# Computer Systems Organization

# **Topic 3 Contd.**

Based on chapter 3 from Computer Systems by Randal E. Bryant and David R. O'Hallaron

# **Processor State (x86-64, Partial)**

- Information about currently executing program
  - Temporary data (%rax, ...)
  - Location of runtime stack (%rsp)
  - Location of current code control point (%rip, ...)
  - Status of recent tests
     (CF, ZF, SF, OF)
     Current stack top

#### **Registers**

%r8
%r9
%r10
%r11
%r12
%r13
%r14
%r15

%rip

Program Counter or Instruction pointer



ZF



OF

**Condition codes** 

# **Condition Codes (Implicit Setting)**

Single bit registers

```
    *CF Carry Flag (for unsigned)
    *ZF Zero Flag
    *OF Overflow Flag (for signed)
```

- Implicitly set (think of it as side effect) by arithmetic operations
  - •Example:  $addq Src, Dest \leftrightarrow t = a+b$
  - CF set if carry out from most significant bit (unsigned overflow)
  - •**ZF** set if t == 0
  - •SF set if t < 0 (as signed)
  - •OF set if two's-complement (signed) overflow
    (a>0 && b>0 && t<0) || (a<0 && b<0 && t>=0)
- Not set by leaq instruction (since intended to be used in address computations)

# **Example**

- Carry flag enables numbers larger than a single ALU width to be added by carrying a binary digit
- Unsigned addition: 1111 + 0111 = 10110, CF = 1
- Unsigned addition: 0111 + 0001 = 1000, CF = 0
- Borrow flag for subtraction if borrow value (represented using Carry flag)
- Unsigned subtraction: 0000 0001 = 1111, CF = 1
- Unsigned subtraction: 1000 0001 = 0111, CF = 0

# **Example**

- Overflow flag is set when the most significant bit (i.e., sign bit) is changed by adding two numbers with the same sign (or subtracting two numbers with opposite signs). Overflow cannot occur when the sign of two addition operands are different.
- Signed addition: 1111 + 1000 = 10111, CF = 1, SF = 0, OF = 1
- Signed addition: 0111 + 0111 = 1110, CF = 0, SF = 1, OF = 1
- Signed addition: 1111 + 1111 = 11110, CF = 1, SF = 1, OF = 0
- Overflow flag is meaningless for unsigned numbers and normally ignored. It is set for signed numbers so the program can be aware of the problem and mitigate or signal an error.
- Most instruction sets do not distinguish between signed and unsigned operands. Generate both (signed) overflow and (unsigned) carry flags on every operation, and allow to pick later whichever is of interest.

# **Compare Instruction**

- Explicit setting of conditional code by Compare instruction
  - •cmpq Src2, Src1
  - •cmpq b, a like computing a-b without setting destination
  - •CF set if carry out from most significant bit (used for unsigned comparisons)
  - •ZF set if a == b
  - •SF set if (a-b) < 0 (as signed)
  - •OF set if two's-complement (signed) overflow
    (a>0 && b<0 && (a-b)<0) || (a<0 && b>0 && (a-b)>0)

# **Example**

- Unsigned subtraction: 0000 0001 = 1111, CF = 1
- Unsigned subtraction: 1000 0001 = 0111, CF = 0
- Signed subtraction: 0001 1000 = 1001, CF = 1, SF = 1, OF = 1
- Signed subtraction: 0011 1100 = 0111, CF = 1, SF = 0, OF = 0
- Signed subtraction: 1000 0001 = 0111, CF = 0, SF = 0, OF = 1
- Signed subtraction: 1001 0001 = 1000, CF = 0, SF = 1, OF = 0

# **Explicitly Setting Condition Codes: Test**

- Explicit setting of conditional codes by Test instruction
  - •testq Src2, Src1
    - •testq b, a like computing a&b without setting destination (performs bitwise AND)
  - •Sets condition codes based on value of *Src1* & *Src2*
  - •Useful to have one of the operands be a mask
  - •ZF set when a&b == 0
  - •SF set when a&b < 0

# Example

- testq %rax %rax sets ZF or SF hence used to test whether a value is negative, zero or positive
- One of the values can be a mask e.g., test the last bit
  - Mask would be 00..01 If ZF set, last bit is 0
  - In general, can test nth bit or a subset of the expression in general

# **SET Instructions**

- Rather than reading the conditional codes directly, set a single byte to 0 or 1 depending on some combination of the condition codes.
  - SET instructions are useful to model this
- For conditional codes set using cmpq i.e., t = a-b
  - If a, b and t are integers represented in 2's complement form
  - Consider sete or "set when equal" when a == b, t = 0 and hence zero flag indicates equality

# **SET Instructions**

- Consider setl or "set when less"
  - When no overflow occurs (OF set to 0), we will have a < b when a-b < 0 indicated by having SF set to 1. Similarly, we will have a >= b when a-b >= 0 indicated by having SF set to 0
  - When overflow occurs, we will have a < b when a-b > 0 (negative overflow) and a > b when a-b < 0 (positive overflow)</li>
  - cannot have overflow when a = b
  - In summary, when OF is set to 1, we will have a < b only if SF is set to 0</li>
  - Combining the EXCLUSIVE-OR of the overflow and sign bits provides a test for whether a < b</li>
  - Signed comparison tests are based on combinations of SF, CF, OF and ZF

# **SET Instructions**

- For unsigned comparisons of variables a and b, for t = a-b, carry flag will be set by CMP instruction when a-b < 0 (uses combinations of carry and zero flags)
- Machine code does not distinguish between signed and unsigned values since many arithmetic operations have the same bit level behavior for unsigned and 2's complement arithmetic.
- Some circumstances can need handling of signed vs. unsigned operations e.g., right shifts [Sign extend for Arithmetic (or Signed) Shift while 0 extend for Logical Shift]

# **Reading Condition Codes**

- SetX Instructions
  - Set low-order byte of destination to 0 or 1 based on combinations of condition codes - does not alter remaining 7 bytes

SetX	Condition	Description
sete D	D ← ZF	Equal / Zero
setne D	D ← ~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
sets D	D ← SF	Negative
setns D	D ← ~SF	Nonnegative
setg D	D ← ~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
setge D	D ← ~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
setl D	D ← (SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
setle D	D ← (SF^OF) ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
seta D	D ← ~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned >)
setb D	D ← CF	Below (unsigned <)

# x86-64 Integer Registers

%rax	al	%r8	%r8b
%rbx	bl	%r9	%r9b
%rcx	cl	%r10	%r10b
%rdx	dl	%r11	%r11b
%rsi	sil	%r12	%r12b
%rdi	dil	%r13	%r13b
%rsp	spl	%r14	%r14b
%rbp	bpl	%r15	%r15b

Can reference low-order byte

# **Reading Condition Codes**

- SetX Instructions:
  - Set single byte based on combination of condition codes
- One of addressable byte registers
  - Does not alter remaining bytes
  - Typically use movzbl to finish job
    - Move zero-extended byte to double word
    - Set upper 32 bits to 0

```
int gt (long x, long y)
{
  return x > y;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument <b>x</b>
%rsi	Argument <b>y</b>
%rax	Return value

```
cmpq %rsi, %rdi # Compare y:x
setg %al # Set when >
movzbl %al, %eax # Zero rest of %eax (and %rax)
ret
```

## **Details on ret**

- By convention, %rax is used to store a function's return value, if it exists and is no more than 64 bits long.
- Registers %rbx, %rbp, and %r12-r15 are callee-save registers, meaning that they are saved across function calls.
- Additionally, %rdi, %rsi, %rdx, %rcx, %r8, and %r9 are used to pass the first six integer or pointer parameters to called functions.

# **Conditional Branches: Jumping**

#### jX Instructions

Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

jX	Condition	Description
jmp	1	Unconditional
je	ZF	Equal / Zero
jne	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
js	SF	Negative
jns	~SF	Nonnegative
jg	~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
jge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
jl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
jle	(SF^OF) ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
ja	~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned)
jb	CF	Below (unsigned)

# **Conditional Branch Example (Old Style)**

```
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
  long result;
  if (x > y)
    result = x-y;
  else
    result = y-x;
  return result;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument <b>x</b>
%rsi	Argument <b>y</b>
%rax	Return value

# **Expressing with Goto Code**

- C allows goto statement
- Jump to position designated by label

```
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}
```

```
long absdiff j
  (long x, long y)
    long result;
    int ntest = x \le y;
    if (ntest) goto Else;
    result = x-y;
    goto Done;
Else:
    result = y-x;
Done:
    return result;
```

# General Conditional Expression Translation (Using Branches)

#### C Code

```
val = Test ? Then_Expr : Else_Expr;

val = x>y ? x-y : y-x;
```

```
ntest = !Test;
if (ntest) goto Else;
val = Then_Expr;
goto Done;
Else:
  val = Else_Expr;
Done:
    . . .
```

- Create separate code regions for then & else expressions
- Execute appropriate one

# **Using Conditional Moves**

- Conditional Move Instructions
  - Instruction supports:
    - if (Test) Dest ← Src
  - Supported in post-1995 x86 processors
  - GCC tries to use them
    - But, only when known to be safe
- Why?
  - Branches are very disruptive to instruction flow through pipelines
  - Conditional moves do not require control transfer

#### C Code

```
val = Test
? Then_Expr
: Else_Expr;
```

```
result = Then_Expr;
eval = Else_Expr;
nt = !Test;
if (nt) result = eval;
return result;
```

# **Conditional Move Example**

```
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument <b>x</b>
%rsi	Argument <b>y</b>
%rax	Return value

```
absdiff:
  movq %rdi, %rax # x
  subq %rsi, %rax # result = x-y
  movq %rsi, %rdx
  subq %rdi, %rdx # eval = y-x
  cmpq %rsi, %rdi # y:x
  cmovle %rdx, %rax # if <=, result = eval
  ret</pre>
```

# **Bad Cases for Conditional Move**

#### **Expensive Computations**

```
val = Test(x) ? Hard1(x) : Hard2(x);
```

- Both values get computed
- Only makes sense when computations are very simple

#### **Risky Computations**

```
val = p ? *p : 0;
```

- Both values get computed
- May have undesirable effects

#### **Computations with side effects**

```
val = x > 0 ? x*=7 : x+=3;
```

- Both values get computed
- Must be side-effect free

# Loops: "Do-While" Loop Example

#### C Code

```
long fact_do
  (long n) {
  long result = 1;
  do {
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
  } while (n > 1);
  return result;
}
```

```
long fact_do_goto
  (long x) {
  long result = 1;
  loop:
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
    if(n > 1) goto loop;
    return result;
}
```

- Compute n factorial
- Use conditional branch to either continue looping or to exit loop

# "Do-While" Loop Compilation

```
long fact_goto
  (long x) {
  long result = 1;
  loop:
   result *= n;
   n = n-1;
   if(n > 1) goto loop;
   return result;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	n
%rax	result

# General "Do-While" Translation

#### C Code

```
do
Body
while (Test);
```

• Body: {
 Statement<sub>1</sub>;
 Statement<sub>2</sub>;

Statement,;

```
loop:
Body
if (Test)
goto loop
```

# **General "While" Translation #1**

"Jump-to-middle" translation

# While version while (Test) Body

```
goto test;
loop:
   Body
test:
   if (Test)
      goto loop;
done:
```

# While Loop Example #1

#### C Code

```
long fact_while
  (long n) {
  long result = 1;
  while (n > 1) {
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

#### Jump to Middle

```
long fact_while_jtm_goto
  (long n) {
  long result = 1;
  goto test;
  loop:
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
  test:
    if(n > 1) goto loop;
    return result;
}
```

- Compare to do-while version of function
- Initial goto starts loop at test

# **General "While" Translation #2**

#### While version

```
while (Test)
Body
```



#### **Do-While Version**

```
if (!Test)
    goto done;
    do
    Body
    while(Test);
done:
```

- "Do-while" translation
- Used with -O1 (higher level of optimization in GCC)

```
if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
    Body
    if (Test)
       goto loop;
done:
```

# While Loop Example #2

#### C Code

```
long fact_while
  (long n) {
  long result = 1;
  while (n > 1) {
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

# Do-While (or Guarded Do) Version

```
long fact_while_gd_goto
  (long n) {
  long result = 1;
  if (n <= 1) goto done;
  loop:
    result *= n;
    n = n-1;
  if (n != 1) goto loop;
  done:
    return result;
}</pre>
```

- Compare to do-while version of function
- Initial condition guards entrance to loop

# "For" Loop Form

#### **General Form**

```
for (Init; Test; Update)

Body
```

```
long fact for
  (long n)
  long i;
  long result = 1;
  for (i = 2; i \le n; i++)
    result *= i;
  return result;
```

#### Init

```
i = 2
```

#### **Test**

```
i <= n
```

### **Update**

```
i++
```

#### **Body**

```
result *= i;
```

# "For" Loop → While Loop

#### **For Version**

```
for (Init; Test; Update)

Body
```



#### While Version

```
Init;
while (Test) {
    Body
    Update;
}
```

# **For-While Conversion**

#### Init

```
i = 2
```

#### **Test**

```
i <= n
```

#### **Update**

```
i++
```

#### **Body**

```
result *= i
```

```
long fact for while
  (long n)
  long i = 2;
  long result = 1;
  while (i \le n)
    result *= i;
    i++;
  return result;
```

# "For" Loop Do-While Conversion

#### **Goto Version**

#### C Code

```
long fact for (long n)
  long i;
  long result = 1;
  for (i = 2; i \le n; i++)
    result *= i;
  return result;
```

```
long fact for jm goto
   (long n) {
   long i = 2;
   long result = 1;
   goto test;
 loop:
   result *= i;
   i++;
test:
   if (i \le n)
     goto loop;
   return result;
```

```
long switch eg
   (long x, long y, long z)
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
    case 1:
        w = y*z;
        break;
    case 2:
        w = y/z;
        /* Fall Through */
    case 3:
        w += z;
        break;
    case 5:
    case 6:
        w = z;
        break;
    default:
        w = 2;
    return w;
```

# Switch Statement: An example

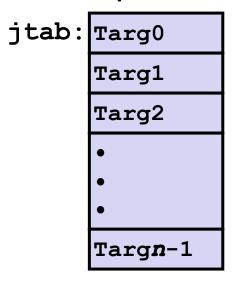
- Multiple case labels
  - Here: 5 & 6
- Fall through cases
  - Here: 2
- Missing cases
  - Here: 4

# **Jump Table Structure**

#### **Switch Form**

```
switch(x) {
  case val_0:
    Block 0
  case val_1:
    Block 1
    • • •
  case val_n-1:
    Block n-1
}
```

#### **Jump Table**



#### **Jump Targets**

Targ0: Code Block 0

Targ1: Code Block

Targ2: Code Block 2

**Translation (Extended C)** 

```
goto *JTab[x];
```

Targ*n*-1: Code Block *n*-1

## Jump Table jt

- Array where entry i is the address of a code segment implementing the action the program should take when the switch index equals i
- Advantage of using jt is the time taken to perform the switch is independent of the number of switch cases
- Jt used when >= 4 cases

## **Switch Statement Example**

```
long switch_eg(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        . . .
    }
    return w;
}
```

#### Setup:

```
switch_eg:
    movq %rdx, %rcx
    cmpq $6, %rdi # x:6
    ja .L8 # if x > 6
    jmp *.L4(,%rdi,8)
```

What range of values takes default?

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

Note that w not initialized here

## **Switch Statement Example**

```
long switch_eg(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        . . .
    }
    return w;
}
```

#### Setup:

```
switch_eg:
    movq %rdx, %rcx
    cmpq $6, %rdi # x:6
    ja .L8 # Use default

Indirect
jmp *.L4(,%rdi,8) # goto *JTab[x]
jump
```

#### Jump table

```
.section
          .rodata
.align 8 Align address
to multiple of 8
.L4:
          .L8 \# x = 0
  . quad
          .L3 \# x = 1
  . quad
 . quad
          .L5 \# x = 2
  . quad
          .L9 \# x = 3
          .L8 \# x = 4
  . quad
 . quad
          .L7 # x = 5
          .L7 \# x = 6
  . quad
```

### **Assembly Setup Explanation**

- Table Structure
  - Each target requires 8 bytes
  - Base address at .L4
- Jumping
  - Direct: jmp . L8
  - Jump target is denoted by label .L8
  - Indirect: jmp \*.L4(,%rdi,8)
  - Start of jump table: . L4
  - Must scale by factor of 8 (addresses are 8 bytes)
  - Fetch target from effective Address .L4 + x\*8
    - Only for  $0 \le x \le 6$

#### Jump table

```
.rodata
.section
  .align 8
.L4:
            .L8
                 \# \mathbf{x} = 0
  .quad
            .L3
                 \# x = 1
  . quad
  . quad
            .L5 \# x = 2
  .quad
           .L9 \# x = 3
  .quad
           .L8 \# x = 4
  .quad
           .L7 \# x = 5
  . quad
            . ц7
                 \# x = 6
```

## **Jump Table**

Jump table

```
switch(x) {
                             case 1: // .L3
         .rodata
.section
                                 w = y*z;
 .align 8
.L4:
                                 break;
         .L8 \# x =
 . quad
                             case 2: // .L5
         .L3 \# x = 1
 . quad
                                 w = y/z;
 .quad .L5 \# x = 2
 .quad .L9 \# x = 3
                                 /* Fall Through */
 .quad .L8 \# x = 4
                             case 3: // .L9
       .L7 \# x = 5
 .quad
                                 w += z;
         .L7 \# x = 6
 . quad
                                 break;
                             case 5:
                             case 6: // .L7
                                 w = z;
                                 break;
                             default: // .L8
                                w = 2;
```

# Code Blocks (x == 1)

```
.L3:

movq %rsi, %rax # y

imulq %rdx, %rax # y*z

ret
```

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

# **Handling Fall-Through**

```
long w = 1;
switch(x) {
                                case 2:
                                    w = y/z;
case 2: -
                                    goto merge;
   w = y/z;
    /* Fall Through */
case 3:
   w += z;
   break;
                                           case 3:
                                                   w = 1;
                                           merge:
                                                   w += z;
```

# Code Blocks (x == 2, x == 3)

```
long w = 1;
switch(x) {
case 2:
  w = y/z;
   /* Fall Through */
case 3:
   w += z;
   break;
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument <b>x</b>
%rsi	Argument <b>y</b>
%rcx	Argument <b>z</b>
%rax	Return value

#### **Code Blocks**

- cqto: sign extend rax to rdx:rax
- idivq S:
  - Signed divide %rdx:%rax by S
  - Quotient stored in %rax
  - Remainder stored in %rdx
- Figure 3.12 of book

# Code Blocks (x == 5, x == 6, default)

```
switch(x) {
    . . .
    case 5: // .L7
    case 6: // .L7
    w -= z;
    break;
    default: // .L8
    w = 2;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument <b>x</b>
%rsi	Argument <b>y</b>
%rcx	Argument <b>z</b>
%rax	Return value

# Summarizing

- C Control
  - if-then-else
  - do-while
  - while, for
  - switch
- Assembler Control
  - Conditional jump
  - Conditional move
  - Indirect jump (via jump tables)
  - Compiler generates code sequence to implement more complex control
- Standard Techniques
  - Loops converted to do-while or jump-to-middle form
  - Large switch statements use jump tables
  - Sparse switch statements may use decision trees (if-elseif-else)