



Nand to Tetris, Part II

These slides support the Introductory Section

“II: Software” of the book

The Elements of Computing Systems

By Noam Nisan and Shimon Schocken

MIT Press, 2021

Hello, World Below

High-level program (Jack)

```
// First example in Programming 101
class Main {
    function void main() {
        do Output.println("Hello World!");
        return;
    }
}
```



Issues

- How does the computer execute this program?
- How does the program write on the screen?
- How are classes and methods realized?
- How is function-call-and-return handled?
- What is the role of the operating system?
- How is memory allocated to objects and arrays?

Add your questions to the list...

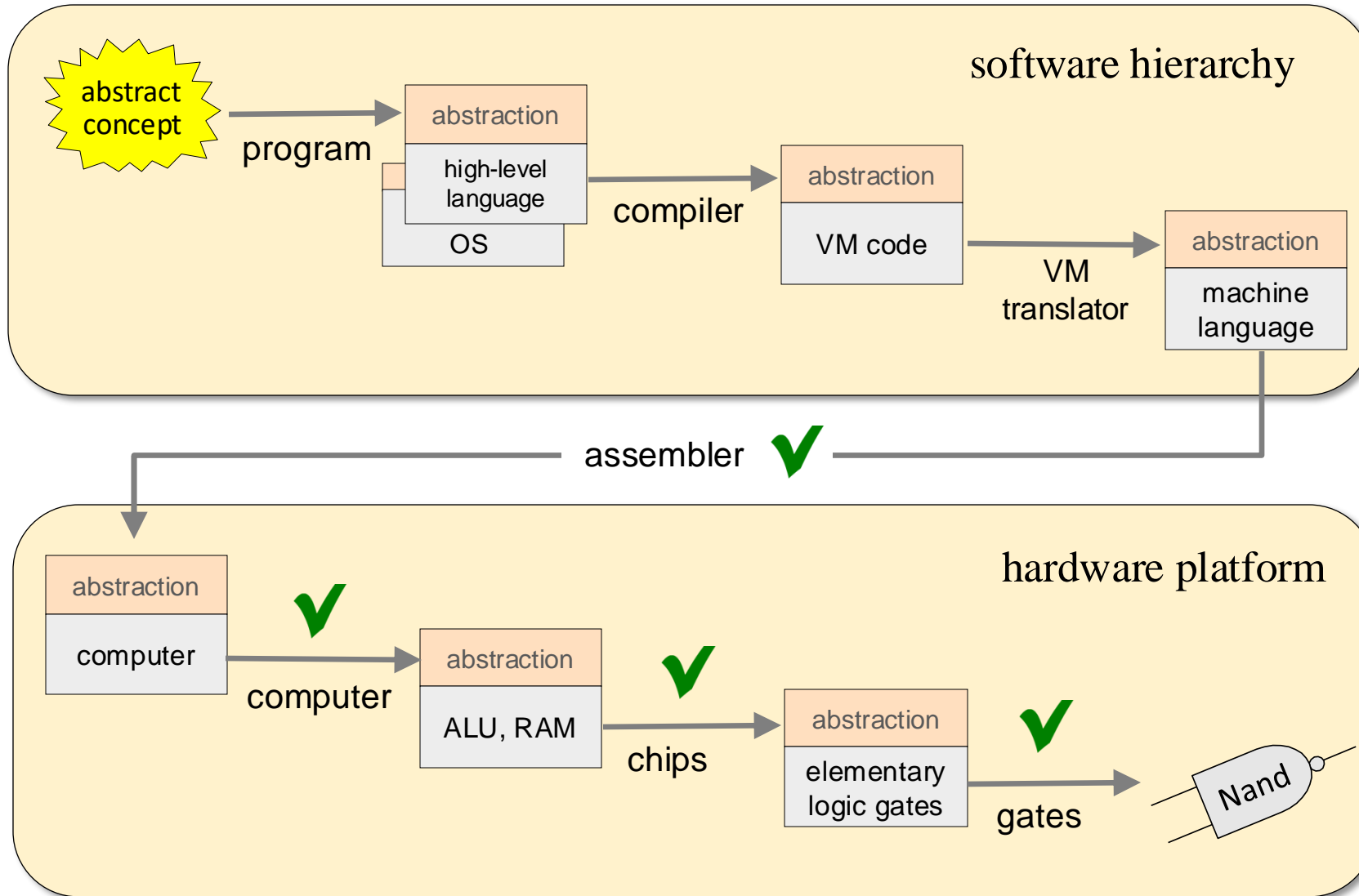
Q: How can high-level programmers ignore all these issues?

A: They treat the high-level program as an *abstraction*

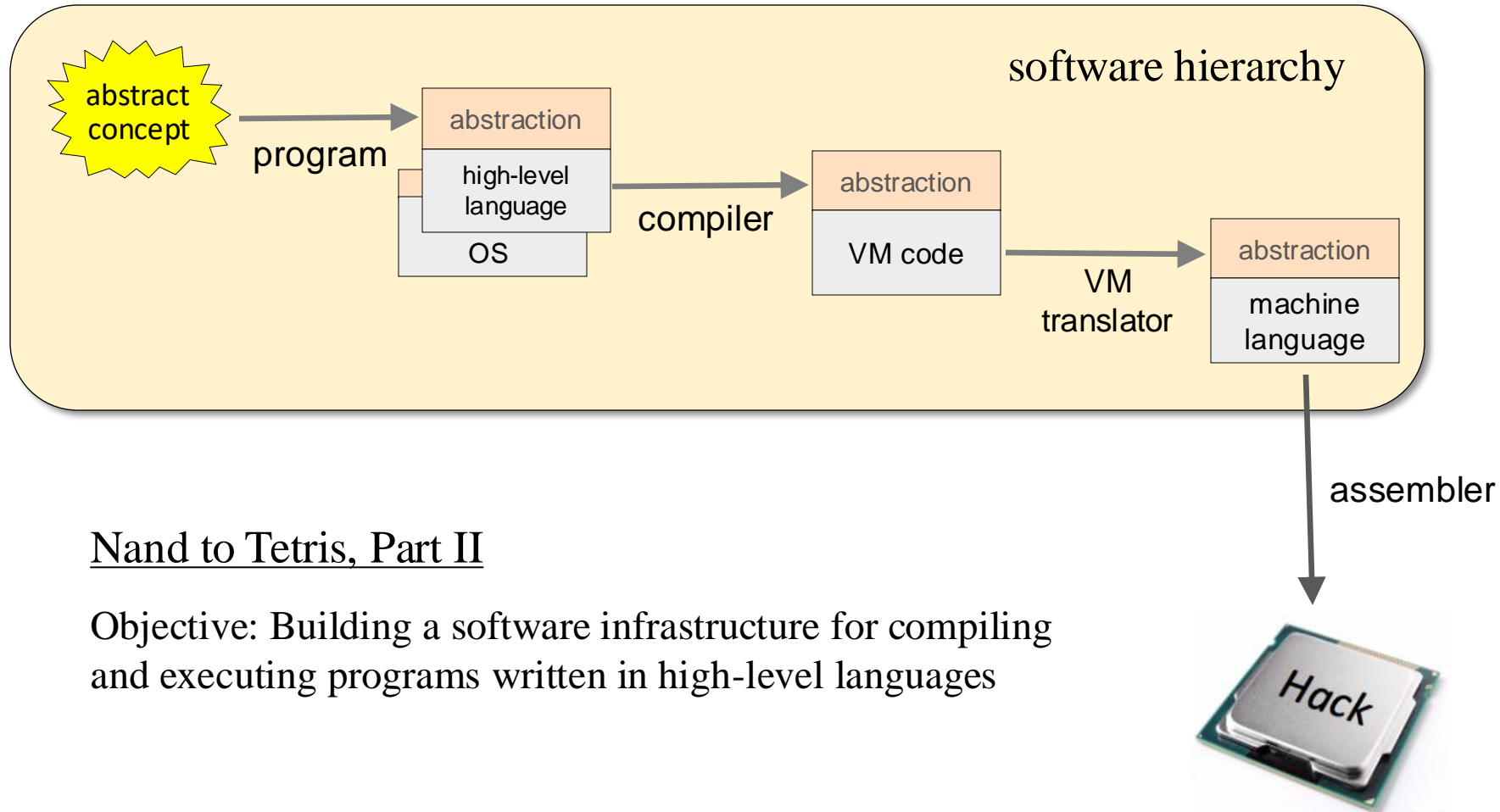
What makes the abstraction work?

- Assembler
 - Virtual machine
 - Compiler
 - Operating system
- } Projects 6-12

Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part I



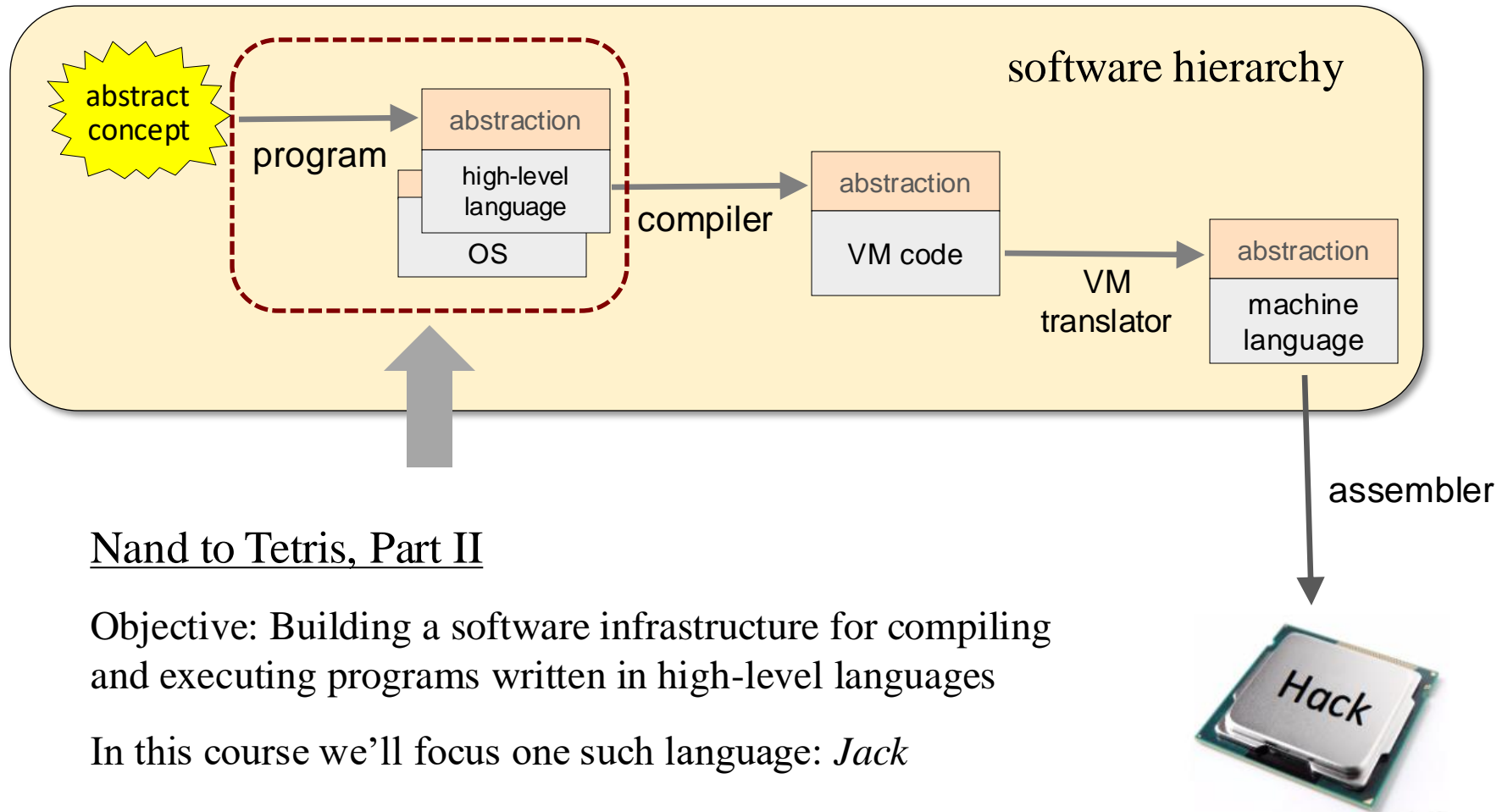
Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part II



Nand to Tetris, Part II

Objective: Building a software infrastructure for compiling and executing programs written in high-level languages

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Nand to Tetris, Part II

Objective: Building a software infrastructure for compiling and executing programs written in high-level languages

In this course we'll focus one such language: *Jack*

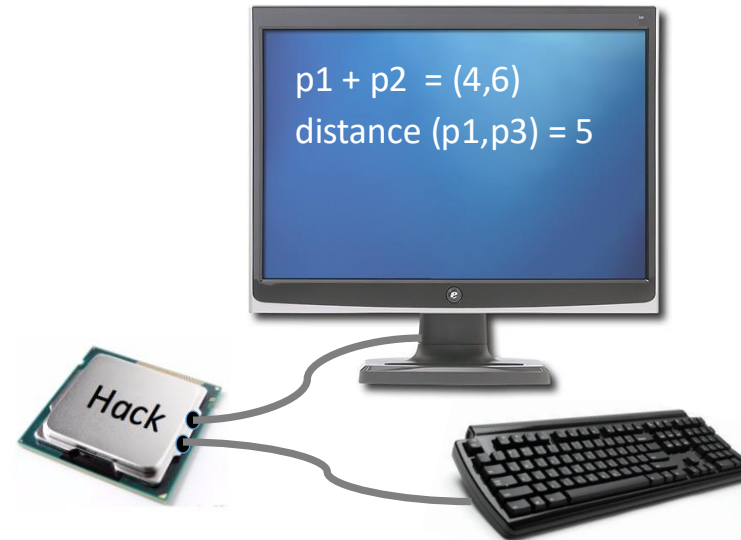
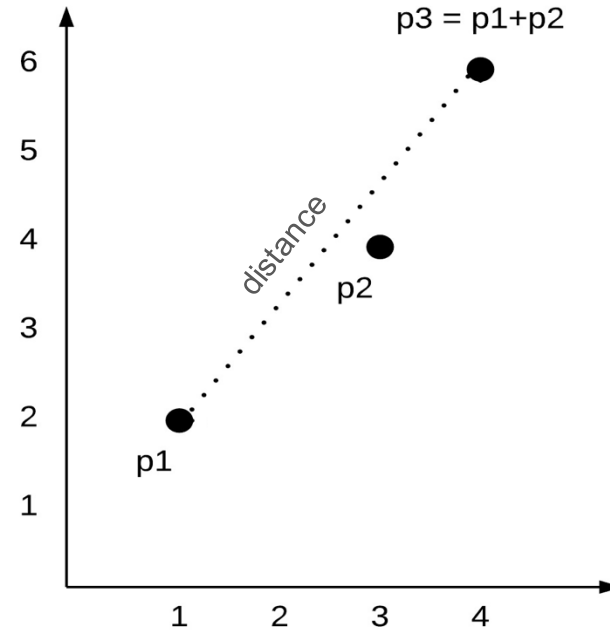
Jack: A simple, Java-like, object-based language.

High-level language

Example: write a Jack program

The program uses a typical `Point` class for:

- Constructing 2D points, like `p1` and `p2`
- Computing and printing `p3 = p1 + p2`
- Computing and printing `distance(p1,p3)`

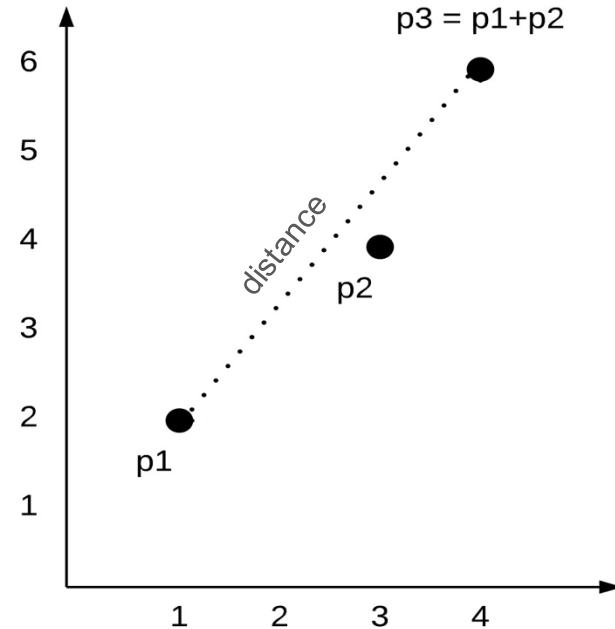


High-level language

Example: write a Jack program

The program uses a typical `Point` class for:

- Constructing 2D points, like `p1` and `p2`
- Computing and printing `p3 = p1 + p2`
- Computing and printing `distance(p1,p3)`



Point class (skeletal)

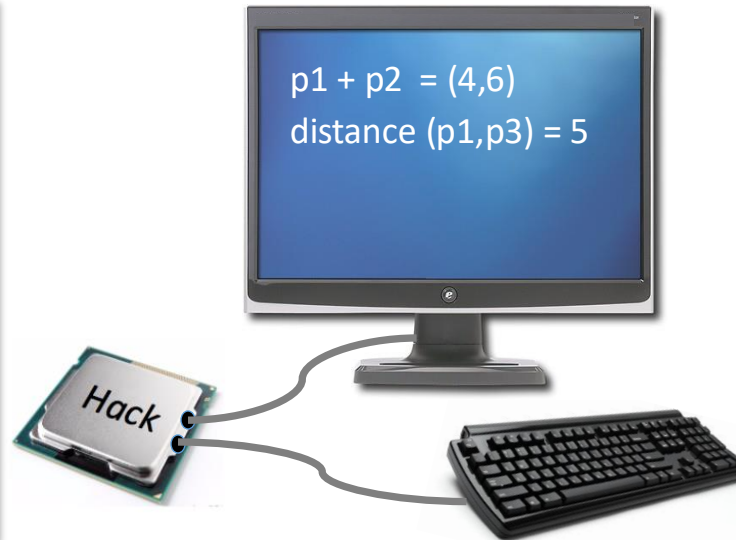
Written in the
Jack language

```
/** Represents a 2D point */
class Point {
    /** Constructs a new point with the given coordinates */
    constructor Point new(int ax, int ay)

    /** Returns the point which is this point plus the other point */
    method Point plus(Point other)

    /** Cartesian distance between this and the other point */
    method int distance(Point other)

    /** Prints this point as "(x,y)" */
    method void print()
    ...
}
```

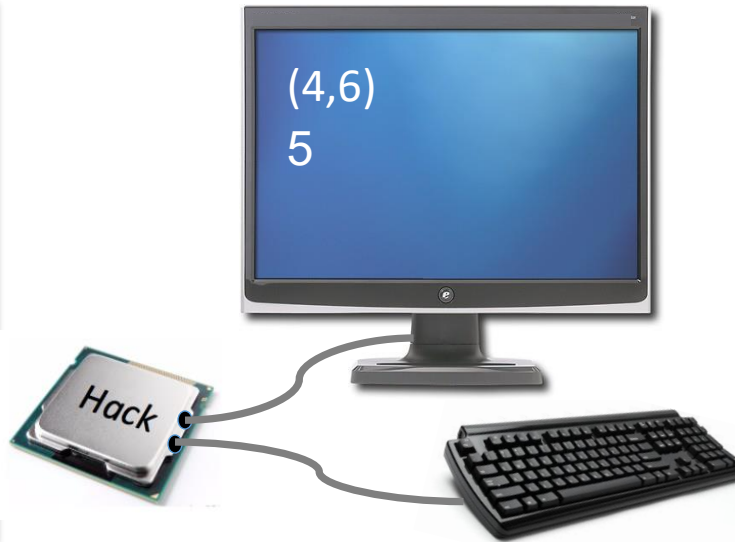
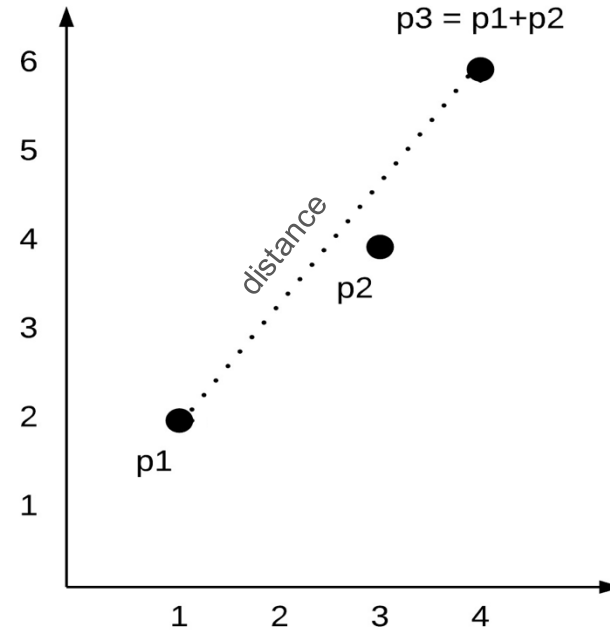


High-level language

```
/** Constructs and manipulates Point objects */  
class Main {  
  function void main() {  
    var Point p1, p2, p3;  
    let p1 = Point.new(1,2);  
    let p2 = Point.new(3,4);  
    let p3 = p1.plus(p2);  
    do p3.print();  
    do Output.println();  
    do Output.printInt(p1.distance(p3));  
    return;  
  }  
}
```

Written in the
Jack language

```
/** Represents a 2D point */  
class Point {  
  /** Constructs a new point with the given coordinates */  
  constructor Point new(int ax, int ay)  
  
  /** Returns the point which is this point plus the other point */  
  method Point plus(Point other)  
  
  /** Cartesian distance between this and the other point */  
  method int distance(Point other)  
  
  /** Prints this point as "(x,y)" */  
  method void print()  
  ...  
}
```



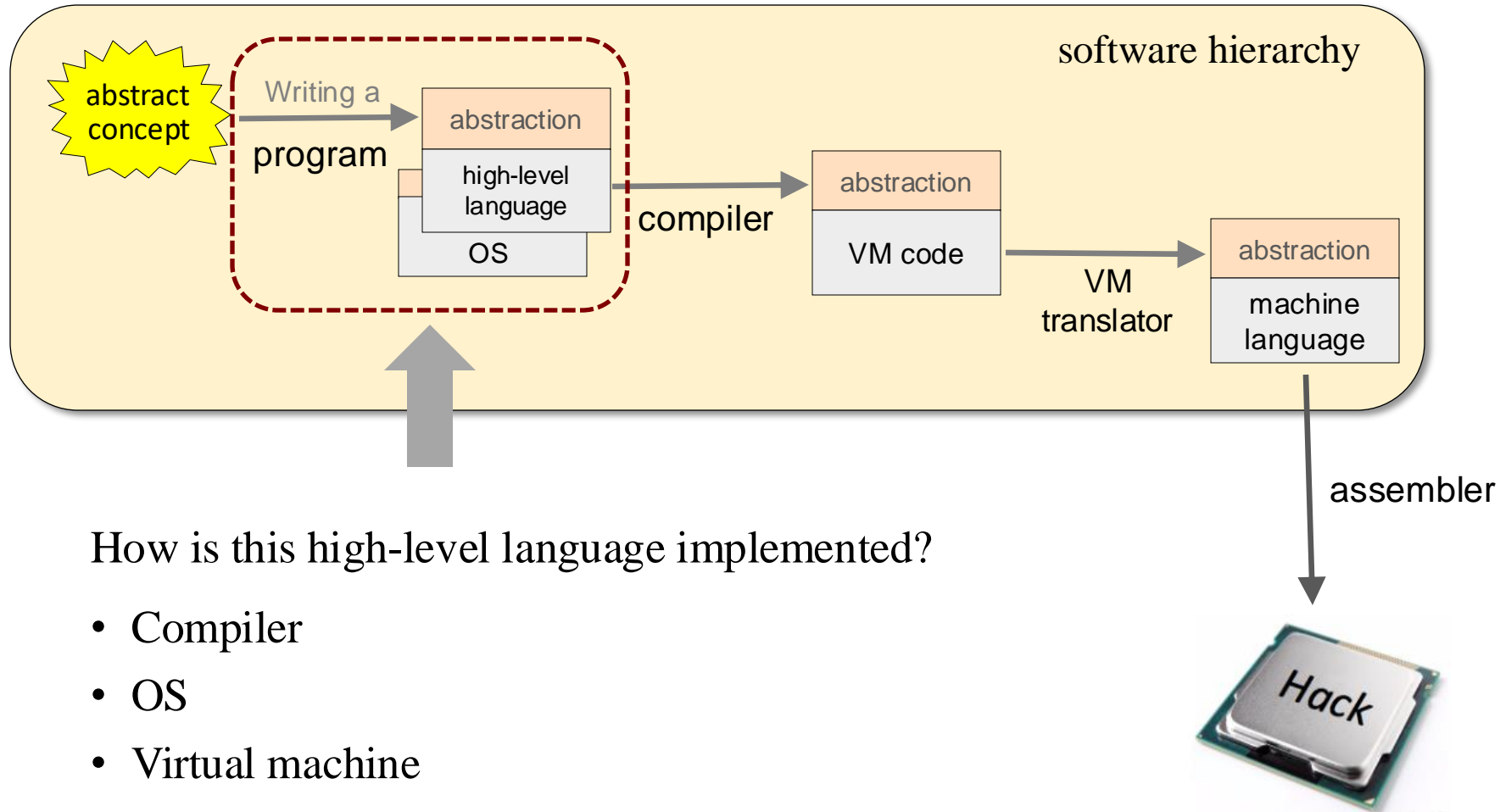
High-level language

```
/** Represents a 2D point.  
    File name: Point.jack. */  
class Point {  
    // The coordinates of this point  
    field int x, y  
  
    // The number of Point objects constructed so far:  
    static int pointCount;  
  
    /** Constructs a two-dimensional point and  
        initializes it with the given coordinates. */  
    constructor Point new(int ax, int ay) {  
        let x = ax;  
        let y = ay;  
        let pointCount = pointCount + 1;  
        return this;  
    }  
  
    /** Returns the x coordinate of this point. */  
    method int getx() { return x; }  
  
    /** Returns the y coordinate of this point. */  
    method int gety() { return y; }  
  
    /** Returns the number of points constructed so far. */  
    function int getPointCount() {  
        return pointCount;  
    }  
  
    // Class declaration continues on top right.
```

```
/** Returns a point which is this  
    point plus the other point. */  
method Point plus(Point other) {  
    return Point.new(x + other.getx(),  
                    y + other.gety());  
}  
  
/** Returns the Euclidean distance between  
    this and the other point. */  
method int distance(Point other) {  
    var int dx, dy;  
    let dx = x - other.getx();  
    let dy = y - other.gety();  
    return Math.sqrt((dx*dx) + (dy*dy));  
}  
  
/** Prints this point as "(x,y)" */  
method void print() {  
    do Output.printString("(");  
    do Output.printInt(x);  
    do Output.printString(",");  
    do Output.printInt(y);  
    do Output.printString(")");  
    return;  
}  
  
} // End of Point class declaration.
```

Jack is a typical
object-based,
high-level language
Details, later.

Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part II



How is this high-level language implemented?

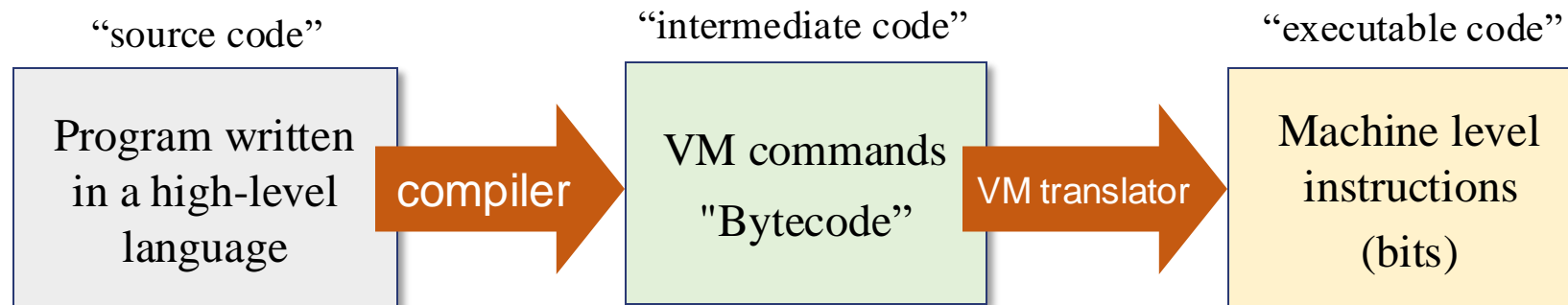
- Compiler
- OS
- Virtual machine
- Assembler

Compilation

One tier



Two tier



Compilation

One tier



Pros

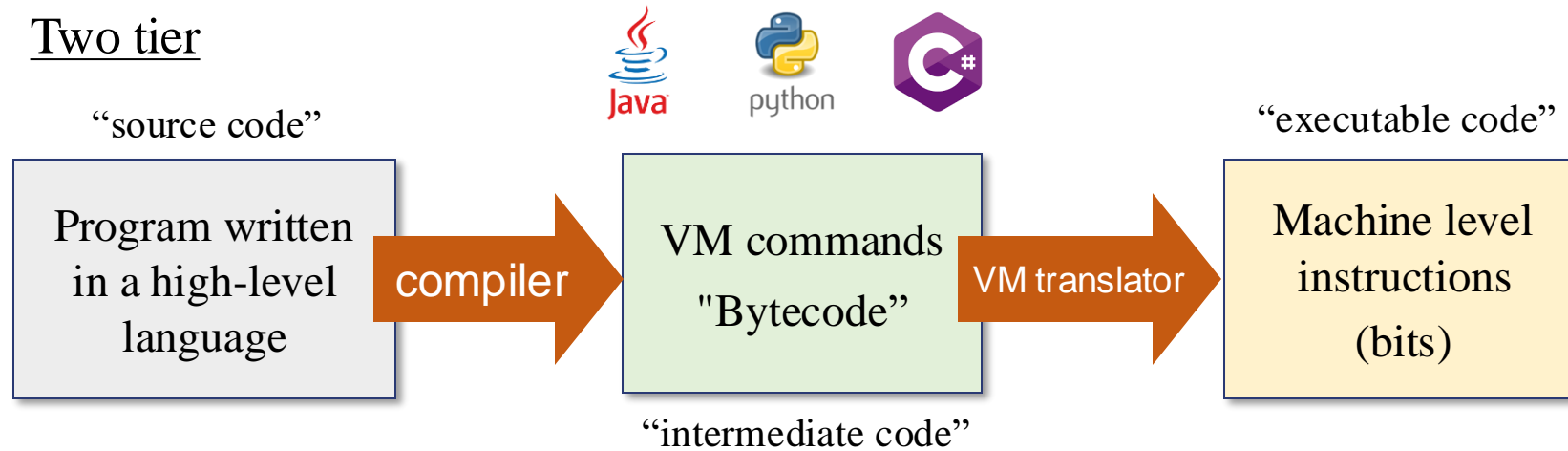
1-tier compilers generate efficient, target-specific code

Cons

Requires multiple compilers / compilations, one for each target hardware platform.

Compilation

Two tier



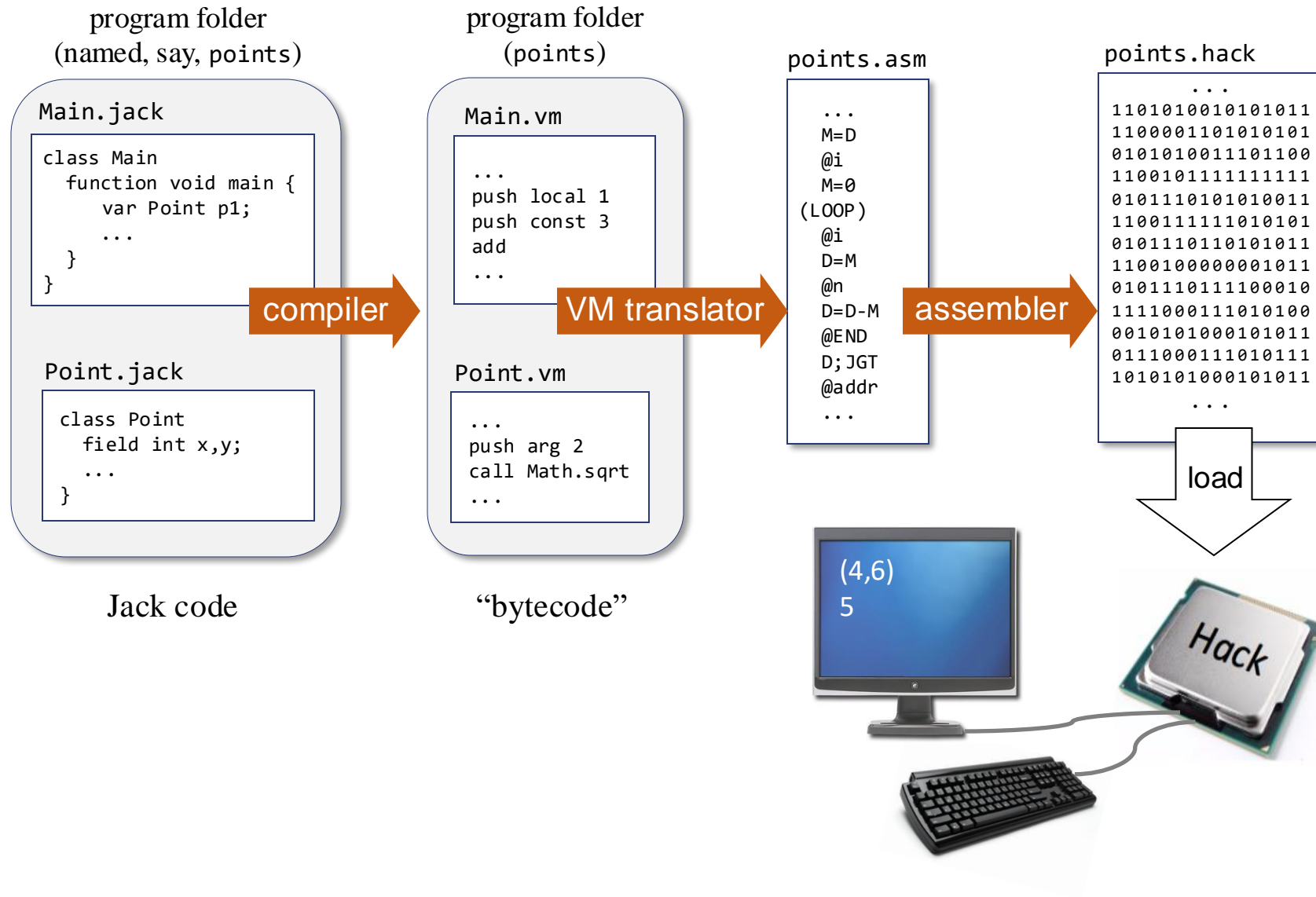
Pros

Compile once, run everywhere

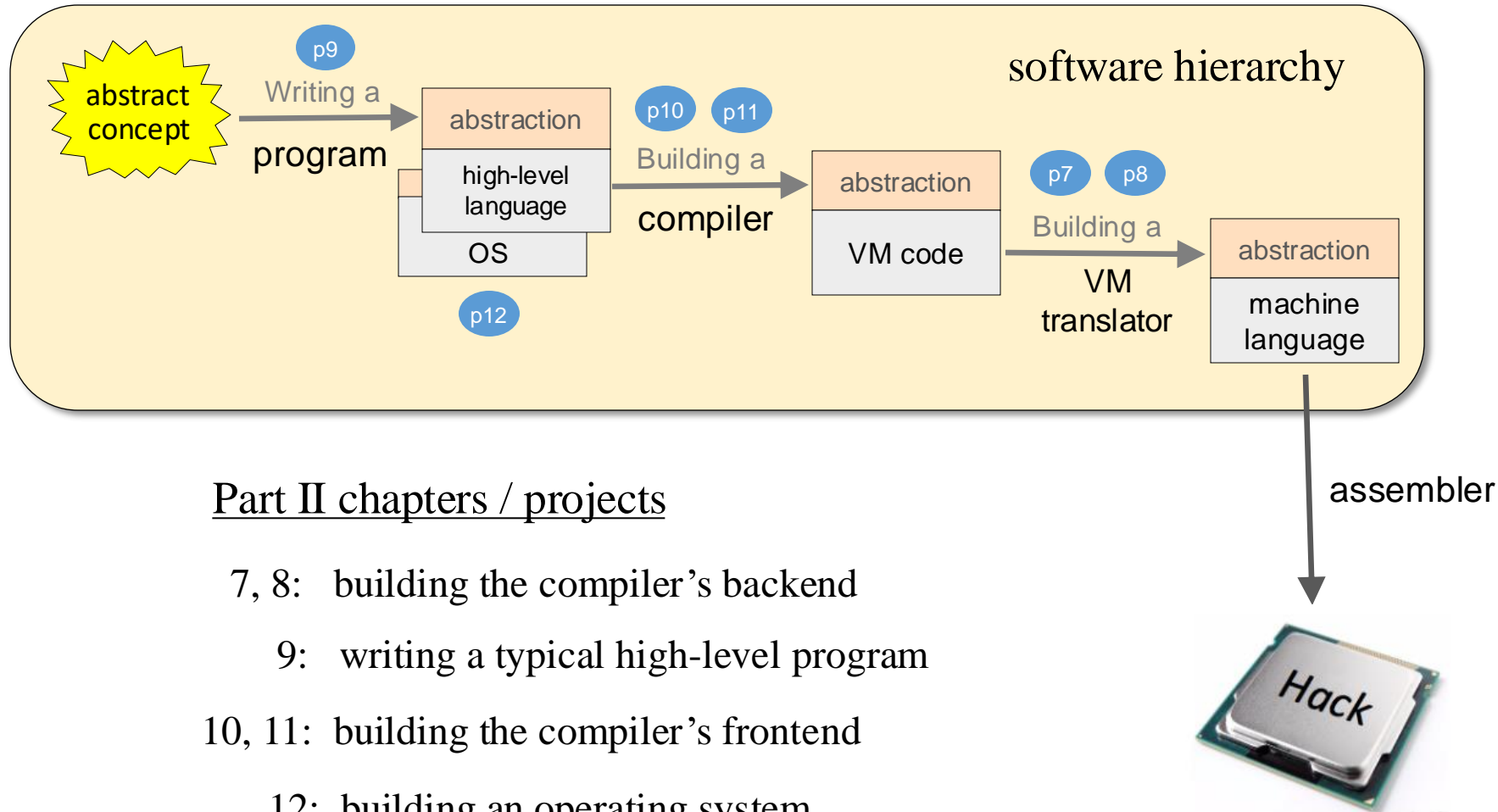
Cons

- Requires multiple VM translators, one for each target hardware platform
(But: VM translators are much simpler than compilers)
- Generates less efficient machine language code
(But: For numerous apps, the inefficiency delta is insignificant).

Compilation on the Hack/Jack platform



Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part II



Part II chapters / projects

7, 8: building the compiler's backend

9: writing a typical high-level program

10, 11: building the compiler's frontend

12: building an operating system.



Lecture 7

Virtual Machine, Part I

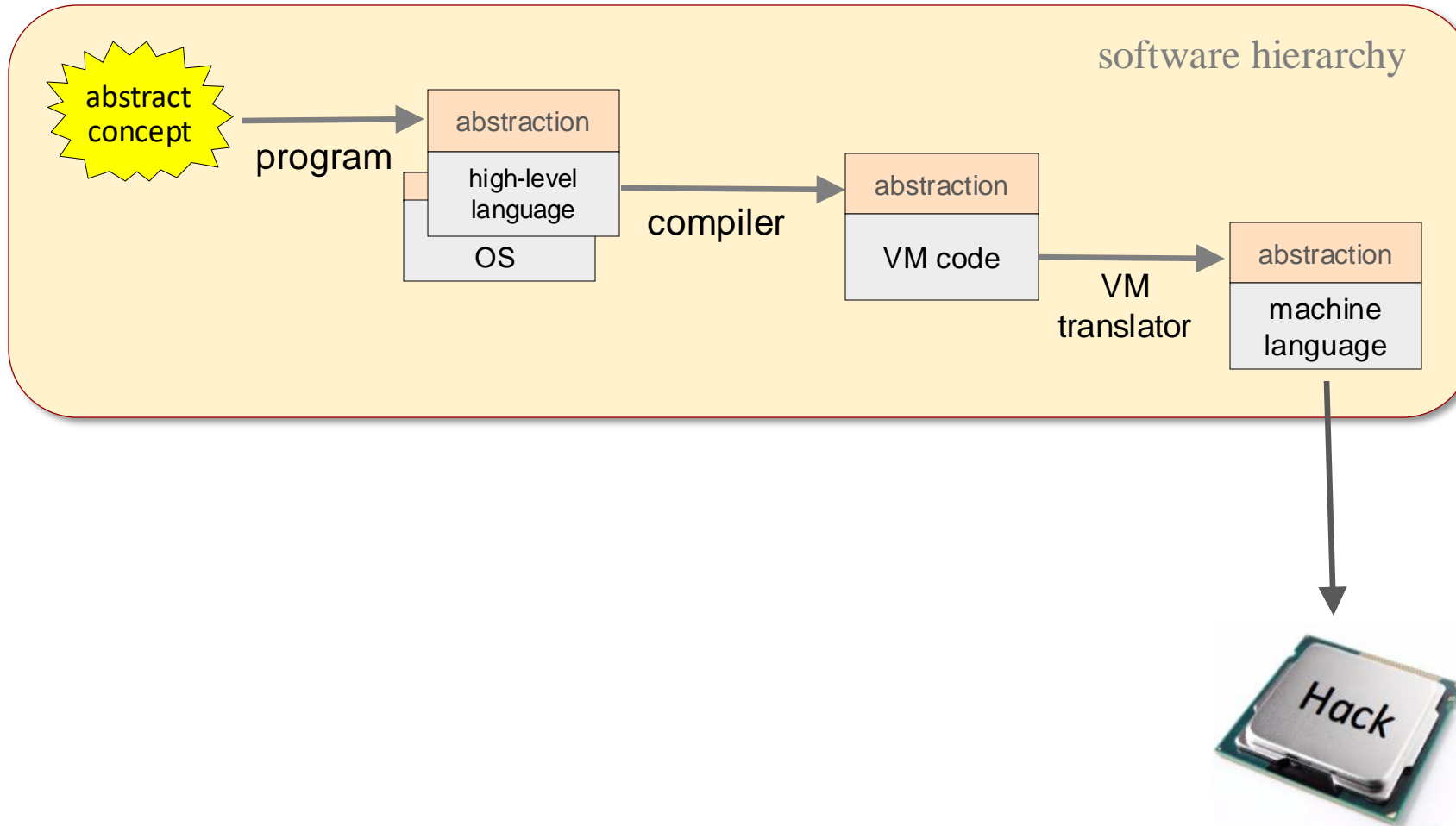
These slides support chapter 7 of the book

The Elements of Computing Systems

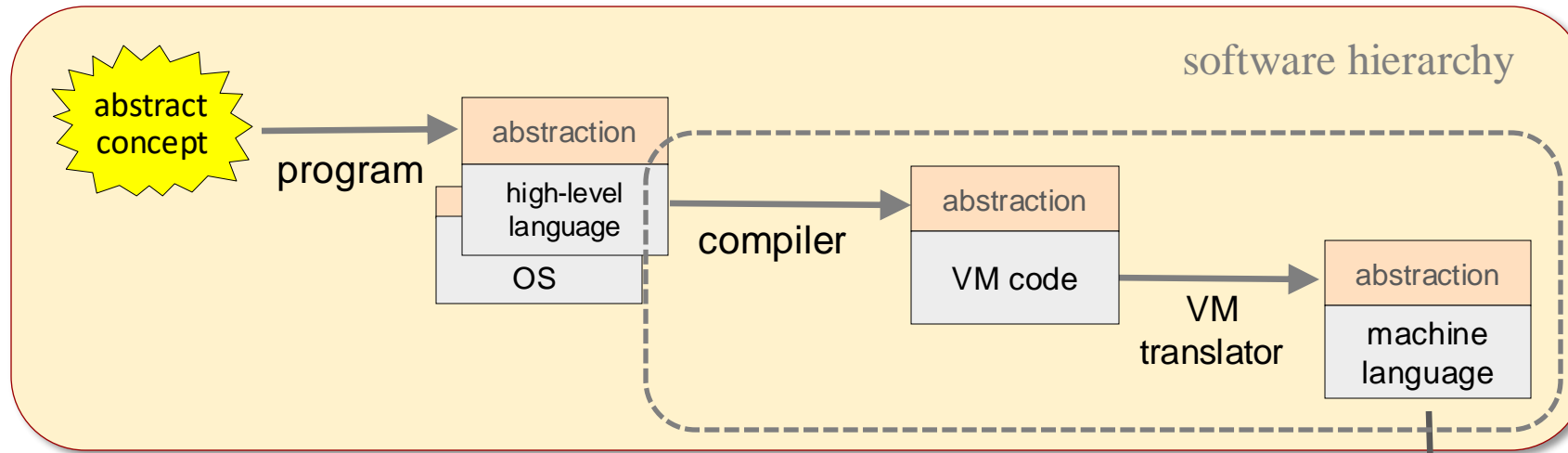
By Noam Nisan and Shimon Schocken

MIT Press, 2021

Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part II



Nand to Tetris Roadmap: Part II



➡ VM code: Generated by compilers;
runs on an *abstract virtual machine*

VM Translator: Translates the VM code
into machine language

The VM translator *implements* the VM code *abstraction*.



Our VM is *stack-based*

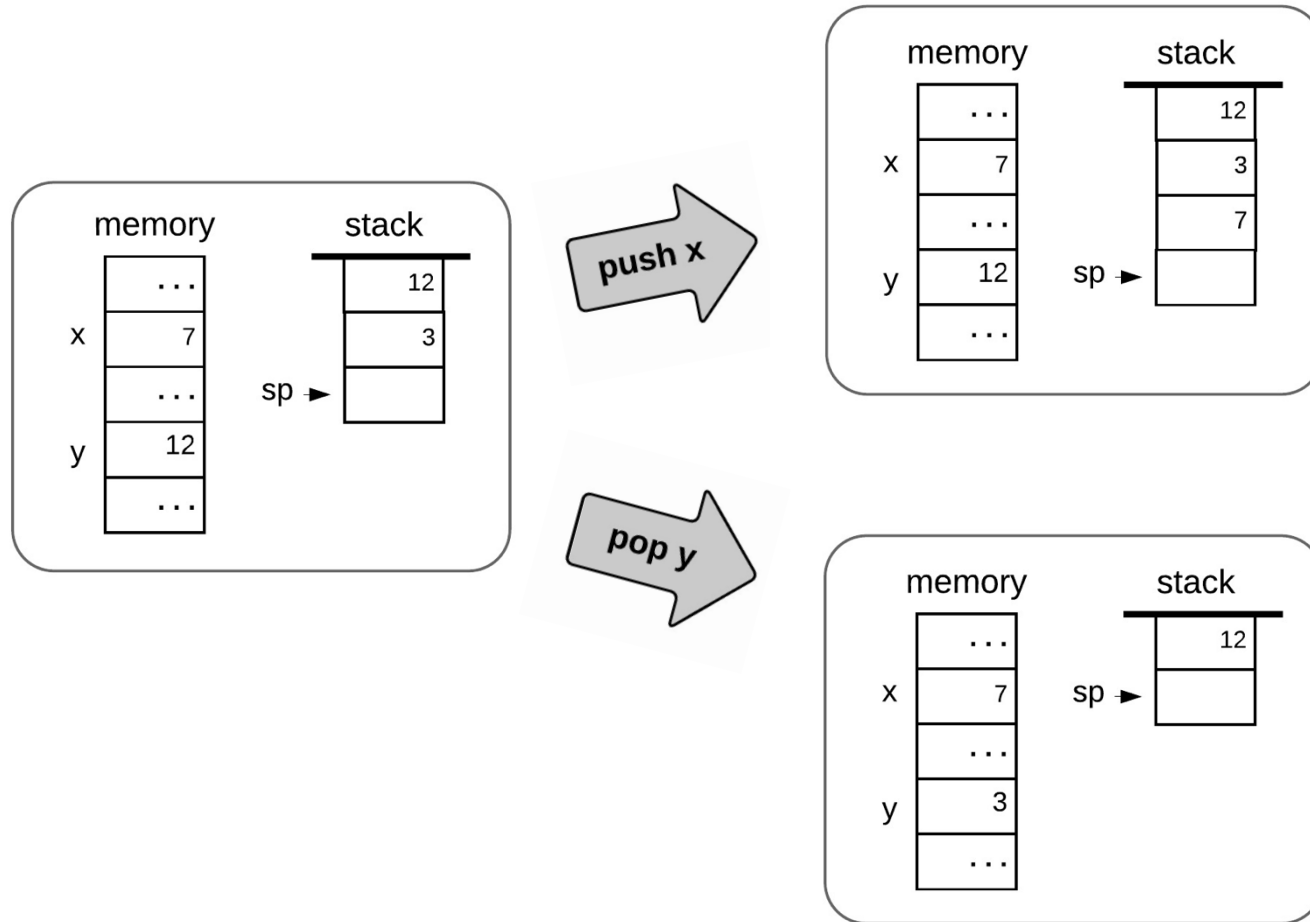


Basic operations

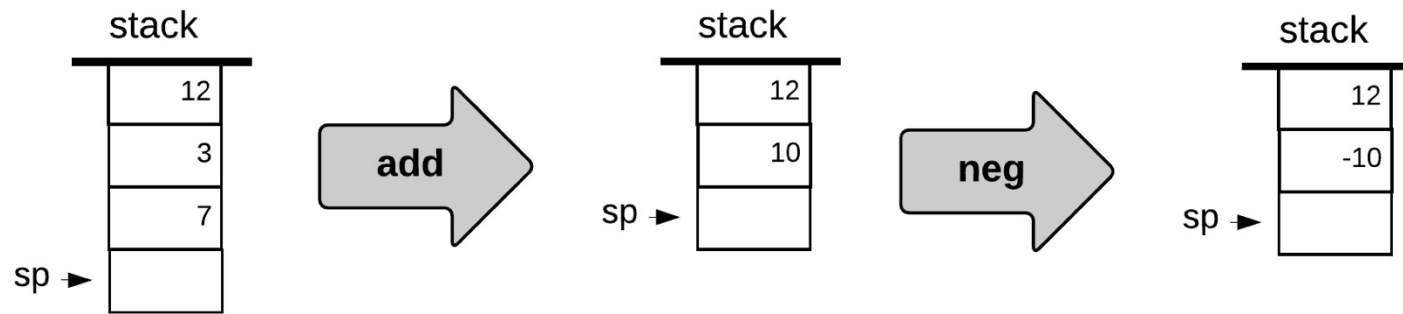
push: adds an element at the stack's top

pop: removes the top element

Stack

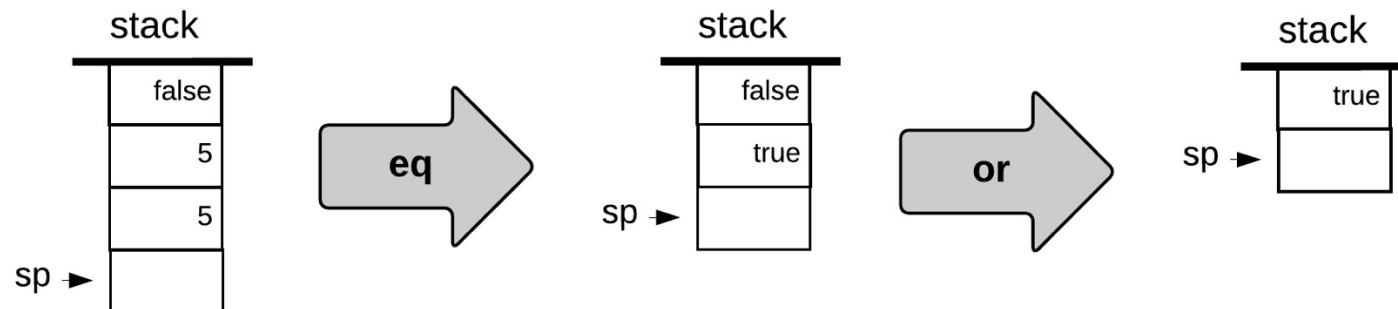


Stack arithmetic



Applying a function f (that has n arguments)

- pops n values (arguments) from the stack,
- Computes f on the values,
- Pushes the resulting value onto the stack.



Arithmetic operations

VM pseudocode (example)

```
// d = (2 - x) + (y + 9)
```

```
push 2
```

```
push x
```

```
sub
```

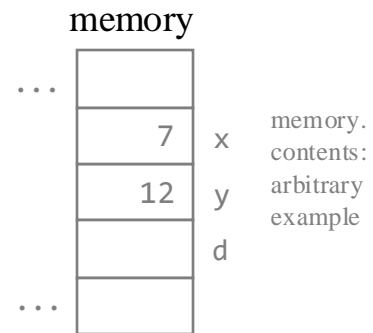
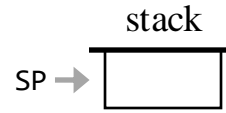
```
push y
```

```
push 9
```

```
add
```

```
add
```

```
pop d
```



typically, generated
by a compiler

Arithmetic operations (example recap)

VM pseudocode

```
// d = (2 - x) + (y + 9)
```

```
push 2
```

```
push x
```

```
sub
```

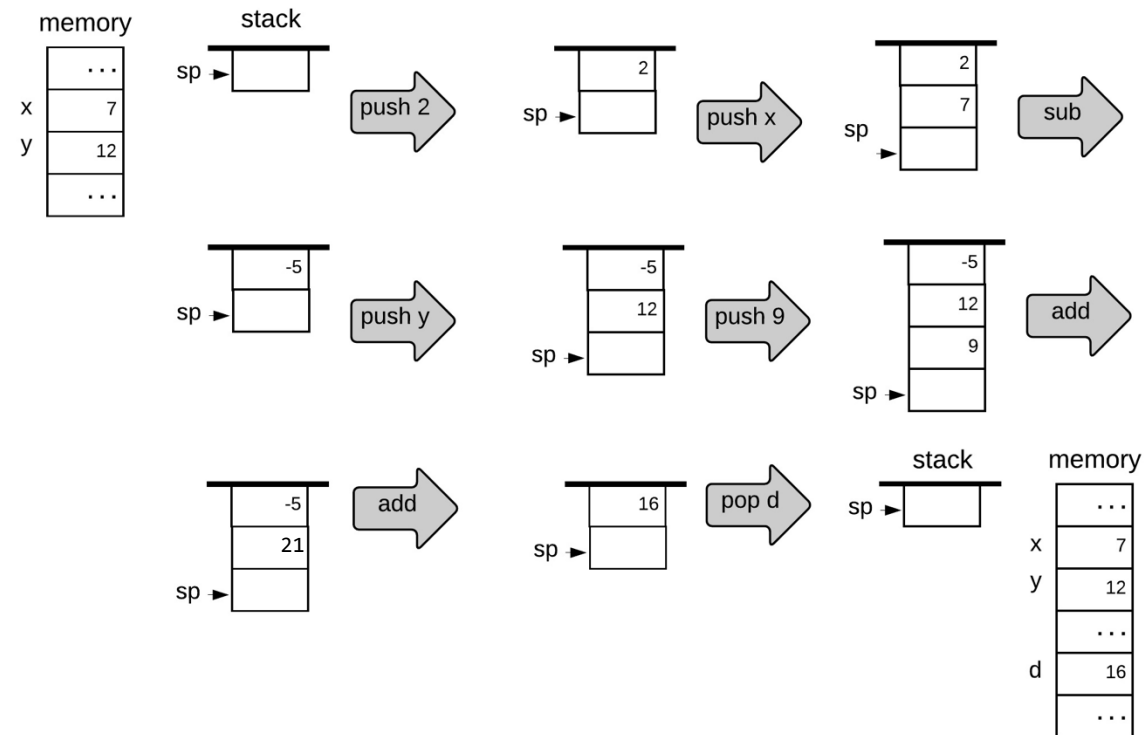
```
push y
```

```
push 9
```

```
add
```

```
add
```

```
pop d
```



Logical operations

VM pseudocode (another example)

```
// (x < 7) or (y == 8)
```

```
push x
```

```
push 7
```

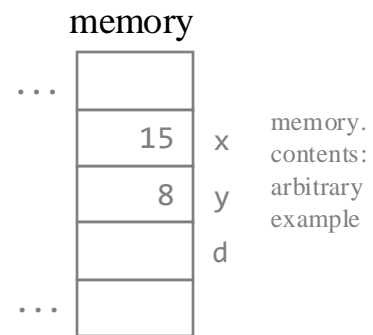
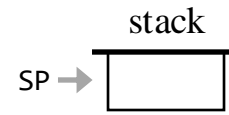
```
lt
```

```
push y
```

```
push 8
```

```
eq
```

```
or
```

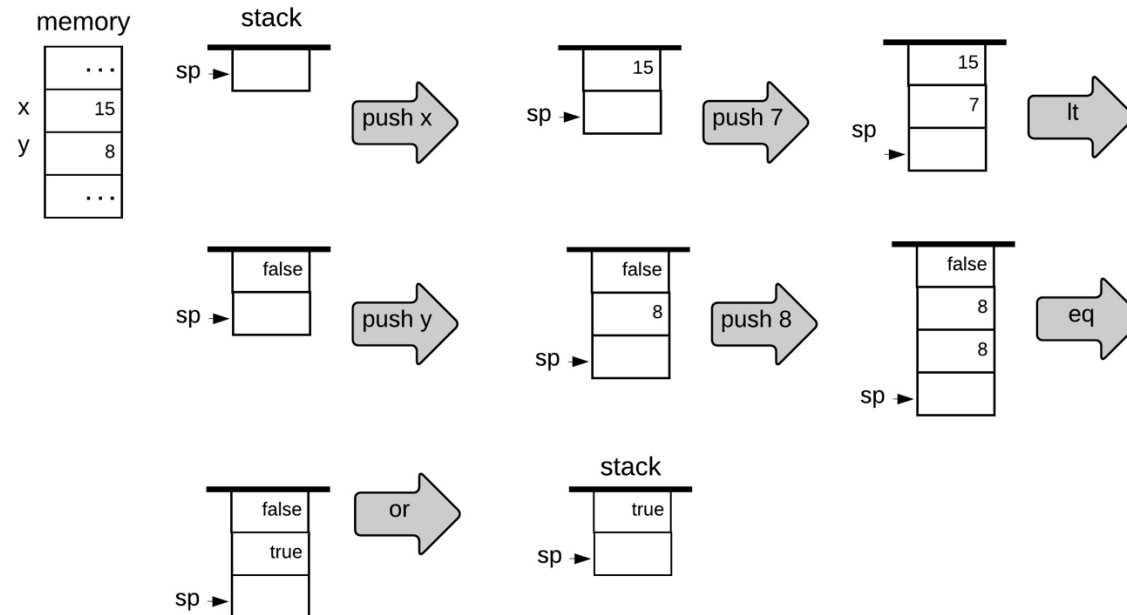


typically, generated
by a compiler

Logical operations (example recap)

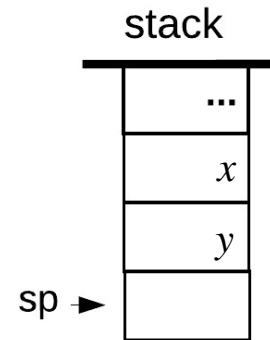
VM pseudocode (example 2)

```
// (x < 7) or (y == 8)
push x
push 7
lt
push y
push 8
eq
or
```



Arithmetic / Logical commands: Recap

command	operation	returns
add	$x + y$	integer
sub	$x - y$	integer
neg	$-y$	integer
eq	$x == y$	boolean
gt	$x > y$	boolean
lt	$x < y$	boolean
and	$x \text{ And } y$	boolean
or	$x \text{ Or } y$	boolean
not	Not x	boolean

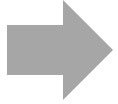


Each command pops as many operands as it needs from the stack, computes the specified operation, and pushes the result onto the stack.

The big picture: Compilation / expressiveness

Every high-level arithmetic or logical expression can be translated into a sequence of VM commands, operating in a stack.

The VM language



Push / pop commands

`push segment i`

`pop segment i`



Arithmetic / Logical commands

`add, sub, neg`

`eq, gt, lt`

`and, or, not`

Branching commands

`label label`

`goto label`

`if-goto label`

Function commands

`Function functionName nVars`

`Call functionName nArgs`

`return`

The Big Picture

Source code (e.g. Java)

```
class Foo {  
    static int s1, s2;  
    public int bar(int x, int y) {  
        int a, b, c;  
        ...  
        c = s1 + y;  
        ...  
        return c;  
    }  
}
```

compiler

Compiled VM code

```
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...
```

The Big Picture

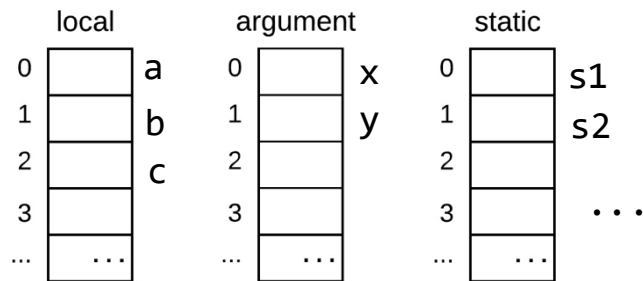
Source code (e.g. Java)

```
class Foo {  
    static int s1, s2;  
    public int bar(int x, int y) {  
        int a, b, c;  
        ...  
        c = s1 + y;  
        ...  
        return c;  
    }  
}
```

compiler

Compiled VM code

```
...  
...  
...  
...  
push static 0  
push argument 1  
add  
pop local 2  
...
```

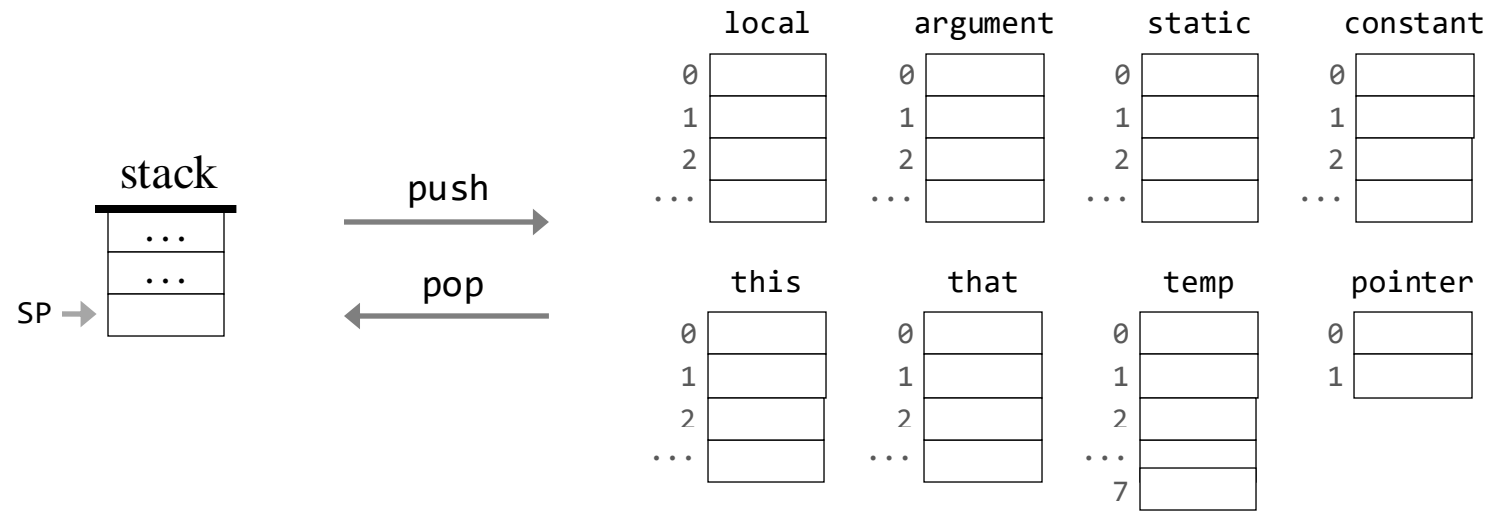


virtual memory segments

The compiler...

1. Represents variables by *virtual memory segments*, according to their *kinds*: local, argument, static, ...
2. Generates VM commands that operate on the stack and on the virtual memory segments.

Virtual memory segments



Our VM architecture features 8 *virtual memory segments*
(their roles will become clear when we'll develop the compiler).

VM abstraction: All segments look and behave exactly the same:

push / pop *segment i*

where *segment* is local, argument, ..., pointer
and *i* is a non-negative integer.

VM commands

Push / pop

`push segment i`

`pop segment i`

Arithmetic / Logical

`add, sub, neg`

`eq, gt, lt`

`and, or, not`

Example

```
// local 2 ← local 2 + argument 0
push local 2
push argument 0
add
pop local 2
```

Implementation options

Native: Extend the computer's hardware with modules that represent the stack, the stack pointer, and other VM constructs; Extend the computer's instruction set with primitive versions of the VM commands;

Emulation: Write a program in a high level language that represents the stack and the virtual memory segments as ADTs; Implement the VM commands as methods that operate on these ADTs;

Translation: Translate each VM command into machine language instructions that operate on a host RAM; Use an addressing contract that realizes the stack and the memory segments as dedicated RAM segments.

VM commands

Push / pop

`push segment i`

`pop segment i`

Arithmetic / Logical

`add, sub, neg`

`eq, gt, lt`

`and, or, not`

The approach taken by:

- Java, C#, Python, Ruby, Scala, ...
- Jack (designed in Nand to Tetris)

Implementation options

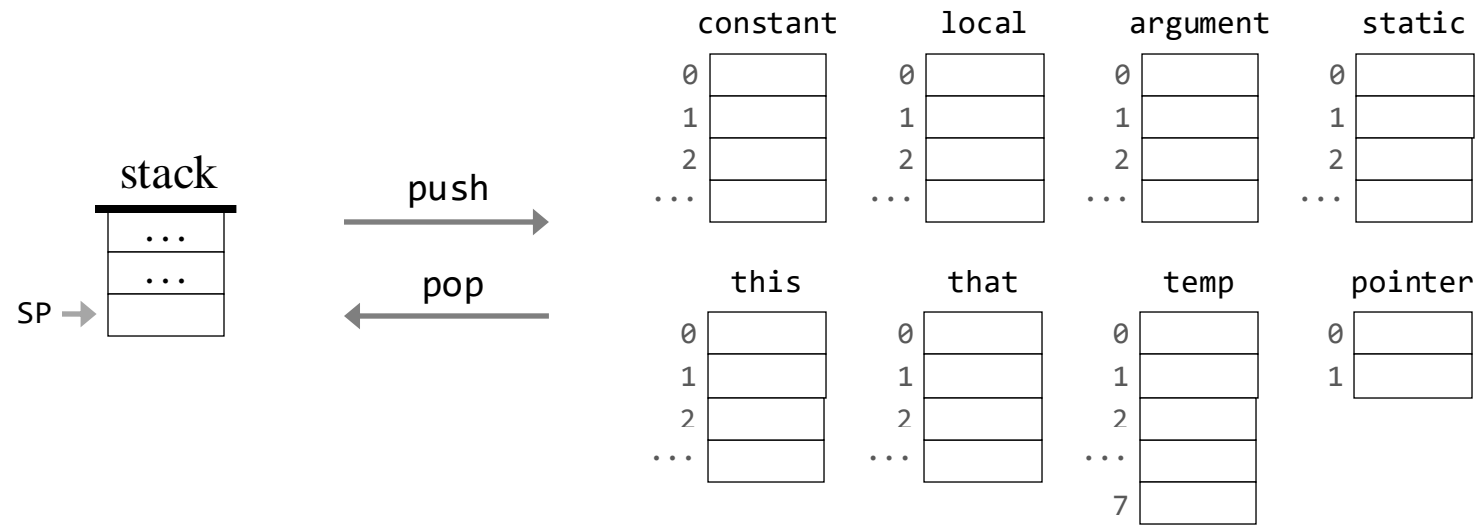
Native: Extend the computer's hardware with modules that represent the stack, the stack pointer, and other VM constructs; Extend the computer's instruction set with primitive versions of the VM commands;

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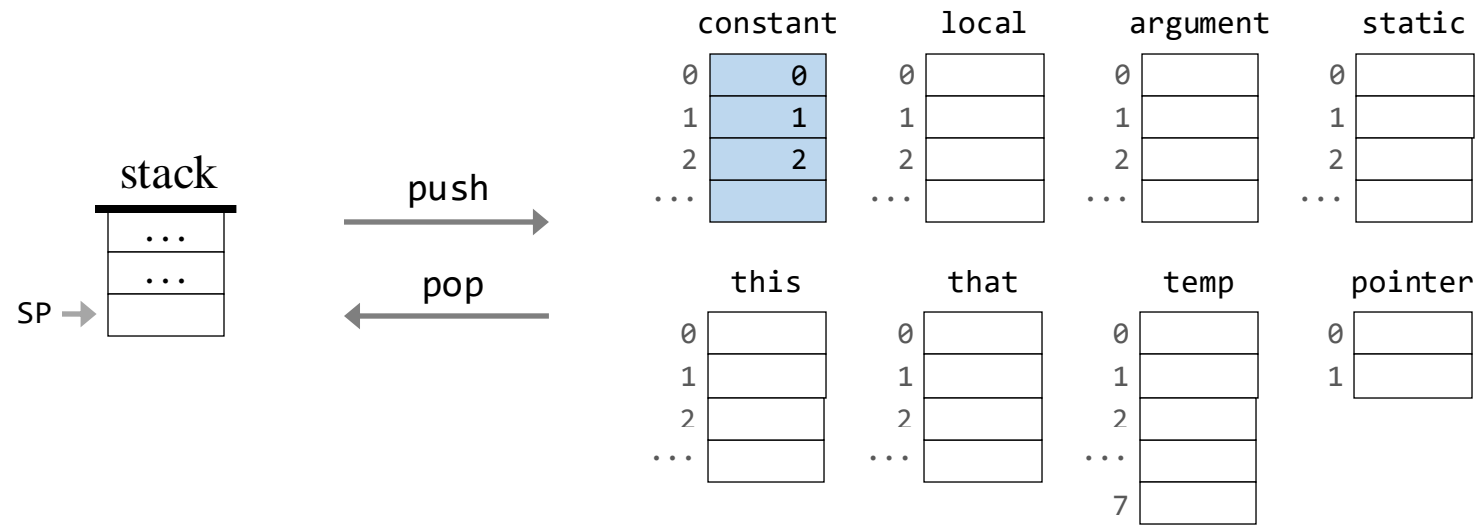
Translation: Translate each VM command into machine language instructions that operate on a host RAM; Use an addressing contract that realizes the stack and the memory segments as dedicated RAM segments.

We'll start with implementing
the push / pop commands.

Push / pop commands



Implementing push constant i

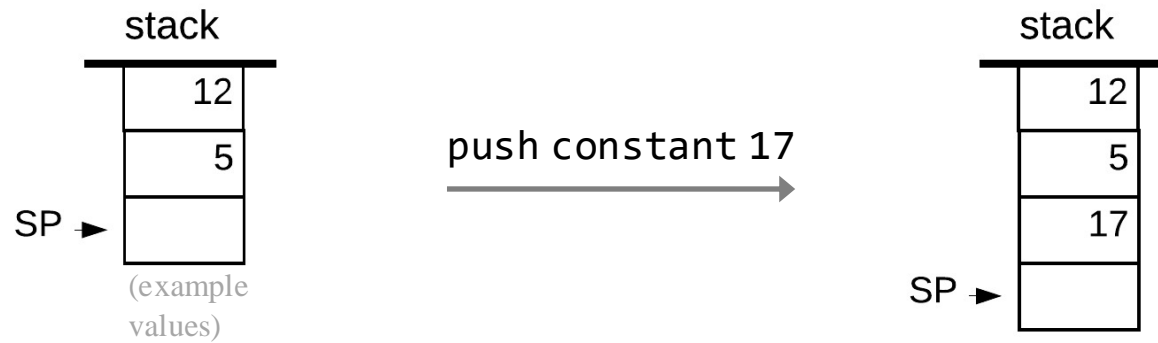


The constant segment represents the integers, 0, 1, 2, 3, ...

Abstraction: constant i supplies the integer i

Implementing push constant i

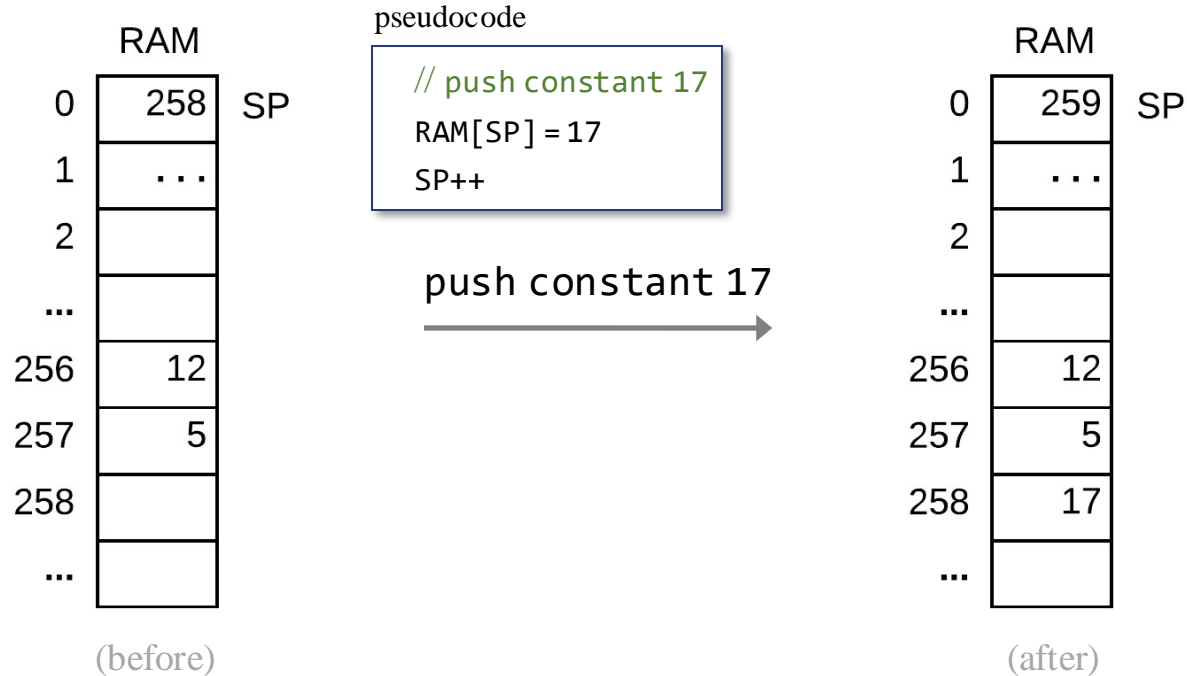
Abstraction



Implementation

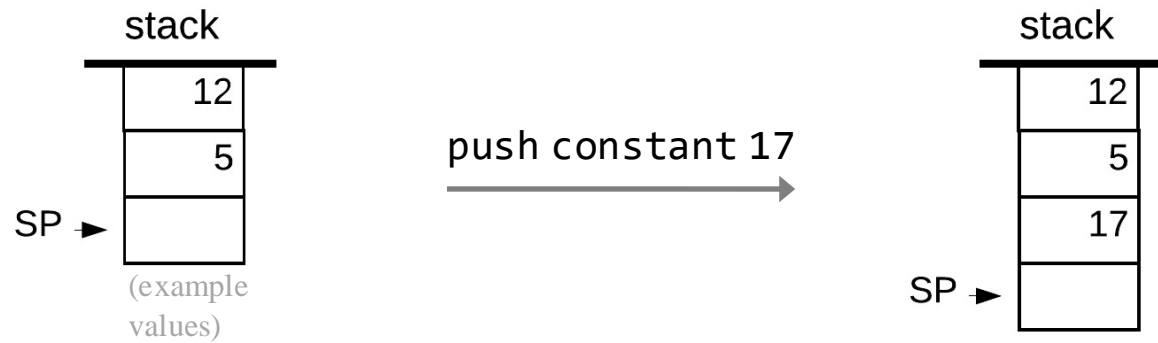
Stack:
stored in the RAM,
base address = 256

Stack Pointer:
stored in RAM[0]



Implementing push constant i

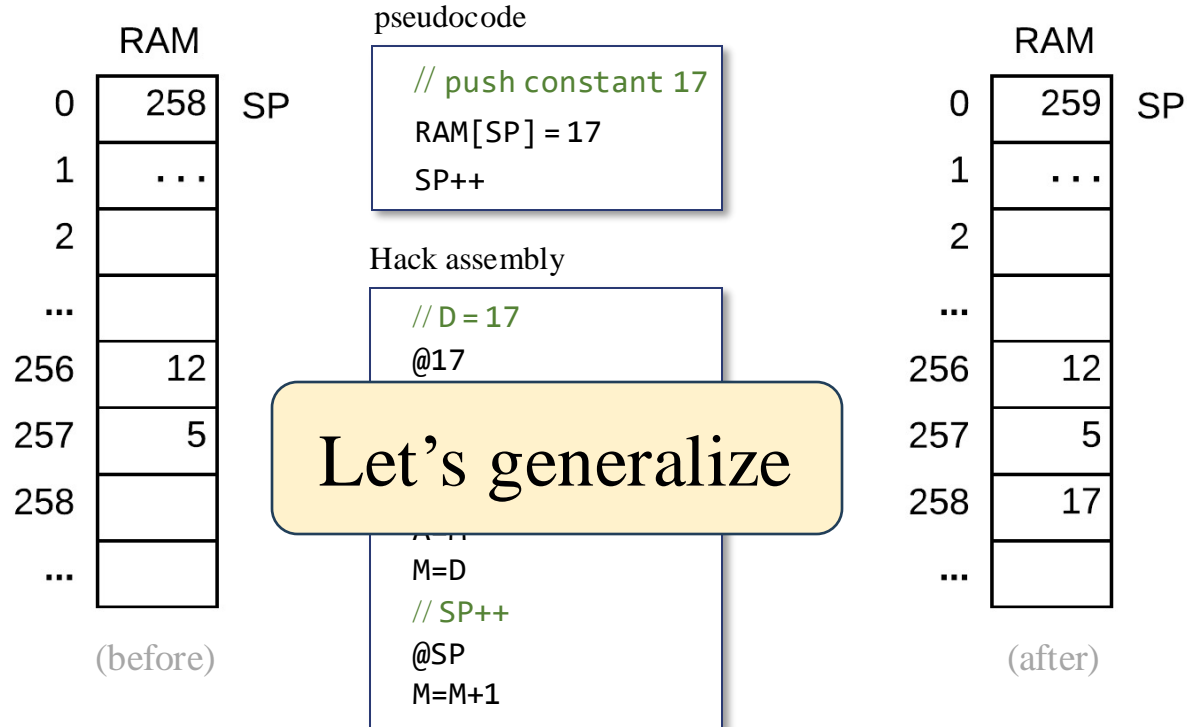
Abstraction



Implementation

Stack:
stored in the RAM,
base address = 256

Stack Pointer:
stored in RAM[0]



Implementing push constant i

Abstraction

VM code

push constant i

VM translator

Implementation

Assembly code

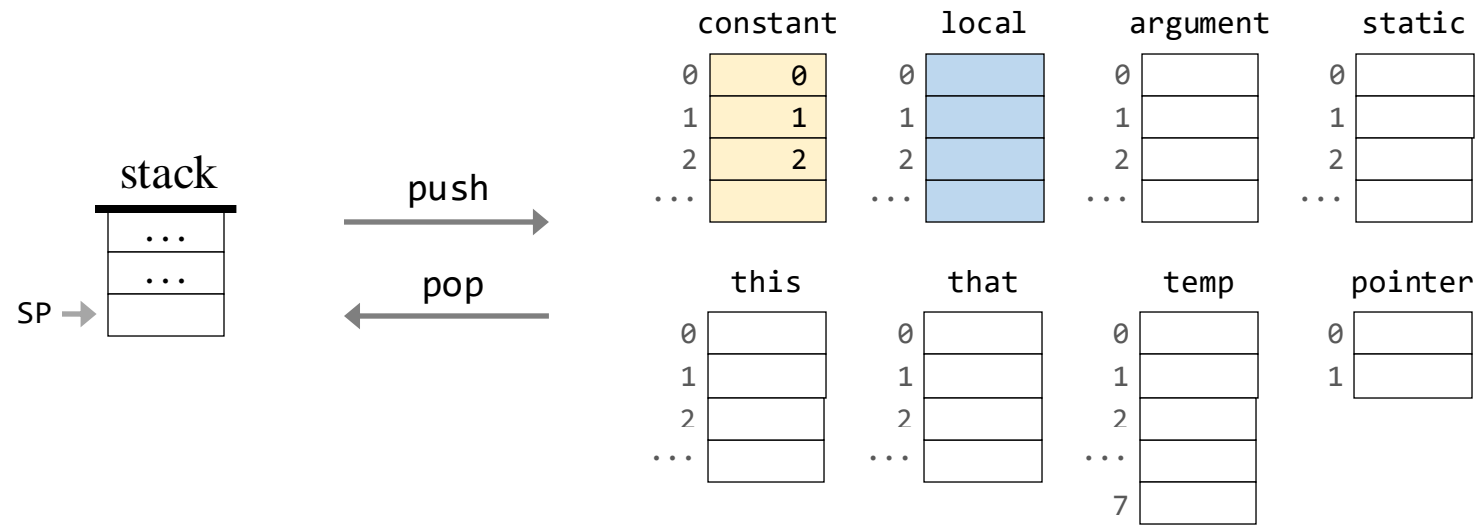
```
// D =  $i$ 
@ $i$ 
D=A
// RAM[SP] = D
@SP
A=M
M=D
// SP++
@SP
M=M+1
```

RAM

0	258	SP
1		
2		
3		
...		
255		
256	131	} working stack
257	19	
258		
...		

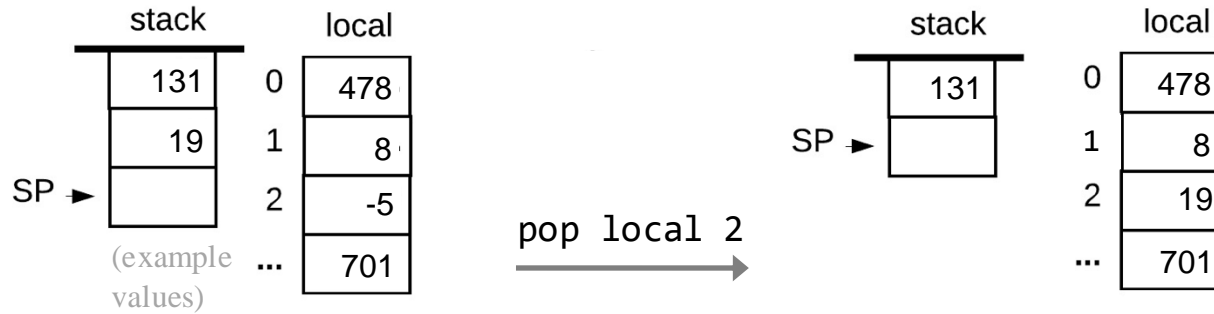
Example: Starting with an empty stack and executing
push constant 131
push constant 9

Implementing `push / pop local i`



Implementing `push / pop local i`

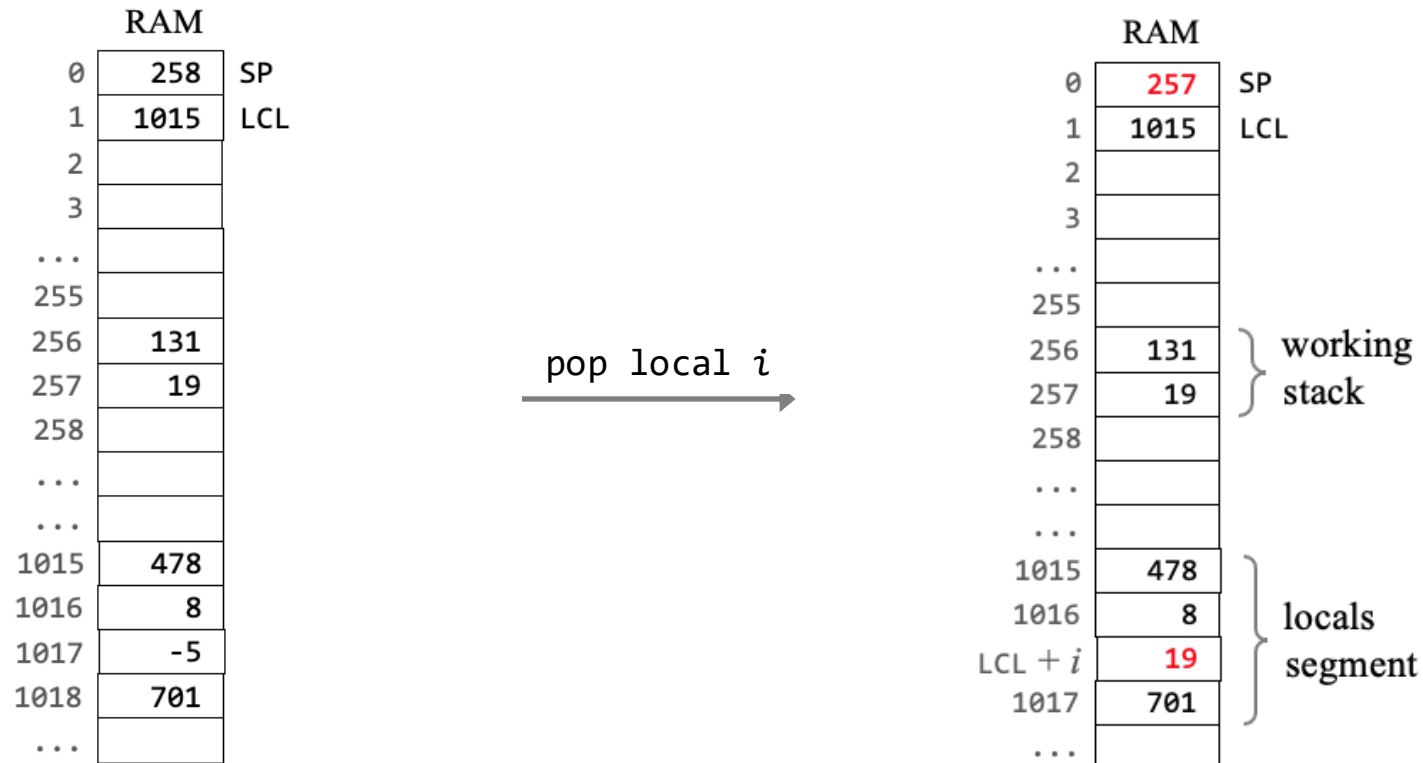
Abstraction



Implementation

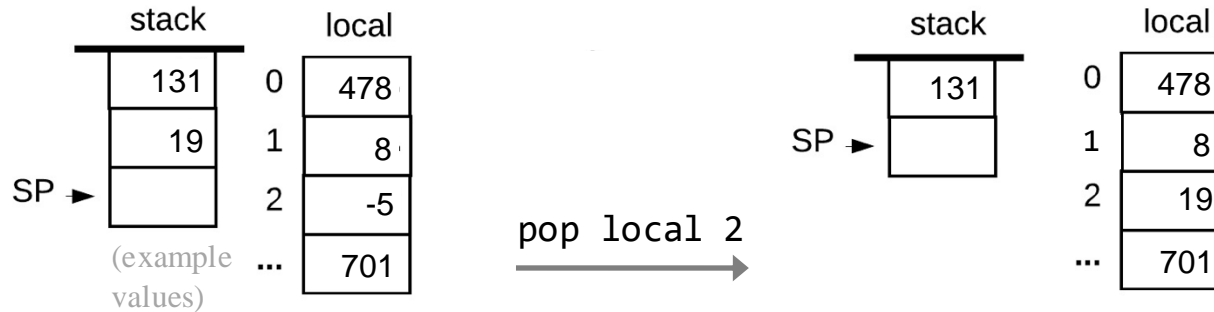
locals segment:
stored somewhere
in the RAM;

LCL = base address
(1015 is an example)



Implementing push / pop local i

Abstraction



Implementation

locals segment:
stored somewhere
in the RAM;

LCL = base address
(1015 is an example)

RAM	
0	258
1	1015
2	
3	
...	
255	
256	131
257	19
258	
...	
...	
1015	478
1016	8
1017	-5
1018	701
...	

SP
LCL

Pseudocode

```
// pop local  $i$   
 $addr \leftarrow LCL + i$   
 $SP--$   
 $RAM[addr] \leftarrow RAM[SP]$ 
```

pop local i

Hack assembly

You do it!

RAM	
0	257
1	1015
2	
3	
...	
255	
256	131
257	19
258	
...	
...	
...	
1015	478
1016	8
$LCL + i$	19
1018	701
...	

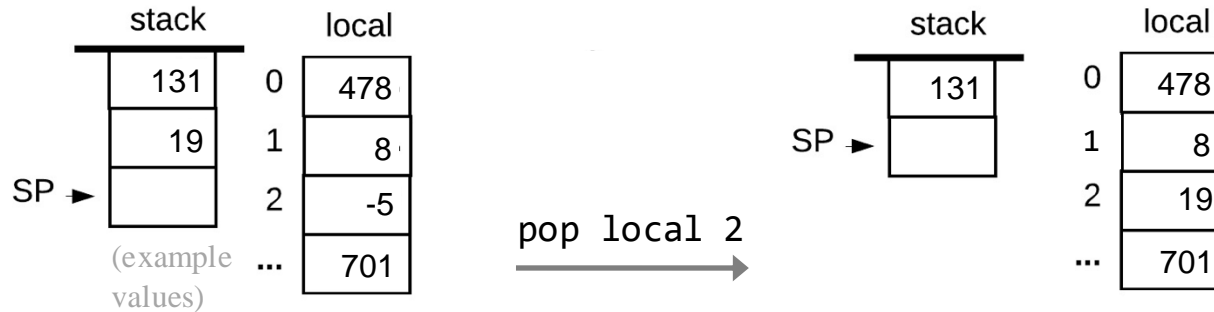
SP
LCL

working stack

locals segment

Implementing push / pop local i

Abstraction



Implementation

locals segment:
stored somewhere
in the RAM;

LCL = base address
(1015 is an example)

RAM	
0	258
1	1015
2	
3	
...	
255	
256	131
257	19
258	
...	
...	
1015	478
1016	8
1017	-5
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...	

Pseudocode

```
// pop local  $i$   
 $addr \leftarrow LCL + i$   
 $SP--$   
 $RAM[addr] \leftarrow RAM[SP]$ 
```

pop local i

Hack assembly

Let's generalize

RAM	
0	257
1	1015
2	
3	
...	
255	
256	131
257	19
258	
...	
...	
1015	478
1016	8
$LCL + i$	19
1018	701
...	

SP

LCL

working stack

locals segment

Implementing `push / pop local i`

Abstraction

VM code

`pop local i`

`push local i`

VM translator

Implementation

Assembly pseudo code

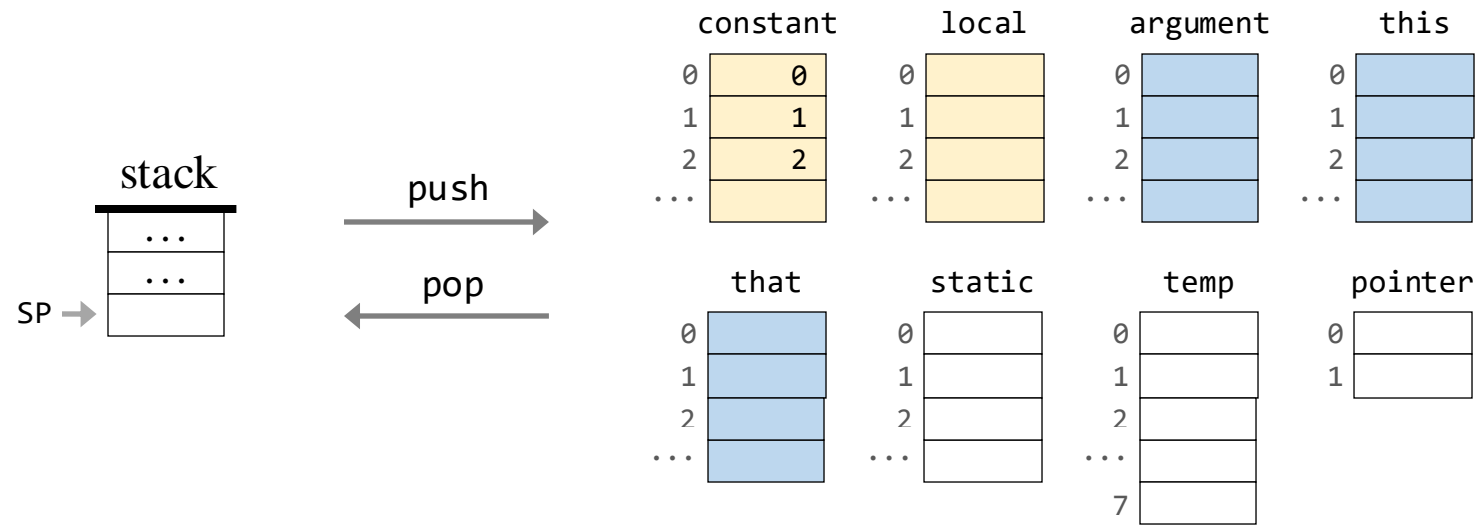
```
// pop local i
addr ← LCL + i
SP--
RAM[addr] ← RAM[SP]
```

```
// push local i
addr ← LCL + i
RAM[SP] ← RAM[addr]
SP++
```

RAM

0	258	SP
1	1015	LCL
2		
3		
...		
255		
256	131	} working stack
257	19	
258		
...		
...		
1015	478	} locals segment
1016	8	
1017	-5	
1018	701	
...		

Implementing `push / pop {local, argument, this, that} i`



The segments `argument`, `this`, and `that`:

Implemented exactly the same way as `local`

Implementing `push / pop {local, argument, this, that} i`

Abstraction

VM code

```
pop local i
```

```
push local i
```

VM translator

Implementation

Assembly pseudo code

```
// pop local i  
addr ← LCL + i  
SP--  
RAM[addr] ← RAM[SP]
```

```
// push local i  
addr ← LCL + i  
RAM[SP] ← RAM[addr]  
SP++
```

RAM

0	258	SP
1	1015	LCL
2		
3		
...		
255		
256	131	} working stack
257	19	
258		
...		
...		
1015	478	} locals segment
1016	8	
1017	-5	
1018	701	
...		

Implementation of `local` (reminder)

Implementing `push / pop {local, argument, this, that} i`

Abstraction

VM code

```
pop segment i
```

```
push segment i
```

where *segment* is
local, argument, this, that
and *i* is a non-negative integer

VM translator

Implementation

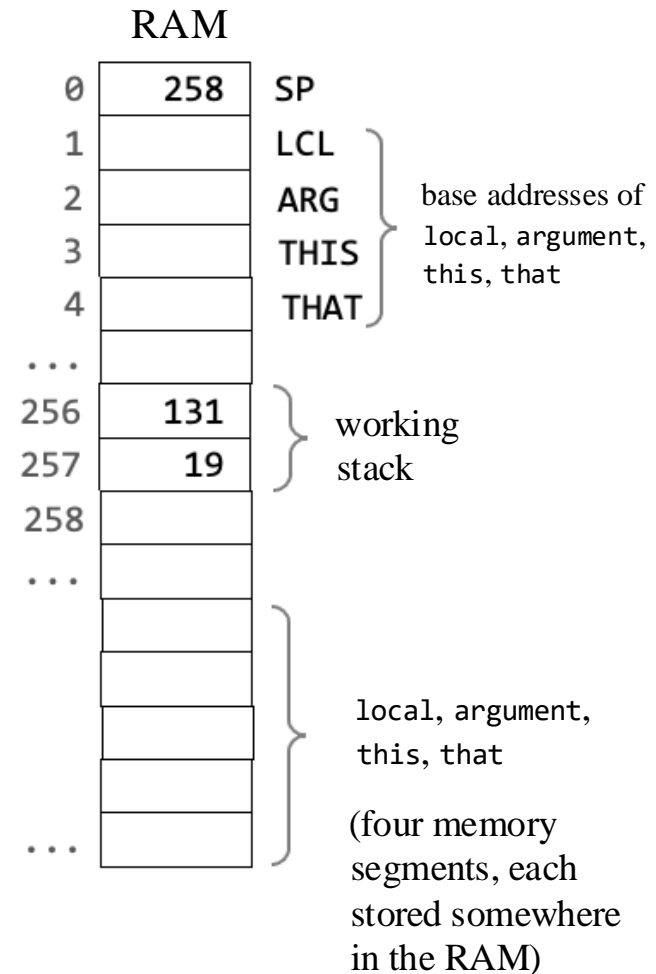
Assembly pseudo code

```
// pop segment i  
addr ← segmentPointer + i  
SP--  
RAM[addr] ← RAM[SP]
```

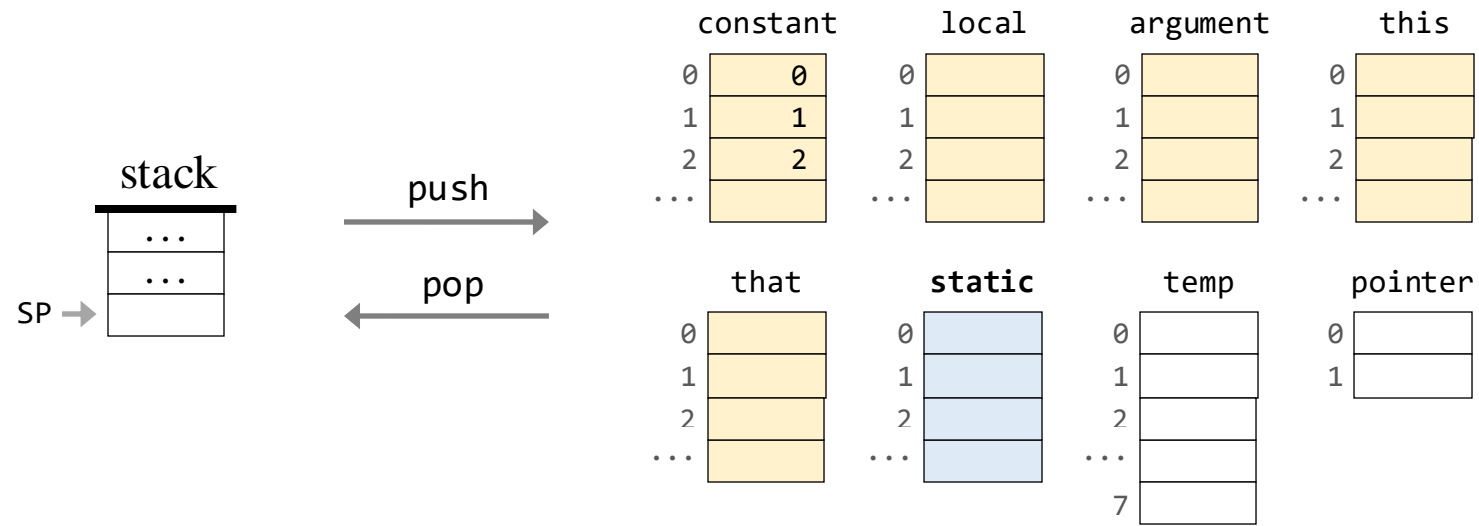
```
// push segment i  
addr ← segmentPointer + i  
RAM[SP] ← RAM[addr]  
SP++
```

where *segmentPointer* is
LCL, ARG, THIS, THAT

Implementation of local, argument, this, that



Implementing push / pop static *i*



The Big Picture

When the compiler compiles classes, it maps all their *static variables* onto one VM segment, named `static`.

Implementing push / pop static *i*

Standard mapping (contract)

The `static` segment is stored in a fixed RAM block, starting at address 16 and ending at address 255

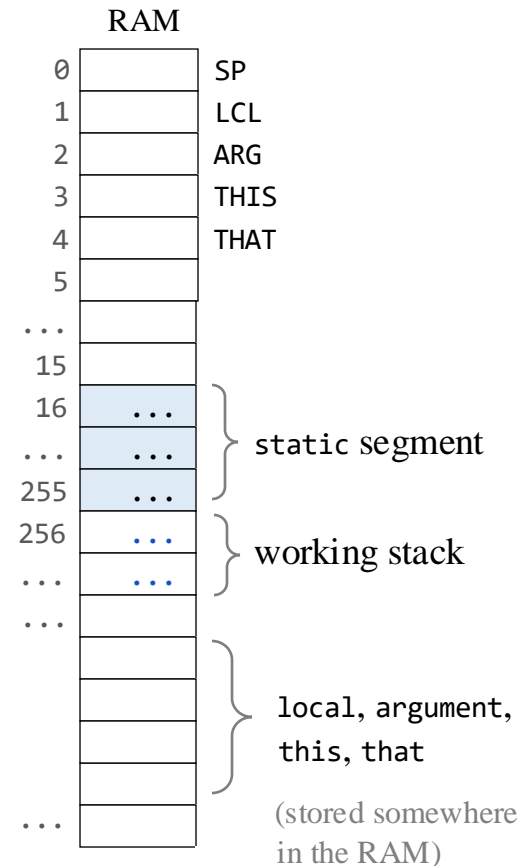
To translate push/pop static *i*

(when translating a VM file named `Xxx.vm`)

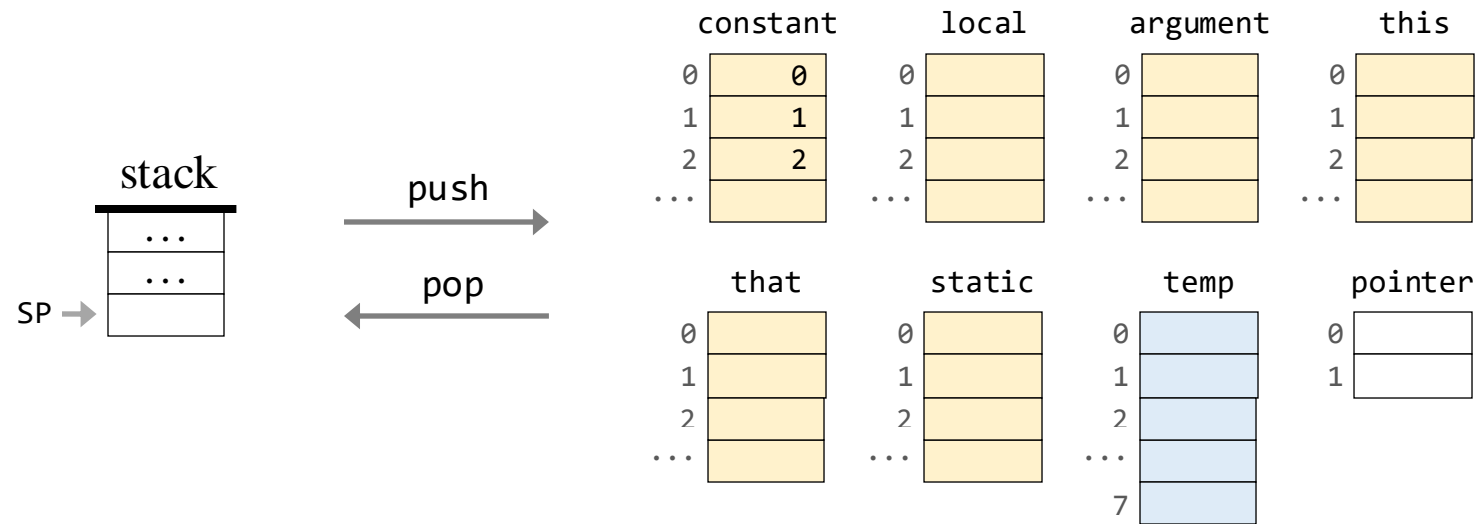
Generate assembly code that realizes:

push / pop $X_{xx}.i$

(Explanation: When this assembly code will be further translated to executable code, the Assembler will map these variables on RAM addresses 16, 17, 18, ..., exactly what we want).



Implementing push / pop temp i



The Big Picture

When translating high-level code, compilers sometimes generate VM code that uses temporary variables (variables that don't come from the source code)

The temp segment: A fixed, 8-entry segment: temp 0, temp 1, ..., temp 7

Implementing push / pop temp i

Standard mapping (contract)

The temp segment is stored in a fixed RAM block, starting at address 5 and ending at address 12:

temp 0 is stored in RAM[5]

temp 1 is stored in RAM[6]

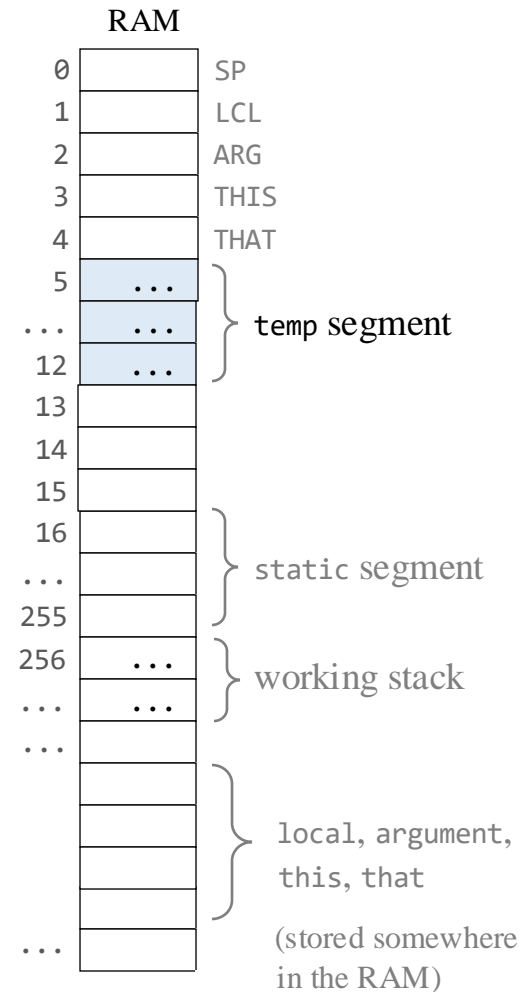
...

temp 7 is stored in RAM[12]

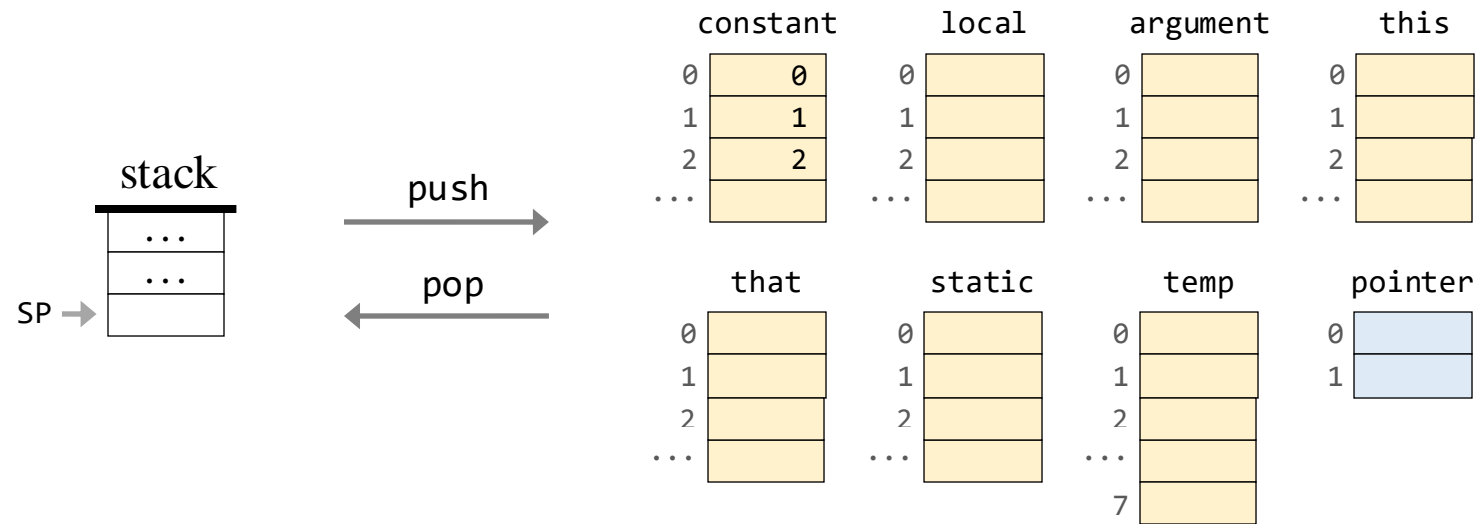
Implementing push/pop temp i

Generate assembly code that realizes:

push/pop RAM[5 + i]



Implementing push / pop pointer i

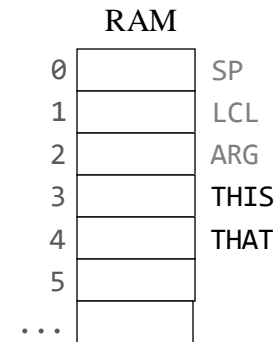


The Big Picture

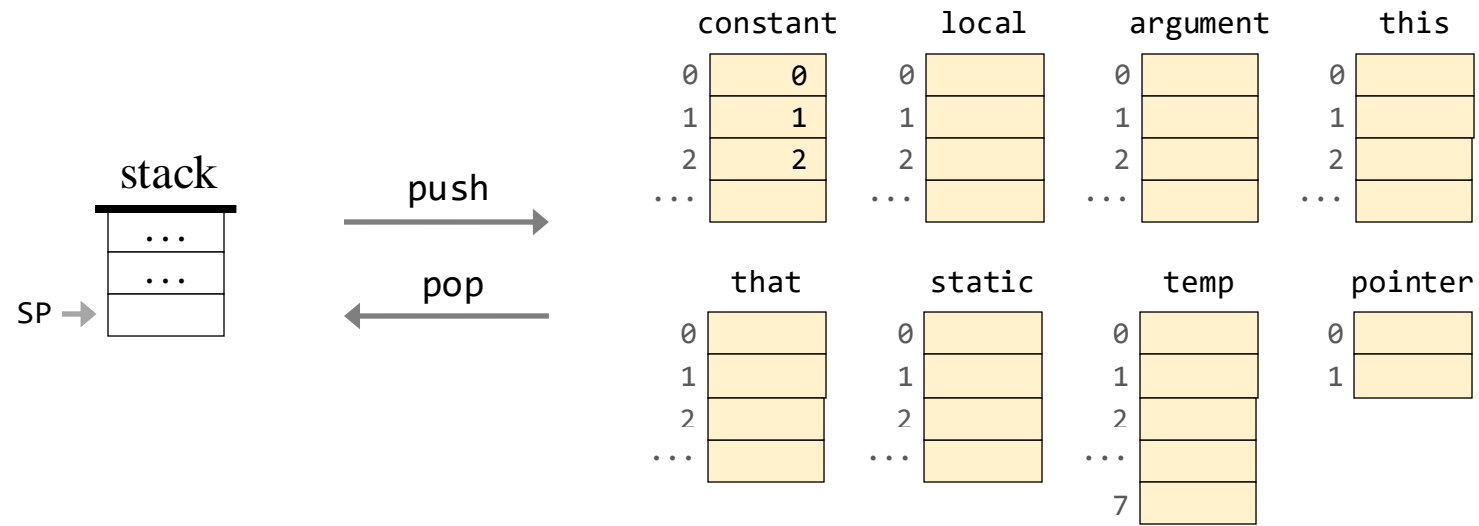
The pointer segment comes to play when the compiler generates code that deals with *objects* and *arrays*;

More about this, when we learn how to write a compiler.

Abstraction: A fixed, 2-entry segment: pointer 0, pointer 1



Push / pop commands



Recap

We described how to generate assembly code snippets that realize the VM operations

`push / pop {constant, local, argument, this, that, static, temp, pointer} i`

The VM language



Push / pop commands

`push segment i`

`pop segment i`



Arithmetic / Logical commands

`add, sub, neg`

`eq, gt, lt`

`and, or, not`

Branching commands

`label label`

`goto label`

`if-goto label`

Function commands

`Function functionName nVars`

`Call functionName nArgs`

`return`

Implementing the VM arithmetic-logical commands

command	operation	returns
add	$x + y$	integer
sub	$x - y$	integer
neg	$-y$	integer
eq	$x == y$	boolean
gt	$x > y$	boolean
lt	$x < y$	boolean
and	$x \text{ And } y$	boolean
or	$x \text{ Or } y$	boolean
not	Not x	boolean

Abstraction

Each arithmetic/logical command **pops** one or two values from the stack, **computes** one of the above functions on these values, and **pushes** the computed value onto the stack

Implementation

Popping implementation in assembly: Discussed

Pushing implementation in assembly: Discussed

$+$, $-$, $==$, $>$, $<$, And, Or, Not **computations** in assembly: Simple.

Conclusion

Translating the arithmetic-logical VM commands to assembly: Easy.

The VM language



Push / pop commands

`push segment i`

`pop segment i`



Arithmetic / Logical commands

`add, sub, neg`

`eq, gt, lt`

`and, or, not`



This
lecture

Branching commands

`label label`

`goto label`

`if-goto label`

Function commands

`Function functionName nVars`

`Call functionName nArgs`

`return`



Next
lecture

Lecture plan



Overview



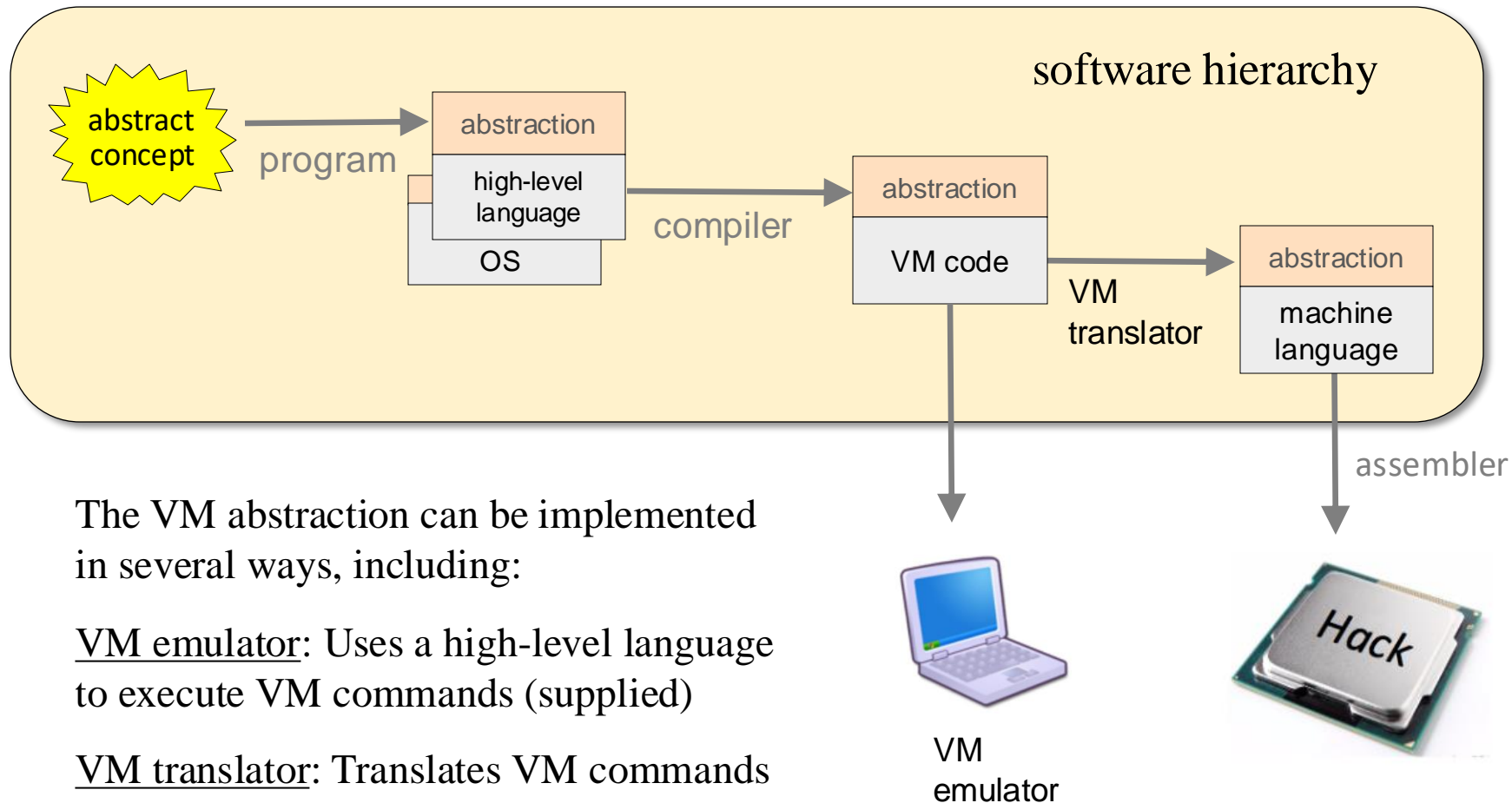
The VM Language



VM Emulator

- Standard Mapping
- VM Translator
- Project 7

VM implementations

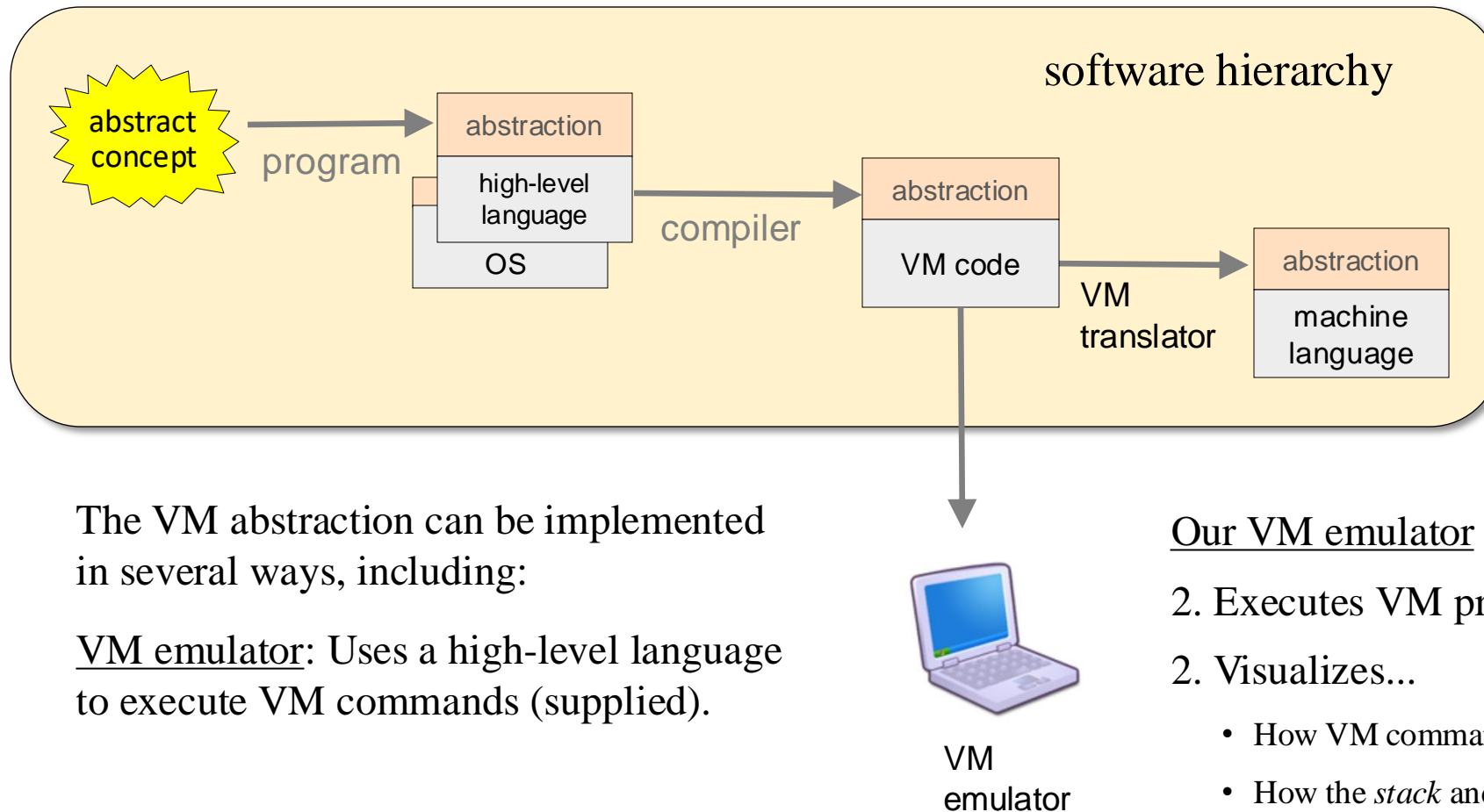


The VM abstraction can be implemented in several ways, including:

VM emulator: Uses a high-level language to execute VM commands (supplied)

VM translator: Translates VM commands into the machine language of a target platform (projects 7, 8).

VM implementations



Emulating a VM program

The screenshot shows a VM emulator interface with the following components:

- Menu Bar:** File, View, Run, Help
- Toolbar:** Includes icons for file operations, execution (play, step, stop, reset), and animation controls (Slow, Fast).
- Program List:** A list of instructions with indices 0-7. Instruction 5, "pop argument 1", is highlighted in yellow.
- Static Registers:** A table with 5 slots, all containing 0.
- Local Registers:** A table with 5 slots. Slot 0 contains 10, and slot 2 contains 22 (highlighted in blue).
- Argument Registers:** A table with 5 slots, all containing 0.
- This Registers:** A table with 7 slots, all containing 0.
- That Registers:** A table with 2 slots, both containing 0.
- Temp Registers:** A table with 1 slot, containing 0.
- Global Stack:** A table showing memory addresses 256-270. Address 257 contains 22 (highlighted in yellow).
- RAM:** A table showing memory addresses 0-14. Address 0 contains 257 (highlighted in yellow).
- Code Window:** Displays the VM code being executed, including comments and instructions. The instruction "vmstep;" is highlighted in yellow.
- Stack:** A single slot containing 21.
- Call Stack:** An empty list.

Emulating a VM program

execution controls

File View Run Help

Slow Fast Animate: Program flow View: Scr... Format: D...

Program

0	push	constant 10
1	pop	local 0
2	push	constant 21
3	push	constant 22
4	pop	argument 2
5	pop	argument 1
6	push	constant 36
7	pop	this 6

VM code

Static

0	0
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0

Local

0	10
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0

Argument

0	0
1	0
2	22
3	0
4	0

This

2	0
3	0
4	0
5	0
6	0

That

0	0
1	0

Temp

Stack

21

stack

Call Stack

Global Stack

256	21
257	22
258	0
259	0
260	0
261	0
262	0
263	0
269	0
270	0

memory segments

Multi-purpose pane

- Test script
- Program output
- Compare file

```
output-list RAM[256] RAM[300] ...
// The final version of the VM implementation generates code that alloc
// the stack and the program arguments to the RAM "automatically";
// In project 7, the test scripts:
set sp 256,
set local 300,
set argument 400,
set this 3000,
set that 3010,
repeat 25 {
  vmstep;
}
// Shows the VM code impact
// (outputs the values specified by the output-list)
output;
```

RAM

SP:	0	257
LCL:	1	300
ARG:	2	400
THIS:	3	3000
THAT:	4	3010
Temp0:	5	0
Temp1:	6	0
Temp2:	7	0
Temp3:	8	0
Temp4:	9	0
Temp5:	10	0
Temp6:	11	0
Temp7:	12	0
R13:	13	0
R14:	14	0

Emulating a VM program

The screenshot shows a VM emulator interface with the following components:

- Program:** A list of instructions. Instruction 5, `pop argument 1`, is highlighted in yellow.
- Static:** A table with 5 rows, all values are 0.
- Local:** A table with 5 rows. Row 0 has value 10, others are 0.
- Argument:** A table with 5 rows. Row 2 has value 22, others are 0.
- This:** A table with 7 rows, all values are 0.
- That:** A table with 2 rows, all values are 0.
- Temp:** A table with 1 row, value is 0.
- Stack:** A single entry with value 21.
- Call Stack:** An empty list.
- Global Stack:** A table with 21 rows. Row 257 has value 22, others are 0.
- RAM:** A table with 15 rows. Row 0 (SP) has value 257, others are 0.
- Code Window:** Contains assembly-like code. The line `vmstep;` is highlighted in yellow.

Abstraction

How the abstraction is realized

Emulating a VM program: Testing

BasicTest.vm

```
push constant 10
pop local 0
push constant 21
push constant 22
pop argument 2
pop argument 1
push constant 36
pop this 6
...
```

(example test
program from
project 7)

BasicTestVME.tst

```
load BasicTest.vm,
output-file BasicTest.out,
compare-to BasicTest.cmp,

// In project 7 we allocate the stack and the virtual segments to the RAM
// “manually”, using test script commands (in project 8 we will develop
// the ability to do these allocations “automatically”):

set sp 256,           // stack pointer
set local 300,        // base address of local
set argument 400,     // base address of argument
set this 3000,        // base address of this
set that 3010,        // base address of that

repeat 25 {           // BasicTest.vm requires 25 VM steps
    vmstep;
}

// Shows the impact of the executed VM code on selected RAM addresses
// (contents of selected pointers, virtual segments, etc.):
output-list RAM[256] RAM[300] RAM[401] RAM[402]...
output;
```

- The script runs the VM program on the VM emulator;
- Enables experimenting with the VM commands before implementing them in assembly.

Lecture plan

- Overview
- The VM Language
- VM Emulator
- ➔ Standard Mapping
- VM Translator
- Project 7

Standard VM mapping

Background

We've introduced a virtual machine (VM) model;

The VM can be implemented on numerous target platforms, in numerous different ways.

Standard mapping (on some target platform)

Recommends how to realize the VM on a specific target platform (where to store the stack, the segments pointers, the segments, etc.)

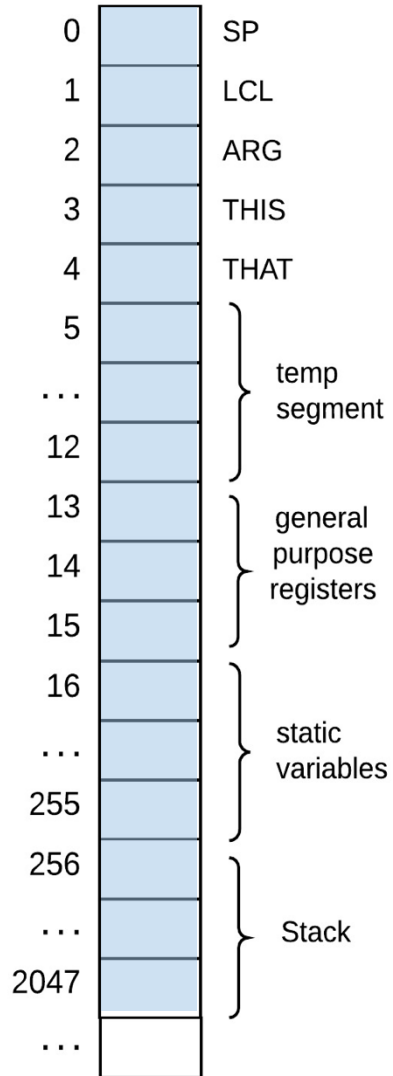
Benefits

Promotes compatibility with other tools / libraries that conform to this standard:

- VM emulators, OS routines
- Testing systems / test scripts
- Etc.

Standard VM mapping on the Hack platform

Hack RAM



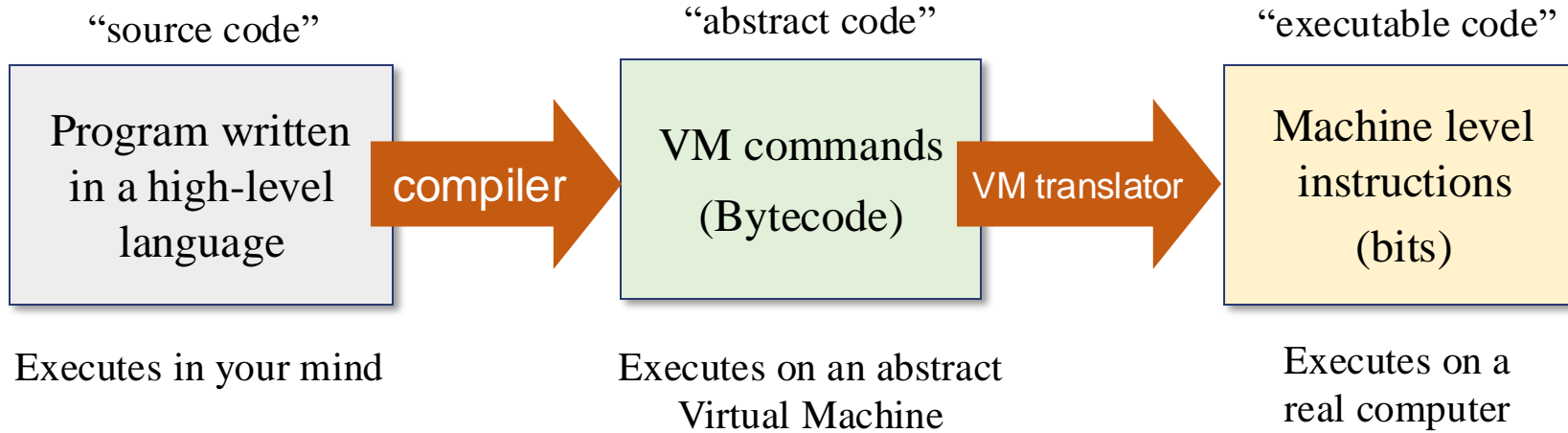
To realize this standard mapping, the assembly code generated by the VM translator must conform to the mapping shown on the left, and use the following symbols:

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Usage</i>
SP	This predefined symbol points to the memory address within the host RAM just following the address containing the topmost stack value.
LCL, ARG, THIS, THAT	These predefined symbols point, respectively, to the base addresses within the host RAM of the virtual segments <code>local</code> , <code>argument</code> , <code>this</code> , and <code>that</code> of the currently running VM function.
R13–R15	These predefined symbols can be used for any purpose.
Xxx.i symbols	<p>The <code>static</code> segment is implemented as follows: each static variable <i>i</i> in file <code>Xxx.vm</code> is translated into the assembly symbol <code>Xxx.i</code>.</p> <p>In the subsequent assembly process, these symbolic variables will be allocated to the RAM by the Hack assembler.</p>

Lecture plan

- Overview
- The VM Language
- VM Emulator
- Standard Mapping
- ➔ VM Translator
- Project 7

The Big Picture: Program compilation



The VM translator

VM code (*fileName.vm*)

```
...  
push constant 17  
push local 2  
add  
pop argument 1  
...
```

VM
translator



Generated assembly code (*fileName.asm*)

```
...  
// push constant 17  
@17  
D=A  
... additional assembly code that completes the  
... implementation of push constant 17  
  
// push local 2  
... assembly code that implements push local 2  
  
// add  
... assembly code that implements add  
  
// pop argument 1  
... assembly code that implements push argument 1  
...
```

The VM translator creates an output `.asm` file, parses the source VM commands line by line, generates assembly code according to the standard mapping, and emits the generated code into the output file.

The VM translator

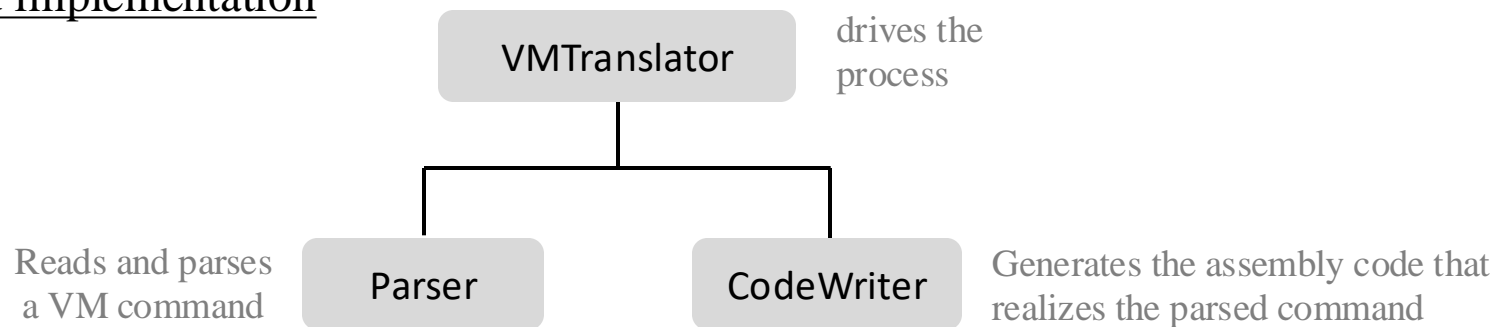
Usage: (if the translator is implemented in Java)

```
$ java VMTranslator fileName.vm
```

(the *fileName* may contain a file path; the first character of *fileName* must be an uppercase letter).

Output: An assembly file named *fileName.asm*

Proposed implementation



The VM translator

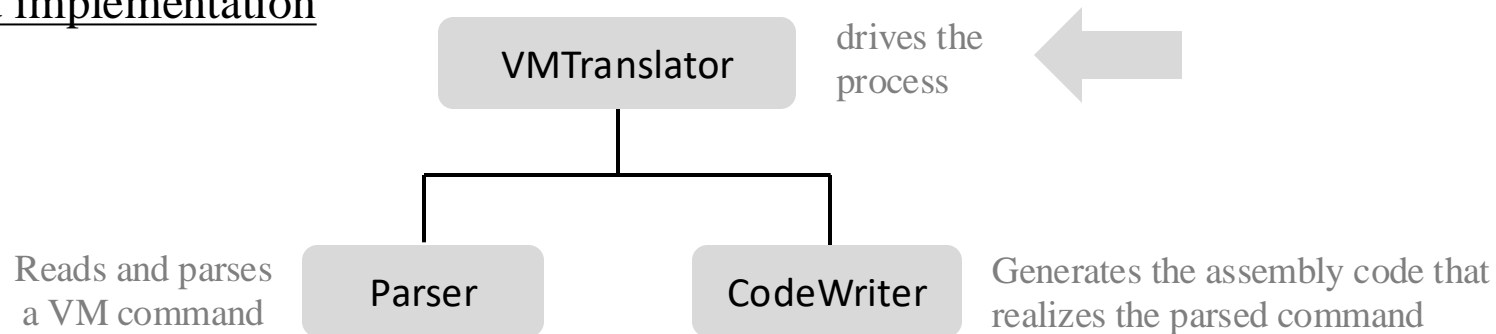
Usage: (if the translator is implemented in Java)

```
$ java VMTranslator fileName.vm
```

(the *fileName* may contain a file path; the first character of *fileName* must be an uppercase letter).

Output: An assembly file named *fileName.asm*

Proposed implementation



VMTranslator

- Constructs a **Parser** to handle the input file;
- Constructs a **CodeWriter** to handle the output file;
- Iterates through the input file, parsing each line and generating assembly code from it, using the services of the **Parser** and a **CodeWriter**.

The VM translator

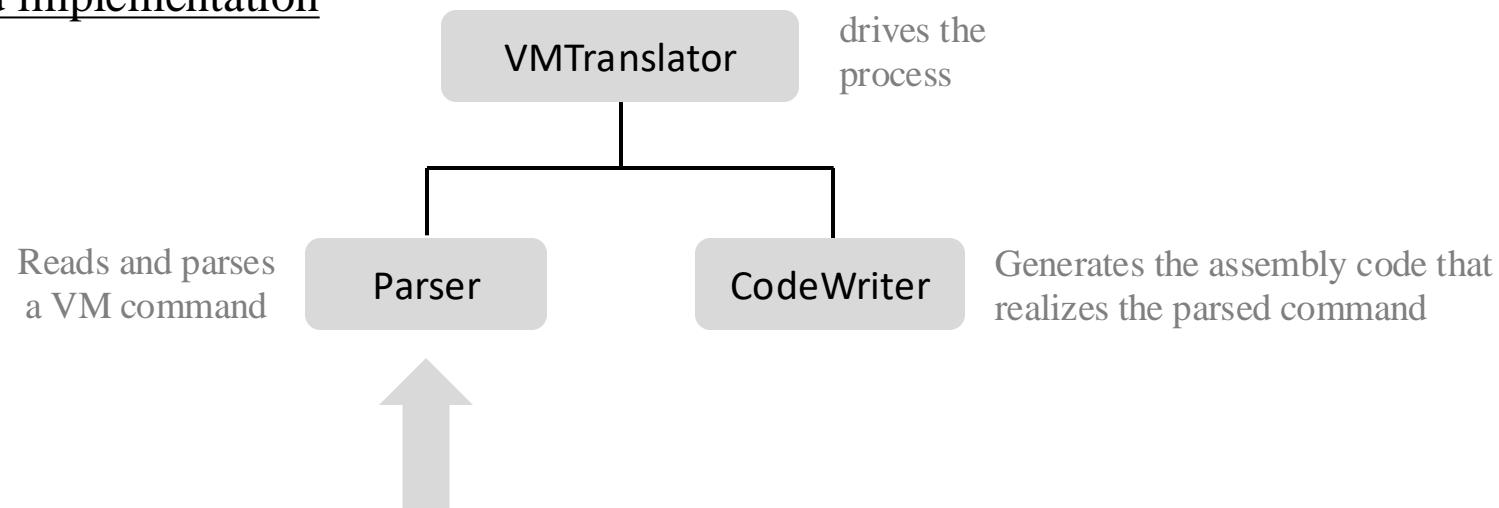
Usage: (if the translator is implemented in Java)

```
$ java VMTranslator fileName.vm
```

(the *fileName* may contain a file path; the first character of *fileName* must be an uppercase letter).

Output: An assembly file named *fileName.asm*

Proposed implementation



Parser API

Routines

- Constructor / initializer: Creates a Parser and opens the input (source VM code) file
- Getting the current instruction:
 - hasMoreLines()**: Checks if there is more work to do (boolean)
 - advance()**: Gets the next command and makes it the *current instruction* (string)
- Parsing the *current instruction*:
 - commandType()**: Returns the type of the current command (a string constant):
 - C_ARITHMETIC if the current command is an arithmetic-logical command;
 - C_PUSH, C_POP if the current command is one of these command types
 - arg1()**: Returns the first argument of the current command;
In the case of C_ARITHMETIC, the command itself is returned (string)
 - arg2()**: Returns the second argument of the current command (int);
Called only if the current command is C_PUSH, C-POP, ~~C_FUNCTION, or C_CALL~~

(crossed out specs will be
handled in project 8)

Examples:

current command

add, neg, eq, ...

commandType() returns C_ARITHMETIC;
arg1() returns "add", "neg", "eq",...

push local 3

commandType() returns C_PUSH;
arg1() returns "local"; arg2() returns 3

Parser API (detailed)

- Handles the parsing of a single .vm file
- Reads a VM command, parses the command into its lexical components, and provides convenient access to these components
- Ignores white space and comments

<i>Routine</i>	<i>Arguments</i>	<i>Returns</i>	<i>Function</i>
constructor	input file / stream	—	Opens the input file/stream, and gets ready to parse it.
hasMoreLines	—	boolean	Are there more lines in the input?
advance	—	—	Reads the next command from the input and makes it the <i>current command</i> . This method should be called only if hasMoreLines is true. Initially there is no current command.

(continues in the next slide)

Parser API (detailed)

- Handles the parsing of a single .vm file
- Reads a VM command, parses the command into its lexical components, and provides convenient access to these components
- Ignores white space and comments

<i>Routine</i>	<i>Arguments</i>	<i>Returns</i>	<i>Function</i>
commandType	—	C_ARITHMETIC, C_PUSH, C_POP, C_LABEL, C_GOTO, C_IF, C_FUNCTION, C_RETURN, C_CALL (constant)	Returns a constant representing the type of the current command. If the current command is an arithmetic-logical command, returns C_ARITHMETIC.
arg1	—	string (crossed out specs will be handled in project 8)	Returns the first argument of the current command. In the case of C_ARITHMETIC, the command itself (add, sub, etc.) is returned. Should not be called if the current command is C_RETURN.
arg2	—	int	Returns the second argument of the current command. Should be called only if the current command is C_PUSH, C_POP, C_FUNCTION, or C_CALL.

The VM translator

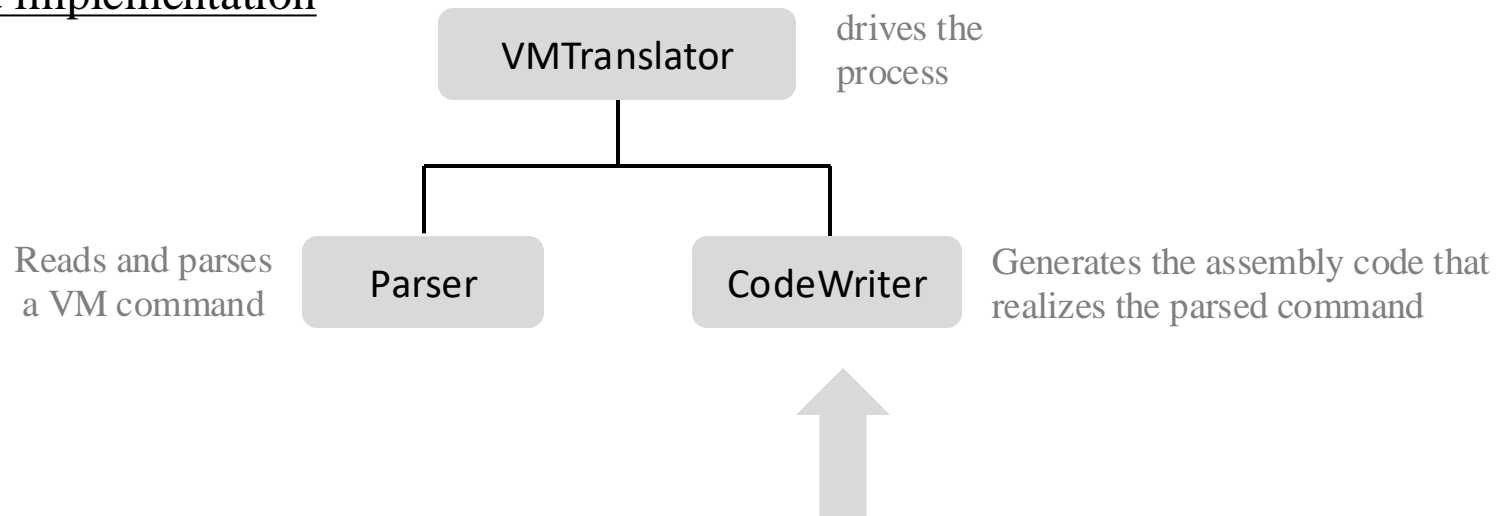
Usage: (if the translator is implemented in Java)

```
$ java VMTranslator fileName.vm
```

(the *fileName* may contain a file path; the first character of *fileName* must be an uppercase letter).

Output: An assembly file named *fileName.asm*

Proposed implementation



CodeWriter API

Generates assembly code from the parsed VM command

<i>Routine</i>	<i>Arguments</i>	<i>Returns</i>	<i>Function</i>
constructor	output file / stream	—	Opens an output file / stream and gets ready to write into it.
writeArithmetic	command (string)	—	Writes to the output file the assembly code that implements the given arithmetic-logical command.
WritePushPop	command (C_PUSH or C_POP), segment (string), index (int)	—	Writes to the output file the assembly code that implements the given push or pop command.
close	—	—	Closes the output file.

Implementation notes

- The components/fields of each VM command are supplied by the Parser routines;
- Implement `true` as -1 (minus 1) and `false` as 0;
- Start by writing and debugging *on paper* the assembly code that each VM command must generate; Then have your CodeWriter routines write this code;
- More routines will be added to this module in Project 8, for handling all the commands of the VM language.

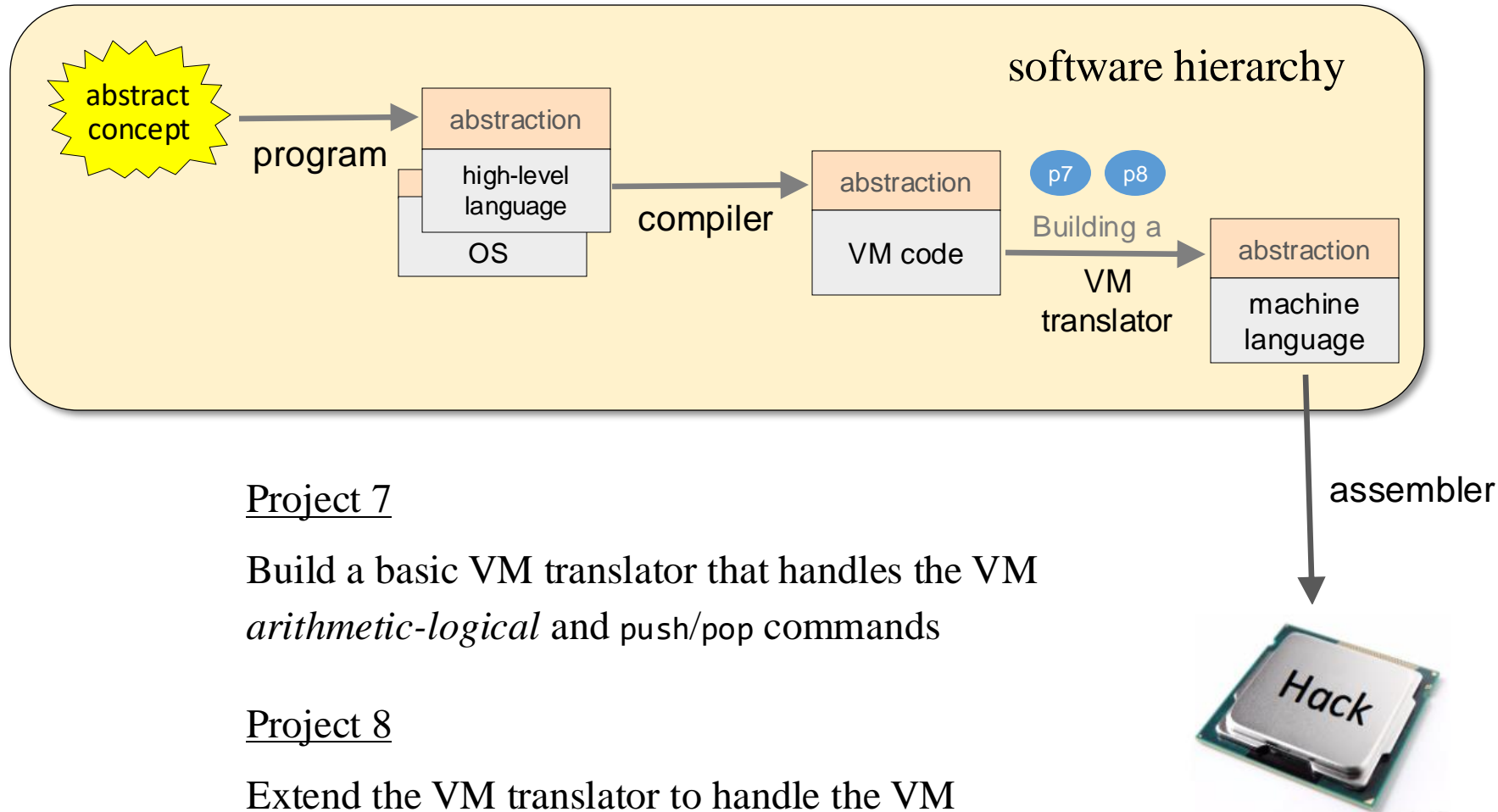
Lecture plan

- Overview
- The VM Language
- VM Emulator
- Standard Mapping
- VM Translator



Project 7

Project 7



Project 7

Build a basic VM translator that handles the VM *arithmetic-logical* and *push/pop* commands

Project 8

Extend the VM translator to handle the VM *branching* and *function* commands.

Project 7

fileName.vm

```
...  
push constant 17  
push local 2  
add  
pop argument 1  
...
```

VM translator

fileName.asm

```
...  
// push constant 17  
@17  
D=A  
...  
// push local 2  
... generated assembly code  
  
// add  
... generated assembly code  
  
// pop argument 1  
... generated assembly code  
...
```

Testing option 1: Translate the generated assembly code into machine language:
run the binary code on the Hack computer

➡ Testing option 2 (simpler): Run the generated assembly code on the CPU emulator.

Project 7

Test programs

SimpleAdd.vm

StackTest.vm

BasicTest.vm

PointerTest.vm

StaticTest.vm

Example:

BasicTest.vm

```
...
push constant 510
pop temp 6
push local 0
push that 5
add
push argument 1
sub
...
```

Given

BasicTest.asm

```
...
// push constant 510
@510
D=A
...
```

Generated by *your*
VM translator

For each test program *Xxx.vm*

We supply three files:

XxxVME.tst, *Xxx.tst* and *Xxx.cmp*

0. (recommended) Load and run the *xxxVME.tst* test script in the *VM emulator*; This will cause the emulator to load and execute *Xxx.vm*; Observe how the program's operations realize the stack and the segments on the host RAM
1. Use your VM translator to translate *Xxx.vm*; The result will be a file named *Xxx.asm*
2. Inspect the generated code; If there's a problem, fix your translator and go to stage 1
3. Load and run the *Xxx.tst* test script in the *CPUemulator*; This will cause the emulator to load and execute *Xxx.asm*; Inspect the results
4. If there's a problem, fix your translator and go to stage 1.