

Introduction to Programming (Adv)

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Control flow

Control flow

Jump first

Linear code execution. Line 1, 2, 3, 4...

Show the compounded monthly interest calculated for a whole year

```
float earned , new_savings;
char *endp = NULL;
float savings = strtod(argv[1], &endp );
float irate = strtod(argv[2], &endp ); // no error checking!

earned = savings * irate / 12.0f;
new_savings = savings + earned;
printf("Savings are $%.2f. Monthly interest $%.2f\n", new_savings
    , earned);

savings = new_savings;
earned = savings * irate / 12.0f;
new_savings = savings + earned;
printf("Savings are $%.2f. Monthly interest $%.2f\n", new_savings
    , earned);

...
```

Where are we?

```
7 float earned, new_savings;
8 char *endp = NULL;
9 float savings = strtod(argv[1], &endp );
10 float irate = strtod(argv[2], &endp ); // no error checking!
11
12 earned = savings * irate / 12.0f;
13 new_savings = savings + earned;
14 printf("Savings: %.2f. Monthly interest: %.2f\n", new_savings,
        earned);
15
16 savings = new_savings;
17 earned = savings * irate / 12.0f;
18 new_savings = savings + earned;
19 printf("Savings: %.2f. Monthly interest: %.2f\n", new_savings,
        earned);
```

PC = Program counter (rip) and more memory!

The GNU debugger

Starting and stepping through the program

```
gcc -g -o program linear.c
```

```
gdb program  
run
```

Execution:

```
run
```

```
breakpoint 12  
info locals  
list  
print $pc  
next  
print $pc  
next  
print $pc  
next  
print $pc  
continue
```

Memory layout

Variables mapped onto registers by compiler

rbp/ebp - Base pointer (Address of beginning of stack memory)

rsp/esp - Stack pointer (Address of current stack position)

```
info frame
info stack
x/20x $rsp
x/20x $rbp
print new_savings
print &new_savings
x/1f &new_savings
```

Simple branching instructions

```
3  int main(int argc, char **argv) {  
4      if ( argc > 3 ) {  
5          argc = 754;  
6          return 1;  
7      } else {  
8          argc = argc + 109;  
9      }  
10  
11     return 0;  
12 }
```

```
gcc -S branch1.c
```


Branching

Comparison and jump

Program counter automatically changes

```
5  main:
6  .LFB0:
7      .cfi_startproc
8      pushq    %rbp
9      .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
10     .cfi_offset 6, -16
11     movq     %rsp, %rbp
12     .cfi_def_cfa_register 6
13     movl     %edi, -4(%rbp)
14     movq     %rsi, -16(%rbp)
15     cmpl     $3, -4(%rbp)
16     jle     .L2
17     movl     $754, -4(%rbp)
18     movl     $1, %eax
19     jmp     .L3
```

```
20  .L2:
21      addl     $109, -4(%rbp)
22      movl     $0, %eax
23  .L3:
24      popq     %rbp
25      .cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
26      ret
27      .cfi_endproc
```

mov - register <-> memory
add - ALU
cmp - comparison operation
jmp - unconditional jump
je/jne/jle/jge - conditional jump
call,ret - subroutine calls
push/pop - stack operations

Loops are another case for jump instructions

```
3 int main(int argc, char **argv) {  
4     while ( argc < 17 ) {  
5         argc++;  
6     }  
7     return 0;  
8 }
```

Same effect (cont.)

```
5 main:
6 .LFB0:
7     .cfi_startproc
8     pushq   %rbp
9     .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
10    .cfi_offset 6, -16
11    movq    %rsp, %rbp
12    .cfi_def_cfa_register 6
13    movl    %edi, -4(%rbp)
14    movq    %rsi, -16(%rbp)
15    jmp     .L2
16 .L3:
17     addl    $1, -4(%rbp)
18 .L2:
19     cmpl    $16, -4(%rbp)
20     jle     .L3
21     movl    $0, %eax
22     popq    %rbp
23     .cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
24     ret
25     .cfi_endproc
```

```
3 int main(int argc, char **argv) {
4     while ( argc < 17 ) {
5         argc++;
6     }
7     return 0;
8 }
```

mov - register <-> memory
add - ALU
cmp - comparison operation
jmp - unconditional jump
je/jne/jle/jge - conditional jump
call,ret - subroutine calls
push/pop - stack operations

Bad branching

The bank will grant bonus interest if X transactions are completed in the month.

```
25 float rate;
26 if (bonus_eligible) {
27     rate = base_rate + bonus_rate;
28 } else {
29     rate = base_rate;
30 }
31
32 earned = savings * rate / 12.0f;
33 new_savings = savings + earned;
34 if (bonus_eligible)
35     printf("Savings: %.2f. Monthly interest (with bonus): %.2f\n",
36           new_savings, earned);
37 else
38     printf("Savings: %.2f. Monthly interest: %.2f\n", new_savings, earned)
39     ;
```

Set the stopping conditions

```
breakpoint (line, function)
watch (data breakpoint)

list [<linenumber>]
info locals
print <variable/$register>
continue
backtrace
next (step over, no subroutines)
```

Let's watch the `new_savings`

Functions branch too

Subroutines require more work for making the jump work.

Save the state - PC & registers

```
3  int foo(int x) {  
4      int y = x - 1;  
5      return y;  
6  }  
7  
8  int main(int argc, char **argv) {  
9      while ( argc < 3 ) {  
10         argc = foo(argc);  
11     }  
12     return 0;  
13 }
```

Additionally, we have a return value to worry about

call - save return address, set new rsp

Functions branch too (cont.)

```
5  foo:
6  .LFB0:
7      .cfi_startproc
8      pushq   %rbp
9      .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
10     .cfi_offset 6, -16
11     movq    %rsp, %rbp
12     .cfi_def_cfa_register 6
13     movl    %edi, -20(%rbp)
14     movl    -20(%rbp), %eax
15     subl    $1, %eax
16     movl    %eax, -4(%rbp)
17     movl    -4(%rbp), %eax
18     popq    %rbp
19     .cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
20     ret
21     .cfi_endproc
22 .LFE0:
23     .size    foo, .-foo
24     .globl   main
25     .type    main, @function

26
27 main:
28 .LFB1:
29     .cfi_startproc
30     pushq   %rbp
31     .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
32     .cfi_offset 6, -16
33     movq    %rsp, %rbp
34     .cfi_def_cfa_register 6
35     subq    $16, %rsp
36     movl    %edi, -4(%rbp)
37     movq    %rsi, -16(%rbp)
38     jmp     .L4
39 .L5:
40     movl    -4(%rbp), %eax
41     movl    %eax, %edi
42     call    foo
43     movl    %eax, -4(%rbp)
44 .L4:
45     cmpl    $2, -4(%rbp)
46     jle     .L5
47     movl    $0, %eax
48     leave
49     .cfi_def_cfa 7, 8
50     ret
51     .cfi_endproc
```

Savings with functions

Identify the useful tasks for this program

What is a good interface to operate on inputs, what are the outputs, and what about errors?

```
8 static int parse_arguments(char **argv, float *savings, float *base_rate,
9                             float *bonus_rate, bool *bonus_eligible);
10
11 static void compound_interest_month(
12     float *savings, const float base_rate,
13     const float bonus_rate, const bool bonus_eligible,
14     float *earned);
15
16 static void print_statement(
17     float savings, bool bonus_eligible, float earned);
```


Savings with functions (cont.)

```
73 float savings, base_rate, bonus_rate;
74 bool bonus_eligible;
75
76 int error = parse_arguments(argv, &savings, &base_rate,
77                             &bonus_rate, &bonus_eligible);
78 if (0 != error)
79     return error;
80 // post condition valid float and bool values
81
82 // calculate and update savings balance for 12 months
83 int month = 1;
84 while (month <= 12) {
85     float earned;
86     compound_interest_month(&savings, base_rate,
87                             bonus_rate, bonus_eligible, &earned);
88     print_statement(savings, bonus_eligible, earned);
89     month++;
90 }
91 // post condition: savings variable updated based on interest rates
92 // post condition: output to stdout
```

Savings with functions (cont.)

```
73 static void compound_interest_month(  
74     float *savings, const float base_rate,  
75     const float bonus_rate, const bool bonus_eligible,  
76     float *earned)  
77 {  
78     float rate;  
79     if (bonus_eligible) {  
80         rate = base_rate + bonus_rate;  
81     } else {  
82         rate = base_rate;  
83     }  
84  
85     *earned = *savings * rate / 12.0f;  
86     float new_savings = *savings + *earned;  
87  
88     *savings = new_savings;  
89 }
```

Navigate with GDB and functions

Set the stopping conditions

```
help running  
step (step to next line, with subroutines)  
finish (end of current stack frame)
```

Structured conditional local jumps

switch - equivalence for categorical options selection

```
if (x == value1) {  
    statement1;  
} else if (x == value2) {  
    statement2;  
} else if (x == value3) {  
    statement3;  
} else if (x == value4) {  
    statement4;  
} else {  
    statement_when_x_matches_none;  
}
```

```
switch (x) {  
    case value1:  
        statement1;  
        break;  
    case value2:  
        statement2;  
        break;  
    case value3:  
        statement3;  
        break;  
    case value4:  
        statement4;  
        break;  
    default:  
        statement_when_x_matches_none;  
        break;  
}
```

Structured conditional local jumps (cont.)

Fall through case statements

```
if (x == value1a || x == value1b) {
    statement1;
} else if (x == value2) {
    statement2;
} else if (x == value3a)
    if (x == value3b || x ==
        value3c) {
        statement3;
    }
} else if (x == value3b || x ==
    value3c) {
    statement3;
} else if (x == value4) {
    statement4;
} else {
    statement_when_x_matches_none;
}
```

```
switch (x) {
    case value1a:
    case value1b:
        statement1;
        break;
    case value2:
        statement2;
        break;
    case value3a:
        statement3a;
    case value3b:
    case value3c:
        statement3;
        break;
    case value4:
        statement4;
        break;
    default:
        statement_when_x_matches_none;
        break;
}
```

break - specifically to escape a loop structure, switch

Unstructured unconditional local jumps

Notice that there are labels within the assembly code. These can also be used in C with the goto statement.

goto considered harmful!

Unstructured unconditional local jumps (cont.)

```
if (conditionA)
{
    statement1;
    if (conditionB)
    {
        statement2;
        if (conditionC)
        {
            goto special_place;
        }
        else
        {
            statement3;
        }
    } else
    {
        statement4;
    }
}
else
{
special_place:
    // executes when !conditionA | (conditionA & conditionC)
    statement 5;
}
```

Unstructured unconditional local jumps (cont.)

goto useful for some cases, but it is generally hard to justify against using structured programming

```
73 static int transfer_money_mediator(  
74     int socket_a, int socket_b, int socket_c,  
75     char *bsb_a, char *bsb_b, char *bsb_c,  
76     char *acc_a, char *acc_b, char *acc_c,  
77     float amount, const char *type)  
78 {  
79     if (-1 == connect(socket_a))  
80         goto failed_connect;  
81     if (-1 == check_bsb(bsb_a, socket_a);  
82         goto failed_accounts;  
83     if (-1 == check_acc(acc_a, socket_a);  
84         goto failed_accounts;  
85     if (-1 == init_transaction(socket_a, type))  
86         goto failed_transaction_type_type;  
87  
88     // same for b, c  
89  
90     // check mediator (C)  
91     if (-1 == confirm_parties(socket_c, bsb_a, bsb_b, acc_a, acc_b))  
92         goto failed_parties;  
93  
94     // check party A  
95     if (-1 == confirm_parties(socket_a, bsb_a, bsb_b, acc_a, acc_b))  
96         goto failed_parties;  
97
```


Unstructured unconditional local jumps (cont.)

```
98 // check party B
99 if (-1 == confirm_parties(socket_b, bsb_a, bsb_b, acc_a, acc_b))
00     goto failed_parties;
01
02 // ...
03
04 // SUCCESS
05 return 0;
06
07 failed_connect:
08     fprintf(stderr, "A party could not connect\n");
09     return 1;
10 failed_accounts:
11     fprintf(stderr, "A party rejected their own account details for the
12         transaction\n");
13     return 2;
14 failed_transaction_type:
15     fprintf(stderr, "A party rejected the type of transaction\n");
16     return 3;
17 failed_parties:
18     fprintf(stderr, "A party disagreed with the transaction details\n");
19     return 4;
20 }
```

Unstructured unconditional nonlocal jumps in C

`jmp_buf` - A C data structure to store the registers (required for state tracking)

```
setjmp(<jmp_buf> ); // Save register states
```

```
longjmp(<jmp_buf>, 1);
```

zero return value for `setjmp`, but non-zero return value for `setjmp` after a `longjmp` call

Computer programs operate on an execution context

Control flow is manipulation of the program counter and registers

Structured programming is built on top of the primitives of compare and jump operations.

Functions require special attention for the jump operations to isolate the execution context from the function caller

if, else, while, do/while, switch, break, continue, return are high level operators in control flow.