

CS107 Lecture 13

Assembly: Control Flow

reading:

B&O 3.6

Reflections + Warm-up

Reflections: Share your CS107 midterm experience with your neighbor:

- What is one concept/skill you are comfortable with?
- What is one concept/skill you can work on for the final exam?
- Examples: logical operations, pointer arithmetic, generics, understanding the spec, studying an assignment, gdb, time management, ...

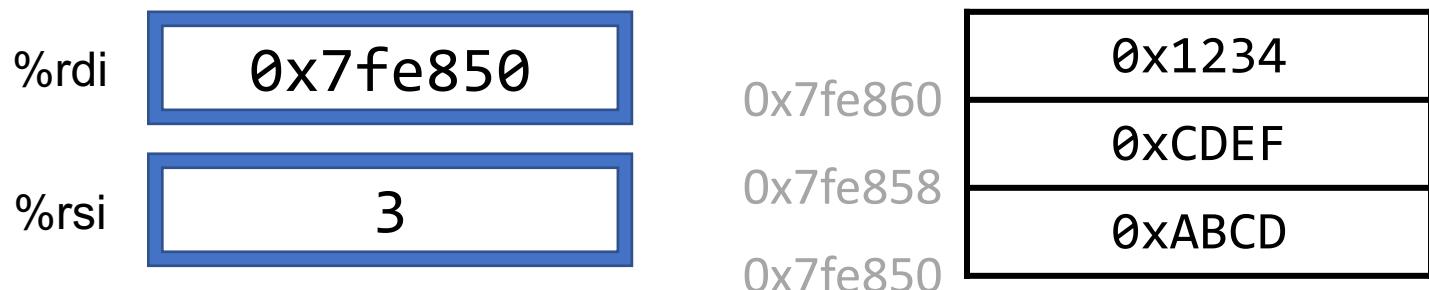
Warm-up: What's the difference between `lea` and `mov`?

`movq -0x8(%rdi,%rsi,8), %rax` `leaq -0x8(%rdi,%rsi,8), %rax`



Warm-up

What's the difference
between **lea** and **mov**?



movq -0x8(%rdi,%rsi,8), %rax

%rax **0x1234**

```
long last_elt(long arr[], long nelems)
{
    return arr[nelems - 1];
}
```

leaq -0x8(%rdi,%rsi,8), %rax

%rax **0x7fe860**

```
long *last_ptr(long arr[], long nelems)
{
    return arr + (nelems - 1);
}
```

lea makes use of indirect addressing to perform arithmetic with fewer instructions.

Register Responsibilities

Review

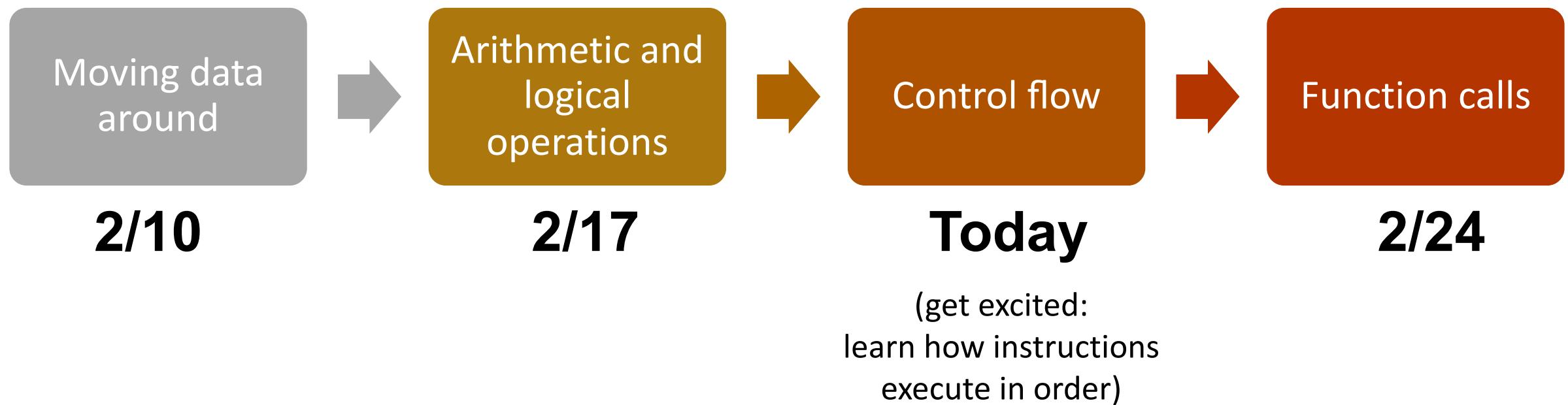
Some registers take on special responsibilities during program execution.

- **%rax** stores the return value
- **%rdi** stores the first parameter to a function
- **%rsi** stores the second parameter to a function
- **%rdx** stores the third parameter to a function
- **%rip** stores the address of the next instruction to execute
- **%rsp** stores the address of the current top of the stack

See the x86-64 Guide and Reference Sheet on the Resources webpage for more!

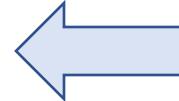
<https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs107/resources/x86-64-reference.pdf>

Learning Assembly



Register Responsibilities

Some registers take on special responsibilities during program execution.

- **%rax** stores the return value
- **%rdi** stores the first parameter to a function
- **%rsi** stores the second parameter to a function
- **%rdx** stores the third parameter to a function
- **%rip** stores the address of the next instruction to execute 
- **%rsp** stores the address of the current top of the stack

See the x86-64 Guide and Reference Sheet on the Resources webpage for more!

Plan For Today

- Control Flow
 - Condition Codes
 - Assembly Instructions
- Conditional branches: If statements
- Announcements
- Loops
 - While loops
 - For loops

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- Control Flow
 - Condition Codes
 - Assembly Instructions
- Conditional branches: If statements
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- Loops
 - While loops
 - For loops
- Optimizations

Control Flow

What does it mean for a program
to execute?

Executing instructions

So far:

- Program values can be stored in memory or registers.
- Assembly instructions read/write values back and forth between registers (on the CPU) and memory.
- Assembly instructions are also stored in memory.

Today:

- **Who controls the instructions?**
How do we know what to do now or next?

Answer:

- The **program counter (PC), %rip**.

4004fd	fa
4004fc	eb
4004fb	01
4004fa	fc
4004f9	45
4004f8	83
4004f7	00
4004f6	00
4004f5	00
4004f4	00
4004f3	fc
4004f2	45
4004f1	c7
4004f0	e5
4004ef	89
4004ee	48
4004ed	55

The program counter %rip

0000000004004ed <loop>:

4004ed:	55	push	%rbp
4004ee:	48 89 e5	mov	%rsp,%rbp
4004f1:	c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00	movl	\$0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
4004f8:	83 45 fc 01	addl	\$0x1,-0x4(%rbp)
4004fc:	eb fa	jmp	4004f8 <loop+0xb>

The **program counter** (PC), known as %rip in x86-64, stores the address in memory of the *next instruction* to be executed.

%rip

0x4004ed

The program counter %rip

00000000004004ed <loop>:

4004ed: 55

push

4004ee: 48 89 e5

mov

4004f1: c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00

movl

4004f8: 83 45 fc 01

addl

4004fc: eb fa

jmp

Special hardware sets the program counter to the next instruction:

%rip += size of bytes of current instruction

%rip

0x4004ed

4004fd	fa
4004fc	eb
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4004fa	fc
4004f9	45
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4004f7	00
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4004ed	55

The program counter %rip

0000000004004ed <loop>:

4004ed: 55

push

4004fd	fa
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4004f4	00
4004f3	fc
4004f2	45
4004f1	c7
4004f0	e5
4004ef	89
4004ee	48
4004ed	55

4004ee: 48 89 e5

4004f1: c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00

4004f8: 83 45 fc 01

4004fc: eb fa

push

mov

movl

addl

jmp

Special hardware sets the program counter to the next instruction:

%rip += size of bytes of current instruction

%rip

0x4004ee



The program counter %rip

0000000004004ed <loop>:

4004ed: 55

push

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4004fc	eb
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4004f3	fc
4004f2	45
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4004f0	e5
4004ef	89
4004ee	48
4004ed	55

4004ee: 48 89 e5

mov

4004f1: c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00

movl

4004f8: 83 45 fc 01

addl

4004fc: eb fa

jmp

Special hardware sets the program counter to the next instruction:

%rip += size of bytes of current instruction

%rip

0x4004f1



The program counter %rip

0000000004004ed <loop>:

4004ed: 55

push

4004ee: 48 89 e5

mov

4004f1: c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00

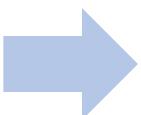
movl

4004f8: 83 45 fc 01

addl

4004fc: eb fa

jmp



Special hardware sets the program counter to the next instruction:

%rip += size of bytes of current instruction

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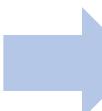
movl

4004f8: 83 45 fc 01

addl

4004fc: eb fa

jmp



Special hardware sets the program counter to the next instruction:

%rip += size of bytes of current instruction

%rip

0x4004fc

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4004f5	00
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“Interfering” with %rip

1. How do we repeat instructions in a loop?

The jmp instruction

0000000004004ed <loop>:

```
4004ed: push    %rbp
4004ee: mov     %rsp,%rbp
4004f1: movl    $0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
4004f8: addl    $0x1,-0x4(%rbp)
→ 4004fc: jmp     4004f8 <loop+0xb>
```



jmp is an **unconditional jump** that sets the program counter to the **jump target**.



%rip

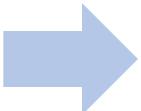
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The jmp instruction

0000000004004ed <loop>:

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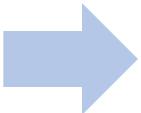
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The jmp instruction

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4004ed: push    %rbp
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4004fc: jmp     4004f8 <loop+0xb>
```



jmp is an **unconditional jump** that sets the program counter to the **jump target**.



control_intro.c

%rip

0x4004f8

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4004fc	eb
4004fb	01
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“Interfering” with %rip

1. How do we repeat instructions in a loop?

`jmp [target]`

- Gives us an **infinite loop**
- A 1-step unconditional jump (always jump when we execute this instruction)

What if we want a **conditional jump**?

“Interfering” with %rip

1. How do we repeat instructions in a loop?
2. How do we skip instructions in an if/if-else statement?
3. How do we loop while some condition is true?



Answer:
condition codes
+ conditional jumps!

Typical 2-instruction control flow

1. Compare two values to **write** condition codes
(implicit destination register)

`cmp S1, S2`

`test S1, S2`

2. Conditionally jump based on **reading** condition codes
(implicit source register)

`je/jz, jne/jnz, jl, jg, ...`

Condition codes are special registers that auto-store the results of the most recent arith/logical operation.

in gdb:
`%eflags`

Condition codes

1. Compare two values to **write** condition codes
(implicit destination register)

`cmp S1, S2`

$S2 - S1$

`test S1, S2`

$S2 \& S1$



Do not store result;
just set condition codes

Condition codes are single-bit registers, packed into `%eflags` for convenience.
If t is the result of `cmp/test` arithmetic operations:

- ZF = zero flag ($t = 0$)
- SF = sign flag ($t < 0$)
- CF = carry flag (there was a carry out of MSB*, i.e., unsigned overflow)
- OF = overflow flag (MSB* changed from 0 to 1, i.e., signed overflow)

*MSB: Most Significant Bit

Exercise: Condition codes

```
00000000004004d6 <if_then>:  
 4004d6: 83 ff 06    cmp    $0x6,%edi      %edi 0x5  
 4004d9: 75 03      jne    4004de <if_then+0x8>  
 400rdb: 83 c7 01    add    $0x1,%edi  
 4004de: 8d 04 3f    lea    (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax  
 4004e1: c3          retq
```

1. After the cmp instruction, which of the below condition codes are set?
 - ZF = zero flag ($t = 0$)
 - SF = sign flag ($t < 0$)
 - CF = carry flag (unsigned overflow)
 - OF = overflow flag (signed overflow)
2. After the cmp instruction, what is %edi?



Exercise: Condition codes

00000000004004d6 <if_then>:

4004d6: 83 ff 06 cmp \$0x6,%edi

%edi

0x5

4004d9: 75 03 jne 4004de <if_then+0x8>

400rdb: 83 c7 01 add \$0x1,%edi

4004de: 8d 04 3f lea (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax

4004e1: c3 retq

1. After the cmp instruction, which of the below condition codes are set?
 - ZF = zero flag ($t = 0$)
 - SF = sign flag ($t < 0$)
 - CF = carry flag (unsigned overflow) (fixed since lecture)
 - OF = overflow flag (signed overflow)
2. After the cmp instruction, what is %edi? **%edi is unchanged**

Step 1, Control flow: cmp, test



1. Compare two values to **write** condition codes (implicit destination register)

`cmp S1, S2` S2 - S1

`test S1, S2` S2 & S1

- ⚠ Note the operand order!
- ⚠ cmp/test **do not** store the result (unlike sub/and)!
They just set condition codes.

Cool tip: `testq %rax,%rax` checks if %rax is positive, negative, or zero.

Step 2, Control flow: Conditional jump

2. Conditionally jump based on **reading** condition codes (implicit source register)

je target

jump if ZF is 1

- Target is a memory address—the address of instruction.
- We jump to target if specific condition codes are on (ZF, SF, CF, OF).
- Jumps are also known as **branch instructions**.

Exercise 1: Conditional jump

je target

jump if ZF is 1

Let %edi store 0x10. Will we jump in the following cases?

%edi

0x10

1. cmp \$0x10,%edi
je 40056f
add \$0x1,%edi
2. test \$0x10,%edi
je 40056f
add \$0x1,%edi



Exercise 1: Conditional jump

je target

jump if ZF is 1

Let %edi store 0x10. Will we jump in the following cases? %edi

0x10

1. cmp \$0x10,%edi
je 40056f
add \$0x1,%edi

S2 - S1 == 0, so jump

2. test \$0x10,%edi
je 40056f
add \$0x1,%edi

S2 & S1 != 0, so don't jump

Step 2, Control flow: conditional jump

2. Conditionally jump based on **reading** condition codes (implicit source register)

Instruction	Synonym	Set Condition
<code>je Label</code>	<code>jm</code>	Equal / zero (ZF = 1)
<code>jne Label</code>	<code>jne</code>	Not equal / not zero (ZF = 0)
<code>js Label</code>		Negative (SF = 1)
<code>jns Label</code>		Nonnegative (SF = 0)
<code>jg Label</code>	<code>jnl</code>	Greater (signed >) (SF = 0 and SF = OF)
<code>jge Label</code>	<code>jnl</code>	Greater or equal (signed \geq) (SF = OF)
<code>jl Label</code>	<code>jng</code>	Less (signed <) (SF \neq OF)
<code>jle Label</code>	<code>jng</code>	Less or equal (signed \leq) (ZF = 1 or SF \neq OF)
<code>ja Label</code>	<code>jnb</code>	Above (unsigned >) (CF = 0 and ZF = 0)
<code>jae Label</code>	<code>jnb</code>	Above or equal (unsigned \geq) (CF = 0)
<code>jb Label</code>	<code>jna</code>	Below (unsigned <) (CF = 1)
<code>jbe Label</code>	<code>jna</code>	Below or equal (unsigned \leq) (CF = 1 or ZF = 1)

Exercise 2: Conditional jump

00000000004004d6 <if_then>:

4004d6:	83 ff 06	cmp	\$0x6,%edi	%edi	0x5
4004d9:	75 03	jne	4004de <if_then+0x8>		
400rdb:	83 c7 01	add	\$0x1,%edi		
4004de:	8d 04 3f	lea	(%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax		
4004e1:	c3	retq			

1. What is the value of %rip after executing the jne instruction?

- A. 4004d9
- B. 4004db
- C. 4004de
- D. Other

2. What is the value of %eax when we hit the retq instruction?

- A. 4004e1
- B. 0x2
- C. 0xa
- D. 0xc
- E. Other



Condition code details and other conditional ops

Reference

- Condition codes are set for many operations other than **test** and **set**, and there are many details as to which instructions set what condition codes.
- There exist conditional operators other than jump: **setx** and **cmov**.

I want to cover more conceptually challenging material in today's lecture, so the following slides are here for your reference.

Please read B&O 3.6 for more information if you find it useful.

Details about condition codes

Reference

- Different combinations of condition codes can indicate different things.
 - To check equality, we can `cmp` and look at the `ZF` flag ($a = b$ means $a - b = 0$).
 - To check sign of `%eax`, we can test `%eax`, `%eax` and look at the `SF` or `ZF` flag
- Previously-discussed arithmetic and logical instructions update these flags. `lea` does not (it was intended only for address computations).
- Logical operations (`xor`, etc.) set carry and overflow flags to zero.
- Shift operations set the carry flag to the last bit shifted out and set the overflow flag to zero.
- For more complicated reasons, `inc` and `dec` set the overflow and zero flags, but leave the carry flag unchanged.

set: Read condition codes

Reference

set instructions conditionally set a byte to 0 or 1.

- Reads current state of flags
- Destination is a single-byte sub-register (e.g., %al)
- Does not perturb other bytes of register
- Typically followed by movzbl to zero those bytes

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

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

set: Read condition codes

Reference

Instruction	Synonym	Set Condition (1 if true, 0 if false)
sete D	setz	Equal / zero
setne D	setnz	Not equal / not zero
sets D		Negative
setns D		Nonnegative
setg D	setnle	Greater (signed >)
setge D	setnl	Greater or equal (signed >=)
setl D	setnge	Less (signed <)
setle D	setng	Less or equal (signed <=)
seta D	setnbe	Above (unsigned >)
setae D	setnb	Above or equal (unsigned >=)
setb D	setnae	Below (unsigned <)
setbe D	setna	Below or equal (unsigned <=)

cmov: Conditional move

Reference

cmovx src,dst conditionally moves data in src to data in dst.

- Mov src to dst if condition x holds; no change otherwise
- src is memory address/register, dst is register
- May be more efficient than branch (i.e., jump)
- Often seen with C ternary operator: result = test ? then: else;

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

cmp	%edi,%esi
mov	%edi, %eax
cmove	%esi, %eax
retq	

cmov: Conditional move

Reference

Instruction	Synonym	Move Condition
cmove S,R	cmovz	Equal / zero (ZF = 1)
cmovne S,R	cmovnz	Not equal / not zero (ZF = 0)
cmovs S,R		Negative (SF = 1)
cmovns S,R		Nonnegative (SF = 0)
cmovg S,R	cmovnle	Greater (signed >) (SF = 0 and SF = OF)
cmovge S,R	cmovnl	Greater or equal (signed >=) (SF = OF)
cmovl S,R	cmovnge	Less (signed <) (SF != OF)
cmovle S,R	cmovng	Less or equal (signed <=) (ZF = 1 or SF != OF)
cmovea S,R	cmovnbe	Above (unsigned >) (CF = 0 and ZF = 0)
cmoveae S,R	cmovnb	Above or equal (unsigned >=) (CF = 0)
cmoveb S,R	cmovnae	Below (unsigned <) (CF = 1)
cmovebe S,R	cmovna	Below or equal (unsigned <=) (CF = 1 or ZF = 1)

lab6's conditional move

Reference

```
int signed_division(int x) {  
    return x / 4;  
}
```

signed_division:

leal 3(%rdi), %eax	Put $x + 3$ into %eax
testl %edi, %edi	Check the sign of x
cmovns %edi, %eax	If x is positive, put x into %eax
sarl \$2, %eax	Divide %eax by 4
ret	

Condition code details and other conditional ops

Reference

(end of reference slides)

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Plan For Today

- Control Flow
 - Condition Codes
 - Assembly Instructions
- Conditional branches: If statements
- Announcements
- Loops
 - While loops
 - For loops

“Interfering” with %rip

1. How do we repeat instructions in a loop?
2. **How do we skip instructions
in an if/if-else statement?**
3. How do we loop while
some condition is true?

The code we've been working with

```
00000000004004d6 <if_then>:  
4004d6: 83 ff 06    cmp    $0x6,%edi  
4004d9: 75 03        jne    4004de <if_then+0x8>  
400rdb: 83 c7 01    add    $0x1,%edi  
4004de: 8d 04 3f    lea    (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax  
4004e1: c3            retq
```

This code can be translated into C function code containing a branch statement (if)!

Practice: Fill In The Blank

```
int if_then(int param1)
{
    if ( _____ ) {
        _____;
    }
    return _____;
}
```

```
00000000004004d6 <if_then>:
4004d6:  cmp    $0x6,%edi
4004d9:  jne    4004de
4004db:  add    $0x1,%edi
4004de:  lea    (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax
4004e1:  retq
```



Practice: Fill In The Blank

```
int if_then(int param1)
{
    if ( param1 == 6 ) {
        param1++;
    }
    return param1 * 2;
}
```

00000000004004d6 <if_then>:	
4004d6:	cmp \$0x6,%edi
4004d9:	jne 4004de
4004db:	add \$0x1,%edi
4004de:	lea (%rdi,%rdi,1),%eax
4004e1:	retq

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Joke break



Hacking Pokemon Blue into Pong

- Instructions are bytes in memory!
- Find an exploit that lets you change the **program counter**:
“8F is an item executing machine code starting from \$D163 (Number of Pokemon) upon use.”
- **Write** executable code by navigating the world and moving around items

```
D920_EntryPoint:  
ld  d,$0E          ; Set the pad's initial position  
ld  hl,$FFA2        ; Loads FFA2 (ball X location)  
ld  (hl),d          ; Sets the ball initial X location  
inc l              ; HL=FFA3 (ball Y location)  
ld  (hl),d          ; Sets the ball initial Y location
```

Announcements

- Midterm scores will be on website gradebook after regrade deadline closes on **Monday 2/24, 11:59pm**
- Note about makeup labs:
 - If you cannot attend your assigned lab, you may go to a different lab that same week *if space is available*.
 - We want to note that we may have to turn people away who are making up a lab if there is not enough space to accommodate them.
 - If you need to attend a makeup, you should plan ahead accordingly to ensure you can get lab credit for that week.
- Assignment 6 released today ☺

Preparing for assign6

- atm.c Security and Robustness
- Binary Bomb

Binary Bomb is like an escape game:

- Secret codes (assembly instructions)
- Fun tools (gdb, objdump)
- Unlock each level to continue
- Catharsis with successful escape
- Time limit (due M 3/2, grace W 3/4)

- **Please start early.**
- **Please use gdb.**
- **Read the textbook (B&O) if you find it useful.**



Tips for assign6



- **Registers do not have addresses.** They are not located in memory.
- Draw pictures clearly depicting what is in memory and what is in registers.
- **Deadlisting** (reading assembly without executing anything) will be tedious.
- **Use gdb.**

- **lea** **does not** access memory; it performs arithmetic and stores the result.
- **test/cmp** **s1,s2** work like **and/sub** **s1,s2**. However, **test/cmp do not** store the result anywhere; they only update condition codes.
- **test/cmp + conditional jump** can often be translated into a single C control statement.
- **testq %rax, %rax** checks if **%rax** is positive, negative, or zero.

Plan For Today

- Control Flow
 - Condition Codes
 - Assembly Instructions
- Conditional branches: If statements
- Announcements
- Loops
 - While loops
 - For loops

Common If-Else Construction



If-Else In C

```
if (arg > 3) {  
    ret = 10;  
} else {  
    ret = 0;  
}  
  
ret++;
```

If-Else In Assembly pseudocode

Test
Jump to else-body if test fails
If-body
Jump to past else-body
Else-body
Past else body

Practice: Fill in the Blank

If-Else In C

```
if ( _____ ) {  
    _____;  
} else {  
    _____;  
}  
_____;
```

```
400552 <+0>: cmp    $0x3,%edi  
400555 <+3>: jle    0x40055e <if_else+12>  
400557 <+5>: mov    $0xa,%eax  
40055c <+10>: jmp   0x400563 <if_else+17>  
40055e <+12>: mov    $0x0,%eax  
400563 <+17>: add    $0x1,%eax
```

If-Else In Assembly pseudocode

Test

Jump to else-body if test fails

If-body

Jump to past else-body

Else-body

Past else body



ifelse.c

Practice: Fill in the Blank

If-Else In C

```
if ( arg > 3 ) {  
    ret = 10;  
} else {  
    ret = 0;  
}  
ret++;
```

```
400552 <+0>: cmp    $0x3,%edi  
400555 <+3>: jle    0x40055e <if_else+12>  
400557 <+5>: mov    $0xa,%eax  
40055c <+10>: jmp   0x400563 <if_else+17>  
40055e <+12>: mov    $0x0,%eax  
400563 <+17>: add    $0x1,%eax
```

If-Else In Assembly pseudocode

Test

Jump to else-body if test fails

If-body

Jump to past else-body

Else-body

Past else body



ifelse.c

“Interfering” with %rip

1. How do we repeat instructions in a loop?
2. How do we skip instructions in an if-else statement?
3. **How do we loop while some condition is true?**

Plan For Today

- Control Flow
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 - While loops
 - For loops

While loops and assembly

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

```
00000000004004d6 <loop>:  
4004d6 <+0>:  mov  $0x0,%eax  
4004db <+5>:  jmp  4004e0 <loop+0xa>  
4004dd <+7>:  add  $0x1,%eax  
4004e0 <+10>: cmp  $0x63,%eax  
4004e3 <+13>: jle  4004dd <loop+0x7>  
4004e5 <+15>: repz retq
```

1. Which register is C code's *i*?
2. What is the unconditional **jmp** instruction doing?
3. What are the **cmp** and **jle** instructions doing?
(**jle**: jump less equal; signed \leq)



while_loop



while_loop.c

While loops and assembly: Recap

```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

1. Jumps to while loop conditional

```
00000000004004d6 <loop>:  
4004d6 <+0>:    mov    $0x0,%eax  
4004db <+5>:    jmp    4004e0 <loop+0xa>  
4004dd <+7>:    add    $0x1,%eax  
4004e0 <+10>:   cmp    $0x63,%eax  
4004e3 <+13>:   jle    4004dd <loop+0x7>  
4004e5 <+15>:   repz   retq
```

2. If $\%eax - 0x63 \leq 0$ (i.e., $\%eax \leq 99$), then jump to execute loop body. Else, execute next instruction (i.e., exit loop)

gdb tips



layout split	(ctrl-x a: exit, ctrl-l: resize)	View C, assembly, and gdb (lab6)
info reg		Print all registers
p \$eax		Print register value
p \$eflags		Print all condition codes currently set
b *0x400546		Set breakpoint at assembly instruction
b *0x400550 if \$eax > 98		Set conditional breakpoint
ni		Next assembly instruction
si		Step into assembly instruction (will step into function calls)

Common While Loop Construction



```
void loop() {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 100) {  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```



C pseudocode

```
while (test) {  
    body  
}
```

```
00000000004004d6 <loop>:  
4004d6 <+0>: mov $0x0,%eax  
4004db <+5>: jmp 4004e0 <loop+0xa>  
4004dd <+7>: add $0x1,%eax  
4004e0 <+10>: cmp $0x63,%eax  
4004e3 <+13>: jle 4004dd <loop+0x7>  
4004e5 <+15>: repz retq
```

Assembly pseudocode

```
Jump to test  
Body  
Test  
Jump to body if success
```

Plan For Today

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Common For Loop Construction



C For loop

```
for (init; test; update) {  
    body  
}
```

C Equivalent While Loop

```
init  
while(test) {  
    body  
    update  
}
```

Assembly pseudocode

Init
Jump to **test**
Body
Update
Test
Jump to body if success

For loops and while loops are treated (essentially) the same when compiled down to assembly.

Back to Our First Assembly

```
int sum_array(int arr[], int nelems) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < nelems; i++) {  
        sum += arr[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

0000000004005b6 <sum_array>:

4005b6:	mov	\$0x0,%edx
4005bb<+5>:	mov	\$0x0,%eax
4005c0<+10>:	jmp	4005cb <sum_array+21>
4005c2<+12>:	movslq	%edx,%rcx
4005c5<+15>:	add	(%rdi,%rcx,4),%eax
4005c8<+18>:	add	\$0x1,%edx
4005cb<+21>:	cmp	%esi,%edx
4005cd<+23>:	jl	4005c2 <sum_array+12>
4005cf<+25>:	repz	retq

1. Which register is C code's sum?
2. Which register is C code's i?
3. Which assembly instruction is C code's `sum += arr[i]`?
4. What are the `cmp` and `jl` instructions doing?
(`jl`: jump less; signed <)



sum_array



sum_array.c

gdb tips



p/x \$rdi

Print register value in hex

p/t \$rsi

Print register value in binary

x \$rdi

Examine the byte stored at this address

x/4bx \$rdi

Examine 4 bytes starting at this address

x/4wx \$rdi

Examine 4 ints starting at this address

Plan For Today

- Control Flow
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- Optimizations

Optimizations you'll see

`nop`

- `nop/nopl` are “no-op” instructions – they do nothing!
- Intent: Make functions align on address boundaries that are nice multiples of 8.

`mov %ebx,%ebx`

- Zeros out the top 32 register bits
(because a `mov` on an `e`-register zeros out rest of 64 bits).

`xor %ebx,%ebx`

- Optimizes for performance as well as code size (read more [here](#)):

b8 00 00 00 00
31 c0

mov \$0x0,%eax
xor %eax,%eax

Loop optimization in GCC

C For loop

```
for (init; test; update) {  
    body  
}
```



GCC assembly pseudocode

Init

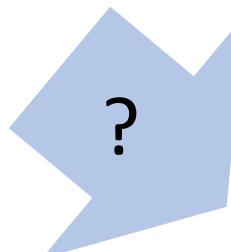
Jump to test

Body

Update

Test

Jump to body if success



Possible alternative?

Init

Test

Jump past loop if fails

Body

Update

Jump to Test

Loop optimization in GCC

C For loop

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

Are the number of instructions executed in the left greater, less than, or equal to those executed on the right if...

1. n = 0?
2. n = 1000?

GCC assembly pseudocode

Init

Jump to test

Body

Update

Test

Jump to body if success

Possible alternative?

Init

Test

Jump past loop if fails

Body

Update

Jump to Test



Optimizing Instruction Counts

- Both versions have the same **static instruction count** (# of written instructions).
- But they have different **dynamic instruction counts** (# of executed instructions when program is run).
 - If $n = 0$, right (possible alternative) is best b/c fewer instructions
 - If n is large, left (gcc is best) is best b/c fewer instructions
- The compiler may emit a static instruction count that is several times longer than an alternative, but it may be more efficient if loop executes many times.
- Does the compiler *know* that a loop will execute many times? (in general, no)
- So what if our code had loops that always execute a small number of times? How do we know when gcc makes a bad decision?
- (take EE108, EE180, CS316 for more!)

Bonus assembly exercises

Practice: Parameters

```
00000000004005ac <sum_example1>:  
 4005bd: 8b 45 e8          mov  %esi,%eax  
 4005c3: 01 d0          add  %edi,%eax  
 4005cc: c3          retq
```

Which of the following is most likely to have generated the above assembly?

```
// A)  
void sum_example1() {  
    int x;  
    int y;  
    int sum = x + y;  
}
```

```
// C)  
void sum_example1(int x, int y) {  
    int sum = x + y;  
}
```

```
// B)  
int sum_example1(int x, int y) {  
    return x + y;  
}
```



Practice: Parameters

```
00000000004005ac <sum_example1>:  
 4005bd: 8b 45 e8          mov  %esi,%eax  
 4005c3: 01 d0          add  %edi,%eax  
 4005cc: c3          retq
```

Which of the following is most likely to have generated the above assembly?

```
// A)  
void sum_example1() {  
    int x;  
    int y;  
    int sum = x + y;  
}
```

```
// C)  
void sum_example1(int x, int y) {  
    int sum = x + y;  
}
```

```
// B)  
int sum_example1(int x, int y) {  
    return x + y;  
}
```

B

Practice: Intermediates/registers

```
0000000000400578 <sum_example2>:
```

```
 400578: 8b 47 0c          mov  0xc(%rdi),%eax
 40057b: 03 07            add  (%rdi),%eax
 40057d: 2b 47 18          sub  0x18(%rdi),%eax
 400580: c3                retq
```

```
int sum_example2(int arr[]) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    sum += arr[0];  
    sum += arr[3];  
    sum -= arr[6];  
    return sum;  
}
```

bonus.c

1. What memory location, register, or immediate above represents the C code's `sum` variable?
2. What memory location, register, or immediate in the assembly code above represents the C code's 6 (as in `arr[6]`)?



Practice: Intermediates/registers

```
0000000000400578 <sum_example2>:
```

```
 400578: 8b 47 0c          mov  0xc(%rdi),%eax
 40057b: 03 07            add  (%rdi),%eax
 40057d: 2b 47 18          sub  0x18(%rdi),%eax
 400580: c3                retq
```

```
int sum_example2(int arr[]) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    sum += arr[0];  
    sum += arr[3];  
    sum -= arr[6];  
    return sum;  
}
```

1. What memory location, register, or immediate above represents the C code's sum variable?
%eax
2. What memory location, register, or immediate in the assembly code above represents the C code's 6 (as in arr[6])?
0x18

Practice: while loop

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = _____;  
    while (_____) {  
        result = _____;  
        a = _____;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

A label for this instruction location.

- Used in place of instruction addresses in assembly files (.s).
- These labels get compiled to addresses in object files (.o).

```
loop:  
    movl $1, %eax  
    jmp .L2  
.L3  
    leaq (%rdi,%rsi), %rdx  
    imulq %rdx, %rax  
    addq $1, %rdi  
    cmpq %rsi, %rdi  
    j1 .L3  
rep; ret
```



Practice: while loop

C Code

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = _____;  
    while (_____) {  
        result = _____;  
        a = _____;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

Assembly pseudocode

Jump to test

Body

Test

Jump to body if success

What does this assembly code translate to?

```
// a in %rdi, b in %rsi  
loop:  
    movl $1, %eax  
    jmp .L2  
.L3  
    leaq (%rdi,%rsi), %rdx  
    imulq %rdx, %rax  
    addq $1, %rdi  
.L2  
    cmpq %rsi, %rdi  
    jl .L3  
rep; ret
```



What does this assembly code translate to?

Practice: while loop

C Code

```
long loop(long a, long b) {  
    long result = 1 ;  
    while ( a < b ) {  
        result = result*(a+b);  
        a = a + 1 ;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

Assembly pseudocode

Jump to test

Body

Test

Jump to body if success

What does this assembly code translate to?

```
// a in %rdi, b in %rsi  
loop:  
    movl $1, %eax  
    jmp .L2  
.L3  
    leaq (%rdi,%rsi), %rdx  
    imulq %rdx, %rax  
    addq $1, %rdi  
.L2  
    cmpq %rsi, %rdi  
    jl .L3  
rep; ret
```

What does this assembly code translate to?