

x86-64 Programming III

CSE 351 Autumn 2022

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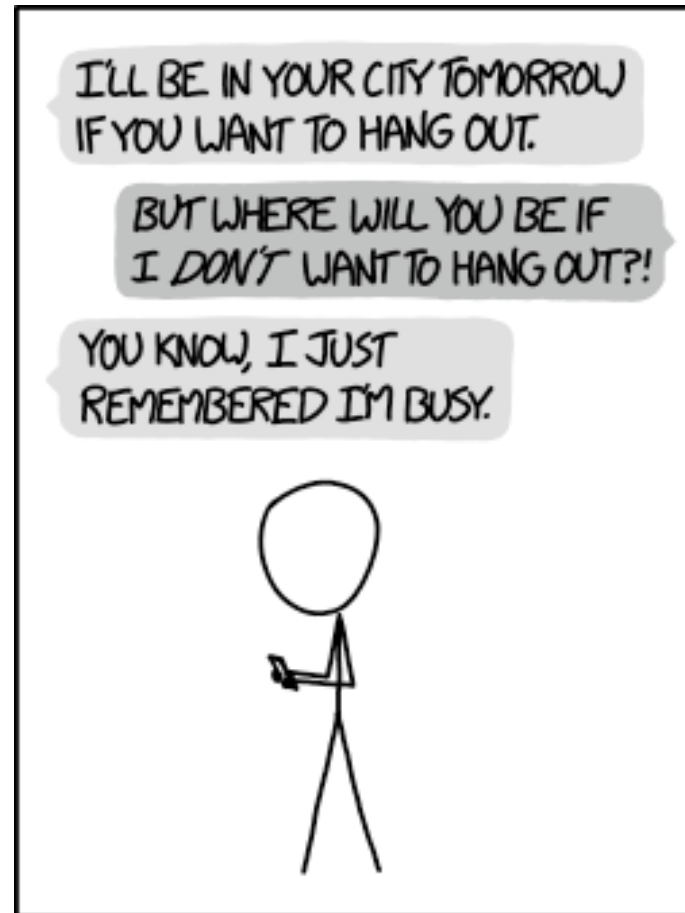
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WHY I TRY NOT TO BE
PEDANTIC ABOUT CONDITIONALS.

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

Relevant Course Information

- ❖ Lab 1a regrade requests open on Gradescope
- ❖ Lab 1b submissions close tonight
- ❖ Lab 2 due next Friday (10/28)

- ❖ Section tomorrow on Assembly
 - Use the midterm reference sheet, bring your laptop!
 - 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/movs` (Review)

`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`)

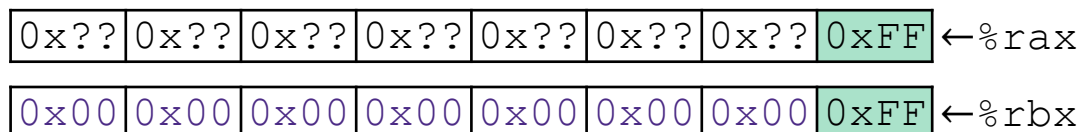
`movzSD` / `movsSD`:

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

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

Example:

`movzbq %al, %rbx`



Move extension: `movz/movs` (Review)

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`movzSD` / `movsSD`:

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

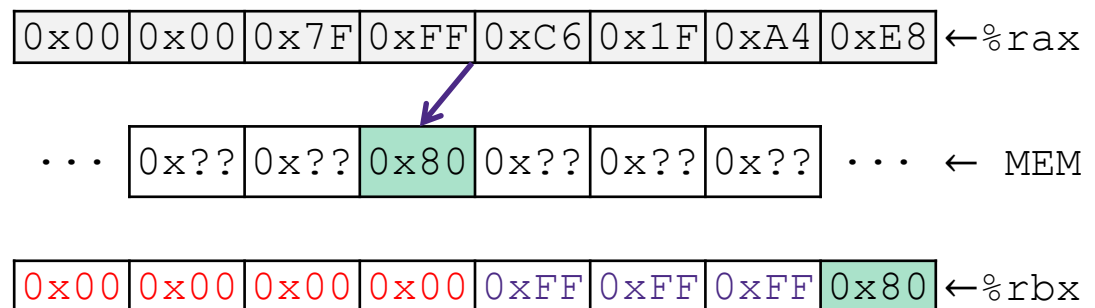
D – size of dest (**w** = 2 bytes, **l** = 4, **q** = 8)

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



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`)

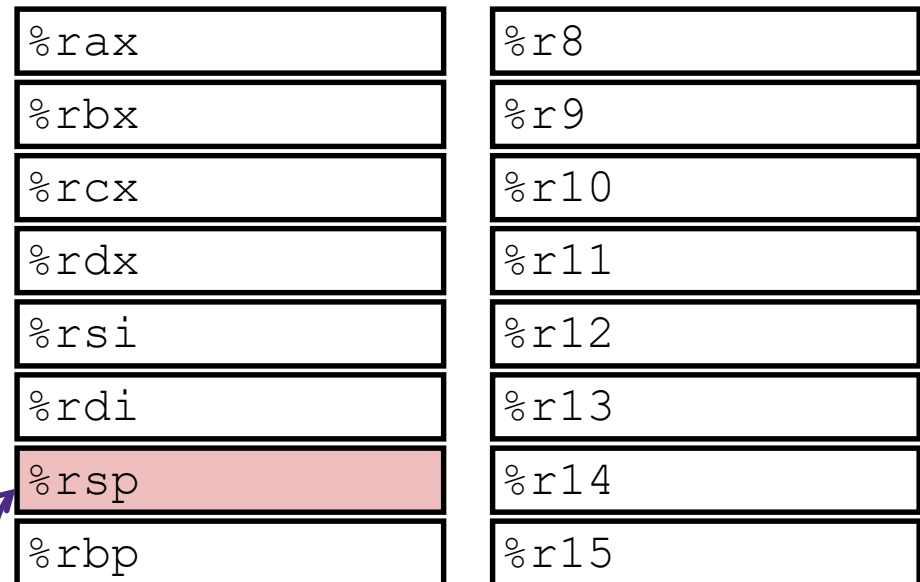
x86 Control Flow

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

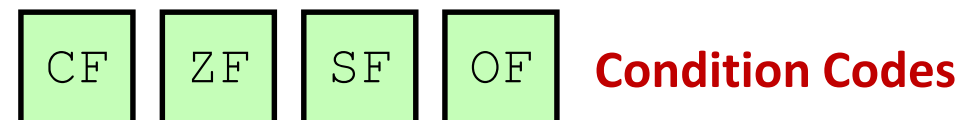
Processor State (x86-64, partial)

- ❖ 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**)
 - Single bit registers:

Registers

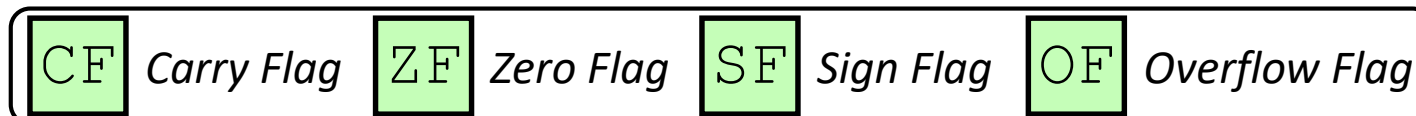


current top of the Stack



Condition Codes (Implicit, RD9)

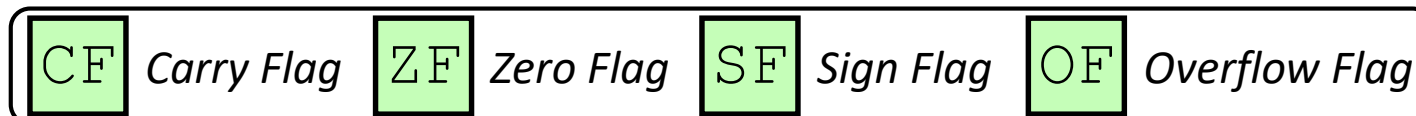
- ❖ *Implicitly* set by **arithmetic** operations
 - (think of it as side effects)
 - Example: **addq** src, dst \leftrightarrow $r = d+s$
 - **CF=1** if carry out from MSB (*unsigned* overflow)
 - **ZF=1** if $r==0$
 - **SF=1** if $r<0$ (if MSB is 1)
 - **OF=1** if *signed* overflow
($s>0 \ \&\& \ d>0 \ \&\& \ r<0$) || ($s<0 \ \&\& \ d<0 \ \&\& \ r>=0$)
 - **Not set by lea instruction (beware!)**



Condition Codes (Explicit: Compare, RD9)

❖ Explicitly set by **Compare** instruction

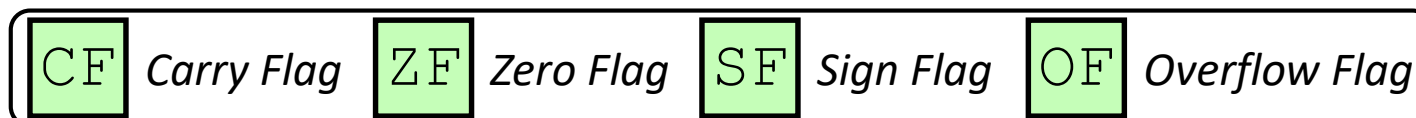
- `cmpq src1, src2`
- `cmpq a, b` sets flags based on $b-a$, but doesn't store
- **CF=1** if carry out from MSB (good for *unsigned* comparison)
- **ZF=1** if $a==b$
- **SF=1** if $(b-a) < 0$ (if MSB is 1)
- **OF=1** if *signed* overflow
 $(a > 0 \ \&\& \ b < 0 \ \&\& \ (b-a) > 0) \ ||$
 $(a < 0 \ \&\&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



Condition Codes (Explicit: Test, RD9)

❖ Explicitly set by **Test** instruction

- **testq** src2, src1
- **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**) or overflow (**OF**)
- **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`**?

Using Condition Codes: Jumping (RD9)

❖ j^* Instructions

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

Instruction	Condition	Description
<code>jmp target</code>	1	Unconditional
<code>je target</code>	ZF	Equal / Zero
<code>jne target</code>	\sim ZF	Not Equal / Not Zero
<code>js target</code>	SF	Negative
<code>jns target</code>	\sim SF	Nonnegative
<code>jg target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF) \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Greater (Signed)
<code>jge target</code>	$\sim (SF \wedge OF)$	Greater or Equal (Signed)
<code>j1 target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF)$	Less (Signed)
<code>jle target</code>	$(SF \wedge OF) \ \ ZF$	Less or Equal (Signed)
<code>ja target</code>	$\sim CF \ \& \ \sim ZF$	Above (unsigned ">")
<code>jb target</code>	CF	Below (unsigned "<")

Using Condition Codes: Setting (RD9)

❖ `set*` Instructions

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

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 "<")

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 job

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

```
cmpq    %rsi, %rdi    #
setg    %al           #
movzbl  %al, %eax     #
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*

```

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

```

```

orq a, b
je:   b|a == 0
jne:  b|a != 0
jg:   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

		cmp a,b	test a,b
je	“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 >)	$b >_U a$	$b \& a > 0U$
jb	“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:   aLSB == 0
jne:  aLSB == 1

```


Choosing instructions for conditionals

	cmp a,b	test a,b
je "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 >)	$b >_U a$	$b\&a > 0U$
jb "Below" (unsigned <)	$b <_U a$	$b\&a < 0U$

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

```

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

```

```

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

```

Practice Question 1

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

- 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...

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

absdiff:

```

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

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

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;
}
```

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

Compiling Loops (Review)

C/Java code:

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

Assembly code:

```
loopTop:    testq %rax, %rax  
            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 (Review)

While Loop:

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

x86-64:

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

loopDone:

Do-while Loop:

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

x86-64:

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

loopDone:

While Loop (ver. 2):

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

x86-64:

```

          testq %rax, %rax
          je    loopDone
loopTop:
          <loop body code>
          testq %rax, %rax
          jne  loopTop
```

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
2      .L2:   cmpl    %esi, %eax
3              jge    .L4
4      movslq  %eax, %rdx
5      leaq   (%rdi,%rdx,4), %rcx
6      movl   (%rcx), %edx
7      addl   $1, %edx
8      movl   %edx, (%rcx)
9      addl   $1, %eax
10     jmp    .L2
11     .L4:
```

for (_____ ; _____ ; _____)

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