

# x86-64 Programming III

CSE 351 Autumn 2021

## Instructor:

Justin Hsia

## Teaching Assistants:

Allie Pflieger

Anirudh Kumar

Assaf Vayner

Atharva Deodhar

Celeste Zeng

Dominick Ta

Francesca Wang

Hamsa Shankar

Isabella Nguyen

Joy Dang

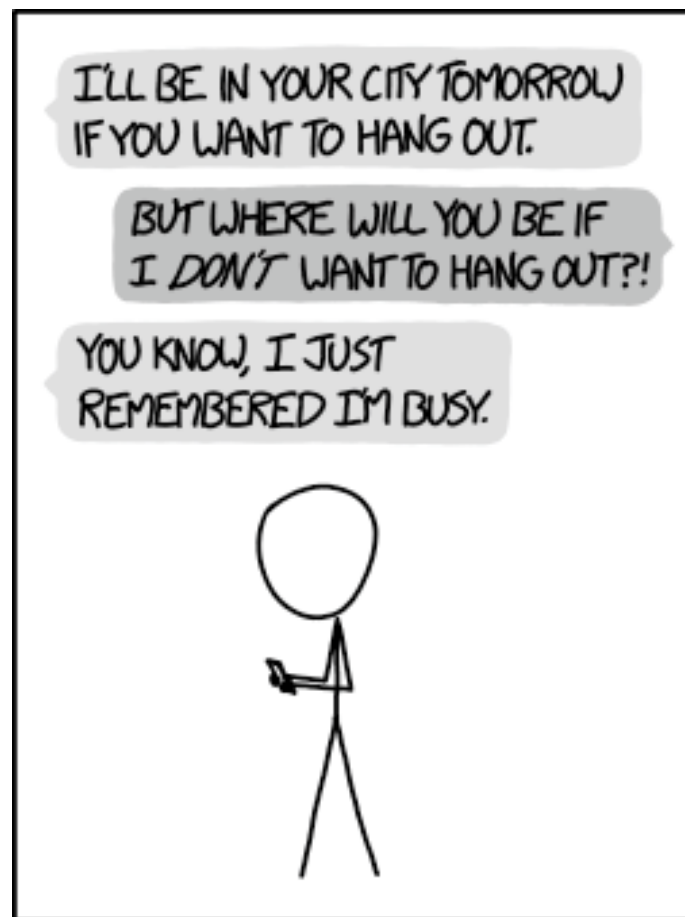
Julia Wang

Maggie Jiang

Monty Nitschke

Morel Fotsing

Sanjana Chintalapati



<http://xkcd.com/1652/>

# Relevant Course Information

- ❖ Lab 1a regrade requests open on Gradescope
- ❖ Lab 1b submissions close tonight
- ❖ Lab 2 due next Friday (10/29)
  
- ❖ Section tomorrow on Assembly
  - Use the midterm reference sheet!
  - Optional GDB Tutorial slides and Lab 2 phase 1 walkthrough
  
- ❖ Midterm (take home, 11/3–11/5)
  - Make notes and use the [midterm reference sheet](#)
  - Form study groups and look at past exams!

# Move extension: movz and movs

`movz__ src, regDest` # Move with zero extension  
`movs__ src, regDest` # Move with sign extension

2 width specifiers: b, w, l, q  
 1 2 4 8 bytes

- Copy from a *smaller* source value to a *larger* destination
- Source can be memory or register; Destination *must* be a register
- Fill remaining bits of dest with **zero** (`movz`) or **sign bit** (`movs`)

`movzSD` / `movsSD`:

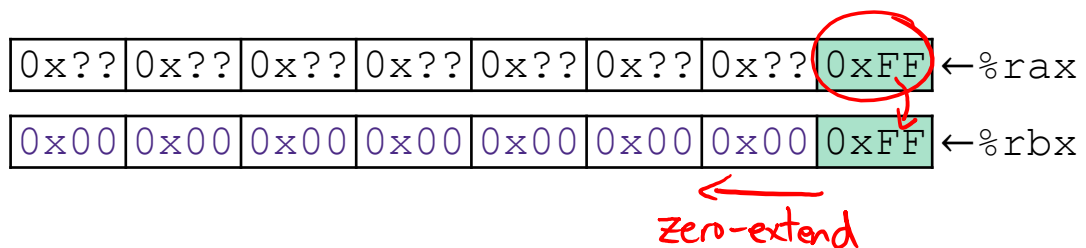
S – size of source (**b** = 1 byte, **w** = 2)

D – size of dest (**w** = 2 bytes, **l** = 4, **q** = 8)

Example:

`movzbq %al, %rbx`

8 bytes (pointing to %rbx)  
 1 byte (pointing to %al)  
 Zero-extend (pointing to the instruction)



# Move extension: `movz` and `movs`

`movz __ src, regDest` # Move with zero extension

`movs __ src, regDest` # Move with sign extension

- Copy from a *smaller* source value to a *larger* destination
- Source can be memory or register; Destination *must* be a register
- Fill remaining bits of dest with **zero** (`movz`) or **sign bit** (`movs`)

`movzSD` / `movsSD`:

S – size of source (**b** = 1 byte, **w** = 2)

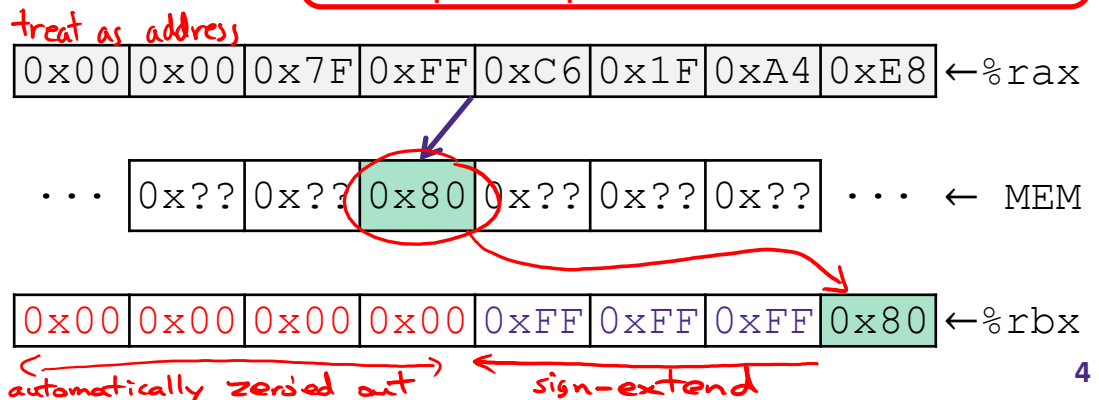
D – size of dest (**w** = 2 bytes, **l** = 4, **q** = 8)

**Note:** In x86-64, any instruction that generates a 32-bit (long word) value for a register also sets the high-order portion of the register to 0. Good example on p. 184 in the textbook.

Example: <sup>1 byte</sup>

`movsbl (%rax), %ebx`  
 sign-extend ↗ ↘ 4 bytes

Copy 1 byte from memory into 8-byte register & sign extend it



# GDB Demo

- ❖ The `movz` and `movs` examples on a real machine!
  - `movzbq %al, %rbx`
  - `movsbl (%rax), %ebx`
- ❖ You will need to use GDB to get through Lab 2
  - Useful debugger in this class and beyond!
- ❖ Pay attention to:
  - Setting breakpoints (`break`)
  - Stepping through code (`step/next` and `stepi/nexti`)
  - Printing out expressions (`print` – works with regs & vars)
  - Examining memory (`x`)

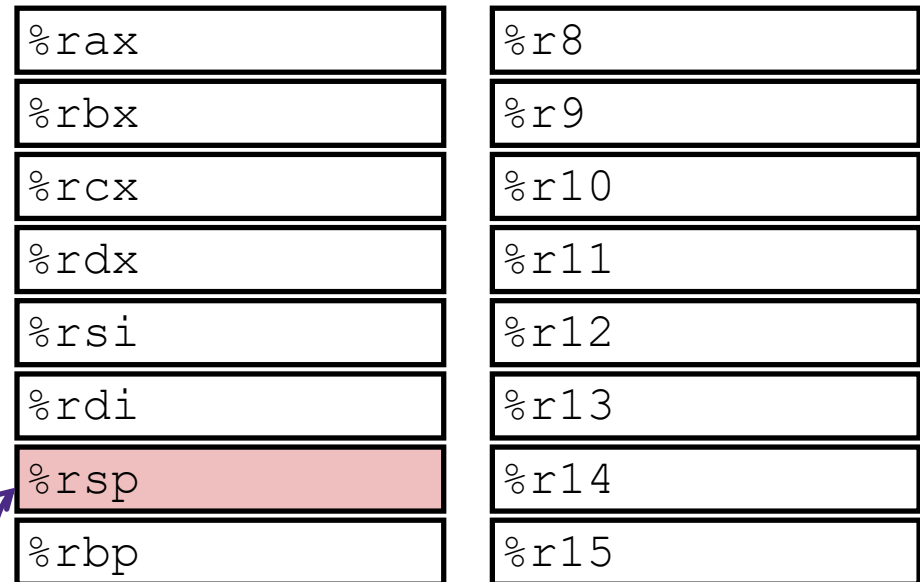
# x86 Control Flow

- ❖ **Condition codes**
- ❖ **Conditional and unconditional branches**
- ❖ **Loops**
- ❖ **Switches**

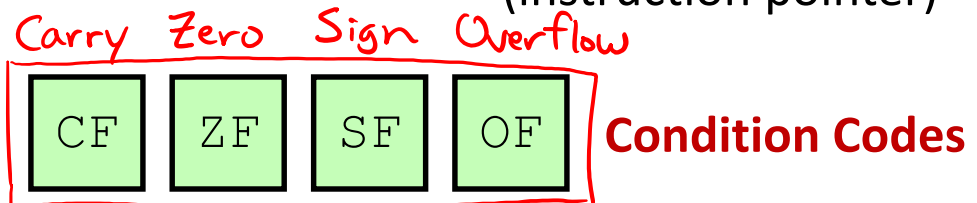
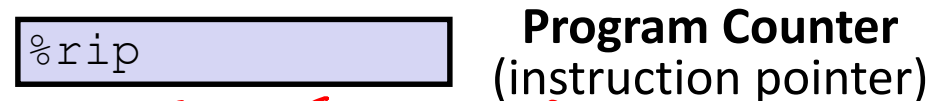
# Processor State (x86-64, partial)

- ❖ Information about currently executing program
  - Temporary data ( `%rax`, ... )
  - Location of runtime stack ( `%rsp` )
  - Location of current code control point ( `%rip`, ... )
  - Status of recent tests ( **CF**, **ZF**, **SF**, **OF** ) "flags"
    - Single bit registers:

## Registers



current top of the Stack



# Condition Codes (Implicit Setting)

## ❖ *Implicitly* set by **arithmetic** operations

- (think of it as side effects)

- Example: **addq** src, dst  $\leftrightarrow$   $r = d + s$   
*result = dst + src*

- **CF=1** if carry out from MSB (*unsigned* overflow)

- **ZF=1** if  $r == 0$

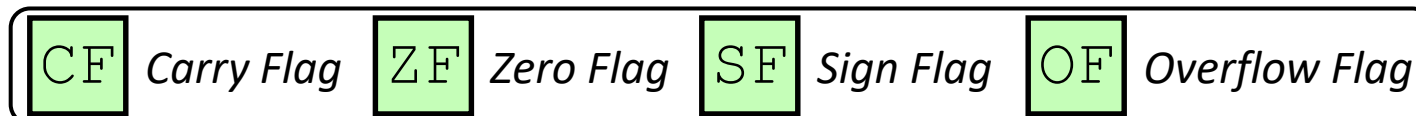
- **SF=1** if  $r < 0$  (if MSB is 1)

- **OF=1** if *signed* overflow

$(s > 0 \ \&\& \ d > 0 \ \&\& \ r < 0) \ || \ (s < 0 \ \&\& \ d < 0 \ \&\& \ r \geq 0)$

- **Not set by lea instruction (beware!)**

*↑ signs don't match!*

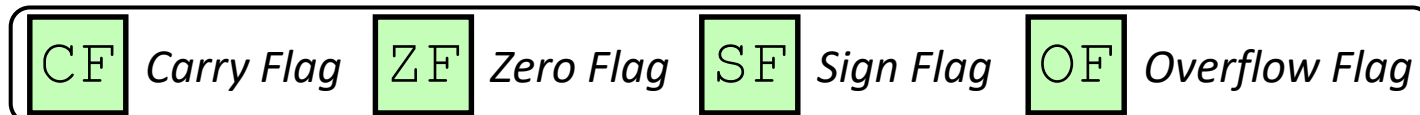




# Condition Codes (Explicit Setting: Compare)

## ❖ Explicitly set by **Compare** instruction

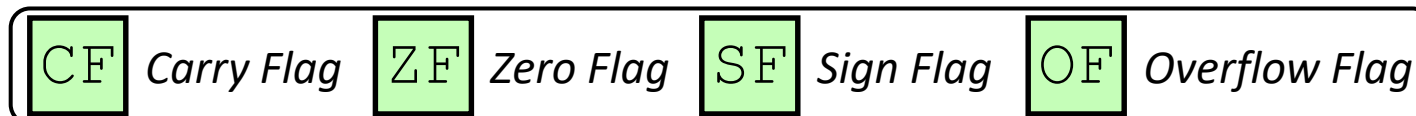
- `cmpq src1, src2` like `subq a, b` →  $b - a$
- `cmpq a, b` sets flags based on  $b - a$ , but doesn't store
- **CF=1** if carry out from MSB (good for *unsigned* comparison)
- **ZF=1** if  $a == b$  ( $b - a == 0$ )
- **SF=1** if  $(b - a) < 0$  (if MSB is 1)
- **OF=1** if *signed* overflow  
 $(a > 0 \ \&\& \ b < 0 \ \&\& \ (b - a) > 0) \ ||$   
 $(a < 0 \ \&\& \ b > 0 \ \&\& \ (b - a) < 0)$



# Condition Codes (Explicit Setting: Test)

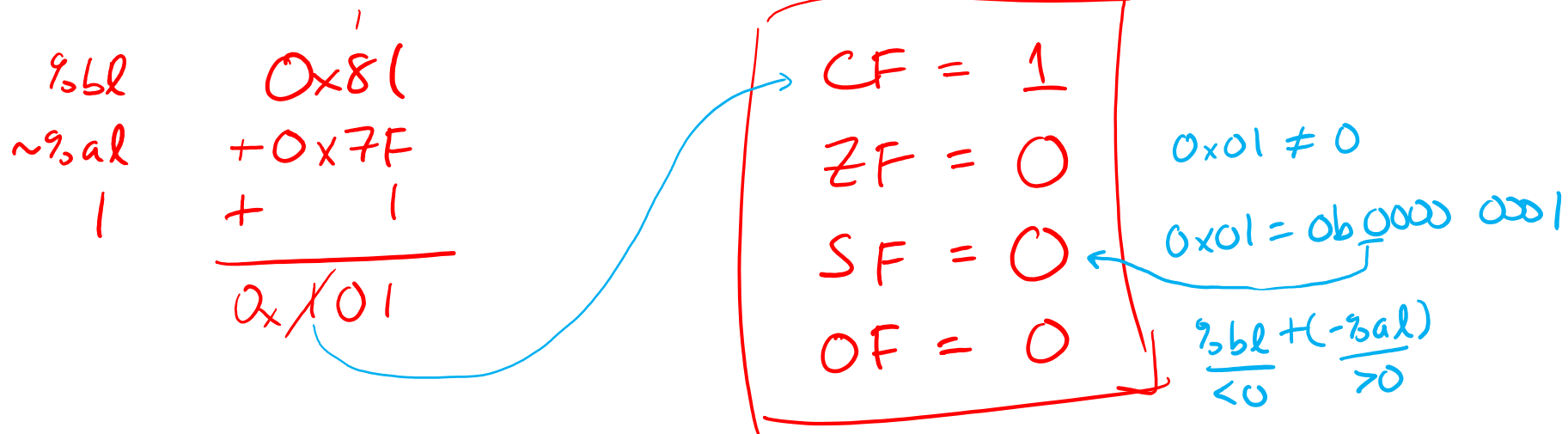
## ❖ Explicitly set by **Test** instruction

- **testq** src2, src1 *like andq a, b*
- **testq** a, b sets flags based on a&b, but doesn't store
  - Useful to have one of the operands be a *mask*
- Can't have carry out (**CF**<sup>0</sup>) or overflow (**OF**<sup>0</sup>)
- **ZF=1** if a&b==0
- **SF=1** if a&b<0 (signed)



# Example Condition Code Setting

- Assuming that `%a1 = 0x80` and `%b1 = 0x81`, which flags (CF, ZF, SF, OF) are set when we execute `cmpb %a1, %b1`?  $\rightarrow$  computes  $\%b1 - \%a1 = \%b1 + \sim \%a1 + 1$   
 $\sim \%a1 = \sim 0x80 = 0x7F$



# Using Condition Codes: Jumping

## ❖ j\* Instructions

- Jumps to **target** (an address) based on condition codes

*don't worry about the details*

Instruction	Condition	Description <i>(always compared to 0)</i>
<code>jmp target</code>	1	Unconditional
<code><u>je</u> target</code>	ZF	Equal / Zero
<code><u>jne</u> target</code>	$\sim ZF$	Not Equal / Not Zero
<code><u>js</u> target</code>	SF	Negative
<code><u>jns</u> target</code>	$\sim SF$	Nonnegative
<code><u>jg</u> target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF) \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Greater (Signed)
<code><u>jge</u> target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF)$	Greater or Equal (Signed)
<code><u>jl</u> target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF)$	Less (Signed)
<code><u>jle</u> target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF) \   \ ZF$	Less or Equal (Signed)
<code><u>ja</u> target</code>	$\sim CF \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Above (unsigned ">")
<code><u>jb</u> target</code>	CF	Below (unsigned "<")

# Using Condition Codes: Setting

## ❖ `set*` Instructions

- Set low-order byte of `dst` to 0 or 1 based on condition codes
- Does not alter remaining 7 bytes

False → 0b 0000 0000 = 0x 00

True → 0b 0000 0001 = 0x 01

Instruction	Condition	Description
<code>sete dst</code>	ZF	Equal / Zero
<code>setne dst</code>	$\sim$ ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
<code>sets dst</code>	SF	Negative
<code>setns dst</code>	$\sim$ SF	Nonnegative
<code>setg dst</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF) \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Greater (Signed)
<code>setge dst</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF)$	Greater or Equal (Signed)
<code>setl dst</code>	$(SF \wedge OF)$	Less (Signed)
<code>setle dst</code>	$(SF \wedge OF) \   \ ZF$	Less or Equal (Signed)
<code>seta dst</code>	$\sim CF \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Above (unsigned ">")
<code>setb dst</code>	CF	Below (unsigned "<")

Same instruction suffixes as `j*` instructions!

# Reading Condition Codes

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 <sup>st</sup> argument (x)
%rsi	2 <sup>nd</sup> argument (y)
%rax	return value

## ❖ set\* Instructions e, ne, g, l, ...

- Set a low-order byte to 0 or 1 based on condition codes
- Operand is byte register (e.g., %al) or a byte in memory
- Do not alter remaining bytes in register
  - Typically use movzbl (zero-extended mov) to finish job

```
int gt(long x, long y)
{
    return x > y; // x-y > 0
}
```

```
cmpq    %rsi, %rdi    # set flags based on x-y
setg    %al          # %al = (x > y)
movzbl  %al, %eax    # %rax = (x > y)
ret
```

*Handwritten annotations:*

- a(y), b(x)* (pointing to %rsi, %rdi)
- zero-extend* (pointing to movzbl)
- lowest byte* (pointing to %al)
- whole register* (pointing to %eax)

# Reading Condition Codes

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 <sup>st</sup> argument (x)
%rsi	2 <sup>nd</sup> argument (y)
%rax	return value

## ❖ set\* Instructions

- Set a low-order byte to 0 or 1 based on condition codes
- Operand is byte register (e.g., %al) or a byte in memory
- Do not alter remaining bytes in register
  - Typically use `movzbl` (zero-extended `mov`) to finish job

```
int gt(long x, long y)
{
    return x > y;
}
```

```
cmpq    %rsi, %rdi    # Compare x:y
setg    %al           # Set when >
movzbl  %al, %eax     # Zero rest of %rax
ret
```

# Choosing instructions for conditionals

- ❖ All arithmetic instructions set condition flags based on result of operation (op)
  - Conditionals are comparisons against 0
- ❖ Come in instruction *pairs*

```

    ④ addq 5, (p)
    je:   *p+5 == 0
    ② jne: *p+5 != 0
    jg:   *p+5 > 0
    jl:   *p+5 < 0
    
```

```

    ① orq a, b
    je:   b|a == 0
    jne:  b|a != 0
    ② jg:   b|a > 0
    jl:   b|a < 0
    
```

		① (op) s, d
<b>je</b>	"Equal"	d (op) s == 0
<b>jne</b>	"Not equal"	d (op) s != 0
<b>js</b>	"Sign" (negative)	d (op) s < 0
<b>jns</b>	(non-negative)	d (op) s >= 0
<b>jg</b>	"Greater"	d (op) s > 0
<b>jge</b>	"Greater or equal"	d (op) s >= 0
② <b>jnl</b>	"Less"	d (op) s < 0
<b>jle</b>	"Less or equal"	d (op) s <= 0
<b>ja</b>	"Above" (unsigned >)	d (op) s > 0U
<b>jb</b>	"Below" (unsigned <)	d (op) s < 0U



# Choosing instructions for conditionals

- ❖ Reminder: `cmp` is like `sub`, `test` is like `and`
  - Result is not stored anywhere

		<code>cmp a,b</code>	<code>test a,b</code>
<b>je</b>	"Equal"	$b == a$	$b \& a == 0$
<b>jne</b>	"Not equal"	$b != a$	$b \& a != 0$
<b>js</b>	"Sign" (negative)	$b - a < 0$	$b \& a < 0$
<b>jns</b>	(non-negative)	$b - a \geq 0$	$b \& a \geq 0$
<b>jg</b>	"Greater"	$b > a$	$b \& a > 0$
<b>jge</b>	"Greater or equal"	$b \geq a$	$b \& a \geq 0$
<b>jl</b>	"Less"	$b < a$	$b \& a < 0$
<b>jle</b>	"Less or equal"	$b \leq a$	$b \& a \leq 0$
<b>ja</b>	"Above" (unsigned >)	$b >_U a$	$b \& a > 0U$
<b>jb</b>	"Below" (unsigned <)	$b <_U a$	$b \& a < 0U$

```

cmpq 5, (p)
je:   *p == 5
jne:  *p != 5
jg:   *p > 5
jl:   *p < 5

```

```

testq a, a
je:   a == 0
jne:  a != 0
jg:   a > 0
jl:   a < 0

```

```

testb a, 0x1
je:   a_LSB == 0
jne:  a_LSB == 1

```

# Choosing instructions for conditionals

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	argument x
%rsi	argument y
%rax	return value

	<sup>①</sup> <u>cmp a,b</u>	test a,b
<b>je</b> "Equal"	b == a	b&a == 0
<b>jne</b> "Not equal"	b != a	b&a != 0
<b>js</b> "Sign" (negative)	b-a < 0	b&a < 0
<b>jns</b> (non-negative)	b-a >= 0	b&a >= 0
<b>jg</b> "Greater"	b > a	b&a > 0
<sup>②</sup> <b>jge</b> "Greater or equal"	b <sup>x</sup> >= a <sup>3</sup>	b&a >= 0
<b>jl</b> "Less"	b < a	b&a < 0
<b>jle</b> "Less or equal"	b <= a	b&a <= 0
<b>ja</b> "Above" (unsigned >)	b > <sub>u</sub> a	b&a > 0U
<b>jb</b> "Below" (unsigned <)	b < <sub>u</sub> a	b&a < 0U

```

if (x < 3) {
    return 1;
}
return 2;
    
```

*do this if x ≥ 3*

```

cmpq $3, %rdi
jge T2
T1: # x < 3: (if)
    movq $1, %rax
    ret
T2: # !(x < 3): (else)
    movq $2, %rax
    ret
    
```

*labels*

# Practice Question 1

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 <sup>st</sup> argument (x)
%rsi	2 <sup>nd</sup> argument (y)
%rax	return value

```

long absdiff(long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}
    
```

- A.** `cmpq %rsi, %rdi` *x-y*  
`jle .L4`
- B.** `cmpq %rsi, %rdi` *x-y*  
`jg .L4`
- ~~**C.** `testq %rsi, %rdi` *x&y*  
`jle .L4`~~
- ~~**D.** `testq %rsi, %rdi` *x&y*  
`jg .L4`~~
- E.** We're lost...

```

absdiff:
    _____
    _____
                                     # x > y:
    movq    %rdi, %rax
    subq    %rsi, %rax
    ret

.L4:                                     # x <= y:
    movq    %rsi, %rax    x-y <= 0
    subq    %rdi, %rax    ↑
    ret
    
```

*less than or equal to (le)*

# Reading Review

- ❖ Terminology:
  - Label, jump target
  - Program counter
  - Jump table, indirect jump
- ❖ Questions from the Reading?

# Labels

**swap:**

```
movq (%rdi), %rax
movq (%rsi), %rdx
movq %rdx, (%rdi)
movq %rax, (%rsi)
ret
```

**max:**

```
movq %rdi, %rax
cmpq %rsi, %rdi
jg done
movq %rsi, %rax
```

**done:**

```
ret
```



- ❖ A jump changes the program counter (%rip)
  - %rip tells the CPU the *address* of the next instruction to execute
- ❖ **Labels** give us a way to refer to a specific instruction in our assembly/machine code
  - Associated with the *next* instruction found in the assembly code (ignores whitespace)
  - Each *use* of the label will eventually be replaced with something that indicates the final address of the instruction that it is associated with

# x86 Control Flow

- ❖ Condition codes
- ❖ Conditional and unconditional branches
- ❖ **Loops**
- ❖ Switches

# Expressing with Goto Code

```

long absdiff(long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    if (x > y)
        result = x-y;
    else
        result = y-x;
    return result;
}

```

```

long absdiff_j(long x, long y)
{
    long result;
    int ntest = (x <= y);
    if (ntest) goto Else;
    result = x-y;
    goto Done;
Else:
    result = y-x;
Done:
    return result;
}

```

conditional  
jump

unconditional jump →

labels  
(addresses)

- ❖ C allows goto as means of transferring control (jump)
  - Closer to assembly programming style
  - Generally considered bad coding style

# Compiling Loops

C/Java code:

```
while ( sum Test != 0 ) {  
    <loop body>  
}
```

Assembly code:

```
loopTop:  testq %rax, %rax } !Test  
          je    loopDone  
          <loop body code>  
          jmp   loopTop  
loopDone:
```

- ❖ Other loops compiled similarly
  - Will show variations and complications in coming slides, but may skip a few examples in the interest of time
- ❖ Most important to consider:
  - When should conditionals be evaluated? (*while* vs. *do-while*)
  - How much jumping is involved?



# Compiling Loops

all jump instructions update the program counter (rip)

## While Loop:

```
C: while ( Test sum != 0 ) {
    <loop body>
}
```

x86-64:

```

loopTop:    testq %rax, %rax } sum == 0 ~Test
            je    loopDone
            <loop body code>
            jmp   loopTop

loopDone:
```

## Do-while Loop:

```
C: do {
    <loop body>
} while ( Test sum != 0 )
```

x86-64:

```

loopTop:
    <loop body code>
    testq %rax, %rax } Test
    jne   loopTop

loopDone:
```

## While Loop (ver. 2):

```
C: while ( Test sum != 0 ) {
    <loop body>
}
```

x86-64:

```

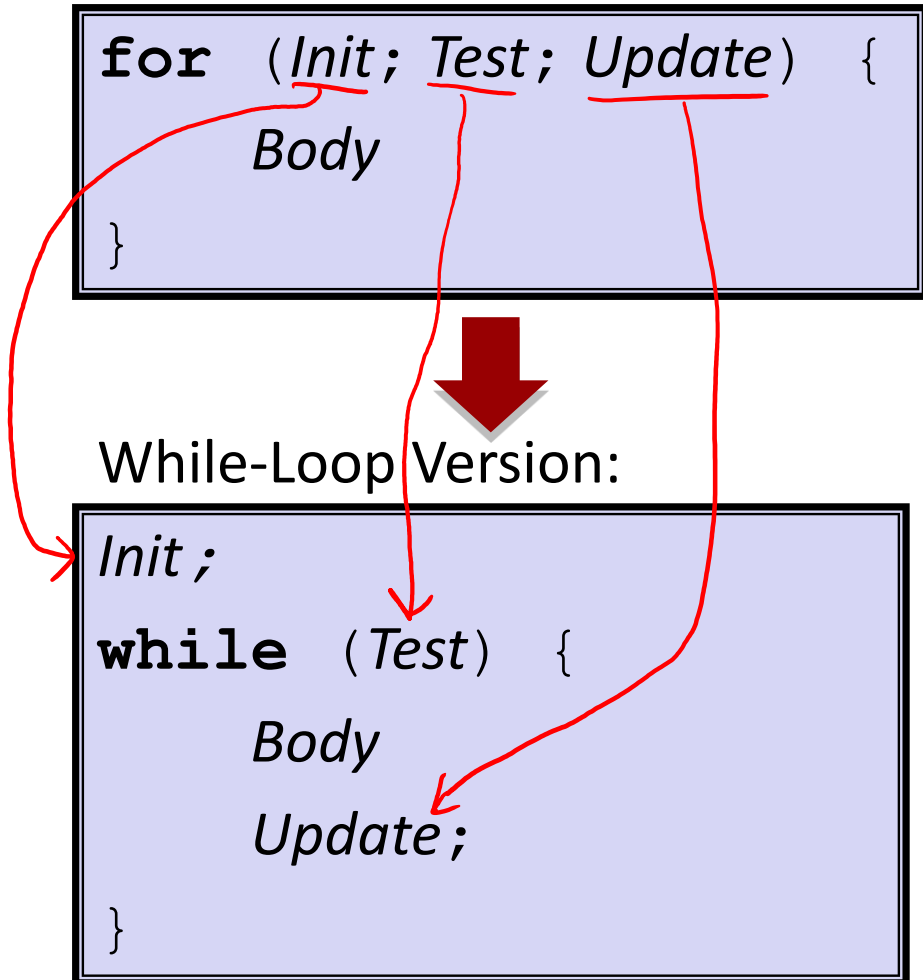
loopTop:    testq %rax, %rax } ~Test
            je    loopDone
            <loop body code>
            testq %rax, %rax } Test
            jne   loopTop

do-while loop {
loopDone:
```

# For-Loop → While-Loop

For-Loop:

```
for (Init; Test; Update) {  
    Body  
}
```



While-Loop Version:

```
Init;  
while (Test) {  
    Body  
    Update;  
}
```

Caveat: C and Java have `break` and `continue`

- Conversion works fine for `break`
  - Jump to same label as loop exit condition
- But not `continue`: would skip doing *Update*, which it should do with for-loops
  - Introduce new label at *Update*

## Practice Question 2

- ❖ The following is assembly code for a for-loop; identify the corresponding parts (Init, Test, Update)

- $i \rightarrow \%eax$ ,  $x \rightarrow \%rdi$ ,  $y \rightarrow \%esi$

Line	
1	movl \$0, %eax ← Init
2	.L2: cmpl %esi, %eax } !Test → $i - y \geq 0$
3	jge .L4
4	movslq %eax, %rdx $i \geq y$
5	leaq (%rdi,%rdx,4), %rcx
6	movl (%rcx), %edx
7	addl \$1, %edx
8	movl %edx, (%rcx)
9	addl \$1, %eax ← Update
10	jmp .L2
11	.L4:

exit (red arrow from line 3 to line 11)

loop (red arrow from line 10 to line 2)

for ( int i = 0 ; i < y ; i++ ) {

Init                      Test                      Update

# Summary

- ❖ Control flow in x86 determined by Condition Codes
  - Showed **C**arry, **Z**ero, **S**ign, and **O**verflow, though others exist
  - Set flags with arithmetic instructions (implicit) or Compare and Test (explicit)
  - Set instructions read out flag values
  - Jump instructions use flag values to determine next instruction to execute
  - Most control flow constructs (*e.g.*, if-else, for-loop, while-loop) can be implemented in assembly using combinations of conditional and unconditional jumps