



# Linking

# **Today**

- Linking

  - 链接 Motivation
  - What it does
  - How it works
  - Dynamic linking
- Position-Independent Code (PIC)

位置无关代码

# **Example C Program**

```
int sum(int *a, int n);
int array[2] = {1, 2};
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
   int val = sum(array, 2);
   return val;
}

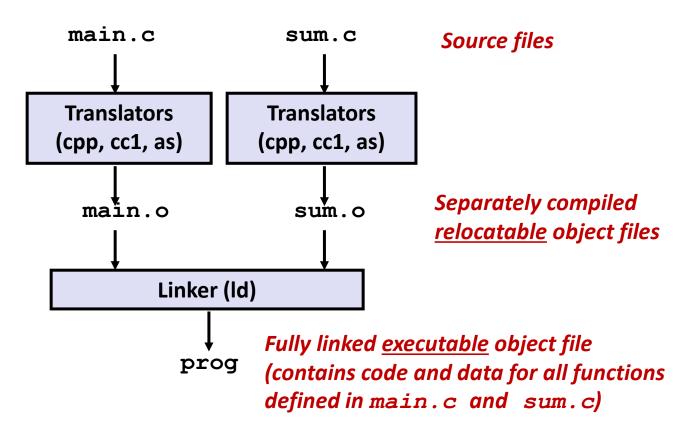
main.c
```

```
int sum(int *a, int n)
{
   int i, s = 0;

   for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
       s += a[i];
   }
   return s;
}</pre>
```

# Linking

- Programs are translated and linked using a compiler driver:
  - linux> gcc -Og -o prog main.c sum.c
  - linux> ./prog



# Why Linkers?

- Reason 1: Modularity
  - Program can be written as a collection of smaller source files, rather than one monolithic mass.
  - Can build libraries of common functions (more on this later)
    - e.g., Math library, standard C library

# Why Linkers? (cont)

### Reason 2: Efficiency

- Time: Separate compilation
  - Change one source file, compile, and then relink.
  - No need to recompile other source files.
  - Can compile multiple files concurrently.
- Space: Libraries
  - Common functions can be aggregated into a single file...
  - Option 1: Static Linking
    - Executable files and running memory images contain only the library code they actually use
  - Option 2: Dynamic linking
    - Executable files contain no library code
    - During execution, single copy of library code can be shared across all executing processes

## What Do Linkers Do?

Step 1: Symbol resolution

Programs define and reference symbols (global variables and functions):

```
void swap() {...} /* define symbol swap */
swap(); /* reference symbol swap */
int *xp = &x; /* define symbol xp, reference x */
```

- Symbol definitions are stored in object file (by assembler) in symbol table.
  - Symbol table is an array of entries
  - Each entry includes name, size, and location of symbol.
- During symbol resolution step, the linker associates each symbol reference with exactly one symbol definition.

## Symbols in Example C Program

#### **Definitions**

```
int sum(int *a, int n),
int array[2] = {1, 2};
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
   int val = sum(array, 2);
   return val;
}

main.c
```

```
int sum(int *a, int n)
{
   int i, s = 0;

   for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
       s += a[i];
   }
   return s;
}</pre>
```

Reference

# What Do Linkers Do? (cont)

Step 2: Relocation

重定位

- Merges separate code and data sections into single sections
- Relocates symbols from their relative locations in the .o files to their final absolute memory locations in the executable.
- Updates all references to these symbols to reflect their new positions.

Let's look at these two steps in more detail....

# Three Kinds of Object Files (Modules)

## Relocatable object file ( . o file)

- Contains code and data in a form that can be combined with other relocatable object files to form executable object file.
  - Each .o file is produced from exactly one source (.c) file

## Executable object file (a.out file)

 Contains code and data in a form that can be copied directly into memory and then executed.

## Shared object file (.so file)

- Special type of relocatable object file that can be loaded into memory and linked dynamically, at either load time or run-time.
- Called Dynamic Link Libraries (DLLs) by Windows

# **Executable and Linkable Format (ELF)**

- Standard binary format for object files
- One unified format for
  - Relocatable object files (.o),
  - Executable object files (a.out)
  - Shared object files (.so)
- Generic name: ELF binaries

# **ELF Object File Format**

- ELF header
  - Word size, byte ordering, file type (.o, exec, .so), machine type, etc.
- Segment header table
  - Page size, virtual addresses memory segments (sections), segment sizes.
- . text section
  - Code
- .rodata section
  - Read only data: jump tables, string constants, ...
- . data section
  - Initialized global variables
- .bss section
  - Uninitialized global variables
  - "Block Storage Start"
  - "Better Save Space"
  - Has section header but occupies no space

ELF header
Segment header table (required for executables)
. text section
. rodata section
. data section
.bss section
.symtab section
.rel.txt section
.rel.data section
.debug section
Section header table

# **ELF Object File Format (cont.)**

#### . symtab section

- Symbol table
- Procedure and static variable names
- Section names and locations

#### .rel.text section

- Relocation info for . text section
- Addresses of instructions that will need to be modified in the relocatable executable
- Instructions for modifying.

#### .rel.data section

- Relocation info for .data section
- Addresses of pointer data that will need to be modified in the merged executable

#### debug section

■ Info for symbolic debugging (gcc -g)

#### Section header table

Offsets and sizes of each section

ELF header
Segment header table (required for executables)
. text section
.rodata section
. data section
.bss section
.symtab section
.rel.txt section
.rel.data section
. debug section
Section header table

# **Linker Symbols**

## Global symbols

- Symbols defined by module m that can be referenced by other modules.
- E.g.: non-static C functions and non-static global variables.

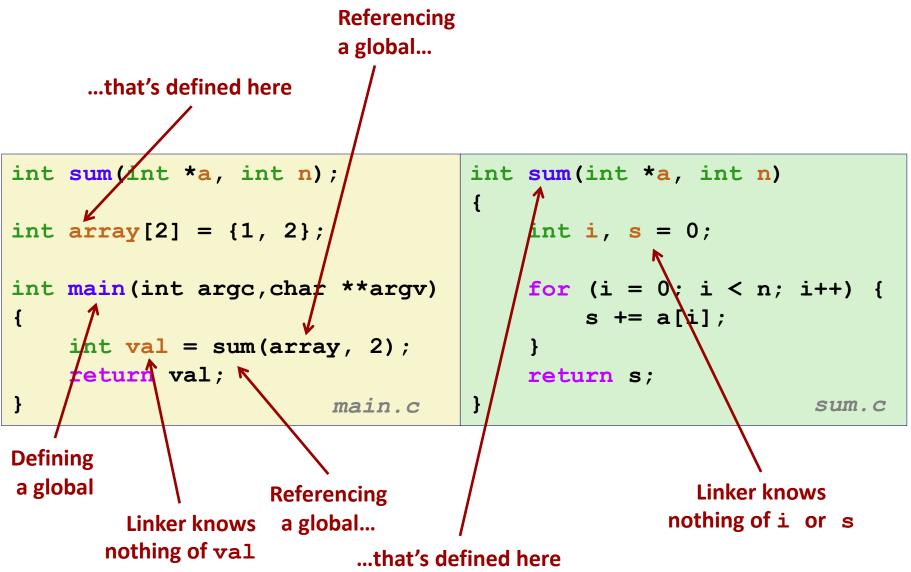
#### External symbols

 Global symbols that are referenced by module m but defined by some other module.

### Local symbols

- Symbols that are defined and referenced exclusively by module m.
- E.g.: C functions and global variables defined with the static attribute.
- Local linker symbols are not local program variables

# **Step 1: Symbol Resolution**



# **Symbol Identification**

Which of the following names will be in the symbol table of symbols.o?

## symbols.c:

### Names:

- time
- foo
- a
- argc
- argv
- b
- main
- printf
- "%d\n"

Can find this with readelf:

linux> readelf -s symbols.o

# **Local Symbols**

#### ■ Local non-static C variables vs. local static C variables

- local non-static C variables: stored on the stack
- local static C variables: stored in either .bss, or .data

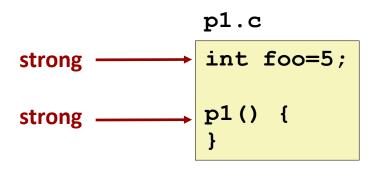
```
static int x = 15;
int f() {
    static int x = 17;
    return x++;
int q() {
    static int x = 19;
    return x += 14;
int h() {
    return x += 27;
        static-local.c
```

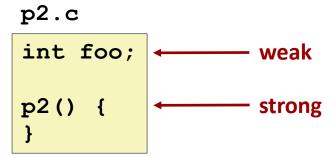
Compiler allocates space in .data for each definition of x

Creates local symbols in the symbol table with unique names, e.g., x, x . 1721 and x . 1724.

# How Linker Resolves Duplicate Symbol Definitions

- Program symbols are either strong or weak
  - Strong: procedures and initialized globals
  - Weak: uninitialized globals
    - Or ones declared with specifier extern





# **Linker's Symbol Rules**

- Rule 1: Multiple strong symbols are not allowed
  - Each item can be defined only once
  - Otherwise: Linker error
- Rule 2: Given a strong symbol and multiple weak symbols, choose the strong symbol
  - References to the weak symbol resolve to the strong symbol
- Rule 3: If there are multiple weak symbols, pick an arbitrary one
  - Can override this with gcc -fno-common
- Puzzles on the next slide

## **Linker Puzzles**

```
int x;
p1() {}
```

Link time error: two strong symbols (p1)

```
int x;
p1() {}
```

References to **x** will refer to the same uninitialized int. Is this what you really want?

```
int x;
int y;
p1() {}
```

Writes to **x** in **p2** might overwrite **y**! Evil!

```
int x=7;
int y=5;
p1() {}
```

Writes to **x** in **p2** will overwrite **y**! Nasty!

References to **x** will refer to the same initialized variable.

Important: Linker does not do type checking.

# **Type Mismatch Example**

- Compiles without any errors or warnings
- What gets printed?

```
-bash-4.2$ ./mismatch
4614253070214989087
```

## **Global Variables**

Avoid if you can

#### Otherwise

- Use static if you can
- Initialize if you define a global variable
- Use extern if you reference an external global variable
  - Treated as weak symbol
  - But also causes linker error if not defined in some file

# Use of extern in .h Files (#1)

#### c1.c

```
#include "global.h"
int f() {
  return g+1;
}
```

## global.h

```
extern int g;
int f();
```

#### c2.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "global.h"

int g = 0;

int main(int argc, char argv[]) {
   int t = f();
   printf("Calling f yields %d\n", t);
   return 0;
}
```

# Use of .h Files (#2)

c1.c

```
#irclude "global.h"
int f() {
  return g+1;
}
```

global.h

```
extern int g;
static int init = 0;

#else
   extern int g;
   static int init = 0;
#endif
```

#### c2.c

# **Linking Example**

```
int sum(int *a, int n);
int array[2] = {1, 2};
int main(int argc,char **argv)
{
    int val = sum(array, 2);
    return val;
}

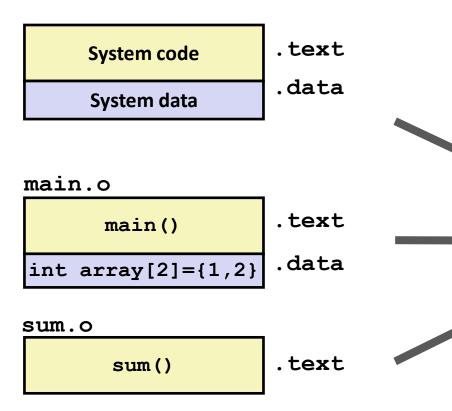
int sum(int *a, int n)
{
    int i, s = 0;

    for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        s += a[i];
    }
    return s;
}

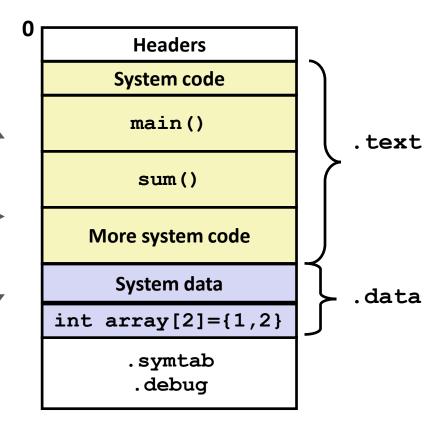
sum.c</pre>
```

# **Step 2: Relocation**

## **Relocatable Object Files**



### **Executable Object File**



## **Relocation Entries**

```
int array[2] = {1, 2};
int main(int argc, char**
argv)
{
   int val = sum(array, 2);
   return val;
}
```

```
0000000000000000 <main>:
  0: 48 83 ec 08
                                    $0x8,%rsp
                              sub
  4: be 02 00 00 00
                                    $0x2,%esi
                             mov
  9: bf 00 00 00 00
                                    $0x0, %edi  # %edi = &array
                             mov
                      a: R X86 64 32 array
                                                  # Relocation entry
       e8 00 00 00 00
                              callq 13 < main + 0x13 > \# sum()
  e:
                      f: R X86 64 PC32 sum-0x4 # Relocation entry
 13: 48 83 c4 08
                              add
                                    $0x8,%rsp
 17:
     c3
                              retq
                                                              main.o
```

## Relocated .text section

```
00000000004004d0 <main>:
  4004d0:
                48 83 ec 08
                                          $0x8,%rsp
                                   sub
 4004d4:
                be 02 00 00 00
                                          $0x2,%esi
                                   mov
                                          $0x601018, %edi # %edi = &array
 4004d9:
                bf 18 10 60 00
                                   mov
 4004de:
                e8 05 00 00 00
                                          4004e8 <sum>
                                                          # sum()
                                   callq
 4004e3:
                48 83 c4 08
                                   add
                                          $0x8,%rsp
 4004e7:
                c3
                                   retq
00000000004004e8 <sum>:
  4004e8:
                b8 00 00 00 00
                                                $0x0,%eax
                                         mov
               ba 00 00 00 00
                                                $0x0,%edx
 4004ed:
                                         mov
 4004f2:
                eb 09
                                                4004fd < sum + 0x15 >
                                         qm<sub>r</sub>
 4004f4:
               48 63 ca
                                         movslq %edx,%rcx
                03 04 8f
 4004f7:
                                         add
                                               (%rdi,%rcx,4),%eax
 4004fa:
               83 c2 01
                                         add
                                                $0x1, edx
 4004fd:
                39 £2
                                                %esi,%edx
                                         cmp
 4004ff:
                7c f3
                                                4004f4 < sum + 0xc >
                                         il
  400501:
                f3 c3
                                         repz retq
```

#### callq instruction uses PC-relative addressing for sum():

0x4004e8 = 0x4004e3 + 0x5

# **Loading Executable Object Files**

Memory invisible to **Executable Object File Kernel virtual memory** user code **ELF** header 00007FFFFFFFFFFF User stack (created at runtime) Program header table %rsp (required for executables) (stack .init section pointer) .text section Memory-mapped region for shared libraries .rodata section .data section .bss section brk **Run-time heap** .symtab (created by malloc) .debug Loaded Read/write data segment .line from (.data, .bss) the .strtab Read-only code segment executable (.init,.text,.rodata) file Section header table  $0 \times 400000$ (required for relocatables)

Unused

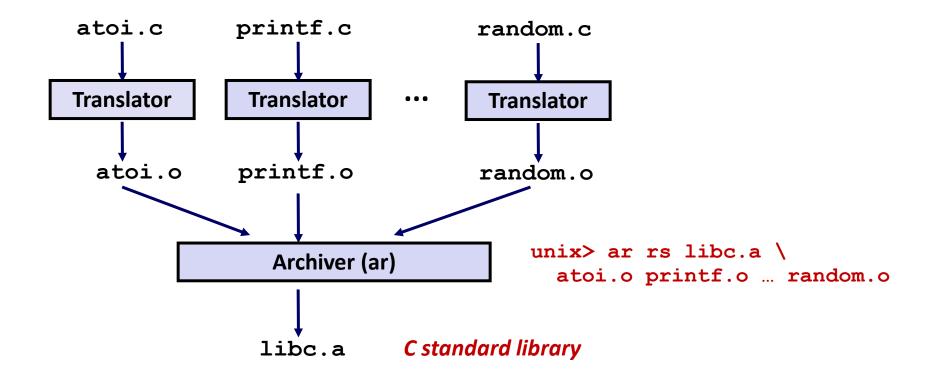
# **Packaging Commonly Used Functions**

- How to package functions commonly used by programmers?
  - Math, I/O, memory management, string manipulation, etc.
- Awkward, given the linker framework so far:
  - Option 1: Put all functions into a single source file
    - Programmers link big object file into their programs
    - Space and time inefficient
  - Option 2: Put each function in a separate source file
    - Programmers explicitly link appropriate binaries into their programs
    - More efficient, but burdensome on the programmer

## **Old-fashioned Solution: Static Libraries**

- Static libraries (.a archive files)
  - Concatenate related relocatable object files into a single file with an index (called an archive).
  - Enhance linker so that it tries to resolve unresolved external references by looking for the symbols in one or more archives.
  - If an archive member file resolves reference, link it into the executable.

# **Creating Static Libraries**



- Archiver allows incremental updates
- Recompile function that changes and replace .o file in archive.

## **Commonly Used Libraries**

#### libc.a (the C standard library)

- 4.6 MB archive of 1496 object files.
- I/O, memory allocation, signal handling, string handling, data and time, random numbers, integer math

#### libm. a (the C math library)

- 2 MB archive of 444 object files.
- floating point math (sin, cos, tan, log, exp, sqrt, ...)

```
% ar -t /usr/lib/libc.a | sort
...
fork.o
...
fprintf.o
fpu_control.o
fputc.o
freopen.o
fscanf.o
fseek.o
fstab.o
...
```

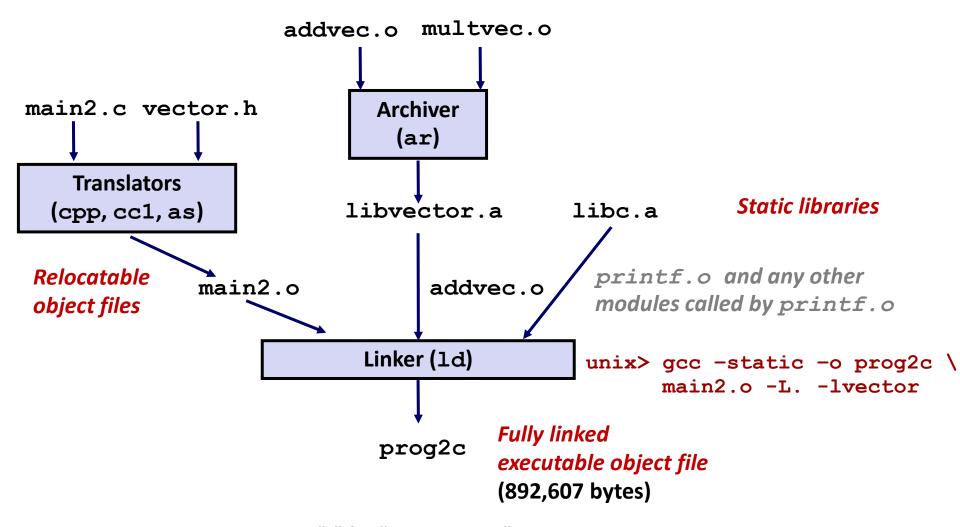
```
% ar -t /usr/lib/libm.a | sort
...
e_acos.o
e_acosf.o
e_acosh.o
e_acoshf.o
e_acoshl.o
e_acosl.o
e_asin.o
e_asinf.o
e_asinf.o
e_asinl.o
...
```

# Linking with Static Libraries

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "vector.h"
int x[2] = \{1, 2\};
int y[2] = \{3, 4\};
int z[2];
int main (int argc, char**
argv)
{
    addvec(x, y, z, 2);
    printf("z = [%d %d] \n",
           z[0], z[1]);
    return 0;
                    main2.c
```

## libvector.a int addcnt = 0: void addvec(int \*x, int \*y, int \*z, int n) { int i; addcnt++; for (i = 0; i < n; i++)z[i] = x[i] + y[i];addvec.c int multcnt = 0: void multvec(int \*x, int \*y, int \*z, int n) { int i; multcnt++; for (i = 0; i < n; i++)z[i] = x[i] \* y[i];multvec.c

# **Linking with Static Libraries**



# **Using Static Libraries**

### Linker's algorithm for resolving external references:

- Scan .o files and .a files in the command line order.
- During the scan, keep a list of the current unresolved references.
- As each new .o or .a file, obj, is encountered, try to resolve each unresolved reference in the list against the symbols defined in obj.
- If any entries in the unresolved list at end of scan, then error.

#### Problem:

- Command line order matters!
- Moral: put libraries at the end of the command line.

```
unix> gcc -static -o prog2c -L. -lvector main2.o
main2.o: In function `main':
main2.c:(.text+0x19): undefined reference to `addvec'
collect2: error: ld returned 1 exit status
```

## **Modern Solution: Shared Libraries**

## Static libraries have the following disadvantages:

- Duplication in the stored executables (every function needs libc)
- Duplication in the running executables
- Minor bug fixes of system libraries require each application to explicitly relink
  - Rebuild everything with glibc?
  - https://security.googleblog.com/2016/02/cve-2015-7547-glibc-getaddrinfo-stack.html

#### Modern solution: Shared Libraries

- Object files that contain code and data that are loaded and linked into an application dynamically, at either load-time or run-time
- Also called: dynamic link libraries, DLLs, .so files

# **Shared Libraries (cont.)**

- Dynamic linking can occur when executable is first loaded and run (load-time linking).
  - Common case for Linux, handled automatically by the dynamic linker (ld-linux.so).
  - Standard C library (libc.so) usually dynamically linked.
- Dynamic linking can also occur after program has begun (run-time linking).
  - In Linux, this is done by calls to the dlopen() interface.
    - Distributing software.
    - High-performance web servers.
    - Runtime library interpositioning.
- Shared library routines can be shared by multiple processes.
  - More on this when we learn about virtual memory

# What dynamic libraries are required?

### .interp section

Specifies the dynamic linker to use (i.e., ld-linux.so)

## .dynamic section

- Specifies the names, etc of the dynamic libraries to use
- Follow an example of prog

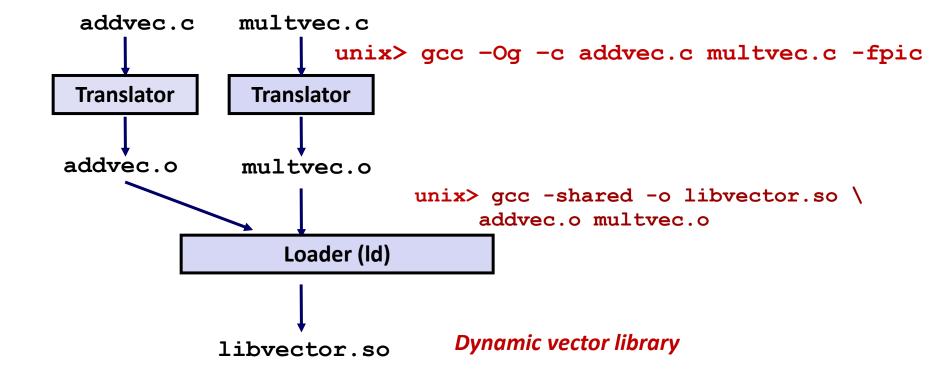
```
(NEEDED) Shared library: [libm.so.6]
```

### Where are the libraries found?

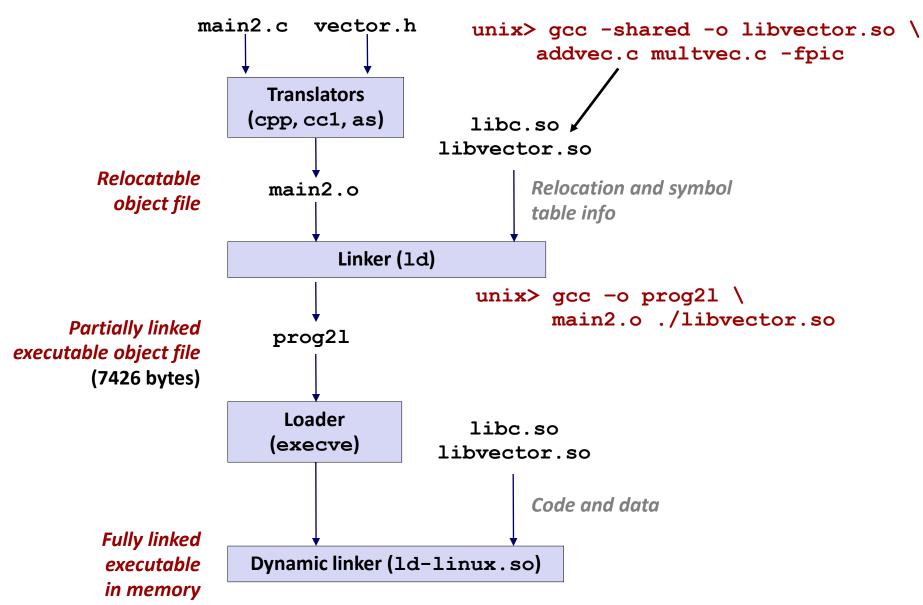
Use "ldd" to find out:

```
unix> ldd prog
  linux-vdso.so.1 => (0x00007ffcf2998000)
  libc.so.6 => /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6 (0x00007f99ad927000)
  /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2 (0x00007f99adcef000)
```

# **Dynamic Library Example**



# **Dynamic Linking at Load-time**



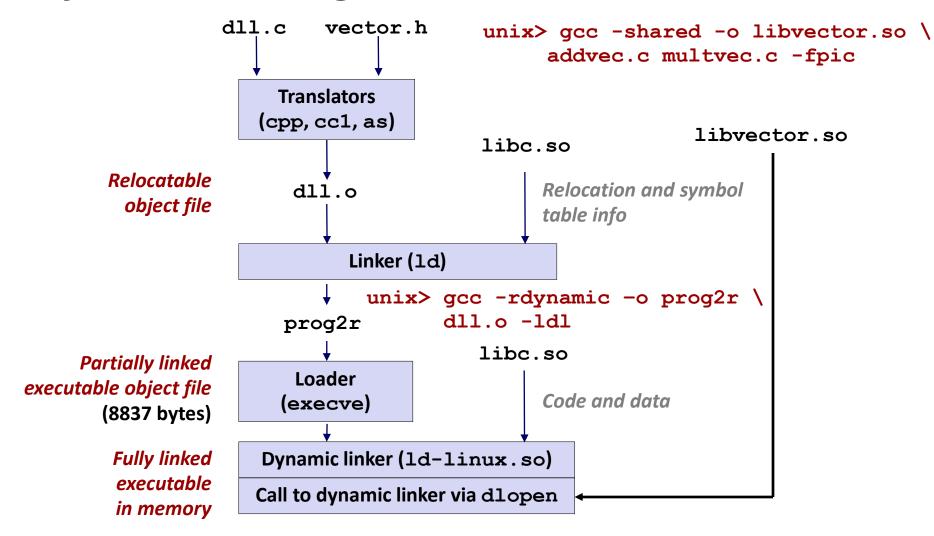
# **Dynamic Linking at Run-time**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <dlfcn.h>
int x[2] = \{1, 2\};
int y[2] = \{3, 4\};
int z[2];
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
   void *handle;
   void (*addvec)(int *, int *, int *, int);
    char *error;
    /* Dynamically load the shared library that contains addvec() */
    handle = dlopen("./libvector.so", RTLD LAZY);
    if (!handle) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", dlerror());
       exit(1);
                                                                 d11.c
```

# **Dynamic Linking at Run-time (cont)**

```
/* Get a pointer to the addvec() function we just loaded */
addvec = dlsym(handle, "addvec");
if ((error = dlerror()) != NULL) {
    fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", error);
    exit(1);
/* Now we can call addvec() just like any other function */
addvec(x, y, z, 2);
printf("z = [%d %d]\n", z[0], z[1]);
/* Unload the shared library */
if (dlclose(handle) < 0) {</pre>
    fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", dlerror());
    exit(1);
return 0;
                                                        d11.c
```

# **Dynamic Linking at Run-time**



# **Linking Summary**

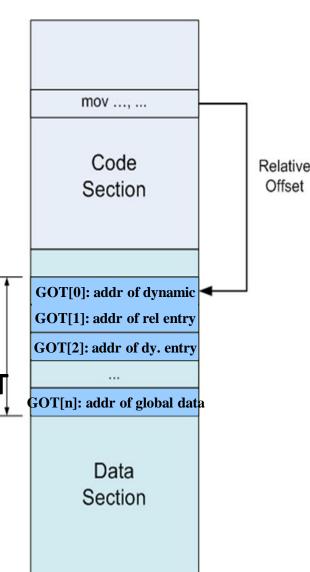
- Linking is a technique that allows programs to be constructed from multiple object files.
- Linking can happen at different times in a program's lifetime:
  - Compile time (when a program is compiled)
  - Load time (when a program is loaded into memory)
  - Run time (while a program is executing)
- Understanding linking can help you avoid nasty errors and make you a better programmer.

# **Today**

- Linking
- Position-Independent Code (PIC)

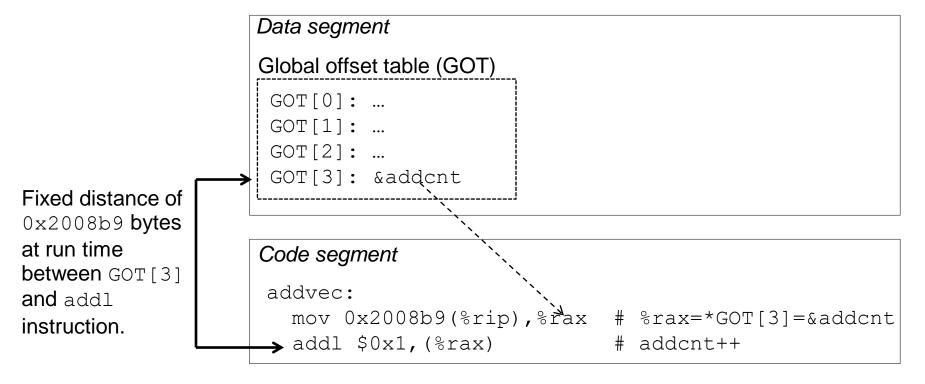
## **PIC Data References**

- A Global Offset Table(GOT) is simply a table of addresses, residing in the data section
- The GOT contains an 8-byte entry for each global object (procedure or global variable) that is referenced by the object module
- The compiler also generates a relocation record for each entry in the GOT. At load time, the dynamic linker relocates each GOT entry so that it contains the <u>absolute</u> address of the object.
- Each object module that references global objects has its own GOT.



# Using the GOT to reference a global variable

The addvec routine in libvector.so references addcnt indirectly through the GOT for libvector.so

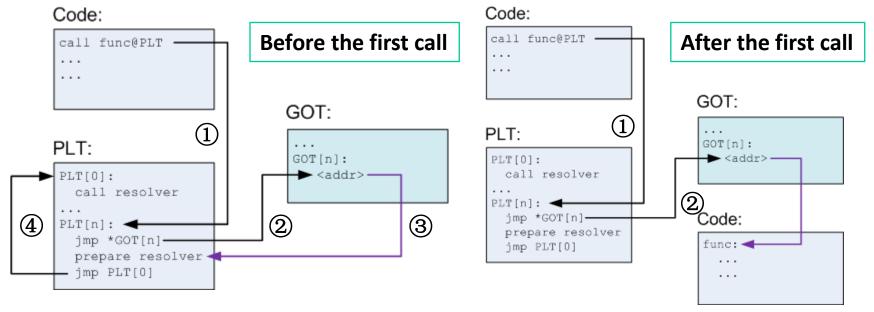


## **PIC Function Calls**

- At load time, Dynamic linker completes the linking task by loading the shared library and relocating the references in the program.
- This task takes a nontrival time because a typical application program will call only dozens of functions exported by a shared library such as libc.so.
- Lazy binding defers the binding of each procedure address until the <u>first time</u> the procedure is called.
- There is a nontrivial run-time overhead the first time the function is called, but each call thereafter takes only little time
- This approch reduce the load time of a application program.
- Lazy binding is implemented with a compact yet somewhat complex interaction between two data structures: the GOT and the PLT.

# The Procedure Linkage Table (PLT)

- The PLT is an array of 16-byte of code entries. PLT[0] is a special entry that jumps into the dynamic linker. Each shared library function called by the executables has its own PLT entry.
- Each PLT entry also has a corresponding entry in the GOT which contains the actual offset to the function, but only when the dynamic linker resolves it



# Using the PLT and GOT to call external functions

First invocation of addvec

### Data segment

#### Global offset table (GOT)

```
GOT[0]: addr of .dynamic
GOT[1]: addr of reloc entries
GOT[2]: addr of dynamic linker
GOT[3]: 0x4005b6 # sys startup
GOT[4]: 0x4005c6 # addvec()
GOT[5]: 0x4005d6 # printf()
```

The dynamic linker uses the Code segment two stack entries to callq 0x4005c0 # call addvec() determine the run-time location of Procedure linkage table (PLT) # PLT[0]: call dynamic linker addvec, overwrites GOT[4] 4005a0: pushq \*GOT[1] with this address, and 4005a6: jmpq \*GOT[2]\_ passes control to addvet. # PLT[2]: call addvec() 4005c0: jmpq \*GOT[4] 4005c6: pushq \$0x1 4005cb: jmpg 4005a0

# Using the PLT and GOT to call external functions

Subsequent invocation of addvec

Control passes to PLT[2] as before

The indirect jump through GOT[4] transfers control directly to addvec

#### Data segment

Global offset table (GOT)

```
GOT[0]: addr of .dynamic
GOT[1]: addr of reloc entries
GOT[2]: addr of dynamic linker
GOT[3]: 0x4005b6 # sys startup
GOT[4]: &addvec()
GOT[5]: 0x4005d6 # printf()
```

```
Code segment
```

```
\blacksquare callq 0x4005c0 # call addvec()
```

#### Procedure linkage table (PLT)

```
4005a0: pushq *GOT[1]

4005a6: jmpq *GOT[2]

...

# PLT[2]: call addvec()

4005c0: jmpq *GOT[4]

4005c6: pushq $0x1

4005cb: jmpq 4005a0
```

# PLT[0]: call dynamic linker

# **Example program**

```
/* fopen.c
   Open a file, write "Hello World!" to it */

#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
   FILE *out;
   char buf[16] = "Hello World!\n";

   out = fopen("hello.txt", "w+");
   fprintf(out, "%s", buf);
   fclose(out);
   return 0;
}
```

## **PLT**

```
/* section .plt */
# PLT[0] <fclose@plt-0x10>: call dynamic linker
 4004c0: pushq 0x200b42(%rip) # GOT[1]
 4004c6: jmpq *0x200b44(%rip) # GOT[2]
 4004cc: nopl 0x0(%rax)
# PLT[1] <fclose@plt>:
 4004d0: jmpq *0x200b42(%rip) # GOT[3]
 4004d6: pushq $0x0
 4004db: jmpq 4004c0 < init+0x28>
# PLT[2] < stack chk fail@plt>:
 4004e0: jmpq *0x200b3a(%rip) # GOT[4]
 4004e6: pushq $0x1
 4004eb: jmpq 4004c0 < init+0x10>
# PLT[3] <fputs@plt>:
 4004f0: jmpq *0x200b32(%rip) # GOT[5]
 4004f6: pushq $0x2
 4004fb: jmpq 4004c0 < init+0x10>
# PLT[4] < libc start main@plt>:
 400500: jmpq *0x200b2a(%rip) # GOT[6]
 400506: pushq $0x3
 40050b: jmpq 4004c0 < init+0x10>
```

## **GOT**

```
/* (gdb) x /8xg 0x601000
                                           Before the first call
  < GLOBAL OFFSET TABLE > */
0x601008 0x00007fffff7ffe168
                            # GOT[1] addr of reloc entries
                            # GOT[2] addr of dynamic linker
0x601010 0x00007fffff7deee10
0x601018 0x00000000004004d6
                            # GOT[3] fclose()
                            # GOT[4] stack check fail
0x601020 \ 0x00000000004004e6
0x601028 0x00000000004004f6
                            # GOT[5] fputs()
0x601030 0x00007fffff7a2d740
                            # GOT[6] sys startup
0x601038 0x0000000000400516
                            # GOT[7] fopen()
/* (gdb) x /8xg 0x601000
                                           After the first call
  < GLOBAL OFFSET TABLE > */
0x601960 0x0000000000600e28
                            # GOT[0] addr of .dynamic
0x601968 0x00007fffff7ffe168
                            # GOT[1] addr of reloc entries
0x601970 0x00007fffff7deee10
                            # GOT[2] addr of dynamic linker
0x601978 0x00007fffff7a7a260
                            # GOT[3] fclose()
0x601980 0x00000000004004e6
                            # GOT[4] stack check fail
0x601988 0x00007fffff7a7b030
                            # GOT[5] fputs()
0x601990 0x00007fffff7a2d740
                            # GOT[6] sys startup
0x601998 0x00007fffff7a7ad70
                            # GOT[7] fopen()
```

# 教材阅读

■ 第7章 7.1-7.5、7.6.1-7.6.2、7.7、7.8、7.9、7.10、7.11、7.12