Machine-Level Programming I: Basics

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- **History of Intel processors and architectures**
- **C, assembly, machine code**
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
- **Arithmetic & logical operations**

Intel x86 Processors

- AMD
- first released in late 70s

- **Dominate laptop/desktop/server market**

- **Evolutionary design**
  - Backwards compatible up until 8086, introduced in 1978
  - Added more features as time goes on

- **Complex instruction set computer (CISC)**
  - Many different instructions with many different formats
    - But, only small subset encountered with Linux programs
  - Hard to match performance of Reduced Instruction Set Computers (RISC)
  - But, Intel has done just that!
    - In terms of speed. Less so for low power.

Intel x86 Evolution: Milestones

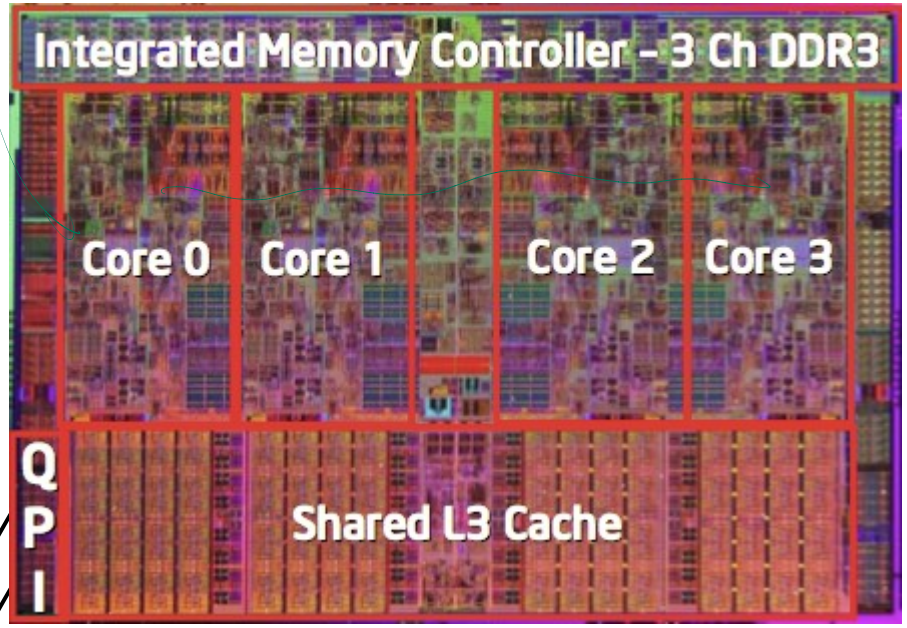
Name	*Date*	*Transistors*	*MHz*
8086	**1978**	**29K**	**5-10**
386	**1985**	**275K**	**16-33**
Pentium 4E	**2004**	**125M**	**2800-3800**
Core 2	**2006**	**291M**	**1060-3500**
Core i7	**2008**	**731M**	**1700-3900**

- First 16-bit Intel processor. Basis for IBM PC & DOS
- 1MB address space
- First 32 bit Intel processor , referred to as IA32
- Added “flat addressing”, capable of running Unix
- First 64-bit Intel x86 processor, referred to as x86-64
- First multi-core Intel processor
- Four cores

Intel x86 Processors, cont.

- **Machine Evolution**

386	1985	0.3M
Pentium	1993	3.1M
Pentium/MMX	1997	4.5M
PentiumPro	1995	6.5M
Pentium III	1999	8.2M
Pentium 4	2001	42M
Core 2 Duo	2006	291M
Core i7	2008	731M



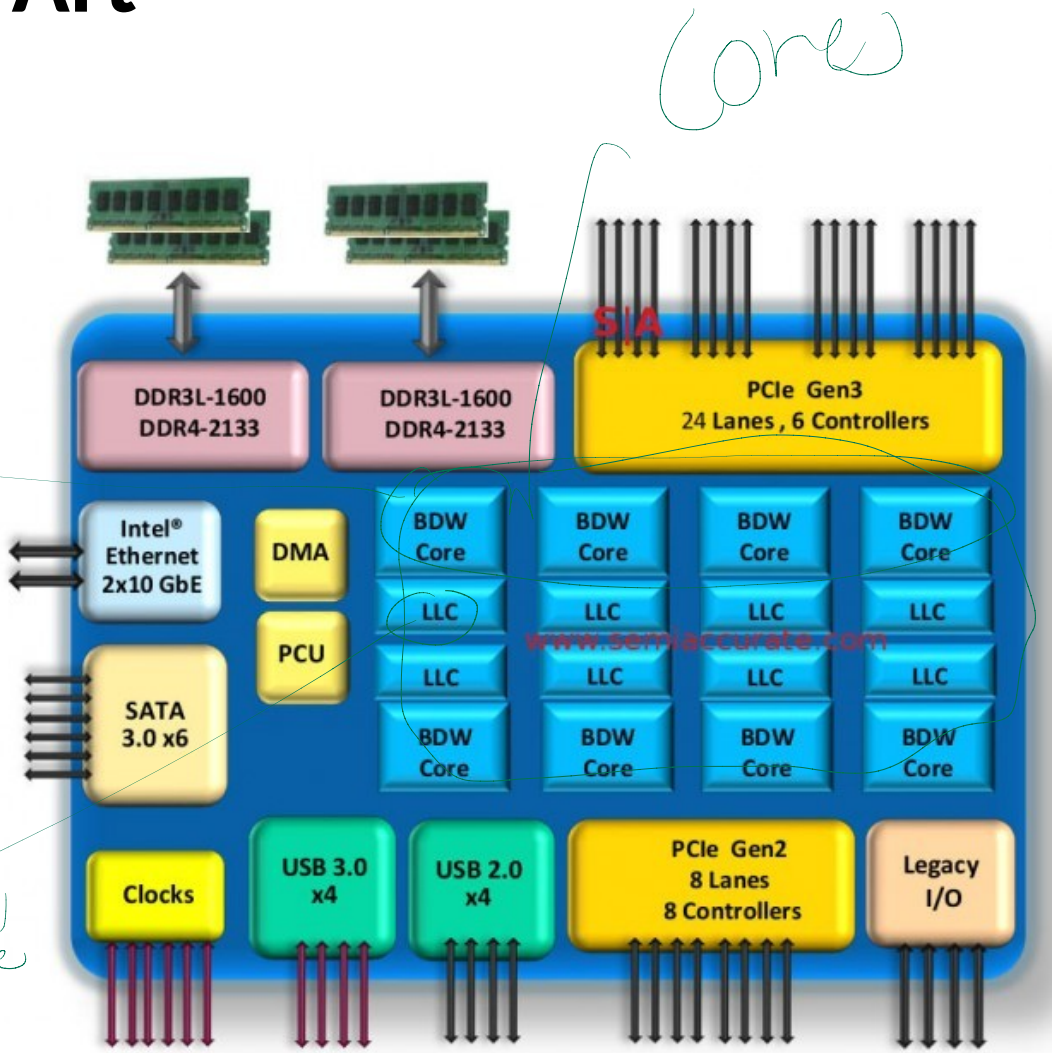
- **Added Features**
  - Instructions to support multimedia operations
  - Instructions to enable more efficient conditional operations
  - Transition from 32 bits to 64 bits
  - More cores

2015 State of the Art

- Core i7 Broadwell 2015

- **Desktop Model**
  - 4 cores
  - Integrated graphics
  - 3.3-3.8 GHz
  - 65W

- **Server Model**
  - 8 cores
  - Integrated I/O
  - 2-2.6 GHz
  - 45W



x86 Clones: Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)

- **Historically**
  - AMD has followed just behind Intel
  - A little bit slower, a lot cheaper
- **Then**
  - Recruited top circuit designers from Digital Equipment Corp. and other downward trending companies
  - Built Opteron: tough competitor to Pentium 4
  - Developed x86-64, their own extension to 64 bits
- **Recent Years**
  - Intel got its act together
    - Leads the world in semiconductor technology
  - AMD has fallen behind
    - Relies on external semiconductor manufacturer

Intel now more competitive with current processors

Intel's 64-Bit History

- **2001: Intel Attempts Radical Shift from IA32 to IA64**
  - Totally different architecture (Itanium)
  - Executes IA32 code only as legacy
  - Performance disappointing
- **2003: AMD Steps in with Evolutionary Solution**
  - x86-64 (now called "AMD64")
- **Intel Felt Obligated to Focus on IA64**
  - Hard to admit mistake or that AMD is better
- **2004: Intel Announces EM64T extension to IA32**
  - Extended Memory 64-bit Technology
  - Almost identical to x86-64!
- **All but low-end x86 processors support x86-64**
  - But, lots of code still runs in 32-bit mode

Our Coverage

- **IA32**
  - The traditional x86
- **x86-64**
  - The standard
  - `$ gcc hello.c`
  - `$ gcc –m64 hello.c`
- **Presentation**
  - Book covers x86-64
  - Web aside on IA32
  - We will only cover x86-64

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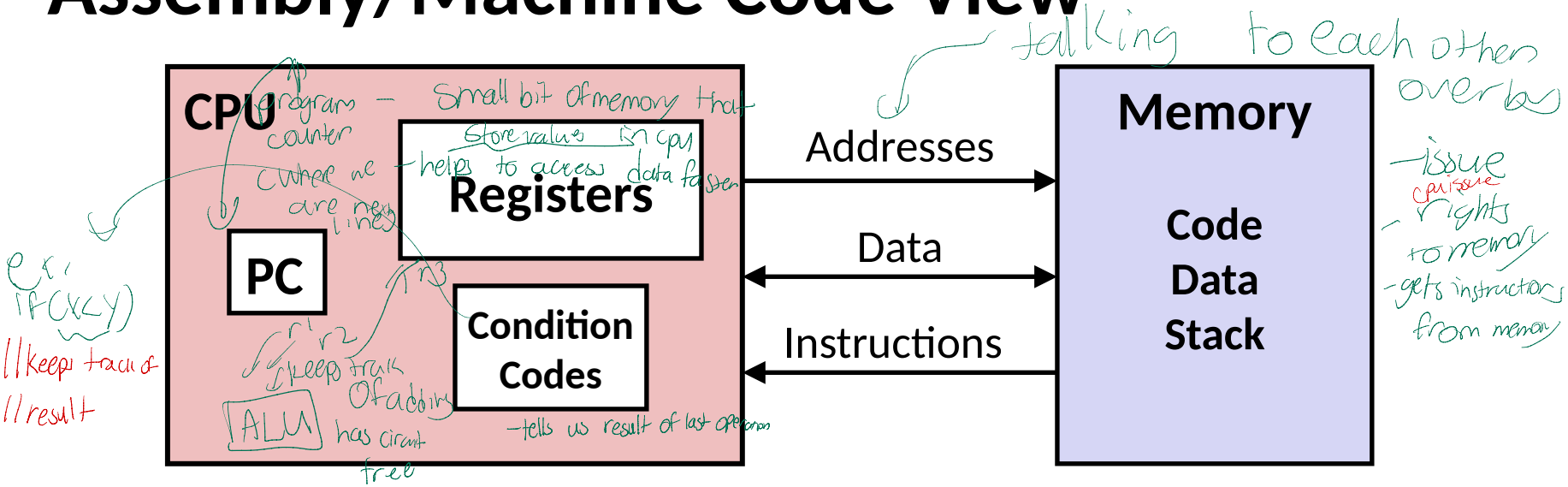
Definitions

- **Architecture: (also ISA: instruction set architecture) The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand or write assembly/machine code.**
  - Examples: instruction set specification, registers.
- **Microarchitecture: Implementation of the architecture.**
  - Examples: cache sizes and core frequency.
- **Code Forms:**
  - Machine Code: The byte-level programs that a processor executes
  - Assembly Code: A text representation of machine code
- **Example ISAs:**
  - Intel: x86, IA32, Itanium, x86-64
  - ARM: Used in almost all mobile phones

Assembly/Machine Code View



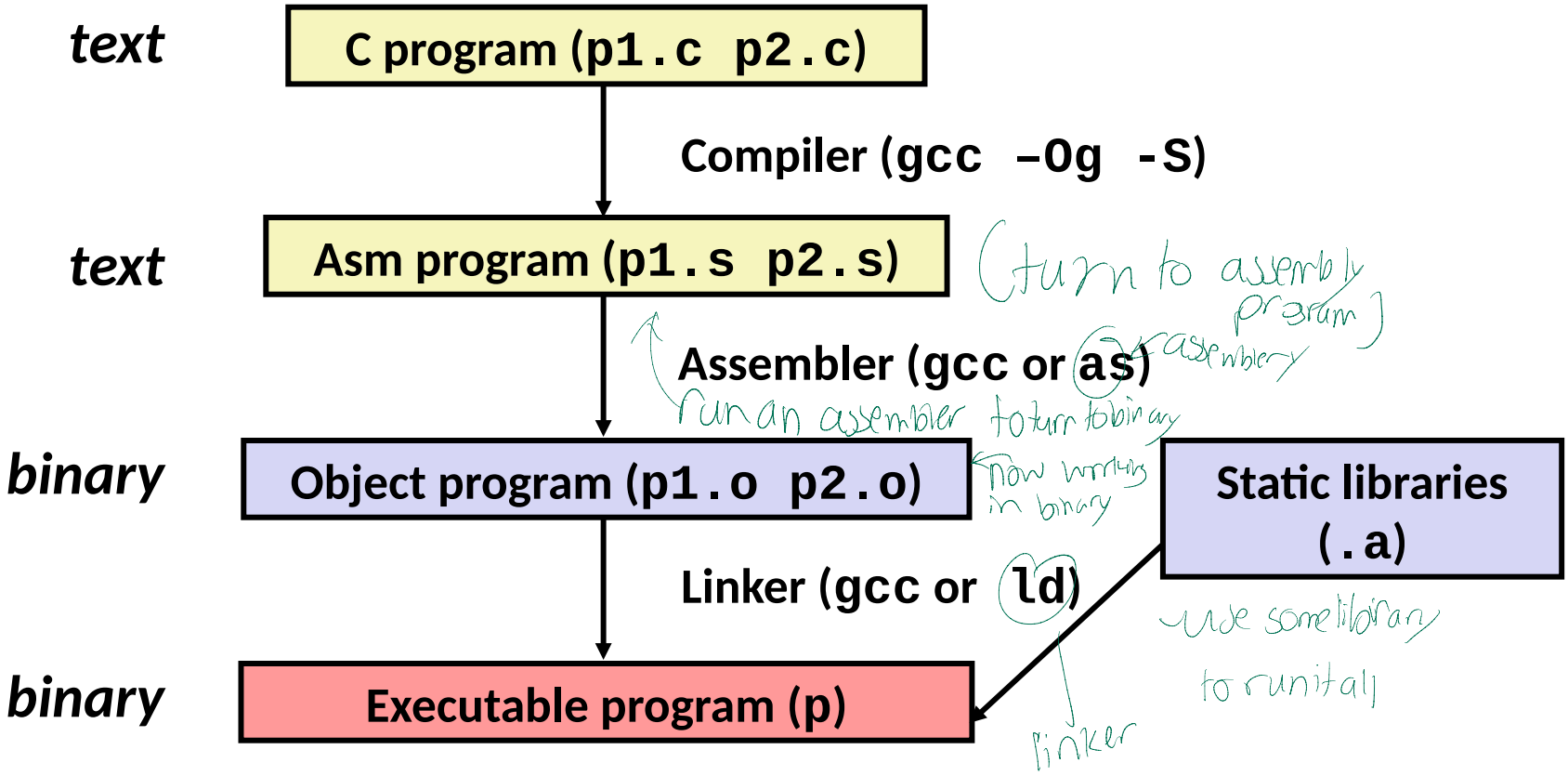
Programmer-Visible State

- **PC: Program counter**
  - Address of next instruction
  - Called "RIP" (x86-64)
- **Register file**
  - Heavily used program data
- **Condition codes**
  - Store status information about most recent arithmetic or logical operation
  - Used for conditional branching

- **Memory**
  - Byte addressable array
  - Code and user data
  - Stack to support procedures

Turning C into Object Code

- Code in files **`p1.c p2.c`**
- Compile with command: **`gcc –Og p1.c p2.c -o p`**
  - Use basic optimizations (**`-Og`**) [New to recent versions of GCC]
  - Put resulting binary in file **`p`**



Compiling Into Assembly

C Code (sum.c)

```
long plus(long x, long y);

void sumstore(long x, long y,
              long *dest)
{
    long t = plus(x, y);
    *dest = t;
}
```

Generated x86-64 Assembly

```
sumstore:
    pushq   %rbx
    movq    %rdx, %rbx
    call    plus
    movq    %rax, (%rbx)
    popq    %rbx
    ret
```

Obtain with command

```
gcc –Og –S sum.c
```

Produces file `sum.s`

Warning: Will get different results on different machines due to different versions of gcc and different compiler settings.

Assembly Characteristics: Data Types

- **"Integer" data of 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes**
  - Data values
  - Addresses (untyped pointers)
- **Floating point data of 4, 8, or 10 bytes**
- **Code: Byte sequences encoding series of instructions**
- **No aggregate types such as arrays or structures**
  - Just contiguously allocated bytes in memory

Assembly Characteristics: Operations

- **Perform arithmetic function on register or memory data**
- **Transfer data between memory and register**
  - Load data from memory into register
  - Store register data into memory
- **Transfer control**
  - Unconditional jumps to/from procedures
  - Conditional branches

Object Code

Code for `sumstore`

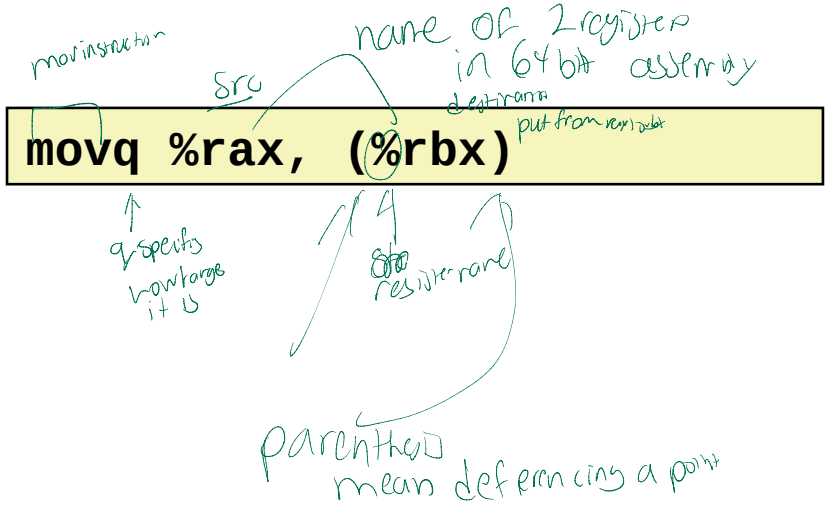
```
0x0400595:
    0x53
    0x48
    0x89
    0xd3
    0xe8
    0xf2
    0xff
    0xff
    0xff
    0xff
    0x48
    0x89
    0x03
    0x5b
    0xc3
```

- Total of 14 bytes
- Each instruction 1, 3, or 5 bytes
- Starts at address `0x0400595`

- **Assembler**
  - Translates `.s` into `.o`
  - Binary encoding of each instruction
  - Nearly-complete image of executable code
  - Missing linkages between code in different files
- **Linker**
  - Resolves references between files
  - Combines with static run-time libraries
    - E.g., code for **`malloc`**, **`printf`**
  - Some libraries are *dynamically linked*
    - Linking occurs when program begins execution

Machine Instruction Example

```
*dest = t;
```




```
0x40059e:  48 89 03
```

- **C Code**
  - Store value **`t`** where designated by **`dest`**
- **Assembly**
  - Move 8-byte value to memory
    - Quad words in x86-64 parlance
  - Operands:
    - **`t`**: Register **`%rax`**
    - **`dest`**: Register **`%rbx`**
    - **`*dest`**: Memory **`M[%rbx]`**
- **Object Code**
  - 3-byte instruction
  - Stored at address **`0x40059e`**

Disassembling Object Code

Disassembled

```
0000000000400595 <sumstore>:
  400595:  53                   push   %rbx
  400596:  48 89 d3             mov    %rdx,%rbx
  400599:  e8 f2 ff ff ff       callq  400590 <plus>
  40059e:  48 89 03             mov    %rax,(%rbx)
  4005a1:  5b                   pop    %rbx
  4005a2:  c3                   retq
```

- **Disassembler**

  `objdump -d sum`

  - Useful tool for examining object code
  - Analyzes bit pattern of series of instructions
  - Produces approximate rendition of assembly code
  - Can be run on either `a.out` (complete executable) or `.o` file

Alternate Disassembly

Object

```
0x0400595:
    0x53
    0x48
    0x89
    0xd3
    0xe8
    0xf2
    0xff
    0xff
    0xff
    0x48
    0x89
    0x03
    0x5b
    0xc3
```

Disassembled

```
Dump of assembler code for function sumstore:
 0x0000000000400595 <+0>: push   %rbx
 0x0000000000400596 <+1>: mov    %rdx,%rbx
 0x0000000000400599 <+4>: callq  0x400590 <plus>
 0x000000000040059e <+9>: mov    %rax,(%rbx)
 0x00000000004005a1 <+12>:pop    %rbx
 0x00000000004005a2 <+13>:retq
```

- **Within gdb Debugger**
  - `gdb sum`
  - `disassemble sumstore`
    - Disassemble procedure
  - `x/14xb sumstore`
    - Examine the 14 bytes starting at `sumstore`

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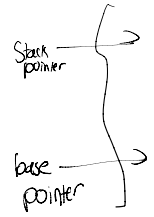
x86-64 Integer Registers

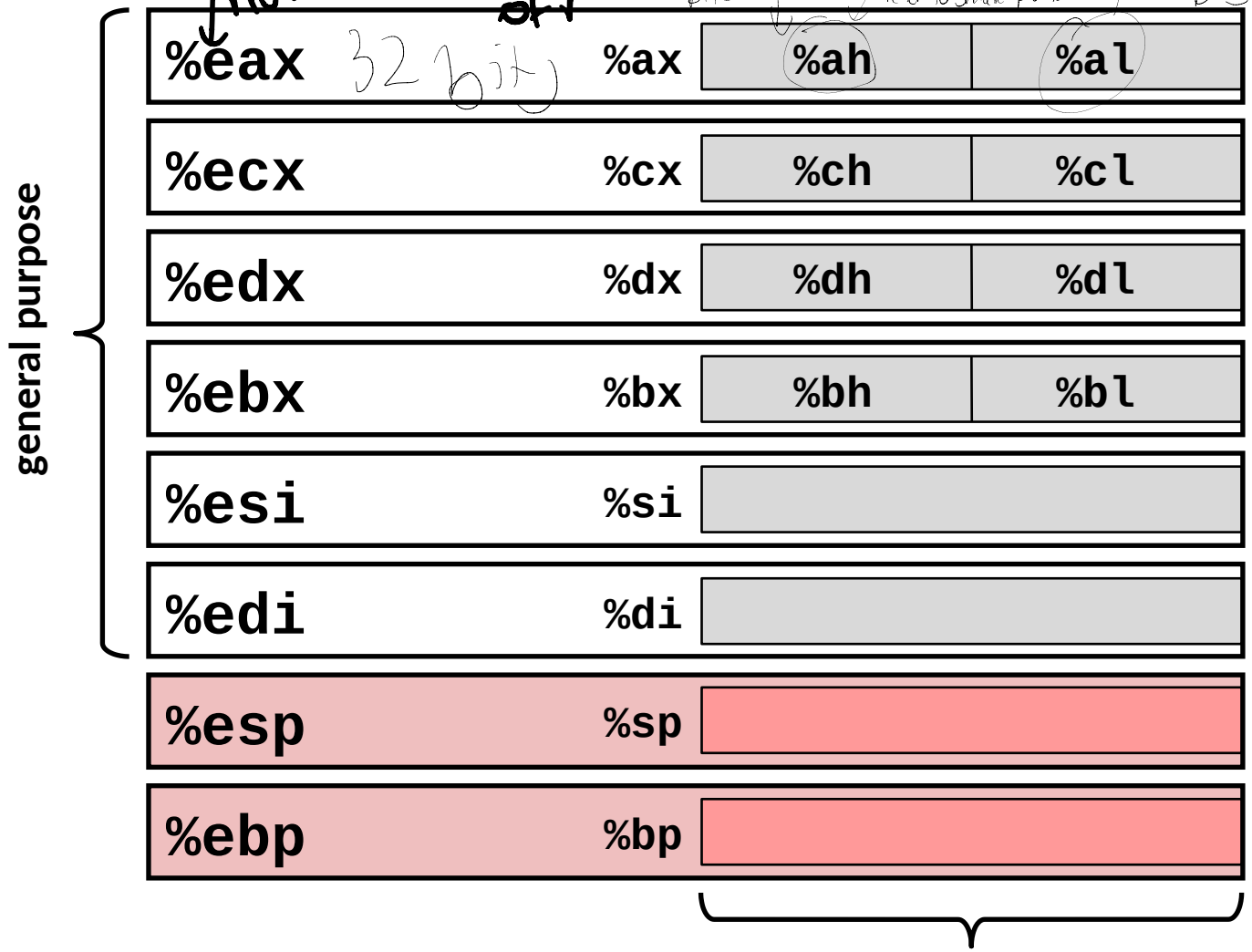
%rax	%eax
%rbx	%ebx
%rcx	%ecx
%rdx	%edx
%rsi	%esi
%rdi	%edi
%rsp	%esp
%rbp	%ebp

%r8	%r8d
%r9	%r9d
%r10	%r10d
%r11	%r11d
%r12	%r12d
%r13	%r13d
%r14	%r14d
%r15	%r15d



- Can reference low-order 4 bytes (also low-order 1 & 2 bytes)

Some History: IA32 Registers



Origin (mostly obsolete)

- *accumulate*
- *counter*
- *data*
- *base*
- *source index*
- *destination index*
- ***stack pointer***
- ***base pointer***

Moving Data

- **Moving Data**
  - **`movq` *Source*, *Dest*:**
- **Operand Types**
  - ***Immediate:*** Constant integer data
    - Example: **`$0x400`**, **`$-533`**
    - Like C constant, but prefixed with **`'$'`**
    - Encoded with 1, 2, or 4 bytes
  - ***Register:*** One of 16 integer registers
    - Example: **`%rax`**, **`%r13`**
    - But **`%rsp`** reserved for special use
    - Others have special uses for particular instructions
  - ***Memory:*** 8 consecutive bytes of memory at address given by register
    - Simplest example: **`(%rax)`**
    - Various other "address modes"

`%rax`
`%rcx`
`%rdx`
`%rbx`
`%rsi`
`%rdi`
`%rsp`
`%rbp`
`%rN`

movq Operand Combinations

	Source	Dest	Src,Dest	C Analog
movq	Imm	Reg	movq $0x4,%rax	temp = 0x4;
		Mem	movq $-147,(%rax)	*p = -147;
	Reg	Reg	movq %rax,%rdx	temp2 = temp1;
		Mem	movq %rax,(%rdx)	*p = temp;
	Mem	Reg	movq (%rax),%rdx	temp = *p;

Cannot do memory-memory transfer with a single instruction

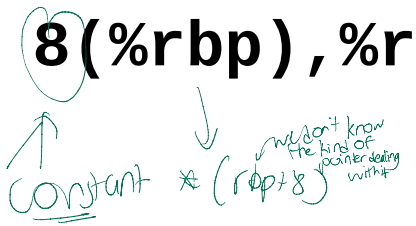
Simple Memory Addressing Modes

- **Normal (R) Mem[Reg[R]]**
  - Register R specifies memory address
  - Aha! Pointer dereferencing in C

```
movq (%rcx),%rax
```

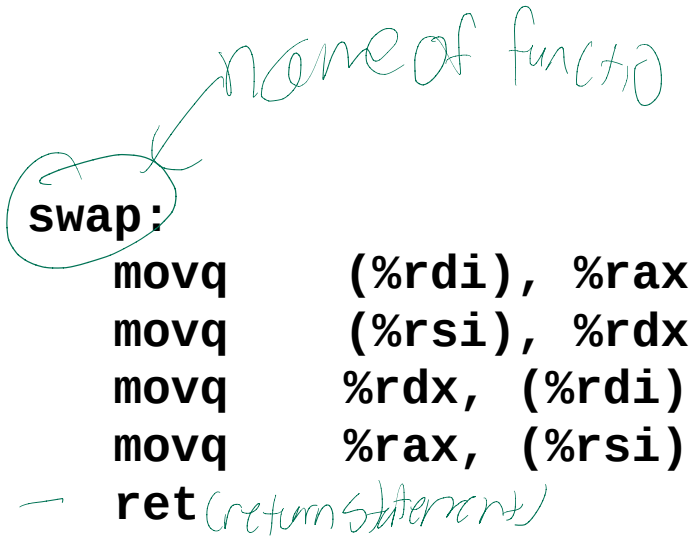
- **Displacement D(R) Mem[Reg[R]+D]**
  - Register R specifies start of memory region
  - Constant displacement D specifies offset

```
movq 8(%rbp),%rdx
```



Example of Simple Addressing Modes

```
void swap
   (long *xp, long *yp)
{
  long t0 = *xp;
  long t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```



Understanding Swap()

```
void swap
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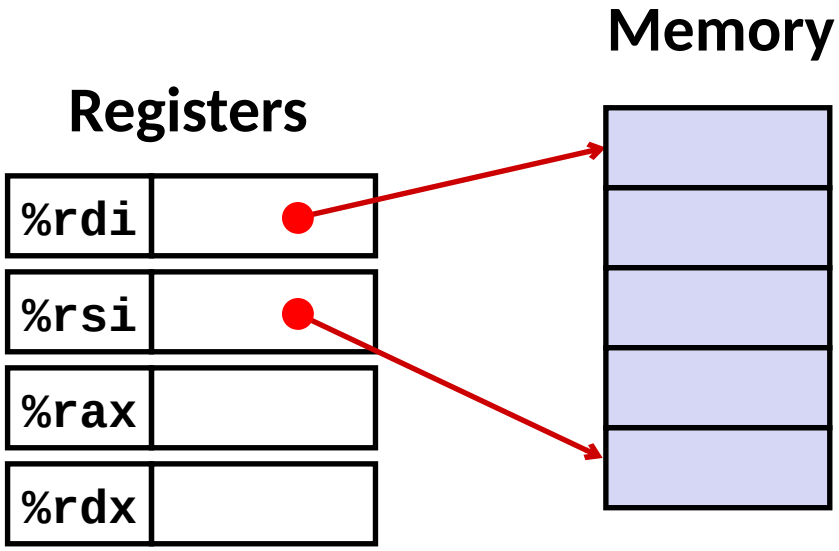
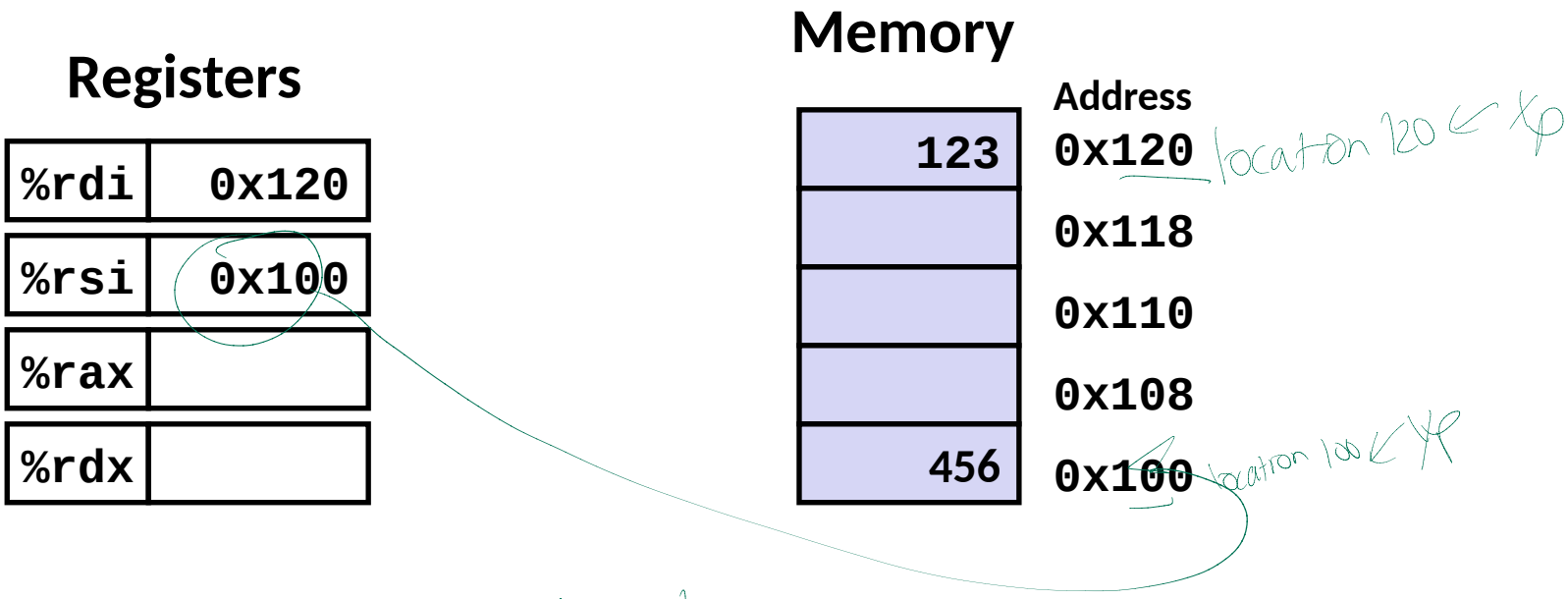


Register	Value
%rdi	xp
%rsi	yp
%rax	t0
%rdx	t1

```
swap:
    movq    (%rdi), %rax  # t0 = *xp
    movq    (%rsi), %rdx  # t1 = *yp
    movq    %rdx, (%rdi)  # *xp = t1
    movq    %rax, (%rsi)  # *yp = t0
    ret
```

Understanding Swap()




```
swap:
    movq    (%rdi), %rax  # t0 = *xp
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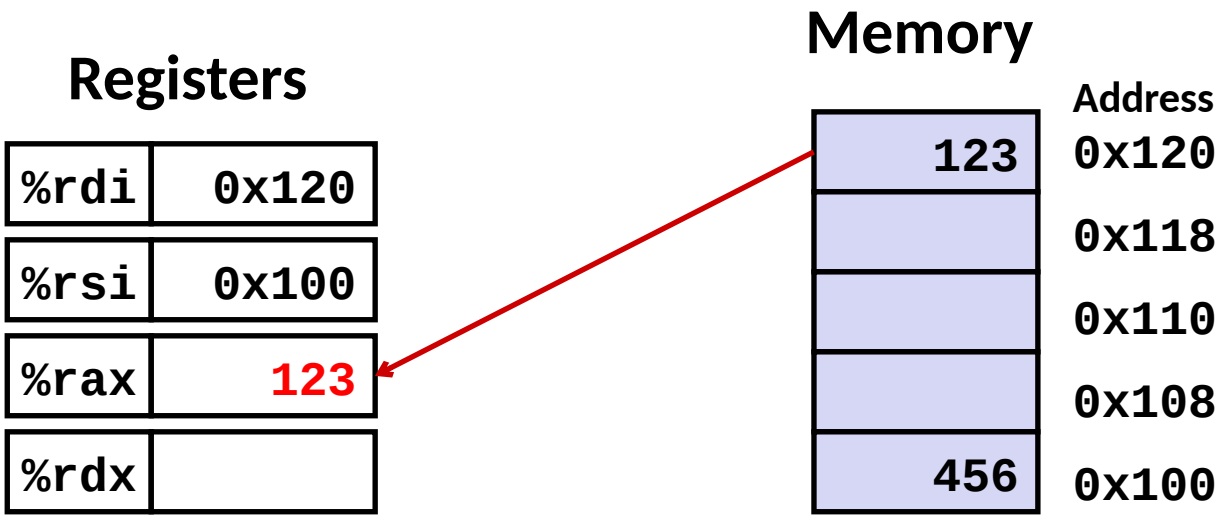
Understanding Swap()

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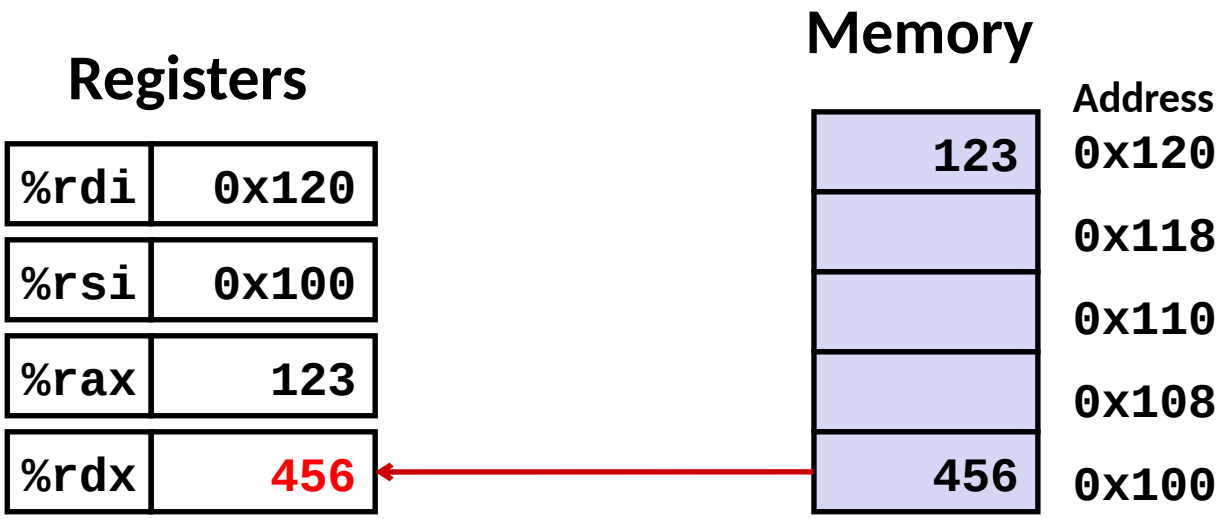
```

Understanding Swap()

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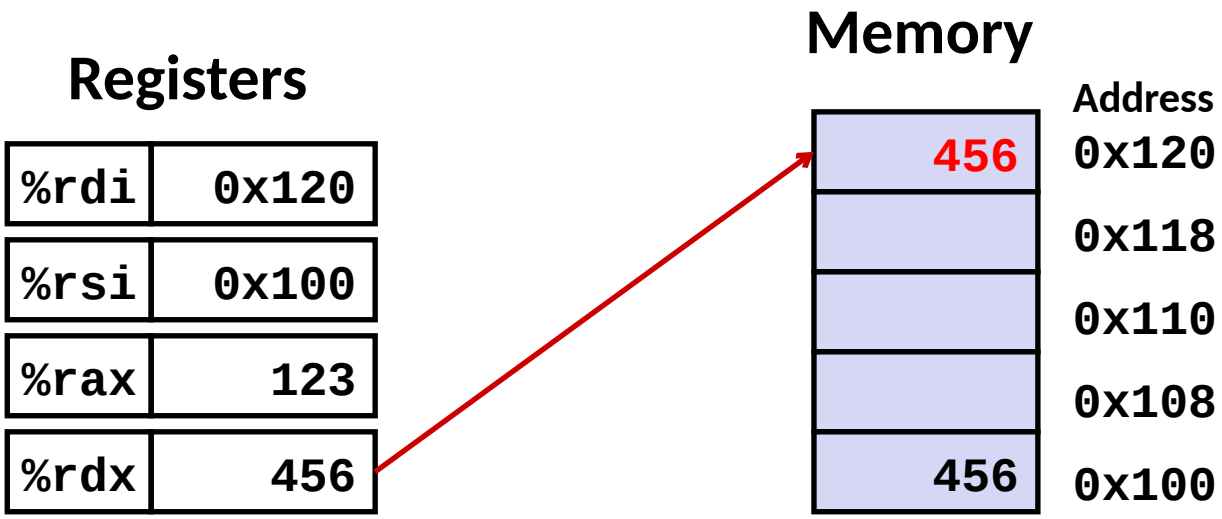
Understanding Swap()

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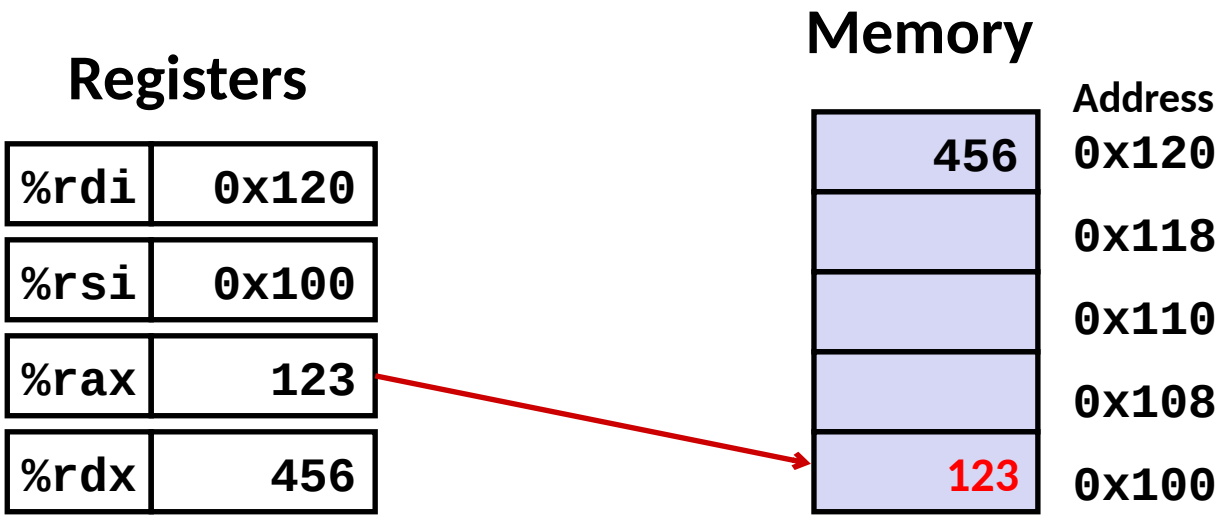
Understanding Swap()




```
swap:
    movq    (%rdi), %rax  # t0 = *xp
    movq    (%rsi), %rdx  # t1 = *yp
    movq    %rdx, (%rdi)  # *xp = t1
    movq    %rax, (%rsi)  # *yp = t0
    ret
```

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  - Register R specifies memory address
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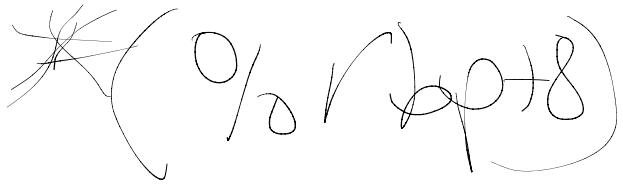

Complete Memory Addressing Modes

- **Most General Form**

  D(Rb,Ri,S) Mem[Reg[Rb]+S*Reg[Ri]+ D]

  - D: Constant "displacement" 1, 2, or 4 bytes
  - Rb: Base register: Any of 16 integer registers
  - Ri: Index register: Any, except for **`%rsp`**
  - S: Scale: 1, 2, 4, or 8

- **Special Cases**

  (Rb,Ri) Mem[Reg[Rb]+Reg[Ri]]

  D(Rb,Ri) Mem[Reg[Rb]+Reg[Ri]+D]

  (Rb,Ri,S) Mem[Reg[Rb]+S*Reg[Ri]]

Address Computation Examples

%rdx	0xf000
%rcx	0x0100

Expression	Address Computation	Address
0x8(%rdx)	0xf000 + 0x8	0xf008
(%rdx,%rcx)	0xf000 + 0x100	0xf100
(%rdx,%rcx,4)	0xf000 + 4*0x100	0xf400
0x80(,%rdx,2)	2*0xf000 + 0x80	0x1e080

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- **Arithmetic & logical operations**

Address Computation Instruction

- **leaq Src, Dst**
  - Src is address mode expression
  - Set Dst to address denoted by expression

- **Uses**
  - Computing addresses without a memory reference
    - E.g., translation of p = &x[i];
  - Computing arithmetic expressions of the form x + k*y
    - k = 1, 2, 4, or 8

- **Example**

```
long m12(long x)
{
  return x*12;
}
```

Converted to ASM by compiler:

```
leaq (%rdi,%rdi,2), %rax # t <- x+x*2
salq $2, %rax            # return t<<2
```

Some Arithmetic Operations

- **Two Operand Instructions:**

Format		Computation	
addq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest + Src	
subq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest − Src	(subtraction)
imulq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest * Src	
salq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest << Src	Also called shlq
sarq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest >> Src	Arithmetic
shrq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest >> Src	Logical
xorq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest ^ Src	
andq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest & Src	
orq	Src,Dest	Dest = Dest | Src	

- **Watch out for argument order!**
- **No distinction between signed and unsigned int (why?)**

Some Arithmetic Operations

- **One Operand Instructions**

`incq`	Dest	Dest = Dest + 1
`decq`	Dest	Dest = Dest – 1
`negq`	Dest	Dest = – Dest
`notq`	Dest	Dest = ~Dest

bitwise NOT

- **See book for more instructions**

Arithmetic Expression Example

```
long arith
(long x, long y, long z)
{
  long t1 = x+y;
  long t2 = z+t1;
  long t3 = x+4;
  long t4 = y * 48;
  long t5 = t3 + t4;
  long rval = t2 * t5;
  return rval;
}
```

```
arith:
   leaq    (%rdi,%rsi), %rax
   addq    %rdx, %rax
   leaq    (%rsi,%rsi,2), %rdx
   salq    $4, %rdx
   leaq    4(%rdi,%rdx), %rcx
   imulq   %rcx, %rax
   ret
```

Interesting Instructions

- **`leaq`**: address computation
- **`salq`**: shift
- **`imulq`**: multiplication
  - But, only used once

Understanding Arithmetic Expression Example

```
long arith
(long x, long y, long z)
{
  long t1 = x+y;
  long t2 = z+t1;
  long t3 = x+4;
  long t4 = y * 48;
  long t5 = t3 + t4;
  long rval = t2 * t5;
  return rval;
}
```

```
arith:
  leaq    (%rdi,%rsi), %rax    # t1
  addq    %rdx, %rax           # t2
  leaq    (%rsi,%rsi,2), %rdx
  salq    $4, %rdx
  leaq    4(%rdi,%rdx), %rcx   # t5
  imulq   %rcx, %rax           # rval
  ret
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument x
%rsi	Argument y
%rdx	Argument z
%rax	t1, t2, rval
%rdx	t4
%rcx	t5

Machine Programming I: Summary

- **History of Intel processors and architectures**
  - Evolutionary design leads to many quirks and artifacts
- **C, assembly, machine code**
  - New forms of visible state: program counter, registers, …
  - Compiler must transform statements, expressions, procedures into low-level instruction sequences
- **Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move**
  - The x86-64 move instructions cover wide range of data movement forms
- **Arithmetic**
  - C compiler will figure out different instruction combinations to carry out computation