

# Machine-Level Programming II: Control Flow

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## Today

- Condition codes
- Control flow structures

## Next time

- Procedures



# Condition codes

- Single bit registers

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

- Implicitly set by arithmetic operations

```
addl source,destination
```

C analog:  $t = a + b$

- CF set if carry out from most significant bit

- Used to detect unsigned overflow

- ZF set if  $t == 0$

- SF set if  $t < 0$

- OF set if two's complement overflow

```
(a>0 && b>0 && t<0) || (a<0 && b<0 && t>=0)
```

- Not set by `leal` instruction

# Setting condition codes

- **Explicit setting by compare instruction**

```
cmpl Src2, Src1
```

`cmpl 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)
```

# Setting condition codes

- **Explicit setting by test instruction**

```
testl 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`

# Reading condition codes

- 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
cml %eax, 8(%ebp) # Compare x : y
setg %al # al = x > y
movzbl %al, %eax # Zero rest of %eax
```

%eax	%ah	%al
%edx	%dh	%dl
%ecx	%ch	%cl
%ebx	%bh	%bl
%esi		
%edi		
%esp		
%ebp		

Note  
inverted  
ordering!

# Reading condition codes

- SetX Instructions
  - Set single byte based on combinations of condition codes

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

# Checkpoint



# Jumping

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

<b>jX</b>	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>jmp</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Unconditional</b>
<b>je</b>	<b>ZF</b>	<b>Equal / Zero</b>
<b>jne</b>	<b>~ZF</b>	<b>Not Equal / Not Zero</b>
<b>js</b>	<b>SF</b>	<b>Negative</b>
<b>jns</b>	<b>~SF</b>	<b>Nonnegative</b>
<b>jg</b>	<b>~ (SF^OF) &amp; ~ZF</b>	<b>Greater (Signed)</b>
<b>jge</b>	<b>~ (SF^OF)</b>	<b>Greater or Equal (Signed)</b>
<b>jl</b>	<b>(SF^OF)</b>	<b>Less (Signed)</b>
<b>jle</b>	<b>(SF^OF)   ZF</b>	<b>Less or Equal (Signed)</b>
<b>ja</b>	<b>~CF &amp; ~ZF</b>	<b>Above (unsigned)</b>
<b>jb</b>	<b>CF</b>	<b>Below (unsigned)</b>



# Conditional branch example

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

**\_max:**

```
    pushl %ebp
    movl  %esp,%ebp
```

} Set  
Up

```
    movl  8(%ebp),%edx
    movl  12(%ebp),%eax
    cmpl %eax,%edx
    jle  L9
    movl %edx,%eax
```

} Body

**L9:**

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

} Finish

# Conditional branch example

```
int goto_max(int x, int y)
{
    int rval = y;
    int ok = (x <= y);
    if (ok)
        goto done;
    rval = x;
done:
    return rval;
}
```

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

```
    movl 8(%ebp),%edx    # edx = x
    movl 12(%ebp),%eax  # eax = y
    cmpl %eax,%edx      # x : y
    jle L9              # if <= goto L9
    movl %edx,%eax      # eax = x
L9:                    # Done: } Skipped when x ≤ y
```

# “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

# “Do-While” loop compilation

## Goto Version

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

### ● Registers

`%edx`    `x`

`%eax`    `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
```

# 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

# “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

# Actual “While” loop translation

## C Code

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

- Uses same inner loop as do-while version
- Guards loop entry with extra test

## 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;
}
```

# 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:
```



# Checkpoint



# “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:  $x^p = z_0 \cdot z_1^2 \cdot (z_2^2)^2 \cdot \dots \cdot (\dots((z_{n-1}^2)^2)\dots)^2$

$z_i = 1$  when  $p_i = 0$

$z_i = x$  when  $p_i = 1$

- Complexity  $O(\log p)$

  
 $n-1$  times

## Example

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

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

# 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

# "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;
}
```

# "For" → "While"

## 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 compilation

## Goto Version

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



```
result = 1;  
if (p == 0)  
    goto done;  
loop:  
    if (p & 0x1)  
        result *= x;  
    x = x*x;  
    p = p >> 1;  
    if (p != 0)  
        goto loop;  
done:
```

***Init***

```
result = 1
```

***Test***

```
p != 0
```

***Update***

```
p = p >> 1
```

***Body***

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

# Switch statements

```
typedef enum
{ADD, MULT, MINUS, DIV, MOD, BAD}
  op_type;

char unparse_symbol(op_type op)
{
  switch (op) {
  case ADD :
    return '+';
  case MULT:
    return '*';
  case MINUS:
    return '-';
  case DIV:
    return '/';
  case MOD:
    return '%';
  case BAD:
    return '?';
  }
}
```

- Implementation options
  - Series of conditionals
    - Good if few cases
    - Slow if many
  - Jump table
    - Lookup branch target
    - Avoids conditionals
    - Possible when cases are small integer constants
  - GCC
    - Picks one based on case structure
  - Bug in example code
    - No default given

# Jump table structure

## Switch form

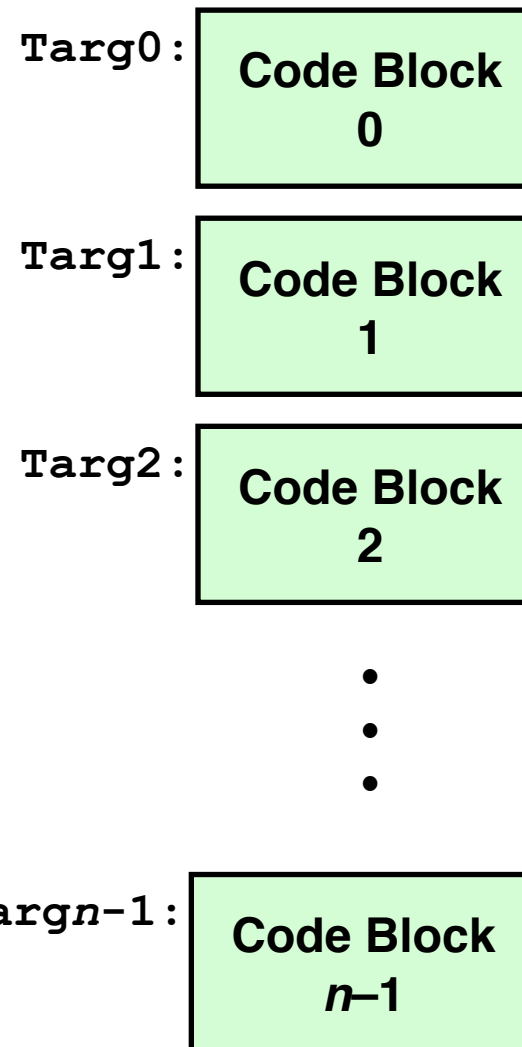
```
switch(op) {  
  case val_0:  
    Block 0  
  case val_1:  
    Block 1  
    . . .  
  case val_n-1:  
    Block n-1  
}
```

## Jump table

jtab:

Targ0
Targ1
Targ2
•
•
•
Targn-1

## Jump targets



## Approx. translation

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



# Switch statement example

- Branching possibilities

```
typedef enum
{ADD, MULT, MINUS, DIV, MOD, BAD}
  op_type;

char unparse_symbol(op_type op)
{
  switch (op) {
    . . .
  }
}
```

## Enumerated values

ADD	0
MULT	1
MINUS	2
DIV	3
MOD	4
BAD	5

## Setup:

```
unparse_symbol:
    pushl %ebp                # Setup
    movl %esp,%ebp          # Setup
    movl 8(%ebp),%eax        # eax = op
    cmpl $5,%eax            # Compare op : 5
    ja .L49                  # If > goto done
    jmp *.L57(,%eax,4)       # goto Table[op]
```

# Assembly setup explanation

- Symbolic labels
  - Labels of form `.LXX` translated into addresses by assembler
- Table structure
  - Each target requires 4 bytes
  - Base address at `.L57`
- Jumping

```
jmp .L49
```

- **Jump target is denoted by label** `.L49`

```
jmp *.L57(, %eax, 4)
```

- **Start of jump table denoted by label** `.L57`
- **Register** `%eax` **holds** `op`
- **Must scale by factor of 4 to get offset into table**
- **Fetch target from effective Address** `.L57 + op*4`

# Jump table

## Table contents

```
.section .rodata
    .align 4
.L57:
    .long .L51 #Op = 0
    .long .L52 #Op = 1
    .long .L53 #Op = 2
    .long .L54 #Op = 3
    .long .L55 #Op = 4
    .long .L56 #Op = 5
```

## Enumerated values

ADD	0
MULT	1
MINUS	2
DIV	3
MOD	4
BAD	5

## Targets & completion

```
.L51:
    movl $43,%eax # '+'
    jmp .L49
.L52:
    movl $42,%eax # '*'
    jmp .L49
.L53:
    movl $45,%eax # '-'
    jmp .L49
.L54:
    movl $47,%eax # '/'
    jmp .L49
.L55:
    movl $37,%eax # '%'
    jmp .L49
.L56:
    movl $63,%eax # '?'
    # Fall Through to .L49
```

# Switch statement completion

```
.L49:                                # Done:
    movl %ebp,%esp                    # Finish
    popl %ebp                         # Finish
    ret                               # Finish
```

- Puzzle
  - What value returned when `op` is invalid?
- Answer
  - Register `%eax` set to `op` at beginning of procedure
  - This becomes the returned value
- Advantage of Jump Table
  - Can do ***k***-way branch in ***O*(1)** operations

# Object code

- Setup

- Label `.L49` becomes address `0x804875c`
- Label `.L57` becomes address `0x8048bc0`

```
08048718 <unparse_symbol>:  
8048718: 55          pushl   %ebp  
8048719: 89 e5      movl   %esp,%ebp  
804871b: 8b 45 08   movl   0x8(%ebp),%eax  
804871e: 83 f8 05   cmpl   $0x5,%eax  
8048721: 77 39      ja     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>  
8048723: ff 24 85 c0 8b jmp    *0x8048bc0(,%eax,4)
```

# Object code

- Jump table

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

```
gdb code-examples
```

```
(gdb) x/6xw 0x8048bc0
```

- Examine 6 hexadecimal format “words” (4-bytes each)
- Use command “help x” to get format documentation

```
0x8048bc0 <_fini+32>:
```

```
0x08048730
```

```
0x08048737
```

```
0x08048740
```

```
0x08048747
```

```
0x08048750
```

```
0x08048757
```

# Extracting jump table from binary

- Jump table stored in read only data segment (.rodata)
  - Various fixed values needed by your code
- Can examine with objdump (otool on Mac's)  
`objdump code-examples -s --section=.rodata`
  - Show everything in indicated segment.
- Hard to read
  - Jump table entries shown with reversed byte ordering
  - E.g., 30870408 really means 0x08048730

Contents of section .rodata:

```
8048bc0 30870408 37870408 40870408 47870408 0...7...@...G...
8048bd0 50870408 57870408 46616374 28256429 P...W...Fact(%d)
8048be0 203d2025 6c640a00 43686172 203d2025 = %ld..Char = %
...
```

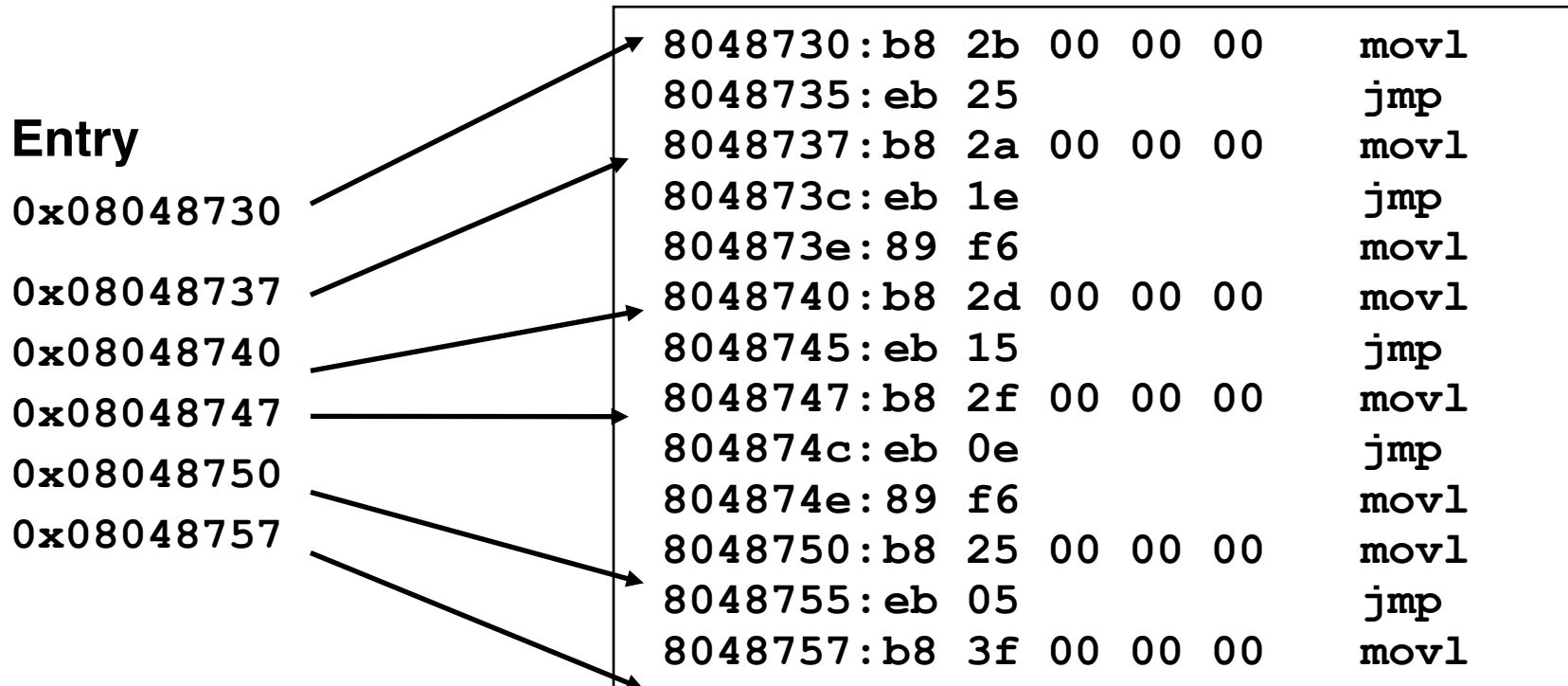
# Disassembled targets

```
8048730: b8 2b 00 00 00    movl    $0x2b,%eax
8048735: eb 25            jmp     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>
8048737: b8 2a 00 00 00    movl    $0x2a,%eax
804873c: eb 1e            jmp     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>
804873e: 89 f6            movl    %esi,%esi
8048740: b8 2d 00 00 00    movl    $0x2d,%eax
8048745: eb 15            jmp     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>
8048747: b8 2f 00 00 00    movl    $0x2f,%eax
804874c: eb 0e            jmp     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>
804874e: 89 f6            movl    %esi,%esi
8048750: b8 25 00 00 00    movl    $0x25,%eax
8048755: eb 05            jmp     804875c <unparse_symbol+0x44>
8048757: b8 3f 00 00 00    movl    $0x3f,%eax
```

- `movl %esi,%esi` does nothing
- Inserted to align instructions for better cache performance



# Matching disassembled targets



# Sparse switch example

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

```
/* 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;
    }
}
```

# Sparse switch code

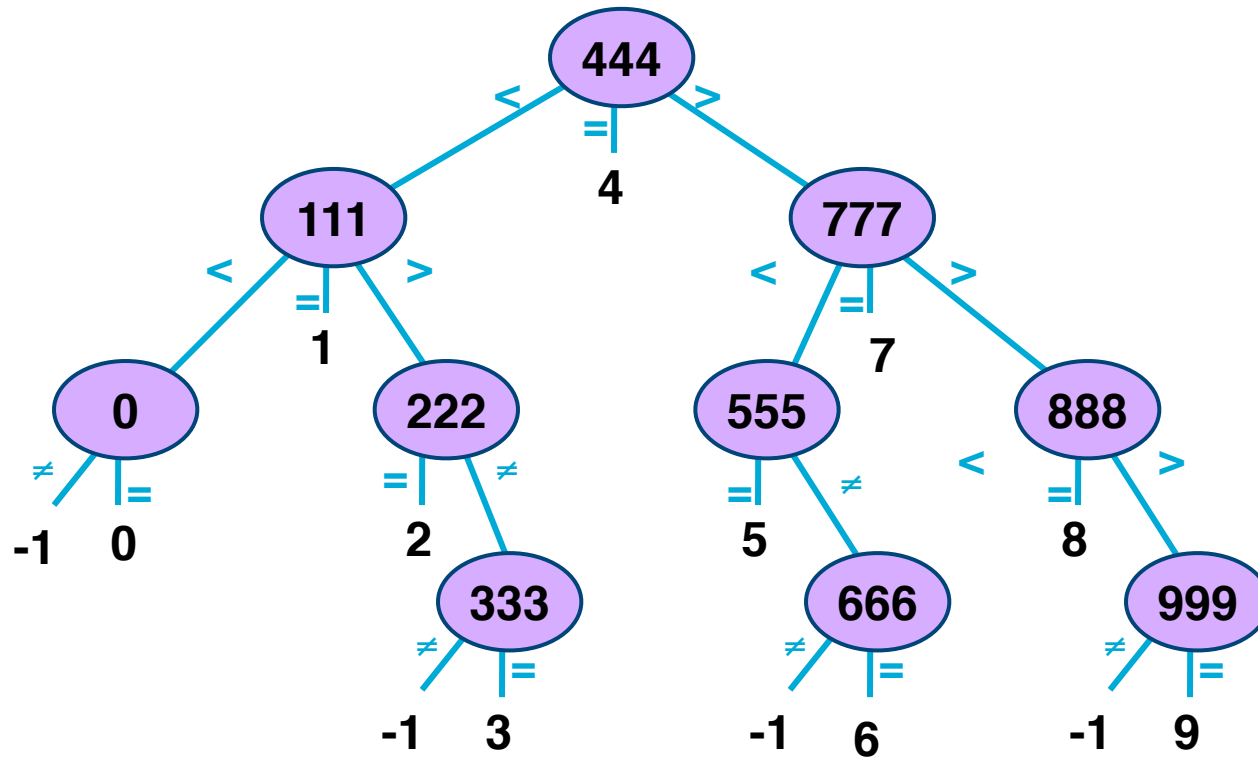
- Compares x to possible case values
- Jumps different places depending on outcomes

```
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
. . .
```

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

# Sparse switch code structure

- Organizes cases as binary tree
- Logarithmic performance



# Summarizing

---

- C Control
  - if-then-else, do-while, while, switch
- Assembler control
  - Jump & conditional jump
- Compiler
  - Must generate assembly code to implement more complex control
- Standard techniques
  - All loops → do-while form
  - Large switch statements use jump tables
- Conditions in CISC
  - Machines generally have condition code registers
- Conditions in RISC
  - Use general registers
  - Special comparison instructions