Machine-Level Programming I: Basics

Introduction to Computer Systems
4th Lecture, Oct. 8, 2018

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Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

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

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

- **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 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

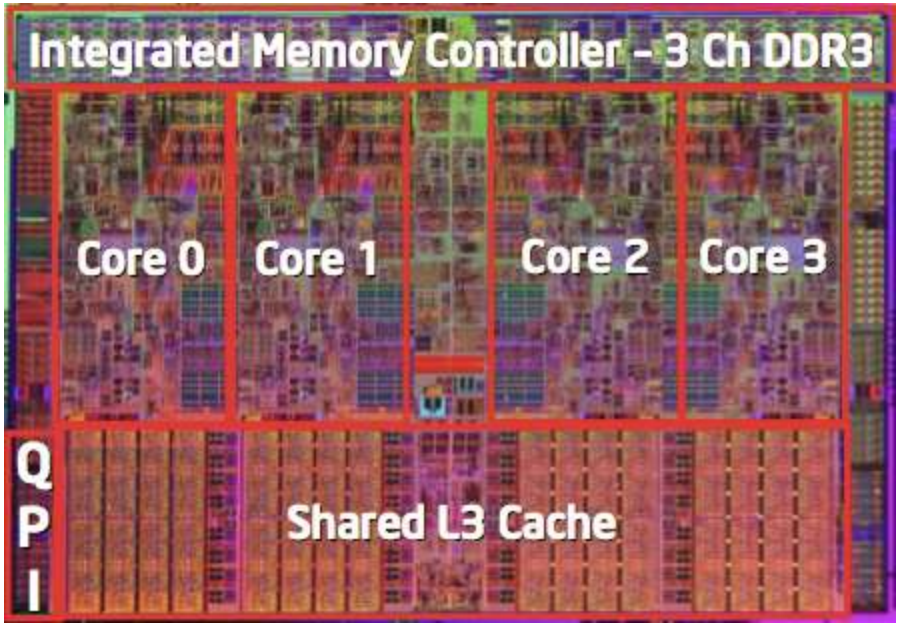
Core i7	2008	731M	1600-4400

- Four cores

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	2000	42M
Core 2 Duo	2006	291M
Core i7	2008	731M
Core i7 Skylake	2015	1.9B



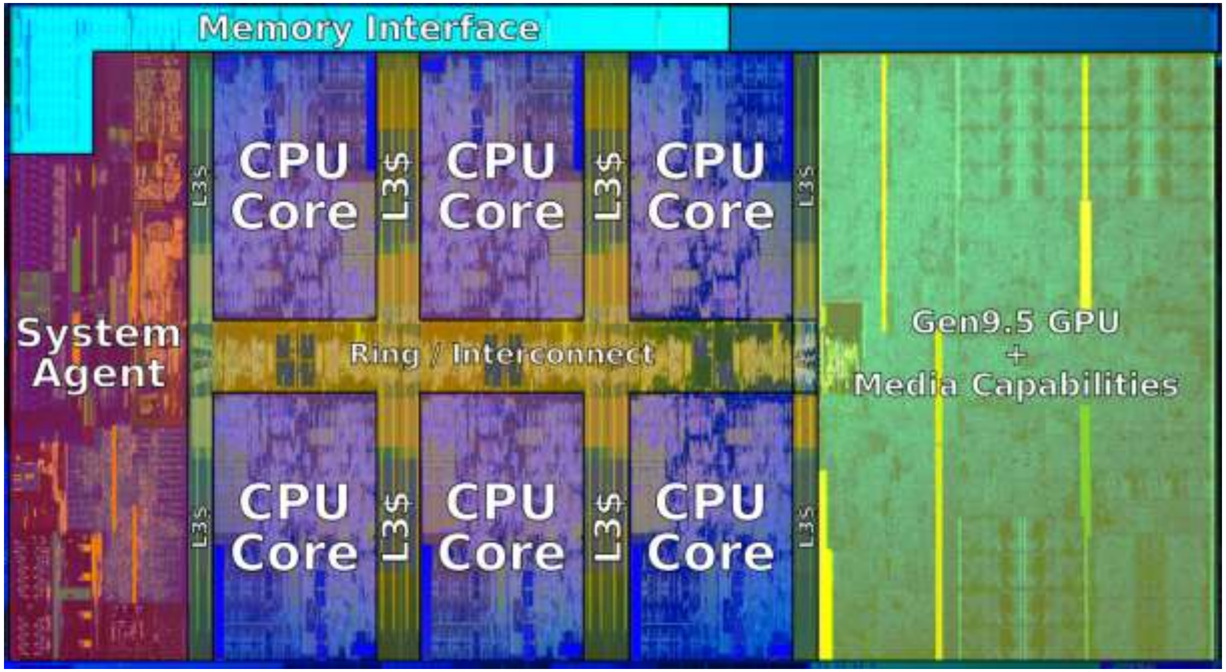
- **Added Features**
  - Instructions to support multimedia operations
  - Instructions to enable more efficient conditional operations
  - Transition from 32 bits to 64 bits
  - More cores

Intel x86 Processors, cont.

- **Past Generations** — **Process technology**
  - 1^{st} Pentium Pro — 1995 — 600 nm
  - 1^{st} Pentium III — 1999 — 250 nm
  - 1^{st} Pentium 4 — 2000 — 180 nm
  - 1^{st} Core 2 Duo — 2006 — 65 nm
- **Recent & Upcoming Generations**
  1. Nehalem — 2008 — 45 nm
  2. Sandy Bridge — 2011 — 32 nm
  3. Ivy Bridge — 2012 — 22 nm
  4. Haswell — 2013 — 22 nm
  5. Broadwell — 2014 — 14 nm
  6. Skylake — 2015 — 14 nm
  7. Kaby Lake — 2016 — 14 nm
  8. Coffee Lake — 2017 — 14 nm
  - Cannon Lake — 2019? — 10 nm

Process technology dimension = width of narrowest wires (10 nm ≈ 100 atoms wide)

2018 State of the Art: Coffee Lake



- **Mobile Model: Core i7**
  - 2.2-3.2 GHz
  - 45 W
- **Desktop Model: Core i7**
  - Integrated graphics
  - 2.4-4.0 GHz
  - 35-95 W
- **Server Model: Xeon E**
  - Integrated graphics
  - Multi-socket enabled
  - 3.3-3.8 GHz
  - 80-95 W

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
- **Recent Years**
  - Intel got its act together
    - Leads the world in semiconductor technology
  - AMD has fallen behind
    - Relies on external semiconductor manufacturer

Intel's 64-Bit History

- **2001: Intel Attempts Radical Shift from IA32 to IA64**
  - Totally different architecture (Itanium)
  - Executes IA32 code only as legacy
  - Performance disappointing
- **2003: AMD Steps 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
  - For this course: RIP, Fall 2016
- **x86-64**
  - The standard
  - `Server> gcc hello.c`
  - `Server> gcc -m64 hello.c`
- **Presentation**
  - Book covers x86-64
  - Web aside on IA32
  - We will only cover x86-64

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- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Arithmetic & logical operations

Definitions

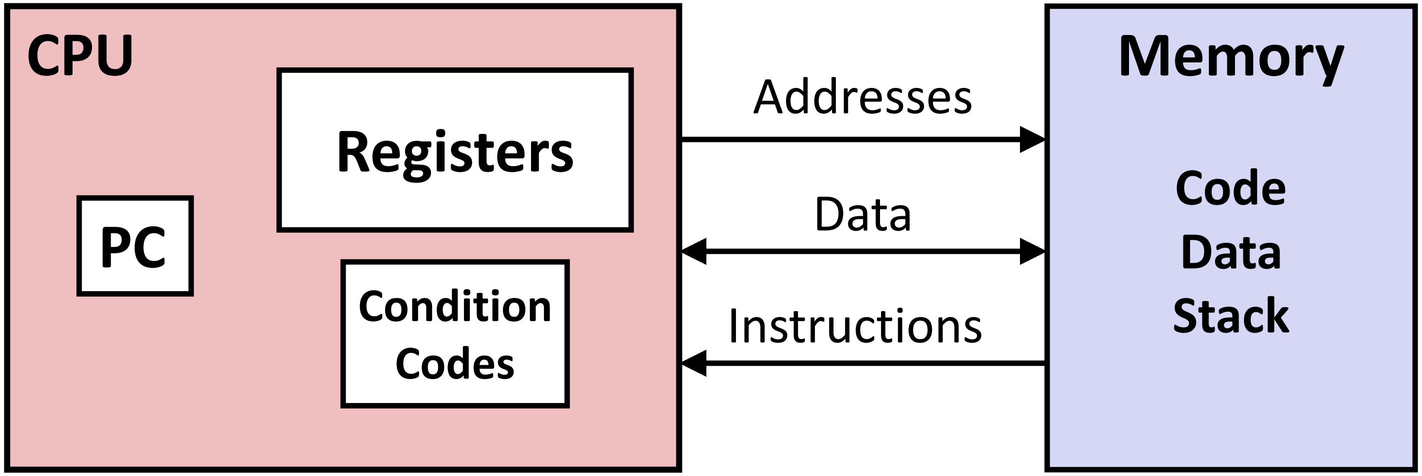
- **Architacture:** (also ISA: instruction set architecture) The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand for writing correct machine/assembly code
  - Examples: instruction set specification, registers

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

- **Microarchitecture: Implementation of the architecture**
  - Examples: cache sizes and core frequency

- **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



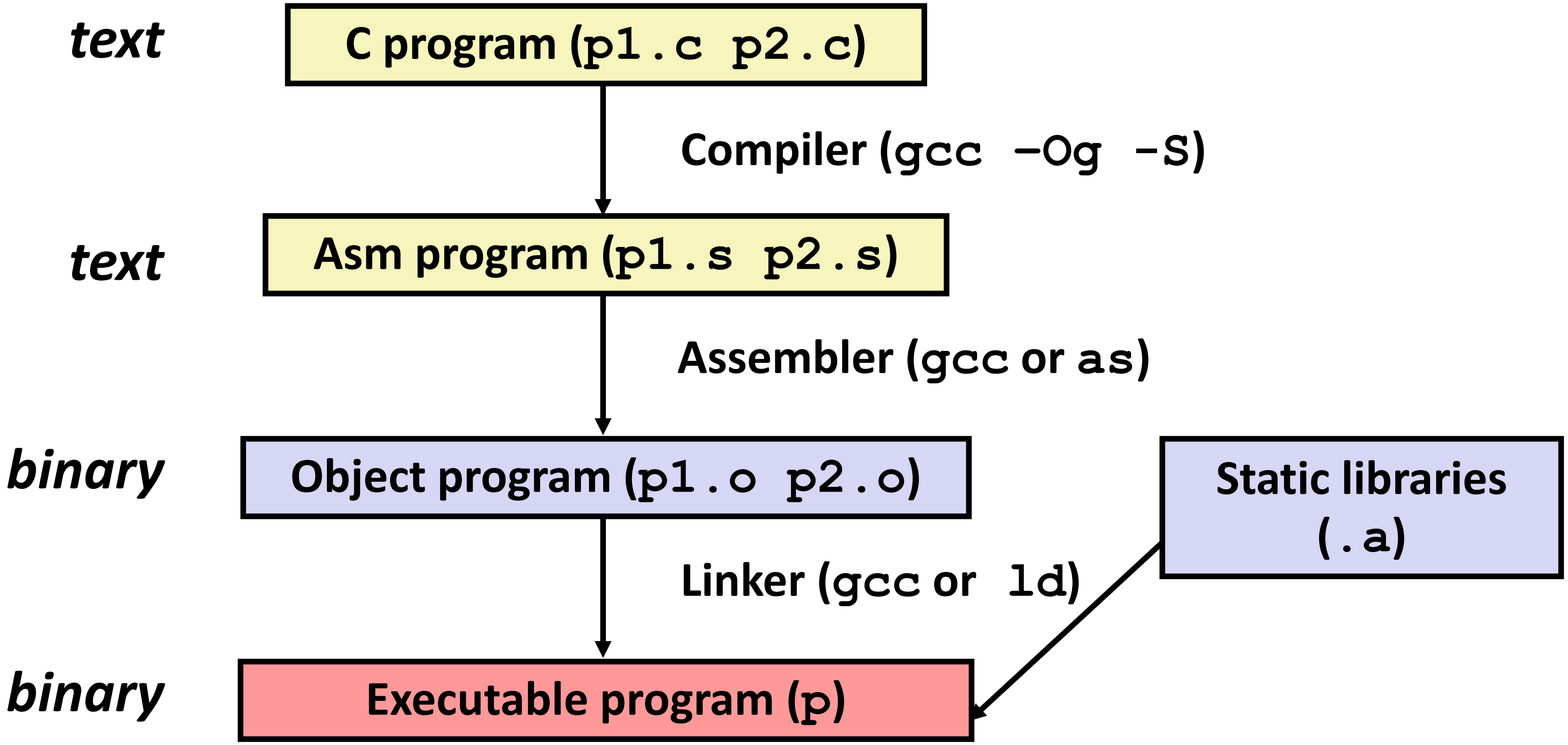
Programmer-Visible State

- **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

Turning C into Object Code

- Code in files **`p1.c p2.c`**
- Compile with command: **`gcc –Og p1.c p2.c -o p`**
  - Use basic optimizations (**`-Og`**) [New to recent versions of GCC]
  - 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 our server machine) with command

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

Produces file `sum.s`

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

Assembly Characteristics: 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**

- **Code: Byte sequences encoding series of instructions**

- **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 `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

Object

```
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**

  `gdb sum`

  `disassemble sumstore`

  - Disassemble procedure

  `x/14xb sumstore`

  - Examine the 14 bytes starting at `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:
```

Reverse engineering forbidden by
Microsoft End User License Agreement

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

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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`

- Can reference low-order 4 bytes (also low-order 1 & 2 bytes)

Some History: IA32 Registers

					Origin (mostly obsolete)
general purpose	`%eax`	`%ax`	`%ah`	`%al`	*accumulate*
	`%ecx`	`%cx`	`%ch`	`%cl`	*counter*
	`%edx`	`%dx`	`%dh`	`%dl`	*data*
	`%ebx`	`%bx`	`%bh`	`%bl`	*base*
	`%esi`	`%si`			*source index*
	`%edi`	`%di`			*destination index*
	`%esp`	`%sp`			***stack pointer***
	`%ebp`	`%bp`			***base pointer***

16-bit virtual registers (backwards compatibility)

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 "address modes"

`%rax`
`%rcx`
`%rdx`
`%rbx`
`%rsi`
`%rdi`
`%rsp`
`%rbp`

`%rN`

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

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

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

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

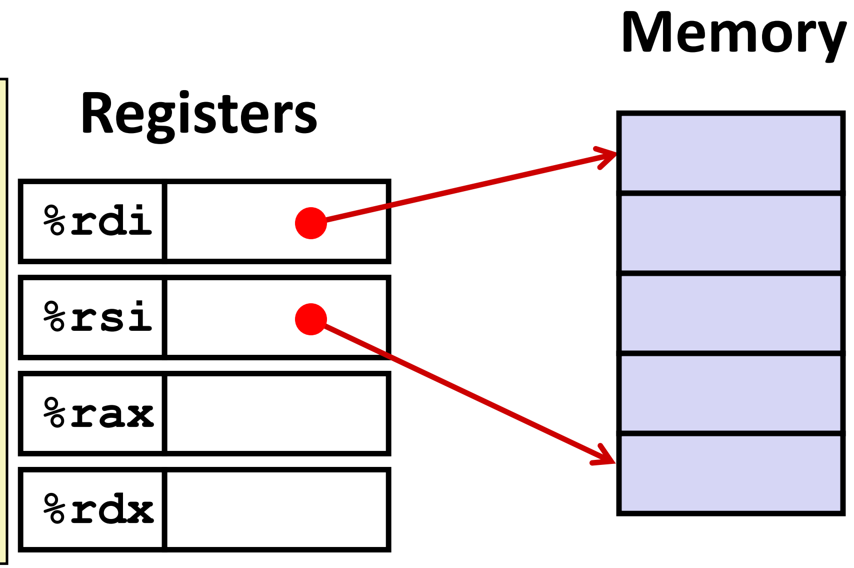
Example of Simple Addressing Modes

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

```
swap:
   movq    (%rdi), %rax
   movq    (%rsi), %rdx
   movq    %rdx, (%rdi)
   movq    %rax, (%rsi)
   ret
```

Understanding Swap()

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



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

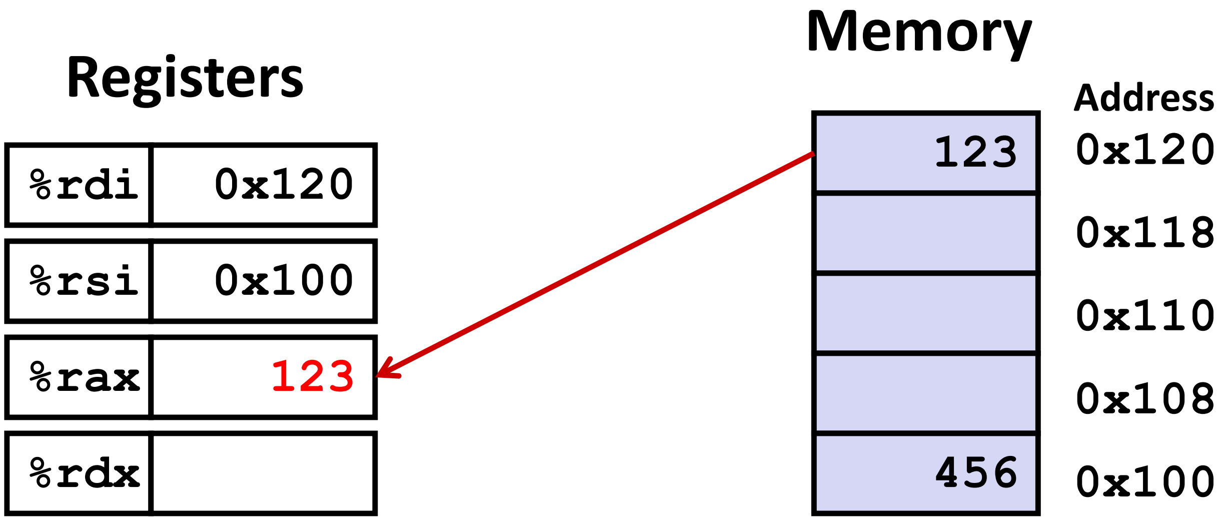
%rdi	0x120
%rsi	0x100
%rax	
%rdx	

Memory

	Address
123	0x120
	0x118
	0x110
	0x108
456	0x100

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

Understanding Swap()




```
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   movq     (%rdi), %rax   # t0 = *xp
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   ret
```
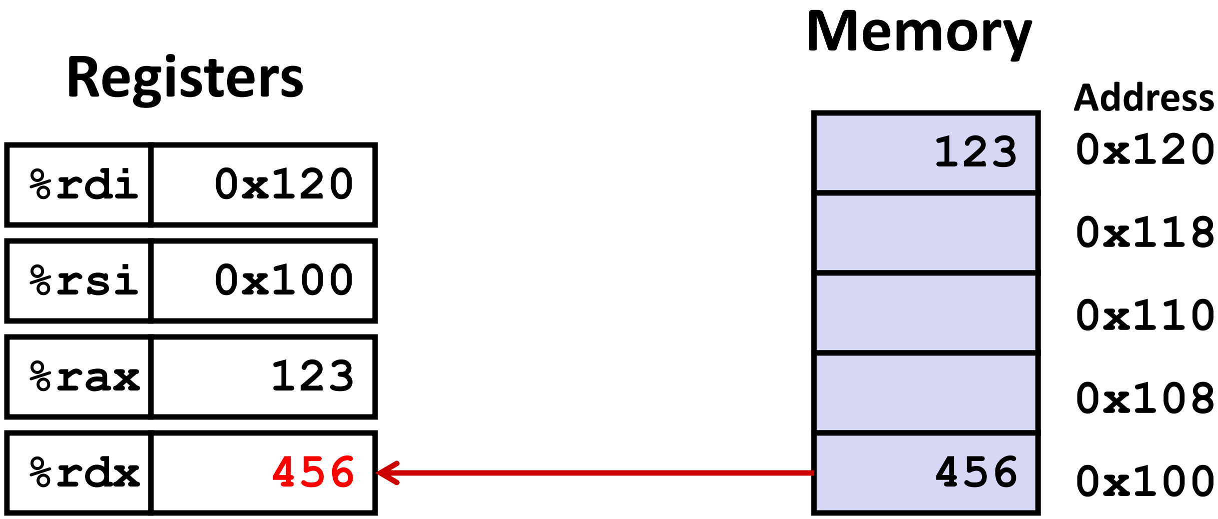

Understanding Swap()

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    movq    (%rdi), %rax   # t0 = *xp
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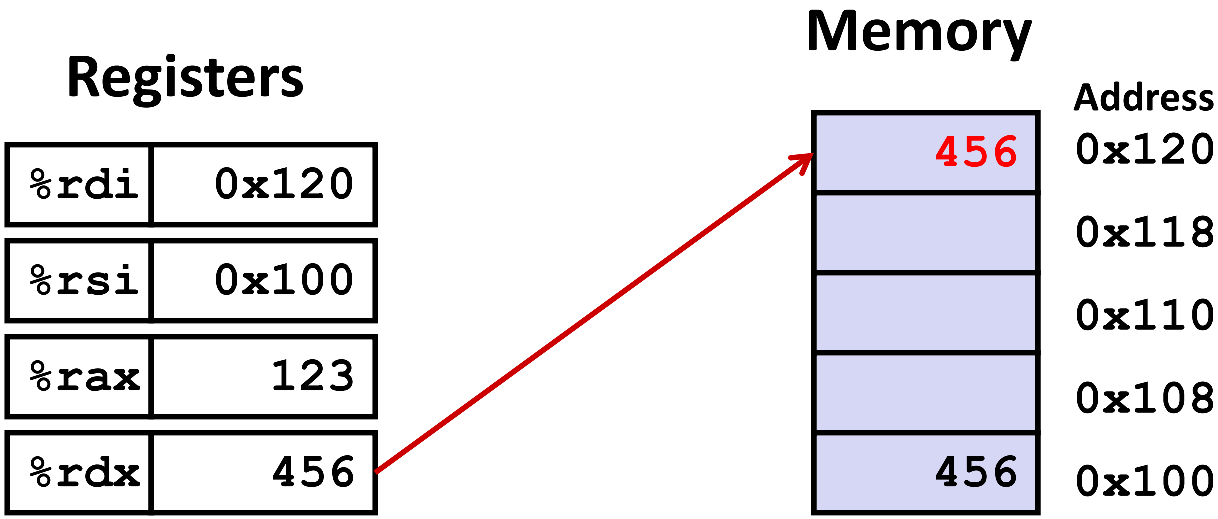
    ret
```

Understanding Swap()

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    movq     (%rdi), %rax   # t0 = *xp
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    ret
```
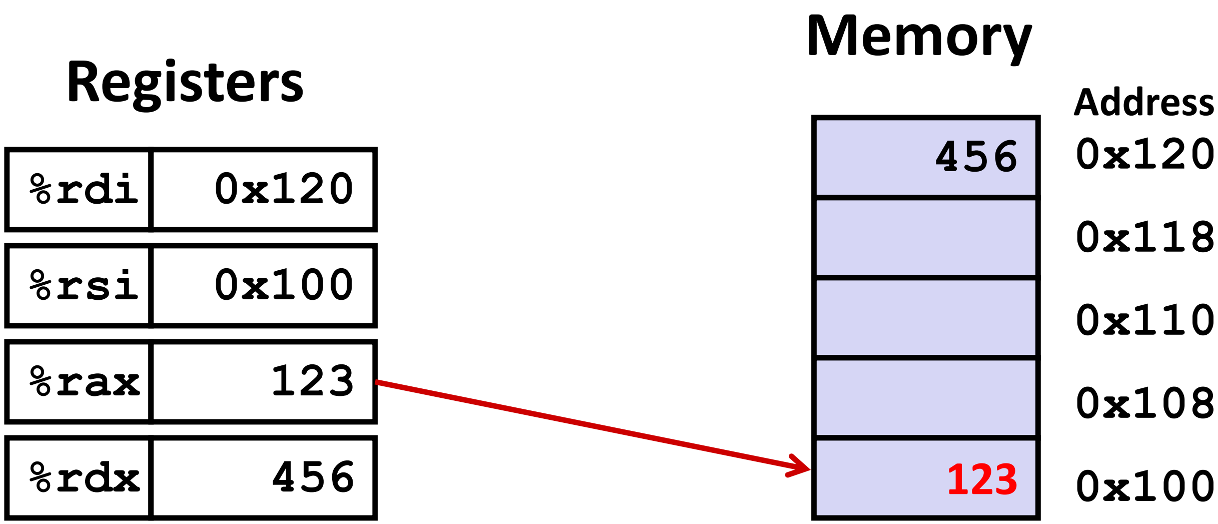

Understanding Swap()




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

Simple Memory Addressing Modes

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

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

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

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

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 Examples

`%rdx`	`0xf000`
`%rcx`	`0x0100`

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

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- **Arithmetic & logical operations**

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, or 8

- **Example**

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

Converted to ASM by compiler:

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

Some Arithmetic Operations

- **Two Operand Instructions:**

Format		*Computation*	
`addq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest + Src	
`subq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest – Src	
`imulq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest * Src	
`salq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest << Src	***Also called shlq***
`sarq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest >> Src	***Arithmetic***
`shrq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest >> Src	***Logical***
`xorq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest ^ Src	
`andq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest & Src	
`orq`	*Src,Dest*	Dest = Dest | Src	

- **Watch out for argument order!**
- **No distinction between signed and unsigned int (why?)**

Some Arithmetic Operations

- **One Operand Instructions**

`incq`	*Dest*	*Dest = Dest + 1*
`decq`	*Dest*	*Dest = Dest – 1*
`negq`	*Dest*	*Dest = – Dest*
`notq`	*Dest*	*Dest = ~Dest*

- **See book for more instructions**

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`
`%rax`	`t1`, `t2`, `rval`
`%rdx`	`t4`
`%rcx`	`t5`

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