MACHINE-LEVEL PROGRAMMING I: BASICS

CS 429H: SYSTEMS I

Instructor:
Emmett Witchel

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- History of Intel processors and architectures
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Intro to x86-64

Intel x86 Processors

- Totally 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.

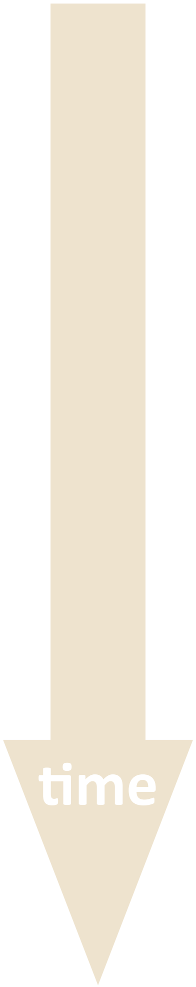
Intel x86 Evolution: Milestones

Name *Date* *Transistors* *MHz*

- 8086 1978 29K 5-10
  - First 16-bit processor. Basis for IBM PC & DOS
  - 1MB address space
- 386 1985 275K 16-33
  - First 32 bit processor , referred to as IA32
  - Added “flat addressing”
  - Capable of running Unix
  - 32-bit Linux/gcc uses no instructions introduced in later models
- Pentium 4F 2004 125M 2800-3800
  - First 64-bit processor, referred to as x86-64
- Core i7 2008 731M 2667-3333
  - Our shark machines

Intel x86 Processors: Overview

Architectures	Processors
X86-16	8086
	286
X86-32/IA32	386
	486
	Pentium
MMX	Pentium MMX
SSE	Pentium III
SSE2	Pentium 4
SSE3	Pentium 4E
X86-64 / EM64t	Pentium 4F
	Core 2 Duo
SSE4	Core i7

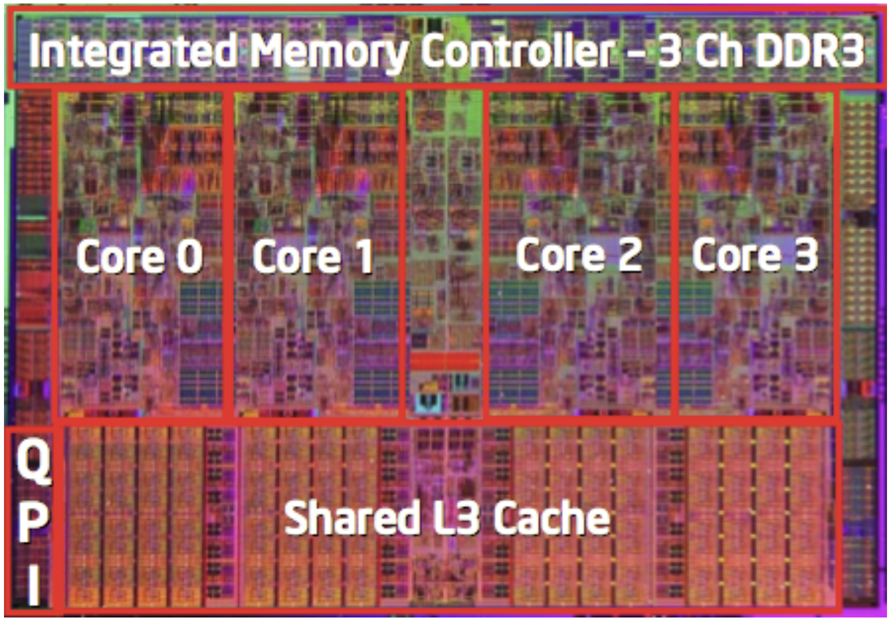


IA: often redefined as latest Intel architecture

Intel x86 Processors, contd.

- 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
    - Parallel operations on 1, 2, and 4-byte data, both integer & FP
  - Instructions to enable more efficient conditional operations
- Linux/GCC Evolution
  - Two major steps: 1) support 32-bit 386. 2) support 64-bit x86-64

More Information

- Intel processors (Wikipedia)
- Intel microarchitectures

New Species: ia64, then IPF, then Itanium

Name *Date* *Transistors*

- Itanium 2001 10M
  - First shot at 64-bit architecture: first called IA64
  - Radically new instruction set designed for high performance
  - Can run existing IA32 programs
    - On-board “x86 engine”
  - Joint project with Hewlett-Packard
- Itanium 2 2002 221M
  - Big performance boost
- Itanium 2 Dual-Core 2006 1.7B
- Itanium has not taken off in marketplace
  - Lack of backward compatibility, no good compiler support, Pentium 4 got too good

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

Intel’s 64-Bit

- Intel Attempted Radical Shift from IA32 to IA64
  - Totally different architecture (Itanium)
  - Executes IA32 code only as legacy
  - Performance disappointing
- AMD Stepped 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/EM64T
  - The emerging standard
- Presentation
  - Book presents IA32 in Sections 3.1—3.12
  - Covers x86-64 in 3.13
  - We will cover both simultaneously
  - Some labs will be based on x86-64, others on IA32

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

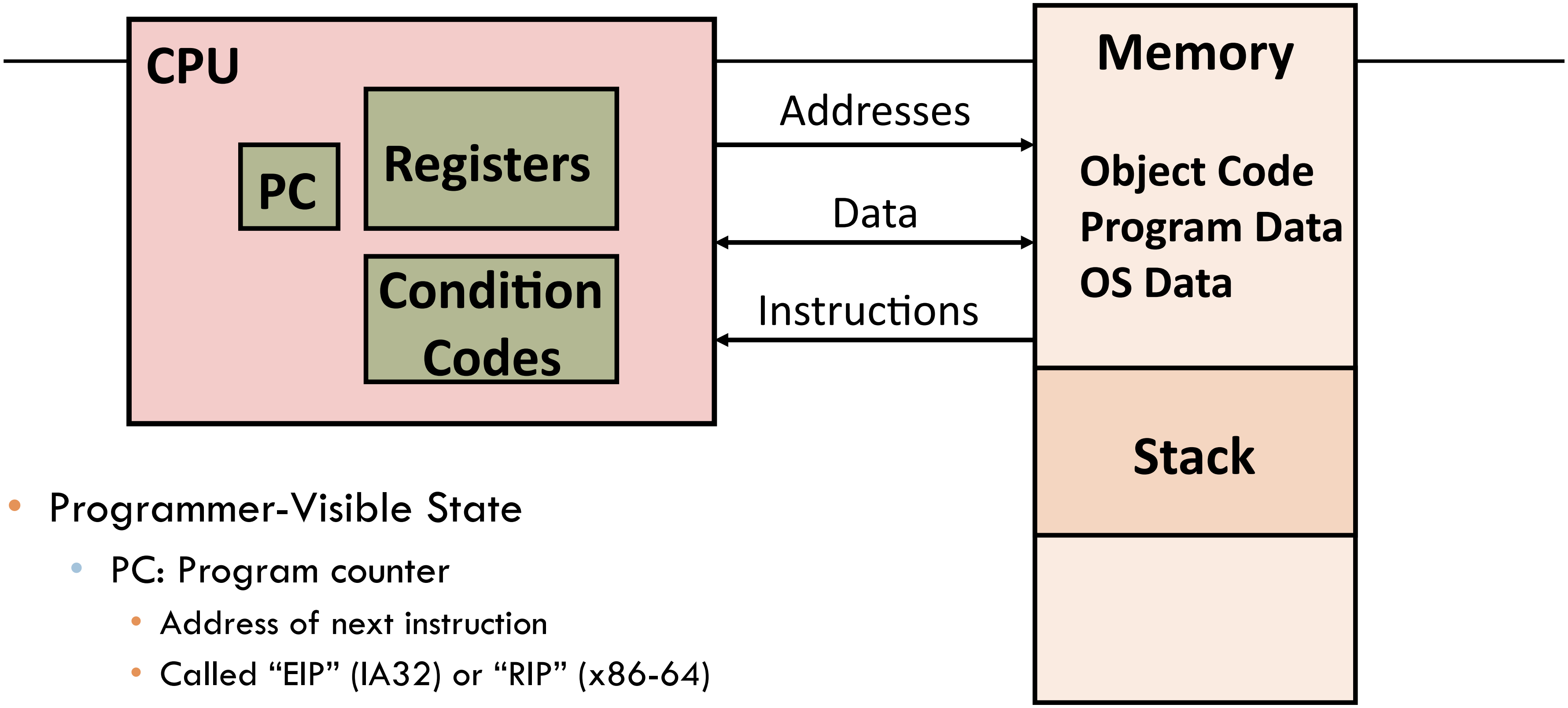
- History of Intel processors and architectures
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Intro to x86-64

Definitions

- Architecture: (also instruction set architecture: ISA) The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand to write assembly code.
  - Examples: instruction set specification, registers.
- Microarchitecture: Implementation of the architecture.
  - Examples: cache sizes and core frequency.

- Example ISAs (Intel): x86, IA, IPF

Assembly Programmer’s View

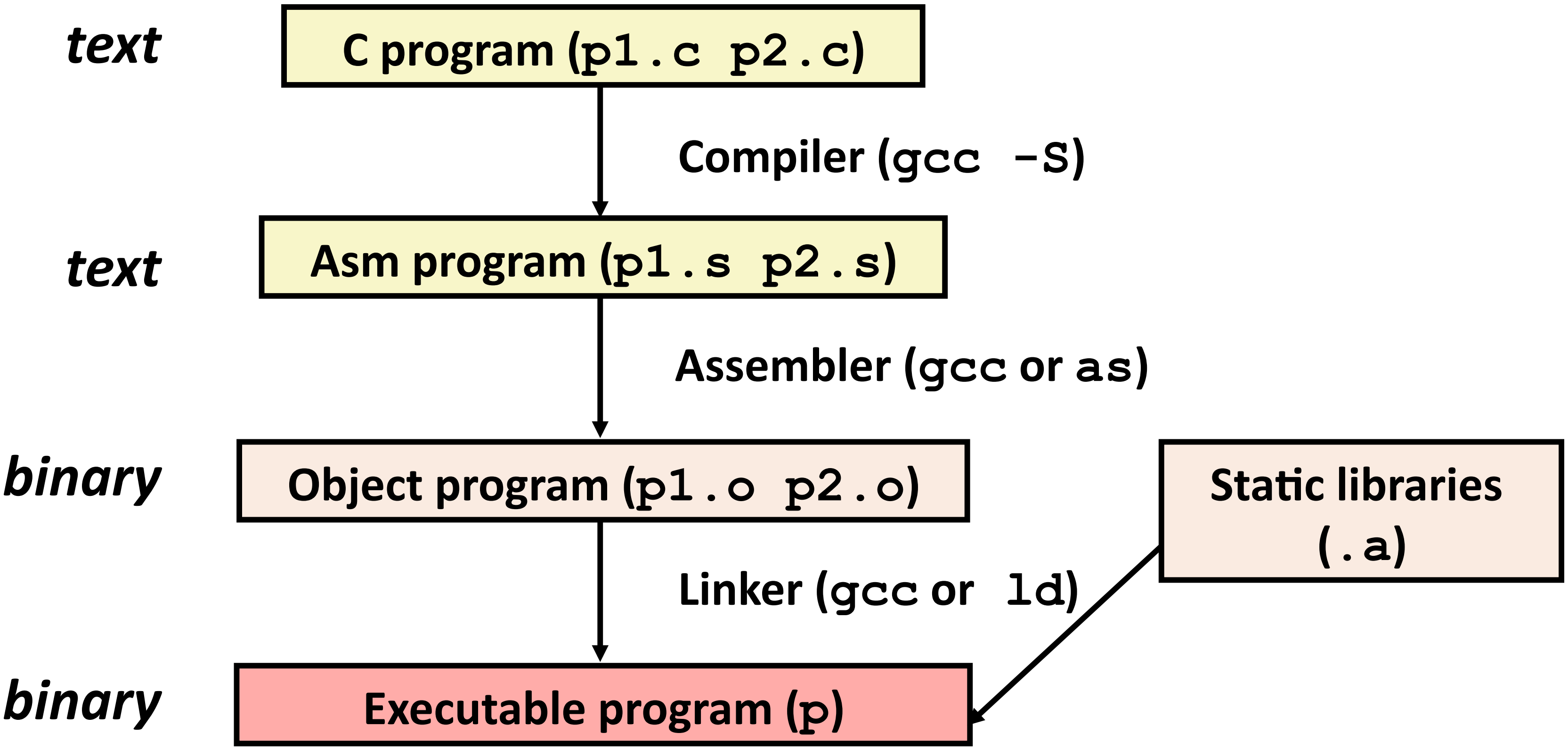


- Programmer-Visible State
  - PC: Program counter
    - Address of next instruction
    - Called “EIP” (IA32) or “RIP” (x86-64)
  - Register file
    - Heavily used program data
  - Condition codes
    - Store status information about most recent arithmetic operation
    - Used for conditional branching

- **Memory**
  - Byte addressable array
  - Code, user data, (some) OS data
  - Includes stack used to support procedures

Turning C into Object Code

- Code in files `p1.c p2.c`
- Compile with command: `gcc –O1 p1.c p2.c -o p`
  - Use basic optimizations (`-O1`)
  - Put resulting binary in file `p`



text

C program (`p1.c p2.c`)

Compiler (`gcc -S`)

text

Asm program (`p1.s p2.s`)

Assembler (`gcc` or `as`)

binary

Object program (`p1.o p2.o`)

Static libraries (`.a`)

Linker (`gcc` or `ld`)

binary

Executable program (`p`)

Compiling Into Assembly

C Code

```
int sum(int x, int y)
{
  int t = x+y;
  return t;
}
```

Generated IA32 Assembly

```
sum:
   pushl %ebp
   movl %esp,%ebp
   movl 12(%ebp),%eax
   addl 8(%ebp),%eax
   popl %ebp
   ret
```

Some compilers use instruction “`leave`”

Obtain with command

```
/usr/local/bin/gcc –O1 -S code.c
```

Produces file `code.s`

Assembly Characteristics: Data Types

- "Integer" data of 1, 2, or 4 bytes
  - Data values
  - Addresses (untyped pointers)
- Floating point data of 4, 8, or 10 bytes
- 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 `sum`

```
0x401040 <sum>:
   0x55
   0x89
   0xe5
   0x8b
   0x45
   0x0c
   0x03
   0x45
   0x08
   0x5d
   0xc3
```

- **Total of 11 bytes**
- **Each instruction 1, 2, or 3 bytes**
- **Starts at address `0x401040`**

- 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

```
int t = x+y;
```

```
addl 8(%ebp),%eax
```

Similar to expression:

```
x += y
```

More precisely:

```
int eax;
int *ebp;
eax += ebp[2]
```

```
0x80483ca:   03 45 08
```

- C Code
  - Add two signed integers
- Assembly
  - Add 2 4-byte integers
    - “Long” words in GCC parlance
    - Same instruction whether signed or unsigned
  - Operands:

x:	Register	`%eax`
y:	Memory	`M[%ebp+8]`
t:	Register	`%eax`

- Return function value in `%eax`

- Object Code
  - 3-byte instruction
  - Stored at address `0x80483ca`

Disassembling Object Code

Disassembled

```
080483c4 <sum>:
 80483c4:   55          push   %ebp
 80483c5:   89 e5       mov    %esp,%ebp
 80483c7:   8b 45 0c    mov    0xc(%ebp),%eax
 80483ca:   03 45 08    add    0x8(%ebp),%eax
 80483cd:   5d          pop    %ebp
 80483ce:   c3          ret
```

- Disassembler

  `objdump -d p`

  - 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

```
0x401040:
    0x55
    0x89
    0xe5
    0x8b
    0x45
    0x0c
    0x03
    0x45
    0x08
    0x5d
    0xc3
```

Disassembled

```
Dump of assembler code for function sum:
0x080483c4 <sum+0>:      push    %ebp
0x080483c5 <sum+1>:      mov     %esp,%ebp
0x080483c7 <sum+3>:      mov     0xc(%ebp),%eax
0x080483ca <sum+6>:      add     0x8(%ebp),%eax
0x080483cd <sum+9>:      pop     %ebp
0x080483ce <sum+10>:     ret
```

- Within gdb Debugger

  `gdb p`

  `disassemble sum`

  - Disassemble procedure

  `x/11xb sum`

  - Examine the 11 bytes starting at `sum`

What Can be Disassembled?

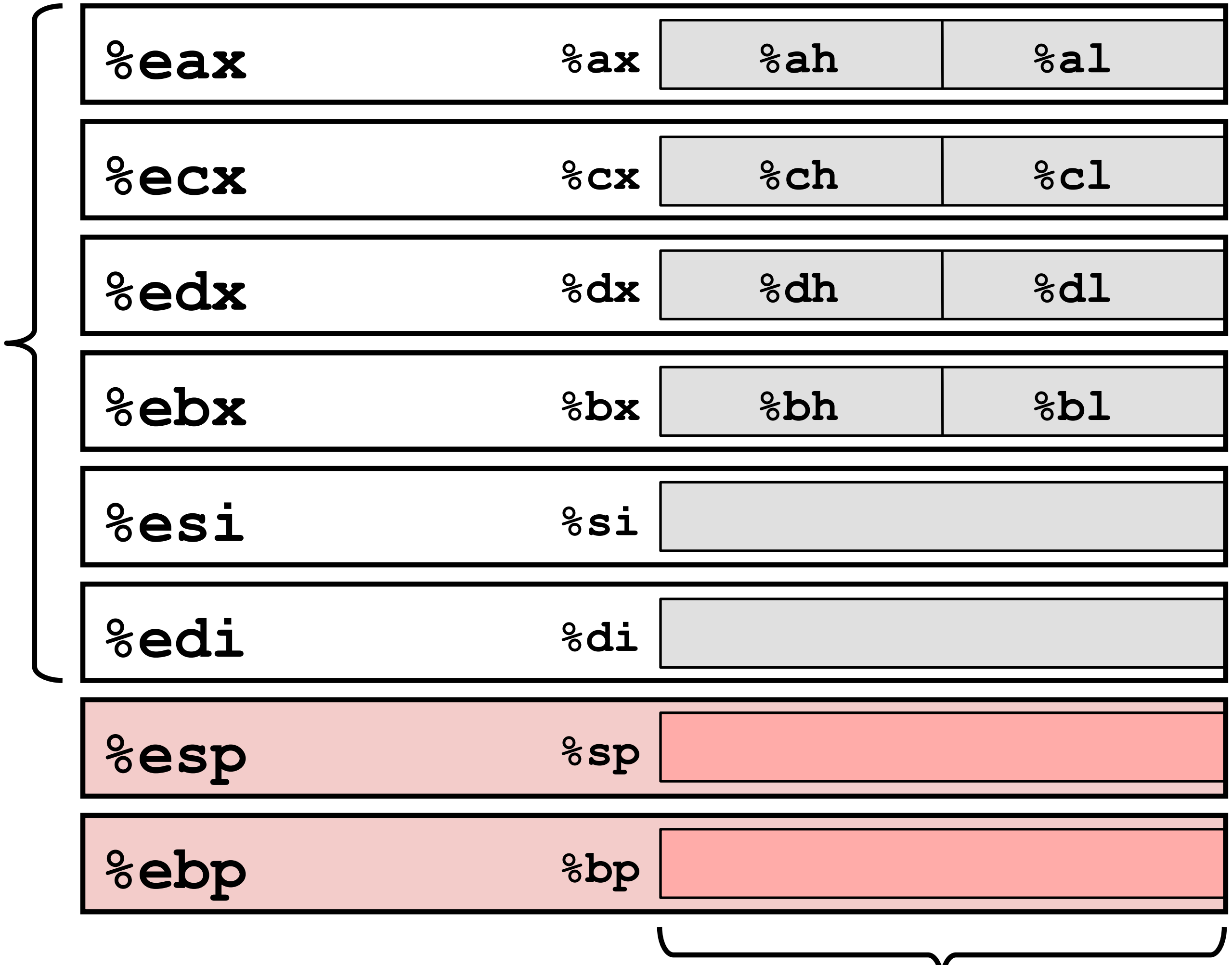
```
% objdump -d WINWORD.EXE

WINWORD.EXE:   file format pei-i386

No symbols in "WINWORD.EXE".
Disassembly of section .text:

30001000 <.text>:
30001000:  55             push   %ebp
30001001:  8b ec          mov    %esp,%ebp
30001003:  6a ff          push   $0xffffffff
30001005:  68 90 10 00 30 push   $0x30001090
3000100a:  68 91 dc 4c 30 push   $0x304cdc91
```

- Anything that can be interpreted as executable code
- Disassembler examines bytes and reconstructs assembly source

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- History of Intel processors and architectures
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Intro to x86-64

Integer Registers (IA32)



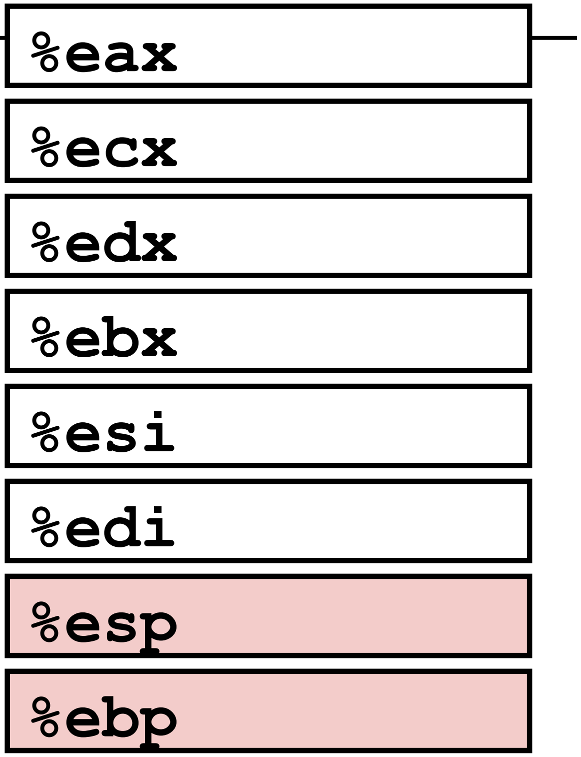
general purpose

				Origin (mostly obsolete)
%eax	%ax	%ah	%al	*accumulate*
%ecx	%cx	%ch	%cl	*counter*
%edx	%dx	%dh	%dl	*data*
%ebx	%bx	%bh	%bl	*base*
%esi	%si			*source index*
%edi	%di			*destination index*
%esp	%sp			***stack pointer***
%ebp	%bp			***base pointer***

16-bit virtual registers
(backwards compatibility)

Moving Data: IA32

- Moving Data
  `movl` ***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 8 integer registers
    - Example: **`%eax`**, **`%edx`**
    - But **`%esp`** and **`%ebp`** reserved for special use
    - Others have special uses for particular instructions
  - ***Memory:*** 4 consecutive bytes of memory at address given by register
    - Simplest example: **`(%eax)`**
    - Various other “address modes”



%eax
%ecx
%edx
%ebx
%esi
%edi
%esp
%ebp

`movl` Operand Combinations

	Source	Dest	Src,Dest	C Analog
`movl`	*Imm*	*Reg*	`movl $0x4,%eax`	`temp = 0x4;`
		Mem	`movl $-147,(%eax)`	`*p = -147;`
	Reg	*Reg*	`movl %eax,%edx`	`temp2 = temp1;`
		Mem	`movl %eax,(%edx)`	`*p = temp;`
	Mem	*Reg*	`movl (%eax),%edx`	`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

```
movl (%ecx),%eax
```

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

```
movl 8(%ebp),%edx
```

Using Simple Addressing Modes

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

```
swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx
```

Set Up

```
   movl  8(%ebp), %edx
   movl  12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl  (%edx), %ebx
   movl  (%ecx), %eax
   movl  %eax, (%edx)
   movl  %ebx, (%ecx)
```

Body

```
   popl  %ebx
   popl  %ebp
   ret
```

Finish

Using Simple Addressing Modes

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

```
swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx
```

Set Up

```
   movl  8(%ebp), %edx
   movl  12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl  (%edx), %ebx
   movl  (%ecx), %eax
   movl  %eax, (%edx)
   movl  %ebx, (%ecx)
```

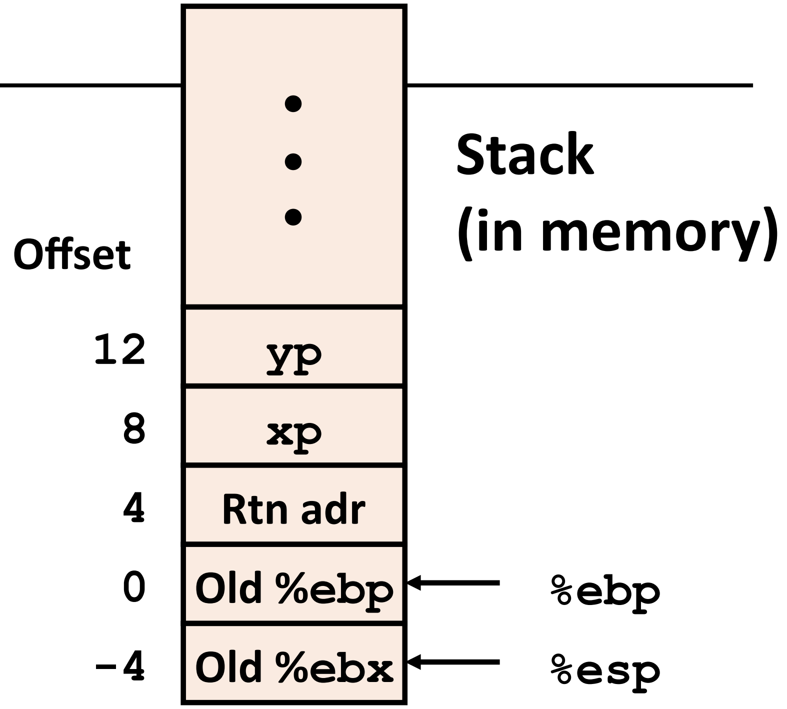
Body

```
  popl   %ebx
  popl   %ebp
  ret
```

Finish

Understanding Swap

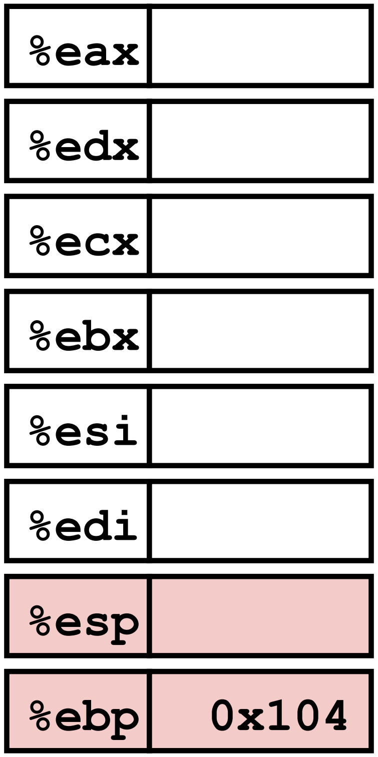
```
void swap(int *xp, int *yp)
{
  int t0 = *xp;
  int t1 = *yp;
  *xp = t1;
  *yp = t0;
}
```



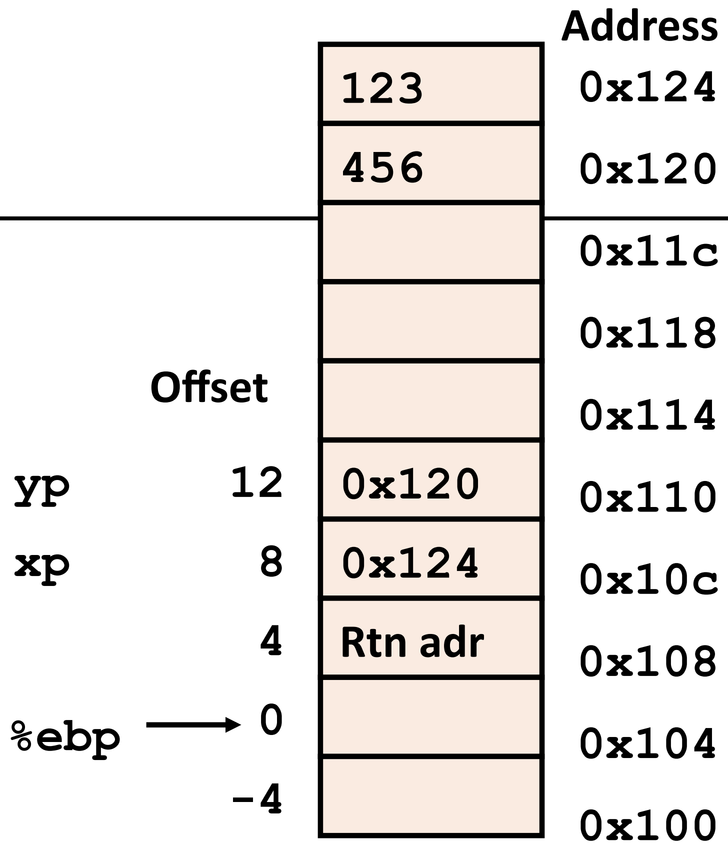
Register	Value
%edx	xp
%ecx	yp
%ebx	t0
%eax	t1

```
movl  8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl  12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl  (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl  (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl  %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl  %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap



%eax	
%edx	
%ecx	
%ebx	
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104



	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

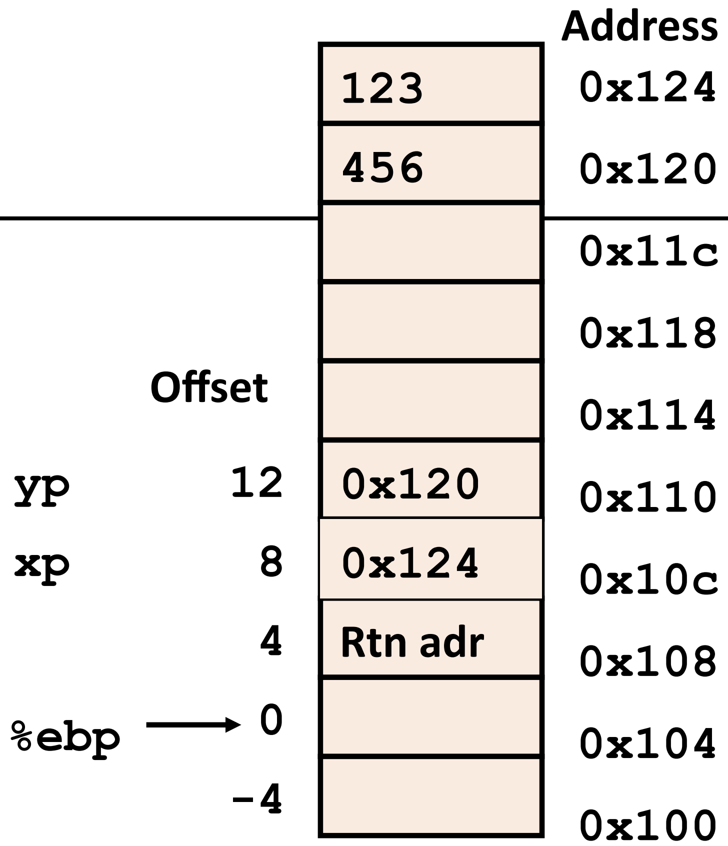
%eax	
%edx	0x124
%ecx	
%ebx	
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl  8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl  12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl  (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl  (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl  %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl  %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104



	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl  8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl  12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl  (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl  (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl  %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl  %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		123	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx     # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx    # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx      # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax      # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)      # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		456	0x124
		456	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx     # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx    # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx      # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax      # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)      # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)      # *yp = t0
```

Understanding Swap

%eax	456
%edx	0x124
%ecx	0x120
%ebx	123
%esi	
%edi	
%esp	
%ebp	0x104

	Offset		Address
		456	0x124
		123	0x120
			0x11c
			0x118
			0x114
yp	12	0x120	0x110
xp	8	0x124	0x10c
	4	Rtn adr	0x108
%ebp →	0		0x104
	-4		0x100

```
movl   8(%ebp), %edx    # edx = xp
movl   12(%ebp), %ecx   # ecx = yp
movl   (%edx), %ebx     # ebx = *xp (t0)
movl   (%ecx), %eax     # eax = *yp (t1)
movl   %eax, (%edx)     # *xp = t1
movl   %ebx, (%ecx)     # *yp = t0
```

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 8 integer registers
  - Ri: Index register: Any, except for **`%esp`**
    - Unlikely you'd use **`%ebp`**, either
  - S: Scale: 1, 2, 4, or 8 (*why these numbers?*)

- 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]]

Today: Machine Programming I: Basics

- History of Intel processors and architectures
- C, assembly, machine code
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
- Intro to x86-64

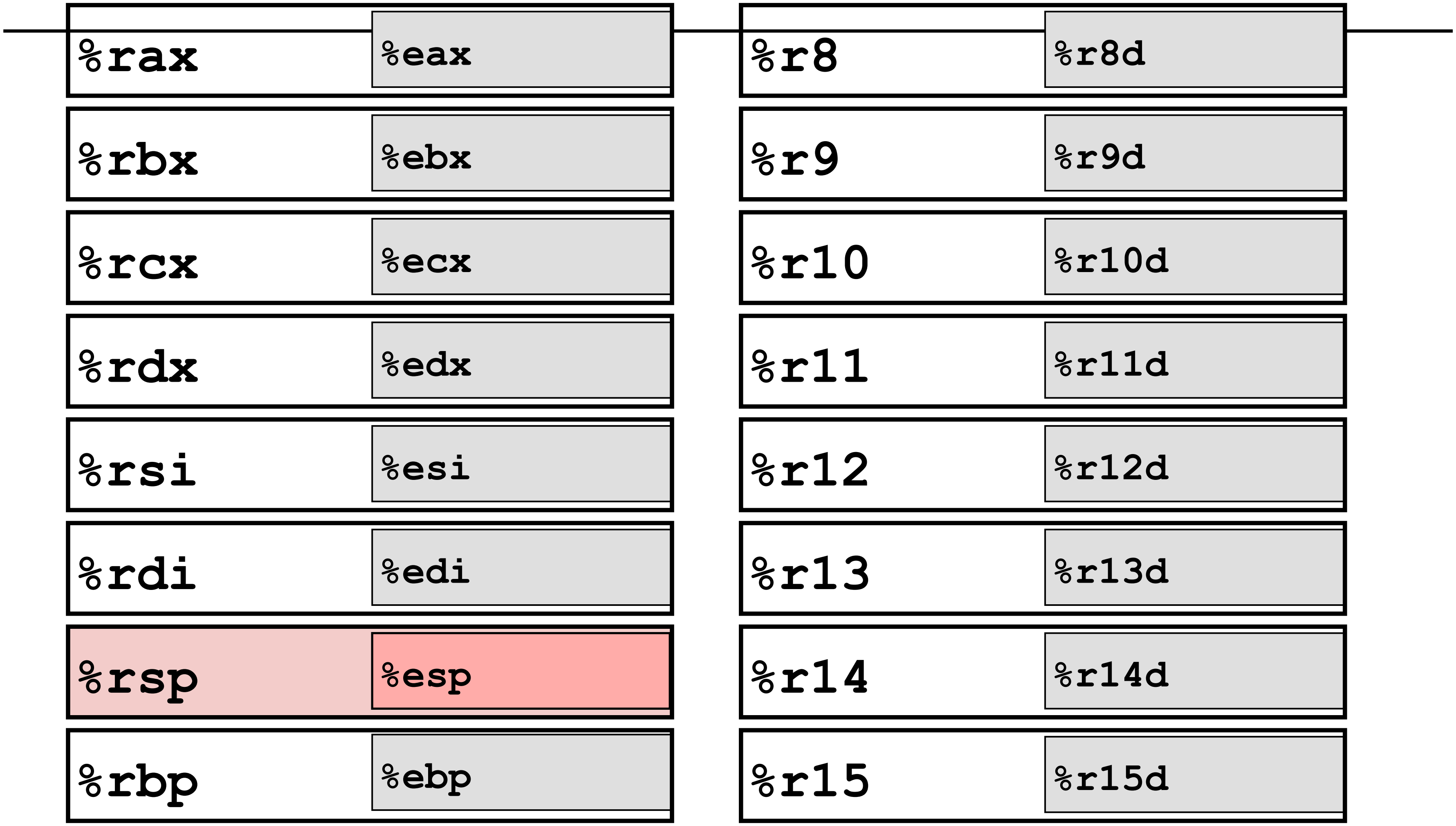
Data Representations: IA32 + x86-64

- Sizes of C Objects (in Bytes)

C Data Type	Generic 32-bit	Intel IA32	x86-64
unsigned	4	4	4
int	4	4	4
long int	4	4	8
char	1	1	1
short	2	2	2
float	4	4	4
double	8	8	8
long double	8	10/12	16
char *	4	4	8

  - Or any other pointer

x86-64 Integer Registers



%rax	%eax	%r8	%r8d
%rbx	%ebx	%r9	%r9d
%rcx	%ecx	%r10	%r10d
%rdx	%edx	%r11	%r11d
%rsi	%esi	%r12	%r12d
%rdi	%edi	%r13	%r13d
%rsp	%esp	%r14	%r14d
%rbp	%ebp	%r15	%r15d

- Extend existing registers. Add 8 new ones.
- Make `%ebp`/`%rbp` general purpose

Instructions

- Long word `l` (4 Bytes) ↔ Quad word `q` (8 Bytes)

- New instructions:
  - `movl` ➙ `movq`
  - `addl` ➙ `addq`
  - `sall` ➙ `salq`
  - etc.

- 32-bit instructions that generate 32-bit results
  - Set higher order bits of destination register to `0`
  - Example: `addl`

32-bit code for swap

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

```
swap:
   pushl %ebp
   movl  %esp,%ebp
   pushl %ebx
```

Set Up

```
   movl   8(%ebp), %edx
   movl   12(%ebp), %ecx
   movl   (%edx), %ebx
   movl   (%ecx), %eax
   movl   %eax, (%edx)
   movl   %ebx, (%ecx)
```

Body

```
   popl   %ebx
   popl   %ebp
   ret
```

Finish

64-bit code for swap

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

```
swap:

   movl   (%rdi), %edx
   movl   (%rsi), %eax
   movl   %eax, (%rdi)
   movl   %edx, (%rsi)

   ret
```

Set Up

Body

Finish

- Operands passed in registers (why useful?)
  - First (xp) in %rdi, second (yp) in %rsi
  - 64-bit pointers
- No stack operations required
- 32-bit data
  - Data held in registers %eax and %edx
  - movl operation

64-bit code for long int swap

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

```
swap_l:
                                        Set Up

  movq     (%rdi), %rdx
  movq     (%rsi), %rax
  movq     %rax, (%rdi)                 Body
  movq     %rdx, (%rsi)

  ret                                   Finish
```

- 64-bit data
  - Data held in registers `%rax` and `%rdx`
  - `movq` operation
    - "q" stands for quad-word

Machine Programming I: Summary

- History of Intel processors and architectures
  - Evolutionary design leads to many quirks and artifacts
- C, assembly, machine code
  - Compiler must transform statements, expressions, procedures into low-level instruction sequences
- Assembly Basics: Registers, operands, move
  - The x86 move instructions cover wide range of data movement forms
- Intro to x86-64
  - A major departure from the style of code seen in IA32