Machine-Level Programming I: Basics

15-213/18-213: Introduction to Computer Systems
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Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- **History of Intel processors and architectures**
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Intro to x86-64

Intel x86 Processors

- **Totally dominate laptop/desktop/server market**

- **Evolutionary design**
  - Backwards compatible up until 8086, introduced in 1978
  - Added more features as time goes on

- **Complex instruction set computer (CISC)**
  - Many different instructions with many different formats
    - But, only small subset encountered with Linux programs
  - Hard to match performance of Reduced Instruction Set Computers (RISC)
  - But, Intel has done just that!
    - In terms of speed. Less so for low power.

Intel x86 Evolution: Milestones

Name	*Date*	*Transistors*	*MHz*
8086	**1978**	**29K**	**5-10**

- First 16-bit Intel processor. Basis for IBM PC & DOS
- 1MB address space

386	**1985**	**275K**	**16-33**

- First 32 bit Intel processor , referred to as IA32
- Added "flat addressing", capable of running Unix

Pentium 4F	**2004**	**125M**	**2800-3800**

- First 64-bit Intel processor, referred to as x86-64

Core 2	**2006**	**291M**	**1060-3500**

- First multi-core Intel processor

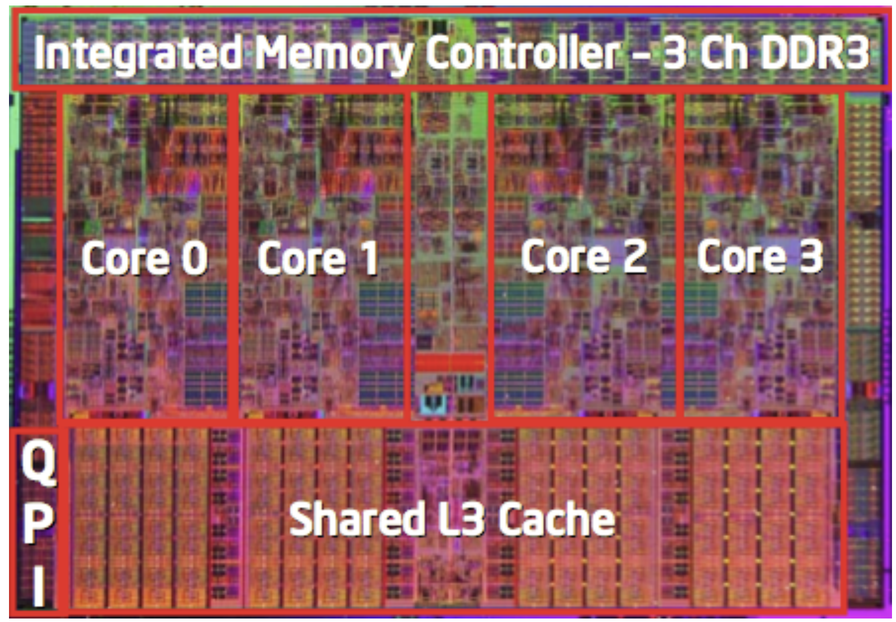
Core i7	**2008**	**731M**	**1700-3900**

- Four cores (our shark machines)

Intel x86 Processors, cont.

Machine Evolution

386	1985	0.3M
Pentium	1993	3.1M
Pentium/MMX	1997	4.5M
PentiumPro	1995	6.5M
Pentium III	1999	8.2M
Pentium 4	2001	42M
Core 2 Duo	2006	291M
Core i7	2008	731M



Added Features

- Instructions to support multimedia operations
- Instructions to enable more efficient conditional operations
- Transition from 32 bits to 64 bits
- More cores

x86 Clones: Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)

- **Historically**
  - AMD has followed just behind Intel
  - A little bit slower, a lot cheaper
- **Then**
  - Recruited top circuit designers from Digital Equipment Corp. and other downward trending companies
  - Built Opteron: tough competitor to Pentium 4
  - Developed x86-64, their own extension to 64 bits

Intel's 64-Bit

- **Intel Attempted Radical Shift from IA32 to IA64**
  - Totally different architecture (Itanium)
  - Executes IA32 code only as legacy
  - Performance disappointing
- **AMD Stepped in with Evolutionary Solution**
  - x86-64 (now called "AMD64")
- **Intel Felt Obligated to Focus on IA64**
  - Hard to admit mistake or that AMD is better
- **2004: Intel Announces EM64T extension to IA32**
  - Extended Memory 64-bit Technology
  - Almost identical to x86-64!
- **All but low-end x86 processors support x86-64**
  - But, lots of code still runs in 32-bit mode

Our Coverage

- **IA32**
  - The traditional x86
  - `shark> gcc –m32 hello.c`
- **x86-64**
  - The emerging standard
  - `shark> gcc hello.c`
  - `shark> gcc –m64 hello.c`

- **Presentation**
  - Book presents IA32 in Sections 3.1—3.12
  - Covers x86-64 in 3.13
  - We will cover both simultaneously
  - Some labs will be based on x86-64, others on IA32

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- **C, assembly, machine code**
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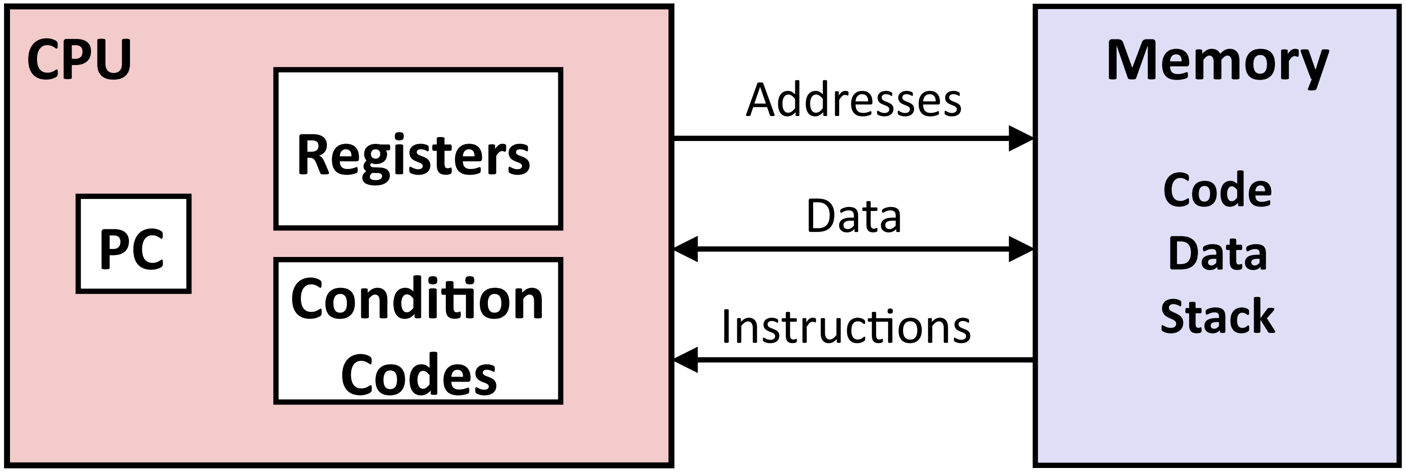
- Intro to x86-64

Definitions

- **Architecture: (also ISA: instruction set architecture) The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand to write assembly code.**
  - Examples: instruction set specification, registers.
- **Microarchitecture: Implementation of the architecture.**
  - Examples: cache sizes and core frequency.

- **Example ISAs (Intel): x86, IA**

Assembly Programmer's View

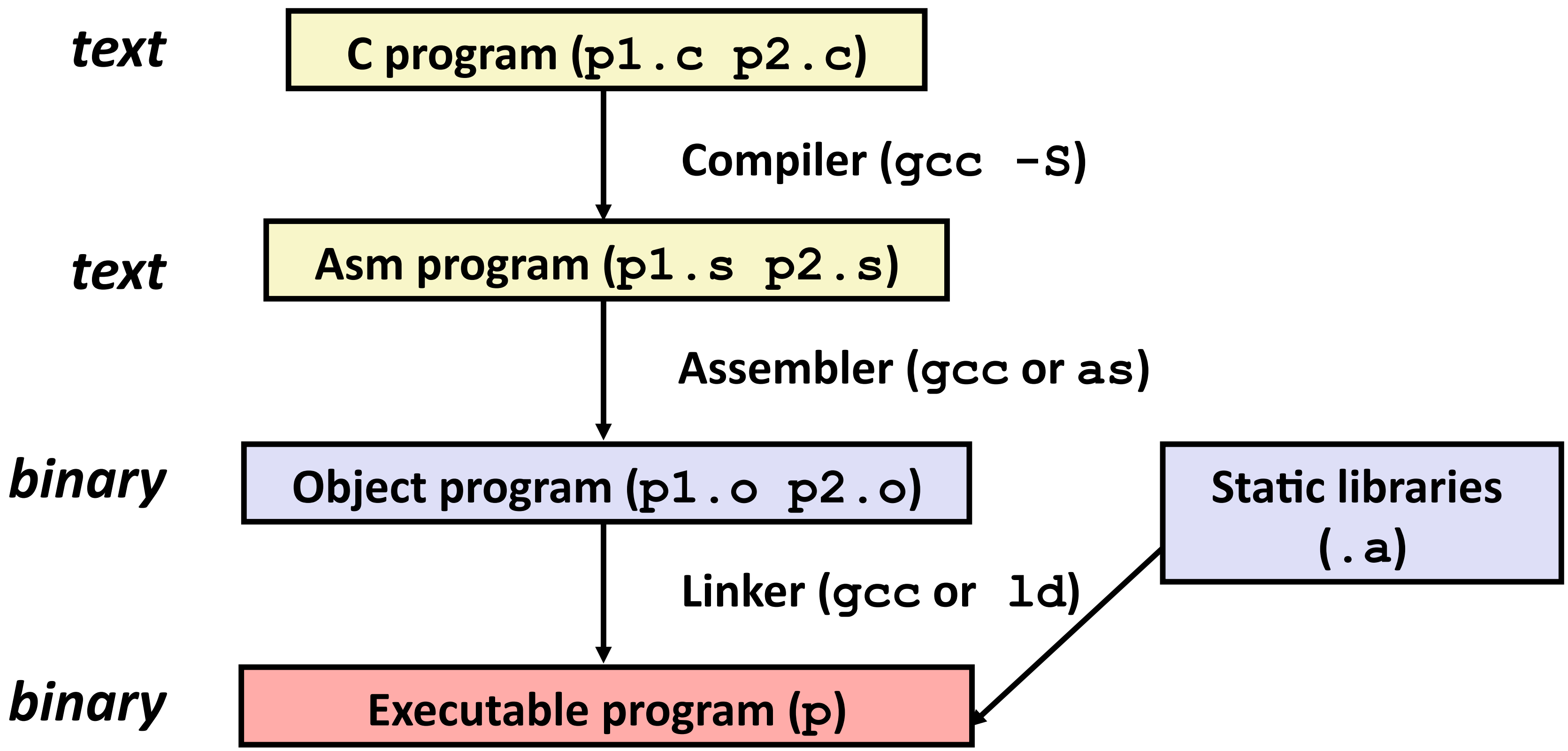


Programmer-Visible State

- **PC: Program counter**
  - Address of next instruction
  - Called "EIP" (IA32) or "RIP" (x86-64)
- **Register file**
  - Heavily used program data
- **Condition codes**
  - Store status information about most recent arithmetic operation
  - Used for conditional branching
- **Memory**
  - Byte addressable array
  - Code and user data
  - Stack to support procedures

Turning C into Object Code

- Code in files `p1.c p2.c`
- Compile with command: `gcc -O1 p1.c p2.c -o p`
  - Use basic optimizations (`-O1`)
  - Put resulting binary in file `p`



Compiling Into Assembly

C Code

```
int sum(int x, int y)
{
  int t = x+y;
  return t;
}
```

Generated IA32 Assembly

```
sum:
   pushl %ebp
   movl %esp,%ebp
   movl 12(%ebp),%eax
   addl 8(%ebp),%eax
   popl %ebp
   ret
```

Obtain with command

```
/usr/local/bin/gcc -O1 -S code.c
```

Produces file `code.s`

Assembly Characteristics: Data Types

- **"Integer" data of 1, 2, or 4 bytes**
  - Data values
  - Addresses (untyped pointers)

- **Floating point data of 4, 8, or 10 bytes**

- **No aggregate types such as arrays or structures**
  - Just contiguously allocated bytes in memory

Assembly Characteristics: Operations

- **Perform arithmetic function on register or memory data**
- **Transfer data between memory and register**
  - Load data from memory into register
  - Store register data into memory
- **Transfer control**
  - Unconditional jumps to/from procedures
  - Conditional branches

Object Code

Code for `sum`

```
0x401040 <sum>:
    0x55
    0x89
    0xe5
    0x8b
    0x45
    0x0c
    0x03
    0x45
    0x08
    0x5d
    0xc3
```

- **Total of 11 bytes**
- **Each instruction 1, 2, or 3 bytes**
- **Starts at address `0x401040`**

- **Assembler**
  - Translates `.s` into `.o`
  - Binary encoding of each instruction
  - Nearly-complete image of executable code
  - Missing linkages between code in different files
- **Linker**
  - Resolves references between files
  - Combines with static run-time libraries
    - E.g., code for **`malloc`**, **`printf`**
  - Some libraries are *dynamically linked*
    - Linking occurs when program begins execution

Machine Instruction Example

```
int t = x+y;
```

```
addl 8(%ebp),%eax
```

Similar to expression:

`x += y`

More precisely:

```
int eax;
int *ebp;
eax += ebp[2]
```

```
0x80483ca:   03 45 08
```

- **C Code**
  - Add two signed integers
- **Assembly**
  - Add 2 4-byte integers
    - "Long" words in GCC parlance
    - Same instruction whether signed or unsigned
  - Operands:

x:	Register	**%eax**
y:	Memory	**M[%ebp+8]**
t:	Register	**%eax**

    – Return function value in **%eax**

- **Object Code**
  - 3-byte instruction
  - Stored at address **0x80483ca**

Disassembling Object Code

Disassembled

```
080483c4 <sum>:
 80483c4:   55          push   %ebp
 80483c5:   89 e5       mov    %esp,%ebp
 80483c7:   8b 45 0c    mov    0xc(%ebp),%eax
 80483ca:   03 45 08    add    0x8(%ebp),%eax
 80483cd:   5d          pop    %ebp
 80483ce:   c3          ret
```

- **Disassembler**

  `objdump -d p`

  - Useful tool for examining object code
  - Analyzes bit pattern of series of instructions
  - Produces approximate rendition of assembly code
  - Can be run on either `a.out` (complete executable) or `.o` file

Alternate Disassembly

Object

```
0x401040:
    0x55
    0x89
    0xe5
    0x8b
    0x45
    0x0c
    0x03
    0x45
    0x08
    0x5d
    0xc3
```

Disassembled

```
Dump of assembler code for function sum:
0x080483c4 <sum+0>:     push   %ebp
0x080483c5 <sum+1>:     mov    %esp,%ebp
0x080483c7 <sum+3>:     mov    0xc(%ebp),%eax
0x080483ca <sum+6>:     add    0x8(%ebp),%eax
0x080483cd <sum+9>:     pop    %ebp
0x080483ce <sum+10>:    ret
```

- **Within gdb Debugger**

  `gdb p`

  `disassemble sum`
  - Disassemble procedure

  `x/11xb sum`
  - Examine the 11 bytes starting at `sum`

What Can be Disassembled?

```
% objdump -d WINWORD.EXE

WINWORD.EXE:   file format pei-i386

No symbols in "WINWORD.EXE".
Disassembly of section .text:

30001000 <.text>:
30001000:  55             push   %ebp
30001001:  8b ec          mov    %esp,%ebp
30001003:  6a ff          push   $0xffffffff
30001005:  68 90 10 00 30 push   $0x30001090
3000100a:  68 91 dc 4c 30 push   $0x304cdc91
```

- **Anything that can be interpreted as executable code**
- **Disassembler examines bytes and reconstructs assembly source**

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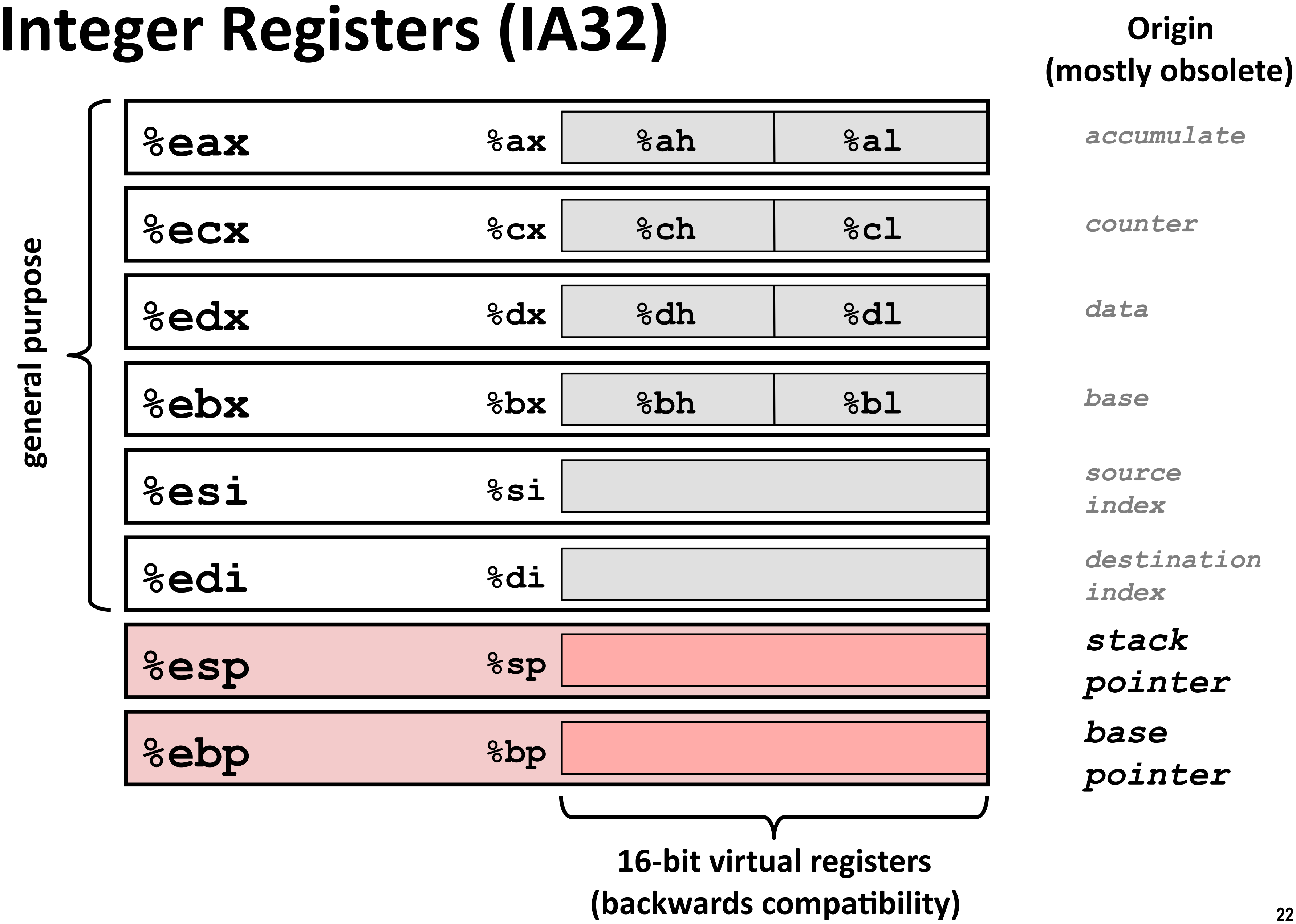
Integer Registers (IA32)



Moving Data: IA32

- **Moving Data**

  `movl` ***Source, Dest*:**

- **Operand Types**
  - ***Immediate:*** Constant integer data
    - Example: **`$0x400, $-533`**
    - Like C constant, but prefixed with **`'$'`**
    - Encoded with 1, 2, or 4 bytes
  - ***Register:*** One of 8 integer registers
    - Example: **`%eax, %edx`**
    - But **`%esp`** and **`%ebp`** reserved for special use
    - Others have special uses for particular instructions
  - ***Memory:*** 4 consecutive bytes of memory at address given by register
    - Simplest example: **`(%eax)`**
    - Various other "address modes"

`%eax`
`%ecx`
`%edx`
`%ebx`
`%esi`
`%edi`
`%esp`
`%ebp`

movl Operand Combinations

	Source	Dest	Src,Dest	C Analog
movl	*Imm*	*Reg*	`movl $0x4,%eax`	`temp = 0x4;`
		Mem	`movl $-147,(%eax)`	`*p = -147;`
	Reg	*Reg*	`movl %eax,%edx`	`temp2 = temp1;`
		Mem	`movl %eax,(%edx)`	`*p = temp;`
	Mem	*Reg*	`movl (%eax),%edx`	`temp = *p;`

Cannot do memory-memory transfer with a single instruction

Simple Memory Addressing Modes

- **Normal (R) Mem[Reg[R]]**
  - Register R specifies memory address
  - Aha! Pointer dereferencing in C

```
movl (%ecx),%eax
```

- **Displacement D(R) Mem[Reg[R]+D]**
  - Register R specifies start of memory region
  - Constant displacement D specifies offset

```
movl 8(%ebp),%edx
```

Using Simple Addressing Modes

```c
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```

```
swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx

   movl  8(%ebp), %edx
   movl  12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl  (%edx), %ebx
   movl  (%ecx), %eax
   movl  %eax, (%edx)
   movl  %ebx, (%ecx)

   popl  %ebx
   popl  %ebp
   ret
```

Set Up

Body

Finish

Using Simple Addressing Modes

```
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
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}
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swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx

   movl  8(%ebp), %edx
   movl  12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl  (%edx), %ebx
   movl  (%ecx), %eax
   movl  %eax, (%edx)
   movl  %ebx, (%ecx)

   popl  %ebx
   popl  %ebp
   ret
```

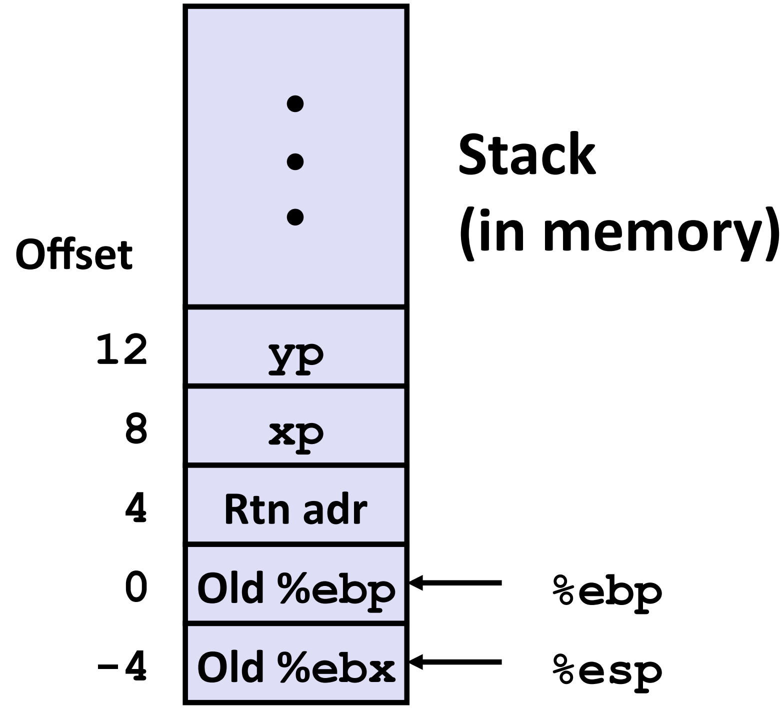
Set Up

Body

Finish

Understanding Swap

```
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```



Register	Value
%edx	xp
%ecx	yp
%ebx	t0
%eax	t1

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx     # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx    # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx      # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax      # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)      # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

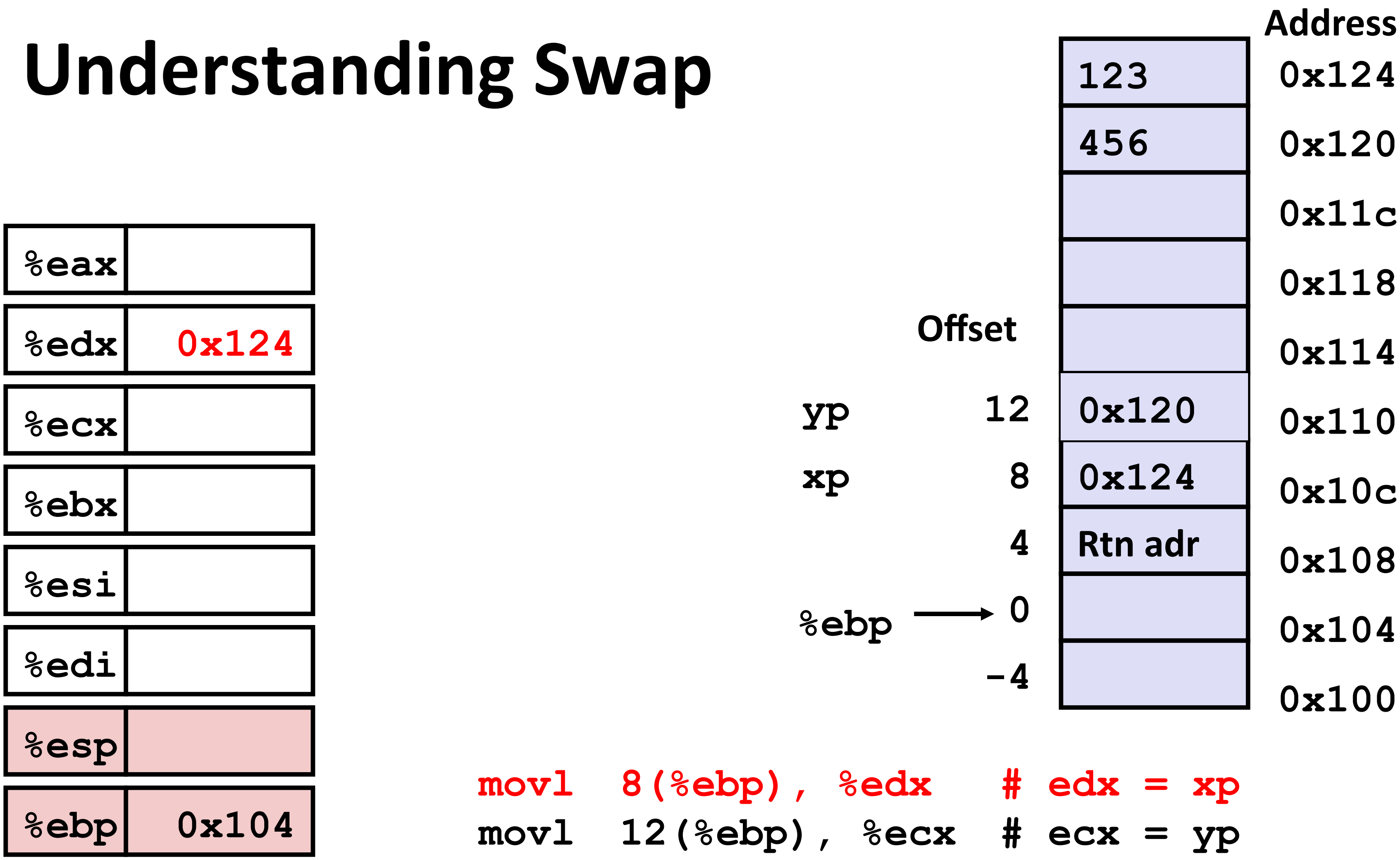
Understanding Swap

%eax	
%edx	
%ecx	
%ebx	
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl  8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl  12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl  (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl  (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl  %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl  %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

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movl   8(%ebp), %edx     # edx = xp
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movl   (%edx), %ebx      # ebx = *xp (t0)
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movl   %eax, (%edx)      # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

Register	Value
%eax	
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset	Value	Address
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movl   %eax, (%edx)      # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
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Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
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movl   %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
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```

Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

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movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		456	0x124
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```
movl  8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
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movl  (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl  (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl  %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl  %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Complete Memory Addressing Modes

- **Most General Form**

  D(Rb,Ri,S) **Mem[Reg[Rb]+S*Reg[Ri]+ D]**

  - D: Constant "displacement" 1, 2, or 4 bytes
  - Rb: Base register: Any of 8 integer registers
  - Ri: Index register: Any, except for `%esp`
    - Unlikely you'd use `%ebp`, either
  - S: Scale: 1, 2, 4, or 8 (*why these numbers?*)

- **Special Cases**

(Rb,Ri)	**Mem[Reg[Rb]+Reg[Ri]]**
D(Rb,Ri)	**Mem[Reg[Rb]+Reg[Ri]+D]**
(Rb,Ri,S)	**Mem[Reg[Rb]+S*Reg[Ri]]**

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- **Intro to x86-64**

Data Representations: IA32 + x86-64

- **Sizes of C Objects (in Bytes)**

C Data Type	Generic 32-bit	Intel IA32	x86-64
unsigned	4	4	4
int	4	4	4
long int	4	4	8
char	1	1	1
short	2	2	2
float	4	4	4
double	8	8	8
long double	8	10/12	10/16
char *	4	4	8

– Or any other pointer

x86-64 Integer Registers

%rax	%eax	%r8	%r8d
%rbx	%ebx	%r9	%r9d
%rcx	%ecx	%r10	%r10d
%rdx	%edx	%r11	%r11d
%rsi	%esi	%r12	%r12d
%rdi	%edi	%r13	%r13d
%rsp	%esp	%r14	%r14d
%rbp	%ebp	%r15	%r15d

- Extend existing registers. Add 8 new ones.
- Make `%ebp`/`%rbp` general purpose

Instructions

- **Long word `l` (4 Bytes) ↔ Quad word `q` (8 Bytes)**

- **New instructions:**
  - `movl` → `movq`
  - `addl` → `addq`
  - `sall` → `salq`
  - etc.

- **32-bit instructions that generate 32-bit results**
  - Set higher order bits of destination register to `0`
  - Example: `addl`

32-bit code for swap

```c
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```

```
swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx

   movl   8(%ebp), %edx
   movl   12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl   (%edx), %ebx
   movl   (%ecx), %eax
   movl   %eax, (%edx)
   movl   %ebx, (%ecx)

   popl   %ebx
   popl   %ebp
   ret
```

Set Up

Body

Finish

64-bit code for swap

```
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```

```
swap:
                                  } Set Up

     movl   (%rdi), %edx          }
     movl   (%rsi), %eax          } Body
     movl   %eax, (%rdi)          }
     movl   %edx, (%rsi)          }

     ret                          } Finish
```

- **Operands passed in registers (why useful?)**
  - First (`xp`) in `%rdi`, second (`yp`) in `%rsi`
  - 64-bit pointers
- **No stack operations required**
- **32-bit data**
  - Data held in registers `%eax` and `%edx`
  - `movl` operation

64-bit code for long int swap

```
void swap(long *xp, long *yp)
{
  long t0 = *xp;
  long t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```

```
swap_l:
                                  Set Up
    movq    (%rdi), %rdx
    movq    (%rsi), %rax          Body
    movq    %rax, (%rdi)
    movq    %rdx, (%rsi)

    ret                           Finish
```

- **64-bit data**
  - Data held in registers `%rax` and `%rdx`
  - `movq` operation
    - "q" stands for quad-word

Machine Programming I: Summary

- **History of Intel processors and architectures**
  - Evolutionary design leads to many quirks and artifacts
- **C, assembly, machine code**
  - Compiler must transform statements, expressions, procedures into low-level instruction sequences
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
  - The x86 move instructions cover wide range of data movement forms
- **Intro to x86-64**
  - A major departure from the style of code seen in IA32