

## Lecture 6

# Assembler

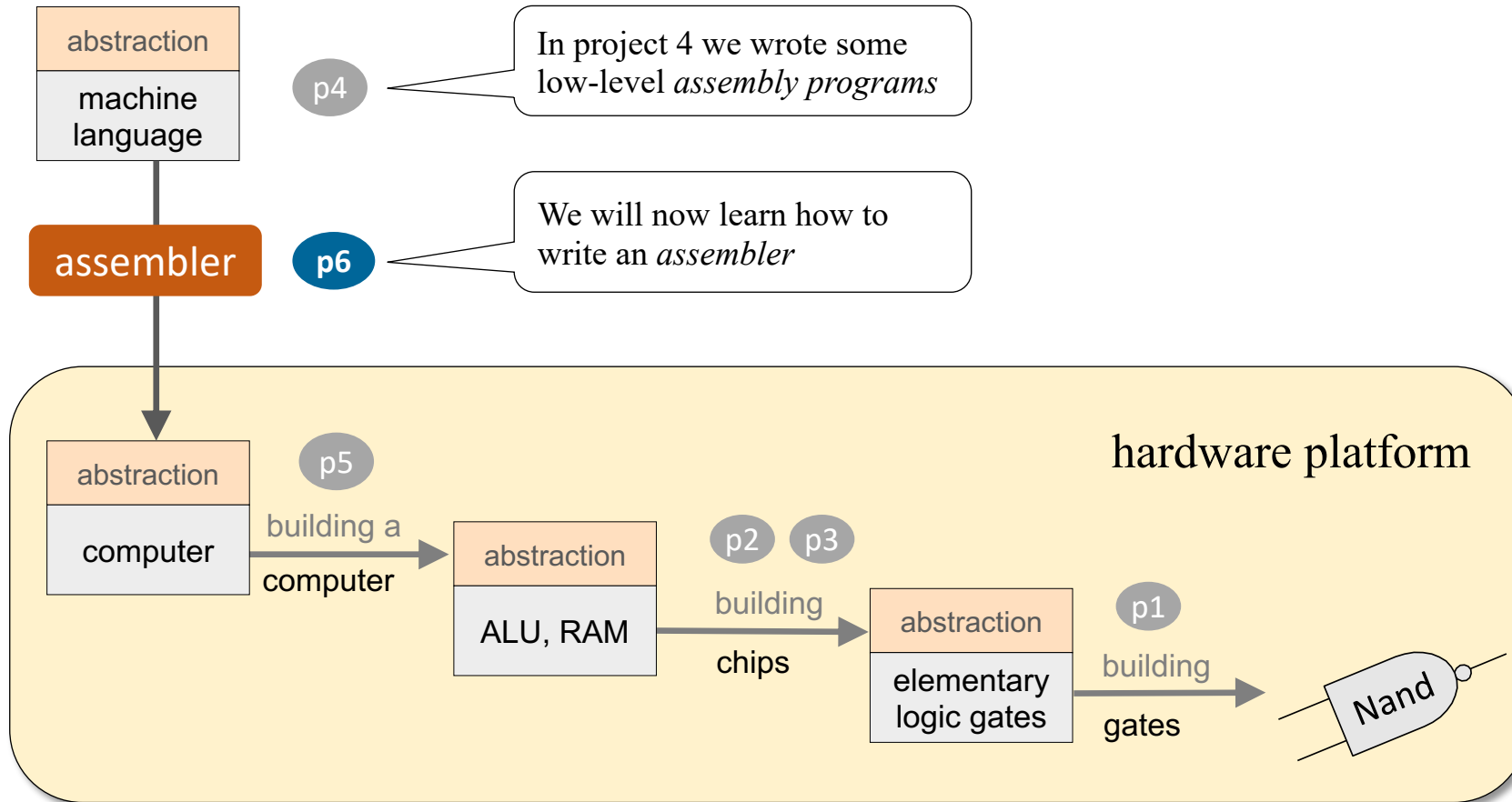
These slides support chapter 6 of the book

*The Elements of Computing Systems*

By Noam Nisan and Shimon Schocken

MIT Press, 2021

# Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Hardware



# Program translation

## Assembly program

```
// Program: Sum1ToN (R0 represents N)
// Computes R1 = 1 + 2 + 3 + ... + R0
// Usage: put a value >= 1 in R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if(i > R0) goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum = sum + i
@sum
D=M
@i
D=D+M
@sum
M=D
// i = i + 1
@i
M=M+1
// goto LOOP
@LOOP
0;JMP
...
```

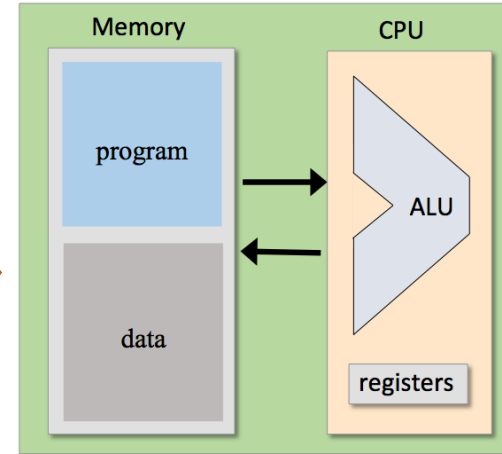
assembler

## Binary code

```
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
1011000010000001
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
1011000010000001
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
1011000010000001
0101111100111100
1010101010101010
1100000010101010
1011000010000001
...
```

load and execute

## Computer



## The assembler is...

- The “linchpin” that connects the hardware platform and the software hierarchy
- The lowest rung in the set of translators developed in Part II of the course (compiler, VM translator, assembler)
- A program that introduces key software engineering techniques (parsing, code generation, symbol tables, ...)

# Lecture plan

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- Overview
- ➔ Translating Hack code:
  - A-instructions
  - C-instructions
- Translating programs
- Handling symbols
- Assembler architecture
- Assembler API
- Project 6
- Some history

# Translating A-instructions

---

Symbolic syntax:

@xxx

Where xxx is a non-negative decimal value, or a symbol bound to such a value

Example:

@17

translate

Binary syntax:

0vvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv

Where:

0 is the A-instruction op-code, and  
vvv ... v is a binary value

00000000000010001


## Implementation

If xxx is a decimal value: Translate the value into its 16-bit representation;

If xxx is a symbol: Later.

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---

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- Assembler architecture
- Assembler API
- Project 6
- Some history

# Translating C-instructions

Symbolic syntax:  $dest = comp ; jump$

Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

<i>comp</i>		<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>
0		1	0	1	0	1	0
1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
D&A	D&M	0	0	0	0	0	0
D A	D M	0	1	0	1	0	1

$a == 0$   $a == 1$

<i>dest</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>d</i>	effect: the value is stored in:
null	0	0	0	the value is not stored
M	0	0	1	RAM[A]
D	0	1	0	D register
DM	0	1	1	D register and RAM[A]
A	1	0	0	A register
AM	1	0	1	A register and RAM[A]
AD	1	1	0	A register and D register
ADM	1	1	1	A register, D register, and RAM[A]

<i>jump</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>j</i>	effect:
null	0	0	0	no jump
JGT	0	0	1	if $comp > 0$ jump
JEQ	0	1	0	if $comp = 0$ jump
JGE	0	1	1	if $comp \geq 0$ jump
JLT	1	0	0	if $comp < 0$ jump
JNE	1	0	1	if $comp \neq 0$ jump
JLE	1	1	0	if $comp \leq 0$ jump
JMP	1	1	1	Unconditional jump

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1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
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JMP	1	1	1	Unconditional jump

Example:  $D = D+1 ; JLE$



Binary:



# Translating C-instructions

Symbolic syntax:  $dest = comp ; jump$

Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

<i>comp</i>		<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>
0		1	0	1	0	1	0
1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
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Binary:

111

# Translating C-instructions

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Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

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1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
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A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
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1110011111010110

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Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

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1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
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D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
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Example:  $A = -1$



Binary:

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1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
D&A	D&M	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Example:  $A = -1$



Binary:

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# Translating C-instructions

Symbolic syntax:  $dest = comp ; jump$

Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

<i>comp</i>		<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>
0		1	0	1	0	1	0
1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
D&A	D&M	0	0	0	0	0	0
D A	D M	0	1	0	1	0	1

$a == 0$   $a == 1$

*dest* *d* *d* *d* effect: the value is stored in:

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*jump* *j* *j* *j* effect:

null	0	0	0	no jump
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JNE	1	0	1	if $comp \neq 0$ jump
JLE	1	1	0	if $comp \leq 0$ jump
JMP	1	1	1	Unconditional jump

Example:  $A = -1$



Binary:

1110111010100000

# Translating C-instructions

Symbolic syntax:  $dest = comp ; jump$

Binary syntax:  $1\ 1\ 1\ a\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ c\ d\ d\ d\ j\ j\ j$

<i>comp</i>		<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>
0		1	0	1	0	1	0
1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
D&A	D&M	0	0	0	0	0	0
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AM	1	0	1	A register and RAM[A]
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<i>jump</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>j</i>	effect:
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JNE	1	0	1	if $comp \neq 0$ jump
JLE	1	1	0	if $comp \leq 0$ jump
JMP	1	1	1	Unconditional jump

Implementation: Get the binary code of each field of the symbolic instruction ( $dest$ ,  $comp$ ,  $jump$ ), and assemble the codes into a 16-bit instruction.

# Chapter 6: Assembler

---

- Overview
- Translating instructions
- ➔ Translating programs
- Handling symbols
- Assembler architecture
- Assembler API
- Project 6
- Some history

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```



Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Instructions
- Symbols

## Binary code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
111110111001000
0000000000000100
1110101010000111
0000000000010001
1111110000010000
...
```



# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```



Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Instructions
- Symbols

We'll start with programs  
that have no **symbols**,  
and handle symbols later

## Binary code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
1111101110010000
0000000000000100
1110101010000111
0000000000010001
1111110000010000
...
```

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@16
M=1
// sum = 0
@17
M=0

// if i>R0 goto STOP
@16
D=M
@0
D=D-M
@18
D;JGT
// sum += i
@16
D=M
@17
M=D+M
// i++
@16
M=M+1
@4
0;JMP
@17
D=M
...
```

no symbols



Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Instructions
- Symbols (later)

## Binary code



# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@16
M=1
// sum = 0
@17
M=0

// if i>R0 goto STOP
@16
D=M
@0
D=D-M
@18
D;JGT
// sum += i
@16
D=M
@17
M=D+M
// i++
@16
M=M+1
@4
0;JMP
@17
D=M
...
```

no symbols

Translate

## Need to Handle

White space

Ignore it

- Instructions
- Symbols (later)

White space:  
Empty lines,  
Comments,  
Indentation

## Binary code

# Program translation

Symbolic code

```
@16  
M=1  
@17  
M=0  
@16  
D=M  
@0  
D=D-M  
@18  
D;JGT  
@16  
D=M  
@17  
M=D+M  
@16  
M=M+1  
@4  
0;JMP  
@17  
D=M  
...
```

no white space



Translate

Need to Handle

- White space
- ➡ Instructions
- Symbols (later)

Binary code

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
@16  
M=1  
@17  
M=0  
@16  
D=M  
@0  
D=D-M  
@18  
D;JGT  
@16  
D=M  
@17  
M=D+M  
@16  
M=M+1  
@4  
0;JMP  
@17  
D=M  
...
```

Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space



Instructions

Translate,  
one by one

- Symbols (later)

As shown  
earlier in  
the lecture

## Binary code

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
@16
M=1
@17
M=0
@16
D=M
@0
D=D-M
@18
D;JGT
@16
D=M
@17
M=D+M
@16
M=M+1
@4
0;JMP
@17
D=M
...
```

Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Symbols (later)

Instructions

Translate,  
one by one

As shown  
earlier in  
the lecture

## Binary code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
1111110111001000
0000000000000100
1110101010000111
0000000000010001
1111110000010000
...
```

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
@16
M=1
@17
M=0
@16
D=M
@0
D=D-M
@18
D;JGT
@16
D=M
@17
M=D+M
@16
M=M+1
@4
0;JMP
@17
D=M
...
```



Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Instructions

➡ Symbols (later)

## Binary code

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111110000010000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
1111110111001000
0000000000000100
1110101010000111
0000000000010001
1111110000010000
...
```

# Program translation

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```



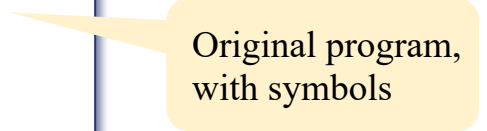
Translate

## Need to Handle

- White space
- Instructions



Symbols (later)



Original program,  
with symbols

## Binary code





# Handling symbols

---

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbols

- Predefined symbols
- Label symbols
- Variable symbols

Original program,  
with symbols

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbols

### ➔ Predefined symbols

- Label symbols
- Variable symbols

This particular code uses  
one predefined symbol: R0

The Hack language features  
*23 predefined symbols:*

<u>symbol</u>	<u>value</u>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbols

### ➡ Predefined symbols

- Label symbols
- Variable symbols

The Hack language features  
23 *predefined symbols*:

<u>symbol</u>	<u>value</u>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4

## Translating @preDefinedSymbol

Replace *preDefinedSymbol* with its *value*,  
and complete the translation.

Examples:

@R0	➡	0000000000000000
@R12	➡	000000000000001100
@SCREEN	➡	0100000000000000

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbols

- Predefined symbols

➡ Label symbols

- Variable symbols

This particular code uses two label symbols: LOOP, STOP

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Label symbols

- Used to label destinations of goto instructions
- Declared by the pseudo-instruction (*label*)
- The (*label*) directive defines the symbol *label* to refer to the memory location holding the next instruction in the program,
- Which corresponds to the instruction's *line number*

This particular code uses two label symbols: LOOP, STOP

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
0  @i
1  M=1
   // sum = 0
2  @sum
3  M=0
  (LOOP)
   // if i>R0 goto STOP
4  @i
5  D=M
6  @R0
7  D=D-M
8  @STOP
9  D;JGT
   // sum += i
10 @i
11 D=M
12 @sum
13 M=D+M
   // i++
14 @i
15 M=M+1
16 @LOOP
17 0;JMP
  (STOP)
18 @sum
19 D=M
... ..
```

## Label symbols

- Used to label destinations of goto instructions
- Declared by the pseudo-instruction (*label*)
- The (*label*) directive defines the symbol *label* to refer to the memory location holding the next instruction in the program,
- Which corresponds to the instruction's *line number*

Example:

<u>symbol</u>	<u>value</u>
LOOP	4
STOP	18

## Translating @labelSymbol :

Replace *labelSymbol* with its *value*

Example: @LOOP → 000000000000000100

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbols

- Predefined symbols
- Label symbols



Variable symbols

This particular code uses two variable symbols: i, sum

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Variable symbols

- Any symbol *xxx* which is neither predefined, nor defined elsewhere using an (*xxx*) label declaration, is treated as a *variable*
- Hack convention: Each variable is bound to a running memory address, starting at 16

This particular code uses two variable symbols: *i*, *sum*



# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Variable symbols

- Any symbol *xxx* which is neither predefined, nor defined elsewhere using an (*xxx*) label declaration, is treated as a *variable*
- Hack convention: Each variable is bound to a running memory address, starting at 16

Example:

<u>symbol</u>	<u>value</u>
i	16
sum	17

## Translating *@variableSymbol* :

- If *variableSymbol* is seen for the first time, bind to it to a *value*, from 16 onward  
Else, it has a *value*
- Replace *variableSymbol* with its *value*.

Example: @sum → 00000000000010001

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbol table

<i>symbol</i>	<i>value</i>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4
LOOP	4
STOP	18
i	16
sum	17

A data structure that the assembler creates and uses during the program translation

Contains every symbol, and its binding.

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbol table

<u>symbol</u>	<u>value</u>
---------------	--------------

A data structure that the assembler creates and uses during the program translation

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbol table

<i>symbol</i>	<i>value</i>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4

A data structure that the assembler creates and uses during the program translation

### Initialization:

Creates the symbol table and adds the predefined symbols to the table

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
0  // Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
1  // i = 1
2  @i
3  M=1
4  // sum = 0
5  @sum
6  M=0
7  (LOOP)
8  // if i>R0 goto STOP
9  @i
10 D=M
11 D=D-M
12 @R0
13 D=D-M
14 @STOP
15 D;JGT
16 // sum += i
17 @i
18 D=M
19 @sum
20 M=D+M
21 // i++
22 @i
23 M=M+1
24 @LOOP
25 0;JMP
26 (STOP)
27 @sum
28 D=M
29 ...
```

## Symbol table

<i>symbol</i>	<i>value</i>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4
LOOP	4
STOP	18

A data structure that the assembler creates and uses during the program translation

### Initialization:

Creates the symbol table and adds the predefined symbols to the table

**First pass:** Counts lines and adds the label symbols to the table

# Handling symbols

## Symbolic code

```
// Computes R1=1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LLOOP)
// if i>R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
// sum += i
@i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
// i++
@i
M=M+1
@LOOP
0;JMP
(STOP)
@sum
D=M
...
```

## Symbol table

<i>symbol</i>	<i>value</i>
R0	0
R1	1
R2	2
...	...
R15	15
SCREEN	16384
KBD	24576
SP	0
LCL	1
ARG	2
THIS	3
THAT	4
LOOP	4
STOP	18
i	16
sum	17

A data structure that the assembler creates and uses during the program translation

### Initialization:

Creates the symbol table and adds the predefined symbols to the table

**First pass:** Counts lines and adds the label symbols to the table

### Second pass:

- Generates binary code; in the process:
- Adds the variable symbols to the table

(details, soon)

# Lecture plan

---

- Overview



Assembler architecture



- Translating instructions
- Translating programs
- Handling symbols

- Assembler API
- Project 6
- Some history

# Assembler: Usage

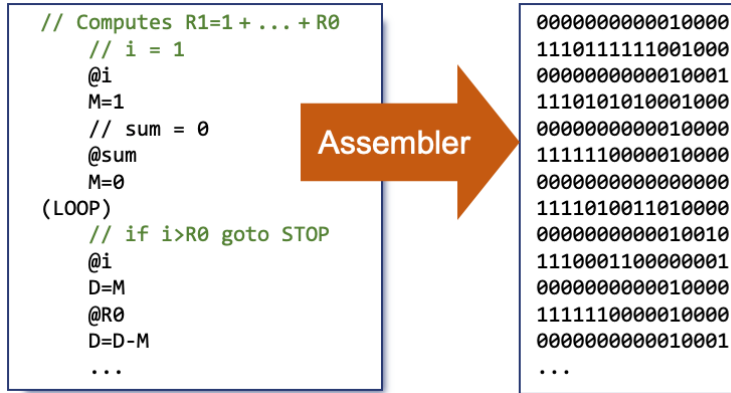
Input (*Prog.asm*): a text file containing a sequence of lines, each being a string representing a comment, an A-instruction, a C-instruction, or a label declaration

Output (*Prog.hack*): a text file containing a sequence of lines, each being a string of sixteen 0 and 1 characters

Usage: (if the assembler is implemented in Java)

```
$ java HackAssembler Prog.asm
```

Action: Creates a *Prog.hack* file, containing the translated Hack program.





# Assembler: Algorithm

## Initialize

Opens the input file (*Prog.asm*),  
and gets ready to process it

Constructs a symbol table,  
and adds to it all the predefined symbols

## First pass

Reads the program lines, one by one,  
focusing only on (*label*) declarations.  
Adds the found labels to the symbol table

## Second pass (main loop)

(starts again from the beginning of the file)

While there are more lines to process:

Gets the next instruction, and parses it

If the instruction is *@symbol*

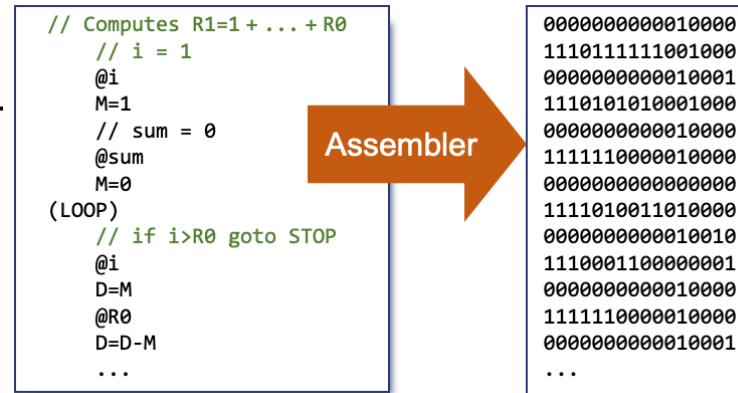
If *symbol* is not in the symbol table, adds *<symbol, value>* to the table, and  
translates *value* to its binary value

If the instruction is *dest = comp ; jump*

Translates each of the three fields into its binary value

Assembles the binary values described above into a string of sixteen 0's and 1's

Writes the string to the output file.



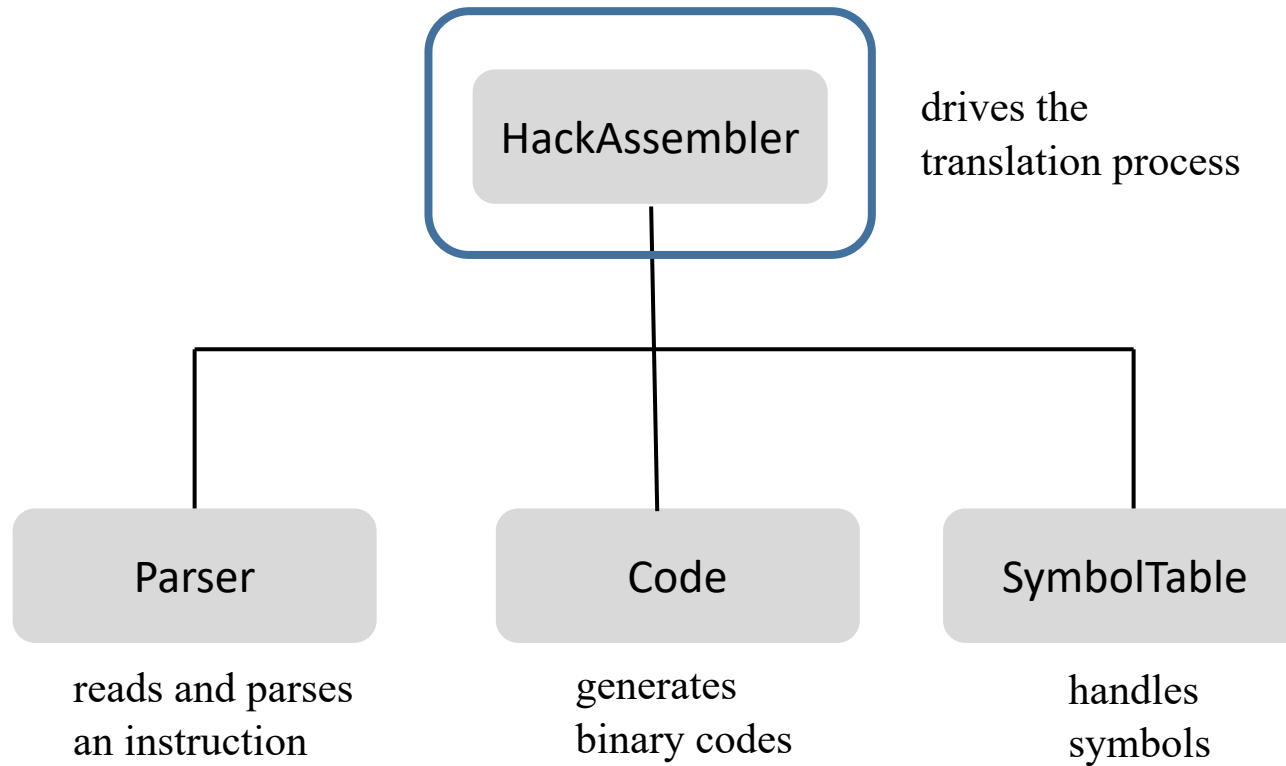
## Assembler implementation options

- Manual

➡ Program-based

# Assembler: Architecture

---



## Proposed architecture

- Four software modules
- Can be realized in any programming language

# HackAssembler

---

## Initialize:

Opens the input file (*Prog.asm*) and gets ready to process it

Constructs a symbol table, and adds to it all the predefined symbols

## First pass:

Reads the program lines, one by one

focusing only on (*label*) declarations.

Adds the found labels to the symbol table

## Second pass (main loop):

(starts again from the beginning of the file)

While there are more lines to process:

    Gets the next instruction, and parses it

    If the instruction is *@symbol*

        If *symbol* is not in the symbol table, adds it to the table

        Translates the *symbol* into its binary value

    If the instruction is *dest=comp;jump*

        Translates each of the three fields into its binary value

    Assembles the binary values into a string of sixteen 0's and 1's

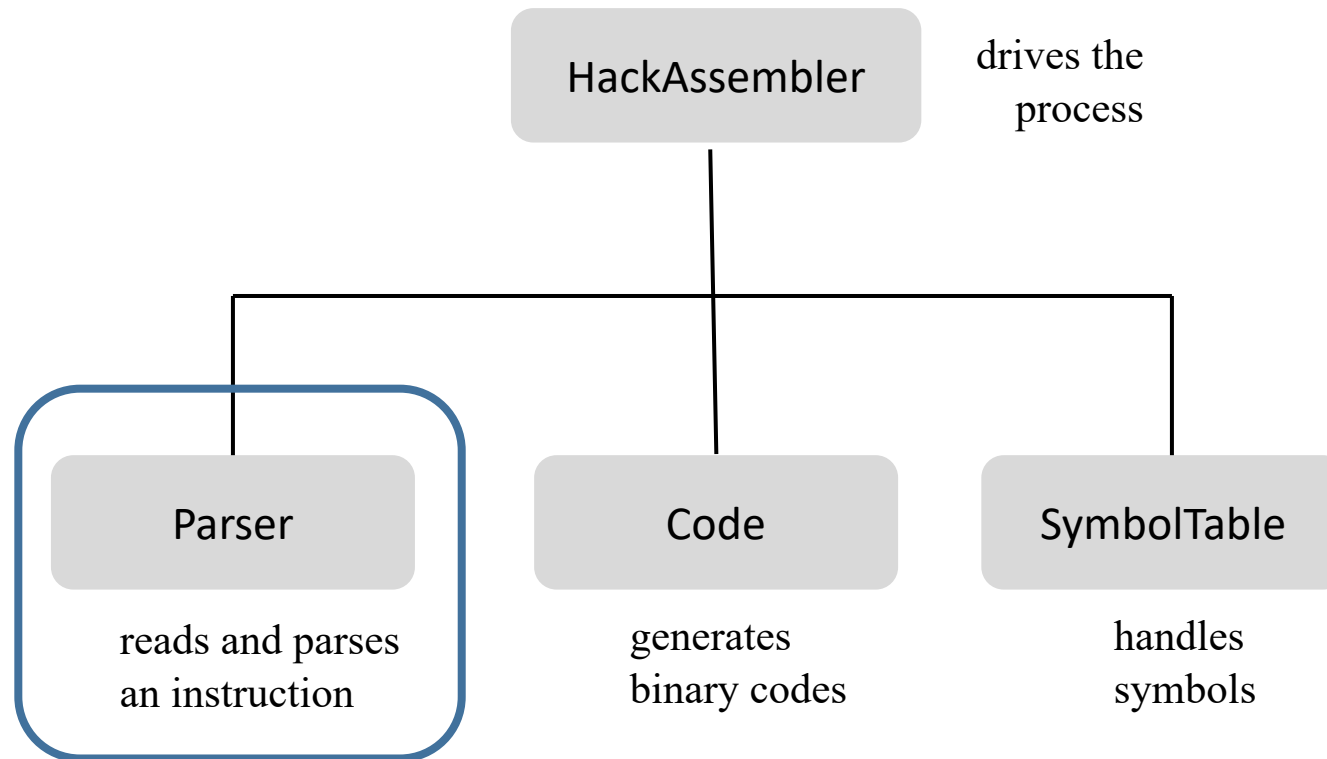
    Writes the string to the output file.

The HackAssembler  
implements this  
assembly algorithm,  
using the services of:

- Parser
- Code
- SymbolTable

# Assembler API

---



# Parser API

---

## Routines

- Constructor / initializer: Creates a Parser and opens the source text file
- Getting the current instruction:
  - hasMoreLines()**: Checks if there is more work to do (boolean)
  - advance()**: Gets the next instruction and makes it the *current instruction* (string)
- Parsing the *current instruction*:
  - instructionType()**: Returns the current instruction type, as a constant:
    - A\_INSTRUCTION for @xxx, where xxx is either a decimal number or a symbol
    - C\_INSTRUCTION for *dest = comp ; jump*
    - L\_INSTRUCTION for (*label*)

Examples:	current instruction	
	@17	instructionType() returns A_INSTRUCTION
	@sum	instructionType() returns A_INSTRUCTION
	D=0	instructionType() returns C_INSTRUCTION
	(END)	instructionType() returns L_INSTRUCTION

# Parser API

---

## Routines

- Constructor / initializer: Creates a Parser and opens the source text file
- Getting the current instruction:
  - hasMoreLines()**: Checks if there is more work to do (boolean)
  - advance()**: Gets the next instruction and makes it the *current instruction* (string)
- Parsing the *current instruction*:
  - instructionType()**: Returns the instruction type
  - symbol()**: Returns the instruction's *symbol* (string)

Used only if the current instruction is  
*@symbol* or *(symbol)*

Examples:

current instruction	
@sum	symbol() returns "sum"
(LOOP)	symbol() returns "LOOP"

# Parser API

---

## Routines

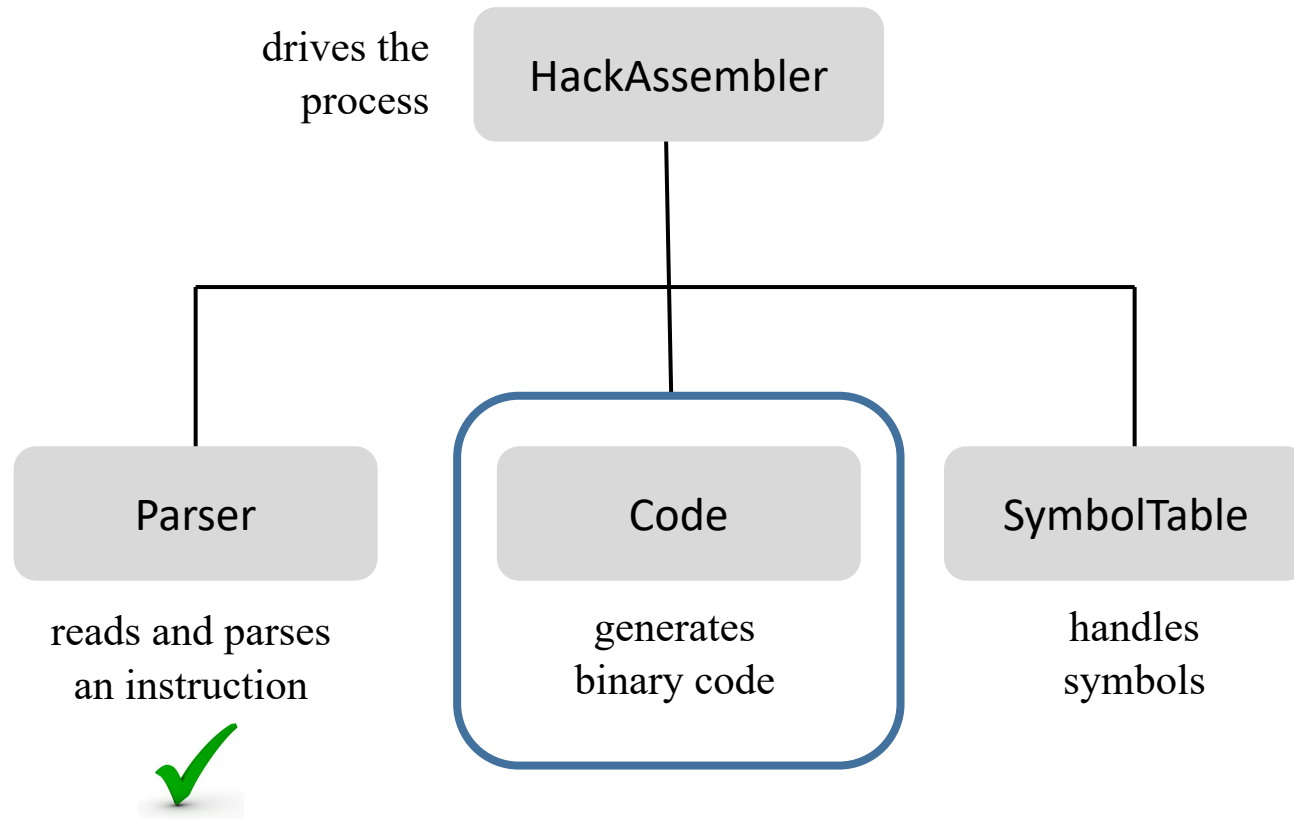
- Constructor / initializer: Creates a Parser and opens the source text file
- Getting the current instruction:
  - hasMoreLines()**: Checks if there is more work to do (boolean)
  - advance()**: Gets the next instruction and makes it the *current instruction* (string)
- Parsing the *current instruction*:
  - instructionType()**: Returns the instruction type
  - symbol()**: Returns the instruction's *symbol* (string)
  - dest()**: Returns the instruction's *dest* field (string)
  - comp()**: Returns the instruction's *comp* field (string)
  - jump()**: Returns the instruction's *jump* field (string)

Used only if the current instruction is  
*dest = comp ; jump*

current instruction				
Examples:	D=D+1;JLE	dest() returns "D"	comp() returns "D+1"	jump() returns "JLE"
	M=-1	dest() returns "M"	comp() returns "-1"	jump() returns null

# Implementation

---





# Code API

Deals only with C-instructions: *dest = comp ; jump*

## Routines:

`dest(string)`: Returns the binary representation of the parsed *dest* field (string)

`comp(string)`: Returns the binary representation of the parsed *comp* field (string)

`jump(string)`: Returns the binary representation of the parsed *jump* field (string)

According to the language specification:

<i>comp</i>		c	c	c	c	c	c
0		1	0	1	0	1	0
1		1	1	1	1	1	1
-1		1	1	1	0	1	0
D		0	0	1	1	0	0
A	M	1	1	0	0	0	0
!D		0	0	1	1	0	1
!A	!M	1	1	0	0	0	1
-D		0	0	1	1	1	1
-A	-M	1	1	0	0	1	1
D+1		0	1	1	1	1	1
A+1	M+1	1	1	0	1	1	1
D-1		0	0	1	1	1	0
A-1	M-1	1	1	0	0	1	0
D+A	D+M	0	0	0	0	1	0
D-A	D-M	0	1	0	0	1	1
A-D	M-D	0	0	0	1	1	1
D&A	D&M	0	0	0	0	0	0
D A	D M	0	1	0	1	0	1

a == 0

a == 1

<i>dest</i>	d	d	d
null	0	0	0
M	0	0	1
D	0	1	0
DM	0	1	1
A	1	0	0
AM	1	0	1
AD	1	1	0
ADM	1	1	1

<i>jump</i>	j	j	j
null	0	0	0
JGT	0	0	1
JEQ	0	1	0
JGE	0	1	1
JLT	1	0	0
JNE	1	0	1
JLE	1	1	0
JMP	1	1	1

## Examples:

`dest("DM")` returns "011"

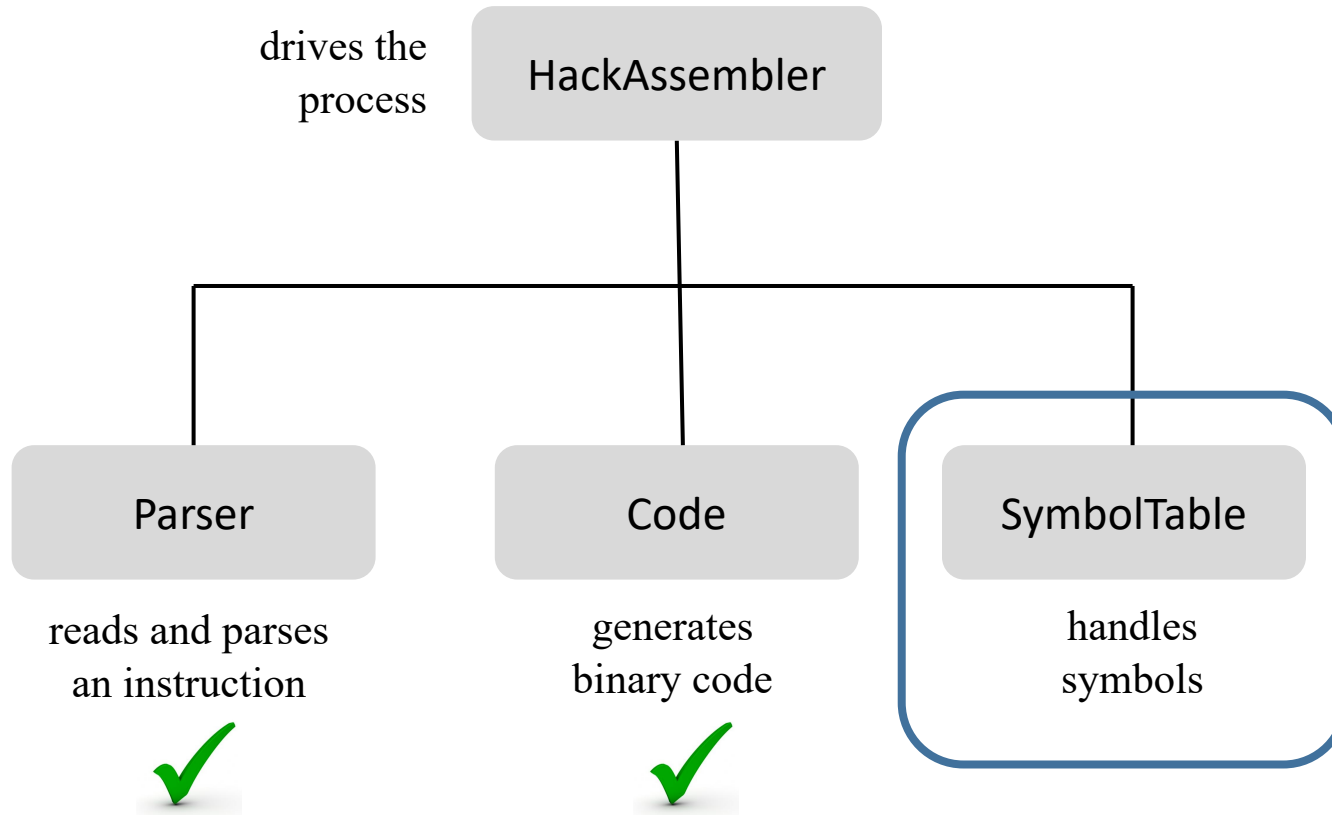
`comp("A+1")` returns "0110111"

`comp("D&M")` returns "1000000"

`jump("JNE")` returns "101"

# Implementation

---



# SymbolTable API

---

## Routines

**Constructor / initializer:** Creates and initializes a SymbolTable

`void addEntry(String symbol, int address):` Adds <symbol, address> to the table

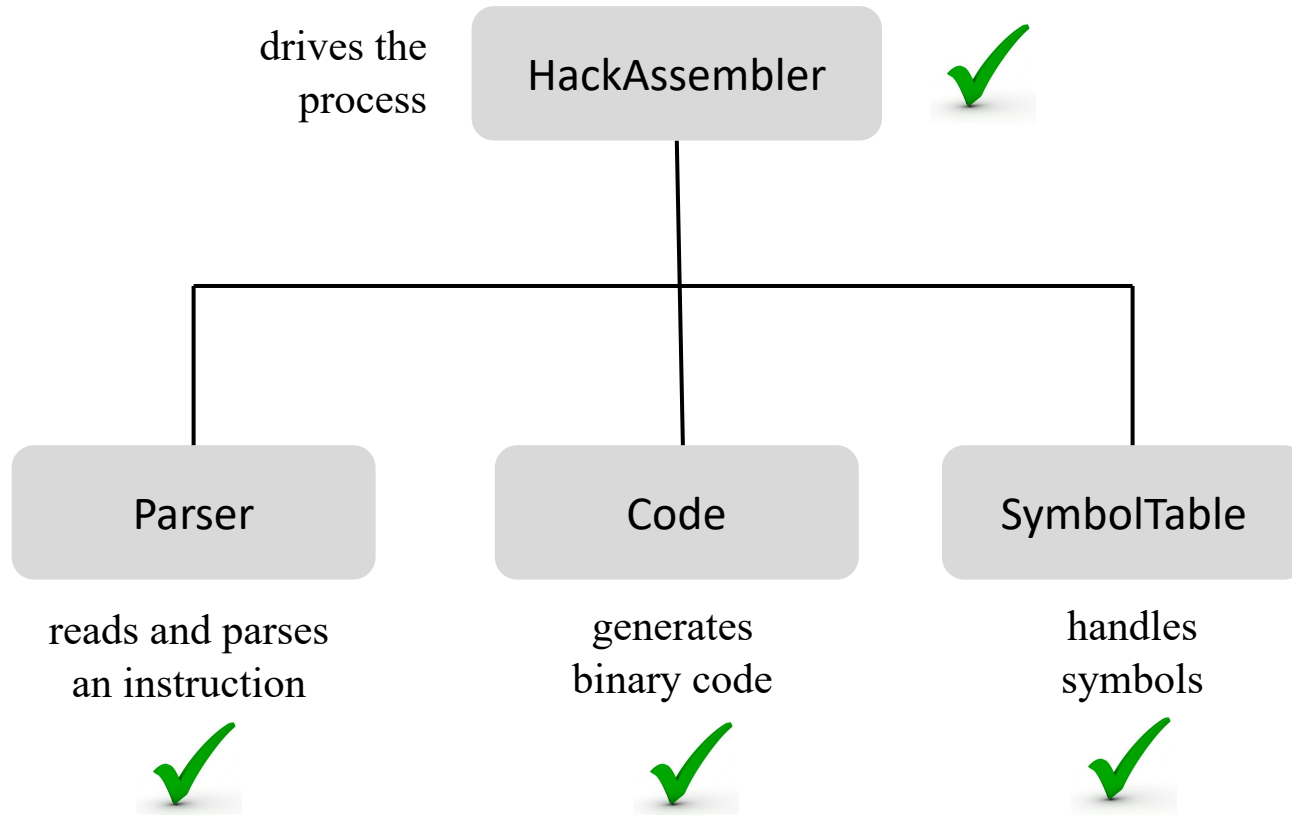
`boolean contains(String symbol):` Checks if symbol exists in the table

`int getAddress(String symbol):` Returns the address associated with symbol

Symbol table: (example)	<i>symbol</i>	<i>address</i>
	R0	0
	R1	1
	R2	2
	...	...
	R15	15
	SCREEN	16384
	KBD	24576
	SP	0
	LCL	1
	ARG	2
	THIS	3
	THAT	4
	LOOP	4
	STOP	18
	i	16
	sum	17

# HackAssembler: Drives the translation process

---



# Assembler API (detailed)

Parser module:

<i>Routine</i>	<i>Arguments</i>	<i>Returns</i>	<i>Function</i>
Constructor / initializer	Input file or stream	—	Opens the input file/stream and gets ready to parse it.
hasMoreLines	—	boolean	Are there more lines in the input?
advance	—	—	Skips over whitespace and comments, if necessary. Reads the next instruction from the input, and makes it the current instruction. This method should be called only if hasMoreLines is true. Initially there is no current instruction.
instructionType	—	A_INSTRUCTION, C_INSTRUCTION, L_INSTRUCTION (constants)	Returns the type of the current instruction: A_INSTRUCTION for @xxx, where xxx is either a decimal number or a symbol. C_INSTRUCTION for dest=comp;jump L_INSTRUCTION for (xxx), where xxx is a symbol.
symbol	—	string	If the current instruction is (xxx), returns the symbol xxx. If the current instruction is @xxx, returns the symbol or decimal xxx (as a string). Should be called only if instructionType is A_INSTRUCTION or L_INSTRUCTION.
dest	—	string	Returns the symbolic dest part of the current C-instruction (8 possibilities). Should be called only if instructionType is C_INSTRUCTION.
comp	—	string	Returns the symbolic comp part of the current C-instruction (28 possibilities). Should be called only if instructionType is C_INSTRUCTION.
jump	—	string	Returns the symbolic jump part of the current C-instruction (8 possibilities). Should be called only if instructionType is C_INSTRUCTION.

# Assembler API (detailed)

---

Code module:

<i><b>Routine</b></i>	<i><b>Arguments</b></i>	<i><b>Returns</b></i>	<i><b>Function</b></i>
dest	string	3 bits, as a string	Returns the binary code of the <i>dest</i> mnemonic.
comp	string	7 bits, as a string	Returns the binary code of the <i>comp</i> mnemonic.
jump	string	3 bits, as a string	Returns the binary code of the <i>jump</i> mnemonic.

SymbolTable module:

<i><b>Routine</b></i>	<i><b>Arguments</b></i>	<i><b>Returns</b></i>	<i><b>Function</b></i>
Constructor	—	—	Creates a new empty symbol table.
addEntry	symbol (string), address (int)	—	Adds <symbol, address> to the table.
contains	symbol (string)	boolean	Does the symbol table contain the given symbol?
getAddress	symbol (string)	int	Returns the address associated with the symbol.

HackAssembler module (main program):

No proposed design; Implement as you see fit.

# Chapter 6: Assembler

---

- Overview
  - Translating instructions
  - Translating programs
  - Handling symbols
- Assembler architecture
  - Assembler API
  - ➔ Project 6
  - Some history

# Developing a Hack Assembler

---

## Contract

Develop a program that translates symbolic Hack programs into binary Hack instructions;

The source assembly program (input) is read from a text file named *Prog.asm*

The generated binary code (output) is written to a text file named *Prog.hack*

Assumption: *Prog.asm* is error-free.

Usage (if the assembler is implemented in Java):

```
$ java HackAssembler Prog.asm
```



# Testing

Prog.asm

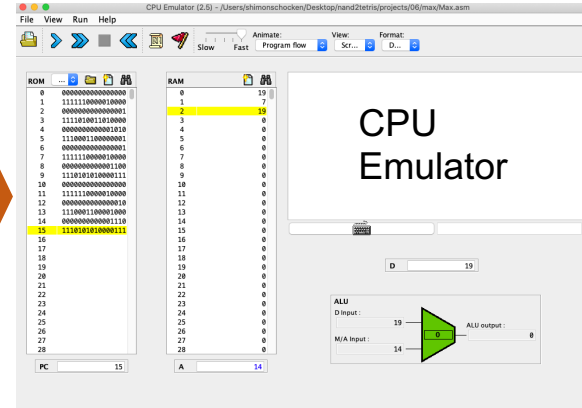
```
// Computes R1 = 1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i > R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
...
```

Your  
assembler

Prog.hack

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
111110000010000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
111110000010000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
...
```

Load /  
Run



## Testing strategy

To test your assembler's correctness, you will use it to translate some given test assembly programs;

If the resulting binary code will execute correctly, we'll assume that your assembler is correct.

Not a complete test, but that's the project 6 contract.

# Testing

Prog.asm

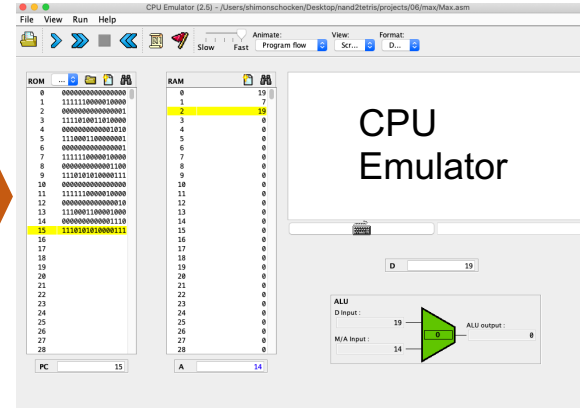
```
// Computes R1 = 1 + ... + R0
// i = 1
@i
M=1
// sum = 0
@sum
M=0
(LOOP)
// if i > R0 goto STOP
@i
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
...
```

Your  
assembler

Prog.hack

```
0000000000010000
1110111111001000
0000000000010001
1110101010001000
0000000000010000
1111100000100000
0000000000000000
1111010011010000
0000000000010010
1110001100000001
0000000000010000
1111100000100000
0000000000010001
1111000010001000
0000000000010000
...
```

Load /  
Run



## Staged development plan

1. Develop a basic assembler that translates Hack assembly programs containing no symbols
2. Develop an ability to handle symbols
3. Morph your basic assembler into an assembler that translates any Hack assembly program.

## Test programs

➔ Add.asm

- Max.asm
- Rect.asm
- Pong.asm

(with symbols)

- MaxL.asm
- RectL.asm
- PongL.asm

(same programs, without symbols,  
for unit-testing your basic assembler)

# Testing: Add

Add.asm

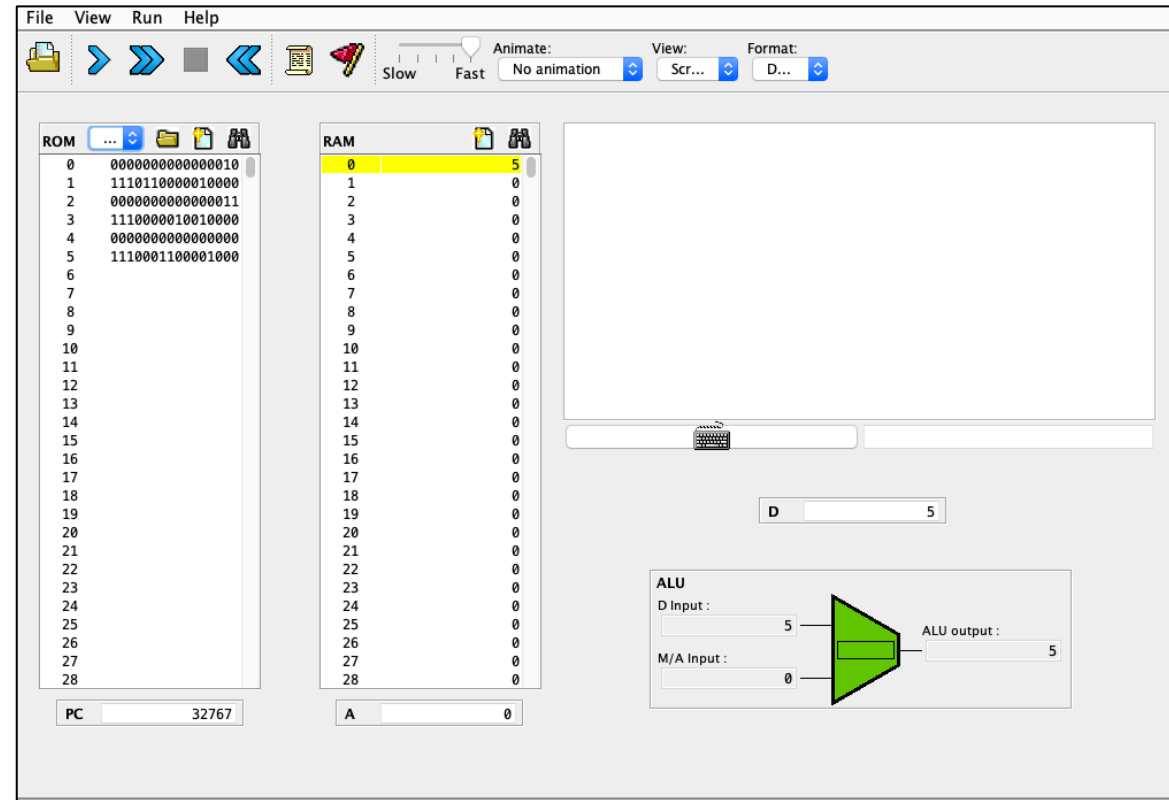
```
// Computes RAM[0] = 2 + 3
@2
D=A
@3
D=D+A
@0
M=D
```

## Technical note

When loading a binary *Prog.hack* file into the CPU emulator, the emulator may present the code symbolically, for readability (depending on the emulator's version).

To inspect the binary code, select “binary” from the ROM menu.

Testing on the CPU emulator:



1. Translate Add.asm using your assembler
2. Load into the CPU emulator the translated Add.hack
3. Run the code, inspect R0.

# Testing: Max

## Max.asm

```
// Computes RAM[2] =  
// max(RAM[0],RAM[1])  
  
@R0  
D=M  
@R1  
D=D-M  
@OUTPUT_RAM0  
D;JGT  
  
// Output RAM[1]  
@R1  
D=M  
@R2  
M=D  
@END  
0;JMP  
  
(OUTPUT_RAM0)  
@R0  
D=M  
@R2  
M=D  
  
(END)  
@END  
0;JMP
```

with symbols

## MaxL.asm

```
// Computes RAM[2] =  
// max(RAM[0],RAM[1])  
  
@0  
D=M  
@1  
D=D-M  
@12  
D;JGT  
  
// Output RAM[1]  
@1  
D=M  
@2  
M=D  
@16  
0;JMP  
  
@0  
D=M  
@2  
M=D  
  
@16  
0;JMP
```

without symbols

(Same test program,  
without symbols, for unit-  
testing the basic assembler)

# Testing: Max

Max.asm

```
// Computes RAM[2] =  
// max(RAM[0],RAM[1])  
  
@R0  
D=M  
@R1  
D=D-M  
@OUTPUT_RAM0  
D;JGT  
  
// Output RAM[1]  
@R1  
D=M  
@R2  
M=D  
@END  
0;JMP  
  
(OUTPUT_RAM0)  
@R0  
D=M  
@R2  
M=D  
  
(END)  
@END  
0;JMP
```

Testing on the CPU emulator:

The screenshot shows the CPU Emulator (2.5) interface. The title bar indicates the file path: /Users/shimonschocken/Desktop/nand2tetris/projects/06/max/Max.asm. The interface includes a menu bar (File, View, Run, Help), a toolbar with icons for file operations and execution, and a status bar with 'Animate: Program flow', 'View: Scr...', and 'Format: D...'. The main area is divided into three panels: ROM, RAM, and ALU. The ROM panel shows a list of memory addresses from 0 to 28, with address 15 highlighted in yellow. The RAM panel shows a list of memory addresses from 0 to 28, with address 2 highlighted in yellow. The ALU panel shows the D Input (19), M/A Input (14), and ALU output (0). The PC register is set to 15, and the A register is set to 14.

ROM	RAM
0 0000000000000000	0 19
1 111110000010000	1 7
2 0000000000000001	2 19
3 111010011010000	3 0
4 000000000001010	4 0
5 111000110000001	5 0
6 000000000000001	6 0
7 111110000010000	7 0
8 0000000000001100	8 0
9 11101010000111	9 0
10 000000000000000	10 0
11 111110000010000	11 0
12 000000000000010	12 0
13 1110001100001000	13 0
14 000000000001110	14 0
15 11101010000111	15 0
16	16 0
17	17 0
18	18 0
19	19 0
20	20 0
21	21 0
22	22 0
23	23 0
24	24 0
25	25 0
26	26 0
27	27 0
28	28 0

PC: 15, A: 14, D: 19, ALU output: 0

1. Translate Max.asm
2. Load Max.hack
3. Put test values in R0 and R1, run the code, inspect R2.

# Testing: Rect

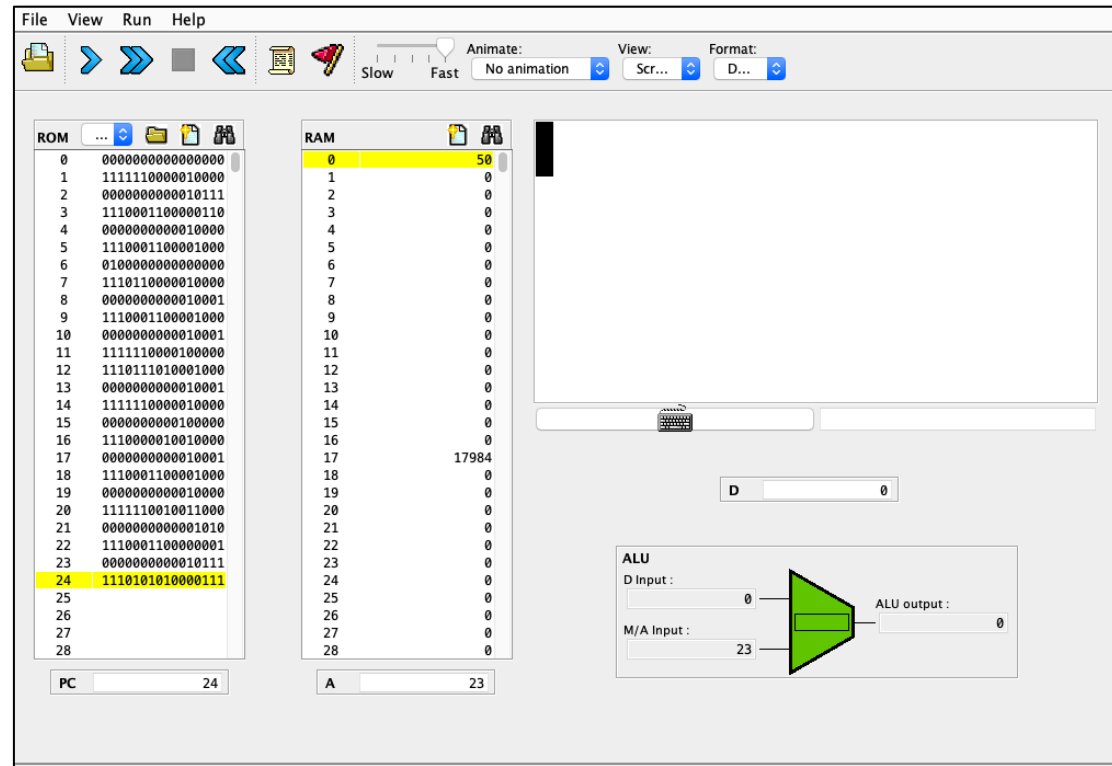
Rect.asm

```
// Draws a rectangle,  
// 16 pixels wide,  
// R0 pixels high,  
// at the screen's top-left.
```

```
@R0  
D=M  
@n  
M=D  
@i  
M=0  
@SCREEN  
D=A  
@address  
M=D
```

```
(LOOP)  
@i  
D=M  
@n  
D=D-M  
@END  
D;JGT  
...
```

Testing on the CPU emulator:

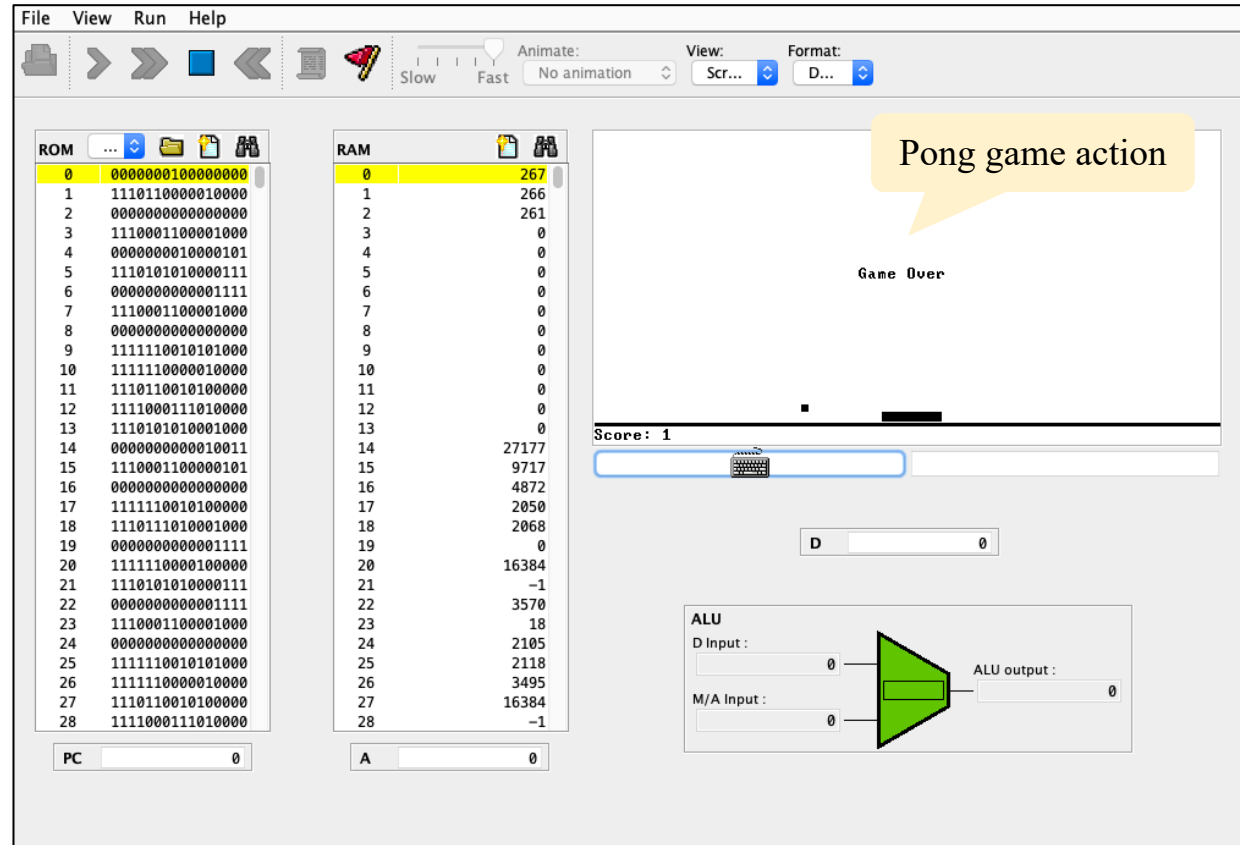


1. Translate Rect.asm
2. Load Rect.hack
3. Put a non-negative value in R0, run the code, inspect the screen.

# Testing: Pong

Pong.asm

```
// Pong game
@256
D=A
@SP
M=D
@133
0; JMP
@R15
M=D
@SP
AM=M-1
D=M
A=A-1
D=M-D
M=0
@END_EQ
D; JNE
@SP
A=M-1
M=-1
( END_EQ )
@R15
A=M
...
```



Translate Pong.asm, load Pong.hack, and then play the game:

Select “no animation” from the Animate menu, set the speed slider to “fast”, and run the code. Move the paddle using the left- and right-arrow keys.

# Testing: Pong

---

Pong.asm

```
// Pong game
@256
D=A
@SP
M=D
@133
0;JMP
@R15
M=D
@SP
AM=M-1
D=M
A=A-1
D=M-D
M=0
@END_EQ
D;JNE
@SP
A=M-1
M=-1
(END_EQ)
@R15
A=M
...
```

## Background

The source Pong program was written in the high-level Jack language;

The computer's operating system is also written in Jack;

The Pong code + the OS code were compiled by the Jack compiler, creating a single file named Pong.asm;

This file contains many compiler-generated addresses and symbols.

28,374 instructions



## Testing option II: Using the hardware simulator

---

1. Use your assembler to translate *Prog.asm*, generating the executable file *Prog.hack*
2. Put the *Prog.hack* file in a folder containing the chips that you developed in project 5:  
Computer.hdl, CPU.hdl, and Memory.hdl
3. Load computer.hdl into the Hardware Simulator
4. Load *Prog.hack* into the ROM32K chip-part
5. Run the clock to execute the program.

# Testing option III: Using the supplied assembler

Source

```
// Computes RAM[1] = 1 + ... + RAM
@i
M=1 // i = 1
@sum
M=0 // sum = 0

(LOOP)
@i // if i>RAM[0] goto STOP
D=M
@R0
D=D-M
@STOP
D;JGT
@i // sum += i
D=M
@sum
M=D+M
@i // i++
M=M+1
@LOOP // goto LOOP
0;JMP

(STOP)
@sum
D=M
@R1
M=D // RAM[1] = the sum

(END)
@END
0;JMP
```

Destination

Comparison

Source  
*Prog.asm*  
test file

*Prog.hack* file,  
translated by the  
supplied assembler

*Prog.hack* file,  
translated by **your**  
assembler

File compilation & comparison succeeded

1. Use your assembler to translate *Prog.asm*, generating the executable file *Prog.hack*
2. Load *Prog.asm* into the supplied assembler, and load *Prog.hack* as a compare file
3. Translate *Prog.hack*, and inspect the code comparison feedback messages.