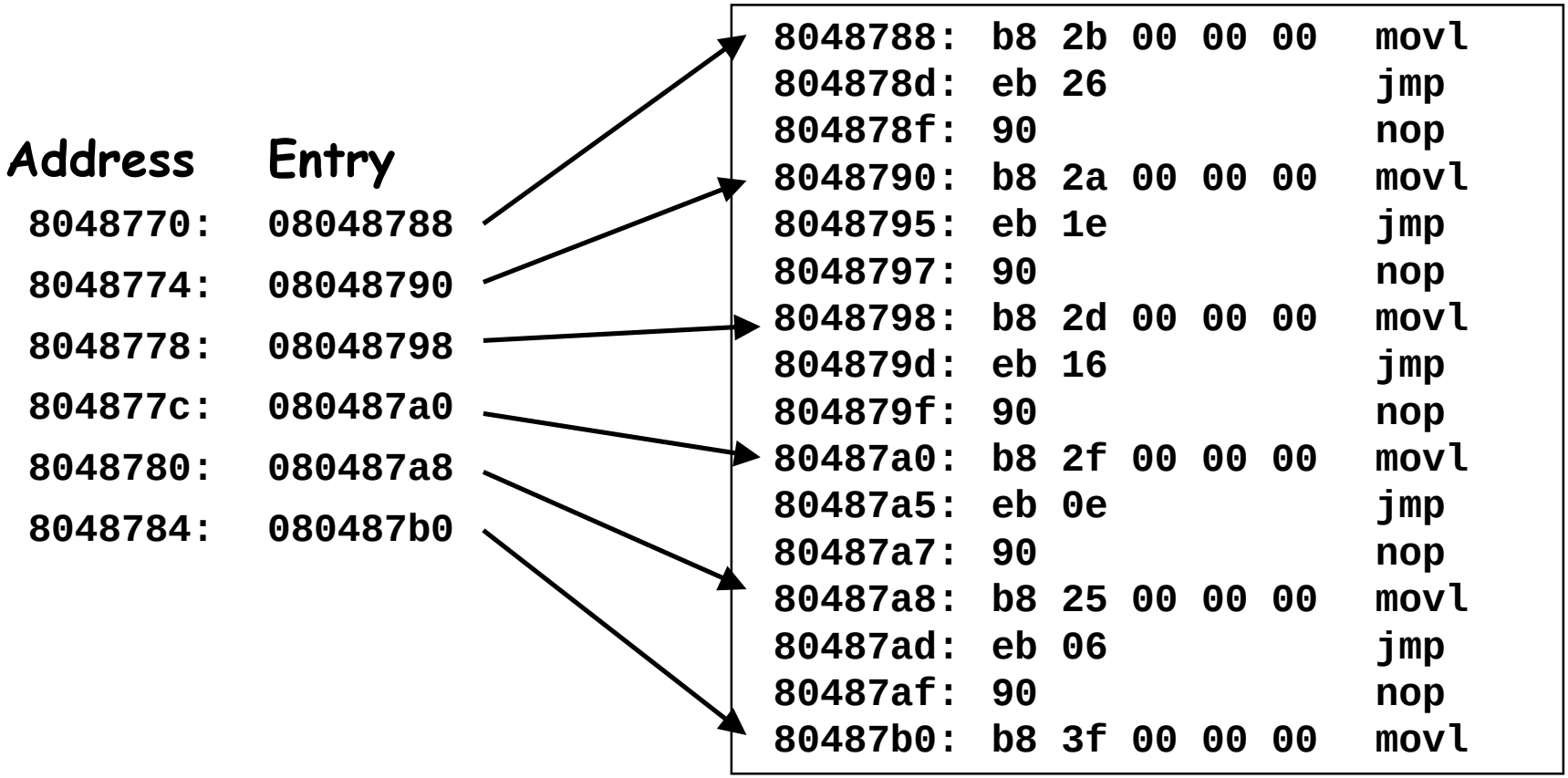
```
0x8048770 <unparse_symbol+20>:
  0x08048788
  0x08048790
  0x08048798
  0x080487a0
0x8048780 <unparse_symbol+36>:
  0x080487a8
  0x080487b0
```

Disassembled Targets

- No-operations (nop) inserted to align target addresses

```
8048788:b8 2b 00 00 00   movl   $0x2b,%eax
804878d:eb 26            jmp    80487b5 <unparse_symbol+0x59>
804878f:90               nop
8048790:b8 2a 00 00 00   movl   $0x2a,%eax
8048795:eb 1e            jmp    80487b5 <unparse_symbol+0x59>
8048797:90               nop
8048798:b8 2d 00 00 00   movl   $0x2d,%eax
804879d:eb 16            jmp    80487b5 <unparse_symbol+0x59>
804879f:90               nop
80487a0:b8 2f 00 00 00   movl   $0x2f,%eax
80487a5:eb 0e            jmp    80487b5 <unparse_symbol+0x59>
80487a7:90               nop
80487a8:b8 25 00 00 00   movl   $0x25,%eax
80487ad:eb 06            jmp    80487b5 <unparse_symbol+0x59>
80487af:90               nop
80487b0:b8 3f 00 00 00   movl   $0x3f,%eax
```

Matching Disassembled Targets



Summary

C Control

- if-then-else
- do-while
- while
- switch

Assembler Control

- jump
- Conditional jump

Compiler

- Must generate assembly code to implement more complex control

Standard Techniques

- All loops converted to do-while form
- Large switch statements use jump tables

Conditions in CISC

- CISC machines generally have condition code registers

Conditions in RISC

- Use general registers to store condition information
- Special comparison instructions
- E.g., on Alpha:

  `cmple $16,1,$1`

  - Sets register $1 to 1 when Register $16 <= 1