



University of Colorado, Boulder

Machine-Level Programming I: Basics

These slides adapted from materials provided by the textbook authors.

Machine Programming I: Basics

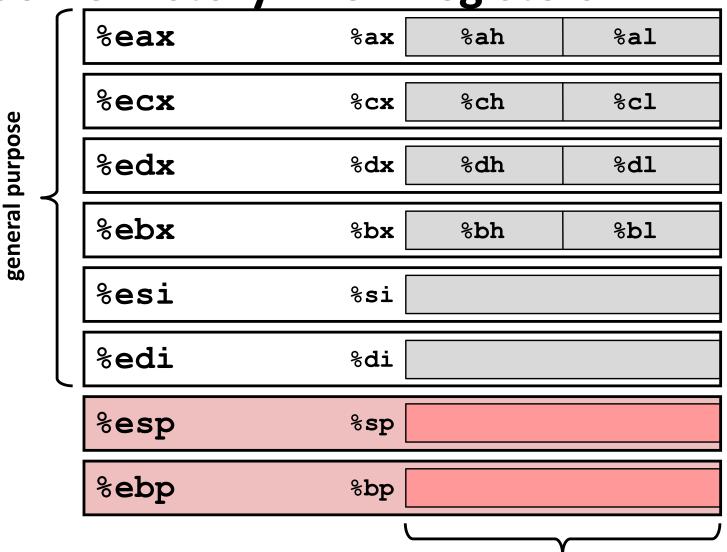
- History of Intel processors and architectures
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Arithmetic & logical operations

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)

accumulate

counter

data

base

source index

destination

index

stack pointer 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

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

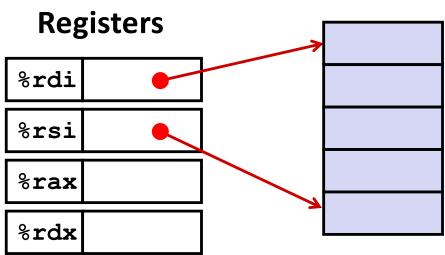
movq 8(%rbp),%rdx

Example of Simple Addressing Modes

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

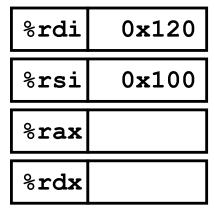
Memory

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

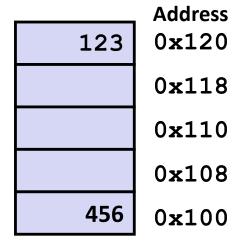


Register	Value
%rdi	хр
%rsi	ур
%rax	t0
%rdx	t1

Registers

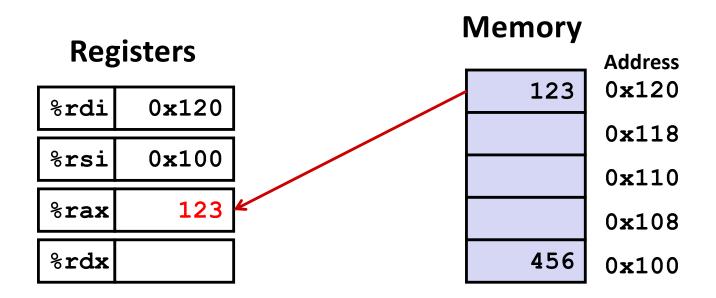


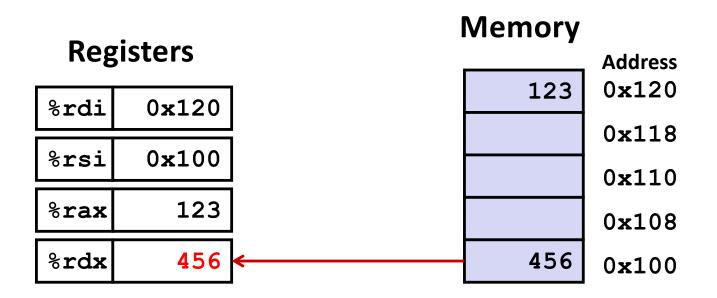
Memory

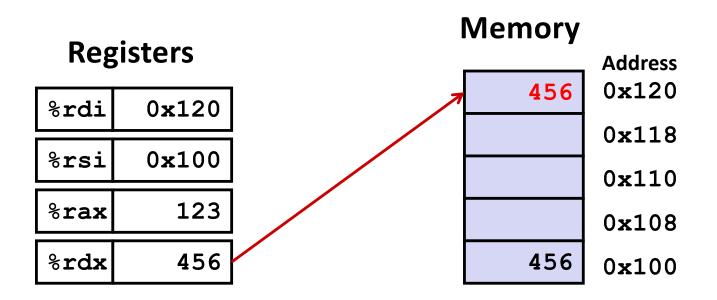


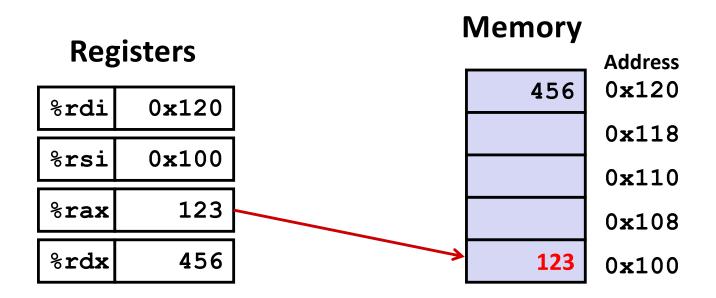
swap:

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