Assembly: x86-64

CS 2130: Computer Systems and Organization 1

October 10, 2022

Announcements

- Homework 4 due **tomorrow**, 11pm on Gradescope
- Quiz 5 discussion on Wednesday
- Homework 5 out tomorrow, due Wednesday 10/19 at 11pm

It’s all bytes

It’s all bytes!

- **Enumerate** - pick the meaning for each possible byte
- **Adjacency** - store bigger values together (sequentially)
- **Pointers** - a value treated as address of thing we are interested in

Enumerate

Enumerate - pick the meaning for each possible byte

What is 8-bit `0x54`?	
Unsigned integer	eighty-four
Signed integer	positive eighty-four
Floating point w/ 4-bit exponent	twelve
ASCII	capital letter T: T
Bitvector sets	The set $\{2, 3, 5\}$
Our example ISA	Flip all bits of value in r1

Adjacency

Adjacency - store bigger values together (sequentially)

- An array: build bigger values out of many copies of the same type of small values
  - Store them next to each other in memory
  - Arithmetic to find any given value based on index

addr + i * size

- Records, structures, classes
  - Classes have fields! Store them adjacently
  - Know how to access (add offsets from base address)
  - If you tell me where object is, I can find fields

Pointers

Pointers - a value treated as address of thing we are interested in

- A value that really points to another value
- Easy to describe, hard to use properly
- *We'll be talking about these a lot in this class!*
- Give us strange new powers (represent more complicated things), e.g.,
  - Variable-sized lists
  - Values that we don't know their type without looking
  - Dictionaries, maps

Programs Use These!

How do our programs use these?

- Enumerated icodes, numbers
- Ajacently stored instructions (PC+1)
- Pointers of where to jump/goto (addresses in memory)

Moving up!

Assembly

General principle of all **assembly languages**

- Code (text, not binary!)
- 1 line of code = 1 machine instruction
- One-to-one reversible mapping between binary and assembly
  - We do not need to remember binary encodings!
  - A program will turn text to binary for us!

Assembly

Features of assembly

- Automatic addresses - use **labels** to keep track of addresses
  - Assembler will remember location of labels and use where appropriate
  - Labels will not exist in machine code
- Metadata - data about data
  - Data that helps turn assembly into code the machine can use
- As complicated as machine instructions (like we have been writing)
  - There are a lot of instructions, and it is one-to-one!

Assembly Languages

There are many assembly languages

- But, they're backed by hardware!
- Two big ones these days: x86-64 and ARM
  - You likely have machines that use one of these
- Others: RISC-V, MIPS, ...

We will focus on **x86-64**

x86-64

x86-64 has a weird and long history

- Expansion of the 8086 series (Intel)
  - 8086, 8286, 8386, 8486, x86
- AMD expanded it with AMD64
- Intel decide to use same build, but called it x86-64
- Backwards compatible with the 8086 series

x86-64

Two dialects - two ways to write the same thing

- Intel - likely using with Windows
  `mov QWORD PTR [rdx+0x227],rax`
- AT&T - likely using with anything else
  `movq %rax,0x227(%rdx)`

We will use AT&T dialect

AT&T x86-84 Assembly

```
instruction source, destination
```

- Instruction followed by 0 or more operands (arguments)
- 4 types of operands:
  - Number (immediate value): `$0x123`
  - Register: `%rax`
  - Address of memory: `(%rax)` or `24` or `labelname`
  - Value at an address in memory: `(%rax)` or `24` or `labelname`

```
mylabelname:
```

- Label - remember the address of next thing to use later

AT&T x86-84 Assembly

```
.something something
```

- Metadirective - extra information that is not code
- How the code works with other things (i.e., talk to OS)
- Ex: `.globl main`

```
// we can have comments!
```

Addressing Memory

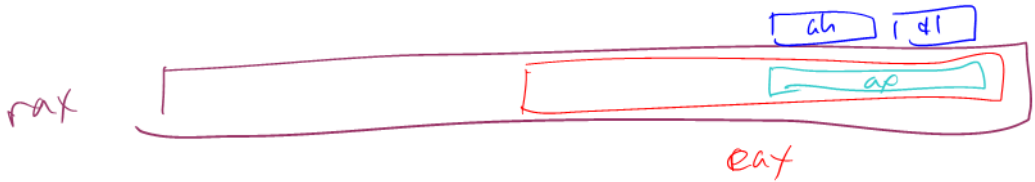
```
2130(%rax, %rsp, 8)
```

- Address can have up to 4 parts: 2 numbers, 2 registers
- Combines as: `2130 + %rax + (%rsp * 8)`
- Common usage from this example:
  - `rax` - address of an object in memory
  - `2130` - offset of an array into the object
  - `rsp` - index into the array
  - `8` - size of the values in the array
- Don't need all parts: `(%rax)` or `(%rax, 4)` or `4(%rax)`
- This is all one operand (one memory address)

hello.s example

Registers

`rax` is a 64-bit register



Instructions

Instructions have different versions depending on number of bits to use

- `movq` - 64-bit move
  - `q` = quad word
- `movl` - 32-bit move
  - `l` = long
- There are encodings for shorter things, but we will mostly see 32- and 64-bit

More powerful than our ISA

Instructions can move/operate between memory and register

- `movq %rax, %rcx` - register to register
  - Remember our icode 0
- `movq (%rax), %rcx` - memory to register
  - Remember our icode 3
- `movq %rax, (%rcx)` - register to memory
  - Remember our icode 4
- `movq $21, %rax` - Immediate to register
  - Remember our icode 6 (b=0)

Note: at most one memory address per instruction

Other Instructions

Other instructions work the same way

- `addq %rax, %rcx` — rcx += rax
- `subq (%rbx), %rax` — rax -= M[rbx]
- xor, and, and others work the same way!
- Assembly has virtually no 3-argument instructions
  - All will be modifying something (i.e., `+=`, `&=`, …)

Jumps

`jmp foo`

- Unconditional jump to `foo`
- `foo` is a label or memory address
- Need `jmp*` to use register value

Conditional jumps

- `jl`, `jle`, `je`, `jne`, `jg`, `jge`, `ja`, `jb`, `js`, `jo`

Unlike our Toy ISA, these do not compare given register to 0

Jumps

Condition codes - 4 1-bit registers set by every math operation, **`cmp`**, and **`test`**

- Result for the operation compared to 0 (if no overflow)
- Example:

```
addq $-5, %rax
// ...code that doesn't set condition codes...
je foo
```

  - Sets condition codes from doing math (subtract 5 from rax)
  - Tells whether result was positive, negative, 0, if there was overflow, ...
  - Then jump if the result of that operation should have been = 0

Jumps: compare and test

`cmpq %rax, %rdx`

- Compare checks result of `-=` and sets condition codes
- How `rdx - rax` compares with 0
- Be aware of ordering!
  - if `rax` is bigger, sets `<` flag
  - if `rdx` is bigger, sets `>` flag

`testq %rax, %rdx`

- Sets the condition codes based on `rdx & rax`
- Less common

Neither save their result, just set condition codes!

Function Calls: Calling Conventions

`callq myfun`

- Push return address, then jump to myfun
- Convention: Store arguments in registers and stack before call
  - First 6 arguments (in order): `rdi`, `rsi`, `rdx`, `rcx`, `r8`, `r9`
  - If more arguments, pushed onto stack (last to first)

`retq`

- Pop return address from stack and jump back
- Convention: store return value in `rax` before calling `retq`

This is similar to our Toy ISA's function calls in homework 4

Debugger

Debugger - step through code!

- You will be using this for lab tomorrow
- Experience seeing results of these instructions step-by-step
- **Please read the x86-64 summary reading before lab!**