Assembly Programming I

CSE 351 Spring 2017

Instructor:

Ruth Anderson

Teaching Assistants:

Dylan Johnson

Kevin Bi

Linxing Preston Jiang

Cody Ohlsen

Yufang Sun

Joshua Curtis

Administrivia

- Lab 1 due Friday (4/14)
  - Prelim submission (3+ of `bits.c`) due on TONIGHT (4/10). Turn in whatever you have at that time (drop box closes at 11:59pm), no lates. Worth a small part (no more than 10%) of total points for lab 1.
- Homework 2 due next Wednesday (4/19)

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:

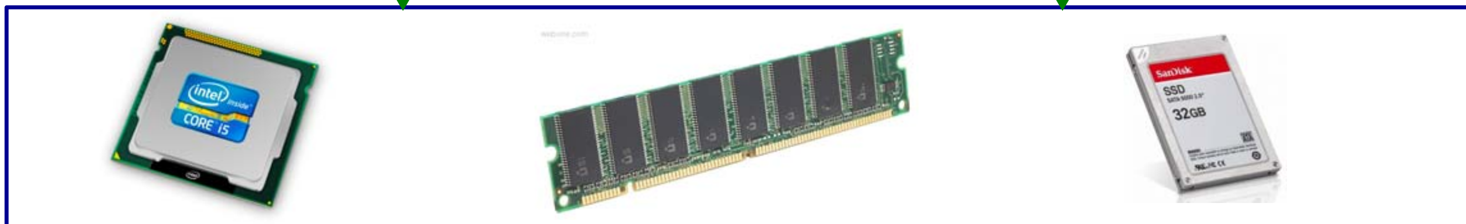
```
get_mpg:
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    ...
    popq    %rbp
    ret
```

Machine code:

```
0111010000011000
100011010000010000000010
1000100111000010
110000011111101000011111
```

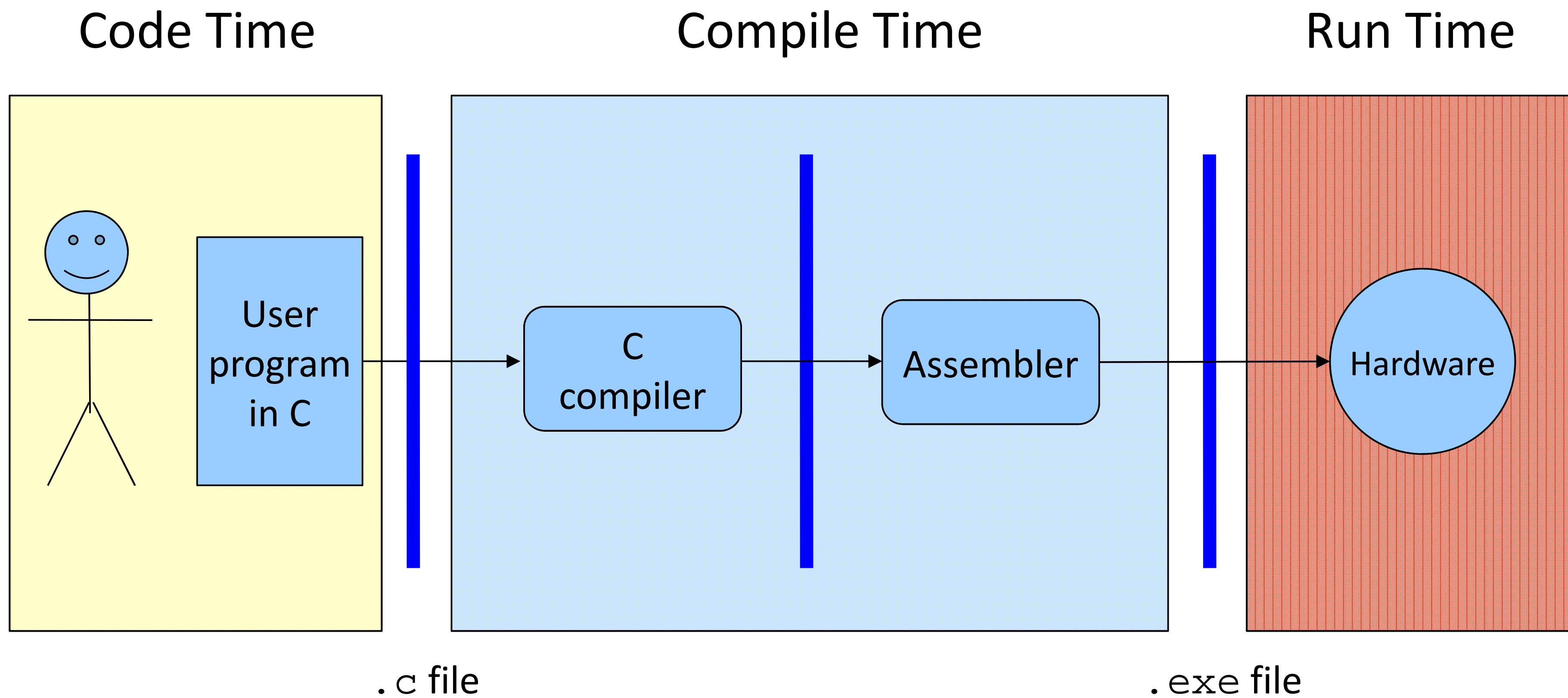
OS:

Computer system:



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

Translation



What makes programs run fast(er)?

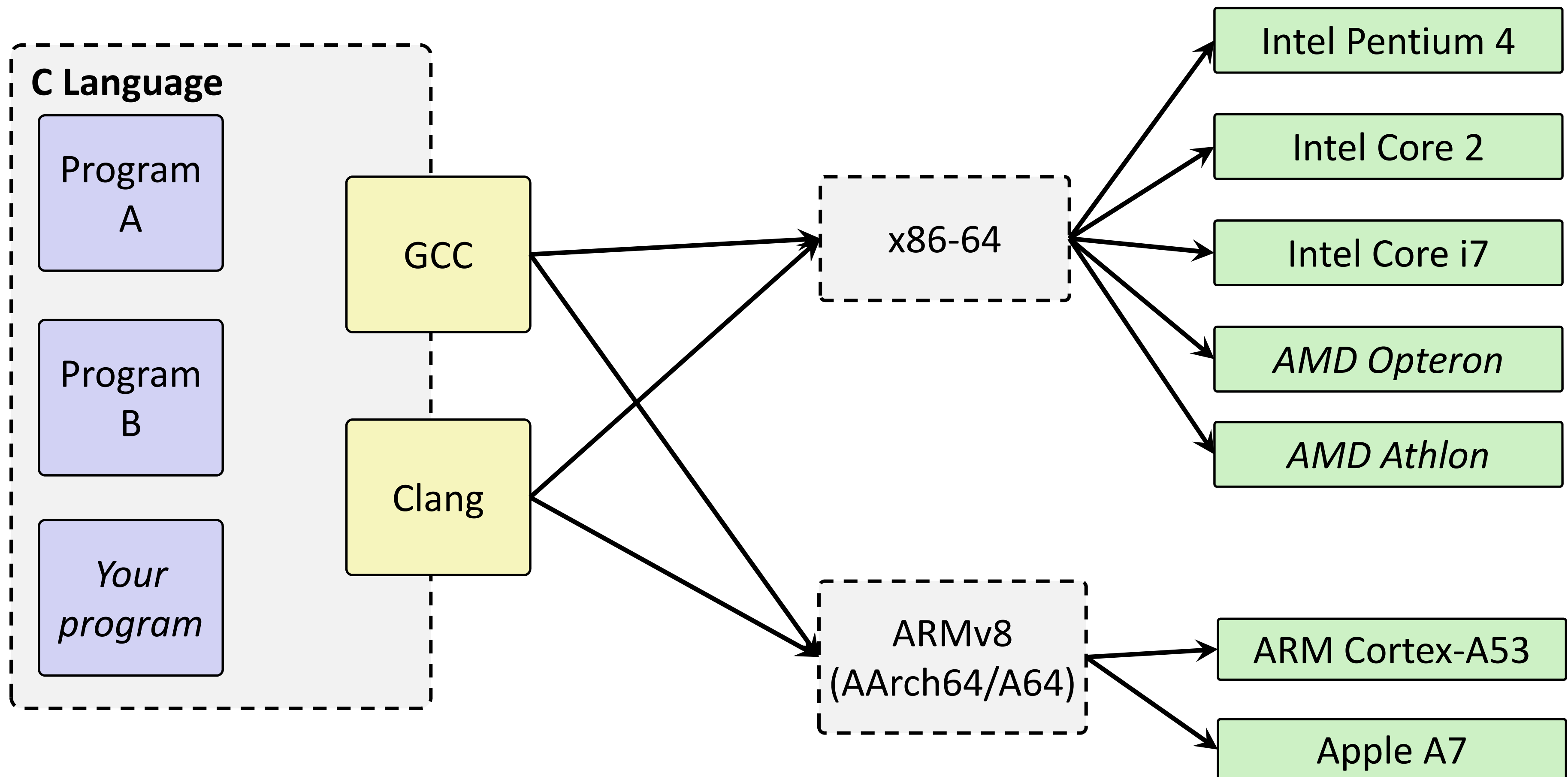
HW Interface Affects Performance

Source code
Different applications or algorithms

Compiler
Perform optimizations, generate instructions

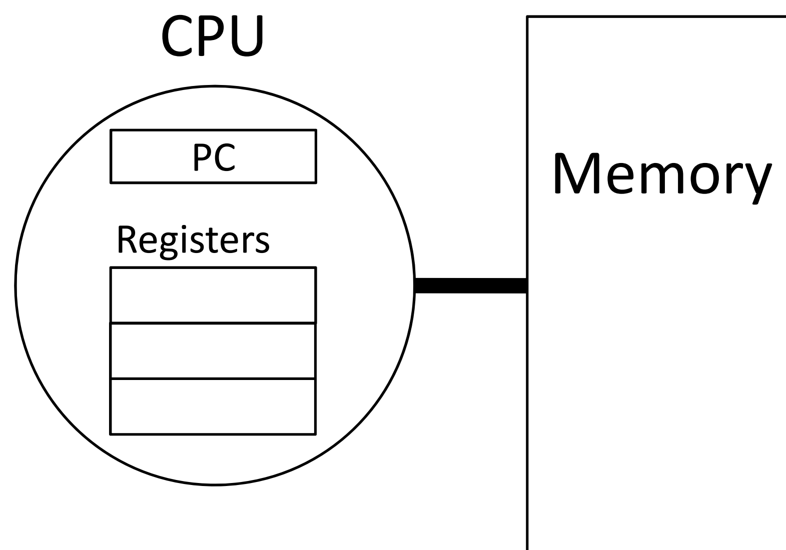
Architecture
Instruction set

Hardware
Different implementations



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

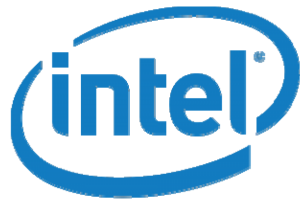
General ISA Design Decisions

- 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?

General ISA Design Decisions

- Instructions
  - What instructions are available? What do they do?
  - How are they encoded? Instructions are data!
- Registers
  - How many registers are there?
  - How wide are they? Size of a word
- Memory
  - How do you specify a memory location? Different ways to build up an address

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

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

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)

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

MIPS

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

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

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

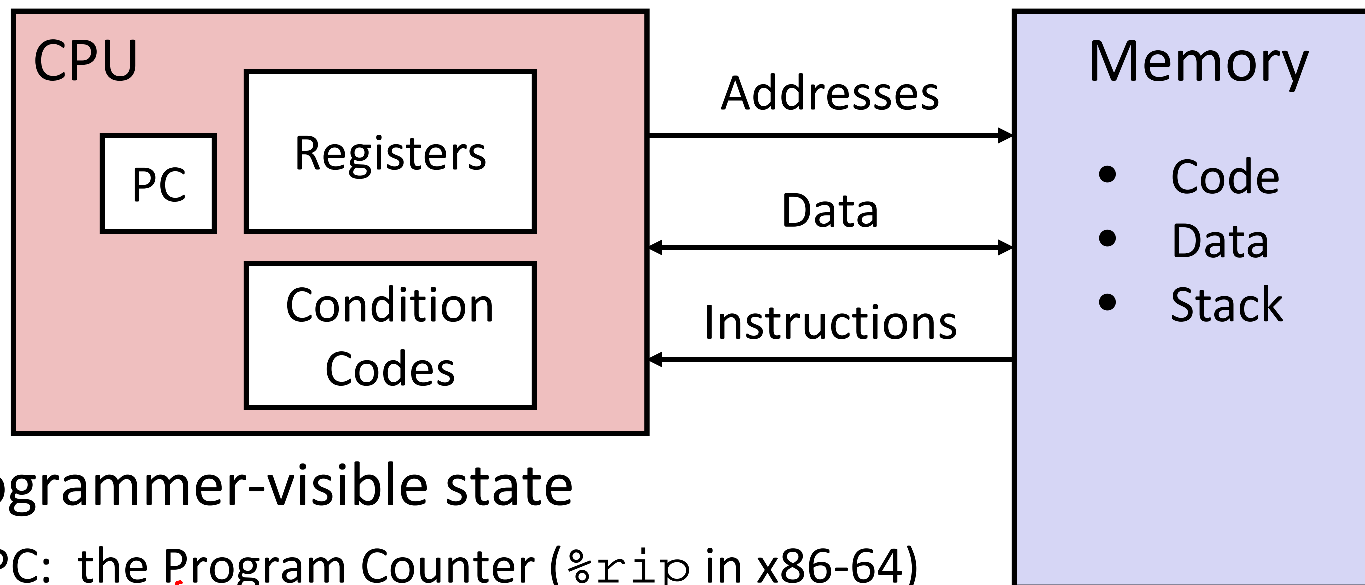
- Are the following part of the architecture?
  - Number of registers?
  - How about CPU frequency?
  - Cache size? Memory size?

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? Yes
  - How about CPU frequency? No
  - Cache size? Memory size? No

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)

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, …)
- 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

Not covered In CSE 351

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`)

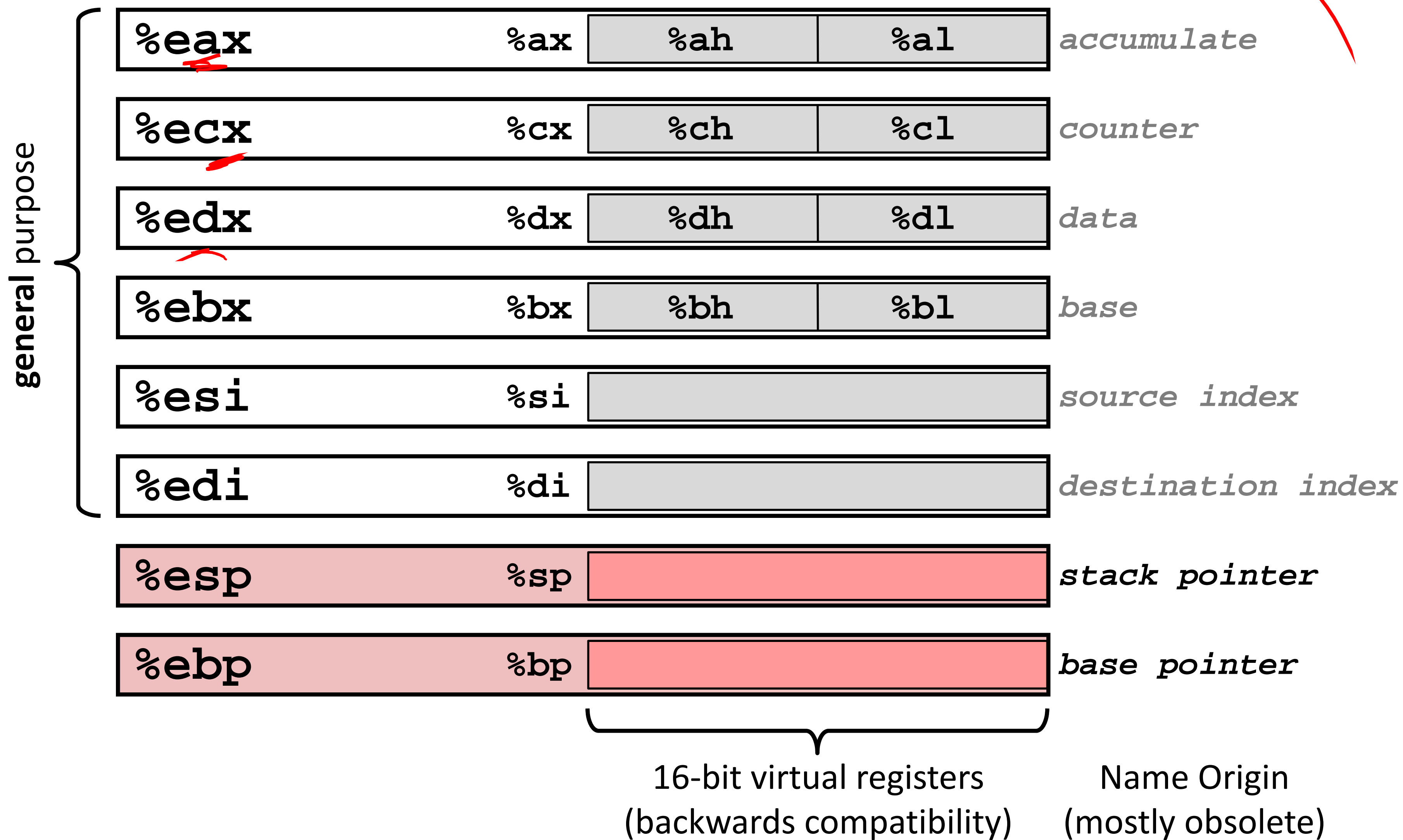
- Registers are at the heart of assembly programming
  - They are a precious commodity in all architectures, but *especially* x86

x86-64 Integer Registers – 64 bits wide

%rax	%eax	%r8	%r8d
%rbx	%ebx	%r9	%r9d
%rcx	%ecx	%r10	%r10d
%rdx	%edx	%r11	%r11d
%rsi	%esi	%r12	%r12d
%rdi	%edi	%r13	%r13d
%rsp	%esp	%r14	%r14d
%rbp	%ebp	%r15	%r15d

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

Some History: IA32 Registers – 32 bits wide



Memory vs. Registers

- Addresses **vs.** Names
  - `0x7FFFD024C3DC` `%rdi`
- Big **vs.** Small
  - ~ 8 GiB (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

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

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"

`%rax`
`%rcx`
`%rdx`
`%rbx`
`%rsi`
`%rdi`
`%rsp`
`%rbp`

`%rN`

Moving Data

- General form: `mov_ source, destination`
  - Missing letter (_) specifies size of operands
  - Note that due to backwards-compatible support for 8086 programs (16-bit machines!), “word” means 16 bits = 2 bytes in x86 instruction names
  - Lots of these in typical code

- `movb src, dst`
  - Move 1-byte “**b**yte”
- `movw src, dst`
  - Move 2-byte “**w**ord”
- `movl src, dst`
  - Move 4-byte “**l**ong word”
- `movq src, dst`
  - Move 8-byte “**q**uad word”

`movq` Operand Combinations

	Source	Dest	Src, Dest	C Analog
movq	Imm	Reg	`movq $0x4, %rax`	`var_a = 0x4;`
		Mem	`movq $-147, (%rax)`	`*p_a = -147;`
	Reg	Reg	`movq %rax, %rdx`	`var_d = var_a;`
		Mem	`movq %rax, (%rdx)`	`*p_d = var_a;`
	Mem	Reg	`movq (%rax), %rdx`	`var_d = *p_a;`

- *Cannot do memory-memory transfer with a single instruction*
  - How would you do it?

Question

- Which of the following statements is TRUE?
  - **A. For `float f`, `(f+2 == f+1+1)` always returns TRUE**
  - **B. The width of a "word" is part of a system's *architecture* (as opposed to *microarchitecture*)**
  - **C. Having more registers increases the performance of the hardware, but decreases the performance of the software**
  - **D. Mem to Mem (src to dst) is the only disallowed operand combination in x86-64**

Sounds true, but cannot move anything to an Immediate either :)

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
- 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