Lecture 07
Control Flow Instructions

CS213 – Intro to Computer Systems

Branden Ghena – Winter 2025

Slides adapted from:
St-Amour, Hardavellas, Bustamente (Northwestern), Bryant, O'Hallaron (CMU), Garcia, Weaver (UC Berkeley)

Northwestern

Pack Lab due today

- About half of the class is already done (110/234)
  - Some of those might still be working on extra credit

- Remember to test on the files in `example_files/`
  - If you can correctly unpack all of those, you'll end up getting a good grade

- Remember that you have 3 slip days
  - Spending one or two here isn't the end of the world
  - You don't need to ask to use them, we'll automatically apply them instead of late penalties

- Be sure to mark your partner on Gradescope after submitting

Administrivia

- Midterm exam in 1.5 weeks
  - Class time on Thursday (February 6th)

  - Covers everything from the start of class through Procedures (all of this week)
    - Does NOT cover pointers, arrays, and structs (Tuesday lecture right before it)

  - Bring a pencil and one 8.5"x11" inch paper with notes
    - Notes can be on both sides, handwritten or typed
  - No calculators

  - Practice exams (and solutions) are on the Canvas home page
  - Also good practice: Homework 2 (due Thursday), phases 1-3 of Bomb Lab

Get started on Bomb Lab right away

- Bomb lab available later today
  - What should you do before the exam?
    - Phases 1-3 of Bomb Lab
    - They are good practice for the kinds of assembly problems I'll put on the exam

  - Phases 4-6 are harder and can honestly wait
    - We'll talk about stuff in lectures on "Procedures" and "Pointers, Arrays, and Structs" that will help with this part

- Partner survey on Piazza
  - I'll start matching people today after I release Bomb Lab

Today's Goals

- Understand converting C control flow statements to assembly
  - If, If-else, While, For, etc.

- Discuss multiple ways to represent code
  - Often an efficiency tradeoff

Outline

- **Condition Codes**

- Branching (If/Else)

- Loops (Do While, While, For)

- Conditional Move

Condition codes

- Control is mediated via *Condition codes*
  - single-bit registers that record answers to questions about values

  - E.g., Is value x greater than value y? Are they equal? Is their sum even?
  - Let's keep "question" abstract for now. We'll see the details in a bit.

  - **Terminology**:
    - a bit is *set* if it is 1
    - a bit is *cleared* (or *reset*) if it is 0

What are the condition codes?

- Condition codes on x86
  - **CF** Carry Flag (for unsigned)   **SF** Sign Flag (for signed)
  - **ZF** Zero Flag   **OF** Overflow Flag (for signed)
  - **PF** Parity Flag

  - Not an arbitrary set! By combining them, can keep track of answers to many useful questions! (We'll see exactly which in a bit.)

Explicitly Setting Condition Codes: Compare

- **`cmp{b,w,l,q}`** *`Src2, Src1`*

- **`cmpq src,dst`** computes **`t = dst-src`**, ignoring the result
  - And sets condition codes along the way, like **`subq`** would!
  - Follows the rules we saw on the previous slide for arithmetic instructions
  - **Beware the order of the `cmp` operands!**

- Use cases
  - **ZF set** if **`dst == src`**
  - **SF set** if **`(dst-src) < 0`** (as signed), i.e., src **`>`** **`dst`** in a signed comparison!
  - **CF and OF** used mostly in combinations with others (see in a few slides)

Reading Condition Codes

- Cannot read condition codes directly; instead observe via instructions
  - And generally observe **combinations** of condition codes, not individual ones

- Example: the `setX` family of instructions
  - Write single-byte destination register based on combinations of condition codes
    - `set{e, ne, s, …} D`   where D is a 1-byte register
    - Example: `sete %al`
      - means: `%al`=1 if flag ZF is set, `%al`=0 otherwise

Condition codes combinations

Suffix	Description	Condition
e	Equal / Zero	ZF
ne	Not Equal / Not Zero	~ZF
s	Negative	SF
ns	Nonnegative	~SF
g	Greater (Signed)	~(SF^OF)&~ZF
ge	Greater or Equal (Signed)	~(SF^OF)
l	Less (Signed)	(SF^OF)
le	Less or Equal (Signed)	(SF^OF)|ZF
a	Above (unsigned)	~CF&~ZF
b	Below (unsigned)	CF

Note: suffixes do not indicate operand sizes, but rather conditions

These same suffixes will come back when we see other instructions that read condition codes.

Expect to be run after a `cmp`

What do you need to know?

- 90%+ of the time
  - `cmp` instruction followed by `setX` instruction (or a branch, next lecture)
  - Don't have to think about condition codes at all!
  - Think of as `dst X src`
    - `dst <= src`   or   `dst != src`   etc.

- 10% or less of the time
  - Arbitrary arithmetic instruction sets the condition codes
    - Or `testq` sets the condition codes
  - Followed by a `setX` or branch (next section)
  - And you actually have to think about which condition codes are set to figure out what the assembly is doing, which can be challenging

Break + Practice

- `set`**X** asks the question: "Is destination **X** source?"
  - Usually condition codes from "`cmp source, destination`"
  - Don't have to care about the exact values of the condition codes though
    - Just understand the logic

`%sil = 0x01`

`%dil = 0xF0`

`cmp %sil, %dil`
`seta  %al`
`sete  %al`
`setge %al`

SetX	Description
`set`**e**	Equal / Zero
`set`**ne**	Not Equal / Not Zero
`set`**s**	Negative
`set`**ns**	Nonnegative
`set`**g**	Greater (Signed)
`set`**ge**	Greater or Equal (Signed)
`set`**l**	Less (Signed)
`set`**le**	Less or Equal (Signed)
`set`**a**	Above (unsigned)
`set`**b**	Below (unsigned)

Break + Practice

- `set`**x** asks the question: "Is destination **X** source?"
  - Usually condition codes from "`cmp source, destination`"
  - Don't have to care about the exact values of the condition codes though
    - Just understand the logic

`%sil = 0x01`

`%dil = 0xF0`

`cmp %sil, %dil`

TRUE `seta  %al` # is `%dil` ABOVE `%sil` (unsigned)

FALSE `sete  %al` # is `%dil` EQUAL to `%sil`

FALSE `setge %al` # is `%dil` GREATER or EQUAL to `%sil` (signed)

Outline

- Condition Codes

- **Branching (If/Else)**

- Loops (Do While, While, For)

- Conditional Move

What can instructions do?

- Move data: ✓
- Arithmetic: ✓
- **Transfer control**
    - Instead of executing next instruction, go somewhere else

```
if (x > y)
    result = x-y;
else
    result = y-x;
```
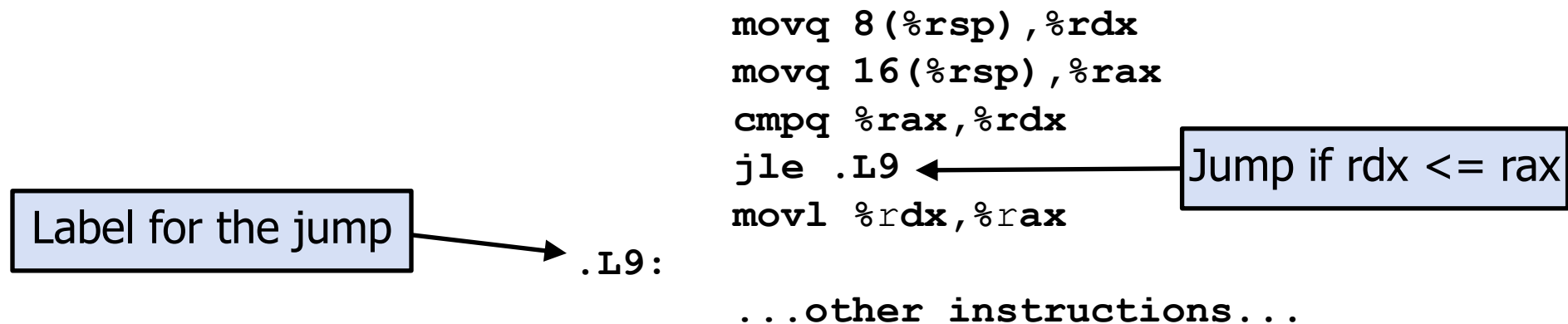
```
while (x > y)
    result = x-y;
return result;
```

- Sometimes we want to go from the red code to the green code
- But the blue code is what's next!
- Need to transfer control! Execute an instruction that is not the next one
- And *conditionally*, too! (i.e., based on a condition)

Breaking with sequential execution

- "Normal" execution follows instructions in listed (sequential) order

- To move to a different location – jump
    - Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes
    - Destination of a jump – label: particular address at which we find code
    - Label addresses are determined when generating the object code

```
movq 8(%rsp),%rdx
movq 16(%rsp),%rax
cmpq %rax,%rdx
jle .L9
movl %rdx,%rax

.L9:

...other instructions...
```

Jump if rdx <= rax

Label for the jump

Jumping

- `jX` Instructions
  - Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

  - **jmp** has two options
    - **Direct**: to a label (literal address)

    - **Indirect**: based on a register

    - Direct is by far the most common

jX	Condition	Description
jmp	1	**Unconditional**
je	ZF	**Equal / Zero**
jne	~ZF	**Not Equal / Not Zero**
js	SF	**Negative**
jns	~SF	**Nonnegative**
jg	~(SF^OF)&~ZF	**Greater (Signed)**
jge	~(SF^OF)	**Greater or Equal (Signed)**
jl	(SF^OF)	**Less (Signed)**
jle	(SF^OF)|ZF	**Less or Equal (Signed)**
ja	~CF&~ZF	**Above (unsigned)**
jae	~CF	**Above or Equal (unsigned)**
jb	CF	**Below (unsigned)**
...	...	…

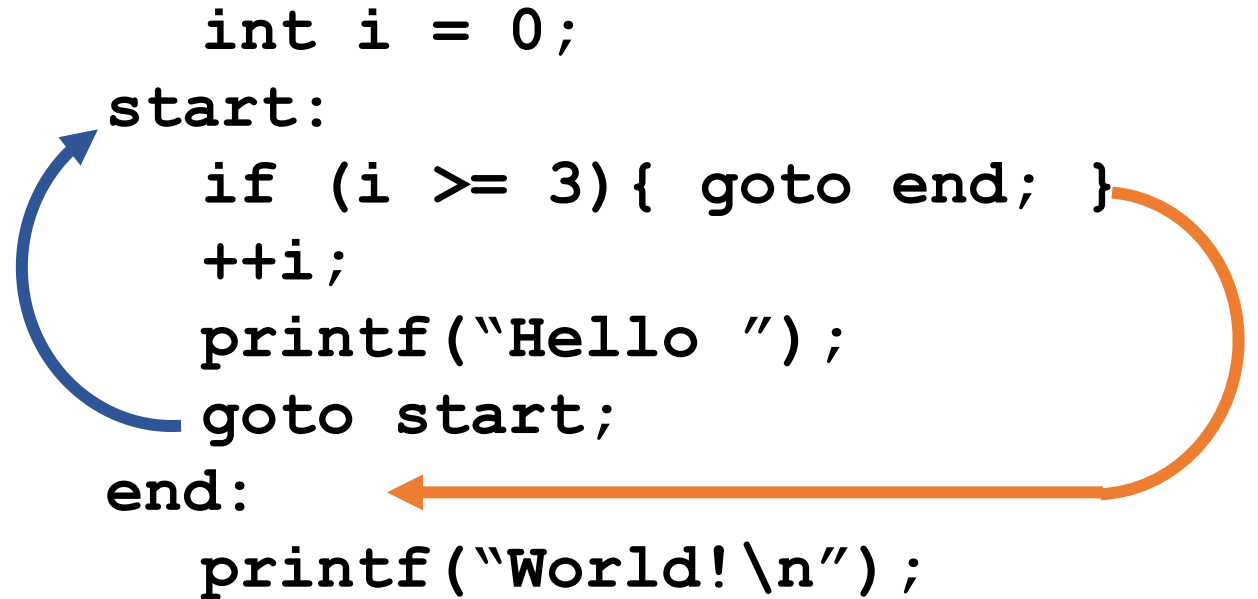Documentation on all jump instructions: https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/X86_Assembly/Control_Flow

Key idea: building C constructs with assembly

- Jump will let us build the flow control statements in C
  - If, While, For, Switch, etc.

- But the translation isn't always obvious
  - Might switch ordering, or negate the logical condition
  - Maintains the same result when it runs, but easier for assembly

- Steps
  1. Transform C into something simpler (closer to assembly)
  2. Transform simpler C into assembly

The "something simpler" is `goto`

- C allows **`goto`** as means of transferring control
  - Closer to machine-level programming style

  - Place labels wherever you want in code
  - Goto "jumps" to the referenced label

- Generally considered bad programming style
  - Makes it really difficult to understand what code is doing

```
        int i = 0;
start:
        if (i >= 3){ goto end; }
        ++i;
        printf("Hello ");
        goto start;
end:
        printf("World!\n");
```

Prints:
"Hello Hello Hello World!\n"

Conditional Branch Example

```
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;
}
```

- Translate an if statement into a "simpler" goto statement
  - Makes the if statement closer to machine code because goto can translate to jumps

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq    %rsi, %rdi    # cmp x:y
    jle     .L2           # x <= y
    movq    %rdi, %rax
    subq    %rsi, %rax
    jmp     .L3
.L2:                      # jle target
    movq    %rsi, %rax
    subq    %rdi, %rax
.L3:
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq     %rsi, %rdi   # cmp x:y
    jle      .L2          # x <= y
    movq     %rdi, %rax
    subq     %rsi, %rax
    jmp      .L3
.L2:                      # jle target
    movq     %rsi, %rax
    subq     %rdi, %rax
.L3:
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq     %rsi, %rdi   # cmp x:y
    jle      .L2          # x <= y
➡️  movq     %rdi, %rax
➡️  subq     %rsi, %rax
    jmp      .L3
.L2:                      # jle target
    movq     %rsi, %rax
    subq     %rdi, %rax
.L3:
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq      %rsi, %rdi   # cmp x:y
    jle       .L2          # x <= y
    movq      %rdi, %rax
    subq      %rsi, %rax
    jmp       .L3
.L2:                       # jle target
    movq      %rsi, %rax
    subq      %rdi, %rax
.L3:
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq    %rsi, %rdi   # cmp x:y
    jle     .L2          # x <= y
    movq    %rdi, %rax
    subq    %rsi, %rax
    jmp     .L3
.L2:                     # jle target
    movq    %rsi, %rax
    subq    %rdi, %rax
.L3:
    ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

Conditional Branch Example

Goto Version

```
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;
}
```

Asm Version

```
absdiff:
    cmpq      %rsi, %rdi   # cmp x:y
    jle       .L2          # x <= y
    movq      %rdi, %rax
    subq      %rsi, %rax
    jmp       .L3
.L2:                       # jle target
    movq      %rsi, %rax
    subq      %rdi, %rax
.L3:
 → ret
```

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rsi`	Argument y
`%rax`	Return value

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General "if-then-else" translation

C Code

```
if (test-expr)
    then-statement
else
    else-statement
```

```
ntest = !(test-expr);
if (ntest){
    goto Else;
}
then-statement;
goto done;
Else:
    else-statement;
done:
```

- *test-expr* is an expression returning integer
  - = 0 interpreted as false, ≠0 interpreted as true

- Only one of the two statements is executed
  - i.e. only one of the two *branches* of code

- That's one translation; there are others
  - E.g., flipping the order of the blocks instead of flipping the test

- Conditional expressions (`x ? y : z`) can use the same translation

If statement - bigger example

```
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

If statement - bigger example

$a \rightarrow \text{\%rdi}, b \rightarrow \text{\%rsi}, c \rightarrow \text{\%rax}$

```c
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```asm
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jle elif           # !(a > b)
    movq $1, %rax
    jmp end
elif:
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jge else           # !(a < b)
    movq $-1, %rax
    jmp end
else:
    movq $0, %rax
end:
    ret                # returns %rax
```

If statement - bigger example

$a \rightarrow \%rdi, b \rightarrow \%rsi, c \rightarrow \%rax$

```
long test(long a, long b){
  long c;
  if (a > b) {
    c = 1;
  } else if (a < b) {
    c = -1;
  } else {
    c = 0;
  }
  return c;
}
```

```
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jle elif        # !(a > b)
    movq $1, %rax
    jmp end
elif:
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jge else        # !(a < b)
    movq $-1, %rax
    jmp end
else:
    movq $0, %rax
end:
    ret             # returns %rax
```

If statement - bigger example

$a \rightarrow \%rdi, b \rightarrow \%rsi, c \rightarrow \%rax$

```
long test(long a, long b){
  long c;
  if (a > b) {
    c = 1;
  } else if (a < b) {
    c = -1;
  } else {
    c = 0;
  }
  return c;
}
```

```
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jle elif          # !(a > b)
    movq $1, %rax
    jmp end
elif:
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jge else          # !(a < b)
    movq $-1, %rax
    jmp end
else:
    movq $0, %rax
end:
    ret               # returns %rax
```

If statement - bigger example

$a \rightarrow \texttt{\%rdi}, b \rightarrow \texttt{\%rsi}, c \rightarrow \texttt{\%rax}$

```
long test(long a, long b){
  long c;
  if (a > b) {
    c = 1;
  } else if (a < b) {
    c = -1;
  } else {
    c = 0;
  }
  return c;
}
```

```
      cmp %rsi, %rdi
      jle elif          # !(a > b)
      movq $1, %rax
      jmp end
elif:
      cmp %rsi, %rdi
      jge else          # !(a < b)
      movq $-1, %rax
      jmp end
else:
      movq $0, %rax
end:
      ret               # returns %rax
```

If statement - bigger example

```c
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```
        cmp %rsi, %rdi
        jle elif          # !(a > b)
        movq $1, %rax
        jmp end
elif:
        cmp %rsi, %rdi    # unnecessary
        jge else          # !(a < b)
        movq $-1, %rax
        jmp end
else:
        movq $0, %rax
end:
        ret               # returns %rax
```

Break + Optimization (O1)

$a \rightarrow \%rdi, b \rightarrow \%rsi, c \rightarrow \%rax$

```
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```
    movq $1, %rax
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jg end
    setl %al
    movzbq %al, %rax
    neg %rax
end:
    ret              # returns %rax
```

What is the yellow code block doing above?

Break + Optimization (O1)

$a \rightarrow \%rdi, b \rightarrow \%rsi, c \rightarrow \%rax$

```
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```
    movq $1, %rax
    cmp %rsi, %rdi
    jg end
    setl %al
    movzbq %al, %rax
    neg %rax
end:
    ret              # returns %rax
```

else if and else together

What is the yellow code block doing above?
Generates 0 (not less) or -1 (less)

Indirect jump

- `jmp *0x40000(%rdi, %rdx, 8)`
  - Calculate memory address: `0x40000 + %rdi + 8*%rdx`
  - Then load value from that memory address
  - Jump to *that* value

- Indirect jumps jump to the address loaded from memory
  - Essentially a function pointer
  - Or used for a Jump Table: efficient switch statements (see bonus slides)

- The `*` lets you know that something tricky is going on
  - Displacement could be a label rather than a value

Outline

- Condition Codes

- Branching (If/Else)

- **Loops (Do While, While, For)**

- Conditional Move

Loops

- C provides different looping constructs
  - `while, do … while, for`

- No corresponding instruction in machine code

- Most compilers
  1. Transform general loops into `do … while`

```
do
    body-statement
while (test-expr);
```

Do-while:
Same idea as a while loop, but the body always runs at least once

  2. Rewrite that with goto
  3. Then compile them into machine code

"Do-While" Loop Example

- Running example: count number of 1s in x ("popcount")
  - We'll write it with different kinds of loops
  - What the body of the loop does is not our focus; we'll just ignore it

C Code

```
long pcount_do
  (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  do {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  } while (x);
  return result;
}
```

"Do-While" Loop Compilation

- Step 1: translate do-while into a gotos
- Use conditional branch to either continue looping or to exit loop

C Code

```
long pcount_do
  (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  do {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  } while (x);
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
  (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if (x) {goto loop;}
  return result;
}
```

"Do-While" assembly translation

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rax`	result

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
   (unsigned long x) {
   long result = 0;
loop:
   result += x & 0x1;
   x >>= 1;
   if (x) {goto loop;}
   return result;
}
```

```
        movq      $0,%rax       #  result = 0
.L2:                            # loop:
        movq      %rdi,%rdx
        andq      $1,%rdx       #  t = x & 0x1
        addq      %rdx,%rax     #  result += t
        shrq      %rdi          #  x >>= 1
        jne       .L2           #  if (x) goto loop
        rep; ret
```

"Do-While" assembly translation

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rax`	result

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
  (unsigned long x) {
  long result = 0;
loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if (x) {goto loop;}
  return result;
}
```

```
        movq    $0,%rax      #  result = 0
.L2:                         # loop:
        movq    %rdi,%rdx
        andq    $1,%rdx      #  t = x & 0x1
        addq    %rdx,%rax    #  result += t
        shrq    %rdi         #  x >>= 1
        jne     .L2          #  if (x) goto loop
        rep; ret
```

Which instruction sets the condition codes for `jne`?

Logical shift right (`shrq`)
    – the test is whether the result is 0 or not

"Do-While" assembly translation

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rax`	result

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
   (unsigned long x) {
   long result = 0;
loop:
   result += x & 0x1;
   x >>= 1;
   if (x) {goto loop;}
   return result;
}
```

```
        movq    $0,%rax     #  result = 0
.L2:                        # loop:
        movq    %rdi,%rdx
        andq    $1,%rdx     #  t = x & 0x1
        addq    %rdx,%rax   #  result += t
        shrq    %rdi        #  x >>= 1
        jne     .L2         #  if (x) goto loop
        rep; ret
```

- `rep` instruction repeats string operations following it **What?!!**

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"Do-While" assembly translation

Register	Use(s)
`%rdi`	Argument x
`%rax`	result

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto
   (unsigned long x) {
   long result = 0;
 loop:
   result += x & 0x1;
   x >>= 1;
   if (x) {goto loop;}
   return result;
}
```

```
        movq    $0,%rax     #  result = 0
.L2:                        # loop:
        movq    %rdi,%rdx
        andq    $1,%rdx     #  t = x & 0x1
        addq    %rdx,%rax   #  result += t
        shrq    %rdi        #  x >>= 1
        jne     .L2         #  if (x) goto loop
        rep; ret
```

- **rep** instruction repeats string operations following it **What?!!**

- **rep; ret** uses **rep** as a no-op (a.k.a nop, an operation that does nothing)
  - Example of a compiler optimization that you might run into in real assembly code
  - AMD recommends this to speed up execution when there is a jump before a return
  - See CE361 and CE452 for more details (Computer Architecture courses)

General "Do-While" Translation

- Body: {
    Statement$_1$;
    Statement$_2$;
    …
    Statement$_n$;
}

C Code

```
do
    Body
    while (Test);
```

Goto Version

```
loop:
    Body
    if (Test){
        goto loop
    }
```

- Test returns integer
  - = 0 interpreted as false
  - ≠ 0 interpreted as true

General "While" Translation #1

- "Jump-to-middle" translation
- Most straightforward match to how "while" works

Goto Version

```
   goto test;
loop:
    Body
test:
    if (Test){
       goto loop;
    }
```

While version

```
while (Test){
    Body
}
```

While Loop Example #1

C Code

```
long pcount_while
   (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  while (x) {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Jump to Middle

```
long pcount_goto_jtm
   (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  goto test;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
 test:
  if(x) {goto loop;}
  return result;
}
```

- Initial goto starts loop at test

Comparing while to do-while

While with goto (jump to middle)

```
long pcount_while_goto_jtm
   (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  goto test;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
 test:
  if(x) {goto loop;}
  return result;
}
```

Do While with goto

```
long pcount_dowhile_goto
   (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;

 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;

  if (x) {goto loop;}
  return result;
}
```
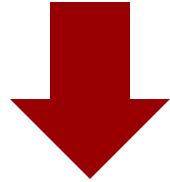
General "While" Translation #2

While version

```
while (Test)
    Body
```

- "Do-while" conversion
- More optimized compiler translation

Do-While Version

```
if (!Test)
    goto done;
do
    Body
    while(Test);
done:
```

Goto Version

```
    if (!Test)
        goto done;
loop:
    Body
    if (Test)
        goto loop;
done:
```

"While" Loop Example #2

C Code

```
long pcount_while
    (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  while (x) {
    result += x & 0x1;
    x >>= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
long pcount_goto_dw
    (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  if (!x) {goto done;}
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
  if(x) {goto loop;}
 done:
  return result;
}
```

- Initial conditional guards entrance to loop

Comparing jump-to-middle and guarded-do-while

While with goto (jump to middle)

```
long pcount_while_goto_jtm
  (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  goto test;
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;
 test:
  if(x) {goto loop;}

  return result;
}
```

While with goto (guarded do-while)

```
long pcount_goto_dw
  (unsigned long x)
{
  long result = 0;
  if (!x) {goto done;}
 loop:
  result += x & 0x1;
  x >>= 1;

  if(x) {goto loop;}
 done:
  return result;
}
```

"For" Loop Form

General Form

```
for (Init; Test; Update)

    Body
```

Init

```
i = 0
```

Test

```
i < WSIZE
```

Update

```
i++
```

Body

```
{
  unsigned bit = (x >> i) & 0x1;
  result += bit;
}
```

```c
#define WSIZE 8*sizeof(int)
long pcount_for
  (unsigned long x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < WSIZE; i++)
  {
    unsigned bit = (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  return result;
}
```

"For"→ "While" → "Do-While" → "Goto"

For Version

```
for (Init; Test; Update)
    Body
```
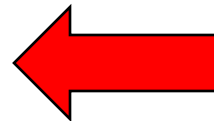
While Version

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

Do-While Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
do {
    Body
    Update;
} while (Test)
done:
```

Goto Version

```
Init;
if (!Test)
    goto done;
loop:
    Body
    Update;
    if (Test)
        goto loop;
done:
```

"For" Loop Conversion Example

C Code

```
#define WSIZE 8*sizeof(int)
long pcount_for(unsigned x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < WSIZE; i++) {
    unsigned bit =
        (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Goto Version

```
#define WSIZE 8*sizeof(int)
long pcount_for_gt(unsigned x)
{
  size_t i;
  long result = 0;
  i = 0;          Init
  if (!(i < WSIZE))
    goto done;          ! Test
 loop:
  {                    Body
    unsigned bit =
        (x >> i) & 0x1;
    result += bit;
  }
  i++;        Update
  if (i < WSIZE)
    goto loop;      Test
 done:
  return result;
}
```

Break + Assembly to loop

What does this function do?

```
my_function:        # %rdi is argument1

    mov $0, %rax

    mov $0, %rbx

    test %rdi, %rdi

    je end

loop:

    add %rbx, %rax

    add $1, %rbx

    cmp %rdi, %rbx

    jne loop

end:

    ret                 # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
my_function:          # %rdi is argument1
   mov $0, %rax       # clear variables
   mov $0, %rbx
   test %rdi, %rdi
   je end             # skip loop if %rdi is 0
loop:
   add %rbx, %rax
   add $1, %rbx
   cmp %rdi, %rbx
   jne loop
end:
   ret                # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
my_function:           # %rdi is argument1

    mov $0, %rax       # clear variables

    mov $0, %rbx

    test %rdi, %rdi

    je end             # skip loop if %rdi is 0

loop:

    add %rbx, %rax

    add $1, %rbx

    cmp %rdi, %rbx

    jne loop

end:

    ret                # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
my_function:              # %rdi is argument1

    mov $0, %rax          # clear variables

    mov $0, %rbx

    test %rdi, %rdi

    je end                # skip loop if %rdi is 0

loop:

    add %rbx, %rax   # %rax += %rbx

    add $1, %rbx     # %rbx += 1

    cmp %rdi, %rbx

    jne loop

end:

    ret                   # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
my_function:           # %rdi is argument1

   mov $0, %rax        # clear variables

   mov $0, %rbx

   test %rdi, %rdi

   je end              # skip loop if %rdi is 0

loop:

   add %rbx, %rax      # %rax += %rbx

   add $1, %rbx        # %rbx += 1

   cmp %rdi, %rbx

   jne loop            # while %rbx != %rdi

end:

   ret                 # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
long my_function(long rdi) {
  long rax = 0;
  long rbx = 0;

  while (rbx != rdi) {
    rax += rbx;
    rbx += 1;
  }

  return rax;
}
```

```
my_function:         # %rdi is argument1

    mov $0, %rax     # clear variables

    mov $0, %rbx

    test %rdi, %rdi

    je end           # skip loop if %rdi is 0
loop:

    add %rbx, %rax   # %rax += %rbx

    add $1, %rbx     # %rbx += 1

    cmp %rdi, %rbx

    jne loop         # while %rbx != %rdi
end:

    ret              # returns %rax
```

Assembly to loop

```
long my_function(long rdi) {
  long rax = 0;
  long rbx = 0;

  while (rbx != rdi) {
    rax += rbx;
    rbx += 1;
  }

  return rax;
}
```

```
long my_function(long max) {
    long result = 0;
    for (long i=0; i<max; i++){
        result += i;
    }

    return result;
}
```

```
my_function:            # %rdi is argument1

   mov $0, %rax        # clear variables

   mov $0, %rbx

   test %rdi, %rdi

   je end              # skip loop if %rdi is 0
loop:

   add %rbx, %rax      # %rax += %rbx

   add $1, %rbx        # %rbx += 1

   cmp %rdi, %rbx

   jne loop            # while %rbx != %rdi
end:

   ret                 # returns %rax
```

Outline

- Condition Codes

- Branching (If/Else)

- Loops (Do While, While, For)

- **Conditional Move**

The Problem with Conditional Jumps

- Conditional jumps = conditional *transfer of control*
  - i.e., forget what you thought you were going to do, do this other thing instead

- Modern processors like to do work "ahead of time"
  - Keywords: ***pipelining, branch prediction, speculative execution***
  - Transfer of control may mean throwing that work away
    - That's inefficient

- Solution: conditional *moves*
  - We still get to do something conditionally
  - But no transfer of control necessary
  - "Ahead of time" work can always be kept

Conditional Moves

cmovX	Description
cmove S, D	equal / Zero
cmovne S, D	not equal / Not zero
cmovs S, D	negative
cmovns S, D	nonnegative
cmovg S, D	greater (Signed)
cmovge S, D	greater or equal (Signed)
cmovl S, D	less (Signed)
cmovle S, D	less or equal (Signed)
cmova S, D	above (Unsigned)
cmovae S, D	above or equal (Unsigned)
cmovb S, D	below (Unsigned)
cmovbe S, D	below or equal (Unsigned)

D ← S only if test condition is true

Conditional Move Example

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

Register	Use(s)
%rdi	Argument x
%rsi	Argument y
%rax	Return value

```
absdiff:
    movq     %rdi, %rax  # res = x
    subq     %rsi, %rax  # res = x-y
    movq     %rsi, %rdx
    subq     %rdi, %rdx  # alt = y-x
    cmpq     %rsi, %rdi  # cmp x:y
    cmovle   %rdx, %rax  # if x<=y, res = alt
    ret
```

Look Ma, no branching!

Must compute both results, though, which is not always possible or desirable…

Bad Cases for Conditional Move

Expensive Computations

```
val = Test(x) ? Hard1(x) : Hard2(x);
```

- Both values get computed

- Only makes sense when computations are very simple

Risky Computations

```
val = p ? *p : 0;
```

- A `cmov` requires that both values get computed

- Could trigger a fault (compiler must use jumps instead)

Computations with side effects

```
val = x > 0 ? x++ : x--;
```

- Both values get computed

- Needs use extra temporary registers to hold intermediate results

If, else if, else – optimized (O3) $a \rightarrow \%rdi, b \rightarrow \%rsi, c \rightarrow \%rax$

```
long test(long a, long b){
    long c;
    if (a > b) {
        c = 1;
    } else if (a < b) {
        c = -1;
    } else {
        c = 0;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```
movq $0, %rax      # clear reg
cmp %rsi, %rdi
movq $1, %rdx
setl %al                      else if and else
                              together
neg %rax                      (%al is %rax)
cmp %rsi, %rdi
cmovg %rdx, %rax   select output
ret                # returns %rax
```

Outline

- Condition Codes

- Branching (If/Else)

- Loops (Do While, While, For)

- Conditional Move

- Bonus Slides
  - Switch Statements and Jump Tables

Switch statements

- A multi-way branching capability based on the value of an integer
- Useful when many possible outcomes
- Switch cases
  - Fall through cases:
    - Here 1
  - Missing cases:
    - Here 3, 4, 5, 6
  - Multiple case labels:
    - Here 7 & 8

- Easier to read C code and more efficient implementation with jump tables

```
long switch_fun
 (long x, long y, long z, long w) {
  switch(x) {
  case 0:
      w += y;
      break;
  case 1:
      w -= y;
      /* FALL THROUGH */
  case 2:
      w += z;
      break;
/* MISSING CASES */
  case 7:
  case 8: /* MULTIPLE CASES */
      w -= z;
      break;
  default:
      w = 2;
      break;
  }
  w += 5;
  return w;
}
```

Target code blocks

```
case 0:
    w += y;
    break;
case 1:
    w -= y;
    /* FALL THROUGH */
case 2:
    w += z;
    break;
case 7:
case 8: /* MULTIPLE CASES */
    w -= z;
    break;
default:
    w = 2;
    break;
```

One code block per case!

```
.L7:                        # case 0
    addq    %rsi, %rcx
    jmp     .L2             # break

.L6:                        # case 1
    subq    %rsi, %rcx
    # FALL THROUGH
.L5:                        # case 2
    addq    %rdx, %rcx
    jmp     .L2             # break

.L3:                        # cases 7 and 8
    subq    %rdx, %rcx
    jmp     .L2             # break

.L8:                        # default
    movl    $2, %ecx
    jmp     .L2             # break

.L2:
    ...
```

%rdi	Argument x
%rsi	Argument y
%rdx	Argument z
%rcx	Argument w
%rax	Return value

break becomes a jump to after the **switch**(**.L2**)!

Jump tables

- Definition: An array where entry i is the address of the code segment to run when the switch variable equals i
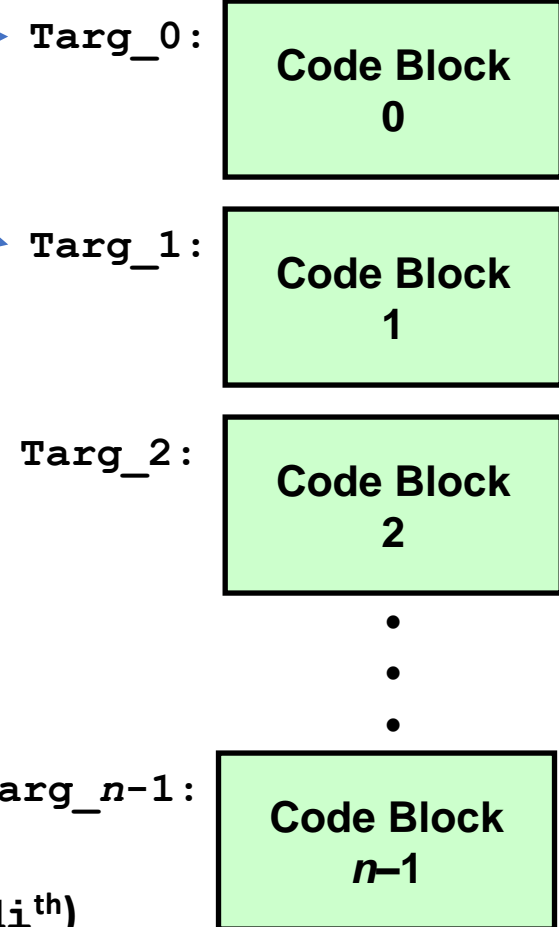
Switch statement

```
switch(x) {
  case 0:
    Block 0
  case 1:
    Block 1
    • • •
  case n-1:
    Block n–1
}
```

Jump table (data in memory)

jtab:

Targ_0	0
Targ_1	8
Targ_2	16
•	
•	
•	
Targ_n-1	(n-1)*8

Jump targets (code in memory)

Targ_0:
Code Block 0

Targ_1:
Code Block 1

Targ_2:
Code Block 2

•
•
•

Targ_n-1:
Code Block n–1

Approx. translation:

```
target = jtab[x];
goto *target;
```

- Register `%rdi` holds the switch variable `x`
- `jtab` is the address of the jump table

Q1: which *table entry* holds the *address* of the next instruction? **The xth (or %rdi^th)**

Q2: what is the memory address *of that entry*? **jtab + %rdi*8**

Q3: what is the address *of the next instruction* to execute? **M[jtab + %rdi*8]**

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Jump table for our example

Jump table
(addresses of code blocks)

At address .L4, store a quad word of data, then another, then another…

These quad words are the addresses of each of these code blocks.

```
.L4:
    .quad    .L7
    .quad    .L6
    .quad    .L5
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L3
    .quad    .L3
```

```
case 0:
    w += y;
    break;
case 1:
    w -= y;
    /* FALL THROUGH */
case 2:
    w += z;
    break;
case 7:
case 8: /* MULTIPLE CASES */
    w -= z;
    break;
default:
    w = 2;
    break;
```

Jump table

jtab:	
	Targ_0
	Targ_1
	Targ_2
	•
	•
	•
	Targ_n-1

Jump targets

Targ_0:   Code Blk 0

Targ_1:   Code Blk 1

•
•
•

Targ_n-1:   Code Blk n-1

Putting it all Together

```
long switch_fun (...)
{
    switch(x) {
        // cases 0,1,2,7,8
        //    and default
    }
    w += 5;
    return w;
}
```

%rdi	Argument x
%rsi	Argument y
%rdx	Argument z
%rcx	Argument w
%rax	Return value

```
.L4:
    .quad    .L7 # x=0
    .quad    .L6 # x=1
    .quad    .L5 # x=2
    .quad    .L8 # x=3
    .quad    .L8 # x=4
    .quad    .L8 # x=5
    .quad    .L8 # x=6
    .quad    .L3 # x=7
    .quad    .L3 # x=8
```

```
switch_fun:
    cmpq     $8, %rdi          # compare x to 8
    ja       .L8              # above 8 (outside table!) -> default
    jmp      *.L4(,%rdi,8)    # goto *Jtab[x], a.k.a M[.L4 + x*8]
                              # * means an indirect jump (like derference)
```

Indirect jump: look up address in memory; jump there

Full assembly code for our example

```
long switch_fun
 (long x, long y, long z, long w) {
  switch(x) {
  case 0:
      w += y;
      break;
  case 1:
      w -= y;
      /* FALL THROUGH */
  case 2:
      w += z;
      break;
  /* MISSING CASES */
  case 7:
  case 8: /* MULTIPLE CASES */
      w -= z;
      break;
  default:
      w = 2;
      break;
  }
  w += 5;
  return w;
}
```

```
switch_fun:
    cmpq     $8, %rdi
    ja       .L8
    jmp      *.L4(,%rdi,8)
.L4:
    .quad    .L7
    .quad    .L6
    .quad    .L5
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L8
    .quad    .L3
    .quad    .L3
.L7:
    addq     %rsi, %rcx
    jmp      .L2
```

```
.L6:
    subq     %rsi, %rcx
    # FALL THROUGH
.L5:
    addq     %rdx, %rcx
    jmp      .L2
.L3:
    subq     %rdx, %rcx
    jmp      .L2
.L8:
    movl     $2, %ecx
    jmp      .L2
.L2:
    leaq     5(%rcx), %rax
    ret
```
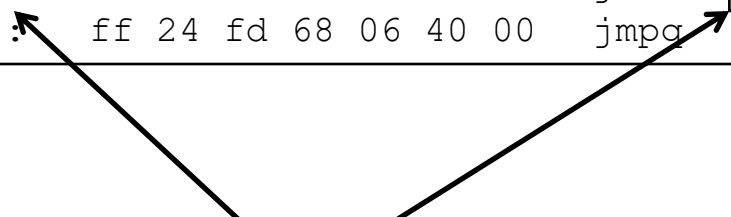
Another Jump Table Example: starting with assembly

- QUIZ: find the address of the jump table and code blocks
  - **linux> objdump -d prog**
  - The jump table starts at address `0x400668`
  - The **default** code block is at address `0x40055c`

```
0000000000400528 <switch_eg>:
 400528:    48 89 d1              mov     %rdx,%rcx
 40052b:    48 83 ff 06           cmp     $0x6,%rdi
 40052f:    77 2b                 ja      40055c <switch_eg+0x34>
 400531:    ff 24 fd 68 06 40 00  jmpq    *0x400668(,%rdi,8)
```

Note: these are hex values (memory addresses for instructions)
objdump does not put 0x in front of instruction addresses when it disassembles

How would you find the address of the other code blocks?

Object code: Jump Table

- Jump table
  - Doesn't show up in disassembled code
  - Can inspect using GDB: examine data starting at address `0x400668`

`gdb prog`

`(gdb) x/7xg 0x400668`

- Examine **7** he**x**adecimal format "**g**iant words" (8-bytes each)
- Use command "`help x`" to get format documentation

```
0x400668:
    0x000000000040055c
    0x0000000000400538
    0x0000000000400540
    0x000000000040054a
    0x000000000040055c
    0x0000000000400553
    0x0000000000400553
```

Jump table

jtab:

Targ 0
Targ 1
Targ 2
•
•
•
Targ_n–1

Jump targets

Targ_0: Code Blk 0

Targ_1: Code Blk 1

•
•
•

Targ_n-1: Code Blk n–1

How can you see the code for each one of the target code blocks?
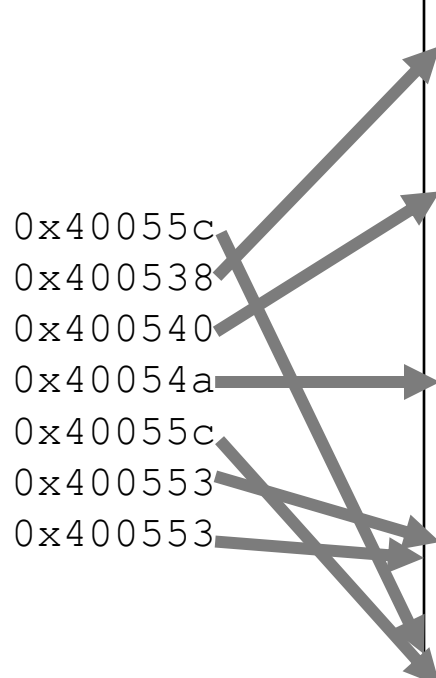
Object code: Disassemble targets

```
400538: 48 89 f0            mov   %rsi,%rax
40053b: 48 0f af c2         imul  %rdx,%rax
40053f: c3                  retq
400540: 48 89 f0            mov   %rsi,%rax
400543: 48 99               cqto
400545: 48 f7 f9            idiv  %rcx
400548: eb 05               jmp   40054f <switch_eg+0x27>
40054a: b8 01 00 00 00      mov   $0x1,%eax
40054f: 48 01 c8            add   %rcx,%rax
400552: c3                  retq
400553: b8 01 00 00 00      mov   $0x1,%eax
400558: 48 29 d0            sub   %rdx,%rax
40055b: c3                  retq
40055c: b8 02 00 00 00      mov   $0x2,%eax
400561: c3                  retq
```

0x40055c
0x400538
0x400540
0x40054a
0x40055c
0x400553
0x400553

```
.section    .rodata
  .align 8
.L4:
  .quad    .L8 # x = 0
  .quad    .L3 # x = 1
  .quad    .L5 # x = 2
  .quad    .L9 # x = 3
  .quad    .L8 # x = 4
  .quad    .L7 # x = 5
  .quad    .L7 # x = 6
```

```
linux> gdb prog
(gdb) disassemble 0x400538,0x400562
```

Object code: Disassemble targets
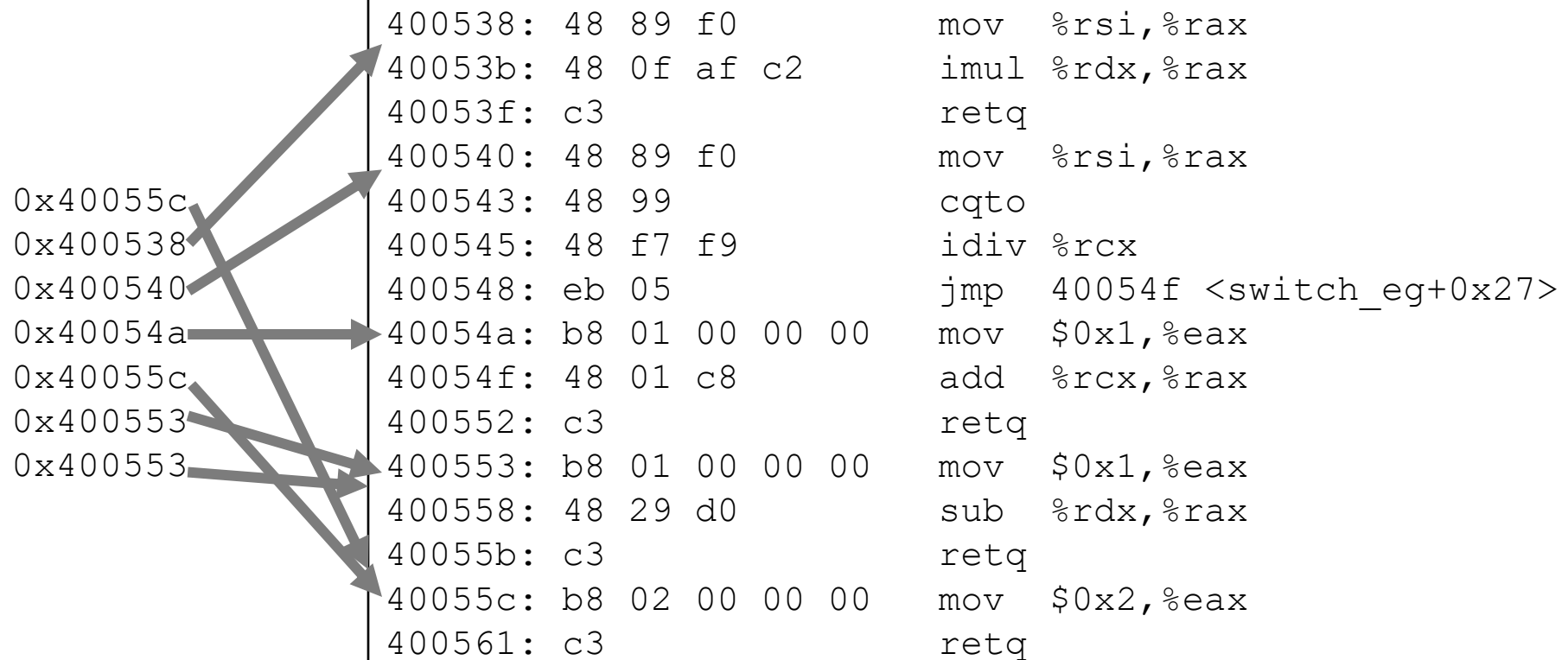
```
400538: 48 89 f0            mov  %rsi,%rax
40053b: 48 0f af c2         imul %rdx,%rax
40053f: c3                  retq
400540: 48 89 f0            mov  %rsi,%rax
400543: 48 99               cqto
400545: 48 f7 f9            idiv %rcx
400548: eb 05               jmp  40054f <switch_eg+0x27>
40054a: b8 01 00 00 00      mov  $0x1,%eax
40054f: 48 01 c8            add  %rcx,%rax
400552: c3                  retq
400553: b8 01 00 00 00      mov  $0x1,%eax
400558: 48 29 d0            sub  %rdx,%rax
40055b: c3                  retq
40055c: b8 02 00 00 00      mov  $0x2,%eax
400561: c3                  retq
```

0x40055c
0x400538
0x400540
0x40054a
0x40055c
0x400553
0x400553

```
long w = 1;
switch(x) {
    case 1:          /* .L3 */
        w = y * x;
        break;
    case 2:          /* .L5 */
        w = y/z;
        /* fall through */
    case 3:          /* .L9 */
        w += z;
        break;
```

```
......

case 5:
    case 6:          /* .L7 */
        w -= z;
        break;
    default:         /* .L8 */
        w = 2;
    }
```

Object code: Memory View

0x400528:   switch_eg

. . .   . . .

0x400538:   Code Block 1

0x400540:   Code Block 2

0x400548:   Code Block 2   Code Block 3

0x400550:   Code Block 3   Code Block 5,6

0x400558:   Code Block 5,6   Default Code Block

0x400560:   def. c.b.

. . .   . . .

0x400668:   0x40055c

0x400670:   0x400538

0x400678:   0x400540

0x400680:   0x40054a

0x400688:   0x40055c

0x400690:   0x400553

0x400698:   0x400553

increasing memory addresses

Case code blocks

Jump table