

# Machine-Level Programming I: Basics (Cont)

B&O Readings: 3.1-3.5

CSE 361: Introduction to Systems Software

**Instructor:**

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# Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

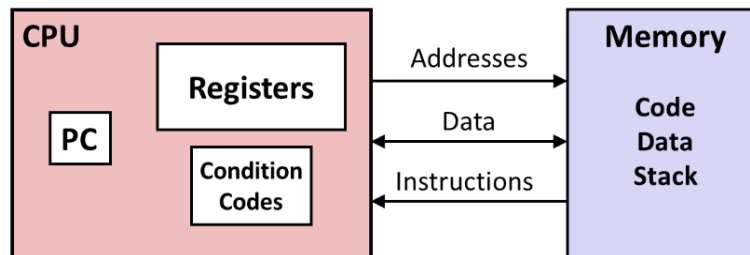
- What is ISA and a little bit of history
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
- Arithmetic & logical operations
- C, assembly, machine code

# Levels of Abstraction

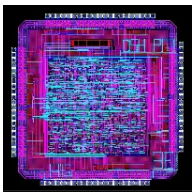
## C programmer

```
#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; }
```

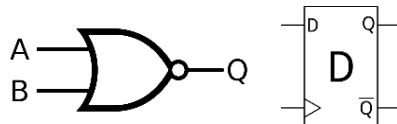
## Assembly programmer



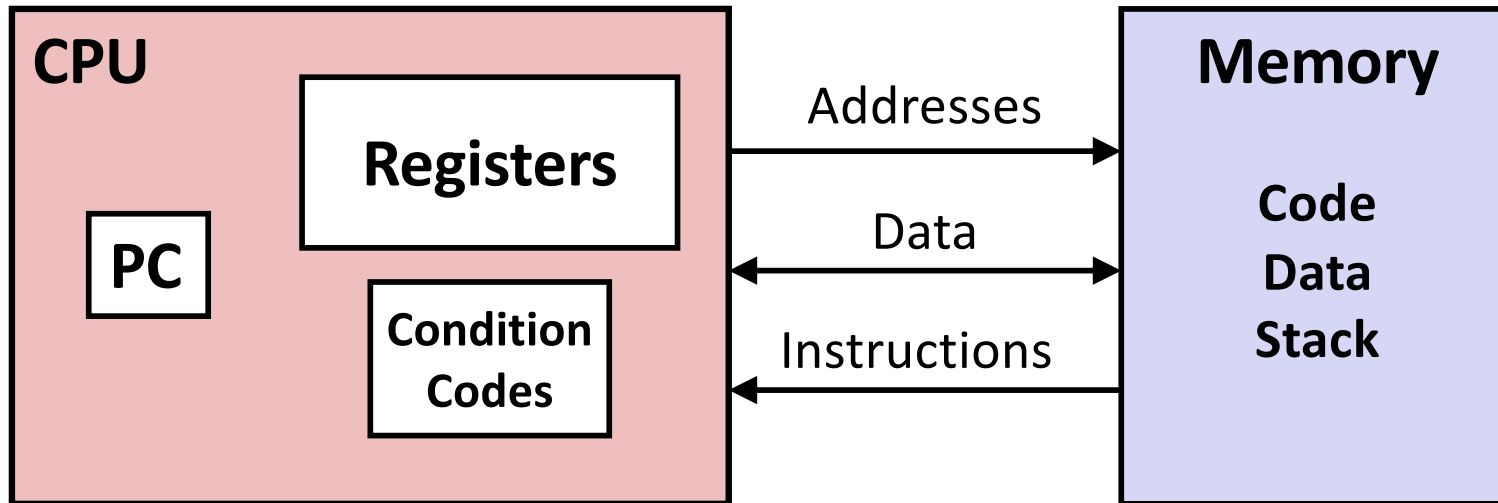
## Computer Designer



Gates, clocks, circuit layout, ...



# Assembly Programmer's 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 Characteristics: Data Types

- **“Integer” data of 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes**
  - Instruction suffixed with **b** (byte), **w** (word), **l** (long), and **q** (quad)
    - though suffix not actually important
  - Actual size of operand determined by register names (more later)
  - Addresses are always 8 bytes (untyped pointers)
- **Floating point data of 4 or 8 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

- **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

# x86-64 Integer Registers

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| <b>%rax</b> | <b>%eax</b> |
| <b>%rbx</b> | <b>%ebx</b> |
| <b>%rcx</b> | <b>%ecx</b> |
| <b>%rdx</b> | <b>%edx</b> |
| <b>%rsi</b> | <b>%esi</b> |
| <b>%rdi</b> | <b>%edi</b> |
| <b>%rsp</b> | <b>%esp</b> |
| <b>%rbp</b> | <b>%ebp</b> |

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| <b>%r8</b>  | <b>%r8d</b>  |
| <b>%r9</b>  | <b>%r9d</b>  |
| <b>%r10</b> | <b>%r10d</b> |
| <b>%r11</b> | <b>%r11d</b> |
| <b>%r12</b> | <b>%r12d</b> |
| <b>%r13</b> | <b>%r13d</b> |
| <b>%r14</b> | <b>%r14d</b> |
| <b>%r15</b> | <b>%r15d</b> |

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

# Some History: IA32 Registers

Origin  
(mostly obsolete)

|   |             |            |            |            |                              |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------------------|
| general purpose                                       | <b>%eax</b> | <b>%ax</b> | <b>%ah</b> | <b>%al</b> | <i>accumulate</i>            |
|   | <b>%ecx</b> | <b>%cx</b> | <b>%ch</b> | <b>%cl</b> | <i>counter</i>               |
|   | <b>%edx</b> | <b>%dx</b> | <b>%dh</b> | <b>%dl</b> | <i>data</i>                  |
|   | <b>%ebx</b> | <b>%bx</b> | <b>%bh</b> | <b>%bl</b> | <i>base</i>                  |
|   | <b>%esi</b> | <b>%si</b> |            |            | <i>source<br/>index</i>      |
|   | <b>%edi</b> | <b>%di</b> |            |            | <i>destination<br/>index</i> |
|   | <b>%esp</b> | <b>%sp</b> |            |            | <i>stack<br/>pointer</i>     |
|   | <b>%ebp</b> | <b>%bp</b> |            |            | <i>base<br/>pointer</i>      |
| 16-bit virtual registers<br>(backwards compatibility) |             |            |            |            |                              |



# x86-64 Integer Registers

|             |              |              |              |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>%r8</b>  | <b>%r8d</b>  | <b>%r8w</b>  | <b>%r8b</b>  |
| <b>%r9</b>  | <b>%r9d</b>  | <b>%r9w</b>  | <b>%r9b</b>  |
| <b>%r10</b> | <b>%r10d</b> | <b>%r10w</b> | <b>%r10b</b> |
| <b>%r11</b> | <b>%r11d</b> | <b>%r11w</b> | <b>%r11b</b> |
| <b>%r12</b> | <b>%r12d</b> | <b>%r12w</b> | <b>%r12b</b> |
| <b>%r13</b> | <b>%r13d</b> | <b>%r13w</b> | <b>%r13b</b> |
| <b>%r14</b> | <b>%r14d</b> | <b>%r14w</b> | <b>%r14b</b> |
| <b>%r15</b> | <b>%r15d</b> | <b>%r15w</b> | <b>%r15b</b> |

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

# Moving Data

## ■ Moving Data

`movq Source, Dest;`

(Also `movl`, `movw`, `movb`)

## ■ x86-64 can still use 32-bit instructions that generate 32-bit results

- Higher-order bits of destination register are just set to 0
- Example: `movl %eax, %ebx`

`%rax`

`%rcx`

`%rdx`

`%rbx`

`%rsi`

`%rdi`

`%rsp`

`%rbp`

`%rN`

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

# Moving Data: 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:**

- Immediate (constant) but *NOT* prefixed with `'$'`
- consecutive bytes of memory at address given by register
  - Have to use the 8-byte form for the register! Ex: `(%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
```

# 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

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| <code>%edx</code> | <code>0xf000</code> |
| <code>%ecx</code> | <code>0x0100</code> |

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



# Example via Swap()

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

| Register | Value |
|----------|-------|
|----------|-------|

|      |    |
|------|----|
| %rdi | xp |
|------|----|

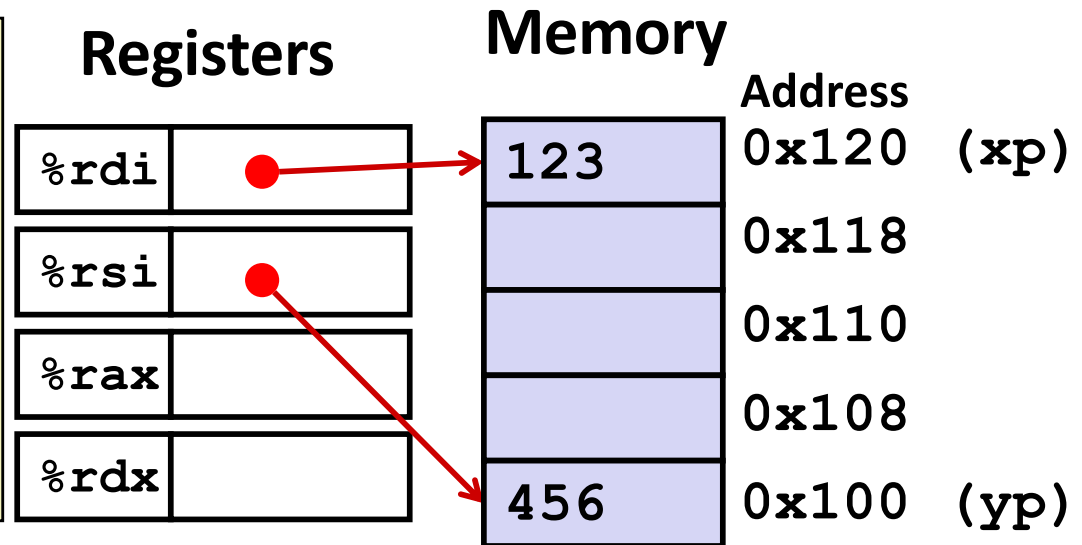
|      |    |
|------|----|
| %rsi | yp |
|------|----|

swap:

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

swap:

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

# Understanding Swap()

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

## Registers

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

## Memory

| Address    |     |
|------------|-----|
| 0x120 (xp) | 123 |
| 0x118      |     |
| 0x110      |     |
| 0x108      |     |
| 0x100 (yp) | 456 |

## Register Value

|      |    |
|------|----|
| %rdi | xp |
| %rsi | yp |

swap:

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

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```
void swap(long *xp,  
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    long t0 = *xp;  
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    *xp = t1;  
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}
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## Registers

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| %rdi | 0x120 |
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|     | 0x108      |
| 456 | 0x100 (yp) |

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|------|----|
| %rdi | xp |
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swap:

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

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void swap(long *xp,  
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## Registers

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|------|----|
| %rdi | xp |
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swap:

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

# Understanding Swap()

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

## Registers

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|------|-------|
| %rdi | 0x120 |
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| %rdx |       |

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swap:

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

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swap:

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

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| %rax | t0 |
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swap:

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



# Understanding Swap()

```
void swap(long *xp,  
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## swap:

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movq    %rax, (%rsi)    # *yp = t0  
ret
```

# Understanding Swap()

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

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swap:

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# Understanding Swap()

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## Registers

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## Memory

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## Register Value

|      |    |
|------|----|
| %rdi | xp |
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swap:

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

# Code Puzzle: Implement foo

```
void foo(int a, int *p) {  
  
  
  
  
  
  
}
```

```
1. movl    %edi, 4(%rsi)  
2. ret
```

| Register | Use(s)            |
|----------|-------------------|
| %edi     | Argument <b>a</b> |
| %rsi     | Argument <b>p</b> |



# Recap: What We Learned Thus Far

- **How assembly instructions move data around**
  - The set of registers available to you
  - How to reference data in memory (addressing mode)
  - The format of move instructions

# Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- What is ISA and a little bit of history
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- **Arithmetic & logical operations**
- C, assembly, machine code

# Some Arithmetic Operations

## ■ Two Operand Instructions:

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

- The Src can be reg, imm, or mem; the Dest can be reg or mem.
- Watch out for argument order!
- No distinction between signed and unsigned int (why?)

# Some Arithmetic Operations

- One Operand Instructions

|                   |      |                                 |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| <code>incq</code> | Dest | $\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} + 1$ |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|

|                   |      |                                 |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| <code>decq</code> | Dest | $\text{Dest} = \text{Dest} - 1$ |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|

|                   |      |                              |
|-------------------|------|------------------------------|
| <code>negq</code> | Dest | $\text{Dest} = -\text{Dest}$ |
|-------------------|------|------------------------------|

|                   |      |                                 |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| <code>notq</code> | Dest | $\text{Dest} = \sim\text{Dest}$ |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------|

- See book for more instructions:

`movzbw, movzbl, movzwl, movzbq, movzwq`

`movsbw, movsbl, movswl, movsbq, movswq, movslq`

- Why is there not a `movz1q`?



# Address Computation Instruction

## ■ `leaq Src, Dst`

- Src is address mode expression (i.e., in the form of  $D(Rb, Ri, S)$ )
- Set Dst to address denoted by expression Src
- (lea stands for *load effective address*)

## ■ 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

```
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
```

# Code Puzzle: Fill in the Blank

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

    return _____;
}
```

arith:

```
1. leaq    (%rdi,%rsi), %rax
2. addq    %rdx, %rax
3. leaq    (%rsi,%rsi,2), %rcx
4. salq    $4, %rcx
5. leaq    4(%rdi,%rcx), %rdx
6. imulq    %rdx, %rax
7. ret
```

## Interesting Instructions

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

Answer: **t1\*t4**

| Register | Use(s)            |
|----------|-------------------|
| %rdi     | Argument <b>x</b> |
| %rsi     | Argument <b>y</b> |
| %rdx     | Argument <b>z</b> |
| %rax     | return value      |

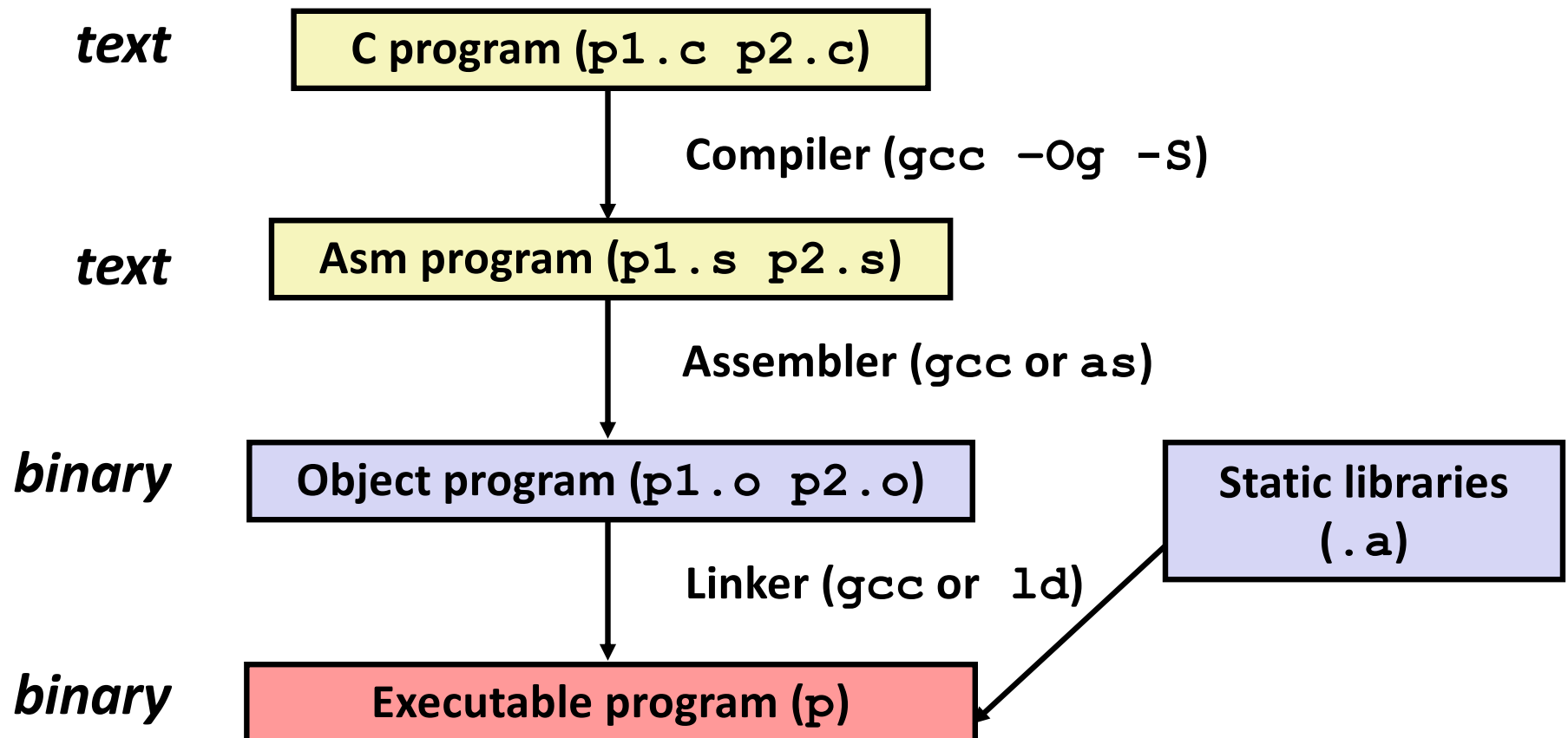


# Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- What is ISA and a little bit of history
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Arithmetic & logical operations
- **C, assembly, machine code**

# 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 (absdiff.c)

```
void absdiff(  
long x, long y, long *dest) {  
    long t = 0;  
    if(x > y) { t = x - y; }  
    else      { t = y - x; }  
    *dest = t;  
}
```

## Generated x86-64 Assembly

```
absdiff:  
    cmpq    %rsi, %rdi  
    jle     .L2  
    subq    %rsi, %rdi  
    movq    %rdi, %rsi  
    jmp     .L3  
.L2:  
    subq    %rdi, %rsi  
.L3:  
    movq    %rsi, (%rdx)  
    ret
```

Obtain with command (on linuxlab machines)

```
gcc -Og -S absdiff.c
```

Produces file `absdiff.s`

**Warning:** your result may vary due to different compiler versions or platform

# Object Code

## Object code for absdiff

```
000000000000000000 <absdiff>:
  0:   48 39 f7      cmp    %rsi,%rdi
  3:   7e 08        jle    d <absdiff+0xd>
  5:   48 29 f7      sub    %rsi,%rdi
  8:   48 89 fe      mov    %rdi,%rsi
  b:   eb 03        jmp    10 <absdiff+0x10>
  d:   48 29 fe      sub    %rdi,%rsi
 10:   48 89 32      mov    %rsi, (%rdx)
 13:   c3            retq
```

## ■ Assembler

- Translates .s into .o
- Binary encoding of each instruction
- Nearly-complete image of executable code
- Missing linkages between code in different files
- Obtained via `gcc -Og -g -c -o absdiff.o absdiff.c`  
`objdump -d diff.o > diff.d`

# Disassembling the Final Executable

```
000000000040057d <absdiff>:
40057d:  48 39 f7 cmp    %rsi,%rdi
400580:  7e 08          jle    40058a <absdiff+0xd>
400582:  48 29 f7 sub    %rsi,%rdi
400585:  48 89 fe mov    %rdi,%rsi
400588:  eb 03          jmp    40058d <absdiff+0x10>
40058a:  48 29 fe sub    %rdi,%rsi
40058d:  48 89 32 mov    %rsi, (%rdx)
400590:  c3            retq
```

## ■ Ways to disassemble your binary:

- obtained via `objdump -d absdiff`
- Useful tool for examining object code
- Analyzes bit pattern of series of instructions
- Produces approximate rendition of assembly code
- Can be run on either the final executable or a single `*.o` file

# Alternate Disassembly via gdb

> gdb absdiff

(gdb) disassemble absdiff

Dump of assembler code for function absdiff:

```
0x000000000040057d <+0>:    cmp     %rsi,%rdi
0x0000000000400580 <+3>:    jle     0x40058a <absdiff+13>
0x0000000000400582 <+5>:    sub     %rsi,%rdi
0x0000000000400585 <+8>:    mov     %rdi,%rsi
0x0000000000400588 <+11>:   jmp     0x40058d <absdiff+16>
0x000000000040058a <+13>:   sub     %rdi,%rsi
0x000000000040058d <+16>:   mov     %rsi, (%rdx)
0x0000000000400590 <+19>:   retq
```

End of assembler dump.

(gdb) x/14xb absdiff

```
0x40057d <absdiff>:    0x48  0x39  0xf7  0x7e  0x08  0x48  0x29  0xf7
0x400585 <absdiff+8>:  0x48  0x89  0xfe  0xeb  0x03  0x48
```



# Which of the Following Statement Is False?

- A) The compiler performs type checks before translating the code into assembly.
- B) A single C statement can potentially be compiled into multiple assembly instructions.
- C) I cannot disassemble an executable on Windows because it's closed-source.
- D) All of the above

**Answer: C)**

# 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

# Recap: What We Learned Thus Far

- **How your compiler compile your code**
- **How to disassemble your code**
- **Why should you care?**
  - Learning how to read assembly code allows you to better understand the behavior and performance of your program.
  - Software has bugs (including your compiler!)  
Learning how to read assembly code allows you to detect bugs introduced by system software.
  - Knowing assembly is sometimes required for developing low-level system software.

# Machine Programming I: Summary

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