Assembly Programming:

Control flow

Today

- **Control: Condition codes**
- **Conditional branches**
- **Loops**
- **Switch Statements**

Processor State

Store temporary value

- **Info about current program**
  - Temporary data (%rax, …)
  - Location of runtime stack (%rsp)
  - Location of current code control point (%rip, …)
  - Status of recent tests (CF, ZF, SF, OF)

give info about most recent instruction

Registers

%rax	%r8
%rbx	%r9
%rcx	%r10
%rdx	%r11
%rsi	%r12
%rdi	%r13
%rsp	%r14
%rbp	%r15

Current stack top

%rip — current line of Instruction pointer code executing

CF ZF SF OF — Condition codes

Condition Codes

1000
+ 1000
0 0 000

0100
+ 0100
1000 . . . 0

- **Single bit registers**
  - CF Carry Flag (for unsigned) SF Sign Flag (for signed)
  - ZF Zero Flag OF Overflow Flag (for signed)

- **Implicitly set (think of it as side effect) by arithmetic operations**

src destination

Example: addq Src,Dest ↔ t = a+b

a value you write if you add these two values

(1) carry extra 1 (set carry flag to 1 to indicate there is unsigned overflow)

1000 . . .
+ 1000 . . .
1 0000 . . .

CF set if carry out from most significant bit (unsigned overflow)

Used more for overflow

ZF set if t == 0 - set 1 if t==0

SF set if t < 0 (as signed) - set sign flag

two's complement arithmetic and overflow

OF set if two's-complement (signed) overflow ← when to overflow

add two signed and overflow

(a>0 && b>0 && t<0) || (a<0 && b<0 && t>=0)

if a and b + but t is - then we have overflowed

Same algo here

- **Not set by leaq instruction**

Condition Codes

- **Explicit Setting by Compare Instruction**
  - cmpq Src2, Src1
  - cmpq b,a like computing a-b without setting destination

    Set the approprate flags
  - CF set if carry out from most significant bit (used for unsigned comparisons)
  - ZF set if a == b
  - SF set if (a-b) < 0 (as signed)
  - OF set if two's-complement (signed) overflow

    (a>0 && b<0 && (a-b)<0) || (a<0 && b>0 && (a-b)>0)

Condition Codes

- **Explicit Setting by Test instruction**
  - testq Src2, Src1

    does a bitwise and and look at res[illegible]

    - testq b,a like computing a&b without setting destination
  - Sets condition codes based on value of Src1 & Src2
  - Useful to have one of the operands be a mask

    zero flg

  - ZF set when a&b == 0 – set zero flag
  - SF set when a&b < 0 – set sign flag

    sign flag

Reading Condition Codes

- **SetX Instructions**
  - Set low-order byte of destination to 0 or 1 based on combinations of condition codes
  - Does not alter remaining 7 bytes

NO MEMORIZATON

Use Here for jump

SetX	Condition	Description
sete equals	ZF	Equal / Zero
setne not equal	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
sets	SF	Negative
setns	~SF	Nonnegative
setg	Using a logical operation ~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
setge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
setl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
setle	(SF^OF)|ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
seta above	~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned)
setb below	CF	Below (unsigned)

x86-64 Integer Registers

Register

%rax	%al	%r8	%r8b
%rbx	%bl	%r9	%r9b
%rcx	%cl	%r10	%r10b
%rdx	%dl	%r11	%r11b
%rsi	%sil	%r12	%r12b
%rdi	%dil	%r13	%r13b
%rsp	%spl	%r14	%r14b
%rbp	%bpl	%r15	%r15b

1 byte

- Can reference low-order byte

Reading Condition Codes

- **SetX Instructions:**
  - Set single byte based on combination of condition codes
- **One of addressable byte registers**
  - Does not alter remaining bytes
  - Typically use movzbl to finish job

```
int gt (long x, long y)
{
  return x > y;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **x**
`%rsi`	Argument **y**
`%rax`	Return value

%rdi - %rsi

```
cmpq   %rsi, %rdi   # Compare x:y
setg   %al          # Set when >
movzbl %al, %eax    # Zero rest of %rax
ret
```

y x

long bits of %rax (return 0/1)

put it in eax then return

Today

- Control: Condition codes
- **Conditional branches**
- Loops
- Switch Statements

Jumping

jump - used for control flow

- **jX Instructions**
  - Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

jX jump	Condition	Description
jmp	1	Unconditional
je jump if equal	ZF	Equal / Zero
jne jump if not equal	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
js	SF	Negative
jns	~SF	Nonnegative
jg	~(SF^OF)&~ZF	Greater (Signed)
jge	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
jl	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
jle	(SF^OF)|ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
ja	~CF&~ZF	Above (unsigned)
jb	CF	Below (unsigned)

Conditional Branch Example

- Generation

```
$ gcc –Og -S –fno-if-conversion control.c
```

```c
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
  long result;
  if (x > y)
    result = x-y;
  else
    result = y-x;
  return result;
}
```

Compare x and y

```
absdiff:
   cmpq    %rsi, %rdi   # x:y
   jle     .L4
   movq    %rdi, %rax
   subq    %rsi, %rax
   ret
.L4:               # x <= y
   movq    %rsi, %rax
   subq    %rdi, %rax
   ret
```

less than or equal to

return value

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **x**
`%rsi`	Argument **y**
`%rax`	Return value

Expressing with Goto Code

- C allows **goto** statement
- Jump to position designated by label

```
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}
```

```
long absdiff_j
  (long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    int ntest = x <= y;
    if (ntest) goto Else;
    result = x-y;
    goto Done;
 Else:
    result = y-x;
 Done:
    return result;
}
```

General Conditional Expression Translation (Using Branches)

C Code

```
val = Test ? Then_Expr : Else_Expr;
```

```
val = x>y ? x-y : y-x;
```

Goto Version

```
  ntest = !Test;
  if (ntest) goto Else;
  val = Then_Expr;
  goto Done;
Else:
  val = Else_Expr;
Done:
  . . .
```

- Create separate code regions for then & else expressions
- Execute appropriate one

Using Conditional Moves

- **Conditional Move Instructions**
  - Instruction supports:

    if (Test) Dest ← Src
  - Supported in post-1995 x86 processors
  - GCC tries to use them
    - But, only when known to be safe
- **Why?**
  - Branches are very disruptive to instruction flow through pipelines
  - Conditional moves do not require control transfer

C Code

```
val = Test
    ? Then_Expr
    : Else_Expr;
```

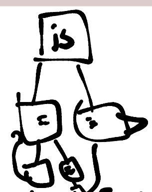
Goto Version

```
  result = Then_Expr;
  eval = Else_Expr;
  nt = !Test;
  if (nt) result = eval;
  return result;
```

Conditional Move Example

```
long absdiff
  (long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **x**
`%rsi`	Argument **y**
`%rax`	Return value



return val

x

memory

```
absdiff:
   movq    %rdi, %rax   # x
   subq    %rsi, %rax   # result = x-y
   movq    %rsi, %rdx
   subq    %rdi, %rdx   # eval = y-x
   cmpq    %rsi, %rdi   # x:y
   cmovle  %rdx, %rax   # if <=, result = eval
   ret
```

first move then perform opperation

Bad Cases for Conditional Move

Expensive Computations

```
val = Test(x) ? Hard1(x) : Hard2(x);
```

- **Both values get computed**
- **Only makes sense when computations are very simple**

Risky Computations

if p is non zero

```
val = p ? *p : 0;
```

- Both values get computed
- May have undesirable effects

Computations with side

```
val = x > 0 ? x*=7 : x+=3;
```

- Both values get computed
- Must be side-effect free

Today

- Control: Condition codes
- Conditional branches
- **Loops**
- Switch Statements

"Do-While" Loop Example

C Code

```
long pcount_do
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
  do {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  } while (x);
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if(x) goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

- **Count number of 1's in argument** x **("popcount")**
- **Use conditional branch to either continue looping or to exit loop**

"Do-While" Loop Compilation

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if(x) goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument **x**
%rax	**result**

```
    movl    $0, %eax     #  result = 0
.L2:                     # loop:
    movq    %rdi, %rdx
    andl    $1, %edx     #  t = x & 0x1
    addq    %rdx, %rax   #  result += t
    shrq    %rdi         #  x >>= 1
    jne     .L2          #  if (x) goto loop
    ret
```

right shift

if x == 0 ZF otherwise NO

General “Do-While” Translation

C Code

```
do
  Body
  while (Test);
```

Goto Version

```
loop:
  Body
  if (Test)
    goto loop
```

- **Body:**
```
{
  Statement1;
  Statement2;
    …
  Statementn;
}
```

General "While" Translation #1

- "Jump-to-middle" translation
- Used with **-Og**

While version

```
while (Test)
  Body
```

Goto Version

```
  goto test;
loop:
  Body
test:
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

While Loop Example #1

C Code

```
long pcount_while
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
  while (x) {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Jump to

```
long pcount_goto_jtm
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
  goto test;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
 test:
  if(x) goto loop;
  return result;
}
```

- Compare to do-while version of function
- Initial goto starts loop at test

General "While" Translation #2

While version

```
while (Test)
  Body
```

- "Do-while" conversion
- Used with **–O1**

Do-While Version

```
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
  do
    Body
    while(Test);
done:
```

Goto Version

```
  if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
  Body
  if (Test)
    goto loop;
done:
```

While Loop Example #2

C Code

```
long pcount_while
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
  while (x) {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Do-While

```
long pcount_goto_dw
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
  if (!x) goto done;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if(x) goto loop;
 done:
  return result;
}
```

- Compare to do-while version of function
- Initial conditional guards entrance to loop

"For" Loop Form

General Form

for (*Init*; *Test*; *Update*)

    Body

```
#define WSIZE 8*sizeof(int)
long pcount_for
  (unsigned long x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < WSIZE; i++)
  {
    unsigned bit =
      (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Init

```
i = 0
```

Test

```
i < WSIZE
```

Update

```
i++
```

Body

```
{
  unsigned bit =
     (x >> i) & 0x1;
  result += bit;
}
```

"For" Loop → While Loop

For Version

```
for (Init; Test; Update )
        Body
```

While Version

```
Init;
while (Test ) {
    Body
    Update;
}
```

For-While Conversion

Init

```
i = 0
```

Test

```
i < WSIZE
```

Update

```
i++
```

Body

```
{
  unsigned bit =
     (x >> i) & 0x1;
  result += bit;
}
```

```
long pcount_for_while
  (unsigned long x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  i = 0;
  while (i < WSIZE)
  {
    unsigned bit =
      (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
    i++;
  }
  return result;
}
```

"For" Loop Do-While Conversion

C Code

```
long pcount_for
  (unsigned long x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < WSIZE; i++)
  {
    unsigned bit =
      (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  return result;
}
```

- Initial test can be optimized away

Goto Version

```
long pcount_for_goto_dw
  (unsigned long x) {
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  i = 0;
  if (!(i < WSIZE))
    goto done;
 loop:
  {
    unsigned bit =
      (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  i++;
  if (i < WSIZE)
    goto loop;
 done:
  return result;
}
```

Init

!Test

Body

Update

Test

8*sizeof(long)

-32

Today

- Control: Condition codes
- Conditional branches
- Loops
- **Switch Statements**

Switch Example

```
long switch_eg
   (long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
    case 1:
        w = y*z;
        break;
    case 2:
        w = y/z;
        /* Fall Through */
    case 3:
        w += z;
        break;
    case 5:
    case 6:
        w -= z;
        break;
    default:
        w = 2;
    }
    return w;
}
```

- Multiple case labels
  - Here: 5 & 6
- Fall through cases
  - Here: 2
- Missing cases
  - Here: 4

Jump Table Structure

Switch Form

```
switch(x) {
  case val_0:
    Block 0
  case val_1:
    Block 1
    • • •
  case val_n-1:
    Block n–1
}
```

Jump Table

jtab:

Targ0
Targ1
Targ2
• • •
Targn-1

Jump Targets

Targ0: Code Block 0

targets

Targ1: Code Block 1

address of target

Targ2: Code Block 2

• • •

Targn-1: Code Block n–1

Translation (Extended C)

```
goto *JTab[x];
```

looks at jumptable

Switch Statement Example

```
long switch_eg(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
      . . .
    }
    return w;
}
```

Setup:

```
switch_eg:
    movq    %rdx, %rcx
    cmpq    $6, %rdi   # x:6
    ja      .L8
    jmp     *.L4(,%rdi,8)
```

What range of values takes default?

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **`x`**
`%rsi`	Argument **`y`**
`%rdx`	Argument **`z`**
`%rax`	Return value

Note that **`w`** not initialized here

Switch Statement Example

```
long switch_eg(long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
      . . .
    }
    return w;
}
```

Jump table

```
.section    .rodata
  .align 8
.L4:
  .quad     .L8  # x = 0
  .quad     .L3  # x = 1
  .quad     .L5  # x = 2
  .quad     .L9  # x = 3
  .quad     .L8  # x = 4
  .quad     .L7  # x = 5
  .quad     .L7  # x = 6
```

Setup:

```
switch_eg:
    movq    %rdx, %rcx
    cmpq    $6, %rdi        # x:6
    ja      .L8             # Use default
    jmp     *.L4(,%rdi,8)   # goto *JTab[x]
```

Indirect jump

Assembly Setup Explanation

- Table Structure
  - Each target requires 8 bytes
  - Base address at .L4

- Jumping
  - Direct: **`jmp .L8`**
  - Jump target is denoted by label .L8
  - Indirect: **`jmp *.L4(,%rdi,8)`**
  - Start of jump table: .L4
  - Must scale by factor of 8 (addresses are 8 bytes)
  - Fetch target from effective Address .L4 + x*8
    - Only for $0 \le x \le 6$

Jump table

```
.section    .rodata
  .align 8
.L4:
  .quad     .L8  # x = 0
  .quad     .L3  # x = 1
  .quad     .L5  # x = 2
  .quad     .L9  # x = 3
  .quad     .L8  # x = 4
  .quad     .L7  # x = 5
  .quad     .L7  # x = 6
```

Jump Table

Jump table

```
.section   .rodata
  .align 8
.L4:
  .quad    .L8 # x = 0
  .quad    .L3 # x = 1
  .quad    .L5 # x = 2
  .quad    .L9 # x = 3
  .quad    .L8 # x = 4
  .quad    .L7 # x = 5
  .quad    .L7 # x = 6
```

```
switch(x) {
case 1:       // .L3
    w = y*z;
    break;
case 2:       // .L5
    w = y/z;
    /* Fall Through */
case 3:       // .L9
    w += z;
    break;
case 5:
case 6:       // .L7
    w -= z;
    break;
default:      // .L8
    w = 2;
}
```

Code Blocks (x == 1)

```
  switch(x) {
  case 1:   // .L3
        w = y*z;
        break;
   . . .
}
```

```
.L3:
   movq    %rsi, %rax  # y
   imulq   %rdx, %rax  # y*z
   ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **x**
`%rsi`	Argument **y**
`%rdx`	Argument **z**
`%rax`	Return value

Handling Fall-Through

```
long w = 1;
. . .
switch(x) {
. . .
case 2:
    w = y/z;
    /* Fall Through */
case 3:
    w += z;
    break;
. . .
}
```

```
    case 2:
        w = y/z;
        goto merge;
```

```
case 3:
        w = 1;
merge:
        w += z;
```

Code Blocks (x == 2, x == 3)

```
long w = 1;
. . .
switch(x) {
. . .
case 2:
    w = y/z;
    /* Fall Through */
case 3:
    w += z;
    break;
. . .
}
```

```
.L5:                        # Case 2
   movq    %rsi, %rax
   cqto
   idivq   %rcx             #  y/z
   jmp     .L6              #  goto merge
.L9:                        # Case 3
   movl    $1, %eax         #  w = 1
.L6:                        # merge:
   addq    %rcx, %rax       #  w += z
   ret
```

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument **x**
%rsi	Argument **y**
%rdx	Argument **z**
%rax	Return value

Code Blocks (x == 5, x == 6, default)

```
  switch(x) {
    . . .
    case 5:  // .L7
    case 6:  // .L7
        w -= z;
        break;
    default: // .L8
        w = 2;
}
```

(rely on previous value of r which is)

```
.L7:                     # Case 5,6
  movl  $1, %eax     #   w = 1
  subq  %rdx, %rax #   w -= z
  ret
.L8:                     # Default:
  movl  $2, %eax     #   2
  ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument **`x`**
`%rsi`	Argument **`y`**
`%rdx`	Argument **`z`**
`%rax`	Return value

Summarizing

- C Control
  - if-then-else
  - do-while
  - while, for
  - switch
- Assembler Control
  - Conditional jump
  - Conditional move
  - Indirect jump (via jump tables)
  - Compiler generates code sequence to implement more complex control
- Standard Techniques
  - Loops converted to do-while or jump-to-middle form
  - Large switch statements use jump tables
  - Sparse switch statements may use decision trees (if-elseif-elseif-else)