

Processor state

◆ Information about currently executing program

Temporary data

%rax, %rdi, ...

current parameters, local variables

Location of runtime stack

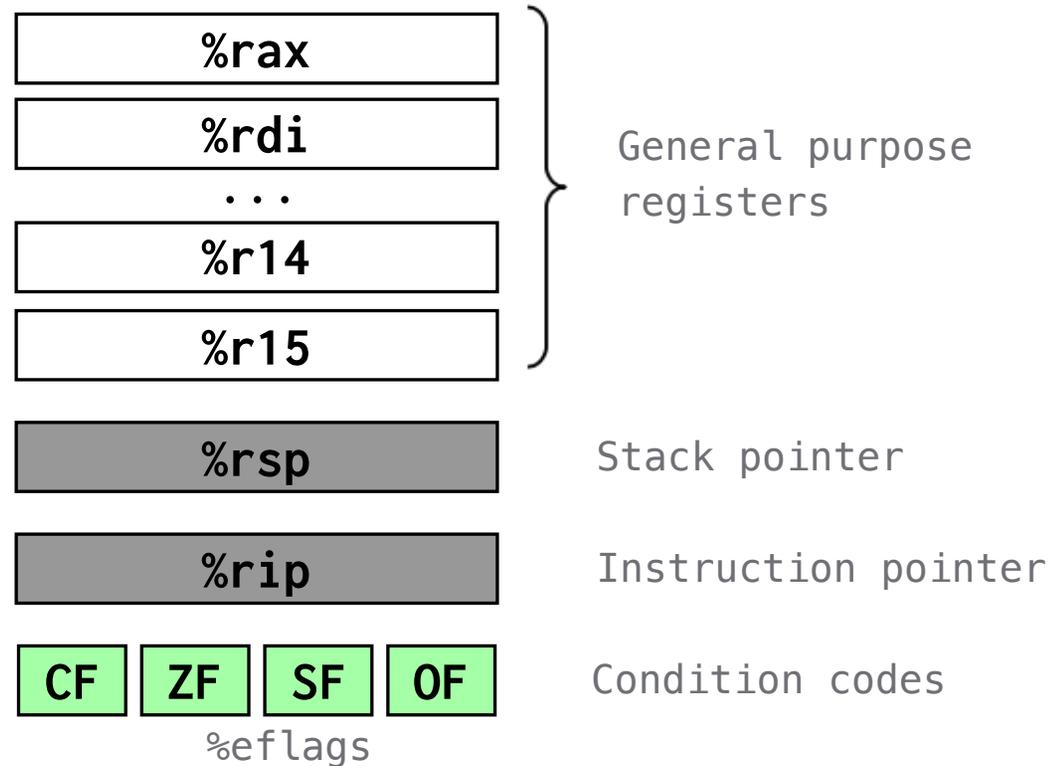
%rsp

Location of current instruction

%rip

Status of recent operation

CF ZF SF OF



Condition codes

Op			Comments
cmp	op1 ,	op2	Compute op2-op1, discard result, set condition codes
test	op1 ,	op2	Compute op2&op1, discard result, set condition codes
sub	op1 ,	op2	op 2 = op2-op1, set condition codes
add	op1 ,	op2	op2 = op2+op1, set condition codes

◆ %eflags register used as set of boolean values

ZF = zero flag SF = sign flag

CF = carry flag, unsigned overflow (out of MSB)

OF = overflow flag, signed overflow (into MSB)

- ◆ Codes explicitly set by cmp/test, implicitly set by many instructions
- ◆ Codes read by jx instructions (jump if condition x holds)

Example branch instructions

Op	Description	Condition
jmp	unconditional	
je	equal/zero	ZF=1
jne	not equal/not zero	ZF=0
js	negative (e.g. sign bit)	SF=1
jnl	less (signed)	SF!=OF
jle	less or equal (signed)	SF!=OF or ZF=1
jb	below (unsigned)	CF=1
...		

◆ Examples:

If previous instruction was `cmp op1, op2`, computed "result" is `op2-op1`

je: Jump if ZF is 1

result `op2-op1` is zero means `op1` is **equal** to `op2`

jnl: Jump if SF != OF

result `op2-op1` is negative means `op2` is **less** than `op1`

other case: if result ended up positive due to overflow, `op2` is also less than `op1`

◆

If-then(-else)

```
int if_then(int arg)
{
    if (arg != 6)
        arg++;
    arg *= 35;
    return arg + 7;
}
```

```
4004d6:  cmp    $0x6,%edi
4004d9:  je     4004de <if_then+0x8>
4004db:  add    $0x1,%edi
4004de:  imul  $0x23,%edi,%edi
4004e1:  lea   0x7(%rdi),%eax
4004e4:  retq
```

◆ How if-then translated

C code control flow reads as test for whether to enter
but assembly translation actually tests for whether to skip over

◆ Consider:

How does assembly change if test on line 1 is: `arg == 9?` `arg <= 6?`
What if put line 3 inside `else` clause?

Loops

```
int for_loop(int n)
{
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
        sum += i;
    return sum;
}
```

```
400504:  mov    $0x0,%edx
400509:  mov    $0x0,%eax
40050e:  jmp    400515 <for_loop+0x11>
400510:  add    %edx,%eax
400512:  add    $0x1,%edx
400515:  cmp    %edi,%edx
400517:  jl     400510 <for_loop+0xc>
400519:  repz  retq
```

◆ How loop is translated

First iteration jumps over body to get to test— why rearrange in this way?

One copy of test instructions

One branch per loop iteration instead of two

◆ For/while/do-while largely same assembly translation

How to implement break/continue?

Logical operations

```
int logic(int x)
{
    if ((x%2 == 0) && (x > 9))
        x++;
    return x;
}
```

```
40051d:  mov    %edi,%eax
40051f:  test   $0x1,%al
400521:  jne   40052b <logic+0xe>
400523:  cmp   $0x9,%edi
400526:  jle   40052b <logic+0xe>
400528:  add   $0x1,%eax
40052b:  repz  retq
```

◆ No instruction for logical AND/OR

Translated into test/cmp/mov, etc

Two branches in the assembly — why?

Logical connectives required to "short-circuit"

Read condition codes

Op	Description
sete	set dst to equal/zero condition
setne	set dst to not equal/zero
setle	set dst to less/equal (signed)
setb	set dst to below (unsigned)
...	

```
int small(int x) {  
    return x < 16;  
}
```

```
cmp    $0xf,%edi  
setle  %al  
movzbl %al,%eax  
retq
```

◆ Setx instructions

Set single byte dst to 0 or 1 based on whether condition holds

Reads current state of flags

Destination is single-byte sub-register (e.g. %al for low byte of %rax)

Does not perturb the other bytes of register

Typically followed by `movzbl` to zero those bytes

◆

Conditional move

Op	Description
<code>cmovne</code>	mov src to dst if not equal condition holds
<code>cmovs</code>	mov if signed
<code>cmovg</code>	mov if greater (signed)
<code>cmova</code>	mov if above (unsigned)
...	

```
int max(int x, int y) {  
    return x > y ? x : y;  
}
```

```
cmp    %edi,%esi  
mov    %edi,%eax  
cmovge %esi,%eax  
retq
```

◆ **`cmovx src,dst` (src, dst have to be register)**

mov src to dst if condition x holds, no change otherwise

"predicated" instruction, may be more efficient than branch

◆ **Seen in translation of C ternary: `result = test? then : else;`**

Both then/else are computed, set result to else

Overwrite result with then if test is true (or vice versa)

Not used when: then/else has side effects or too expensive to compute

Runtime stack

◆ Languages that support recursion

Functions must be re-entrant

Can have multiple simultaneous instantiations

Each instantiation needs own distinct storage

Arguments, return value

Local variables

Intermediate results, scratch

◆ Stack frame per function instantiation

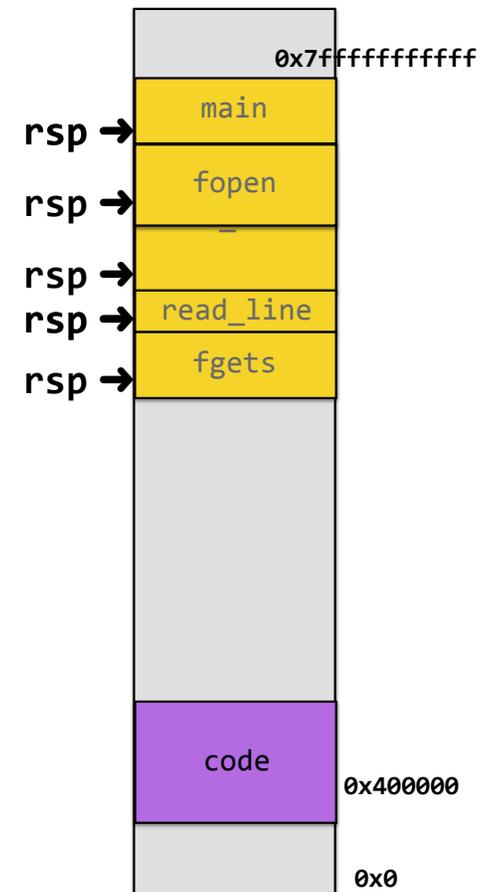
Currently executing function is topmost stack frame

Making new call pushes another frame

Return from call pops frame

LIFO — callee returns before caller does

main calls fopen, then calls cat_file which calls read_line which calls fgets



Register use, conventions

Register	Designated purpose
%rax	return value
%rdi	1st argument
%rsi	2nd argument
%rdx	3rd argument
%rcx	4th argument
%r8	5th argument
%r9	6th argument
%rsp	stack pointer
%rip	instruction pointer

◆ Conventions required for interoperability

"ABI" application binary interface

Mechanisms for call/return

call transfers to callee, ret returns control to caller
resume address pushed on stack by call instruction
address popped and resumed by ret instruction

Pass arguments, receive return value

Designated registers
If more than 6 args, extras are stored on stack
If return value too big to fit in register, stored on stack

Register use/ownership

Registers divided into caller-owned or callee-owned

Stack management

Grows down, 16-byte alignment

Register ownership

◆ ONE set of registers

One %rax that is shared by all

Need a set of conventions to ensure functions don't trash other's data

Registers divided into callee-owner and caller-owner

◆ Callee-owned

Caller cedes these registers at time of call, cannot assume value will be preserved across call to callee

Callee has free reign over these, can overwrite with impunity

Callee-owner: registers for 6 arguments, return value, %r10, %r11

◆ Caller-owner

Caller retains ownership, expects value to be same after call as it was before call

Callee can "borrow" these from caller but must write down saved value and restore it before return

Caller-owner: all the rest (%rbx, %rbp, %r12-%r15)

Using stack for locals/scratch

◆ Why copy?

Caller about to make a call, must cede callee-owned registers

If value in a callee-owned register that will be needed after the call, must make a copy before making the call

Callee needs to "borrow" caller-owned register

Must first copy value, then restore the value from saved copy before returning

◆ Where to copy?

On stack, use push/pop instructions

push src

Decrement %rsp to make space, store src value at new top of stack

pop dst

Copy topmost value from stack into dst register; increment %rsp

More examples

`/afs/ir/class/cs107/samples/lect13/stack.c`