Digital microsystems design

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Objectives

- Specific objectives
 - Instruction set architecture of x86 processors and assembly language

Outline

- Instruction set architecture (ISA, IA-16)
- Assembly language

- High level constructions provided by modern programming languages are translated by compiler tools into microprocessors' instructions
- Every assignment and arithmetic operation is implemented by an instruction or a sequence of instructions
 - Reading or writing a variable data transfer instructions
 - Addition or subtraction arithmetic instructions
 - Multiplication and division arithmetic instructions
 - Logic operations logic instructions
 - Ifs and loops constructs branch/jump/loop instructions
 - Function calls subroutine call and return instructions
 - System function calls software interrupts

Instruction format

mnemonic list_of_operands

- Name of the instruction
 - Mnemonic
- List of operands
 - Destination the location of the result
 - Source input operands

- Instruction encoding
 - Binary encoding/representation of the instruction
 - Processor specific
 - Structure
 - Opcode operation/instruction code
 - Operands encoding

Instruction				
Opcode	Operands encoding			

Disassembly

```
if (buff != NULL)
00DAE47C cmp
                     dword ptr [buff],0
00DAE480 je
                     $LN13+2Bh (0DAE576h)
        ptr = buff;
00DAE486 mov
                     eax, dword ptr [buff]
00DAE489 mov
                     dword ptr [ptr],eax
        while (len > 0)
00DAE48C cmp
                     dword ptr [len],0
00DAE490 jbe
                     $LN13+2Bh (0DAE576h)
            printf(" Processor mask: %lx \n", ptr->ProcessorMask);
00DAE496 mov
                      eax, dword ptr [ptr]
00DAE499 mov
                     ecx, dword ptr [eax]
00DAE49B push
                     offset string " Processor mask: %lx \n" (0E3CE80h)
00DAE49C push
                     _printf (0DAAE86h)
00DAE4A1 call
00DAE4A6 add
                     esp,8
```

- Data transfer instructions
 MOV destination, source
 - Destination and source operands can be specified in multiple ways
 - Register
 - Memory locations
 - Constants

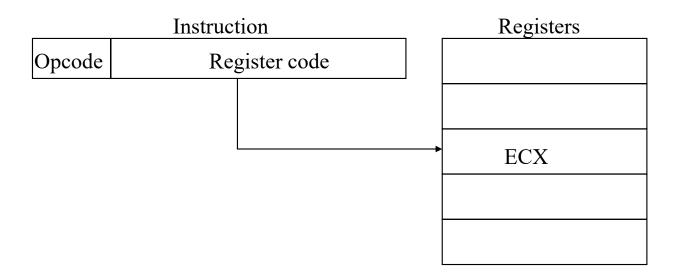
- Addressing modes
 - Specify the different ways in which instructions can access data
 - Addressing modes are provided to specify the operands of instructions

- Addressing modes
 - Register addressing mode
 - Source/destination operands are values stored by processor's registers
 - Registers identities are encoded in the instruction code

```
MOV RAX, RBX ; 64 bits transfer
MOV EAX, EBX ; 32 bits transfer
MOV AX, BX ; 16 bits transfer
MOV AL, BL ; 8 bits transfer
```

- Used to store temporary variables (register variables)
- Fastest access to operands
- C/C++ register variables

- Addressing modes
 - Register addressing mode
 - Opcode machine code of the instruction
 - Register code part of the opcode encoding the register



- Addressing modes
 - Immediate addressing mode
 - The operand is specified as part of the instruction code

MOV EAX, 12345678h MOV AX, 0AAAAH MOV AL, 055H

Constant values syntax

- Addressing modes
 - Constants

Instruction				
Opcode	Constant value			

- Addressing modes
 - Immediate addressing mode
 - Constant values syntax:
 - Specific to the assembler
 - Binary, decimal, octal, hexadecimal numbers
 - Distinction between identifiers and constant values
 - Examples

```
OAAH – 8 bits hexadecimal number

00101101b – 8 bits binary number

5638 – decimal number

2345q – octal number

'a' – ASCII character
```

- Addressing modes
 - Memory addressing mode
 - One of the operands is located in memory
 - Specified by name of the variable or by []
 - Multiple ways to compose the logical address but all of them will use:
 - Segment
 - Offset

- Addressing modes
 - Memory addressing mode Segments
 - Implicit
 - DS for data transfers (MOV)

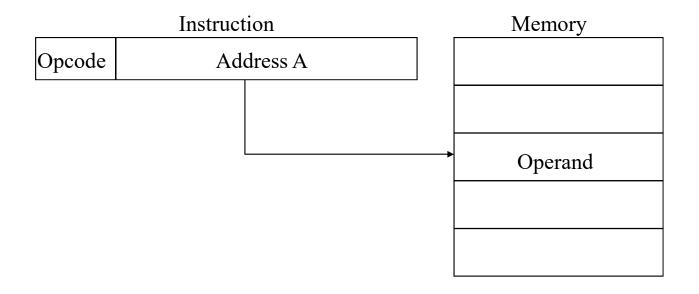
MOV [BX], AX equivalent with MOV DS:[BX], AX

- SS for stack operations (PUSH, POP, CALL, RET)
- CS for branches (JMP, JNE, JE, etc.)
- Explicit

```
MOV ES:[BX], AX
MOV DS:[EBX], AH
```

- Addressing modes
 - Memory addressing mode offsets
 - Direct memory addressing
 - Effective memory address of the operand is specified directly in the instruction code
 - Indirect memory addressing
 - Effective memory address of the operand is located in an internal register or in a memory location
 - The indirect register or memory location storing the effective address is encoded in the instruction code

- Addressing modes
 - Direct memory addressing



- Addressing modes
 - Direct memory addressing

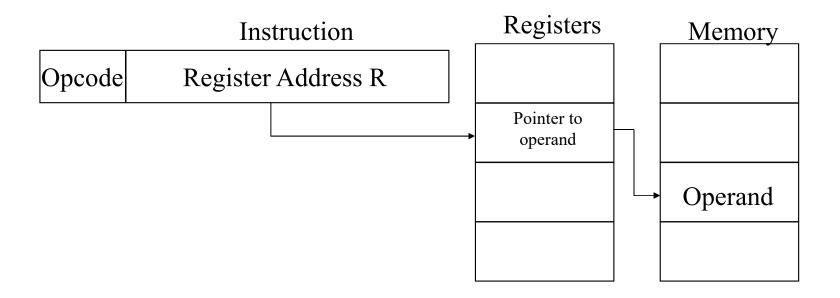
```
MOV AX, [1000H]
```

variables

```
cnt db 100 ; in data segment MOV CL, cnt ; in code segment
```

• The assembler associates an address to the name of the variable

- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing



- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing
 - The effective address is present in one of the internal registers of the processor

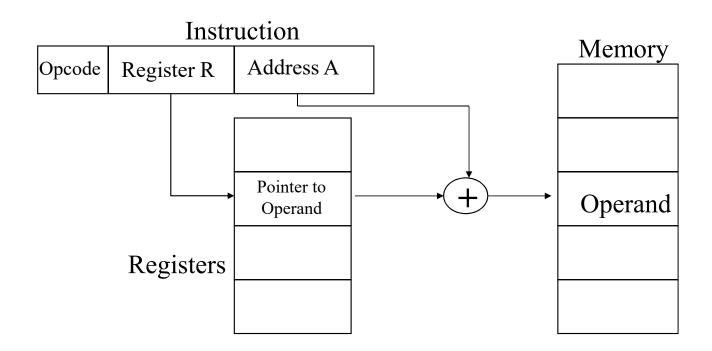
```
MOV BX, 1000H ; the address of the operand ; the indirect addressing using BX
```

The content of memory location DS:[1000H] is read and stored in AX

- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing
 - Based addressing
 - Effective address is sum between content of one of the base registers BX or BP, specified in the instruction and a 16-bit offset given in the instruction

MOV AX, [BX+4] MOV CX, 4[BX]

- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing



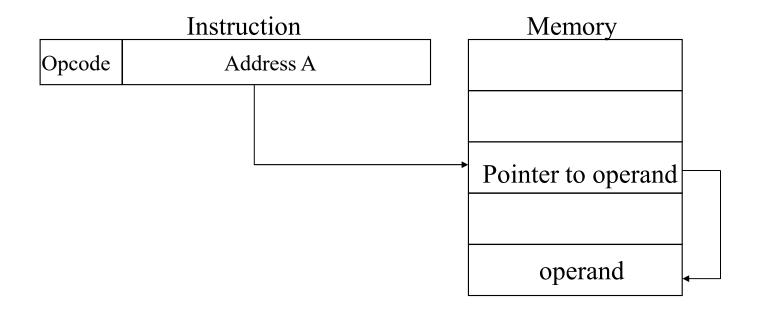
- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing
 - Indexed addressing
 - Effective address is sum between content of one of the index registers SI or DI, specified in the instruction and a 16-bit offset given in the instruction

```
MOV AX, [SI+4]
MOV CX, 4[SI]
```

- Addressing modes
 - Register indirect memory addressing
 - Based indexed addressing
 - Effective address is sum between content of one of the base registers BX or BP, one of the index registers SI or DI and a 16-bit offset given in the instruction

```
MOV AX, [BX+SI+4]
MOV CX, 4[BX][SI]
```

- Addressing modes
 - Memory indirect memory addressing
 - Not used by x86 instructions



- Addressing modes
 - Examples

```
array_int16 dw 10 dup (?); array definition

xor eax, eax

mov esi, 2

mov ax, array_int16

mov ebx, offset array_int16

mov ax, [ebx+2]

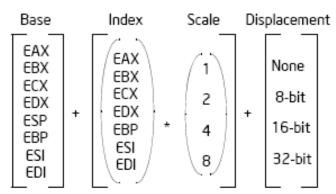
mov ax, array_int16[esi]

mov ax, array_int16[esi]
```

C operands	ASM addressing modes	Description
constants	immediate	The operand is specified as part of the instruction code
scalar variables	direct memory addressing	The operand is located in memory, the effective memory address of the operand is specified directly in the instruction code
array variables	based indexed addressing	The array is located in memory as a sequence of bytes, the effective address is sum between content of one of the base registers
pointers	indirect memory addressing	The location of the address of the operand is encoded as part of the instruction code
register	register	The operand is located in a register, this register is encoded in the instruction cod

Summary

- Memory addressing modes
 - Based
 - Indexed
 - Displacement
 - Scale



Offset = Base + (Index * Scale) + Displacement

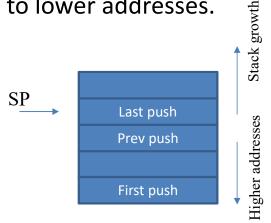
- Data movement
- Arithmetic and logic
- String/array
- Control flow

- Data movement instructions
 - mov (Move)
 - Copies the data referred to by its second operand into the location referred to by its first operand
 - Data width: 8, 16, 32, 64
 - Syntax

```
mov <reg>, <reg>
mov <reg>, <mem>
mov <mem>, <reg>
mov <reg>, <const>
mov <mem>, <const>
```

- Data movement instructions
 - push (Push into stack)
 - Places its operand onto the top of the hardware supported stack in memory.
 - Decrements stack pointer by 2 (16 bits) or 4 (32 bits)
 - Stores the operand at address [SP] or [ESP]
 - The stack grows from higher addresses to lower addresses.
 - Syntax

```
push <reg16/32>
push <mem16/32>
push <const16/32>
```



- Data movement instructions
 - pop (Pop from stack)
 - removes the data element from the top of the stack and stores it into the specified operand
 - Moves the 2/4 bytes located at memory location [SP] (ESP) into the specified register or memory location
 - Increments (E)SP by 2 (16 bits) or 4 (32 bits)
 - Syntax

```
pop <reg16/32>
pop <mem>
```

- Data movement instructions
 - xchg (Exchange)
 - Exchange the content of the two operands
 - Syntax

```
xchg <reg>, <reg>
xchg <reg>, <mem>
xchg <mem>, <reg>
```

- Data movement instructions
 - lea (Load effective address)
 - Places the address (offset) specified by its second operand into the register specified by its first operand
 - This is useful for obtaining a pointer into a memory region.
 - Syntax

```
lea <reg16/32>,<mem>
```

Examples

```
lea di, [bx+si] ; the value BX+SI
; is placed in DI.

mov eax, var ; loads the value in var
lea ebx, var ; loads the address of var
```

- Data movement instructions
 - Size of data transfers
 - Specified by source or destination register size
 - When no register is used what is the size of data to be moved?

```
mov [ebx], 2
```

- Data movement instructions
 - Size of data transfers
 - Specified by source or destination register size
 - When no register is used data size has to be specified explicitly (by data size specifiers)

Instruction operands

- Transfer size
 - Examples

```
array int16 dw 10 dup (?); array definition
     esi, 2
mov
    ax, array_int16
mov
    eax, array int16 ; type mismatch
mov
    ebx, offset array int16
mov
    ax, [ebx+2]
mov
    eax, [ebx+2]
mov
    ax, array int16[esi]
mov
      ax, array int16[ebx][esi]
mov
      [ebx], 12
                          ; undefined data size
mov
                          ; specifier must be used
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - Perform arithmetical and logical operations on integer numbers

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - add (Integer Addition) / sub (Integer Subtraction)
 - · Adds together its two operands, storing the result in its first operand
 - Syntax

```
add <reg>, <reg>
add <reg>, <mem>
sub <reg>, <mem>
add <mem>, <reg>
sub <mem>, <reg>
add <mem>, <con>
add <mem>, <con>
sub <mem>, <con>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - adc (Integer Addition with Carry) / sbb (Integer Subtraction with Borrow)
 - Adds together its two operands and the carry flag (CF), storing the result in its first operand
 - Syntax

```
adc <reg>, <reg>
adc <reg>, <mem>
    sbb <reg>, <mem>
adc <mem>, <reg>
    sbb <mem>, <reg>
adc <mem>, <con>
adc <mem>, <con>
    sbb <mem>, <con>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - inc / dec Increment, Decrement
 - Increments/ decrements the contents of its operand by on
 - Syntax

```
inc <reg>
inc <mem>
dec <reg>
dec <mem>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - imul Integer multiplication

• Syntax

imul <reg>/<mem>

idiv Integer division

```
AX = DX:AX / <reg16>/<mem16>

DX = DX:AX % <reg16>/<mem16>

EAX = EDX:EAX / <reg32>/<mem32>

EDX = EDX:EAX % <reg32>/<mem32>
```

Syntax

idiv <reg>/<mem>

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - and, or, xor Bitwise logical and, or and exclusive or
 - perform the specified logical operation (logical bitwise and, or, and exclusive or, respectively) on their operands, placing the result in the first operand location.
 - Syntax

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - not Bitwise Logical Not
 - Logically negates the operand contents
 - Syntax

```
not <reg>
not <mem>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - neg Negate
 - Performs the two's complement negation of the operand contents.
 - Syntax

```
neg <reg>
neg <mem>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - shl, shr Shift Logically Left, Shift Logically Right
 - shift the bits in their first operand's contents left and right, padding the resulting empty bit positions with zeros.
 - Syntax

```
shl <reg>, <con8>
shl <mem>, <con8>
shl <reg>, <cl>
shl <mem>, <cl>
shl <mem>, <cl>
shr <reg>, <con8>
shr <mem>, <con8>
shr <mem>, <con8>
shr <mem>, <cl>
shr <reg>, <cl>
shr <mem>, <cl>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - sal, sar Shift Arithmetically Left, Shift Arithmetically Right
 - shift the bits in their first operand's contents left and right, padding the resulting empty bit positions with the sign bit (right) or zero (left).
 - Syntax

```
sal <reg>, <con8>
sal <mem>, <con8>
sal <reg>, <cl>
sal <mem>, <cl>
sal <mem>, <cl>
sar <reg>, <con8>
sar <mem>, <con8>
sar <mem>, <con8>
sar <mem>, <cl>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - rol, ror Rotate Left, Rotate Right
 - rotate the bits in their first operand's contents left and right, padding the resulting empty bit positions with the bits leaving the register.
 - Syntax

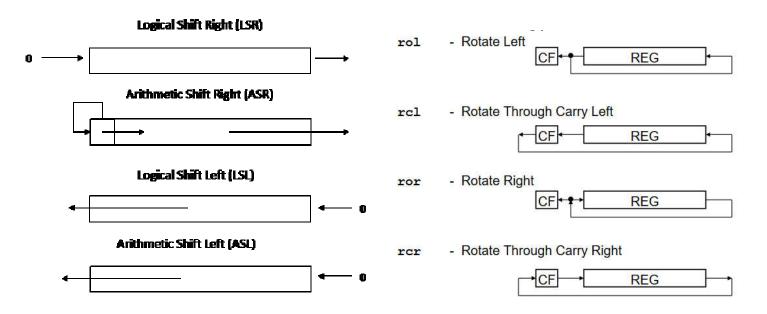
```
rol <reg>, <con8>
rol <mem>, <con8>
rol <reg>, <cl>
rol <mem>, <cl>

ror <reg>, <con8>
ror <mem>, <con8>
ror <mem>, <con8>
ror <mem>, <cl>
ror <reg>, <cl>
ror <mem>, <cl>
```

- Arithmetic and logic instructions
 - rcl, rcr Rotate Left, Rotate Right with carry
 - rotate the bits in their first operand's contents left and right, padding the resulting empty bit positions with the bits leaving the register, including the CF in the loop
 - Syntax

```
rcl <reg>, <con8>
rcl <mem>, <con8>
rcl <reg>, <cl>
rcl <mem>, <cl>
rcl <mem>, <cl>
rcr <reg>, <con8>
rcr <mem>, <con8>
rcr <mem>, <con8>
rcr <mem>, <cl>
rcr <reg>, <cl>
rcr <mem>, <cl>
```

Arithmetic and logic instructions



- String/Array instructions
 - Move one byte/word/double from string to string
 - Similar to memcpy()

```
MOVSB
MOVSD
```

```
(byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI++] = DS:[ESI++]
```

- Move direction: DF

- String/Array instructions
 - Move multiple byte/word/double from string to string
 - Similar to memcpy()

```
REP MOVSB
REP MOVSD

while ( ECX > 0 )
  if ( DF == 0 )
      (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI++] = DS:[ESI++]
else
      (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI--] = DS:[ESI--]
```

- String/Array instructions
 - Store byte/word/double to string
 - Similar to memset ()

```
REP STOSB
    REP STOSW
    REP STOSD

while ( ECX > 0 )
    if ( DF == 0 )
        (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI++] = AL/AX/EAX
    else
        (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI--] = AL/AX/EAX
```

- String/Array instructions
 - Compare byte/word/double in memory
 - Similar to memcmp()

```
REPE/REPNE CMPSB
REPE/REPNE CMPSD

ZF=1
while ( ECX > 0 )
   if ( DF == 0 )
      if( (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI++] != DS:[ESI++] ) ZF=0,
      break;
else
   if( (byte/word/dword ptr)ES:[EDI--] != DS:[ESI--] ) ZF=0,
      break;
```

- Control flow instructions
 - Data transfer and arithmetical and logic instructions are executed sequentially one after another
 - Exception from linear execution are branches and loops
 - They are implemented by jump instructions
 - IP (Instruction Pointer) register keeps the address of the following instruction that has to be fetched
 - IP increments after the current instruction is fetched by the processor

- Control flow instructions
 - The IP register cannot be manipulated directly, it is updated instead by the mean of control flow instructions
 - Jump instructions change the linear execution of the program
 - Set a label to the destination instruction the processor has to execute next
 - Jump instructions load IP register with the address specified by the label

- Control flow instructions
 - Labels can be inserted anywhere in assembly code by entering a label name followed by a colon.

```
mov esi, [ebp+8]
begin: xor ecx, ecx
mov eax, [esi]
```

 Control flow instructions refers to a label where from the execution flow will continue

- Control flow instructions
 - jmp Jump
 - Transfers program control flow to the instruction at the memory location indicated by the operand.
 - Unconditional jump
 - Syntax
 jmp <label>
 - Example

jmp begin; Jump to the instruction labeled begin.

- Control flow instructions
 - j condition Conditional jump
 - Change the linear control flow if the condition is true

Syntax

```
je <label> (jump when equal)
jne <label> (jump when not equal)
jz <label> (jump when last result was zero)
jnz <label> (jump when last result was not zero)
jg <label> (jump when greater than)
jge <label> (jump when greater than or equal to)
jl <label> (jump when less than)
jle <label> (jump when less than or equal to)
```

- Control flow instructions
 - call Subroutine call
 - Actions:
 - pushes the current code address onto the hardware supported stack in memory
 - performs an unconditional jump to the code location indicated by the label operand.
 - Unlike the simple jump instructions, the call instruction saves the location to return to when the subroutine completes.
 - Syntax

```
call <label>
```

- Control flow instructions
 - ret Return from subroutine
 - This instruction
 - first pops a code location off the hardware supported in-memory stack.
 - It then performs an unconditional jump to the retrieved code location.
 - Syntax

ret

- Status flags register control
 - Flags register cannot be changed directly
 - Flags will be set based on previous arithmetic or logic instruction

- Flags control instructions
 - Clear/Set Carry/Direction/Interrupt flags

CLC

CLD

CLI

STC

STD

STI

- Status flags register control
 - cmp Compare
 - Compare the values of the two specified operands
 - Sets the condition flags in the machine status word according to the subtraction of the two values

Syntax

```
cmp <reg>, <reg>
cmp <reg>, <mem>
cmp <mem>, <reg>
cmp <reg>, <con>
```

Example

```
cmp DWORD PTR [var], 10
jeq loop
```

- Status flags register control
 - test Test of the values of the operands
 - Logic and of the values
 - Sets the condition flags in the machine status word according to the and of the two values

– Syntax

```
test <reg>, <reg>
test <reg>, <mem>
test <mem>, <reg>
test <reg>, <con>
```

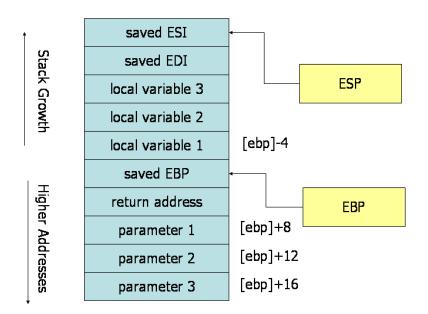
- Subroutine calling convention
 - Conventions adopted by assembly language programmers and compiler designers to share the same implementation patterns
 - The calling convention is a protocol about how to call and return from routines.
 - a programmer does not need to examine the implementation of a subroutine to determine how parameters should be passed to that subroutine
 - high-level language compilers can be made to follow the rules
 - allowing hand-coded assembly language routines and high-level language routines to call one another.

- Subroutine calling convention
 - many calling conventions are possible
 - C language calling convention
 - Specifies how parameters and return values are passed between the caller and the callee
 - Subroutine parameters are passed on the stack

- Example
 - Do you remember the order of C function call parameters evaluation?

```
_myFunc(a+b, ++a, b++);
```

- Subroutine calling convention
 - Stack content during subroutine execution



Caller rules

- Before calling a subroutine, the caller should save the contents of certain registers that are designated caller-saved
- To pass parameters to the subroutine, push them onto the stack before the call.
 - Reverse order (last parameter first)
- To call the subroutine, use the call instruction.
 - This instruction places the return address on top of the parameters on the stack, and branches to the subroutine code.

Example

Function declaration

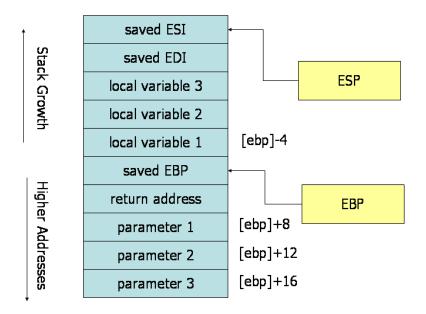
```
int _myFunc (int a, int b, int c);

- Function call
    _myFunc(eax, 216, var);

- Function definition
    int _myFunc(int a, int b, int c) {
        int x, y, z;
        ...
        return ...;
```

Example

- Subroutine calling convention
 - Stack content during subroutine execution Example



- Callee rules (start of the subroutine)
 - Save and initialize EBP it is used by convention as a point of reference for finding parameters and local variables on the stack.
 - Allocate local variables by making space on the stack.
 - Save the values of the callee-saved registers that will be used by the function must be saved.

- Callee rules (return from subroutine)
 - Leave the return value in EAX.
 - Restore the old values of any callee-saved registers that were modified
 - Deallocate local variables.
 - Restore the caller's base pointer value by popping EBP off the stack
 - Return to the caller by executing a ret instruction

Example

```
_myFunc PROC
; Subroutine Prologue
; Save the old base pointer value.
push ebp
; Set the new base pointer value.
mov ebp, esp
; Make room for a 4-byte local var.
sub esp, 4
; Save the values of registers
; that the function will modify
push edi
; This function uses EDI and ESI.
push esi
```

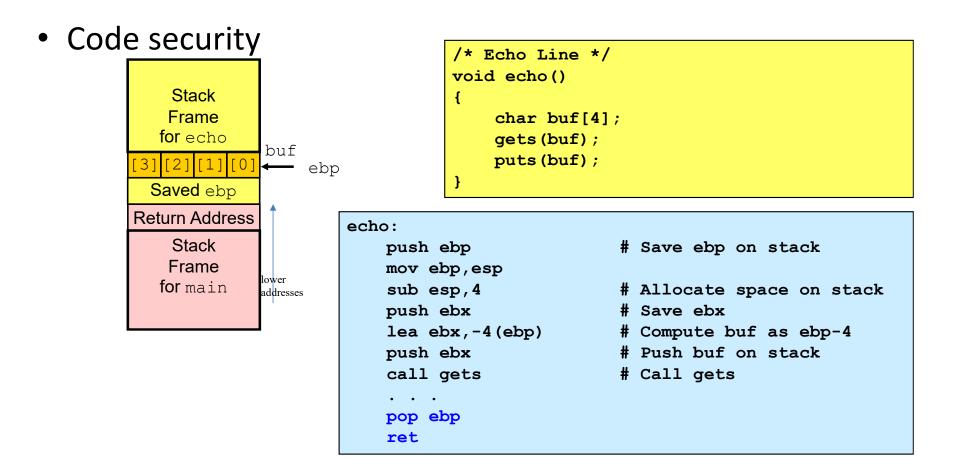
```
; Subroutine Body
...

; Subroutine Epilogue
  pop esi     ; Recover register values
  pop edi
  ; Deallocate local variables
  mov esp, ebp
  ; Restore the caller's base pointer
  pop ebp
  ret
_myFunc ENDP
```

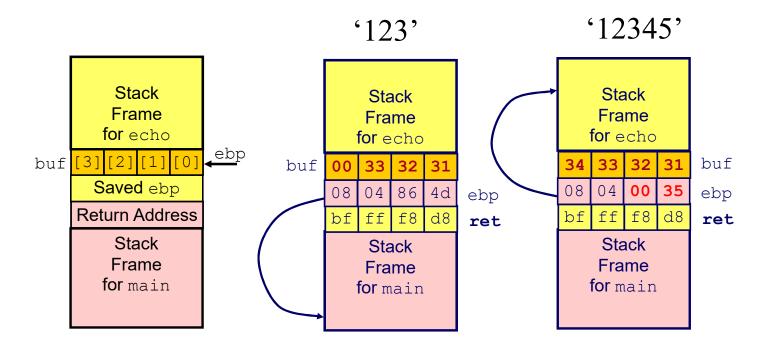
```
Example
; Subroutine Body
; Move value of parameter 1 into EAX
mov eax, [ebp+8]
; Move value of parameter 2 into ESI
mov esi, [ebp+12]
; Move value of parameter 3 into EDI
mov edi, [ebp+16]
; Move EDI into the local variable
mov [ebp-4], edi
; Add ESI into the local variable
add [ebp-4], esi
; Add the result into EAX
add eax, [ebp-4]
```

Disassembly

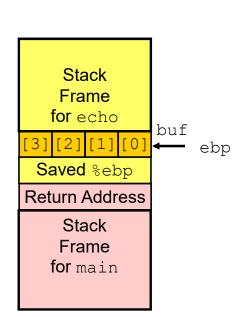
```
if (buff != NULL)
00DAE47C cmp
                     dword ptr [buff],0
00DAE480 je
                     $LN13+2Bh (0DAE576h)
       ptr = buff;
00DAE486 mov
                     eax, dword ptr [buff]
                     dword ptr [ptr],eax
00DAE489 mov
       while (len > 0)
00DAE48C cmp
                     dword ptr [len],0
00DAE490 jbe
                     $LN13+2Bh (0DAE576h)
           printf(" Processor mask: %lx \n", ptr->ProcessorMask);
00DAE496 mov
                     eax, dword ptr [ptr]
                     ecx, dword ptr [eax]
00DAE499
00DAE49B
         push
                     offset string " Processor mask: %lx \n" (0E3CE80h)
00DAE49C
         push
                     printf (0DAAE86h)
00DAE4A1 call
00DAE4A6 add
                     esp,8
```

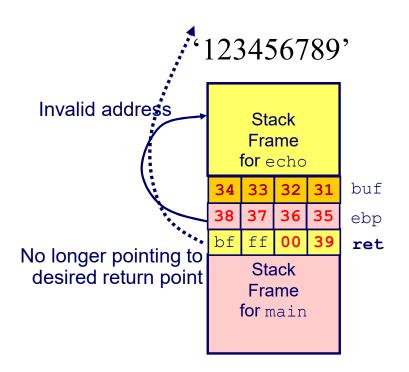


Code security

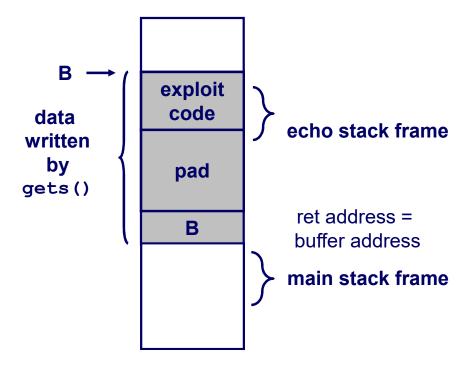


Code security





Code security



- Code security issues
 - Local memory buffers are filled with the exploit machine code
 - Return address is overridden by buffer address
 - On return from subroutine:
 - the malicious code will be executed in the context of the user application
 - or the application will be executed incorrectly

- Code security issues
 - Memory buffer overflow can allow remote code to be executed using the local permissions of the current application context
 - Example: Internet Worm

```
if cond then
    secv_instr_1
else
    secv_instr_2
secv instr
```

```
evaluate cond
    jmp cond, label if
    secv instr 2
    jmp label endif
label if:
    secv instr 1
label endif:
    secv instr
    evaluate cond
    jmp !cond, label else
    secv instr 1
    jmp label_endif
label else:
    secv instr 2
label endif:
    secv instr
```

```
int main()
{
    char * buff = "ABC";
    if (buff != NULL)
    {
        printf("Not null");
    }
    else
    {
        printf("Null");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

```
int main()
; char * buff = "ABC";
00C717AE mov
                     dword ptr [buff],offset string "ABC" (0C76B30h)
; if (buff != NULL)
00C717B5 cmp
                     dword ptr [buff],0
                     main+3Ah (0C717CAh)
00C717B9 je
; {
; printf("Not null");
00C717BB push
                     offset string "Not null" (0C76B34h)
00C717C0 call
                     printf (0C71316h)
00C717C5 add
                     esp,4
; }
; else
00C717C8 jmp
                     main+47h (0C717D7h)
; {
; printf("Null");
                     offset string "Null" (0C76B40h)
00C717CA push
00C717CF call
                     _printf (0C71316h)
00C717D4 add
                     esp,4
; }
    return 0;
; }
```

```
while( cond )
    secv_instr_1
secv_instr_2

etich_while:
    eval_cond
    jmp !cond, etich_end
    secv_instr_1
    jmp etich_while
etich_end:
    secv_instr_2
```

```
repeat
    secv_instr_1
until cond
secv_instr_2

for i = 1 to n
    secv_instr_1
secv_instr_2
```

Summary

