

# CS 110

## Computer Architecture

### Lecture 7:

### *Running a Program - CALL (Compiling, Assembling, Linking, and Loading)*

Instructors:

Sören Schwertfeger & Chundong Wang

<https://robotics.shanghaitech.edu.cn/courses/ca/20s/>

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Slides based on UC Berkley's CS61C



# RISC-V ISA Specification

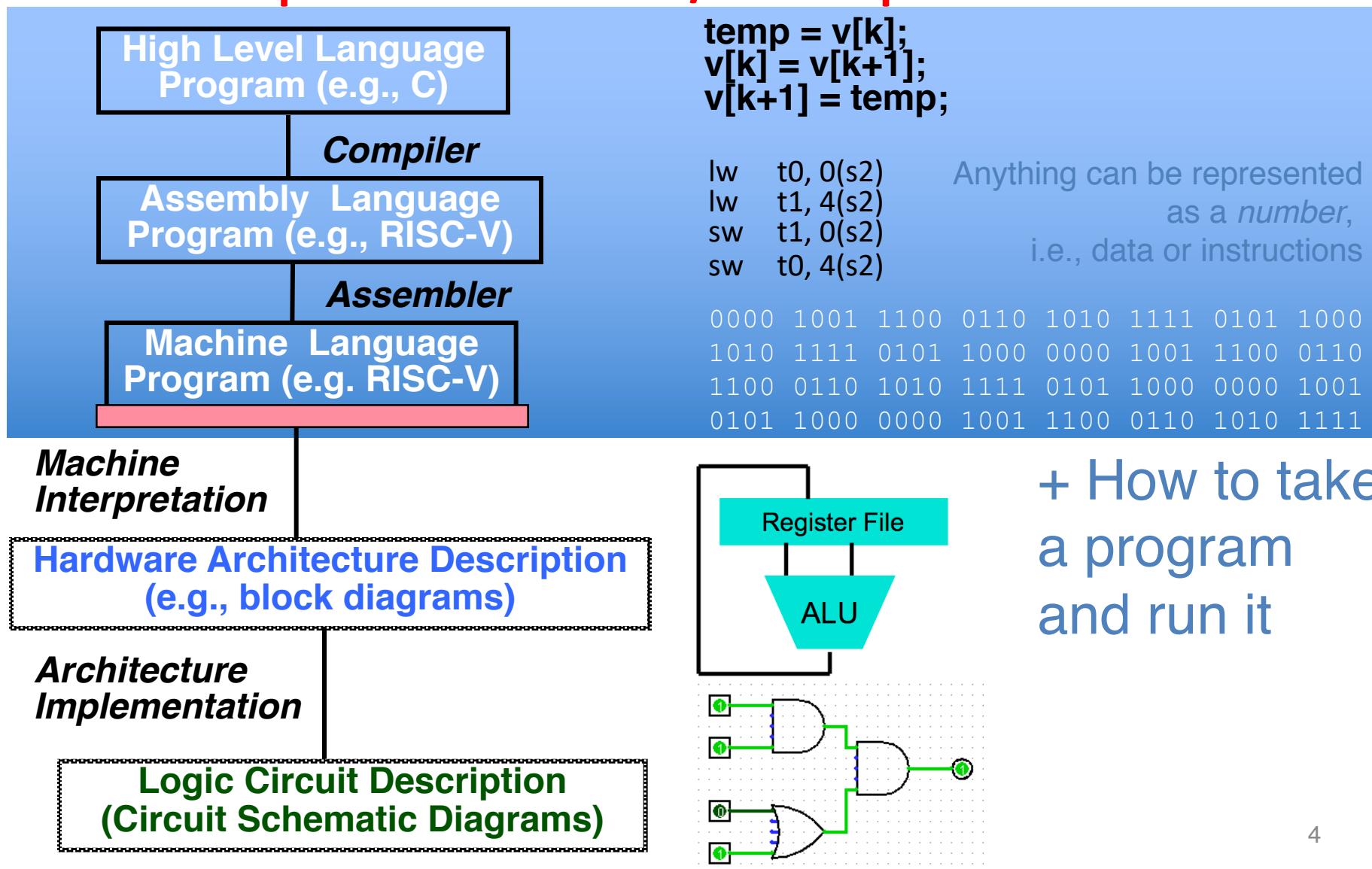
- Latest draft of RISC-V ISA Specification:  
<https://github.com/riscv/riscv-isa-manual/releases/download/draft-20200229-27b40fb/riscv-spec.pdf>
- Class covers RV32I Base Integer Instruction Set
  - RV64I and RV128I also available
  - RV32E: Embedded Systems (only 16 registers)
- Various Extensions, e.g.:
  - C (compressed): some instructions just 16 bit
  - M: integer multiplication and devision
  - F: floating; D: double; Q: quad floating point
  - A: atomic instructions
  - V: Vector Operations
- The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual; Volume II: Privileged Architecture
  - For Operating System



# Clarifications

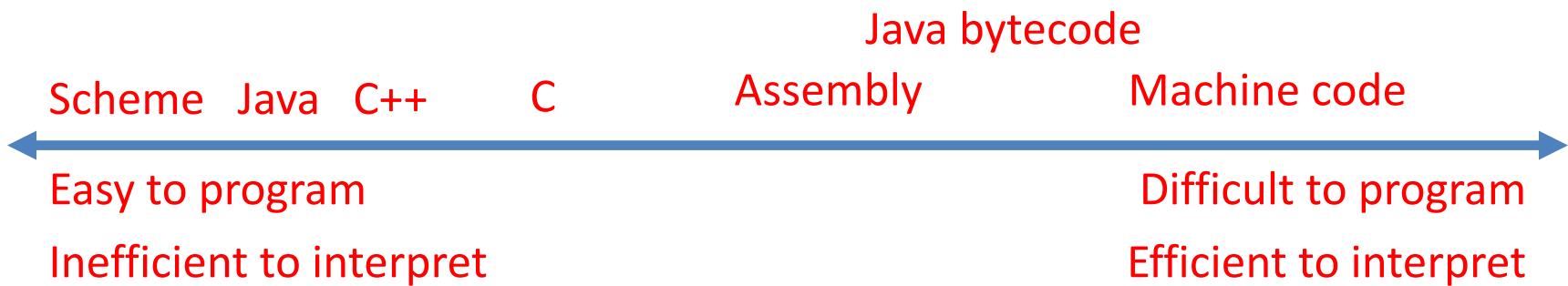
- RISC-V ISA Spec: Does NOT define Assembly Syntax
  - Defines Binary Machine Instructions and their behavior
  - Different Assemblers could have different syntax (i.e. allow commas or not)
- Project 1 RISC-V emulator: behave exactly like Venus!
- ALL I-Type instructions (including sltiu):
  - do sign-extension
  - (in Venus): input number is signed, even if hex

# Levels of Representation/Interpretation



# Language Execution Continuum

- An **Interpreter** is a program that executes other programs.

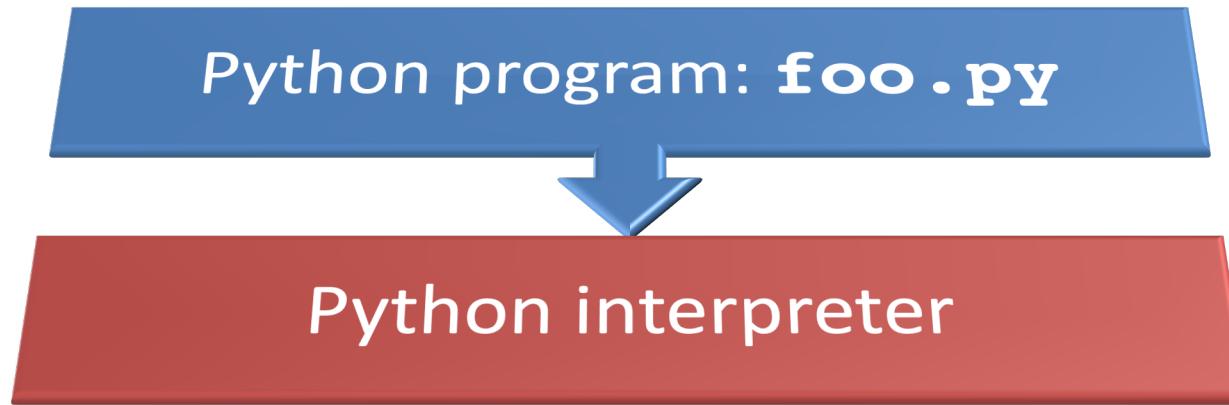


- Language **translation** gives us another option
- In general, we **interpret** a high-level language when efficiency is not critical and **translate** to a lower-level language to increase performance

# Interpretation vs Translation

- How do we run a program written in a source language?
  - **Interpreter**: Directly executes a program in the source language
  - **Translator**: Converts a program from the source language to an equivalent program in another language
- For example, consider a Python program **foo.py**

# Interpretation



- Python interpreter is just a program that reads a python program and performs the functions of that python program.

# Interpretation

- Any good reason to interpret machine language in software?
- VENUS RISC-V simulator: useful for learning / debugging
- Apple Macintosh conversion
  - Switched from Motorola 680x0 instruction architecture to PowerPC.
    - Similar issue with switch to x86
  - Could require all programs to be re-translated from high level language
  - Instead, let executables contain old and/or new machine code, interpret old code in software if necessary (emulation)

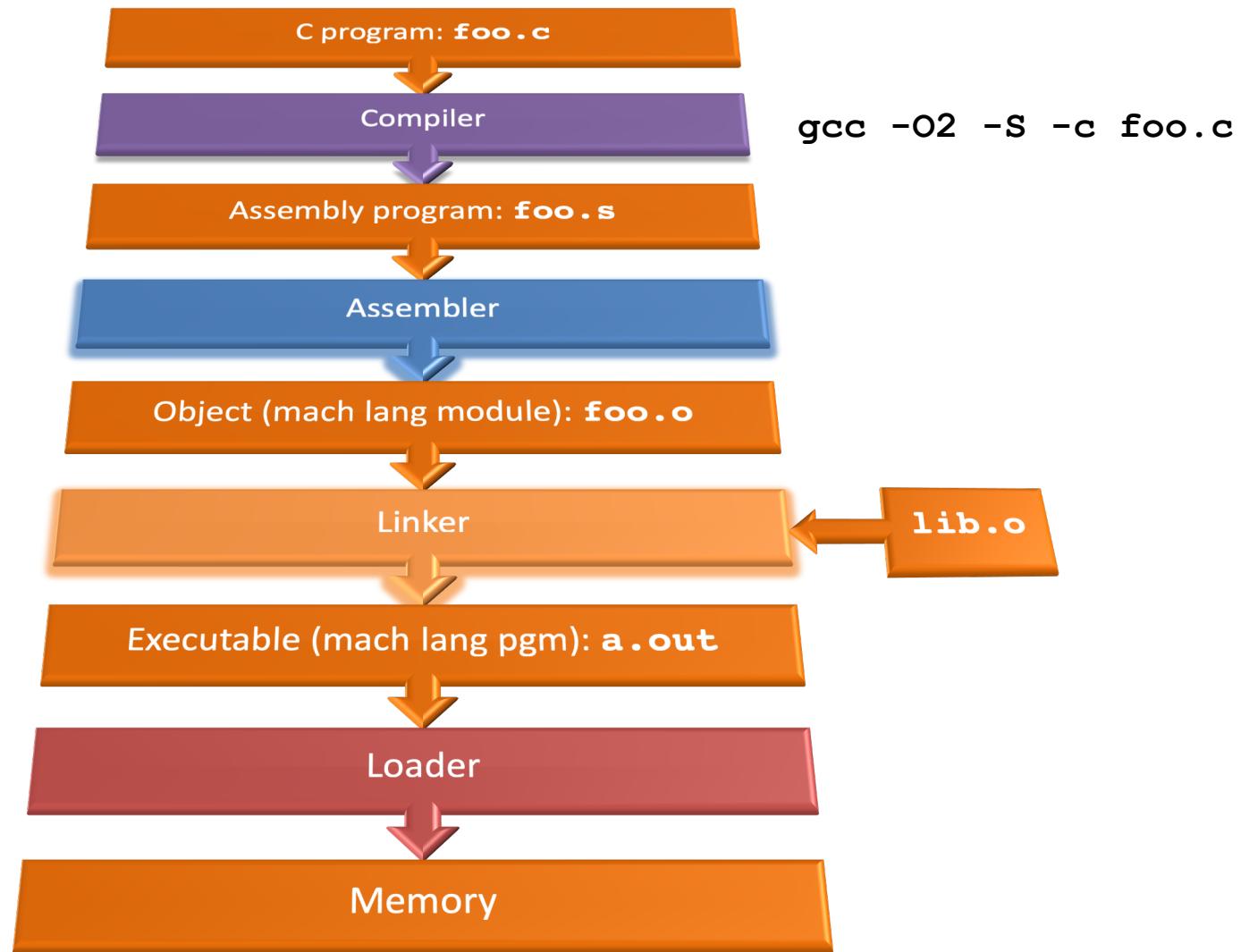
# Interpretation vs. Translation? (1/2)

- Generally easier to write interpreter
- Interpreter closer to high-level, so can give better error messages (e.g., VENUS)
  - Translator reaction: add extra information to help debugging (line numbers, names)
- Interpreter slower (10x?), code smaller (2x?)
- Interpreter provides instruction set independence: run on any machine

# Interpretation vs. Translation? (2/2)

- Translated/compiled code almost always more efficient and therefore higher performance:
  - Important for many applications, particularly operating systems.
- Translation/compilation helps “hide” the program “source” from the users:
  - One model for creating value in the marketplace (eg. Microsoft keeps all their source code secret)
  - Alternative model, “open source”, creates value by publishing the source code and fostering a community of developers.

# Steps in compiling a C program



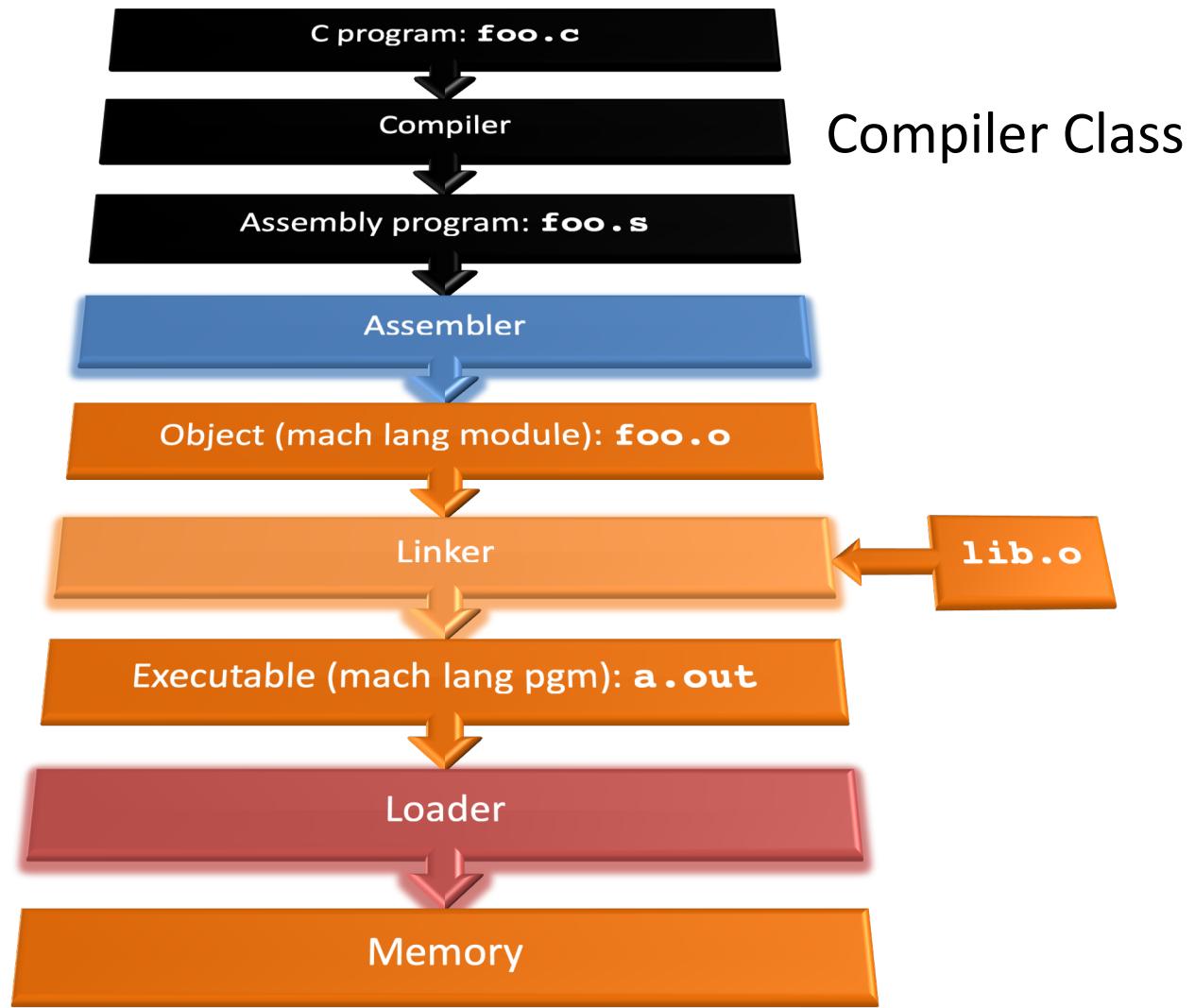
# Compiler

- Input: High-Level Language Code  
(e.g., **foo.c**)
- Output: Assembly Language Code  
(e.g., **foo.s** for RISC-V)
- Note: Output *may* contain pseudo-instructions
- Pseudo-instructions: instructions that assembler understands but not in machine
  - **move t1,t2**  $\Rightarrow$  **addi t1,t2,0**

# Steps In The Compiler

- **Lexer:**
  - Turns the input into "tokens", recognizes problems with the tokens
- **Parser:**
  - Turns the tokens into an "Abstract Syntax Tree", recognizes problems in the program structure
- **Semantic Analysis and Optimization:**
  - Checks for semantic errors, may reorganize the code to make it better
- **Code generation:**
  - Output the assembly code

# Where Are We Now?



# Assembler

- Input: Assembly Language Code
- (e.g., **foo.s** for RISC-V)
- Output: Object Code, information tables  
(e.g., **foo.o** for RISC-V)
- Reads and Uses **Directives**
- Replace Pseudo-instructions
- Produce Machine Language
- Creates **Object File**

# Assembler Directives

- Give directions to assembler, but do not produce machine instructions
  - **.text:** Subsequent items put in user text segment (machine code)
  - **.data:** Subsequent items put in user data segment (binary rep of data in source file)
  - **.globl sym:** declares **sym** global and can be referenced from other files
  - **.asciiz str:** Store the string **str** in memory and null-terminate it
  - **.word w1...wn:** Store the  $n$  32-bit quantities in successive memory words

# Pseudo-instruction Replacement

Pseudo	Real
<code>nop</code>	<code>addi x0, x0, 0</code>
<code>not rd, rs</code>	<code>xori rd, rs, -1</code>
<code>beqz rs, offset</code>	<code>beq rs, x0, offset</code>
<code>bgt rs, rt, offset</code>	<code>blt rt, rs, offset</code>
<code>j offset</code>	<code>jal x0, offset</code>
<code>ret</code>	<code>jalr x0, x1, offset</code>
<code>call offset</code> (if too big for just a <code>jal</code> )	<code>auipc x6, offset[31:12]</code> <code>jalr x1, x6, offset[11:0]</code>
<code>tail offset</code> (if too far for a <code>j</code> )	<code>auipc x6, offset[31:12]</code> <code>jalr x0, x6, offset[11:0]</code>

# So what is "tail" about...

- Often times your code has a convention like this:

```
{ ...  
    lots of code  
    return foo(y);  
}
```

- It can be a recursive call to **foo()** if this is within **foo()**, or call to a different function...
- So for efficiency...
  - Evaluate the arguments for **foo()** and place them in **a0-a7**...
  - Restore **ra**, all callee saved registers, and **sp**
  - Then call **foo()** with **j** or **tail**
- Then when **foo()** returns, it can return **directly** to where it needs to return to
  - Rather than returning to wherever **foo()** was called and returning from there
  - Tail Call Optimization**

# Producing Machine Language (1/3)

- Simple Case
  - Arithmetic, Logical, Shifts, and so on
  - All necessary info is within the instruction already
- What about Branches?
  - PC-Relative (e.g., **beq/bne** and **jal**)
  - So once pseudo-instructions are replaced by real ones, we know by how many instructions to branch
- So these can be handled

# 16b "RISC-V C" Instruction Set

- Last lecture: the RISC-V includes an optional "C" (Compact) 16b ISA
  - <https://content.riscv.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/riscv-spec-v2.2.pdf>
  - Understanding why it was designed this way is useful, but not used in class. Might inspire exam questions...
- At this point in CALL, assembler can pattern match and turn 32b instructions into 16b instructions
  - So the presence of the 16b instructions ***doesn't need to be known to anybody but the assembler and the RISC-V processor itself!***
  - EG, pattern of:  
**sw s0 4(sp)** converts to **c.swsp s0 4**  
**beq x0 s2 20** converts to **c.beqz s2 20**

# Producing Machine Language (2/3)

- “Forward Reference” problem
  - Branch instructions can refer to labels that are “forward” in the program:

```
addi t2, zero, 9      # t2 = 9
L1: slt t1, zero, t2  # 0 < t2? Set t1
    beq t1, zero, L2   # NO! t2 <= 0; Go to L2
    addi t2, t2, -1    # YES! t2 > 0; t2--
    j L1                # Go to L1
L2:
```

3 words forward  
(6 halfwords) →

3 words back  
(6 halfwords) →

L2:

- Solved by taking two passes over the program
  - First pass remembers position of labels
  - Second pass uses label positions to generate code

# Producing Machine Language (3/3)

- What about jumps (**j**, **jal**) and branches (**beq**, **bne**)?
  - Jumps within a file are PC relative (and we can easily compute):
    - Just count the number of instruction *halfwords* between target and jump to determine the offset: *position-independent code (PIC)*
  - Jumps to other files we can't
- What about references to static data?
  - **la** gets broken up into **lui** and **addi**
  - These require the full 32-bit address of the data
- These can't be determined yet, so we create two tables
  - ...

# Peer Instruction

Which of the following is a correct assembly language sequence for the pseudo-instruction:

la t1, FOO?\*

\*Assume the address of  
FOO is 0xABCD0124

- A:** ori t1, 0xABCD0  
addi t1, 0x124
- B:** ori t1, 0x124  
lui t1, 0xABCD0
- C:** lui t1, 0xD0124  
ori t1, 0xABC
- D:** lui t1, 0xABCD0  
addi t1, 0x124



# Symbol Table

- List of “items” in this file that may be used by other files
- What are they?
  - Labels: function calling
  - Data: anything in the **.data** section; variables which may be accessed across files

# Relocation Table

- List of “items” whose address this file needs  
What are they?
  - Any external label jumped to: **jal**, **jalr**
    - External (including lib files)
    - Such as the **la** instruction
      - E.g., for **jalr** base register
  - Any piece of data in static section
    - Such as the **la** instruction
      - E.g., for **lw/sw** base register

# Object File Format

- object file header: size and position of the other pieces of the object file
- text segment: the machine code
- data segment: binary representation of the static data in the source file
- relocation information: identifies lines of code that need to be fixed up later
- symbol table: list of this file's labels and static data that can be referenced
- debugging information
- A standard format is ELF (except MS)

[http://www.skyfree.org/linux/references/ELF\\_Format.pdf](http://www.skyfree.org/linux/references/ELF_Format.pdf)



# TA Discussion

Tianyuan Wu



# Q & A



# Quiz



# Quiz

- **DOWNLOAD** to disk!
- Then edit with proper PDF reader!
- [https://robotics.shanghaitech.edu.cn/courses/ca/20s/notes/CA\\_Lecture\\_7\\_Quiz\\_.pdf](https://robotics.shanghaitech.edu.cn/courses/ca/20s/notes/CA_Lecture_7_Quiz_.pdf)
- Submit to gradescope:
- <https://www.gradescope.com/courses/77872>
- Only if you have problems with gradescope, send the PDF to:  
Head TA Yanjie Song <songyj at shanghaitech.edu.cn>

# CS 110

# Computer Architecture

## Lecture 7:

### *Running a Program - CALL*

### *Video 2: Linking & Loading*

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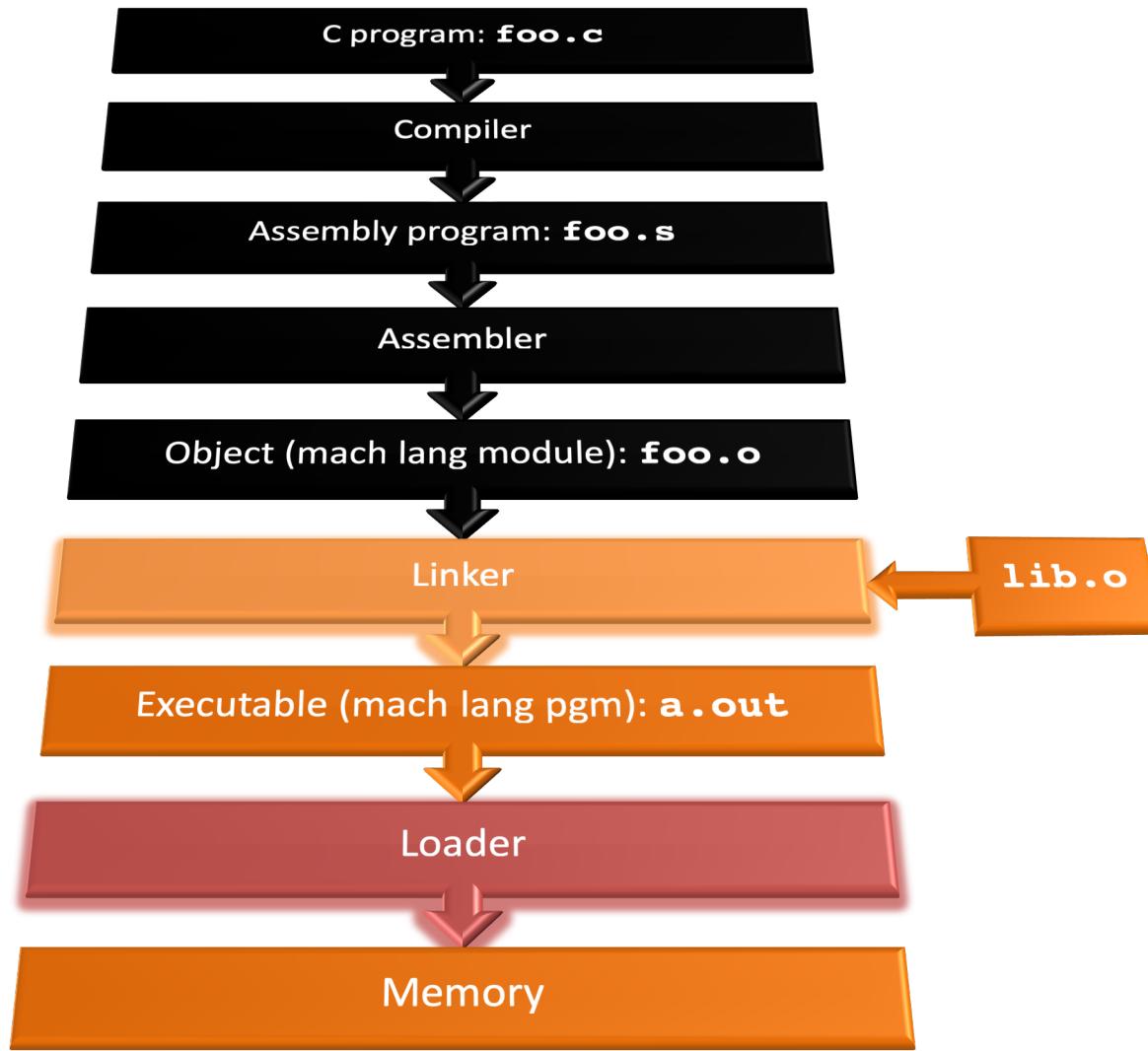
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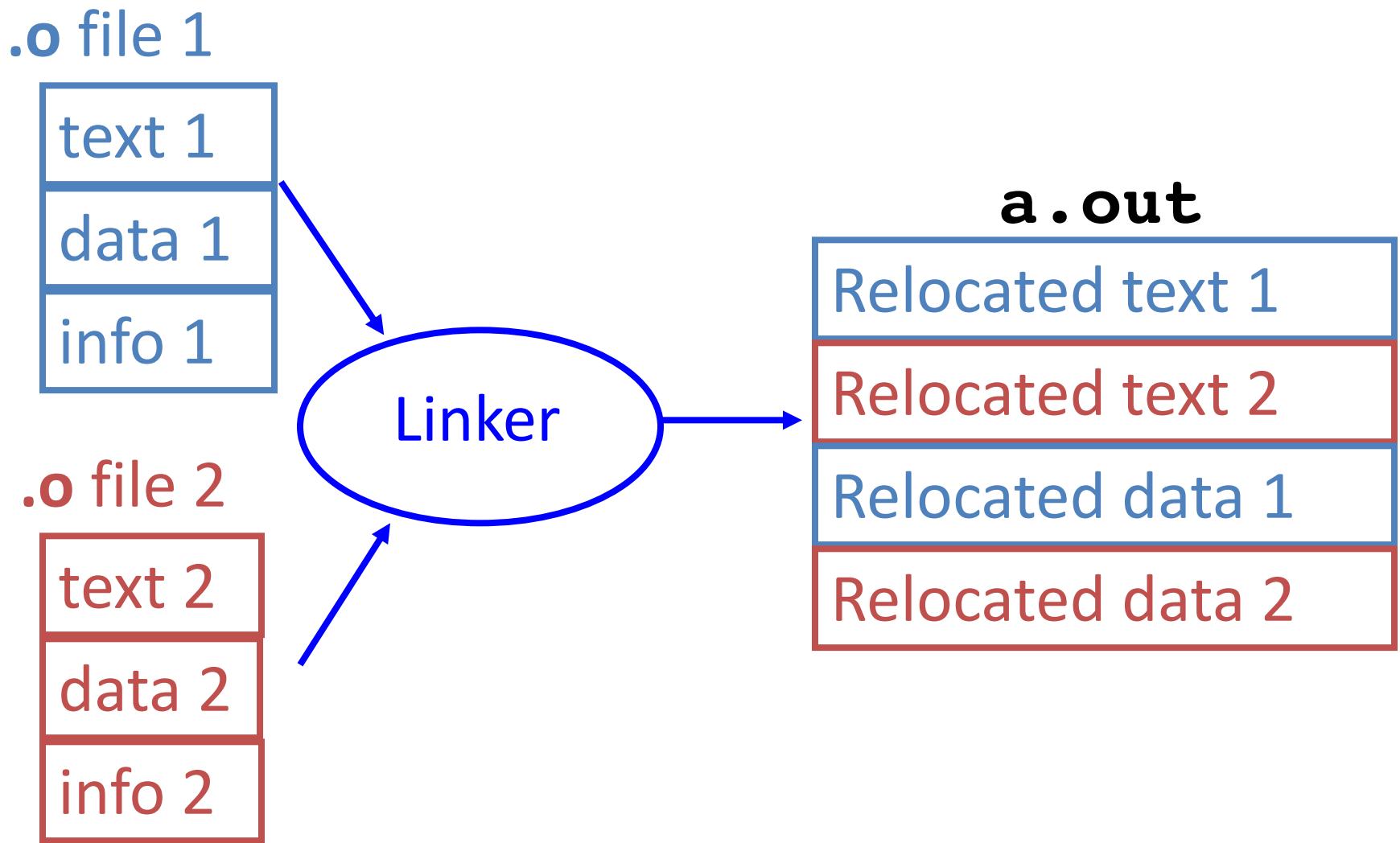
# Where Are We Now?



# Linker (1/3)

- Input: Object code files, information tables (e.g., `foo.o`, `libc.o` for RISC-V)
- Output: Executable code (e.g., `a.out` for RISC-V)
- Combines several object (`.o`) files into a single executable (“linking”)
- Enable separate compilation of files
  - Changes to one file do not require recompilation of the whole program
    - Linux source > 20 M lines of code!
  - Old name “Link Editor” from editing the “links” in jump and link instructions

# Linker (2/3)



# Linker (3/3)

- Step 1: Take text segment from each .o file and put them together
- Step 2: Take data segment from each .o file, put them together, and concatenate this onto end of text segments
- Step 3: Resolve references
  - Go through Relocation Table; handle each entry
  - That is, fill in all **absolute addresses**

# Four Types of Addresses

- PC-Relative Addressing (**beq**, **bne**, **jal**)
  - Never need to relocate (PIC: position independent code)
- External Function Reference (usually **jal**)
  - Always relocate
- Static Data Reference (often **auipc/addi**)
  - Always relocate
  - RISC-V often uses **auipc** rather than **lui** so that a big block of stuff can be further relocated as long as it is fixed relative to the pc

# Absolute Addresses in RISC-V

- Which instructions need relocation editing?
  - J-format: jump and link: ONLY for external jumps

xxxxx	rd	jal
-------	----	-----

- I-,S- Format: Loads and stores to variables in static area, relative to global pointer

xxx	gp		rd	lw
xx	rs1	gp	x	sw

- What about conditional branches?

xx	rs1	rs2		x	beq bne
----	-----	-----	--	---	------------

- PC-relative addressing **preserved** even if code moves

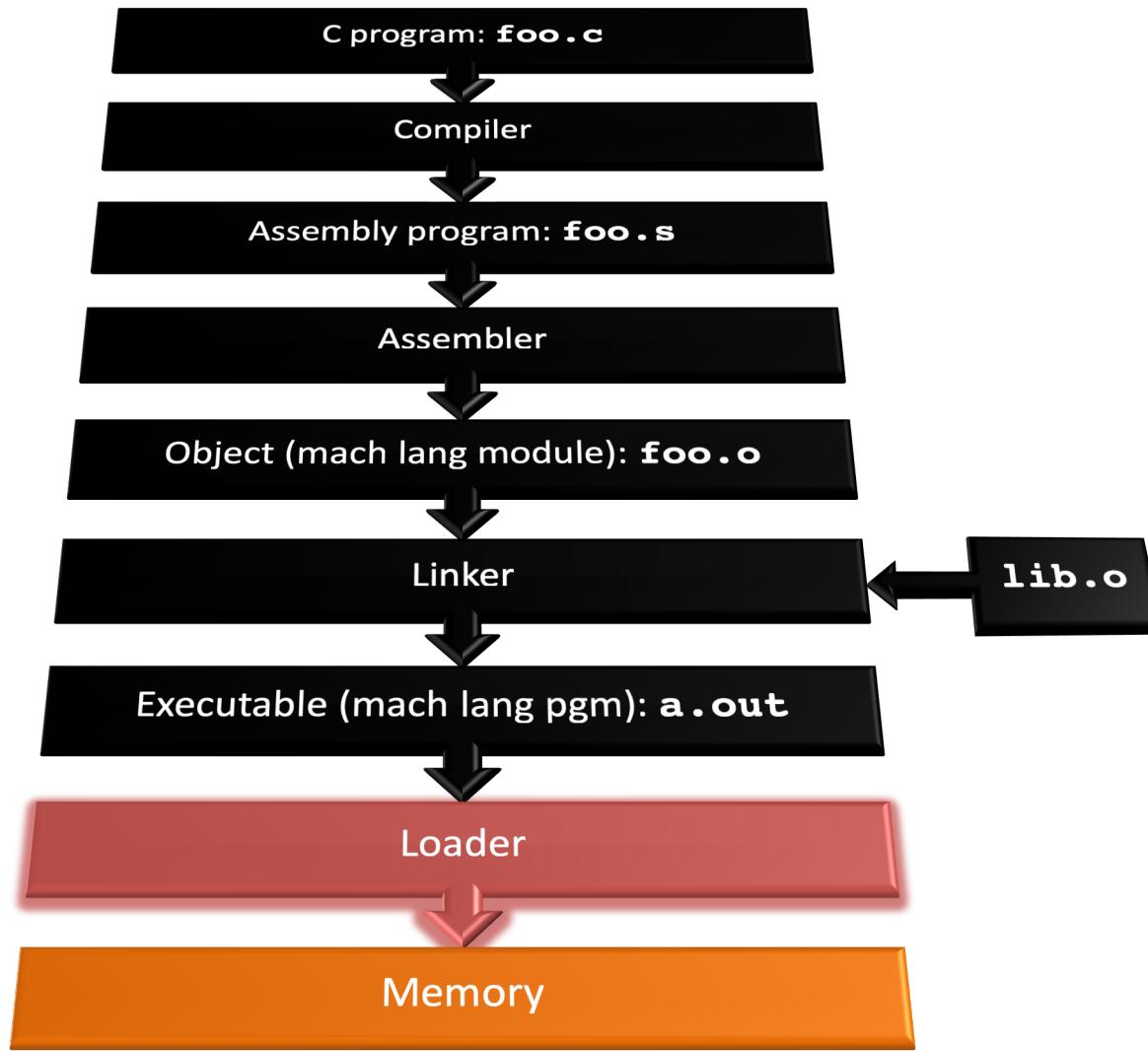
# Resolving References (1/2)

- Linker **assumes** first word of first text segment is at address **0x04000000** for RV32.
  - (More later when we study “virtual memory”)
- Linker knows:
  - Length of each text and data segment
  - Ordering of text and data segments
- Linker calculates:
  - Absolute address of each label to be jumped to and each piece of data being referenced

# Resolving References (2/2)

- To resolve references:
  - search for reference (data or label) in all “user” symbol tables
  - if not found, search library files  
(for example, for `printf`)
  - once absolute address is determined, fill in the machine code appropriately
- Output of linker: executable file containing text and data (plus header)

# Where Are We Now?



# Loader Basics

- Input: Executable Code  
(e.g., **a.out** for RISC-V)
- Output: (program is run)
- Executable files are stored on disk
- When one is run, loader's job is to load it into memory and start it running
- In reality, loader is the operating system (OS)
  - loading is one of the OS tasks

# Loader ... what does it do?

- Reads executable file's header to determine size of text and data segments
- Creates new address space for program large enough to hold text and data segments, along with a stack segment
- Copies instructions and data from executable file into the new address space
- Copies arguments passed to the program onto the stack
- Initializes machine registers
  - Most registers cleared, but stack pointer assigned address of 1st free stack location
- Jumps to start-up routine that copies program's arguments from stack to registers & sets the PC
  - If main routine returns, start-up routine terminates program with the exit system call

# Question

At what point in process are all the machine code bits generated for the following assembly instructions:

- 1) add x6, x7, x8
- 2) jal x1, fprintf



- A: 1) & 2) After compilation
- B: 1) After compilation, 2) After assembly
- C: 1) After assembly, 2) After linking
- D: 1) After assembly, 2) After loading
- E: 1) After compilation, 2) After linking

# Answer

At what point in process are all the machine code bits determined for the following assembly instructions:

- 1) add x6, x7, x8
- 2) jal x1, fprintf

C: (1) After assembly, (2) After linking

# CS 110

# Computer Architecture

## Lecture 7:

### *Running a Program - CALL*

### *Video 3: Example!*

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# Example: C $\Rightarrow$ Asm $\Rightarrow$ Obj $\Rightarrow$ Exe $\Rightarrow$ Run

C Program Source Code: `prog.c`

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
3     int i, sum = 0;
4     for (i = 0; i <= 100; i++)
5         sum = sum + i * i;
6     printf ("The sum of sq from 0 .. 100 is %d\n", sum);
7     return 0;
8 }
```

“`printf`” lives in “`libc`”

Compile to RISC-V Assembly: `prog.s`

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
3     int i, sum = 0;
4     for (i = 0; i <= 100; i++)
5         sum = sum + i * i;
6     printf ("The sum of sq from 0 .. 100 is %d\n", sum);
7     return 0;
8 }
```

```
1 # Register Allocation: i = t0, sum = a1
2 .text                      # the text segment
3 .align 2                   # aligned to 2 byte (RV32C!)
4 .globl main                # we have a global symbol "main"
5
6 main:
7     addi sp, sp, -4        # reserve stack for ra
8     sw ra, 0(sp)          # save ra on stack
9     mv t0, x0              # initialize i with 0
10    mv a1, x0              # initialize sum with 0
11    li t1, 100             # set condition variable to 100
12    j check               # jump to check: for loop
13 loop:                     # checks first!
14    mul t2, t0, t0          # loop code: t2 = i * i
15    add a1, a1, t2          #           sum = sum + t2
16    addi t0, t0, 1          # i++
```

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 int main (int argc, char *argv[]) {
3     int i, sum = 0;
4     for (i = 0; i <= 100; i++)
5         sum = sum + i * i;
6     printf ("The sum of sq from 0 .. 100 is %d\n", sum);
7     return 0;
8 }
```

```
17 check:
18     blt t0, t1, loop      # continue loop if i<100
19
20     la  a0, str           # first argument of printf: str
21                               # scond argument is already sum!
22     jal printf            # call printf (ra gets overwritten)
23     mv a0, x0              # prepare argument for return 0;
24     lw ra, 0(sp)          # restore ra from stack
25     addi sp, sp 4          # restore sp
26     ret                   # return
27
28 .data                  # now comes the static data seg.
29 .align 0                # no need to align it
30 str:                   # the label for our string
31     .asciiz "The sum of sq from 0.. 100 is %d\n"
```

# Example: $\sum_{i=0}^{100} i$

```
1 # i = t0, sum = a1
2 .text
3 .align 2
4 .globl main
5
6 main:
7     addi sp, sp, -4
8     sw ra, 0(sp)
9     mv t0, x0
10    mv a1, x0
11    li t1, 100
12    j check
13 loop:
14    mul t2, t0, t0
15    add a1, a1, t2
16    addi t0, t0, 1
```

```
17 check:
18     blt t0, t1, loop
19
20     la a0, str
21
22     jal printf
23     mv a0, x0
24     lw ra, 0(sp)
25     addi sp, sp 4
26     ret
27
28 .data
29 .align 0
30 str:
31     .asciiz "The sum of
sq from 0.. 100 is %d\n"
```

# 7 Pseudo Instructions

```
1 # i = t0, sum = a1
2 .text
3 .align 2
4 .globl main
5
6 main:
7     addi sp, sp, -4
8     sw ra, 0(sp)
9     mv t0, x0
10    mv a1, x0
11    li t1, 100
12    j check
13 loop:
14    mul t2, t0, t0
15    add a1, a1, t2
16    addi t0, t0, 1
17 check:
18     blt t0, t1, loop
19
20     la a0, str
21
22     jal printf
23     mv a0, x0
24     lw ra, 0(sp)
25     addi sp, sp 4
26     ret
27
28 .data
29 .align 0
30 str:
31     .asciiz "The sum of
sq from 0.. 100 is %d\n"
```

# Assembly Step 1:

## Remove Pseudo Instructions, assign jumps

<b>Basic Code</b>	<b>Original Code</b>	<b>Label</b>
addi x2 x2 -4	addi sp, sp, -4	main:
sw x1 0(x2)	sw ra, 0(sp)	
<b>addi x5 x0 0</b>	mv t0, x0	
<b>addi x11 x0 0</b>	mv a1, x0	
<b>addi x6 x0 100</b>	li t1, 100	
<b>jal x0 16</b>	j check	
mul x7 x5 x5	mul t2, t0, t0	loop:
add x11 x11 x7	add a1, a1, t2	
addi x5 x5 1	addi t0, t0, 1	
blt x5 x6 -12	blt t0, t1, loop	check:
<b>auipc x10 1.str</b>	la a0, str	
<b>addi x10 x10 r.str</b>	la a0, str	
jal x1 printf	jal printf	
addi x10 x0 0	mv a0, x0	
lw x1 0(x2)	lw ra, 0(sp)	
addi x2 x2 4	addi sp, sp 4	
<b>jalr x0 x1 0</b>	ret	

Assigned  
jumps

Unknown  
addresses

# Assembly Step 1:

## Instructions and Labels have addresses!

<b>PC</b>	<b>Basic Code</b>	<b>Original Code</b>	<b>Label</b>
0x00	addi x2 x2 -4	addi sp, sp, -4	main:
0x04	sw x1 0(x2)	sw ra, 0(sp)	
0x08	addi x5 x0 0	mv t0, x0	
0x0c	addi x11 x0 0	mv a1, x0	
0x10	addi x6 x0 100	li t1, 100	
0x14	jal x0 16	j check	
0x18	mul x7 x5 x5	mul t2, t0, t0	loop:
0x1c	add x11 x11 x7	add a1, a1, t2	
0x20	addi x5 x5 1	addi t0, t0, 1	
0x24	blt x5 x6 -12	blt t0, t1, loop	check:
0x28	auipc x10 l.str	la a0, str	
0x2c	addi x10 x10 r.str	la a0, str	
0x30	jal x1 printf	jal printf	
0x34	addi x10 x0 0	mv a0, x0	
0x38	lw x1 0(x2)	lw ra, 0(sp)	
0x3c	addi x2 x2 4	addi sp, sp 4	
0x40	jalr x0 x1 0	ret	

# Assembly Step 2:

## Create relocation table and symbol table

- Symbol Table

<b>Label</b>	<b>address (in module)</b>	<b>Type</b>
main:	0x00000000	global text
loop:	0x00000018	local text
check:	0x00000024	local text
str:	0x00000000	local data

- Relocation Table

<b>Address</b>	<b>Instr. type</b>	<b>Dependency</b>
0x0000000028	auipc	l.str
0x000000002c	addi	r.str
0x0000000030	jal	printf

# Assembly Step 3:

- Generate object (.o) file:
  - Output binary representation for
    - text segment (instructions)
    - data segment (data)
    - symbol and relocation tables
  - Using dummy “placeholders” for unresolved absolute and external references

Example: C  $\Rightarrow$  Asm  $\Rightarrow$  Obj  $\Rightarrow$  Exe  $\Rightarrow$  Run

Text segment of Assembled prog.s: prog.o

PC	Machine Code	Basic Code	Original Code	Label
0x00	0xFFC10113	addi x2 x2 -4	addi sp, sp, -4	main:
0x04	0x00112023	sw x1 0(x2)	sw ra, 0(sp)	
0x08	0x00000293	addi x5 x0 0	mv t0, x0	
0x0c	0x00000593	addi x11 x0 0	mv a1, x0	
0x10	0x06400313	addi x6 x0 100	li t1, 100	
0x14	0x0100006F	jal x0 16	j check	
0x18	0x025283B3	mul x7 x5 x5	mul t2, t0, t0	loop:
0x1c	0x007585B3	add x11 x11 x7	add a1, a1, t2	
0x20	0x00128293	addi x5 x5 1	addi t0, t0, 1	
0x24	0xFE62CAE3	blt x5 x6 -12	blt t0, t1, loop	check:
0x28	0x00000517	auipc x10 0	la a0, str	
0x2c	0x00050513	addi x10 x10 0	la a0, str	
0x30	0x000000EF	jal x1 0	jal printf	
0x34	0x00000513	addi x10 x0 0	mv a0, x0	
0x38	0x00012083	lw x1 0(x2)	lw ra, 0(sp)	
0x3c	0x00410113	addi x2 x2 4	addi sp, sp 4	
0x40	0x00008067	jalr x0 x1 0	ret	

# Example: C $\Rightarrow$ Asm $\Rightarrow$ Obj $\Rightarrow$ Exe $\Rightarrow$ Run

Move text segment to text location

PC	Machine Code	Basic Code	Original Code	Label
00400000	0xFFC10113	addi x2 x2 -4	addi sp, sp, -4	main:
00400004	0x00112023	sw x1 0(x2)	sw ra, 0(sp)	
00400008	0x00000293	addi x5 x0 0	mv t0, x0	
0040000C	0x00000593	addi x11 x0 0	mv a1, x0	
00400010	0x06400313	addi x6 x0 100	li t1, 100	
00400014	0x0100006F	jal x0 16	j check	
00400018	0x025283B3	mul x7 x5 x5	mul t2, t0, t0	loop:
0040001C	0x007585B3	add x11 x11 x7	add a1, a1, t2	
00400020	0x00128293	addi x5 x5 1	addi t0, t0, 1	
00400024	0xFE62CAE3	blt x5 x6 -12	blt t0, t1, loop	check:
00400028	0x00000517	auipc x10 0	la a0, str	
0040002C	0x00050513	addi x10 x10 0	la a0, str	
00400030	0x000000EF	jal x1 0	jal printf	
00400034	0x00000513	addi x10 x0 0	mv a0, x0	
00400038	0x00012083	lw x1 0(x2)	lw ra, 0(sp)	
0040003C	0x00410113	addi x2 x2 4	addi sp, sp 4	
00400040	0x00008067	jalr x0 x1 0	ret	

Example: C  $\Rightarrow$  Asm  $\Rightarrow$  Obj  $\Rightarrow$  Exe  $\Rightarrow$  Run

Linking: PC relative static data str!

- Static Data str
  - Above text segment, so assume: 0x00401B08
  - la a0 str =>  
auipc x10 ?????  
addi x10 ???
  - PC relative addr with auipc!
    - Can move entire program around!
  - auipc at address: 0x00400028  
 $\Rightarrow$  (str) 0x00401B08 = (PC auipc) 0x00400028 + offset  $\Rightarrow$   
offset = 0x1AE0
  - represent 0x1AE0 as auipc/ addi pair:
    - addi immediate: 0xAE0
    - addi with Two's Complement  $\Rightarrow$  -1312  $\Rightarrow$   
need to add 1 to auipc immediate
    - auipc immediate: 0x00002

Example: C  $\Rightarrow$  Asm  $\Rightarrow$  Obj  $\Rightarrow$  Exe  $\Rightarrow$  Run

Linking: PC relative to printf!

- Libc was linked to executable
  - Assume printf at: 0x0040C4F
  - jal printf  $\Rightarrow$   
jal x1 ?????
  - PC relative addr!
    - Can move entire program around!
  - jal at address: 0x00400030  
 $\Rightarrow$  (printf) 0x00400C4F = (PC jal) 0x00400030 + offset  $\Rightarrow$   
offset = 0xC1F

# Example: C $\Rightarrow$ Asm $\Rightarrow$ Obj $\Rightarrow$ Exe $\Rightarrow$ Run

Text segment of Linked prog.o: a.out

PC	Machine Code	Basic Code	Original Code	Label
00400000	0xFFC10113	addi x2 x2 -4	addi sp, sp, -4	main:
00400004	0x00112023	sw x1 0(x2)	sw ra, 0(sp)	
00400008	0x00000293	addi x5 x0 0	mv t0, x0	
0040000C	0x00000593	addi x11 x0 0	mv a1, x0	
00400010	0x06400313	addi x6 x0 100	li t1, 100	
00400014	0x0100006F	jal x0 16	j check	
00400018	0x025283B3	mul x7 x5 x5	mul t2, t0, t0	loop:
0040001C	0x007585B3	add x11 x11 x7	add a1, a1, t2	
00400020	0x00128293	addi x5 x5 1	addi t0, t0, 1	
00400024	0xFE62CAE3	blt x5 x6 -12	blt t0, t1, loop	check:
00400028	0x <b>00002</b> 517	auipc x10 <b>2</b>	la a0, str	
0040002C	0x <b>AEO</b> 50513	addi x10 x10 <b>-1312</b>	la a0, str	
00400030	0x <b>00C1F</b> 0EF	jal x1 <b>0xC1F</b>	jal printf	
00400034	0x00000513	addi x10 x0 0	mv a0, x0	
00400038	0x00012083	lw x1 0(x2)	lw ra, 0(sp)	
0040003C	0x00410113	addi x2 x2 4	addi sp, sp 4	
00400040	0x00008067	jalr x0 x1 0	ret	

# Static vs Dynamically linked libraries

- What we've described is the traditional way:  
**statically-linked** approach
  - The library is now part of the executable, so if the library updates, we don't get the fix (have to recompile if we have source)
  - It includes the entire library even if not all of it will be used
  - Executable is self-contained
- An alternative is **dynamically linked libraries** (DLL), common on Windows (.dll) & UNIX (.so) platforms

# Dynamically linked libraries

- Space/time issues
  - + Storing a program requires less disk space
  - + Sending a program requires less time
  - + Executing two programs requires less memory (if they share a library)
    - At runtime, there's time overhead to do link
- Upgrades
  - + Replacing one file (`libXYZ.so`) upgrades every program that uses library "XYZ"
    - Having the executable isn't enough anymore
    - Thus "containers": We hate dependencies, so we are just going to ship around all the libraries and everything else as part of the 'application'

*Overall, dynamic linking adds quite a bit of complexity to the compiler, linker, and operating system. However, it provides many benefits that often outweigh these*

# Dynamically linked libraries

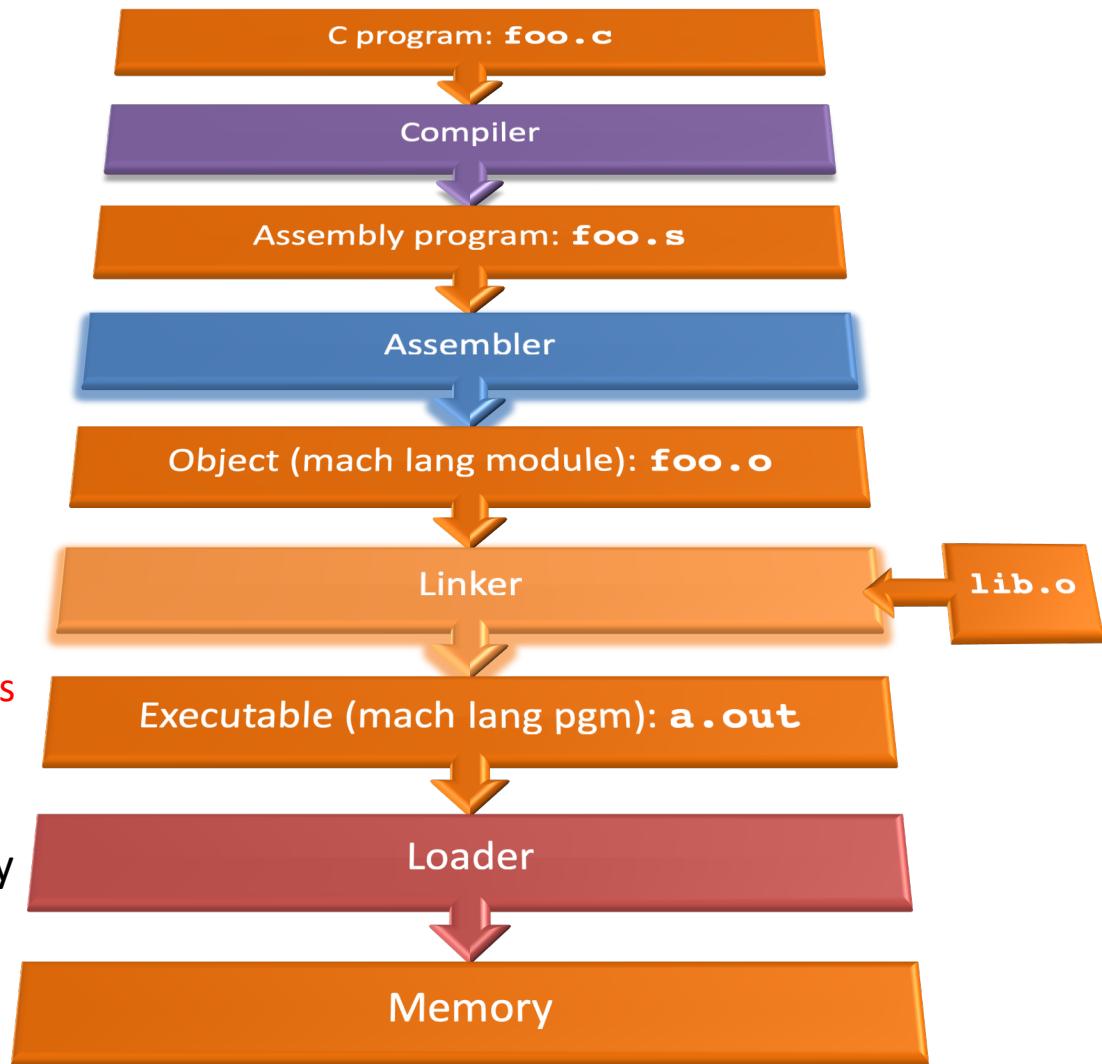
- The prevailing approach to dynamic linking uses machine code as the “lowest common denominator”
  - The linker does not use information about how the program or library was compiled (i.e., what compiler or language)
  - This can be described as “linking at the machine code level”
  - This isn’t the only way to do it ...

# Address Space Layout Randomization

- With C memory errors, attackers traditionally often were able to jump to interesting functions of libraries (“Return oriented programming”)
  - E.g.: overwrite the ra saved on the stack to jump to another function!
- Randomized layout for libraries during linking => cannot predict address of function without linker info =>
- Attackers cannot easily jump to existing code
- Attackers need this, because with Virtual Memory, we can mark heap & stack as unexecutable!

# In Conclusion...

- Compiler converts a single HLL file into a single assembly language file.
- Assembler removes pseudo-instructions, converts what it can to machine language, and creates a checklist for the linker (relocation table). A .s file becomes a .o file.
  - Does 2 passes to resolve addresses, handling internal forward references
- Linker combines several .o files and resolves absolute addresses.
  - Enables separate compilation, libraries that need not be compiled, and resolves remaining addresses
- Loader loads executable into memory and begins execution.



# Question:

## Piazza: "Lecture 7 Link Poll"

```
1 .data
2 leet:
3     .word 0xDEADBEEF
4 .text
5 foo:
6     addi sp sp -12      # Get stack space for 3 registers
7     sw s0 0(sp)        # Save s0
8     sw s1 4(sp)        # Save s1
9     sw ra 8(sp)        # Save ra
10
11    bge a0 x0 foo_false # if c < 0... (so jump around if c >=
12    add a0 x0 x0        # return 0 in a0
13    j foo_exit
14 foo_false:
15    mv s0 a0            # save c
16    li a0 12            # sizeof(struct node) (pseudoinst)
17    jal malloc          # call malloc
18    mv s1 a0            # save n
19    addi a0 s0 -1       # c-1 in a0
20    jal foo             # call foo recursively
21    la t1 leet          # get the beef
22    sw t1 8(s1)         # write the beef to a member of n
23    sw a0 4(s1)         # write the return value into n->next
24    sb s0 0(s1)         # write c into n->c (just a byte)
25    mv a0 s1            # return n in a0
26
27 foo_exit:
28     lw s0 0(sp)        # Assume return value already in a0
29     lw s1 4(sp)        # Restore Registers
30     lw ra 8(sp)
31     addi sp sp 12      # Restore stack pointer
32     ret                # aka.. jalr x0 ra
```

After which of the CALL steps do we have all the info needed to generate ALL the machine code bits for that line (which needs maybe more than 1 instruction)?

Assume static linking.

Select one for each of those instructions:

- C. (Compiler)
- A. (Assembler)
- Ln. (Linker)
- Lo. (Loader)

Line 6:

- 1) C. 2) A. 3) Ln. 4) Lo.

Line 17:

- 21) C. 22) A. 23) Ln. 24) Lo.

Line 7:

- 5) C. 6) A. 7) Ln. 8) Lo.

Line 19:

- 25) C. 26) A. 27) Ln. 28) Lo.

Line 11:

- 9) C. 10) A. 11) Ln. 12) Lo.

Line 20:

- 29) C. 30) A. 31) Ln. 32) Lo.

Line 13:

- 13) C. 14) A. 15) Ln. 16) Lo.

Line 21:

- 33) C. 34) A. 35) Ln. 36) Lo.

Line 16:

- 17) C. 18) A. 19) Ln. 20) Lo.

Line 22:

- 37) C. 38) A. 39) Ln. 40) Lo.