

# 15-213

*"The course that gives CMU its Zip!"*

## Machine-Level Programming II: Control Flow Sept. 09, 2008

### Topics

- Condition Codes
  - Setting
  - Testing
- Control Flow
  - If-then-else
  - Varieties of Loops
  - Switch Statements
- x86-64 features
  - conditional move
  - different loop implementation

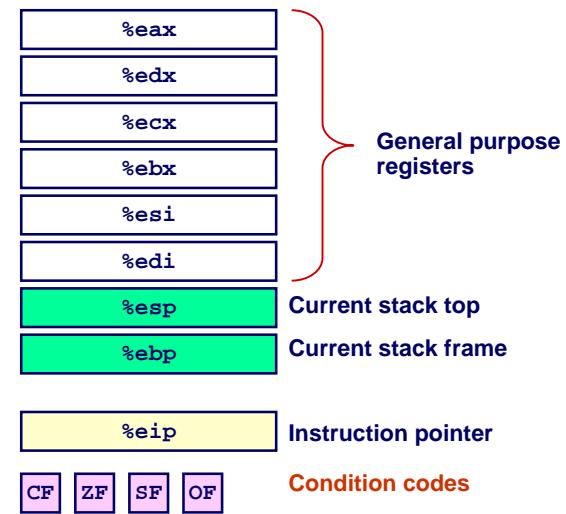
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## Processor State (IA32, Partial)

Information  
about  
currently  
executing  
program

- Temporary data
- Location of current code control point
- Location of runtime stack
- Status of recent tests



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## Condition Codes

### Single Bit Registers

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

### Implicitly Set By Arithmetic Operations

addl Src, Dest	addq Src, Dest
C analog: t = a + b	(a = Src, b = Dest)
■ CF set if carry out from most significant bit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Used to detect unsigned overflow</li></ul>	
■ ZF set if t == 0	
■ SF set if t < 0	
■ OF set if two's complement overflow <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● (a&gt;0 &amp;&amp; b&lt;0 &amp;&amp; (a-b)&lt;0)    (a&lt;0 &amp;&amp; b&gt;0 &amp;&amp; (a-b)&gt;0)</li></ul>	

### Not set by lea, inc, or dec instructions

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## Setting Condition Codes (cont.)

### Explicit Setting by Compare Instruction

cmp1 Src2,Src1      cmpq Src2,Src1

- cmp1 b,a like computing a-b without setting destination
- CF set if carry out from most significant bit
  - Used for unsigned comparisons
- ZF set if a == b
- SF set if (a-b) < 0
- OF set if two's complement overflow
  - (a>0 && b<0 && (a-b)<0) || (a<0 && b>0 && (a-b)>0)

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# Setting Condition Codes (cont.)

## Explicit Setting by Test instruction

```
testl Src2,Src1  
testq Src2,Src1
```

- Sets condition codes based on value of Src1 & Src2
  - Useful to have one of the operands be a mask
- testl b,a like computing a&b without setting destination
- ZF set when a&b == 0
- SF set when a&b < 0

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# Reading Condition Codes

## SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes

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

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# Reading Condition Codes (Cont.)

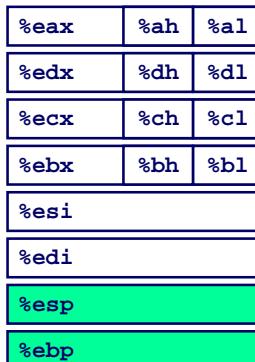
## SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes
- One of 8 addressable byte registers
  - Embedded within first 4 integer registers
  - Does not alter remaining 3 bytes
  - Typically use movzbl to finish job

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

### Body

```
movl 12(%ebp),%eax # eax = y  
cmpb %eax,8(%ebp) # Compare x : y ←  
setg %al # al = x > y  
movzbl %al,%eax # Zero rest of %eax
```



Note  
inverted  
ordering!

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# Reading condition codes: x86-64

## SetX Instructions

- Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes
  - Does not alter remaining 7 bytes

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

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

### x86-64 arguments

- x in %rdi
- y in %rsi

### Body (same for both)

(32-bit instructions set high order 32 bits to 0)

```
xorl %eax, %eax # eax = 0  
cmpq %rsi, %rdi # Compare x : y  
setg %al # al = x > y
```

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# Jumping

## jX Instructions

- Jump to different part of code depending on condition codes

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)
jb	CF	Below (unsigned)

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# Conditional Branch Example

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

```
absdiff:
    pushl %ebp
    movl %esp, %ebp
    movl 8(%ebp), %edx
    movl 12(%ebp), %eax
    cmpl %eax, %edx
    jle .L7
    subl %eax, %edx
    movl %edx, %eax
.L8:
    leave
    ret
.L7:
    subl %edx, %eax
    jmp .L8
```

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## Conditional Branch Example (Cont.)

```
int goto_ad(int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x<=y) goto Else;
    result = x-y;
Exit:
    return result;
Else:
    result = y-x;
    goto Exit;
}
```

- C allows “goto” as means of transferring control
  - Closer to machine-level programming style
- Generally considered bad coding style

```
# x in %edx, y in %eax
cmpb %eax, %edx    # Compare x:y
jle .L7             # <= Goto Else
subb %eax, %edx    # x-= y
movb %edx, %eax    # result = x
.L8: # Exit:
```

Body1

Body2

```
.L7: # Else:
    subb %edx, %eax    # result = y-x
    jmp .L8             # Goto Exit
```

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# General Conditional Expression Translation

## C Code

```
val = Test ? Then-Expr : Else-Expr;
```

```
val = x>y ? x-y : y-x;
```

## Goto Version

```
nt = !Test;
if (nt) goto Else;
val = Then-Expr;
Done:
    ...
Else:
    val = Else-Expr;
    goto Done;
```

- Test is expression returning integer  
= 0 interpreted as false  
≠ 0 interpreted as true
- Create separate code regions for then & else expressions
- Execute appropriate one

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## Conditionals: x86-64

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

```
absdiff: # x in %edi, y in %esi
    movl %edi, %eax # v = x
    movl %esi, %edx # ve = y
    subl %esi, %eax # v -= y
    subl %edi, %edx # ve -= x
    cmpl %esi, %edi # x:y
    cmovle %edx, %eax # v=ve if <=
    ret
```

- Conditional move instruction
  - `cmoveC src, dest`
  - Move value from src to dest if condition c holds
  - More efficient than conditional branching
    - » Simple & predictable control flow

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## General Form with Conditional Move

### C Code

```
val = Test ? Then-Expr ? Else-Expr;
```

- Both values get computed
- Overwrite then-value with else-value if condition doesn't hold

### Conditional Move Version

```
val = Then-Expr;
vale = Else-Expr;
val = vale if !Test;
```

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## Limitations of Conditional Move

```
val = Then-Expr;
vale = Else-Expr;
val = vale if !Test;
```

```
int xgty = 0, xltey = 0;

int absdiff_se(
    int x, int y)
{
    int result;
    if (x > y) {
        xgty++; result = x-y;
    } else {
        xltey++; result = y-x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

### Don't use when:

- Then-Expr or Else-Expr has side effect
- Then-Expr or Else-Expr requires significant computation

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## Implementing Loops

### IA32

- All loops translated into form based on “do-while”

### x86-64

- Also make use of “jump to middle”

### Why the Difference

- IA32 compiler developed for machine where all operations costly
- x86-64 compiler developed for machine where unconditional branches incur (almost) no overhead

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## “Do-While” Loop Example

### C Code

```
int fact_do(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    do {
        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    } while (x > 1);

    return result;
}
```

### Goto Version

```
int fact_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;
    return result;
}
```

- Use backward branch to continue looping
- Only take branch when “while” condition holds

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## “Do-While” Loop Compilation

### Registers

%edx	x
%eax	result

### Goto Version

```
int
fact_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;

loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;

    return result;
}
```

### Assembly

```
fact_goto:
    pushl %ebp          # Setup
    movl %esp,%ebp      # Setup
    movl $1,%eax         # eax = 1
    movl 8(%ebp),%edx   # edx = x

L11:
    imull %edx,%eax     # result *= x
    decl %edx            # x--
    cmpl $1,%edx         # Compare x : 1
    jg L11               # if > goto loop

    movl %ebp,%esp        # Finish
    popl %ebp             # Finish
    ret                  # Finish
```

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## General “Do-While” Translation

### C Code

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

### Goto Version

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

- Body can be any C statement
- Typically compound statement:

```
{ Statement1;
  Statement2;
  ...
  Statementn;
}
```

- Test is expression returning integer  
= 0 interpreted as false ≠ 0 interpreted as true

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## “While” Loop Example #1

### C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {

        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    };

    return result;
}
```

### First Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
loop:
    if (!(x > 1))
        goto done;
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    goto loop;
done:
    return result;
}
```

- Is this code equivalent to the do-while version?
- Must jump out of loop if test fails

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## Alternative “While” Loop Translation

### C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {
        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    };
    return result;
}
```

- Historically used by GCC
- Uses same inner loop as do-while version
- Guards loop entry with extra test

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### Second Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto2(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    if (!(x > 1))
        goto done;
loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;
done:
    return result;
}
```

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## General “While” Translation

### C Code

```
while (Test)
    Body
```



### 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:
```

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## New Style “While” Loop Translation

### C Code

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {
        result *= x;
        x = x-1;
    };
    return result;
}
```

- Recent technique for GCC
  - Both IA32 & x86-64
- First iteration jumps over body computation within loop

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### Goto Version

```
int fact_while_goto3(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    goto middle;
loop:
    result *= x;
    x = x-1;
middle:
    if (x > 1)
        goto loop;
    return result;
}
```

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## Jump-to-Middle While Translation

### C Code

```
while (Test)
    Body
```



### Goto Version

```
goto middle;
loop:
    Body
middle:
    if (Test)
        goto loop;
```

- Avoids duplicating test code
- Unconditional goto incurs no performance penalty
- for loops compiled in similar fashion

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## Jump-to-Middle Example

```
int fact_while(int x)
{
    int result = 1;
    while (x > 1) {
        result *= x;
        x--;
    };
    return result;
}
```

- Most common strategy for recent IA32 & x86-64 code generation

```
# x in %edx, result in %eax
jmp L34      # goto Middle
L35:          # Loop:
imull %edx, %eax #   result *= x
decl %edx      #   x--
L34:          # Middle:
cmpl $1, %edx #   x:1
jg L35        #   if >, goto Loop
```

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## “For” Loop Example

```
/* Compute x raised to nonnegative power p */
int
ipwr_for(int x, unsigned p)
{
    int result;
    for (result = 1; p != 0; p = p>>1) {
        if (p & 0x1)
            result *= x;
        x = x*x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

### Algorithm

- Exploit property that  $p = p_0 + 2p_1 + 4p_2 + \dots + 2^{n-1}p_{n-1}$
- Gives:  $x^p = z_0 \cdot z_1^2 \cdot (z_2^2)^2 \cdot \dots \cdot (\underbrace{\dots \cdot ((z_{n-1}^2)^2) \dots}_\text{n-1 times})^2$
- Complexity  $O(\log p)$

**Example**  

$$3^{10} = 3^2 * 3^8$$

$$= 3^2 * ((3^2)^2)^2$$

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## ipwr Computation

```
/* Compute x raised to nonnegative power p */
int
ipwr_for(int x, unsigned p)
{
    int result;
    for (result = 1; p != 0; p = p>>1) {
        if (p & 0x1)
            result *= x;
        x = x*x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

result	x	p
1	3	10
1	9	5
9	81	2
9	6561	1
531441	43046721	0

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## “For” Loop Example

```
int result;
for (result = 1;
     p != 0;
     p = p>>1)
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

### General Form

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

**Init**

result = 1

**Test**

p != 0

**Update**

p = p >> 1

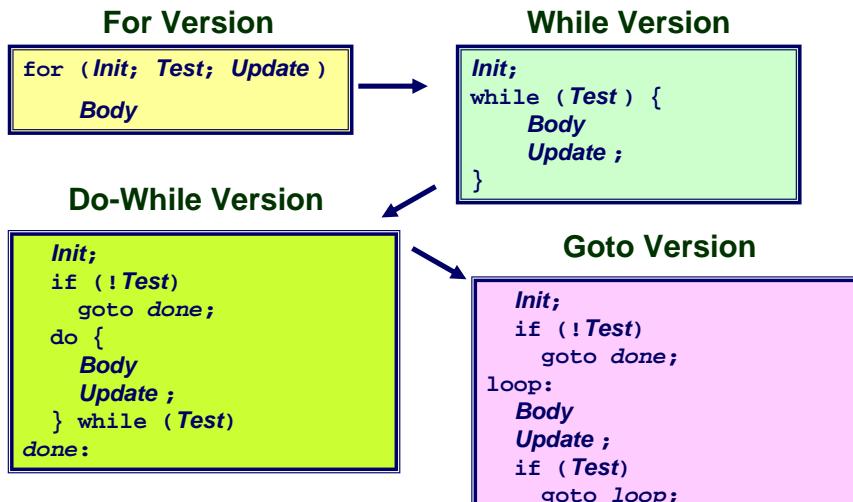
**Body**

```
{
    if (p & 0x1)
        result *= x;
    x = x*x;
}
```

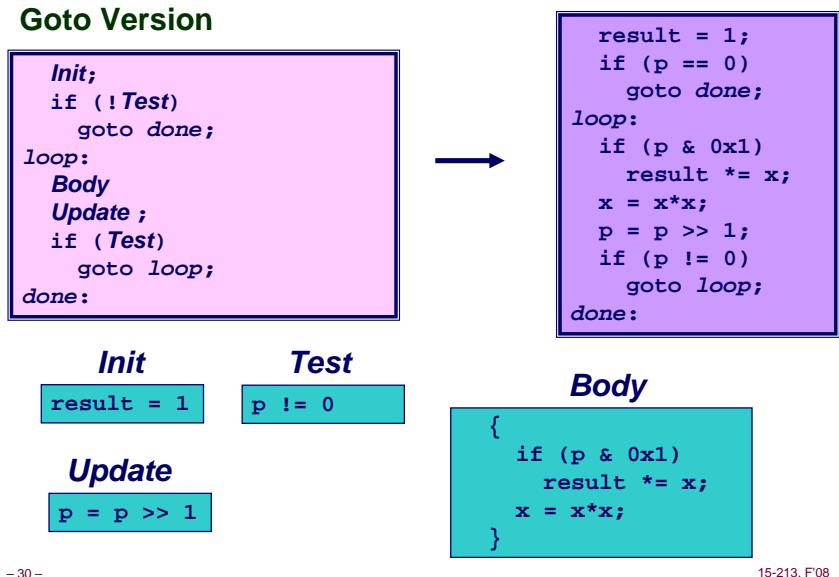
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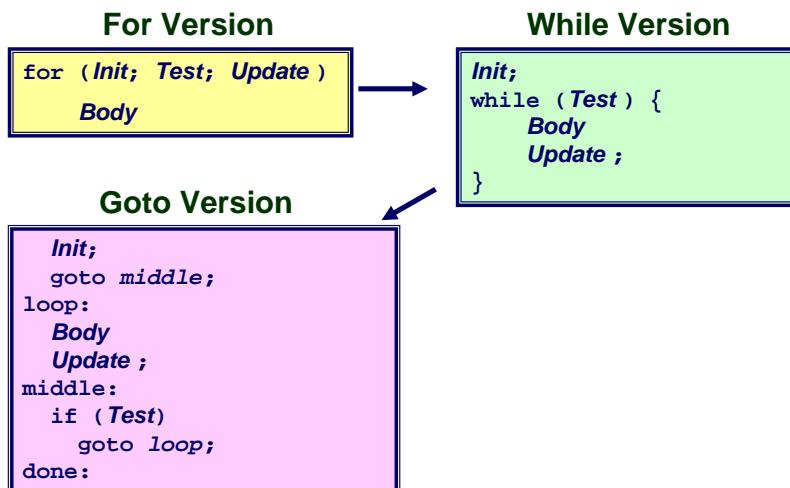
## “For”→“While”→“Do-While”



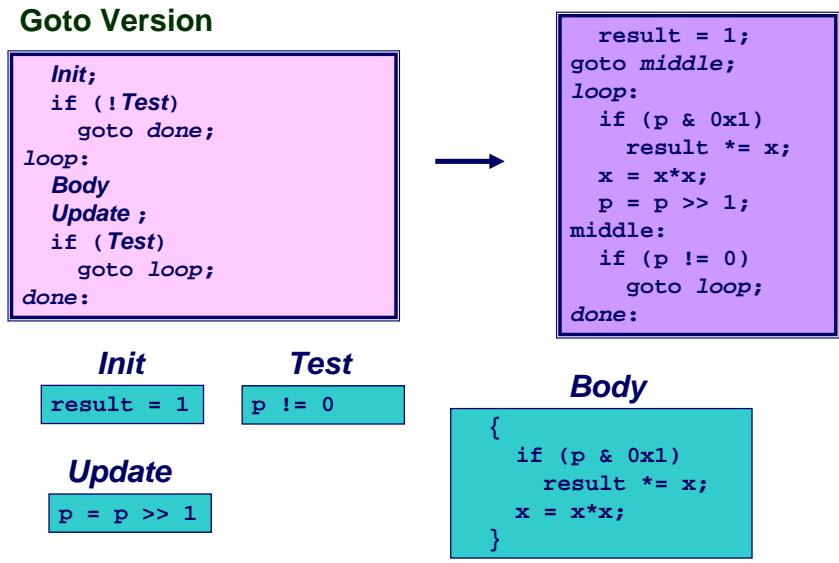
## “For” Loop Compilation #1



## “For”→“While” (Jump-to-Middle)



## “For” Loop Compilation #2



# Switch Statements

## Implementation Options

- Series of conditionals
  - Organize in tree structure
  - Logarithmic performance
- Jump Table
  - Lookup branch target
  - Constant time
  - Possible when cases are small integer constants
- GCC
  - Picks one based on case structure

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## Switch Statement Example

### Features

- Multiple case labels
- Fall through cases
- Missing cases

```
long switch_eg
    (long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        case 1:
            w = y*z;
            break;
        case 2:
            w = y/z;
            /* Fall Through */
        case 3:
            w += z;
            break;
        case 5:
        case 6:
            w -= z;
            break;
        default:
            w = 2;
    }
    return w;
}
```

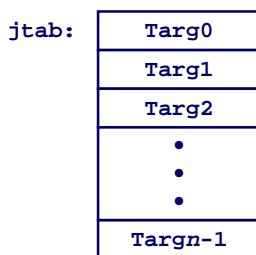
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# Jump Table Structure

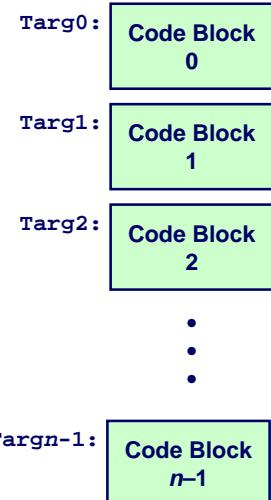
## Switch Form

```
switch(x) {
    case val_0:
        Block0
    case val_1:
        Block1
    ...
    case val_n-1:
        Block n-1
}
```

## Jump Table



## Jump Targets



## Approx. Translation

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

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## Switch Statement Example (IA32)

```
long switch_eg
    (long x, long y, long z)
{
    long w = 1;
    switch(x) {
        ...
    }
    return w;
}
```

## Setup:

```
switch_eg:
    pushl %ebp          # Setup
    movl %esp, %ebp    # Setup
    pushl %ebx          # Setup
    movl $1, %ebx      # w = 1
    movl 8(%ebp), %edx # edx = x
    movl 16(%ebp), %ecx # ecx = z
    cmpl $6, %edx      # x:6
    ja   .L61           # if > goto default
    jmp  *.L62(,%edx,4) # goto JTab[x]
```

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# Assembly Setup Explanation

## Table Structure

- Each target requires 4 bytes
- Base address at .L62

## Jumping

- jmp .L61
- Jump target is denoted by label .L61
- jmp \*.L62(,%edx,4)
- Start of jump table denoted by label .L62
- Register %edx holds x
- Must scale by factor of 4 to get offset into table
- Fetch target from effective Address .L61 + x\*4
  - Only for  $0 \leq x \leq 6$

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## Code Blocks (Partial)

```
switch(x) {
    ...
    case 2:      // .L57
        w = y/z;
        /* Fall Through */
    case 3:      // .L58
        w += z;
        break;
    ...
    default:     // .L61
        w = 2;
}
```

```
.L61: // Default case
    movl $2, %ebx    # w = 2
    movl %ebx, %eax  # Return w
    popl %ebx
    leave
    ret

.L57: // Case 2:
    movl 12(%ebp), %eax  # y
    cltd                # Div prep
    idivl %ecx          # y/z
    movl %eax, %ebx # w = y/z
    # Fall through

.L58: // Case 3:
    addl %ecx, %ebx # w+= z
    movl %ebx, %eax  # Return w
    popl %ebx
    leave
    ret
```

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# Jump Table

## Table Contents

```
.section .rodata
.align 4
.L62:
    .long .L61  # x = 0
    .long .L56  # x = 1
    .long .L57  # x = 2
    .long .L58  # x = 3
    .long .L61  # x = 4
    .long .L60  # x = 5
    .long .L60  # x = 6

switch(x) {
    case 1:      // .L56
        w = y*z;
        break;
    case 2:      // .L57
        w = y/z;
        /* Fall Through */
    case 3:      // .L58
        w += z;
        break;
    case 5:
    case 6:      // .L60
        w -= z;
        break;
    default:     // .L61
        w = 2;
}
```

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## Code Blocks (Rest)

```
switch(x) {
    case 1:      // .L56
        w = y*z;
        break;
    ...
    case 5:
    case 6:      // .L60
        w -= z;
        break;
    ...
}
```

```
.L60: // Cases 5&6:
    subl %ecx, %ebx # w -= z
    movl %ebx, %eax  # Return w
    popl %ebx
    leave
    ret

.L56: // Case 1:
    movl 12(%ebp), %ebx # w = y
    imull %ecx, %ebx # w*= z
    movl %ebx, %eax  # Return w
    popl %ebx
    leave
    ret
```

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# x86-64 Switch Implementation

- Same general idea, adapted to 64-bit code
- Table entries 64 bits (pointers)
- Cases use revised code

## Jump Table

```
.section .rodata
.align 8
.L62:
.quad .L55 # x = 0
.quad .L50 # x = 1
.quad .L51 # x = 2
.quad .L52 # x = 3
.quad .L55 # x = 4
.quad .L54 # x = 5
.quad .L54 # x = 6
```

```
switch(x) {
    case 1:      // .L50
        w = y*z;
        break;
    ...
}
```

```
.L50: // Case 1:
    movq %rsi, %r8 # w = y
    imulq %rdx, %r8 # w *= z
    movq %r8, %rax # Return w
    ret
```

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# IA32 Object Code

## Setup

- Label `.L61` becomes address `0x8048630`
- Label `.L62` becomes address `0x80488dc`

## Assembly Code

```
switch_eg:
    ...
    ja    .L61           # if > goto default
    jmp   *.L62(,%edx,4) # goto JTab[x]
```

## Disassembled Object Code

```
08048610 <switch_eg>:
...
8048622: 77 0c                ja    8048630
8048624: ff 24 95 dc 88 04 08 jmp   *0x80488dc(,%edx,4)
```

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# IA32 Object Code (cont.)

## Jump Table

- Doesn't show up in disassembled code
- Can inspect using GDB

gdb asm-cntl

(gdb) x/7xw 0x80488dc

- Examine 7 hexadecimal format "words" (4-bytes each)
- Use command "help x" to get format documentation

0x80488dc:

0x08048630

0x08048650

0x0804863a

0x08048642

0x08048630

0x08048649

0x08048649

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# Disassembled Targets

8048630:	bb 02 00 00 00	mov \$0x2,%ebx
8048635:	89 d8	mov %ebx,%eax
8048637:	5b	pop %ebx
8048638:	c9	leave
8048639:	c3	ret
804863a:	8b 45 0c	mov 0xc(%ebp),%eax
804863d:	99	cltd
804863e:	f7 f9	idiv %ecx
8048640:	89 c3	mov %eax,%ebx
8048642:	01 cb	add %ecx,%ebx
8048644:	89 d8	mov %ebx,%eax
8048646:	5b	pop %ebx
8048647:	c9	leave
8048648:	c3	ret
8048649:	29 cb	sub %ecx,%ebx
804864b:	89 d8	mov %ebx,%eax
804864d:	5b	pop %ebx
804864e:	c9	leave
804864f:	c3	ret
8048650:	8b 5d 0c	mov 0xc(%ebp),%ebx
8048653:	0f af d9	imul %ecx,%ebx
8048656:	89 d8	mov %ebx,%eax
8048658:	5b	pop %ebx
8048659:	c9	leave
804865a:	c3	ret

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## Matching Disassembled Targets

0x08048630  
0x08048650  
0x0804863a  
0x08048642  
0x08048630  
0x08048649  
0x08048649

0x08048630	bb 02 00 00 00	mov
0x08048635	89 d8	mov
0x08048637	5b	pop
0x08048638	c9	leave
0x08048639	c3	ret
<b>804863a:</b>	<b>8b 45 0c</b>	<b>mov</b>
0x0804863d	99	cltd
0x0804863e	f7 f9	idiv
0x08048640	89 c3	mov
<b>8048642:</b>	<b>01 cb</b>	<b>add</b>
0x08048644	89 d8	mov
0x08048646	5b	pop
0x08048647	c9	leave
0x08048648	c3	ret
<b>8048649:</b>	<b>29 cb</b>	<b>sub</b>
0x0804864b	89 d8	mov
0x0804864d	5b	pop
0x0804864e	c9	leave
0x0804864f	c3	ret
<b>8048650:</b>	<b>8b 5d 0c</b>	<b>mov</b>
0x08048653	0f af d9	imul
0x08048656	89 d8	mov
0x08048658	5b	pop
0x08048659	c9	leave
0x0804865a:	c3	ret

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## x86-64 Object Code

### Setup

- Label .L61 becomes address 0x0000000000400716
- Label .L62 becomes address 0x0000000000400990

### Assembly Code

```
switch_eg:
    ...
    ja    .L55          # if > goto default
    jmp   *.L56(,%rdi,8) # goto JTab[x]
```

### Disassembled Object Code

```
0000000000400700 <switch_eg>:
    ...
    40070d: 77 07          ja    400716
    40070f: ff 24 fd 90 09 40 00 jmpq *0x400990(,%rdi,8)
```

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## x86-64 Object Code (cont.)

### Jump Table

- Can inspect using GDB

```
gdb asm-cntl
(gdb) x/7xg 0x400990
```

- Examine 7 hexadecimal format “giant words” (8-bytes each)
- Use command “help x” to get format documentation

0x400990:

```
0x0000000000400716
0x0000000000400739
0x0000000000400720
0x000000000040072b
0x0000000000400716
0x0000000000400732
0x0000000000400732
```

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## Sparse Switch Example

```
/* Return x/111 if x is multiple
   && <= 999. -1 otherwise */
int div111(int x)
{
    switch(x) {
        case 0: return 0;
        case 111: return 1;
        case 222: return 2;
        case 333: return 3;
        case 444: return 4;
        case 555: return 5;
        case 666: return 6;
        case 777: return 7;
        case 888: return 8;
        case 999: return 9;
        default: return -1;
    }
}
```

- Not practical to use jump table
  - Would require 1000 entries
- Obvious translation into if-then-else would have max. of 9 tests

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## Sparse Switch Code (IA32)

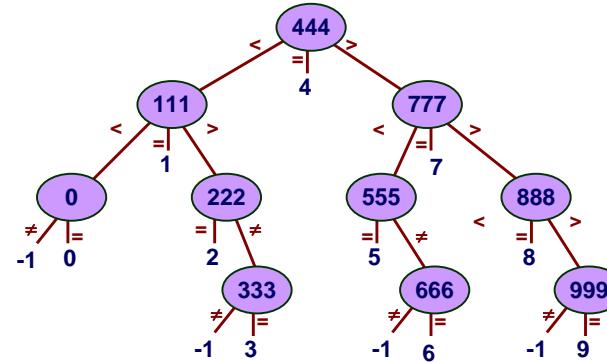
```
movl 8(%ebp),%eax # get x
cmpl $444,%eax    # x:444
je L8
jg L16
cmpl $111,%eax    # x:111
je L5
jg L17
testl %eax,%eax    # x:0
je L4
jmp L14
. . .
```

- Compares x to possible case values
- Jumps different places depending on outcomes

```
. . .
L5:
    movl $1,%eax
    jmp L19
L6:
    movl $2,%eax
    jmp L19
L7:
    movl $3,%eax
    jmp L19
L8:
    movl $4,%eax
    jmp L19
. . .
```

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## Sparse Switch Code Structure



- Organizes cases as binary tree
- Logarithmic performance

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## Summarizing

### C Control

- if-then-else
- do-while
- while, for
- switch

### Assembler Control

- Conditional jump
- Conditional move
- Indirect jump

### Compiler

- Must generate assembly code to implement more complex control

### Standard Techniques

- IA32 loops converted to do-while form
- x86-64 loops use jump-to-middle
- Large switch statements use jump tables

### Conditions in CISC

- CISC machines generally have condition code registers

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