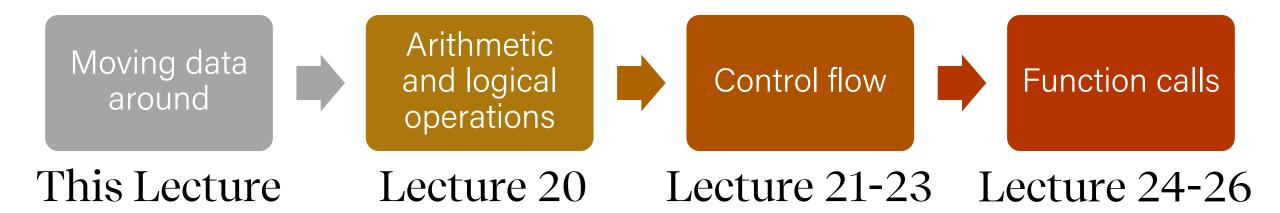


COMP201 Topic 6: How does a computer interpret and execute C programs?

Learning Assembly



Lecture Plan

- Recap: mov so far
- Data and Register Sizes

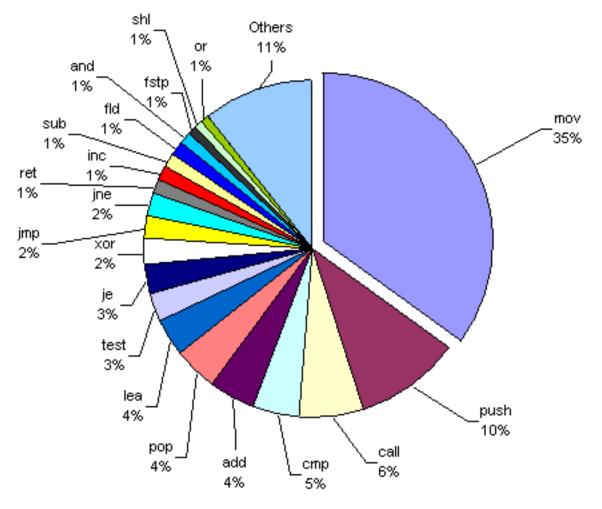
Disclaimer: Slides for this lecture were borrowed from

—Nick Troccoli's Stanford CS107 class

Lecture Plan

- Recap: mov so far
- Data and Register Sizes
- The lea Instruction

Top 20 instructions of x86 architecture



Source: https://www.strchr.com/x86 machine code statistics

MOV

The **mov** instruction <u>copies</u> bytes from one place to another; it is similar to the assignment operator (=) in C.

MOV

src, dst

The **src** and **dst** can each be one of:

Immediate (constant value, like a number) (only src)

\$0x104

Register

%rbx

 Memory Location (at most one of **src, dst**)

Direct address 0x6005c0

Operand Forms: Immediate

mov

\$0x104,____

Copy the value 0x104 into some destination.

Operand Forms: Registers

Copy the value in register %rbx into some destination.

Toy

*

mov ____,%rbx

Copy the value from some source into register %rbx.

Operand Forms: Absolute Addresses

Copy the value at address 0x104 into some destination.

MOV

0x104

MOV

,0x104

Copy the value from some source into the memory at address 0x104.

Operand Forms: Indirect

Copy the value at the address stored in register %rbx into some destination.

MOV

(%rbx),____

MOV

____,(%rbx)

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address stored in register %rbx.

Operand Forms: Base + Displacement

mov 0x10(%rax),

Copy the value at the address (<u>0x10 plus</u> what is stored in register %rax) into some destination.

MOV

,0x10(%rax)

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address (<u>0x10 plus</u> what is stored in register %rax).

Operand Forms: Indexed

Copy the value at the address which is (the sum of the values in registers %rax and %rdx) into some destination.

mov

(%rax, %rdx),

MOV

,(%rax,%rdx)

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (the sum of the values in registers %rax and %rdx).

Operand Forms: Indexed

Copy the value at the address which is (the sum of <u>**0x10 plus</u>** the values in registers %rax and %rdx) into some destination.</u>

mov

0x10(%rax,%rdx),_____

MOV

,0x10(%rax,%rdx)

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (the sum of **Ox10 plus** the values in registers %rax and %rdx).

Practice #1: Operand Forms

What are the results of the following move instructions (executed separately)? For this problem, assume

the value *0x11* is stored at address *0x10C*, the value *0xAB* is stored at address *0x104*, *0x100* is stored in register %rax and *0x3* is stored in %rdx.

```
1. mov $0x42,(%rax)
```

Move 0x42 to memory address 0x100

```
2. mov 4(%rax),%rcx
```

Move 0xAB into %rcx

```
3. mov 9(%rax, %rdx), %rcx
```

Move 0x11 into %rcx

```
Imm(r_b, r_i) is equivalent to address Imm + R[r_b] + R[r_i]
```

Displacement: positive or negative constant (if missing, = 0)

Base: register (if missing, = 0)

Index: register (if missing, = 0)

Copy the value at the address which is (<u>**4 times</u> the value in register %rdx)**</u> into some destination.

MOV

(, %rdx, 4),

MOV

,(,%rdx,4)

The scaling factor (e.g. 4 here) must be hardcoded to be either 1, 2, 4 or 8.

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (4 times the value in register %rdx).

Copy the value at the address which is (4 times the value in register %rdx, **plus**), into some destination.

mov

mov

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (4 times the value in register %rdx, plus 0x4).

Copy the value at the address which is (<u>the value</u> <u>in register %rax</u> plus 2 times the value in register %rdx) into some destination.

mov

(%rax, %rdx, 2), _____

MOV

___,(%rax,%rdx,2)

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (the value in register %rax plus 2 times the value in register %rdx).

Copy the value at the address which is (<u>0x4 plus</u> the value in register %rax plus 2 times the value in register %rdx) into some destination.

mov

mov

Copy the value from some source into the memory at the address which is (<u>**0x4 plus**</u> the value in register %rax plus 2 times the value in register %rdx).

Most General Operand Form

$$Imm(r_b, r_i, s)$$

is equivalent to...

$$Imm + R[r_b] + R[r_i]*s$$

Most General Operand Form

Imm(r_b , r_i , s) is equivalent to address Imm + $R[r_b]$ + $R[r_i]*s$

Displacement:

pos/neg constant (if missing, = 0) **Index:** register (if missing, = 0)

Base: register (if missing, = 0)

Scale must be 1,2,4, or 8 (if missing, = 1)

Memory Location Syntax

Syntax Meaning	
0x104	Address 0x104 (no \$)
(%rax)	What's in %rax
4(%rax)	What's in %rax, plus 4
(%rax, %rdx)	Sum of what's in %rax and %rdx
4(%rax, %rdx)	Sum of values in %rax and %rdx, plus 4
(, %rcx, 4)	What's in %rcx, times 4 (multiplier can be 1, 2, 4, 8)
(%rax, %rcx, 2)	What's in %rax, plus 2 times what's in %rcx
8(%rax, %rcx, 2)	What's in %rax , plus 2 times what's in %rcx , plus 8

Operand Forms

Туре	Form	Operand Value	Name
Immediate	\$Imm	Imm	Immediate
Register	r _a	R[r _a]	Register
Memory	Imm	M[Imm]	Absolute
Memory	(r _a)	$M[R[r_a]]$	Indirect
Memory	Imm(r _b)	$M[Imm + R[r_b]]$	Base + displacement
Memory	(r_b, r_i)	$M[R[r_b] + R[r_i]]$	Indexed
Memory	Imm(r _b , r _i)	$M[Imm + R[r_b] + R[r_i]]$	Indexed
Memory	(r_i, s)	$M[R[r_i] \cdot s]$	Scaled indexed
Memory	Imm(, r _i , s)	$M[Imm + R[r_i] \cdot s]$	Scaled indexed
Memory	(r_b, r_i, s)	$M[R[r_b] + R[r_i] \cdot s]$	Scaled indexed
Memory	Imm(r _b , r _i , s)	$M[Imm + R[r_b] + R[r_i] \cdot s]$	Scaled indexed

Figure 3.3 from the book: "Operand forms. Operands can denote immediate (constant) values, register values, or values from memory. The scaling factor s must be either. 1, 2, 4, or 8."

Practice #2: Operand Forms

What are the results of the following move instructions (executed separately)? For this problem, assume

the value *0x1* is stored in register %rcx, the value *0x100* is stored in register %rax, the value *0x3* is stored in register %rdx, and the value *0x11* is stored at address *0x10C*.

1. mov \$0x42,0xfc(,%rcx,4)

Move 0x42 to memory address 0x100

2. mov (%rax, %rdx, 4), %rbx

Imm(r_b, r_i, s) is equivalent to
address Imm + R[r_b] + R[r_i]*s
Displacement Base Index Scale
(1.2.4.8)

Move 0x11 into %rbx

Goals of indirect addressing: C

Why are there so many forms of indirect addressing?

We see these indirect addressing paradigms in C as well!



Fill in the blank to complete the code that generated the assembly below.

```
long arr[5];
...
long num = _____;
```

// %rdi stores arr, %rcx stores 3, and %rax stores num
mov (%rdi, %rcx, 8),%rax



Fill in the blank to complete the code that generated the assembly below.

```
long arr[5];
...
long num = arr[3];
```

// %rdi stores arr, %rcx stores 3, and %rax stores num
mov (%rdi, %rcx, 8),%rax



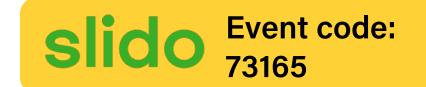
```
int x = ...
int *ptr = malloc(...);
____???__ = x;
```

```
// %ecx stores x, %rax stores ptr
mov %ecx,(%rax)
```



```
int x = ...
int *ptr = malloc(...);
*ptr = x;
```

```
// %ecx stores x, %rax stores ptr
mov %ecx,(%rax)
```



```
char str[5];
...
___???__= 'c';
```

```
// %rcx stores str, %rdx stores 2
mov $0x63,(%rcx,%rdx,1)
```



```
char str[5];
...
str[2] = 'c';
```

```
// %rcx stores str, %rdx stores 2
mov $0x63,(%rcx,%rdx,1)
```

Lecture Plan

- Recap: mov so far
- Data and Register Sizes

Data Sizes

Data sizes in assembly have slightly different terminology to get used to:

- A byte is 1 byte.
- A word is 2 bytes.
- A double word is 4 bytes.
- A quad word is 8 bytes.

Assembly instructions can have suffixes to refer to these sizes:

- b means byte
- w means word
- 1 means double word
- q means quad word

Data Sizes

Data sizes in assembly have slightly different terminology to get used to:

- A **byte** is 1 byte.
- A word is 2 bytes.
- A double word is 4 bytes.
- A quad word is 8 bytes.

C Type	Suffix	Byte	Intel Data Type
char	b	1	Byte
short	W	2	Word
int	1	4	Double word
long	q	8	Quad word
char *	q	8	Quad word
float	S	4	Single precision
double	1	8	Double precision

Register Sizes

Bit:	63	31	15	7 0
	%rax	%eax	%ax	%al
	%rbx	%ebx	%bx	%bl
	%rcx	%ecx	%сх	%c1
	%rdx	%edx	%dx	%dl
	%rsi	%esi	%si	%sil
	%rdi	%edi	%di	%dil

Register Sizes

Bit:	63	31	15	7 0
	%rbp	%ebp	%bp	%bpl
	%rsp	%esp	%sp	%spl
	%r8	%r8d	%r8w	%r8b
	%r9	%r9d	%r9w	%r9b
	%r10	%r10d	%r10w	%r10b
	%r11	%r11d	%r11w	%r11b

Register Sizes

Bit:	63	31	15	7 C
	%r12	%r12d	%r12w	%r12b
	%r13	%r13d	%r13w	%r13b
	%r14	%r14d	%r14w	%r14b
	%r15	%r15d	%r15w	%r15b

Register Responsibilities

Some registers take on special responsibilities during program execution.

- **%rax** stores the return value
- **%rdi** stores the first parameter to a function
- **%rsi** stores the second parameter to a function
- %rdx stores the third parameter to a function
- **%rip** stores the address of the next instruction to execute
- **%rsp** stores the address of the current top of the stack

See **Stanford CS107 x86-64 Reference Sheet** on Resources page of the course website! https://aykuterdem.github.io/classes/comp201/index.html#div_resources

mov Variants

- mov can take an optional suffix (b,w,1,q) that specifies the size of data to move: movb, movw, movl, movq
- **mov** only updates the specific register bytes or memory locations indicated.
 - Exception: mov1 writing to a register will also set high order 4 bytes to 0.

Practice #3: mov And Data Sizes

For each of the following mov instructions, determine the appropriate suffix based on the operands (e.g. movb, movw, movl or movq).

```
1. mov__ %eax, (%rsp) movl %eax, (%rsp)

2. mov__ (%rax), %dx movw (%rax), %dx

3. mov__ $0xff, %bl movb $0xff, %bl

4. mov__ (%rsp,%rdx,4),%dl movb (%rsp,%rdx,4),%dl

5. mov__ (%rdx), %rax movq (%rdx), %rax

6. mov__ %dx, (%rax) movw %dx, (%rax)
```

mov

- The **movabsq** instruction is used to write a 64-bit Immediate (constant) value.
- The regular **movq** instruction can only take 32-bit immediates.
- 64-bit immediate as source, only register as destination.

movabsq \$0x0011223344556677, %rax

Practice #4: mov And Data Sizes

For each of the following mov instructions, determine how data movement instructions modify the upper bytes of a destination register.

movz and movs

- There are two mov instructions that can be used to copy a smaller source to a larger destination: movz and movs.
- movz fills the remaining bytes with zeros
- **movs** fills the remaining bytes by sign-extending the most significant bit in the source.
- The source must be from memory or a register, and the destination is a register.

movz and movs

MOVZ S,R

R ← ZeroExtend(S)

Instruction	Description
movzbw	Move zero-extended byte to word
movzbl	Move zero-extended byte to double word
movzwl	Move zero-extended word to double word
movzbq	Move zero-extended byte to quad word
movzwq	Move zero-extended word to quad word

movz and movs

MOVS S,R

 $R \leftarrow SignExtend(S)$

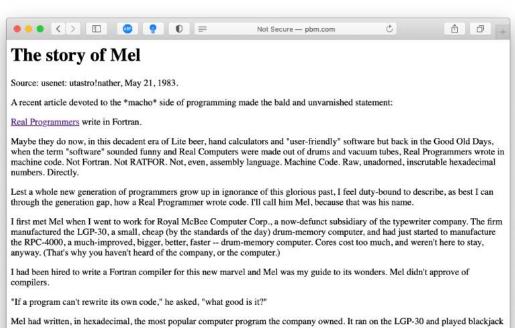
Instruction	Description
movsbw	Move sign-extended byte to word
movsbl	Move sign-extended byte to double word
movswl	Move sign-extended word to double word
movsbq	Move sign-extended byte to quad word
movswq	Move sign-extended word to quad word
movslq	Move sign-extended double word to quad word
cltq	Sign-extend %eax to %rax
	%rax ← SignExtend(%eax)

Recap

- mov Instruction
- Data and Register Sizes

Next Time: Logical and Arithmetic Operations

Additional Reading



Mel had written, in hexadecimal, the most popular computer program the company owned. It ran on the LGP-30 and played blackjack with potential customers at computer shows. Its effect was always dramatic. The LGP-30 booth was packed at every show, and the IBM salesmen stood around talking to each other. Whether or not this actually sold computers was a question we never discussed.

Mel's job was to re-write the blackjack program for the RPC-4000. (Port? What does that mean?) The new computer had a one-plusone addressing scheme, in which each machine instruction, in addition to the operation code and the address of the needed operand, had a second address that indicated where, on the revolving drum, the next instruction was located. In modern parlance, every single instruction was followed by a GO TO! Put *that* in Pascal's pipe and smoke it.

Mel loved the RPC-4000 because he could optimize his code: that is, locate instructions on the drum so that just as one finished its job, the next would be just arriving at the "read head" and available for immediate execution. There was a program to do that job, an "optimizing assembler", but Mel refused to use it.

"You never know where it's going to put things", he explained, "so you'd have to use separate constants".

It was a long time before I understood that remark. Since Mel knew the numerical value of every operation code, and assigned his own drum addresses, every instruction he wrote could also be considered a numerical constant. He could pick up an earlier "add" instruction, say, and multiply by it, if it had the right numeric value. His code was not easy for someone else to modify.



LIBRASCOPE'S MURAL ROOM became a study hall for neophyte LPG-30 programmers the week of July 16. Students participating in this first training school for LPG-30 customers included (seated l. to r.) Bill Hopper, Mary Cornell and Chuck Rue, Convair-Pomona; John Corkhill, Convair-San Diego; R. J. Bibbins, Link Aviation; K. A. Hurst, D. D. Parkhurst, C. S. Kikushima and Ides J. Romero, Convair-San Diego; George Kendrick, Convair-Pomona; Chuck Ray, Caltech; and William Clayton, National Security Agency. Standing (l. to r.) are Fred Flannell, class instructor and assistant sales manager of Royal-McBee; and Royal-McBee Applications Engineers Bud Hazlett, Jack Behr and Mel Kaye.

Annotated: https://www.cs.utah.edu/~elb/folklore/ mel-annotated/mel-annotated.html

http://www.pbm.com/~lindahl/mel.html