

## Section 1: Basic explanations

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1. In x86 The convention is that `eax` is used for return value of functions
2. Register shorthand naming: `eax` - 4 bytes, `ax` - last two bytes of `eax`, `al` - last byte of `eax` (they are the same register physical on processor). Similar for `edx`, `ecx`, `ebx`, etc.
3. On x86-64 architectures you'll notice prefix "`r`". Eg. `rax` represents the 64 bits extension of `eax`. If you need only the least significant 4 bytes, use `eax`. If you need all 8 bytes, use `rax` => they are the same register physical on processor.
4. `RSP` / `ESP` are stack pointers and control function calls, allocation of parameters, temporary data.
5. Many instructions have a suffix of 4 possible letters like `mov instr: mov[b,w,l,d]`  
b - 1byte, w-2bytes, l-4bytes, d-8bytes
6. Addressing mode can be "immediate -imm" (**constants** - values or memory addresses), register value / a value in memory. You will notice these in River code along instructions since it needs to know type of operands.

Displacement examples:

A. `mov 4(%edx), %eax` =>  $R[edx] = M[R[edx] + 4]$  , where M is memory and R is register value table

B. `movl 80(%edx,%ecx,2),%eax` =>  $R[edx] = M[R[edx] + R[ecx]*2 + 80]$   
Uses only the last 4 bytes of `eax`.

7. Check you understanding on the code below please !!

```

#include <stdio.h>

int sum(int *a, int n) {
    int total = 0;

    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        total += a[i];
    }

    return total;
}

int main() {
    int numbers[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    printf("%d\n", sum(numbers, 5));
    return 0;
}

```

```

sum:
    movl $0, %edx
    movl $0, %eax
    jmp .L2

.L3:
    movslq %edx, %rcx
    addl (%rdi,%rcx,4), %eax
    addl $1, %edx
.L2:
    cmpl %esi, %edx
    jl .L3
    rep ret

.LC0:
    .string "%d\n"

```

```

main:
    subq $40, %rsp
    movl $1, (%rsp)
    movl $2, 4(%rsp)
    movl $3, 8(%rsp)
    movl $4, 12(%rsp)
    movl $5, 16(%rsp)
    movq %rsp, %rdi
    movl $5, %esi
    call sum
    movl %eax, %esi
    leaq .LC0(%rip), %rdi
    movl $0, %eax
    call printf@PLT
    movl $0, %eax
    addq $40, %rsp
    ret

```

Punem parametrii pe stiva (rsp)

eax mapeaza pe total. Avem 4 in displacement pentru ca int are 4 bytes. Acolo accesam a[i] si-l adunam la total (eax)

Lea calculeaza o adresa, in cazul asta pune in RDI adresa stringului pentru printf

In eax se pune mereu adresa de return (0 in cazul asta)

Compile to assembly using: gcc -S -Og array\_sum.c

- Try without -Og: What changes? Why?
- Note: use of 128 byte red zone after stack pointer.

8. Jumps and FLAGS

You'll notice the terms of flags in code: ZF, OF, SF, ... associated with the jump instructions.

This is a very important topic to RIVER. PLEASE read slides 7-13 from the link below

[https://fmiunibuc-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/ciprian\\_paduraru\\_fmi\\_unibuc\\_ro/EWVfHBqDK4VJgAq3EuPNIsMBrEbj6i\\_fvfvPABug8gSC\\_w?e=PFvHlx](https://fmiunibuc-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/ciprian_paduraru_fmi_unibuc_ro/EWVfHBqDK4VJgAq3EuPNIsMBrEbj6i_fvfvPABug8gSC_w?e=PFvHlx)

Section 2: Explanation about code

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NOTE: Do not suppose any input when you analyze this code (e.g. "BBBB..."). The disassembled output is independent on any input.

	int x;
	void test_simple(const unsigned char *buf) {
	int i = 1;
	if (buf[0] == 'B') {

		if (buf[1] == 'A') {
		i = 2;
		}
		}
		x = i;
		}
00000530 <test_simple>:		
530: 8b 54 24 04	mov	ESP is the stack register. Remember that stack pointer grows from top to bottom. Function has a single parameter so at esp + 4 (stack pointer) - 0x4(%esp). - we have the address of "buf" parameter. This instruction copies buf address to EDX
0x4(%esp),%edx		
534: b8 01 00 00 00	mov	We put constant 1 in register EAX (thus, eax is mapped to i)
\$0x1,%eax		
539: 80 3a 42	cmpb \$0x42,	Compare constant 0x42 ('B') to the memory address referenced by EDX (buf[0]). The result will be put in ZF . Notice that cmp['b'] is used. B means to compare the least significant byte !
(%edx)		
53c: 75 0c	jne 54a	If the result is not true, we jump to 54a. Not very important: In the instruction code (left), notice '0c' - this represents the offset to jump after this instruction which = 54a
<test_simple+0x1a>		
53e: 31 c0	xor %eax,	We 0 eax
%eax		
540: 80 7a 01 41	cmpb	Compare 'A' with buf[1] and sets the result in ZF. (Notice EDX address + 1 byte)
\$0x41,0x1(%edx)		
544: 0f 94 c0	sete %al	Sete works as follows: if ZF is 1, sets al to 1, else to 0. Remember that "al" register is the least significant part of eax (which maps to variable "i"). So if buf[1] = 'A' it will set eax to 1.
547: 83 c0 01	add	This will add 1 to eax (making i = 2 if both ifs are taken ! Seems redundant for you, but this is optimized code actually produced by compiler... :) ).
\$0x1,%eax		

54a: a3 00 00 00 00      mov    %eax, 0x0	This is the jump explained above, when buf[0] != 'B', doing nothing - X is not used anywhere so it's optimized. Not important
54b: R_386_32      x	Relocation, he doesn't know the value of X, Not important.
54f: c3              ret	

Section 3: Advanced things, buffer overflows, types of attacks

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WORK IN PROGRESS