

COSC 458-647

# Application Software Security

Today



Assembly Language

Basic Instructions

# IA32 Instruction Format

- General format:

**[prefix]** **instruction** **operands**

- Prefix used only in String Functions
- Operands represent the direction of operands
  - Single operand instruction: XXX **<src>**
  - Two operand instruction: XXX **<dest>** **<src>**
    - XXX represents the instruction opcode
    - **src** & **dest** represent the source and destination operands respectively

# Instruction Format

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    - XXX represents the instruction opcode
    - **src** & **dest** represent the source and destination operands respectively

# IA32 Instruction Format (cont'd)

- Source operands can be:
  - Register/Memory reference/Immediate value
- Destination operands can be:
  - Register/Memory reference
- Note:
  - The Intel CPU does NOT allow both source and destination operands to be memory references

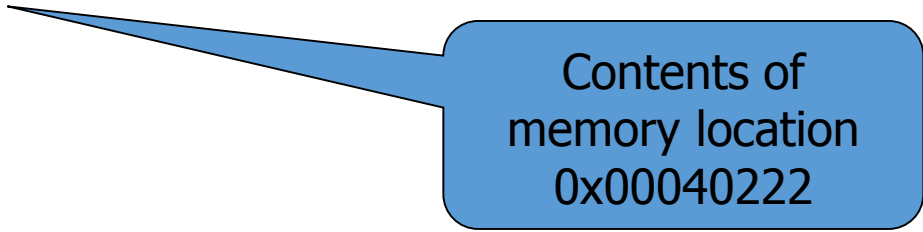
Instruction	Description
ADD* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Adds the two operands and stores the result into the first operand. If there is a result with carry, it will be set in CF.
SUB* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Subtracts the second operand from the first and stores the result in the first operand.
AND* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical AND operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand.
OR* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical OR operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand.
XOR* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical XOR operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand. Note that you can not XOR two memory operands.
MUL reg/memory	Multiplies the operand with the Accumulator Register and stores the result in the Accumulator Register.
DIV reg/memory	Divides the Accumulator Register by the operand and stores the result in the Accumulator Register.
INC reg/memory	Increases the value of the operand by 1 and stores the result in the operand.
DEC reg/memory	Decreases the value of the operand by 1 and stores the result in the operand.
NEG reg/memory	Negates the operand and stores the result in the operand.
NOT reg/memory	Performs the bitwise logical NOT operation on the operand and stores the result in the operand.
PUSH reg/memory/constant	Pushes the value of the operand on to the top of the stack.
POP reg/memory	Pops the value of the top item of the stack in to the operand.
MOV* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Stores the second operand's value in the first operand.
CMP* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Subtracts the second operand from the first operand and sets the respective flags. Usually used in conjunction with a JMP, REP, etc.
JMP** label	Jumps to label.
LEA reg, memory	Takes the offset part of the address of the second operand and stores the result in the first operand.
CALL subroutine	Calls another procedure and leaves control to it until it returns.
RET	Returns to the caller.
INT constant	Calls the interrupt specified by the operand.



# Memory References

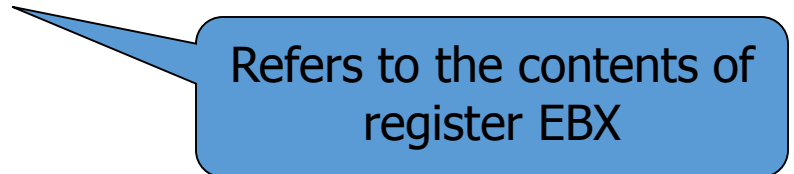
- Same as a C/C++ pointer access
- Pointer operands appear within square brackets e.g.

- **MOV EAX, [0x00040222h]**



Contents of  
memory location  
0x00040222

- Can also have register names instead of hex addresses
  - e.g. **MOV EAX, [EBX]**



Refers to the contents of  
register EBX

# Memory References (cont'd)

- Control the size of memory accessed by preceding the memory reference with a size:
  - **BYTE PTR**: byte access
  - **WORD PTR**: two byte access
  - **DWORD PTR**: four byte access

E.g. `MOV EAX, BYTE PTR [0x00001234]`

# Memory References (cont'd)

- Invalid Memory Accesses
  - Accessing illegal memory
    - CPU generates a general protection fault: (GPF)
  - Access a memory location that does not exist
    - CPU generates a page fault

# NOP

- **NOP** – No operation
  - Takes no arguments
  - Commonly used by the compiler as padding INSIDE functions so as keep them properly aligned

```
var1:  dd      0FFh
str1:  db      "my dog has fleas",10
var2:  dd      0
```

```
; Here are some simple instructions
```

```
    mov     eax, [var1] ; notice the brackets
    mov     edx, str1   ; notice the not brackets
    call    dspmsg
    jmp     done
    mov     ebx, [var2] ; this will never happen
    cmp     ecx, 0x8    ; this also will never happen
```

```
done:  nop
```

# Stack Manipulation Instructions

- **PUSH** <argument>
  - Pushes a word/double word on the stack
  - Argument can be a register/memory location/immediate value (hardcoded number)
  - E.g. `push eax; push msg; push dword 0x9`
- **POP** <argument>
  - Pop a word/double word from the stack
  - E.g. `pop ecx; pop ebx`
- Note:
  - PUSH decrements the ESP while POP increments the ESP

# Stack Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **PUSHAD**
  - Push (save) all general purpose registers
- **POPAD**
  - Pop (restore) all general purpose registers
- Avoids long sequence of PUSH/POP instructions to save/restore the registers
  - Used mainly in system code

# Example

//Swap the EAX and EBX values. The sequence  
//gives you an idea of how it could be done.

**PUSH EAX**

**PUSH EBX**

**POP EAX**

**POP EBX**

# Arithmetic Instructions

- **ADD** <dest> <src>: <dest>  $\leftarrow$  <dest> + <src>

add <reg>, <reg>  
add <reg>, <mem>  
add <mem>, <reg>  
add <reg>, <con>  
add <mem>, <con>

E.g.     add eax, 10                   ;; — EAX  $\leftarrow$  EAX + 10  
          add BYTE PTR [var], 10   ;; add 10 to the single byte stored at memory address var

- **SUB** <dest> <src>: <dest>  $\leftarrow$  <dest> - <src>

sub <reg>, <reg>  
sub <reg>, <mem>  
sub <mem>, <reg>  
sub <reg>, <con>  
sub <mem>, <con>

E.g.     sub al, ah                   ;; AL  $\leftarrow$  AL - AH  
          sub eax, 216               ;; subtract 216 from the value stored in EAX



# INC, DEC - Increment, Decrement

- The inc instruction increments the contents of its operand by one. The dec instruction decrements the contents of its operand by one.

- Syntax

inc <reg>

inc <mem>

dec <reg>

dec <mem>

- Examples

dec eax        ;;subtract one from the contents of EAX.

inc DWORD PTR [var] ;; add one to the 32-bit integer stored at location var

# Arithmetic Instructions (cont'd)

- **DIV/MUL**: Unsigned Division/Multiplication
  - Uses the **EDX** register to store the high bytes of double-word and higher (64 bit) results.
  - **EAX** stores the low bytes
- **IDIV/IMUL**: Signed Division/Multiplication
  - IMUL sometimes has 3 operands:
    - IMUL <dest> <src1> <src2>

# MUL Instruction - (Unsigned Multiply)

- Multiplies an 8-, 16-, or 32-bit operand by either AL, AX or EAX.

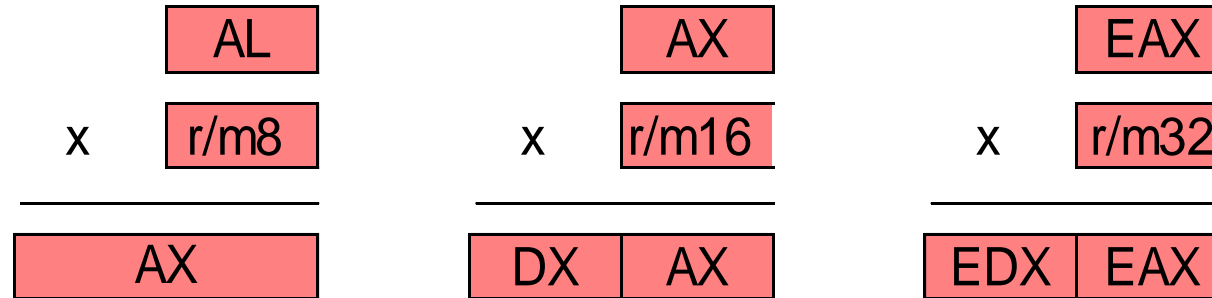
MUL r/m8

MUL r/m16

MUL r/m32

# MUL Instruction

- Note that the product is stored in a register (or group of registers) twice the size of the operands.
- The operand can be a register or a memory operand



# MUL Examples

```
mov  AL, 5h  
mov  BL, 10h  
mul  BL
```

AX stores  $AL * BL$  ; AX = 0050h, CF = 0

(no overflow - the Carry flag is 0 because the upper half of AX is zero)

# MUL Examples

.data

val1 WORD 2000h

val2 WORD 0100h

.code

mov AX, val1

mul val2 ; DX:AX = 00200000h, CF = 1 (CF is 1 because DX is not zero)

12345h \* 1000h, using 32-bit operands:

mov EAX, 12345h

mov EBX, 1000h

mul EBX ; EDX:EAX = 0000000012345000h, CF=0

# Your turn

- What will be the hexadecimal values of DX, AX, and the Carry flag after the following instructions execute?

```
mov  AX,  1234h
```

```
mov  BX,  100h
```

```
mul  BX
```

# Read a byte from stdin

*; read a byte from stdin*

```
mov    eax, 3 ; sys_read system call
mov    ebx, 0 ; read from standard input
mov    ecx, variable ; address to pass to
mov    edx, 1 ; input length
int    0x80 ; call the kernel
```

*; write a byte to stdout*

```
mov    eax, 4 ; sys_write system call
mov    ebx, 1 ; write to standard output
mov    ecx, variable ; memory address
mov    edx, 1 ; output length
int    0x80 ; call the kernel
```

*; quit the program*

```
mov    eax, 1 ; sys_exit system call
mov    ebx, 0 ; sys_exit system call
int    0x80 ; call the kernel
```



# Example

```
//...
```

```
int * pInt ;
```

```
int iVal ;
```

```
// The following instruction sequence is identical to the
```

```
// C code: pInt = &iVal ;
```

```
    LEA EAX , iVal
```

```
    MOV [pInt] , EAX
```

```
//..
```

```
(Example from Debugging Applications by John Robbins)
```

# Another example

```
//....
```

```
char szBuff [ MAX_PATH ] ;
```

```
// Another example of accessing a pointer through LEA.
```

```
// This is identical to the C code:
```

```
// GetWindowsDirectory ( szBuff , MAX_PATH ) ;
```

```
PUSH 104h
```

```
// Push MAX_PATH as the second parameter.
```

```
LEA ECX, szBuff
```

```
// Get the address of szBuff.
```

```
PUSH ECX
```

```
// Push the address of szBuff as the first parameter.
```

```
CALL DWORD PTR
```

```
[GetWindowsDirectory]
```

# Function Call Instruction

- **CALL** <argument>
  - argument can be a register \ memory reference \ parameter \ global offset
  - Automatically pushes the return address on the stack and decrements ESP

# Function Return Instruction

- **RET** <optional argument>
  - Argument says how many bytes to pop off the stack (to account for parameters passed to the function)
  - Pops the callers return address off the top of stack and put it in the instruction pointer
    - Return address validity is NOT checked!!!: potential security hazard

# Data Manipulation Instructions

- **AND** <dest> <src> : logical AND
- **OR** <dest> <src> : logical OR
- **NOT** <arg>: logical NOT
  - One's complement negation (Bit Flipping)
- **NEG** <arg>:
  - Two's complement negation

# Data Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **XOR** <dest> <src>: logical XOR
  - Fastest way to zero out a register!!!
- **INC/DEC** <arg> : increment/decrement
  - Often used in speed optimized code (executes in single clock cycle)
  - Directly maps to the C++ operators:
    - ++ : INC
    - -- : DEC

# Data Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **SHL/SHR** <arg> : shift left and Shift right
  - SHL: fastest way to multiply by 2 (C++: <<)
  - SHR: fastest way to divide by 2 (C++: >>)
- **MOVZX** <dest> <src>: move with zero extend
- **MOVSX** <dest> <src>: Move with sign extend

# Compare Instruction

- **CMP** <arg1> <arg2>
  - compare arg1 and arg2 and set the appropriate conditional flags in the EFLAGS register



# Test Instruction

- **TEST** <arg1> <arg2> : Bitwise AND of both arguments and sets the appropriate conditional flags
  - PL (SF)
  - ZR (ZF)
  - PE (PF)

# Jump Instructions

- **JE** <label> : Jump if equal
- **JL** <label> : Jump if less than
- **JG** <label> : Jump if greater than
- **JNE** <label> : Jump if not equal to
- **JGE** <label> : Jump if greater than or equal to
- **JLE** <label> : Jump if Less than or equal to

## Jump Instructions (Cont'd)

- Always follow a CMP/TEST instruction
- JMP condition is always the opposite of the original conditional

# Loop Instruction

- **Loop** <label>
  - Decrement ECX and if ECX isn't 0, go and re-execute the code sequence marked by <label>
- Rarely used by the VS.NET compiler

# Function Calling Conventions

- Specifies how parameters are passed to a function
  - Passed in through stack/registers
- Specifies how stack cleanup occurs upon function return
  - Who performs the cleanup, the caller or the callee?

(Supplied handout has table summarizing the various calling conventions)

# Instruction usage examples

- Discuss usage of the previously mentioned instructions
- Generated by VS.NET during compilation
- Examples discussed:
  - Function Entry and Exit
  - Global variable, Local variable and Function parameter access

# Function Entry (Prolog)

- Compiler generated at the beginning of a function (before the actual processing code of the function)
- This code sets up the stack for access to the function's local variables and parameters (the Stack Frame)

# Prolog Example

```
// Standard prolog setup
```

```
PUSH EBP          // Save the stack frame register.
```

```
MOV  EBP, ESP     // Set the local function stack frame to ESP.
```

```
SUB  ESP, 20h     // Make room on the stack for 0x20 bytes of local  
                  // variables. The SUB instruction appears only if the  
                  // function has local variables.
```



# Function Exit (Epilog)

- Compiler generated (after the end of the processing code of the function)
- Undoes the operations of the prolog
  - Stack cleanup can be performed here

```
// Standard epilog teardown
```

```
MOV ESP , EBP    // Restore the stack value.
```

```
POP EBP          // Restore the saved stack frame register.
```

# Global Variable Access

- Memory References with a fixed address

e.g.

```
int g_iVal = 0 ;
void AccessGlobalMemory ( void )
{
    __asm
    {
        // Set the global variable to 48,059.
        MOV g_iVal , 0BBBBh

        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:
        // MOV DWORD PTR [g_iVal (4030B4h)],0BBBBh

        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:
        // MOV DWORD PTR [4030B4h],0BBBBh
    }
}
```

(Example from Debugging Applications by John Robbins)

# Function Parameter Access

- Function Parameters are positive offsets from EBP (stack frame register)
  - Caller pushes the parameters before calling the function
  - Rule of thumb: “Parameters are positive” -Robbins

# Example

```
void AccessParameter ( int iParam )
{
    __asm
    {
        // Move the value if iParam into EAX.
        MOV EAX , iParam

        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:
        // MOV EAX,DWORD PTR [iParam]

        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:
        // MOV EAX,DWORD PTR [EBP+8]
    }
}
```

Caller code pushes iParam onto the stack before calling the function code above:

```
// AccessParameter(0x42);
push    66          ; 00000042H
call    ?AccessParameter@@YAXH@Z ; AccessParameter
```

# Local Variable Access

- Local Variables occur as negative offsets from the EBP (stack frame pointer) register

e.g.

```
void AccessLocalVariable ( void ) {  
    int iLocal ;  
    __asm {  
        // Set the local variable to 23.  
        MOV iLocal , 017h  
  
        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:  
        // MOV DWORD PTR [iLocal],017h  
  
        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:  
        // MOV [EBP-4],017h  
    }  
}
```

(Example from Debugging Applications By John Robbins)

# Improved makefile

ASM = nasm -f elf

CC= gcc -o

all: helloWorld

helloWorld: helloWorld.o

\$(CC) helloWorld helloWorld.o

helloWorld.o: helloWorld.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld.asm

ASM = nasm -f elf

CC= gcc -o

all: helloWorld helloWorld1

helloWorld: helloWorld.o

\$(CC) helloWorld helloWorld.o

helloWorld.o: helloWorld.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld.asm

helloWorld1: helloWorld1.o

\$(CC) helloWorld1 helloWorld1.o

helloWorld1.o: helloWorld1.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld1.asm

# Saving registers

- First, C assumes that a subroutine maintains the values of the following registers: EBX, ESI, EDI, EBP, CS, DS, SS, ES.
  - This does not mean that the subroutine can not change them internally. Instead, it means that if it does change their values, it must restore their original values before the subroutine returns. The EBX, ESI and EDI values must be unmodified because C uses these registers for register variables.
- The EBX, ESI and EDI values must be unmodified because C uses these registers for register variables.
  - Usually the stack is used to save the original values of these registers.



Backup slides

# Segment Registers

- CS
  - Points to the memory area where your program's instructions are stored
- DS
  - Points to the memory area where your program's data is stored
- SS
  - Points to the memory area where your stack is stored
- ES, FS, GS
  - They can be used to point to additional data segments, if necessary

# Special Registers

- IP, EIP
  - Instruction pointer, points always to the next instruction that the processor is going to execute
  - Only changed indirectly by branching instructions
- FLAG, EFLAG
  - Flags register, contains individual bits set by different operations (e.g. carry, overflow, zero)
  - Used massively with branch instructions

# General Purpose (GP) Registers

- Accumulator (AH, AL, AX, EAX)
  - Accumulates results from mathematical calculations
- Base (BH, BL, BX, EBX)
  - Points to memory locations
- Count (CL, CH, CX, ECX)
  - Counter used typically for loops
  - Can be automatically incremented/decremented
- Data (DL, DH, DX, EDX)
  - Data used in calculations
  - Most significant bits of a 32-bit mul/div operation

# CPU State Instructions

- **ENTER**: save CPU state
- **LEAVE**: restore CPU state
- Mainly used in interrupt processing

## IMUL Instruction - (Signed Multiply)

- Has the same syntax and uses the same operands as the MUL instruction except that it preserves the sign of the product.

# IMUL Instruction

**IMUL** sets the Carry and Overflow flags if the high-order product is not a sign extension of the low-order product.

```
mov  al, 48
```

```
mov  bl, 4
```

```
imul bl           ;AX = 00C0h, OF = 1
```

AH is not a sign extension of AL, so the Overflow flag is set.

# IMUL Instruction

```
mul    al, -4
```

```
mov    bl, 4
```

```
imul   bl      ; AX = FFF0h, OF = 0
```

AH is a sign extension of AL (the signed result fits within AL), so the Overflow flag is clear.



# DIV Instruction - (Unsigned Divide)

- Performs 8-, 16-, and 32-bit division on unsigned integers.

*DIV r/m8*

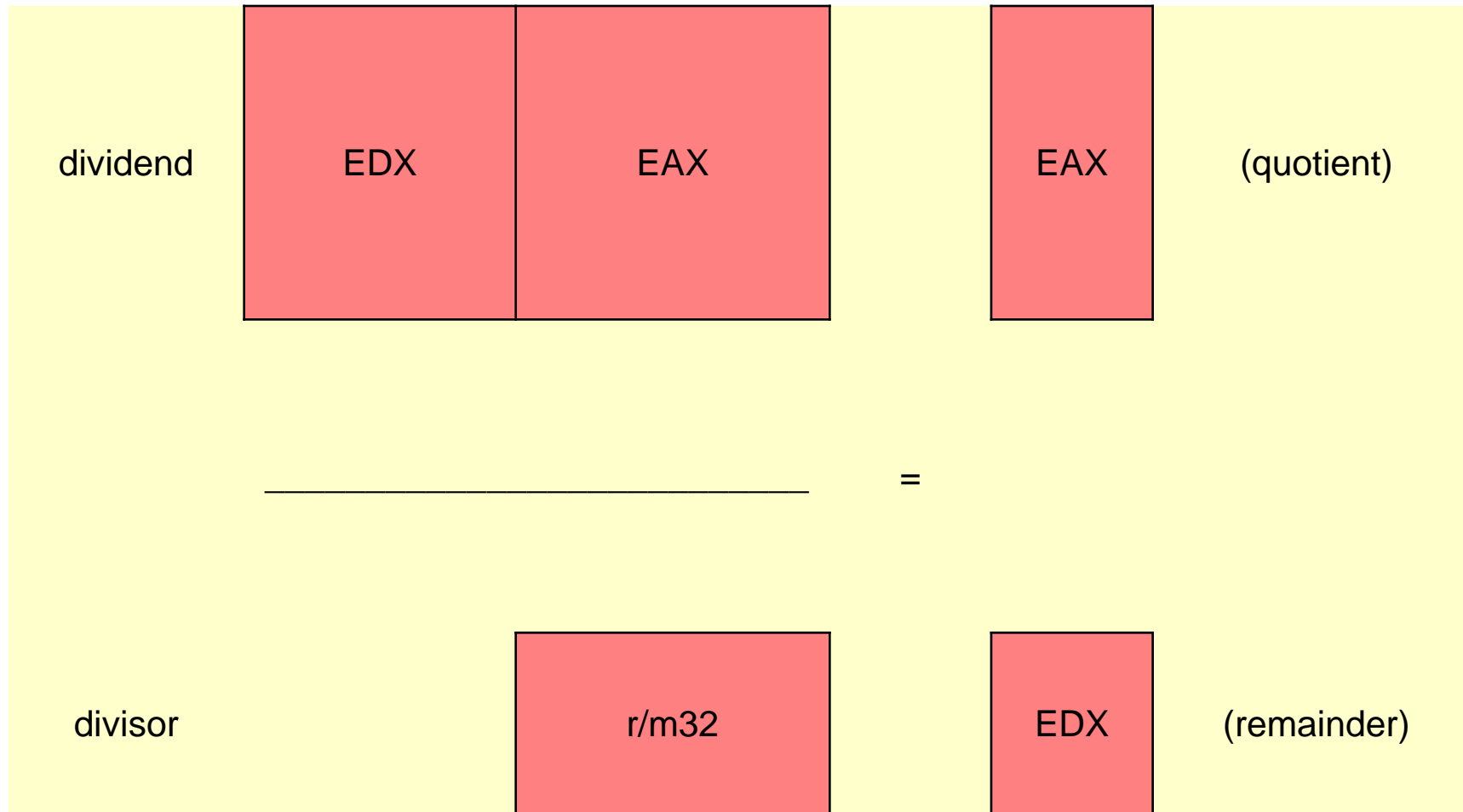
*DIV r/m16*

*DIV r/m32*

# DIV Instruction

Dividend	Divisor	Quotient	Remainder
AX	<i>r/m8</i>	AL	AH
DX:AX	<i>r/m16</i>	AX	DX
EDX:EAX	<i>r/m32</i>	EAX	EDX

# DIV Instruction



# DIV Examples - 8-bit Unsigned Division

```
mov  ax,0083h      ; dividend
mov  bl, 2h         ; divisor
div  bl             ; AL = 41h, AH = 01h
```

Quotient is 41h, remainder is 1

# DIV Examples

<code>mov dx, 0</code>	<code>;clear dividend, high</code>
<code>mov ax, 8003h</code>	<code>;dividend, low</code>
<code>mov cx, 100h</code>	<code>;divisor</code>
<code>div cx</code>	<code>;ax = 0080h, dx = 0003h</code>

Quotient = 80h, remainder = 3

# Signed Integer Division

- CBW – convert Byte to word
  - Extends the sign bit of AL into the AH register

.data

Byteval        SBYTE -65

.code

mov al,byteval                    ; AL = 9Bh

cbw                                ; AX = FF9Bh

# Sign Extension Instructions

- CBW
  - -Convert byte to word
- CWD
  - Convert word to double
- CDQ
  - -Convert double to quadword

# IDIV Instruction (Signed Division)

- Performs signed integer division, using the same operands as the DIV instruction
- The dividend must be sign-extended into the high order register before IDIV executes.



# IDIV Examples

.data

Byteval        SBYTE -48

.code

mov al, byteval	;dividend
cw	;extend AL into AH
mov bl, 5	;divisor
idiv bl	;AL = -9, AH = -3

# Divide Overflow

- If the quotient is too large to fit into the destination operand, a divide overflow results. This causes a CPU interrupt, and the current program halts.

```
Mov  ax, 1000h
```

```
Mov  bl, 10h
```

```
Div  bl                      ;AL cannot hold 100h
```

# DIV Overflow

Can use 16-bit divisor to reduce the possibility of divide overflow.

```
Mov  ax, 1000h
```

```
Mov  dx, 0           ;clear DX
```

```
Mov  bx, 10h
```

```
Div  bx              ;AX = 0100h
```

# HelloASM.asm

- File: included in the Assembly.zip on BB
- Compile
  1. `nasm -f elf helloASM.asm`
  2. `ld -o helloASM_run helloASM.o`

To execute

3. `./helloASM_run`

# Pointer Manipulation Instructions

- **LEA**: Load Effective Address
  - **LEA** <dest> <src>
  - Loads the destination register with the address of the source operand
  - Used to emulate pointer access

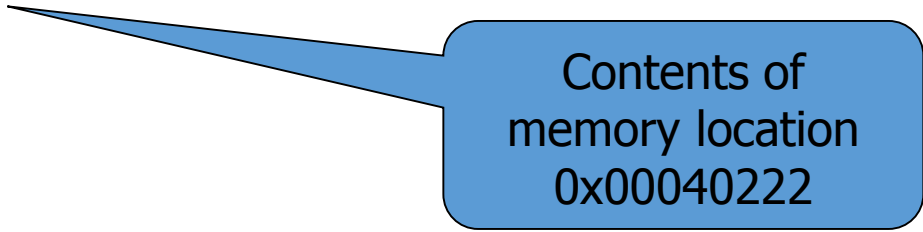
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- Destination operands can be:
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- Note:
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AND* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical AND operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand.
OR* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical OR operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand.
XOR* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Performs the bitwise logical XOR operation on the operands and stores the result in the first operand. Note that you can not XOR two memory operands.
MUL reg/memory	Multiplies the operand with the Accumulator Register and stores the result in the Accumulator Register.
DIV reg/memory	Divides the Accumulator Register by the operand and stores the result in the Accumulator Register.
INC reg/memory	Increases the value of the operand by 1 and stores the result in the operand.
DEC reg/memory	Decreases the value of the operand by 1 and stores the result in the operand.
NEG reg/memory	Negates the operand and stores the result in the operand.
NOT reg/memory	Performs the bitwise logical NOT operation on the operand and stores the result in the operand.
PUSH reg/memory/constant	Pushes the value of the operand on to the top of the stack.
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CMP* reg/memory, reg/memory/constant	Subtracts the second operand from the first operand and sets the respective flags. Usually used in conjunction with a JMP, REP, etc.
JMP** label	Jumps to label.
LEA reg, memory	Takes the offset part of the address of the second operand and stores the result in the first operand.
CALL subroutine	Calls another procedure and leaves control to it until it returns.
RET	Returns to the caller.
INT constant	Calls the interrupt specified by the operand.

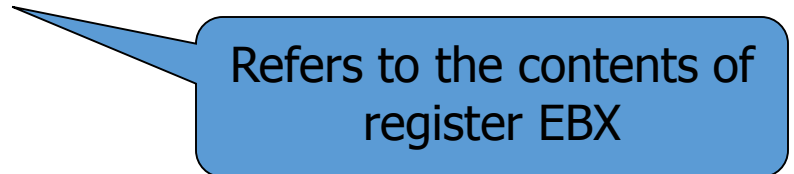
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- Pointer operands appear within square brackets e.g.
  - `MOV EAX, [0x00040222h]`



Contents of  
memory location  
0x00040222

- Can also have register names instead of hex addresses
  - e.g. `MOV EAX, [EBX]`



Refers to the contents of  
register EBX



# Memory References (cont'd)

- Control the size of memory accessed by preceding the memory reference with a size:
  - **BYTE PTR**: byte access
  - **WORD PTR**: two byte access
  - **DWORD PTR**: four byte access

E.g. `MOV EAX, BYTE PTR [0x00001234]`

# Memory References (cont'd)

- Invalid Memory Accesses
  - Accessing illegal memory
    - CPU generates a general protection fault: (GPF)
  - Access a memory location that does not exist
    - CPU generates a page fault

# NOP

- **NOP** – No operation
  - Takes no arguments
  - Commonly used by the compiler as padding INSIDE functions so as keep them properly aligned

```
var1:  dd      0FFh
str1:  db      "my dog has fleas",10
var2:  dd      0
```

```
; Here are some simple instructions
```

```
    mov     eax, [var1] ; notice the brackets
    mov     edx, str1   ; notice the not brackets
    call    dspmsg
    jmp     done
    mov     ebx, [var2] ; this will never happen
    cmp     ecx, 0x8    ; this also will never happen
```

```
done:  nop
```

# Stack Manipulation Instructions

- **PUSH** <argument>
  - Pushes a word/double word on the stack
  - argument can be a register/memory location/immediate value (hardcoded number)
- **POP** <argument>
  - Pop a word/double word from the stack
- Note:
  - PUSH decrements the ESP while POP increments the ESP

# Stack Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **PUSHAD**
  - Push (save) all general purpose registers
- **POPAD**
  - Pop (restore) all general purpose registers
- Avoids long sequence of PUSH/POP instructions to save/restore the registers
  - Used mainly in system code

# Example

//Swap the EAX and EBX values. The sequence  
//gives you an idea of how it could be done.

PUSH EAX

PUSH EBX

POP EAX

POP EBX

# Arithmetic Instructions

- **ADD** <dest> <src>
  - $\text{<dest>} \leftarrow \text{<dest>} + \text{<src>}$
- **SUB** <dest> <src>
  - $\text{<dest>} \leftarrow \text{<dest>} - \text{<src>}$
- The result is stored in the destination and the original value in destination is overwritten.

# Arithmetic Instructions (cont'd)

- **DIV/MUL**: Unsigned Division/Multiplication
  - Uses the EDX register to store the high bytes of double-word and higher (64 bit) results.
  - EAX stores the low bytes
- **IDIV/IMUL**: Signed Division/Multiplication
  - IMUL sometimes has 3 operands:
    - IMUL <dest> <src1> <src2>



# Pointer Manipulation Instructions

- **LEA**: Load Effective Address
  - **LEA** <dest> <src>
  - Loads the destination register with the address of the source operand
  - Used to emulate pointer access

# Example

```
//...
```

```
int * pInt ;
```

```
int iVal ;
```

```
// The following instruction sequence is identical to the
```

```
// C code: pInt = &iVal ;
```

```
    LEA EAX , iVal
```

```
    MOV [pInt] , EAX
```

```
//..
```

```
(Example from Debugging Applications by John Robbins)
```

# Another example

```
//....
```

```
char szBuff [ MAX_PATH ] ;
```

```
// Another example of accessing a pointer through LEA.
```

```
// This is identical to the C code:
```

```
// GetWindowsDirectory ( szBuff , MAX_PATH ) ;
```

```
PUSH 104h           // Push MAX_PATH as the second parameter.
```

```
LEA ECX, szBuff     // Get the address of szBuff.
```

```
PUSH ECX            // Push the address of szBuff as the first parameter.
```

```
CALL DWORD PTR [GetWindowsDirectory]
```

# Function Call Instruction

- **CALL** <argument>
  - argument can be a register \ memory reference \ parameter \ global offset
  - Automatically pushes the return address on the stack and decrements ESP

# Function Return Instruction

- **RET** <optional argument>
  - Argument says how many bytes to pop off the stack (to account for parameters passed to the function)
  - Pops the callers return address off the top of stack and put it in the instruction pointer
    - Return address validity is NOT checked!!!: potential security hazard

# Data Manipulation Instructions

- **AND** <dest> <src> : logical AND
- **OR** <dest> <src> : logical OR
- **NOT** <arg>: logical NOT
  - One's complement negation (Bit Flipping)
- **NEG** <arg>:
  - Two's complement negation

# Data Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **XOR** <dest> <src>: logical XOR
  - Fastest way to zero out a register!!!
- **INC/DEC** <arg> : increment/decrement
  - Often used in speed optimized code (executes in single clock cycle)
  - Directly maps to the C++ operators:
    - ++ : INC
    - -- : DEC

# Data Manipulation Instructions (cont'd)

- **SHL/SHR** <arg> : shift left and Shift right
  - SHL: fastest way to multiply by 2 (C++: <<)
  - SHR: fastest way to divide by 2 (C++: >>)
- **MOVZX** <dest> <src>: move with zero extend
- **MOVSX** <dest> <src>: Move with sign extend



# Compare Instruction

- **CMP** <arg1> <arg2>
  - compare arg1 and arg2 and set the appropriate conditional flags in the EFLAGS register

# Test Instruction

- **TEST** <arg1> <arg2> : Bitwise AND of both arguments and sets the appropriate conditional flags
  - PL (SF)
  - ZR (ZF)
  - PE (PF)

# Jump Instructions

- **JE** <label> : Jump if equal
- **JL** <label> : Jump if less than
- **JG** <label> : Jump if greater than
- **JNE** <label> : Jump if not equal to
- **JGE** <label> : Jump if greater than or equal to
- **JLE** <label> : Jump if Less than or equal to

## Jump Instructions (Cont'd)

- Always follow a CMP/TEST instruction
- JMP condition is always the opposite of the original conditional

# Loop Instruction

- **Loop** <label>
  - Decrement ECX and if ECX isn't 0, go and re-execute the code sequence marked by <label>
- Rarely used by the VS.NET compiler

# Function Calling Conventions

- Specifies how parameters are passed to a function
  - Passed in through stack/registers
- Specifies how stack cleanup occurs upon function return
  - Who performs the cleanup, the caller or the callee?

(Supplied handout has table summarizing the various calling conventions)

# Instruction usage examples

- Discuss usage of the previously mentioned instructions
- Generated by VS.NET during compilation
- Examples discussed:
  - Function Entry and Exit
  - Global variable, Local variable and Function parameter access

# Function Entry (Prolog)

- Compiler generated at the beginning of a function (before the actual processing code of the function)
- This code sets up the stack for access to the function's local variables and parameters (the Stack Frame)



# Prolog Example

```
{
// Standard prolog setup
PUSH EBP          // Save the stack frame register.
MOV  EBP, ESP     // Set the local function stack frame to ESP.
SUB  ESP, 20h     // Make room on the stack for 0x20 bytes of local
                  // variables. The SUB instruction appears only if the
                  // function has local variables.
}
```

# Function Exit (Epilog)

- Compiler generated (after the end of the processing code of the function)
- Undoes the operations of the prolog
  - Stack cleanup can be performed here

```
// Standard epilog teardown
```

```
MOV ESP , EBP    // Restore the stack value.
```

```
POP EBP          // Restore the saved stack frame register.
```

# Global Variable Access

- Memory References with a fixed address

e.g.

```
int g_iVal = 0 ;
void AccessGlobalMemory ( void )
{
    __asm
    {
        // Set the global variable to 48,059.
        MOV g_iVal , 0BBBBh

        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:
        // MOV DWORD PTR [g_iVal (4030B4h)],0BBBBh

        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:
        // MOV DWORD PTR [4030B4h],0BBBBh
    }
}
```

(Example from Debugging Applications by John Robbins)

# Function Parameter Access

- Function Parameters are positive offsets from EBP (stack frame register)
  - Caller pushes the parameters before calling the function
  - Rule of thumb: “Parameters are positive” -Robbins

# Example

```
void AccessParameter ( int iParam )
{
    __asm
    {
        // Move the value of iParam into EAX.
        MOV EAX , iParam

        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:
        // MOV EAX,DWORD PTR [iParam]

        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:
        // MOV EAX,DWORD PTR [EBP+8]
    }
}
```

Caller code pushes iParam onto the stack before calling the function code above:

```
// AccessParameter(0x42);
push    66          ; 00000042H
call    ?AccessParameter@@YAXH@Z ; AccessParameter
```

# Local Variable Access

- Local Variables occur as negative offsets from the EBP (stack frame pointer) register

e.g.

```
void AccessLocalVariable ( void ) {  
    int iLocal ;  
    __asm {  
        // Set the local variable to 23.  
        MOV iLocal , 017h  
  
        // If symbols are loaded, the Disassembly window will show:  
        // MOV DWORD PTR [iLocal],017h  
  
        // If symbols are NOT loaded, the Disassembly window shows:  
        // MOV [EBP-4],017h  
    }  
}
```

(Example from Debugging Applications By John Robbins)

# helloWorld.asm

;; These externals are all from the standard C library:

`extern printf` ; Notify linker that we're calling printf

`[SECTION .data]` ; Section containing initialised data

`msg db "Hello, world!", 0xa, 0` ; our dear string

`[SECTION .text]`

`global main` ; Required so linker can find entry point for C

`main:`

`push msg`

`call printf`

`add esp, byte 4` ; Clean up stack after printf call

`return:`

`mov eax, 0`

`ret` ; Return control to Linux

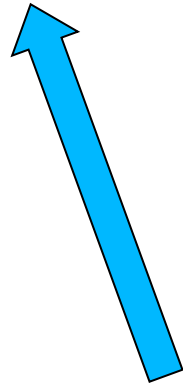
# Make file

```
helloWorld: helloWorld.o
```

```
    gcc -o helloWorld helloWorld.o
```

```
helloWorld.o: helloWorld.asm
```

```
    nasm -f elf helloWorld.asm
```



The -f Option: Specifying the Output File Format

press "tab" to input it



# Improved makefile

ASM = nasm -f elf

CC= gcc -o

all: helloWorld

helloWorld: helloWorld.o

\$(CC) helloWorld helloWorld.o

helloWorld.o: helloWorld.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld.asm

# helloWorld1.asm

## – improved helloWorld.asm

```
extern printf
```

```
[SECTION .data]
```

```
msg db "Hello, world!", 0xa,0;our dear string
```

```
[SECTION .text]
```

```
global main
```

```
main:
```

```
push ebp
mov  ebp,esp
push dword msg
call printf
add esp, byte 4
```

```
return:
```

```
mov esp,ebp      ; Destroy stack frame before returning
pop ebp
mov eax,0
ret
```

ASM = nasm -f elf

CC= gcc -o

all: helloWorld helloWorld1

helloWorld: helloWorld.o

\$(CC) helloWorld helloWorld.o

helloWorld.o: helloWorld.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld.asm

helloWorld1: helloWorld1.o

\$(CC) helloWorld1 helloWorld1.o

helloWorld1.o: helloWorld1.asm

\$(ASM) helloWorld1.asm

# Saving registers

- First, C assumes that a subroutine maintains the values of the following registers: EBX, ESI, EDI, EBP, CS, DS, SS, ES.
  - This does not mean that the subroutine can not change them internally. Instead, it means that if it does change their values, it must restore their original values before the subroutine returns. The EBX, ESI and EDI values must be unmodified because C uses these registers for register variables.
- The EBX, ESI and EDI values must be unmodified because C uses these registers for register variables.
  - Usually the stack is used to save the original values of these registers.

Backup slides

# Segment Registers

- CS
  - Points to the memory area where your program's instructions are stored
- DS
  - Points to the memory area where your program's data is stored
- SS
  - Points to the memory area where your stack is stored
- ES, FS, GS
  - They can be used to point to additional data segments, if necessary

# Special Registers

- IP, EIP
  - Instruction pointer, points always to the next instruction that the processor is going to execute
  - Only changed indirectly by branching instructions
- FLAG, EFLAG
  - Flags register, contains individual bits set by different operations (e.g. carry, overflow, zero)
  - Used massively with branch instructions

# General Purpose (GP) Registers

- Accumulator (AH, AL, AX, EAX)
  - Accumulates results from mathematical calculations
- Base (BH, BL, BX, EBX)
  - Points to memory locations
- Count (CL, CH, CX, ECX)
  - Counter used typically for loops
  - Can be automatically incremented/decremented
- Data (DL, DH, DX, EDX)
  - Data used in calculations
  - Most significant bits of a 32-bit mul/div operation



# CPU State Instructions

- **ENTER**: save CPU state
- **LEAVE**: restore CPU state
- Mainly used in interrupt processing