x86-64 Assembly

CSE 351 Winter 2018

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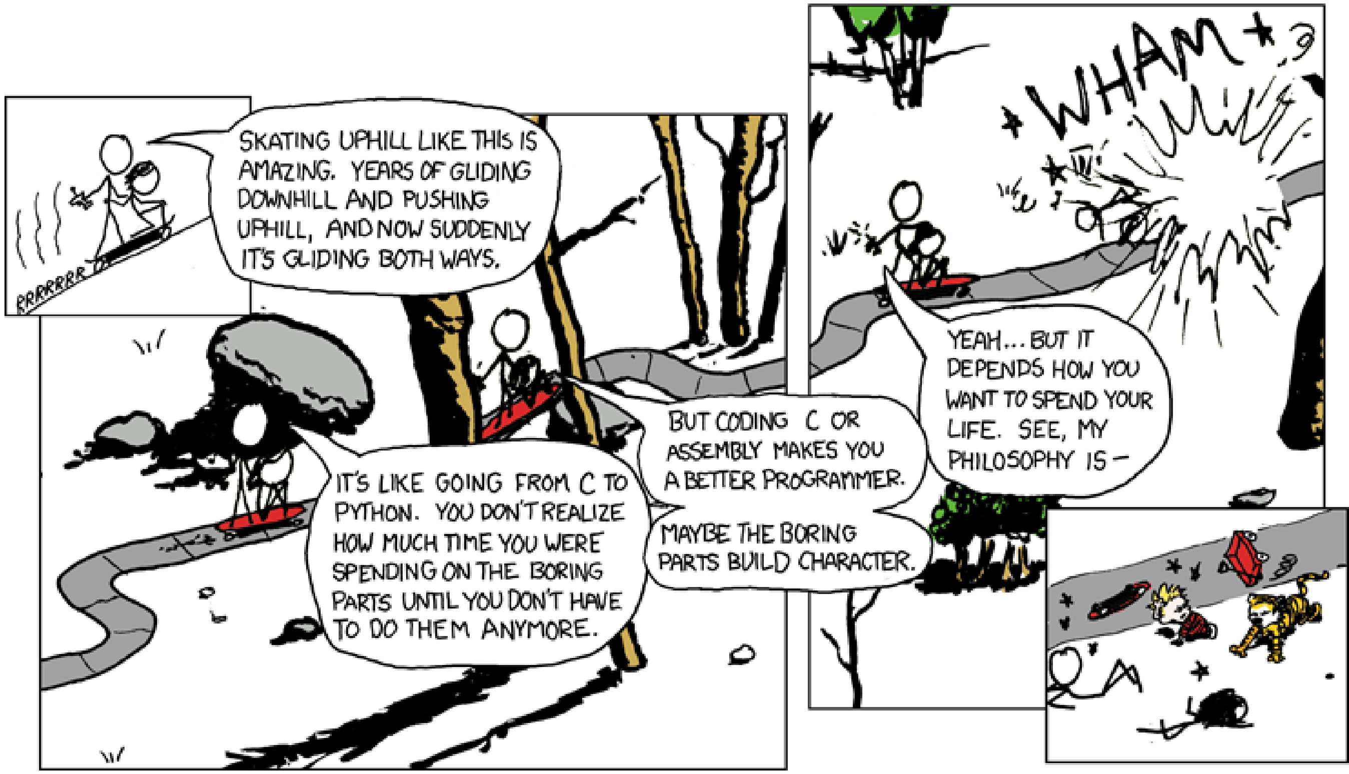

RRRRRRR
SKATING UPHILL LIKE THIS IS AMAZING. YEARS OF GLIDING DOWNHILL AND PUSHING UPHILL, AND NOW SUDDENLY IT'S GLIDING BOTH WAYS.
IT'S LIKE GOING FROM C TO PYTHON. YOU DON'T REALIZE HOW MUCH TIME YOU WERE SPENDING ON THE BORING PARTS UNTIL YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THEM ANYMORE.
BUT CODING C OR ASSEMBLY MAKES YOU A BETTER PROGRAMMER.
MAYBE THE BORING PARTS BUILD CHARACTER.
WHAM
YEAH... BUT IT DEPENDS HOW YOU WANT TO SPEND YOUR LIFE. SEE, MY PHILOSOPHY IS –

http://xkcd.com/409/

Administrivia

- Lab 1 due today!
  - Submit `bits.c` and `pointer.c`
- Homework 2 due next Wednesday (1/24)
  - On Integers, Floating Point, and x86-64

Floating point topics

- Fractional binary numbers
- IEEE floating-point standard
- Floating-point operations and rounding
- **Floating-point in C**

- There are many more details that we won't cover
  - It's a 58-page standard…

Floating Point in C

!!!

- C offers two (well, 3) levels of precision

`float`	`1.0f`	single precision (32-bit)
`double`	`1.0`	double precision (64-bit)
`long double`	`1.0L`	*("double double" or quadruple)* precision (64-128 bits)

- `#include <math.h>` to get `INFINITY` and `NAN` constants
- Equality (==) comparisons between floating point numbers are tricky, and often return unexpected results, so just avoid them!

Floating Point Conversions in C

!!!

- Casting between `int`, `float`, and `double` **changes** the bit representation
  - `int` → `float`
    - May be rounded (not enough bits in mantissa: 23)
    - Overflow impossible
  - `int` or `float` → `double`
    - Exact conversion (all 32-bit `int`s representable)
  - `long` → `double`
    - Depends on word size (32-bit is exact, 64-bit may be rounded)
  - `double` or `float` → `int`
    - Truncates fractional part (rounded toward zero)
    - "Not defined" when out of range or NaN: generally sets to `Tmin` (even if the value is a very big positive)

Number Representation Really Matters

- **1991:** Patriot missile targeting error
  - clock skew due to conversion from integer to floating point
- **1996:** Ariane 5 rocket exploded ($1 billion)
  - overflow converting 64-bit floating point to 16-bit integer
- **2000:** Y2K problem
  - limited (decimal) representation: overflow, wrap-around
- **2038:** Unix epoch rollover
  - Unix epoch = seconds since 12am, January 1, 1970
  - signed 32-bit integer representation rolls over to TMin in 2038
- **Other related bugs:**
  - 1982: Vancouver Stock Exchange (truncation instead of rounding)
  - 1994: Intel Pentium FDIV (floating point division) HW bug ($475 million)
  - 1997: USS Yorktown "smart" warship stranded: divide by zero
  - 1998: Mars Climate Orbiter crashed: unit mismatch ($193 million)

Roadmap

C:

```
car *c = malloc(sizeof(car));
c->miles = 100;
c->gals = 17;
float mpg = get_mpg(c);
free(c);
```

Java:

```
Car c = new Car();
c.setMiles(100);
c.setGals(17);
float mpg =
    c.getMPG();
```

Assembly language:

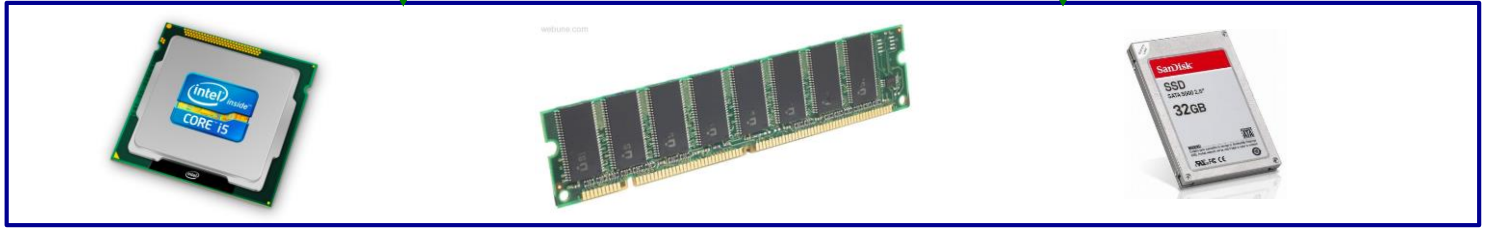
```
get_mpg:
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    ...
    popq    %rbp
    ret
```

Machine code:

```
0111010000011000
100011010000010000000010
1000100111000010
110000011111101000011111
```

OS:

Computer system:

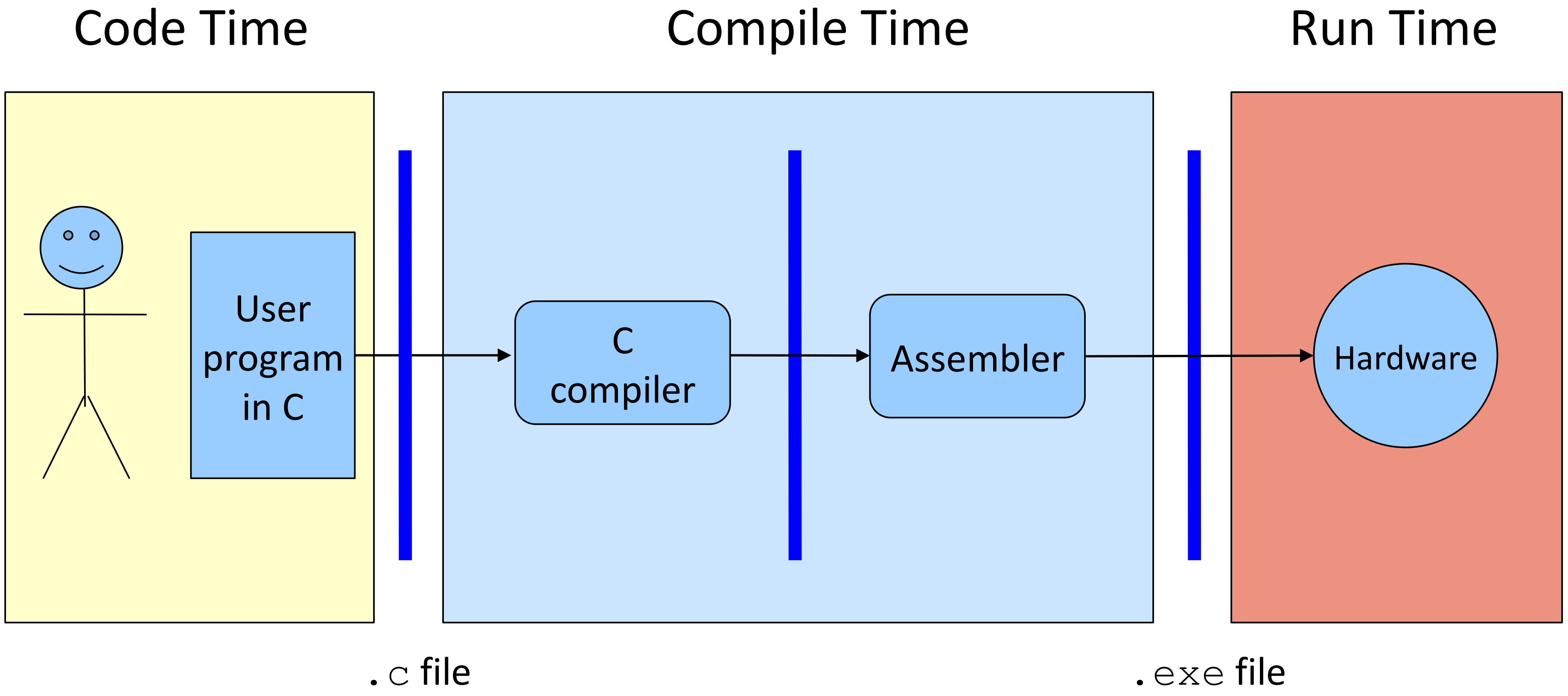


- Memory & data
- Integers & floats
- x86 assembly
- Procedures & stacks
- Executables
- Arrays & structs
- Memory & caches
- Processes
- Virtual memory
- Memory allocation
- Java vs. C

Basics of Machine Programming & Architecture

- What is an ISA (Instruction Set Architecture)?
- A brief history of Intel processors and architectures
- Intro to Assembly and Registers

Translation



What makes programs run fast(er)?

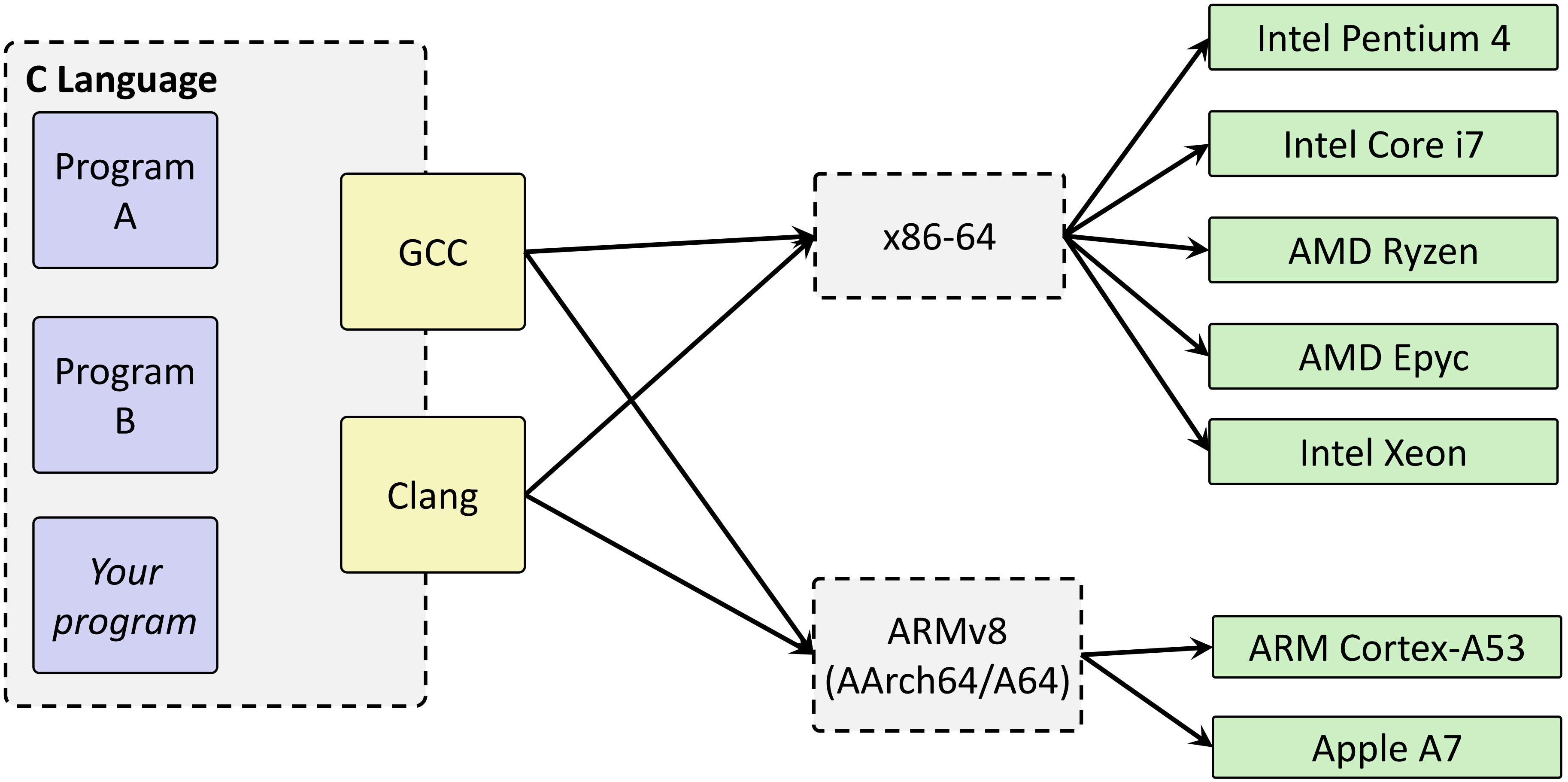
HW Interface Affects Performance

Source code
Different applications or algorithms

Compiler
Perform optimizations, generate instructions

Architecture
Instruction set

Hardware
Different implementations



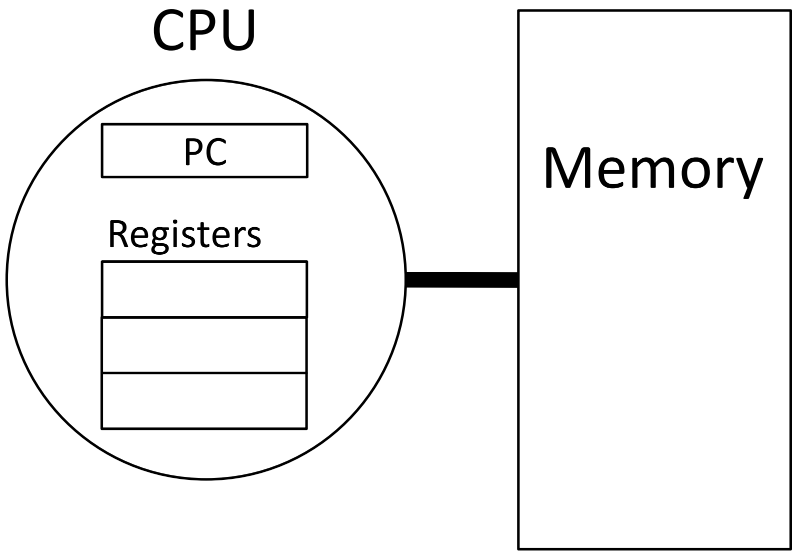
Definitions

- **Architecture (ISA):** The parts of a processor design that one needs to understand to write assembly code
  - "What is directly visible to software"
- **Microarchitecture:** Implementation of the architecture
  - CSE/EE 469, 470

- Are the following part of the architecture?
  - Number of registers?
  - How about CPU frequency?
  - Cache size? Memory size?

Instruction Set Architectures

- The ISA defines:
  - The system's state (*e.g.* registers, memory, program counter)
  - The instructions the CPU can execute
  - The effect that each of these instructions will have on the system state



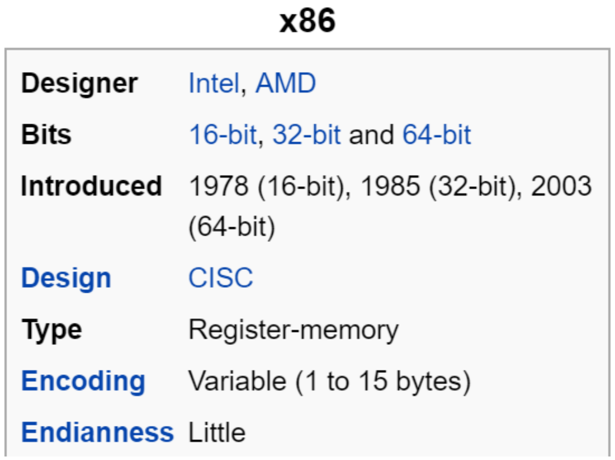
Instruction Set Philosophies

- *Complex Instruction Set Computing* (CISC): Add more and more elaborate and specialized instructions as needed
  - Lots of tools for programmers to use, but hardware must be able to handle all instructions
  - x86-64 is CISC, but only a small subset of instructions encountered with Linux programs
- *Reduced Instruction Set Computing* (RISC): Keep instruction set small and regular
  - Easier to build fast hardware
  - Let software do the complicated operations by composing simpler ones

General ISA Design Decisions

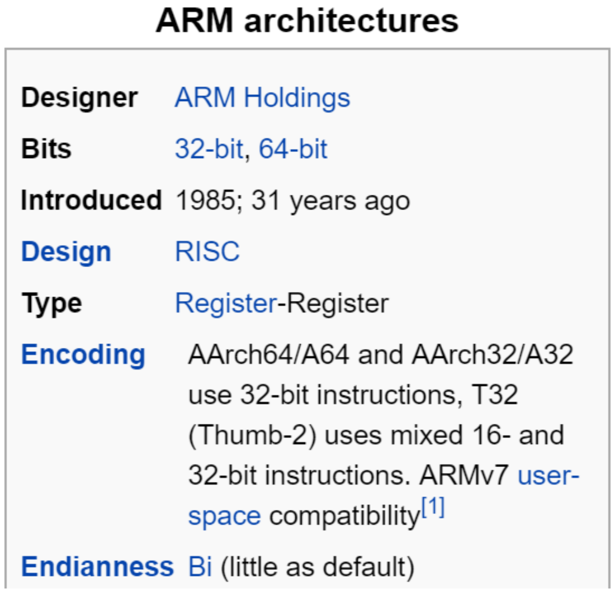
- Instructions
  - What instructions are available? What do they do?
  - How are they encoded?
- Registers
  - How many registers are there?
  - How wide are they?
- Memory
  - How do you specify a memory location?

Mainstream ISAs



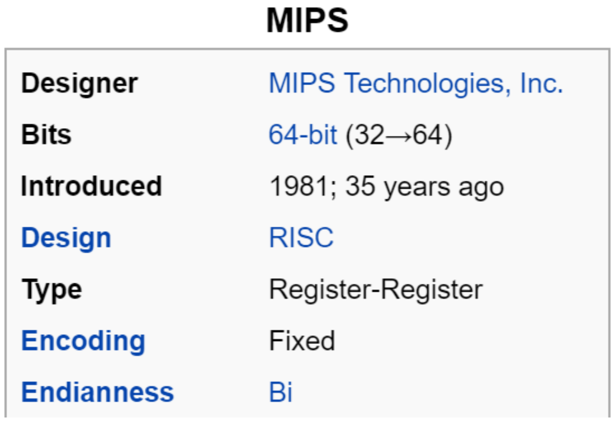
x86

Designer	Intel, AMD
Bits	16-bit, 32-bit and 64-bit
Introduced	1978 (16-bit), 1985 (32-bit), 2003 (64-bit)
Design	CISC
Type	Register-memory
Encoding	Variable (1 to 15 bytes)
Endianness	Little



ARM architectures

Designer	ARM Holdings
Bits	32-bit, 64-bit
Introduced	1985; 31 years ago
Design	RISC
Type	Register-Register
Encoding	AArch64/A64 and AArch32/A32 use 32-bit instructions, T32 (Thumb-2) uses mixed 16- and 32-bit instructions. ARMv7 user-space compatibility[1]
Endianness	Bi (little as default)



MIPS

Designer	MIPS Technologies, Inc.
Bits	64-bit (32→64)
Introduced	1981; 35 years ago
Design	RISC
Type	Register-Register
Encoding	Fixed
Endianness	Bi

Macbooks & PCs
(Core i3, i5, i7, M)
x86-64 Instruction Set

Smartphone-like devices
(iPhone, iPad, Raspberry Pi)
ARM Instruction Set

Digital home & networking equipment
(Blu-ray, PlayStation 2)
MIPS Instruction Set

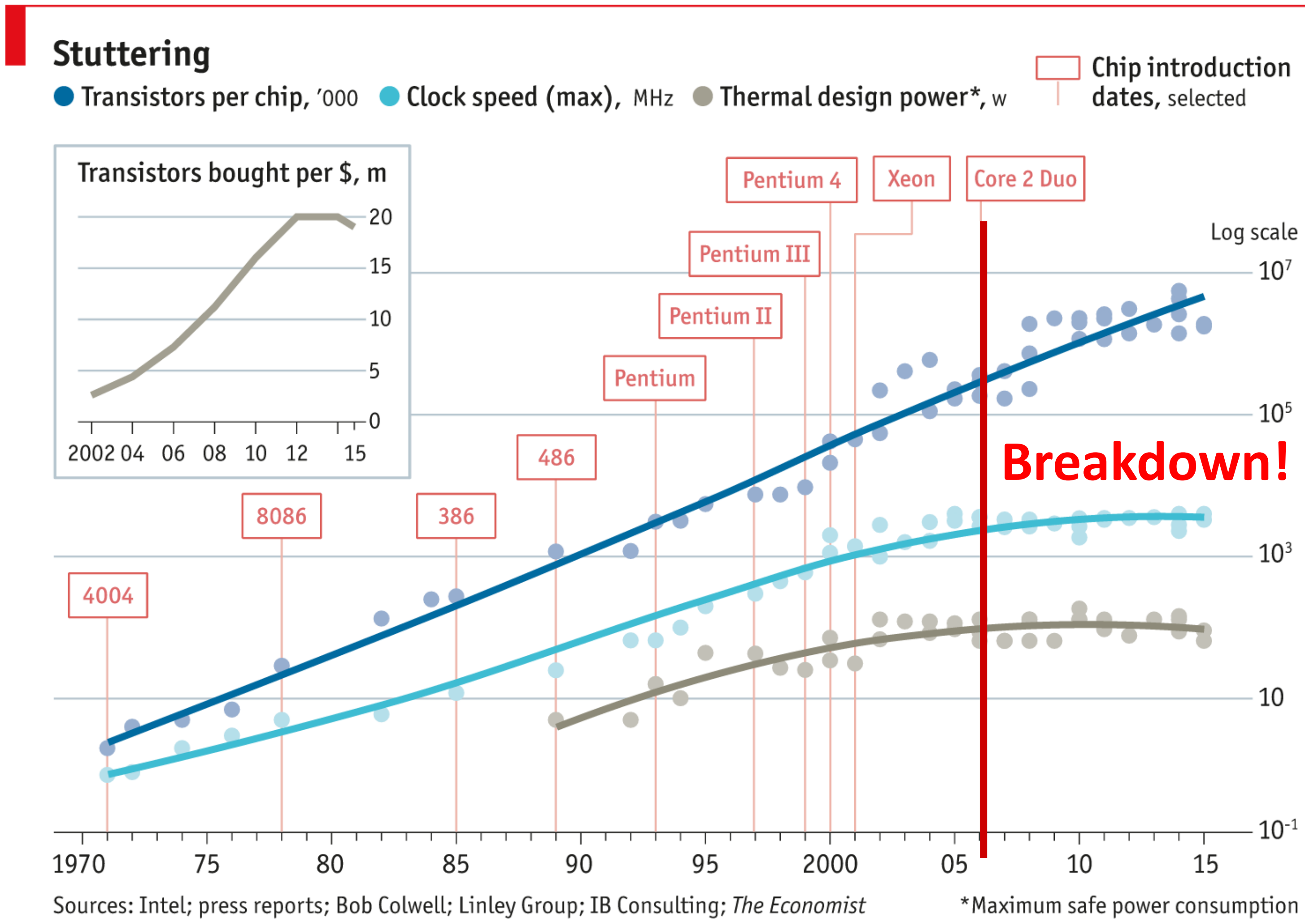
Intel/AMD x86 Evolution: Milestones

Name	Date	Transistors	MHz
8086	1978	29K	5-10
First 16-bit Intel processor. Basis for IBM PC & DOS 1 MB address space			
386	1985	275K	16-33
First 32-bit Intel processor, referred to as IA32 Added “flat addressing,” capable of running Unix			
Pentium (P5)	1993	3.2M	60
First superscalar IA32			
Athlon (K7)	1999	22M	500-2333
First desktop processor with 1 GHz clock (at roughly same time as Pentium III)			
Athlon 64 (K8)	2003	106M	1600-3200
First x86-64 processor architecture			
Pentium 4E	2004	125M	2800-3800
First 64-bit Intel x86 processor			

Intel/AMD x86 Evolution: Milestones

Name	Date	Transistors	MHz
Core 2	2006	291M	1060-3500
First multi-core Intel Processor			
Core i7	2008	731M	1700-3900
Four cores			
AMD Phenom (K10)	2008	758M	1800-2600
First “true” quad core, with all cores on same silicon die			
Core i7 (Coffee Lake)	2017	?	2800-4700
Ryzen 7 (Zen)	2017	4.8B	3000-4200

Technology Scaling

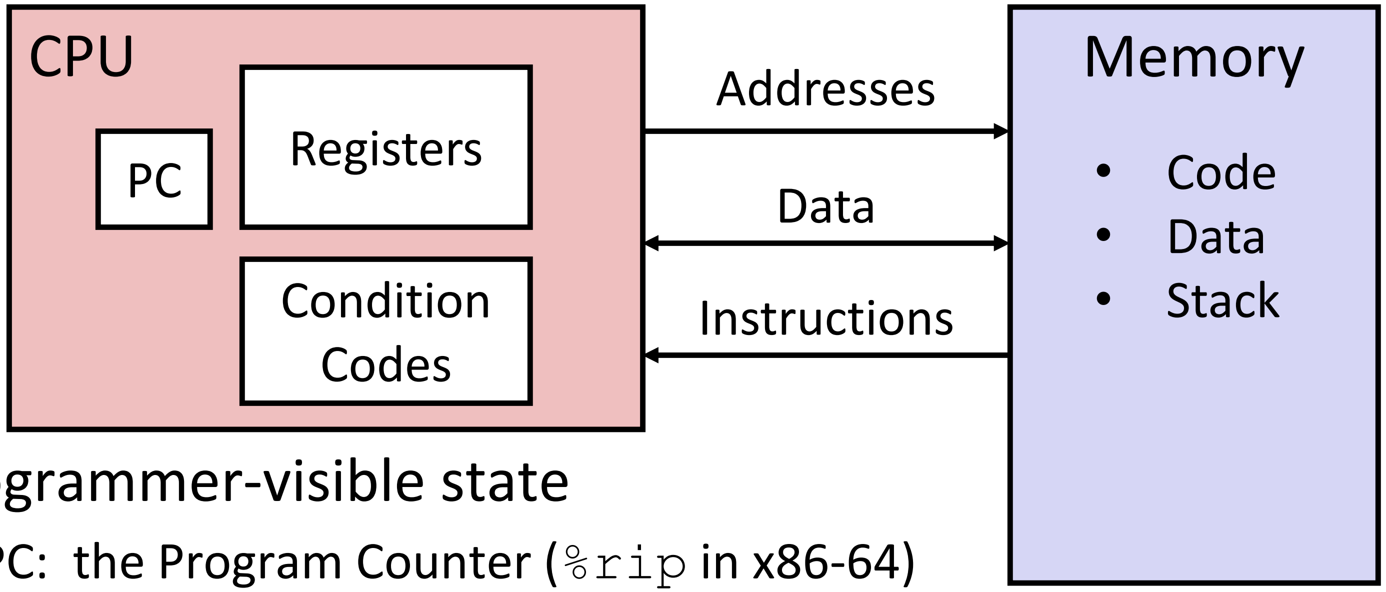


http://www.economist.com/technology-quarterly/2016-03-12/after-moores-law

Transition to 64-bit

- Intel attempted radical shift from IA32 to IA64 (2001)
  - Completely new architecture (Itanium)
  - Execute IA32 code only as legacy
  - Performance disappointing
- AMD solution: “AMD64” (2003)
  - x86-64, evolutionary step from IA32
- Intel pursued IA64
  - Couldn’t admit its mistake with Itanium
- Intel announces “EM64T” extension to IA32 (2004)
  - Extended Memory 64-bit Technology
  - Nearly identical to AMD64!

Assembly Programmer’s View



- Programmer-visible state
  - PC: the Program Counter (`%rip` in x86-64)
    - Address of next instruction
  - Named registers
    - Together in “register file”
    - Heavily used program data
  - Condition codes
    - Store status information about most recent arithmetic operation
    - Used for conditional branching

- Memory
  - Byte-addressable array
  - Code and user data
  - Includes *the Stack* (for supporting procedures)

Three Basic Kinds of Instructions

1) Transfer data between memory and register
   - *Load* data from memory into register
     - `%reg` = Mem[address]
   - *Store* register data into memory
     - Mem[address] = `%reg`

Remember: Memory is indexed just like an array of bytes!

2) Perform arithmetic operation on register or memory data
   - `c = a + b;      z = x << y;      i = h & g;`

3) Control flow: what instruction to execute next
   - Unconditional jumps to/from procedures
   - Conditional branches

x86-64 Assembly "Data Types"

- Integral data of 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes
  - Data values
  - Addresses (untyped pointers)
- Floating point data of 4, 8, 10 or 2x8 or 4x4 or 8x2
  - Different registers for those (*e.g.* `%xmm1`, `%ymm2`)
  - Come from *extensions to x86* (SSE, AVX, …)

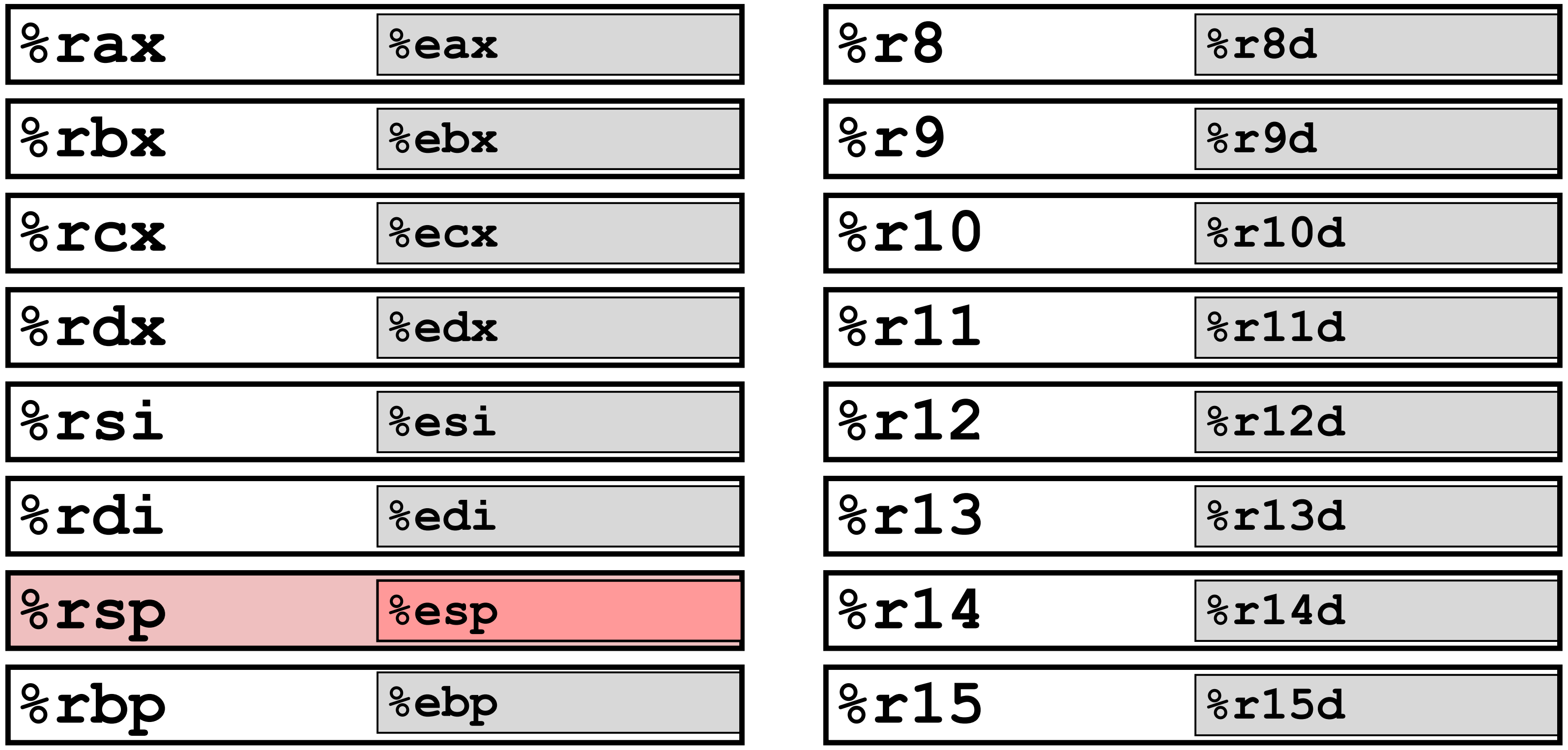
Not covered In 351

- No aggregate types such as arrays or structures
  - Just contiguously allocated bytes in memory
- Two common syntaxes
  - "AT&T": used by our course, slides, textbook, gnu tools, …
  - "Intel": used by Intel documentation, Intel tools, …
  - Must know which you're reading

What is a Register?

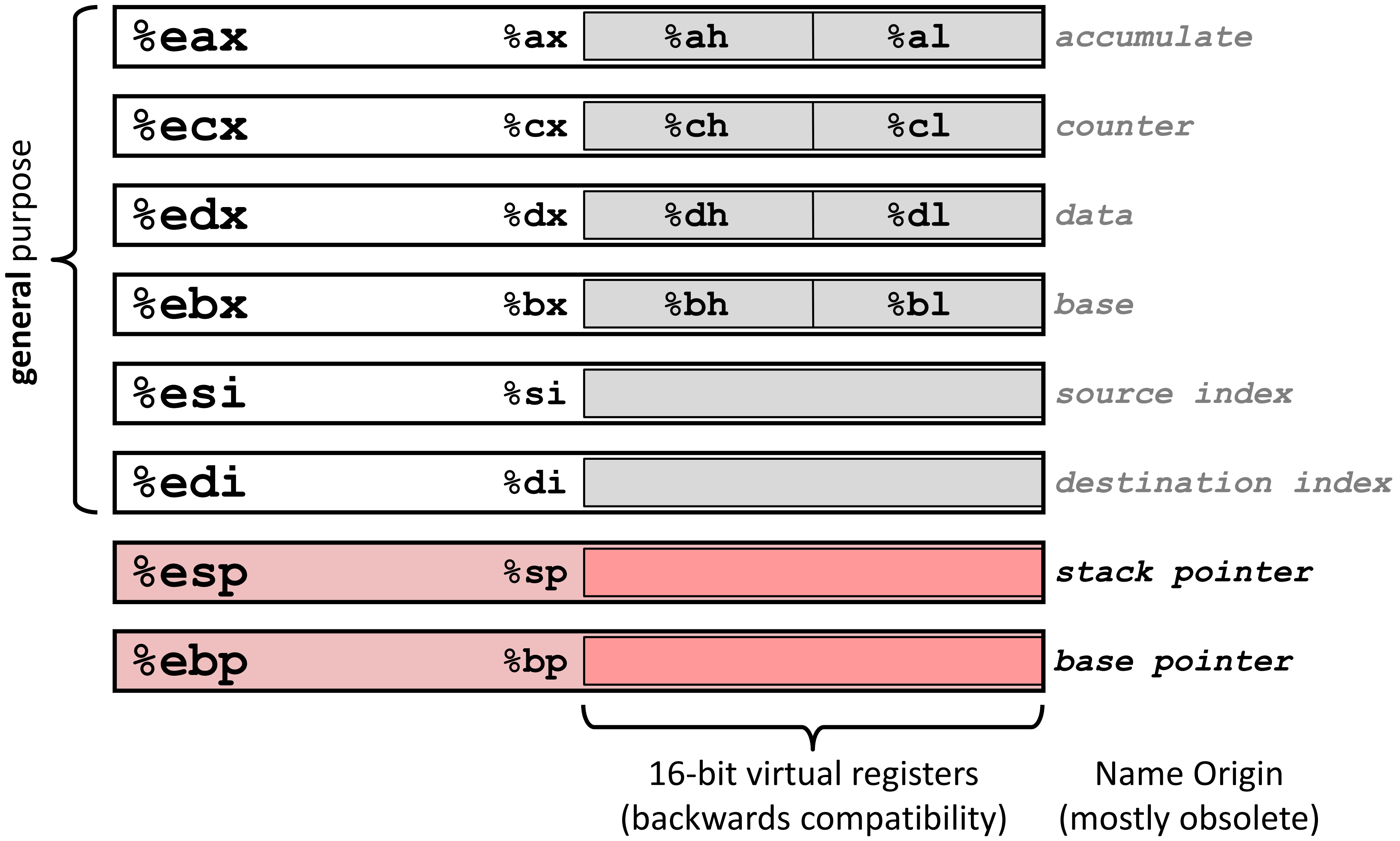
- A location in the CPU that stores a small amount of data, which can be accessed very quickly (once every clock cycle)
- Registers have *names*, not *addresses*
  - In assembly, they start with `%` (*e.g.* `%rsi`)
- Registers are at the heart of assembly programming
  - They are a precious commodity in all architectures, but *especially* x86

x86-64 Integer Registers – 64 bits wide



- Can reference low-order 4 bytes (also low-order 2 & 1 bytes)

Some History: IA32 Registers – 32 bits wide

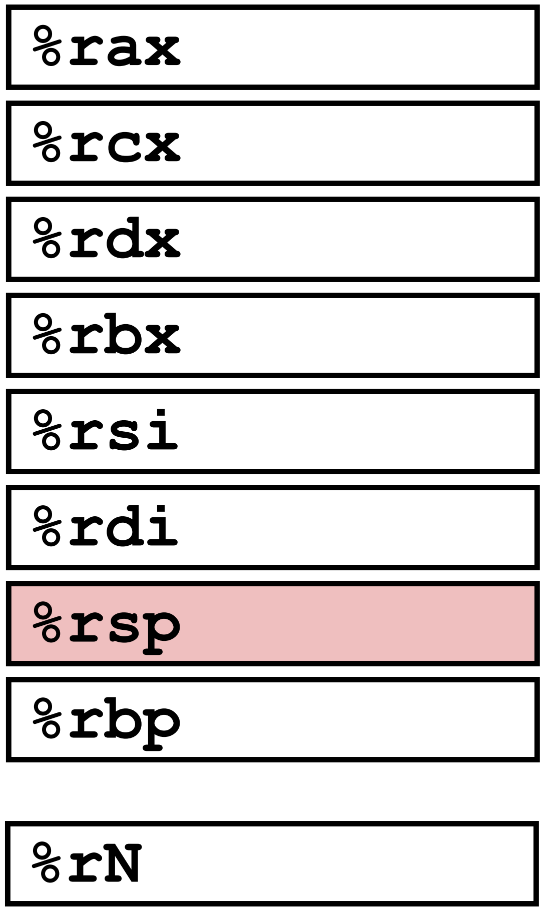


Memory vs. Registers

Memory		Registers
Addresses	vs.	Names
`0x7FFFD024C3DC`		`%rdi`
Big	vs.	Small
~ 8 GB		(16 x 8 B) = 128 B
Slow	vs.	Fast
~50-100 ns		sub-nanosecond timescale
Dynamic	vs.	Static
Can "grow" as needed while program runs		fixed number in hardware

Operand types

- ***Immediate:*** Constant integer data
  - Examples: **`$0x400`**, **`$-533`**
  - Like C literal, but prefixed with **`'$'`**
  - Encoded with 1, 2, 4, or 8 bytes *depending on the instruction*
- ***Register:*** 1 of 16 integer registers
  - Examples: **`%rax`**, **`%r13`**
  - But **`%rsp`** reserved for special use
  - Others have special uses for particular instructions
- ***Memory:*** Consecutive bytes of memory at a computed address
  - Simplest example: **`(%rax)`**
  - Various other "address modes"



Summary

- x86-64 is a complex instruction set computing (CISC) architecture
- **Registers** are named locations in the CPU for holding and manipulating data
  - x86-64 uses 16 64-bit wide registers
- Assembly operands include immediates, registers, and data at specified memory locations

Floating Point Summary

- Floats also suffer from the fixed number of bits available to represent them
  - Can get overflow/underflow
  - "Gaps" produced in representable numbers means we can lose precision, unlike `int`s
    - Some "simple fractions" have no exact representation (*e.g.* 0.2)
    - "Every operation gets a slightly wrong result"
- Floating point arithmetic not associative or distributive
  - Mathematically equivalent ways of writing an expression may compute different results
- Never test floating point values for equality!
- Careful when converting between `int`s and `float`s!

Floating Point Summary

- Converting between integral and floating point data types *does* change the bits
  - Floating point rounding is a HUGE issue!
    - Limited mantissa bits cause inaccurate representations
    - Floating point arithmetic is NOT associative or distributive