

x86-64 Programming III

CSE 351 Autumn 2024

Instructor:

Ruth Anderson

Teaching Assistants:

Alexandra Michael

Connie Chen

Chloe Fong

Chendur Jayavelu

Joshua Tan

Nikolas McNamee

Nahush Shrivatsa

Naama Amiel

Neela Kausik

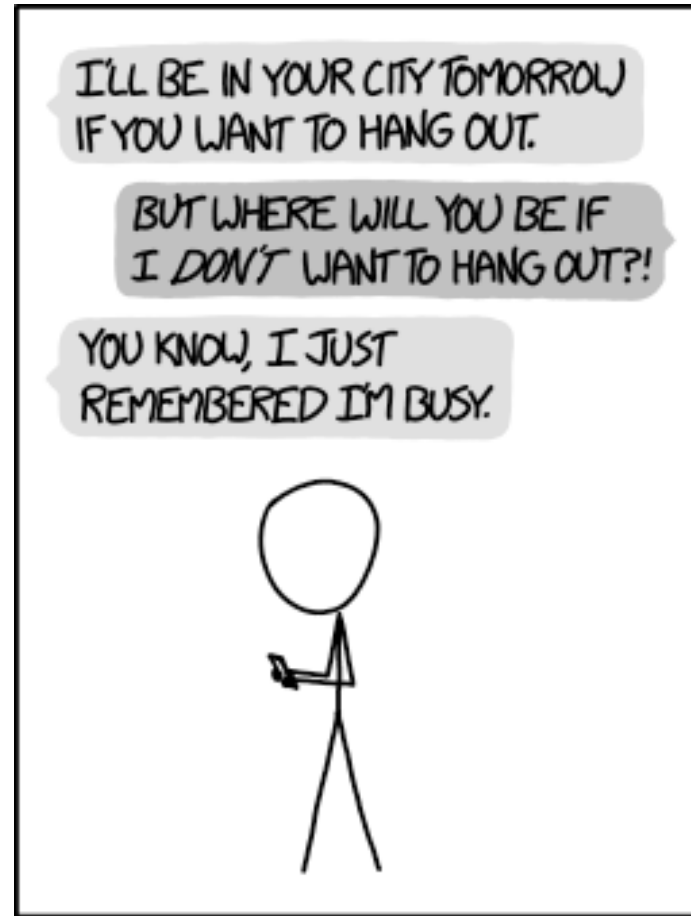
Renee Ruan

Rubee Zhao

Samantha Dreussi

Sean Siddens

Waleed Yagoub



WHY I TRY NOT TO BE
PEDANTIC ABOUT CONDITIONALS.

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

Relevant Course Information

- ❖ HW7 due TONIGHT, Monday (10/14) @ 11:59 pm
- ❖ Lab 1b, due TONIGHT, Monday (10/14) @ 11:59 pm
 - Submit `aisle_manager.c`, `store_client.c`, and `lab1Bsynthesis.txt`
 - Submissions that fail the autograder get a **ZERO**
 - No excuses – make full use of tools & Gradescope's interface
- ❖ HW8 due Wednesday (10/16) @ 11:59 pm
- ❖ Lab 2 (x86-64) due next Friday (10/25)
 - coming soon!
 - Learn to read x86-64 assembly and use GDB

Move extension: `movz` and `movs`

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

Handwritten notes: 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`)

`movz`SD / `movs`SD:

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

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

Example:

`movzbq %al, %rbx`

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

0x??	0x??	0x??	0x??	0x??	0x??	0x??	0xFF	← %rax
0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0xFF	← %rbx

Handwritten note: Zero-extend (pointing to the 0xFF in %rbx)

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:

`movsbl (%rax), %ebx`

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

0x00 0x00 0x7F 0xFF 0xC6 0x1F 0xA4 0xE8 ← %rax

... 0x?? 0x?? 0x80 0x?? 0x?? 0x?? ... ← MEM

0x00 0x00 0x00 0x00 0xFF 0xFF 0xFF 0x80 ← %rbx

Review Question

- ❖ If %rsi is 0x B0BACAFE 1EE7 F0 0D, what is its value after executing:

movswl %si, %esi?

0 . . . 0 F F F F

%si

2 byte 4 byte

%esi

x86 Control Flow

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

Conditionals and Control Flow

❖ Conditional branch/*jump*

- Jump to somewhere else if some condition is true, otherwise execute next instruction

❖ Unconditional branch/*jump*

- Always jump when you get to this instruction

❖ Together, they can implement most control flow constructs in high-level languages:

- 
- `if (condition) then {...} else {...}`
 - `while (condition) {...}`
 - `do {...} while (condition)`
 - `for (initialization; condition; iterative) {...}`
 - `switch {...}`

How to check conditions and implement?!

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

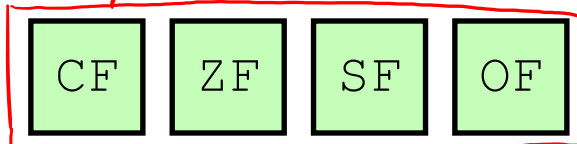
<code>%rax</code>	<code>%r8</code>
<code>%rbx</code>	<code>%r9</code>
<code>%rcx</code>	<code>%r10</code>
<code>%rdx</code>	<code>%r11</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	<code>%r12</code>
<code>%rdi</code>	<code>%r13</code>
<code>%rsp</code>	<code>%r14</code>
<code>%rbp</code>	<code>%r15</code>

current top of the Stack

`%rip`

Program Counter
(instruction pointer)

Carry Zero Sign Overflow



Condition Codes

Condition Codes

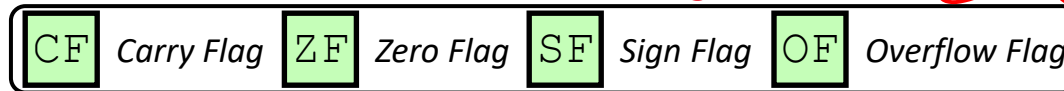
4 bits signed: -8...7
unsigned: 0 → 15

CF: 1
carry out → 10001

1011
+ 0110

10001

unsigned 11
6
1



- ❖ Carry Flag (CF): Set to **1** if most recent op result *carried out* data which couldn't be stored; i.e. unsigned overflow (usually when $dest < src$)
- ❖ Zero Flag (ZF): Set to **1** if most recent op result computed to 0
- ❖ Sign Flag (SF): Set to **1** if most recent op result is a signed (negative) value i.e. MSB produced is 1
- ❖ Overflow Flag (OF): Similar as carry flag, but applies to signed overflow i.e. if MSBs were both 0, and now result MSB is 1, or vice versa

signed 7
3
-6

1011
+ 0011

1010

⊕ + ⊕ = ⊖ OF: 1

Use flag values to decide whether to jump: How do we set them?

Setting Condition Codes: Implicit Setting

- ❖ Implicitly set by ^{+ logical} **arithmetic** operations: a fun side effect!

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

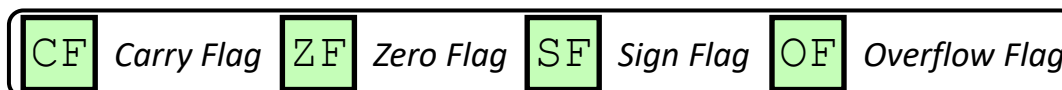
**Not set by
lea
instruction**



- **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

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

Suppose we only want to set the flags but not save the result...



Setting Condition Codes: Explicit Setting with `cmp`

❖ Explicitly set by the **Compare** instruction

- `cmpq` ^asrc1, ^bsrc2 $\leftrightarrow$ sets flags based on $b-a$

Kind of like `subq` a, b but doesn't store result anywhere

$b-a$

- **CF=1** if carry out from MSB (good for *unsigned* comparison)
- **ZF=1** if $a==b$, because $b-a==0$!
- **SF=1** if $(b-a) < 0$ (if MSB is 1)
- **OF=1** if *signed* overflow

$(a > 0 \ \&\& \ b < 0 \ \&\& \ (b-a) > 0) \ || \ (a < 0 \ \&\& \ b > 0 \ \&\& \ (b-a) < 0)$



CF	Carry Flag	ZF	Zero Flag	SF	Sign Flag	OF	Overflow Flag
-----------	------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	---------------

Setting Condition Codes: Explicit Setting with `test`

❖ Explicitly set by **Test** instruction

- **`testq src2, src1`** $\leftrightarrow$ sets flags based on `a&b`

Kind of like **`andq a, b`** but doesn't store result anywhere

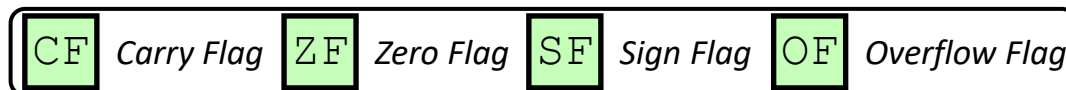
Tip: Useful to have one of the operands be a mask

- Can't have carry out (**CF**) or overflow (**OF**)—*why?*

- **ZF=1** if `a&b==0`

- **SF=1** if `a&b<0` (signed)

Just flipping bits!



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

$\Rightarrow \%b1 - \%a1$

0x81 - 0x80

$\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
(-127) - (-128)

-127 + 128

$\%b1 \rightarrow 0b \begin{array}{ccccccc} & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$

$\sim \%a1 \quad 0b \begin{array}{ccccccc} & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$

+1 +0b 000000001

(1) 000000001

CF: 1

ZF: 0

SF: 0

OF: 0

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>j</u>e target</code>	ZF	Equal / Zero
<code><u>j</u>ne target</code>	$\sim ZF$	Not Equal / Not Zero
<code><u>j</u>s target</code>	SF	Negative
<code><u>j</u>ns target</code>	$\sim SF$	Nonnegative
<code><u>j</u>g target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF) \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Greater (Signed)
<code><u>j</u>ge target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF)$	Greater or Equal (Signed)
<code><u>j</u>l target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF)$	Less (Signed)
<code><u>j</u>le target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF) \mid ZF$	Less or Equal (Signed)
<code><u>j</u>a target</code>	$\sim CF \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Above (unsigned ">")
<code><u>j</u>b target</code>	CF	Below (unsigned "<")

Note: We can't define our own j* instructions. But we can simulate customizing one by "saving" flags for a compound conditional, and jumping based on that...

Use set!

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
sete <u>dst</u>	ZF	Equal / Zero
setne dst	~ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
sets dst	SF	Negative
setns dst	~SF	Nonnegative
setg dst	~(SF^OF) & ~ZF	Greater (Signed)
setge dst	~(SF^OF)	Greater or Equal (Signed)
setl dst	(SF^OF)	Less (Signed)
setle dst	(SF^OF) ZF	Less or Equal (Signed)
seta dst	~CF & ~ZF	Above (unsigned ">")
setb dst	CF	Below (unsigned "<")

same instruction
 suffixes as
 j* instructions!

Reminder: x86-64 Integer Registers

❖ Accessing the low-order byte:

<code>%rax</code>	<code>%al</code>	<code>%r8</code>	<code>%r8b</code>
<code>%rbx</code>	<code>%b1</code>	<code>%r9</code>	<code>%r9b</code>
<code>%rcx</code>	<code>%c1</code>	<code>%r10</code>	<code>%r10b</code>
<code>%rdx</code>	<code>%d1</code>	<code>%r11</code>	<code>%r11b</code>
<code>%rsi</code>	<code>%si1</code>	<code>%r12</code>	<code>%r12b</code>
<code>%rdi</code>	<code>%di1</code>	<code>%r13</code>	<code>%r13b</code>
<code>%rsp</code>	<code>%sp1</code>	<code>%r14</code>	<code>%r14b</code>
<code>%rbp</code>	<code>%bp1</code>	<code>%r15</code>	<code>%r15b</code>

Handwritten red annotations:

- An arrow points from the text `8B` to the `%al` field of the `%rax` register.
- An arrow points from the text `1B` to the `%sp1` field of the `%rsp` register.
- A long curved arrow points from the `1B` annotation to the `%r15b` field of the `%r15` register.

Reading Condition Codes

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 st argument (x)
%rsi	2 nd 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 the job”

```

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

```

```

cmpq    %rsi, %rdi    #
setg    %al           #
movzbl  %al, %eax     #
ret

```

$x - y > 0$
 $x > y$

Reading Condition Codes

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 st argument (x)
%rsi	2 nd 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 the 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*: *first set flags, then jump!*

```

addq 5, (p)
je:   *p+5 == 0
jne:  *p+5 != 0
jug: *p+5 > 0
jl:   *p+5 < 0

```

```

orq a, b
je:   b|a == 0
jne:  b|a != 0
jug:  b|a > 0
jl:   b|a < 0

```

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

```

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:    aLSB == 0
jne:   aLSB == 1

```

Choosing instructions for conditionals

$x < 3$?
 $x - 3 < 0$

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

Register	Use(s)
<u>%rdi</u>	argument x
%rsi	argument y
<u>%rax</u>	return value

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

~~cmpq \$3, %rdi~~
~~jge T2~~ if ($x - 3 \geq 0$)

T1: # $x < 3$:
 movq \$1, %rax
 ret

T2: # $!(x < 3)$:
 movq \$2, %rax
 ret

Control Flow

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

```
long max(long x, long y)
{
    long max;
    if (x > y) {
        max = x;
    } else {
        max = y;
    }
    return max;
}
```

Conditional jump

Unconditional jump

```
max:    if TRUE
        if x <= y then jump to else
        if FALSE
        movq    %rdi, %rax
        jump to done
    else:
        movq    %rsi, %rax
    done:
        ret
```

Practice Question 1

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	1 st argument (x)
%rsi	2 nd 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;
}

```

Handwritten notes for the C code:

- Red arrow from `if (x > y)` to `result = x - y;` with note $x > y \rightarrow x - y > 0$
- Red arrow from `else` to `result = y - x;` with note $x \leq y \rightarrow y - x$ and "Jump here if $x \leq y$ "

- Handwritten notes for assembly options:
- $x - y \leq 0$
 - $x - y > 0$
- Options:
- A. `cmpq %rsi, %rdi`
`jle .L4`
 - B. `cmpq %rsi, %rdi`
`jg .L4`
 - ~~C. `testq %rsi, %rdi`
`jle .L4`~~
 - ~~D. `testq %rsi, %rdi`
`jg .L4`~~
 - E. We're lost...

absdiff:

```

_____  

_____  

movq    %rdi, %rax  

subq    %rsi, %rax  

ret

```

Handwritten notes for the assembly code:

- Red arrow from `movq %rdi, %rax` to `subq %rsi, %rax` with note x
- Red arrow from `subq %rsi, %rax` to `ret` with note y
- Note $\# x > y:$
- Note `rax: x - y`

```

.L4:
movq    %rsi, %rax  

subq    %rdi, %rax  

ret

```

Handwritten notes for the assembly code:

- Red arrow from `movq %rsi, %rax` to `subq %rdi, %rax` with note y
- Red arrow from `subq %rdi, %rax` to `ret` with note x
- Note $\# x \leq y:$
- Note `rax: y - x`

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

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