

Read the introduction of the section 6 "Recognizing C Code Constructs in Assembly" and explain what means a "Code Construct". What aspects may impact the way as assembly code is generated?

- A code construct is a code abstraction level that defines a functional property but not the details of its implementation. The compiler is the main factor that can create differences between assembly codes, because compiler versions and settings can impact how a particular construct appears in disassembly.

Read the section "Global vs Local Variables" and identify what are the differences in the compilation of a code that employs global vs one that employs local Variables.

- Global variables can be accessed and used by any function in a program, they are referenced by memory addresses. Local variables can be accessed only by the function in which they are defined and are referenced by the stack addresses.
- Global variable IDA result: The executed code was:

```
1  #include<stdio.h>
2
3  int x=1;
4  int y=2;
5
6  void main()
7  {
8      x = x+y;
9      printf("Total = %d\n", x);
10 }
11
```

In the information generated by IDA we can see that the global variable x is signified by dword_404004, which is a memory location at 0x404004. Notice that this variable is changed in memory when eax is moved into dword_404004.

```
.text:00401410
.text:00401410 sub_401410      proc near                ; CODE XREF: sub_4011A0+8E1p
.text:00401410
.text:00401410 var_10      = dword ptr -10h
.text:00401410 var_C       = dword ptr -0Ch
.text:00401410
* .text:00401410      push     ebp
* .text:00401411      mov      ebp, esp
* .text:00401413      and      esp, 0FFFFFF0h
* .text:00401416      sub      esp, 10h      ; char *
* .text:00401419      call     sub_4019A0
* .text:0040141E      mov      edx, dword_404004
* .text:00401424      mov      eax, dword_404008
* .text:00401429      add      eax, edx
* .text:0040142B      mov      dword_404004, eax
* .text:00401430      mov      eax, dword_404004
* .text:00401435      mov      [esp+10h+var_C], eax
* .text:00401439      mov      [esp+10h+var_10], offset aTotalD ; "Total = %d\n"
* .text:00401440      call     printf
* .text:00401445      nop
* .text:00401446      leave
* .text:00401447      retn
* .text:00401447      sub_401410      endp
* .text:00401447
* .text:00401447 ; -----
```

- Local variable IDA result: The code used was:

```

1  #include<stdio.h>
2
3  void main()
4  {
5      int x=1;
6      int y=2;
7
8      x = x+y;
9      printf("Total = %d\n", x);
10 }
11

```

The local variable x is located on the stack at a constant offset relative to ebp. Then it is changed to esp in order to define the memory location [esp+20h+var₄] which is used consistently throughout this function to reference the local variable x. This tell us that this memory location is a stack-based local variable that is references only in this function .

```

.text:00401410
.text:00401410 sub_401410      proc near          ; CODE XREF: sub_4011A0+8E↑p
.text:00401410
.text:00401410 var_20      = dword ptr -20h
.text:00401410 var_1C      = dword ptr -1Ch
.text:00401410 var_8       = dword ptr -8
.text:00401410 var_4       = dword ptr -4
.text:00401410
.text:00401410 push     ebp
.text:00401411 mov      ebp, esp
.text:00401413 and      esp, 0FFFFFFFh
.text:00401416 sub      esp, 20h          ; char *
.text:00401419 call     sub_4019A0
.text:0040141E mov      [esp+20h+var_4], 1
.text:00401426 mov      [esp+20h+var_8], 2
.text:0040142E mov      eax, [esp+20h+var_8]
.text:00401432 add      [esp+20h+var_4], eax
.text:00401436 mov      eax, [esp+20h+var_4]
.text:0040143A mov      [esp+20h+var_1C], eax
.text:0040143E mov      [esp+20h+var_20], offset aTotalD ; "Total = %d\n"
.text:00401445 call     printf
.text:0040144A nop
.text:0040144B leave
.text:0040144C retn
.text:0040144C sub_401410      endp

```

Read the section "Disassembling Arithmetic Operations" and explain to your classmates how the operations (addition, subtraction, increment, decrement and modulo) are represented in assembly code.

- Arithmetic Operations: The executed code was:

```

1  #include<stdio.h>
2
3  void main(){
4      int a = 0;
5      int b = 1;
6      a = a + 11;
7      a = a - b;
8      a--;
9      b++;
10     b = a % 3;
11     printf("resultado = %d\n", b);
12
13 }

```

```

.text:00401410 push     ebp
.text:00401411 mov      ebp, esp
.text:00401413 and      esp, 0FFFFFFFh
.text:00401416 sub      esp, 20h          ; char *
.text:00401419 call     sub_4019D0
.text:0040141E mov      [esp+20h+var_4], 0
.text:00401426 mov      [esp+20h+var_8], 1
.text:0040142E add      [esp+20h+var_4], 0Bh
.text:00401433 mov      eax, [esp+20h+var_8]
.text:00401437 sub      [esp+20h+var_4], eax
.text:0040143B sub      [esp+20h+var_4], 1
.text:00401440 add      [esp+20h+var_8], 1
.text:00401445 mov      ecx, [esp+20h+var_4]
.text:00401449 mov      edx, 55555556h
.text:0040144E mov      eax, ecx
.text:00401450 imul     edx
.text:00401452 mov      eax, ecx
.text:00401454 sar      eax, 1Fh
.text:00401457 sub      edx, eax
.text:00401459 mov      eax, edx
.text:0040145B add      eax, eax
.text:0040145D add      eax, edx
.text:0040145F sub      ecx, eax
.text:00401461 mov      eax, ecx
.text:00401463 mov      [esp+20h+var_8], eax

```

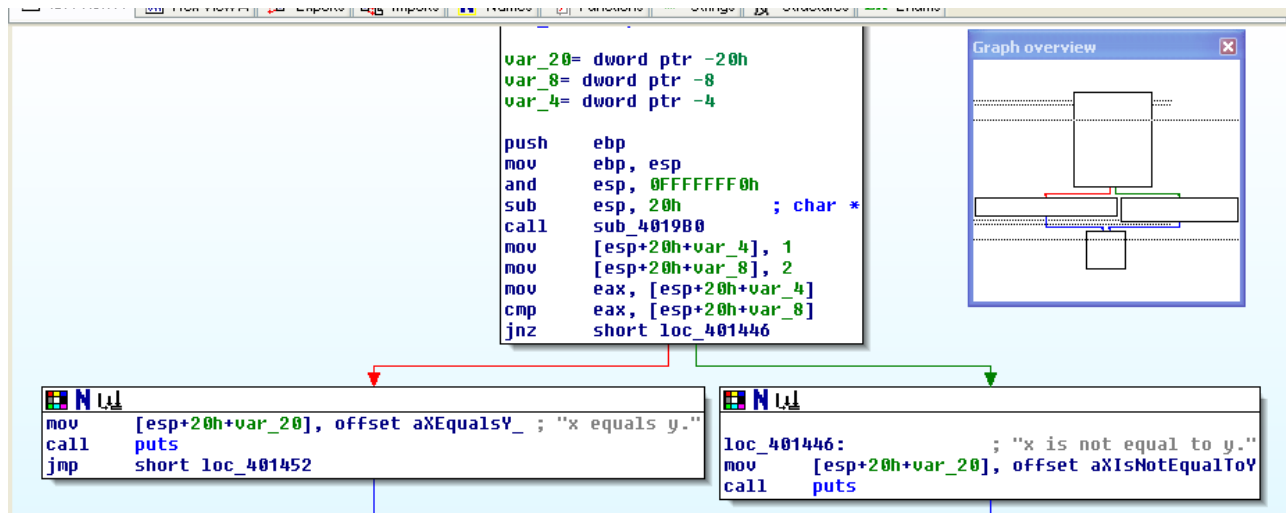
We can see that there are local variables since there is a push to the stack. The variable a is called var_4 located at [esp+20h+var_4] and is initialized to 0, the variable b is called var_8 located at [esp+20h+var_8] and is initialized to 1. Then the different instructions are executed.

Read the section "Recognizing if Statements" and explain to your classmates how to recognize an if/else structure in assembly code.

- The executed code was:

```
1  #include<stdio.h>
2
3  void main(){
4
5      int x = 1;
6      int y = 2;
7      if(x == y){
8          printf("x equals y.\n");
9      }else{
10         printf("x is not equal to y.\n");
11     }
12 }
```

- Since it is an if statement there are two options to evaluate, the diagram show us this options. First the program creates the local variables and then it checks the conditions and according to its decision the result is given at the end. The main functions here are the jmp or jnz which let the program decide which route it need to go through.



Read the section "Recognizing Nested if Statements" and explain to your classmates how to recognize a "Nested IF" structure in assembly code.

- The executed code was:

```
1 #include<stdio.h>
2
3 void main(){
4     int x = 0;
5     int y = 1;
6     int z = 2;
7     if(x == y){
8         if(z==0){
9             printf("z is zero and x = y.\n");
10        }else{
11            printf("z is non-zero and x = y.\n");
12        }
13    }else{
14        if(z==0){
15            printf("z zero and x != y.\n");
16        }else{
17            printf("z non-zero and x != y.\n");
18        }
19    }
20 }
```

- As the if statement, the nested if evaluates blocks, so in order to recognize this statements you need to look for the blocks that are going to be evaluated. Of course the local variables are initialized and the first steps are done before the this part of the execution, but the most important parts are these blocks, as in the normal if statement the jmp and jnz need to be present.

```
.text:00401455 ; -----
.text:00401455
.text:00401455 loc_401455:                ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+35↑j
.text:00401455                mov     [esp+20h+var_20], offset aZIsNonZeroAndX ; "z is non-zero and x
.text:0040145C                call    puts
.text:00401461                jmp     short loc_401484
.text:00401463 ; -----
.text:00401463
.text:00401463 loc_401463:                ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+2E↑j
.text:00401463                cmp     [esp+20h+var_C], 0
.text:00401468                jnz     short loc_401478
.text:0040146A                mov     [esp+20h+var_20], offset aZZeroAndXY_ ; "z zero and x != y."
.text:00401471                call    puts
.text:00401476                jmp     short loc_401484
.text:00401478 ; -----
.text:00401478
.text:00401478 loc_401478:                ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+58↑j
.text:00401478                mov     [esp+20h+var_20], offset aZNonZeroAndXY_ ; "z non-zero and x !=
.text:0040147F                call    puts
.text:00401484                jmp     short loc_401484
.text:00401484 loc_401484:                ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+43↑j
.text:00401484                ; sub_401410+51↑j ...
.text:00401484                nop
.text:00401485                leave
.text:00401486                retn
```

Read the section "Recognizing Loops" and explain to your classmates how to recognize a FOR structure in assembly code.

- The executed code was:

```
1 #include<stdio.h>
2
3 void main(){
4     int i;
5     for(i=0; i<100; i++){
6         printf("i equals %d\n", i);
7     }
8 }
```

- We can see that after the initialization, the program is jumping to loc_401441 which is the start of the for loop. It evaluates the condition or the counter for the loop, if it fits then it executes the respective instructions that are at loc_401428.

```

.text:00401410      var_20      = dword ptr -20h
.text:00401410      var_1C      = dword ptr -1Ch
.text:00401410      var_4       = dword ptr -4
.text:00401410
.text:00401410      |           push    ebp
.text:00401411      mov     ebp, esp
.text:00401413      and     esp, 0FFFFFFFh
.text:00401416      sub     esp, 20h           ; char *
.text:00401419      call    sub_4019A0
.text:0040141E      mov     [esp+20h+var_4], 0
.text:00401426      jmp     short loc_401441
;-----
.text:00401428      loc_401428:      ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+36↓j
.text:00401428      mov     eax, [esp+20h+var_4]
.text:0040142C      mov     [esp+20h+var_1C], eax
.text:00401430      mov     [esp+20h+var_20], offset aIEquals0 ; "i equals %d\n"
.text:00401437      call    printf
.text:0040143C      add     [esp+20h+var_4], 1
.text:00401441      loc_401441:      ; CODE XREF: sub_401410+16↑j
.text:00401441      cmp     [esp+20h+var_4], 63h
.text:00401446      jle     short loc_401428
.text:00401448      nop

```

Read the section "Recognizing Loops" and explain to your classmates how to recognize a WHILE structure in assembly code.

- The executed code was:

```

1  #include<stdio.h>
2
3  void main(){
4      int status=0;
5      int result = 0;
6      while(status == 0){
7          result = performAction();
8          status = checkResult(result);
9      }
10
11 }

```

- Just like the previous loop. The initialization is done before the loop evaluation, since this is a while we need a condition to evaluate, therefore there must be a jmp instruction. This is jumping to loc_40145D if it is true then it jumps to the set of instructions inside of the loop.

```

.text:0040142D      call    sub_4019D0
.text:00401432      mov     [esp+20h+var_4], 0
.text:0040143A      mov     [esp+20h+var_8], 0
.text:00401442      jmp     short loc_40145D
;-----
.text:00401444      loc_401444:      ; CODE XREF: sub_401424+3E↓j
.text:00401444      call    sub_401410
.text:00401449      mov     [esp+20h+var_8], eax
.text:0040144D      mov     eax, [esp+20h+var_8]
.text:00401451      mov     [esp+20h+var_20], eax
.text:00401454      call    sub_40141A
.text:00401459      mov     [esp+20h+var_4], eax
.text:0040145D      loc_40145D:      ; CODE XREF: sub_401424+1E↑j
.text:0040145D      cmp     [esp+20h+var_4], 0
.text:00401462      jz      short loc_401444
.text:00401464      mov     [esp+20h+var_20], offset aStatus ; "status "
.text:00401468      call    printf
.text:00401470      nop
.text:00401471      leave
.text:00401472      retn
.text:00401472      sub_401424      endp
;-----

```