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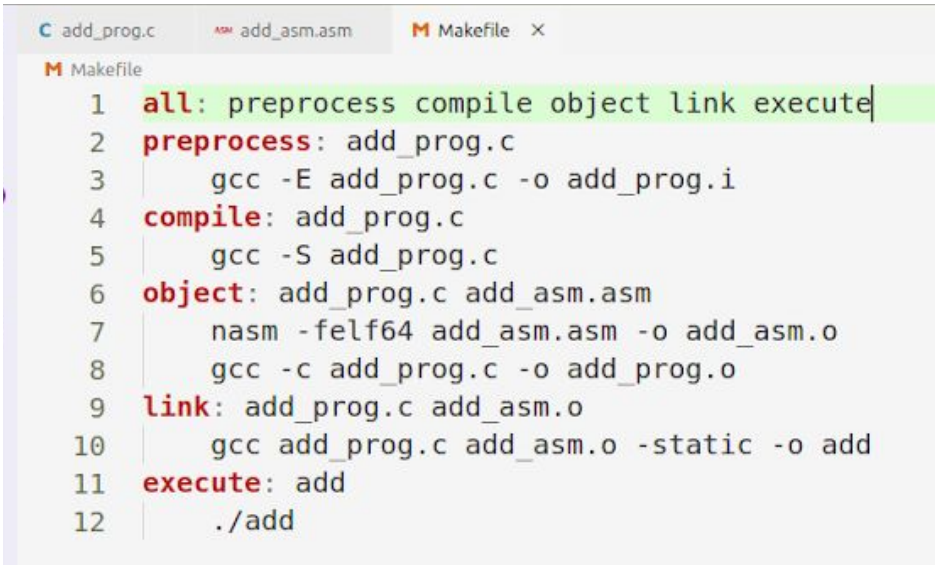
C and Assembly compilation Steps Write-up

- C program

- Makefile



- Assembly program

add_prog.c | add_asm.asm | Makefile

add_asm.asm

```
1  section .data
2      text db "-"
3      global add_num
4  section .bss
5      dig resb 100
6      digPos resb 8
7
8      section .text
9  add_num:
10     add rdi, rsi
11     mov rax, rdi
12     mov r15, rax
13     cmp rax, 0
14     jl  _neg
15     jge _pos
16
17 _pos:
18     call _print
19     mov rax, 60
20     mov rdi, 0
21     syscall
22
23 _neg:
24     neg r15
25     mov rax, 1
26     mov rdi, 1
27     mov rsi, text
28     mov rdx, 1
29     syscall
30     mov rax, r15
31     call _print
32     mov rax, 60
33     mov rdi, 0
34     syscall
```

add_prog.c | add_asm.asm | Makefile

add_asm.asm

```
36 _print:
37     mov rcx, dig
38     mov rbx, 10
39     mov [rcx], rbx
40     inc rcx
41     mov [digPos], rcx
42
43 _printLoop:
44     mov rdx, 0
45     mov r14, 10 ;
46     mov rbx, 10
47     mov r13, r14 ;
48     div rbx
49     push rax
50     add r13, r14
51     add rdx, 48
52
53     mov rcx, [digPos]
54     mov [rcx], dl
55     inc rcx
56     mov r14, r13
57     mov [digPos], rcx
58
59     pop rax
60     cmp rax,0
61     jne _printLoop
62
63 _printLoop2:
64     mov rcx, [digPos]
65     mov rax, 1
66     mov rdi, 1
67     mov rsi, rcx
68     mov rdx, 1
```

add_prog.c | add_asm.asm | Makefile

add_asm.asm

```
70
71     mov rcx, [digPos]
72     dec rcx
73     mov r15, r14 ;
74     mov [digPos], rcx
75
76     cmp rcx, dig
77     jge _printLoop2
78
79     ret
```

1. **Preprocessing step:**

This step includes preprocessing directives mentioned in the code written in C language which are the include lines, typedefs, the define, etc. It also removes all the comments from the code.

Command used to do the above mentioned step:

gcc -E add_prog.c -o add_prog.i

Makefile command for the same :

make preprocess

Result of the above command is preprocessed file named “hello.i” which is readable and itself written in C language, but the difference between this and the original C program is that all the preprocessing has been done and it is free from any comments that might be present in the C code. This file includes various new lines introduced by the command we used above.

- An excerpt from add_prog.i:

2. **Compilation step:**

This step includes compiling the code written in a high level language. It essentially converts the high level code to assembly language code which will later be converted to machine language code.

Command used to do the above mentioned step:

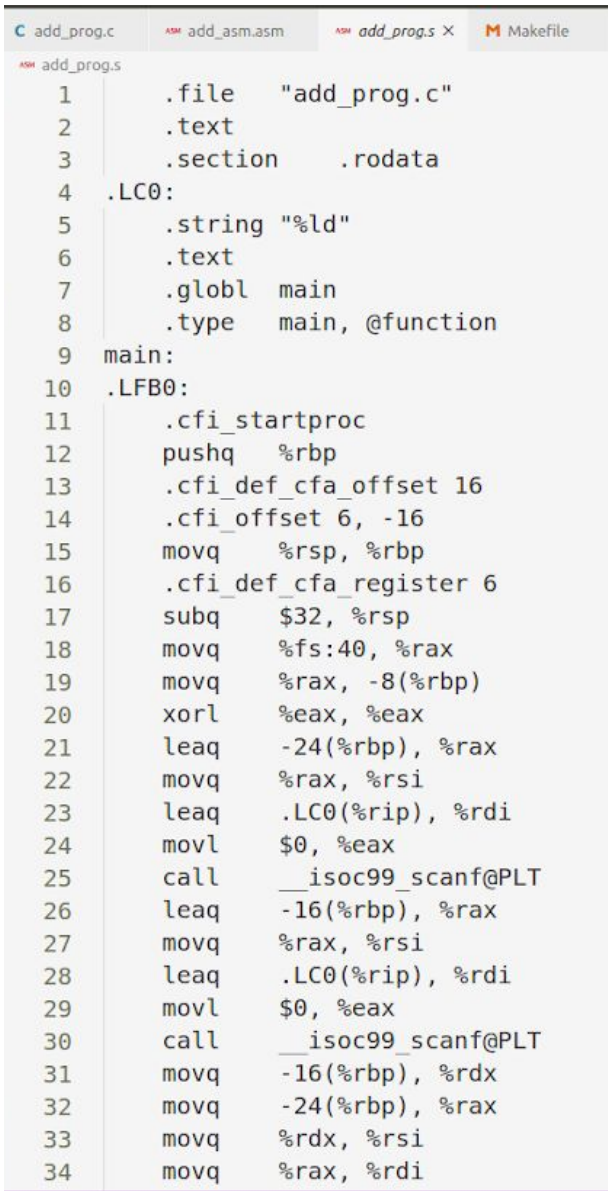
gcc -S add_prog.c

Makefile command for the same:

make compile

Result of the above command is a file named “hello.s” which if viewed will show a code written in assembly language using mnemonics. It has all the dependencies intact and gives an insight as to what is happening at an assembly level.

- An excerpt from add_prog.s:



3. **Assembly step:**

This step includes converting the assembly code into machine language code, i.e., object code. This file is non-readable by a human being.

Command used to do the above mentioned step:

nasm -felf64 add_asm.asm -o add_asm.o

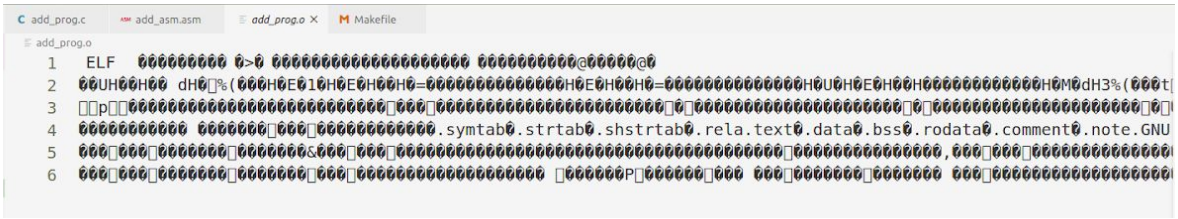
gcc -c add_prog.c -o add_prog.o

Makefile command for the same:

make object

Result of the above commands are 2 files namely “add_asm.o” and “add_prog.o”. The first file is the object file of the assembly language code while the second is the object file of the C program code which are essentially binary codes.

- add_prog.o as available to be read:



- Add_asm.o as available to be read:

4. **Linking step:**

This step includes taking into account making a single independent executable file which includes the whole binary code needed to perform the specific function for which different codes were written, here, “add_prog.c” and “add_asm.asm”.

Command used to do the above mentioned step:

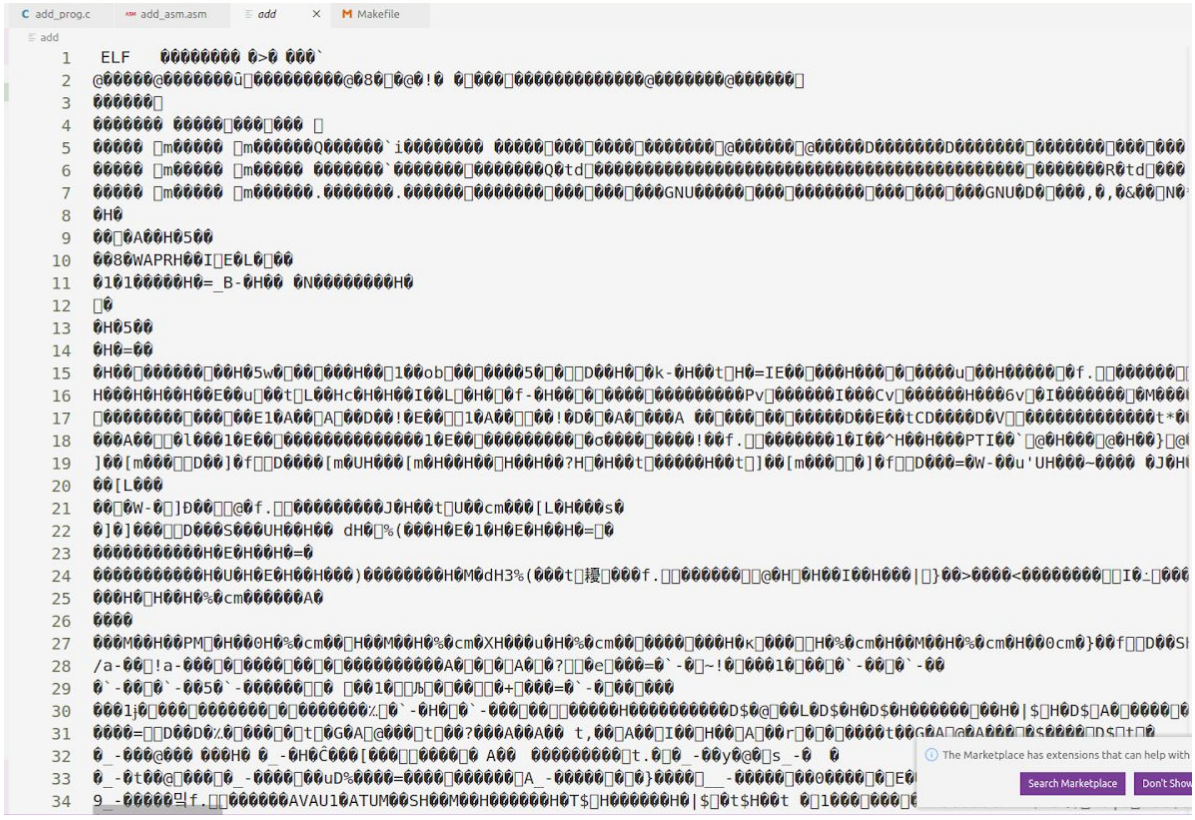
gcc add_prog.c add_asm.o -o add

Makefile command for the same:

make link

Result is “add” file which can then be executed with command: make execute

- An excerpt from add file:



Description of add_prog.c:

It has 2 include statements, one required to take input and the other required to define int64_t data type. It includes 2 input statement with function “scanf” which stores values in variables namely, a and b, which are in turn stored in rdi and rsi registers. And ultimately it include a function call to the assembly language code.

Description of add_asm.asm:

It is the assembly language code which is written with the help of mnemonics. It has a label called add_num which is used to add numbers stored in rdi and rsi registers. It also has a label which handles positive results named “_pos” and a label which handles negative results named “_neg”. Labels namely “_print”, “_printLoop” and “_printLoop2” are used to print the integer form of the result.

I used a brute force method to print the numbers from the assembly code. As the integer stored in the register after the addition cannot be directly printed so using the three labels namely “_print”, “_printLoop” and “_printLoop2”, I kept on dividing the number by 10 and pushed its remainder into the stack. Then I called the print function for that very digit. In case of a negative number, label “_neg” makes a call to print “-” before the number.