



Machine-Level Programming I: Basics

15-213/14-513/15-513: Introduction to Computer Systems
3rd Lecture, January 21, 2025

While waiting for class to start:

login to a shark machine, then type

```
wget http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~213/activities/gdb-and-assembly.pdf
wget http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~213/activities/gdb-and-assembly.tar
tar xf gdb-and-assembly.tar
cd gdb-and-assembly
```

Announcements

- **Lab 0 due today at midnight – no grace days allowed**
 - If lab is taking you > 10 hours, consider dropping the course or preparing to study hard on C over next 3 weeks!
 - Handin via autolab (if still on waitlist, submit once off waitlist)
- **Lab 1 (datalab) went out Jan 16, is due Tues Jan 28**
- **Lab 2 (bomb lab) goes out via Autolab on Thurs Jan 23**
 - Due Thurs Feb 06
- **Written Assignment 1 goes out Wed Jan 22 (via canvas)**
 - Due Wed Jan 29
- **Bootcamp 2 (debugging & gdb) to be posted around Sun Jan 26th**
 - See Ed for details

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- History of Intel processors and architectures CSAPP
3.1
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move CSAPP
3.3-3.4
- Arithmetic & logical operations CSAPP
3.5
- C, assembly, machine code CSAPP 3.2

Who read the textbook before class?

Poll: What is a word (w) in assembly in x86-64?

- [1] char
- [2] short
- [3] int
- [4] long
- [5] I don't know

Intel x86 Processors

- **Dominate laptop/desktop/server market**
- **Evolutionary design**
 - Backwards compatible up until 8086, introduced in 1978
 - Added more features as time goes on
 - Now 3 volumes, about 5,000 pages of documentation
- **x86 is a Complex Instruction Set Computer (CISC)**
 - Many different instructions with many different formats
 - But, only small subset encountered with Linux programs
- **Compare: Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC)**
 - RISC: *very few* instructions, with *very few* modes for each
 - RISC can be quite fast (but Intel still wins on speed!)
 - Current RISC renaissance (e.g., ARM, RISC-V), especially for low-power

Intel x86 Evolution: Milestones

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Transistors</i>	<i>MHz</i>
■ 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 4E	2004	125M	2800-3800
▪ First 64-bit Intel x86 processor, referred to as x86-64			
■ Core 2	2006	291M	1060-3333
▪ First multi-core Intel processor			
■ Core i7	2008	731M	1600-4400
▪ Four cores (our shark machines)			

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

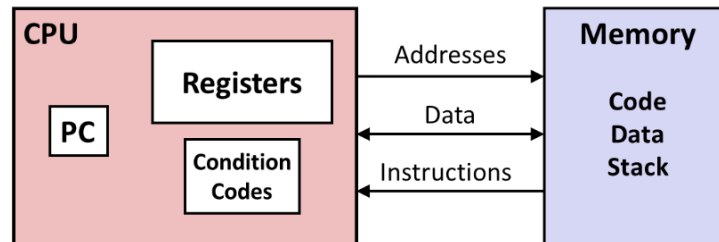
- History of Intel processors and architectures
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
- Arithmetic & logical operations
- C, assembly, machine code

Levels of Abstraction

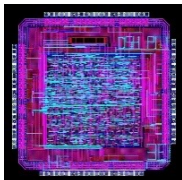
C programmer

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(){
    int i, n = 10, t1 = 0, t2 = 1, nxt;
    for (i = 1; i <= n; ++i){
        printf("%d, ", t1);
        nxt = t1 + t2;
        t1 = t2;
        t2 = nxt; }
    return 0; }
```

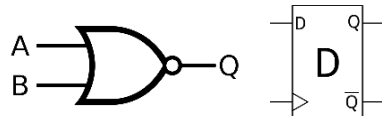
Assembly programmer



Computer Designer



Gates, clocks, circuit layout, ...



Definitions

- **Architecture:** (also ISA: instruction set architecture)

The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand for writing assembly/machine code.

- Examples: instruction set specification, registers

- **Microarchitecture:** Implementation of the architecture

- Examples: cache sizes and core frequency

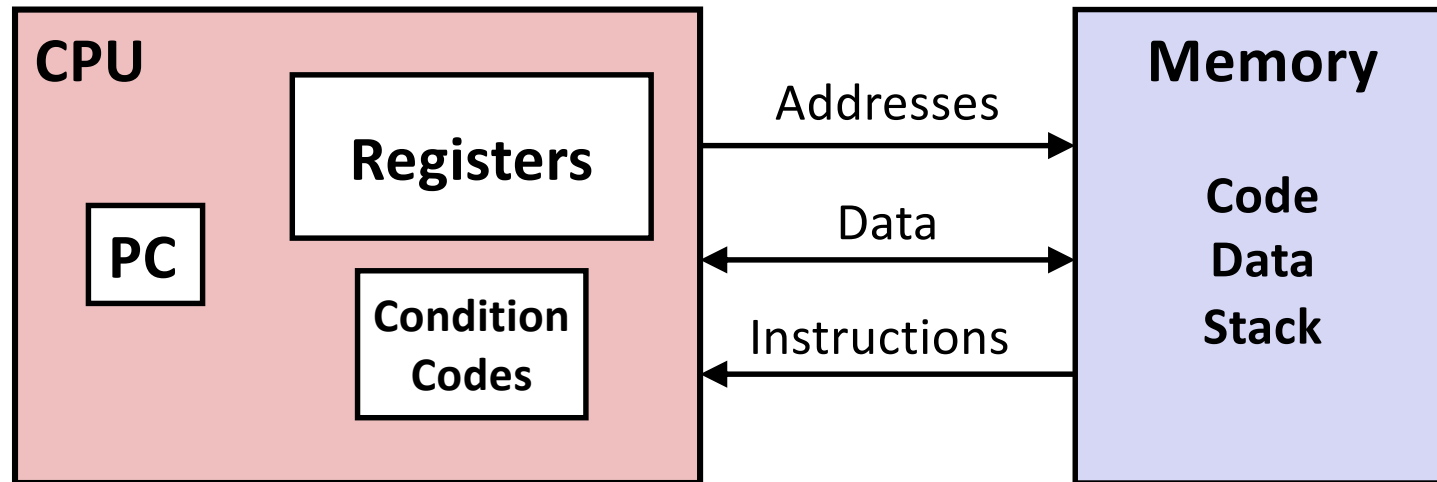
- **Code Forms:**

- **Machine Code:** The byte-level programs that a processor executes
- **Assembly Code:** A text representation of machine code

- **Example ISAs:**

- Intel: x86, IA32, Itanium, x86-64
- ARM: Used in almost all mobile phones
- RISC-V: New open source ISA

Assembly/Machine Code View



Programmer-Visible State

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

Assembly: Data Types

- **“Integer” data of 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes**
 - Data values
 - Addresses (untyped pointers)
- **Floating point data of 4, 8, or 10 bytes**
- **(SIMD vector data types of 8, 16, 32 or 64 bytes)**
- **Code: Byte sequences encoding series of instructions**
- **No aggregate types such as arrays or structures**
 - Just contiguously allocated bytes in memory

Assembly: Data Types

- “Integer” data of 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes
 - Data values
 - Addresses (untyped pointers)

Register names



```
addq %rbx, %rax
```

is

`rax += rbx`

These are 64-bit registers, so we know this is a 64-bit add

x86-64 Integer Registers

%rax	%eax
%rbx	%ebx
%rcx	%ecx
%rdx	%edx
%rsi	%esi
%rdi	%edi
%rsp	%esp
%rbp	%ebp

%r8	%r8d
%r9	%r9d
%r10	%r10d
%r11	%r11d
%r12	%r12d
%r13	%r13d
%r14	%r14d
%r15	%r15d

- Can reference low-order 4 bytes (also low-order 1 & 2 bytes)
- Not part of memory (or cache)

Some History: IA32 Registers

Origin
(mostly obsolete)

general purpose	%eax	%ax	%ah	%al	<i>accumulate</i>
	%ecx	%cx	%ch	%cl	<i>counter</i>
	%edx	%dx	%dh	%dl	<i>data</i>
	%ebx	%bx	%bh	%bl	<i>base</i>
	%esi	%si			<i>source index</i>
	%edi	%di			<i>destination index</i>
	%esp	%sp			<i>stack pointer</i>
	%ebp	%bp			<i>base pointer</i>

16-bit virtual registers
(backwards compatibility)

Assembly: Operations

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

Moving Data

■ Moving Data

`movq 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 16 integer registers
 - Example: `%rax`, `%r13`
 - But `%rsp` reserved for special use
 - Others have special uses for particular instructions
- **Memory:** 8 consecutive bytes of memory at address given by register
 - Simplest example: `(%rax)`
 - Various other “addressing modes”

`%rax`

`%rcx`

`%rdx`

`%rbx`

`%rsi`

`%rdi`

`%rsp`

`%rbp`

`%rN`

**Warning: Intel docs use
`mov Dest, Source`**

movq Operand Combinations

	Source	Dest	Src, Dest	C Analog
movq	Imm	Reg	movq \$0x4, %rax	temp = 0x4;
		Mem	movq \$-147, (%rax)	*p = -147;
	Reg	Reg	movq %rax, %rdx	temp2 = temp1;
		Mem	movq %rax, (%rdx)	*p = temp;
	Mem	Reg	movq (%rax), %rdx	temp = *p;

Cannot do memory-memory transfer with a single instruction

Simple Memory Addressing Modes

■ Normal (R) $\text{Mem}[\text{Reg}[R]]$

- Register R specifies memory address
- Aha! Pointer dereferencing in C

```
movq (%rcx) , %rax
```

■ Displacement D(R) $\text{Mem}[\text{Reg}[R]+D]$

- Register R specifies start of memory region
- Constant displacement D specifies offset

```
movq 8(%rbp) , %rdx
```

Activity 1

If you didn't do at the start of class:

login to a shark machine, then type

```
wget http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~213/activities/gdb-and-assembly.pdf
wget http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~213/activities/gdb-and-assembly.tar
tar xf gdb-and-assembly.tar
cd gdb-and-assembly
```

Now run the program by typing `./act1`
and follow its instructions for rerunning it inside GDB.

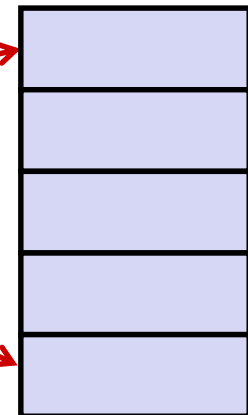
Understanding Swap()

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

Registers

%rdi	
%rsi	
%rax	
%rdx	

Memory



Register	Value
%rdi	xp
%rsi	yp
%rax	t0
%rdx	t1

swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

Understanding Swap()

Registers

<code>%rdi</code>	<code>0x120</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	<code>0x100</code>
<code>%rax</code>	
<code>%rdx</code>	

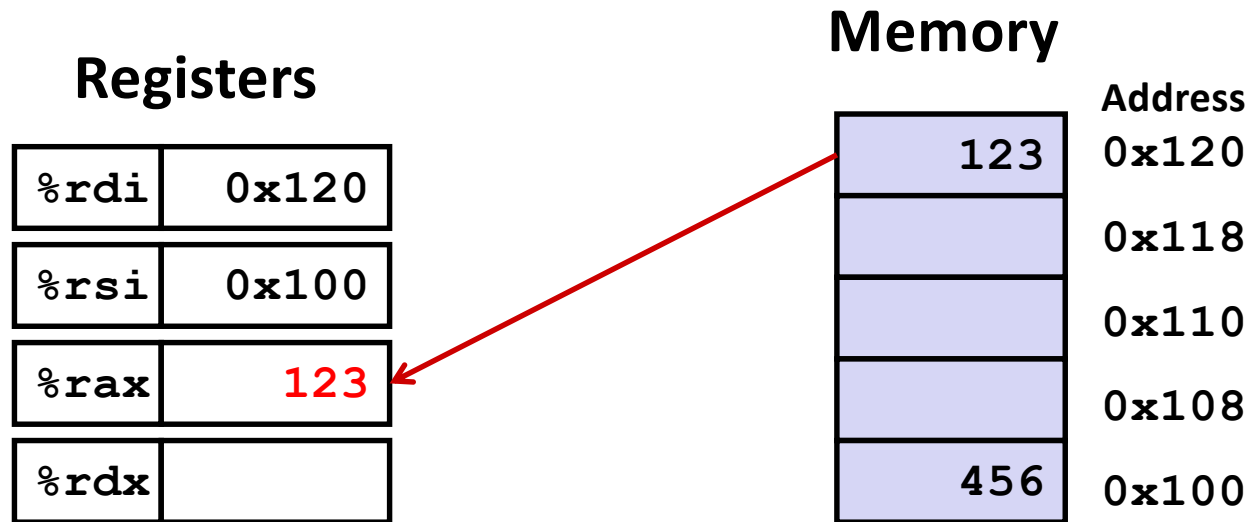
Memory

Address
123
456

swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

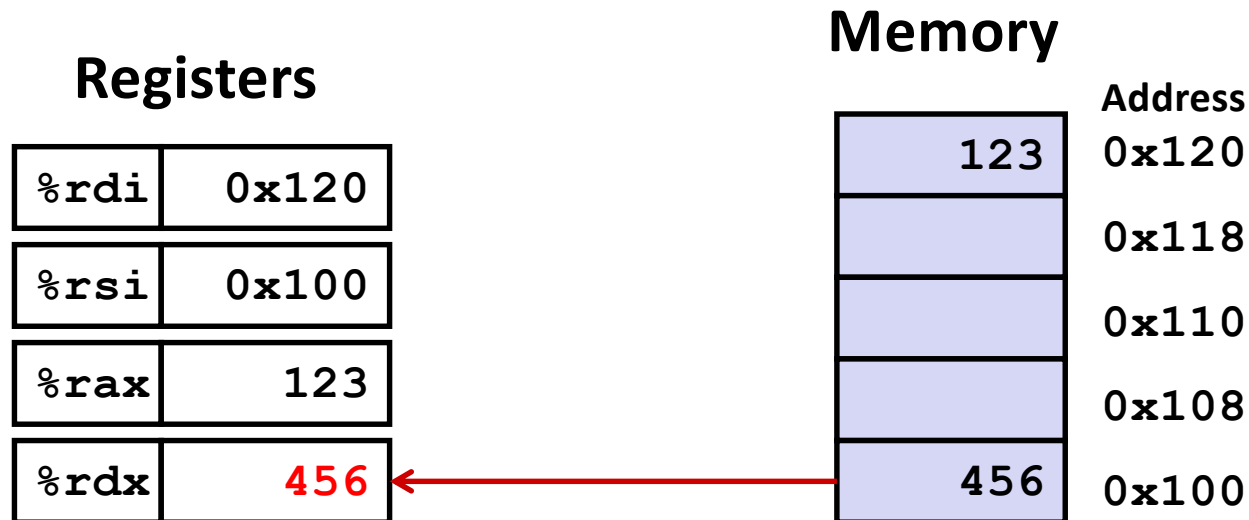
Understanding Swap()



swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

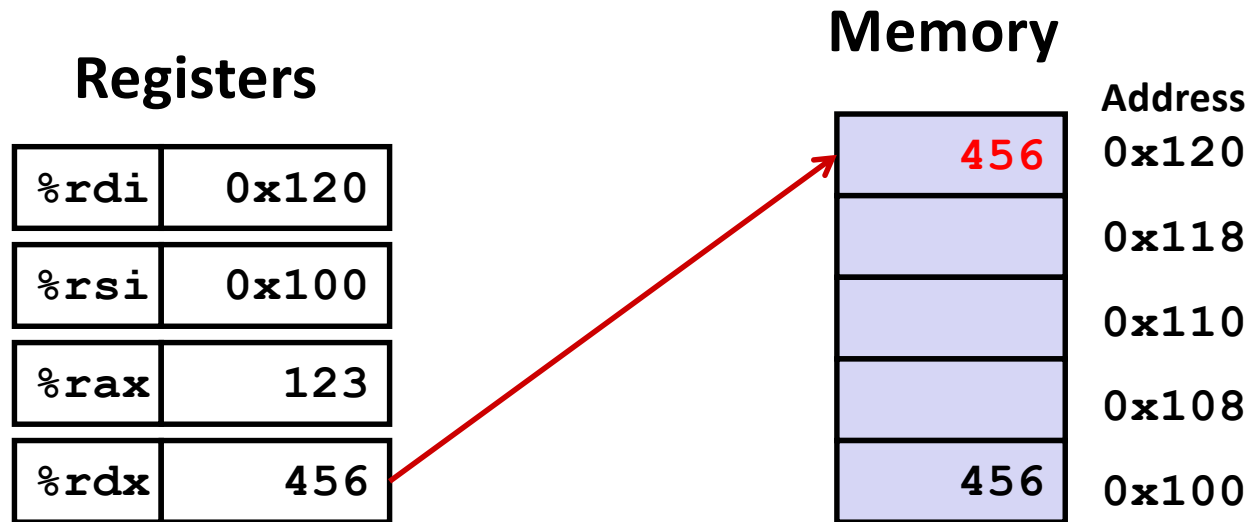
Understanding Swap()



swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

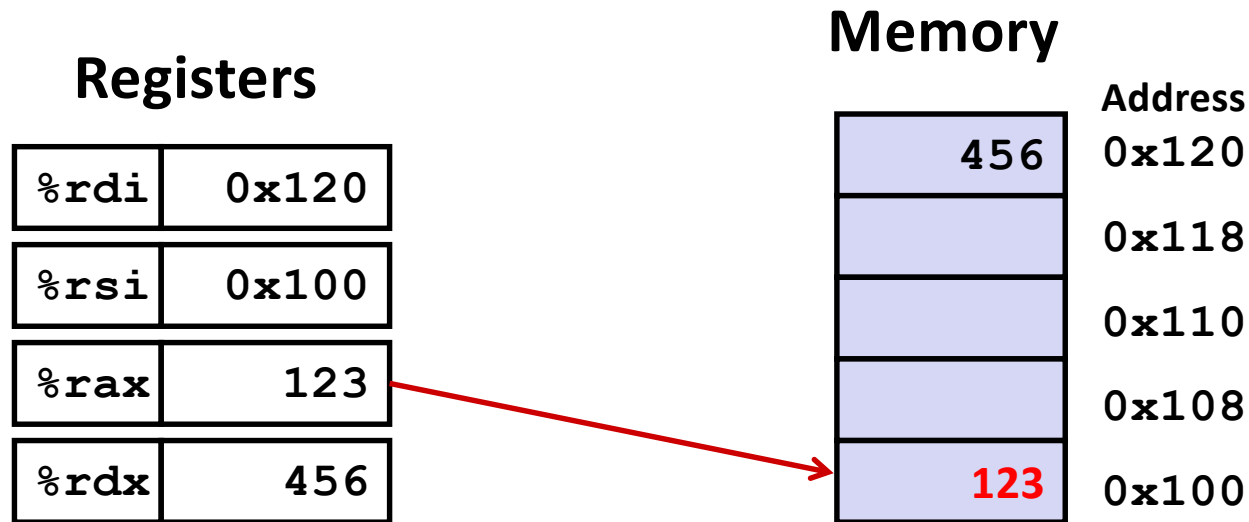
Understanding Swap()



swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

Understanding Swap()



swap:

```
movq    (%rdi), %rax    # t0 = *xp
movq    (%rsi), %rdx    # t1 = *yp
movq    %rdx, (%rdi)    # *xp = t1
movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0
ret
```

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 16 integer registers
- Ri: Index register: Any, except for `%rsp`
- 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) $Mem[Reg[Rb] + S * Reg[Ri]]$

Address Computation Instruction

■ **leaq Src, Dst**

- Src is address mode expression
- Set Dst to address denoted by expression

■ **Uses**

- Computing addresses without a memory reference
 - E.g., translation of **p = &x[i];**
- Computing arithmetic expressions of the form $x + k*y$
 - $k = 1, 2, 4, \text{ or } 8$

Activity 2

- Launch activity 2 by typing `gdb ./act2`
- Then in gdb type `r s`
and follow the instructions.

Address Computation Instruction

■ `leaq Src, Dst`

- Src is address mode expression
- Set Dst to address denoted by expression

■ Uses

- Computing addresses without a memory reference
 - E.g., translation of `p = &x[i];`
- Computing arithmetic expressions of the form $x + k*y$
 - $k = 1, 2, 4, \text{ or } 8$

■ Example from Activity 2

```
long m12(long x)
{
    return x*12;
}
```

Converted to ASM by compiler:

```
leaq (%rdi,%rdi,2), %rax    # t = x+2*x
salq $2, %rax               # return t<<2
```

Address Computation Examples

%rdx	0xf000
%rcx	0x0100

- D(Rb,Ri,S)** **Mem[Reg[Rb]+S*Reg[Ri]+ D]**
- D: Constant “displacement” 1, 2, or 4 bytes
 - Rb: Base register: Any of 16 integer registers
 - Ri: Index register: Any, except for **%rsp**
 - S: Scale: 1, 2, 4, or 8 (*why these numbers?*)

Expression	Address Computation	Address
0x8 (%rdx)		
(%rdx, %rcx)		
(%rdx, %rcx, 4)		
0x80 (, %rdx, 2)		

Address Computation Examples

<code>%rdx</code>	<code>0xf000</code>
<code>%rcx</code>	<code>0x0100</code>

Expression	Address Computation	Address
<code>0x8(%rdx)</code>	<code>0xf000 + 0x8</code>	<code>0xf008</code>
<code>(%rdx,%rcx)</code>	<code>0xf000 + 0x100</code>	<code>0xf100</code>
<code>(%rdx,%rcx,4)</code>	<code>0xf000 + 4*0x100</code>	<code>0xf400</code>
<code>0x80(,%rdx,2)</code>	<code>2*0xf000 + 0x80</code>	<code>0x1e080</code>

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- History of Intel processors and architectures
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- **Arithmetic & logical operations**
- C, assembly, machine code

Some Arithmetic Operations

■ Two Operand Instructions:

Format	Computation	
<code>addq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} + \text{Src}$
<code>subq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} - \text{Src}$
<code>imulq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} * \text{Src}$
<code>salq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \ll \text{Src}$ Also called <code>shlq</code>
<code>sarq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \gg \text{Src}$ Arithmetic
<code>shrq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \gg \text{Src}$ Logical
<code>xorq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \wedge \text{Src}$
<code>andq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \& \text{Src}$
<code>orq</code>	<code>Src, Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} \text{Src}$

- Watch out for argument order! *Src, Dest*
(Warning: Intel docs use “op *Dest, Src*”)
- No distinction between signed and unsigned int
(why?)

Some Arithmetic Operations

■ One Operand Instructions

<code>incq</code>	<code>Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} + 1$
<code>decq</code>	<code>Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} - 1$
<code>negq</code>	<code>Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = -\text{Dest}$
<code>notq</code>	<code>Dest</code>	$\text{Dest} = \sim\text{Dest}$

■ See book for more instructions

Quiz Time!

Check out:

Day 3 – Machine Programming Basics

<https://canvas.cmu.edu/courses/42532/quizzes/127207>

Arithmetic Expression Example

```
long arith
(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long t1 = x+y;
    long t2 = z+t1;
    long t3 = x+4;
    long t4 = y * 48;
    long t5 = t3 + t4;
    long rval = t2 * t5;
    return rval;
}
```

arith:

```
leaq    (%rdi,%rsi), %rax
addq    %rdx, %rax
leaq    (%rsi,%rsi,2), %rdx
salq    $4, %rdx
leaq    4(%rdi,%rdx), %rcx
imulq    %rcx, %rax
ret
```

Interesting Instructions

- **leaq**: address computation
- **salq**: shift
- **imulq**: multiplication
 - But, only used once

Understanding Arithmetic Expression Example

```
long arith
(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long t1 = x+y;
    long t2 = z+t1;
    long t3 = x+4;
    long t4 = y * 48;
    long t5 = t3 + t4;
    long rval = t2 * t5;
    return rval;
}
```

arith:

```
leaq    (%rdi,%rsi), %rax    # t1
addq    %rdx, %rax          # t2
leaq    (%rsi,%rsi,2), %rdx
salq    $4, %rdx            # t4
leaq    4(%rdi,%rdx), %rcx   # t5
imulq    %rcx, %rax          # rval
ret
```

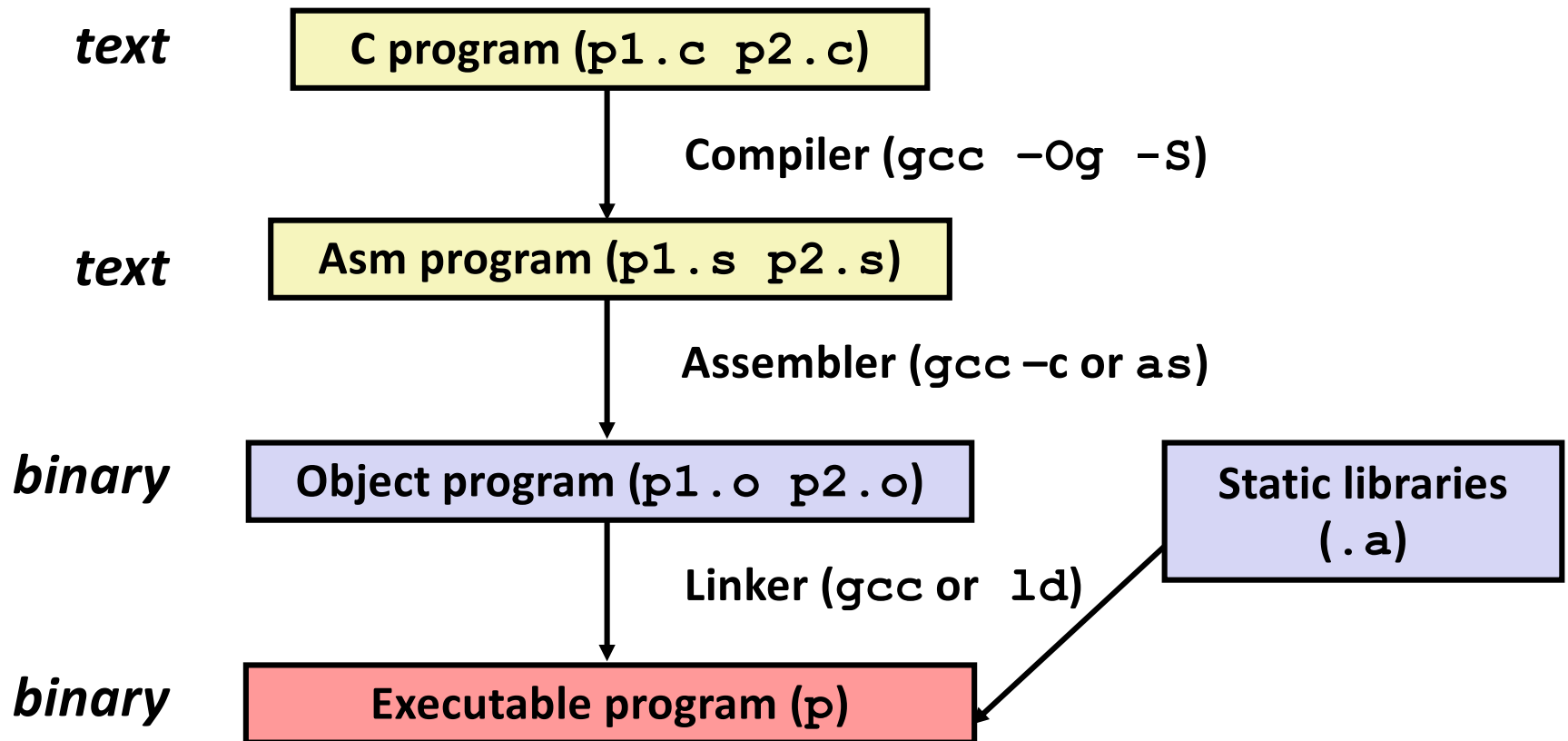
Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument x
%rsi	Argument y
%rdx	Argument z , t4
%rax	t1, t2, rval
%rcx	t5

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

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Turning C into Object Code

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



Compiling Into Assembly

C Code (sum.c)

```
long plus(long x, long y);

void sumstore(long x, long y,
              long *dest)
{
    long t = plus(x, y);
    *dest = t;
}
```

Generated x86-64 Assembly

```
sumstore:
    pushq    %rbx
    movq     %rdx, %rbx
    call     plus
    movq     %rax, (%rbx)
    popq     %rbx
    ret
```

Obtain (on shark machine) with command

```
gcc -Og -S sum.c
```

Produces file `sum.s`

Warning: Will get very different results on non-Shark machines (Andrew Linux, Mac OS-X, ...) due to different versions of gcc and different compiler settings.

What it really looks like

```
        .globl  sumstore
        .type   sumstore, @function
sumstore:
.LFB35:
        .cfi_startproc
pushq   %rbx
        .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
        .cfi_offset 3, -16
movq    %rdx, %rbx
call    plus
movq    %rax, (%rbx)
popq    %rbx
        .cfi_def_cfa_offset 8
ret
        .cfi_endproc
.LFE35:
        .size   sumstore, .-sumstore
```

What it really looks like

```
.globl  sumstore
.type   sumstore, @function
sumstore:
.LFB35:

.cfi_startproc
pushq   %rbx
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.cfi_offset 3, -16
movq    %rdx, %rbx
call    plus
movq    %rax, (%rbx)
popq    %rbx
.cfi_def_cfa_offset 8
ret
.cfi_endproc

.LFE35:

.size   sumstore, .-sumstore
```

Things that look weird
and are preceded by a ‘.’
are generally directives.

```
sumstore:
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdx, %rbx
    call    plus
    movq    %rax, (%rbx)
    popq    %rbx
    ret
```

Object Code

Code for `sumstore`

`0x0400595:`

`0x53`

`0x48`

`0x89`

`0xd3`

`0xe8`

`0xf2`

`0xff`

`0xff`

`0xff`

`0x48`

`0x89`

`0x03`

`0x5b`

`0xc3`

- **Total of 14 bytes**

- **Each instruction
1, 3, or 5 bytes**

- **Starts at address
`0x0400595`**

■ 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

```
*dest = t;
```

```
movq %rax, (%rbx)
```

```
0x40059e:  48 89 03
```

■ C Code

- Store value `t` where designated by `dest`

■ Assembly

- Move 8-byte value to memory
 - Quad words in x86-64 parlance
- Operands:
 - `t`: Register `%rax`
 - `dest`: Register `%rbx`
 - `*dest`: Memory `M[%rbx]`

■ Object Code

- 3-byte instruction
- Stored at address `0x40059e`

Disassembling Object Code

Disassembled

```
0000000000400595 <sumstore>:
 400595: 53                push    %rbx
 400596: 48 89 d3          mov     %rdx,%rbx
 400599: e8 f2 ff ff ff    callq   400590 <plus>
 40059e: 48 89 03          mov     %rax, (%rbx)
 4005a1: 5b                pop     %rbx
 4005a2: c3                retq
```

■ Disassembler

`objdump -d sum`

- 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

Disassembled

```
Dump of assembler code for function sumstore:
0x0000000000400595 <+0>: push    %rbx
0x0000000000400596 <+1>: mov     %rdx,%rbx
0x0000000000400599 <+4>: callq   0x400590 <plus>
0x000000000040059e <+9>: mov     %rax, (%rbx)
0x00000000004005a1 <+12>: pop     %rbx
0x00000000004005a2 <+13>: retq
```

■ Within gdb Debugger

- Disassemble procedure

```
gdb sum
```

```
disassemble sumstore
```

Alternate Disassembly

Object Code

```
0x0400595:  
  0x53  
  0x48  
  0x89  
  0xd3  
  0xe8  
  0xf2  
  0xff  
  0xff  
  0xff  
  0x48  
  0x89  
  0x03  
  0x5b  
  0xc3
```

Disassembled

```
Dump of assembler code for function sumstore:  
0x0000000000400595 <+0>: push    %rbx  
0x0000000000400596 <+1>: mov     %rdx,%rbx  
0x0000000000400599 <+4>: callq  0x400590 <plus>  
0x000000000040059e <+9>: mov     %rax, (%rbx)  
0x00000000004005a1 <+12>: pop     %rbx  
0x00000000004005a2 <+13>: retq
```

■ Within gdb Debugger

- Disassemble procedure

```
gdb sum
```

```
disassemble sumstore
```

- Examine the 14 bytes starting at sumstore
- ```
x/14xb sumstore
```

# 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:
```

```
30001001:
```

```
30001003:
```

```
30001005:
```

```
3000100a:
```

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

# Machine Programming I: Summary

- **History of Intel processors and architectures**
  - Evolutionary design leads to many quirks and artifacts
- **C, assembly, machine code**
  - New forms of visible state: program counter, registers, ...
  - Compiler must transform statements, expressions, procedures into low-level instruction sequences
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
  - The x86-64 move instructions cover wide range of data movement forms
- **Arithmetic**
  - C compiler will figure out different instruction combinations to carry out computation