



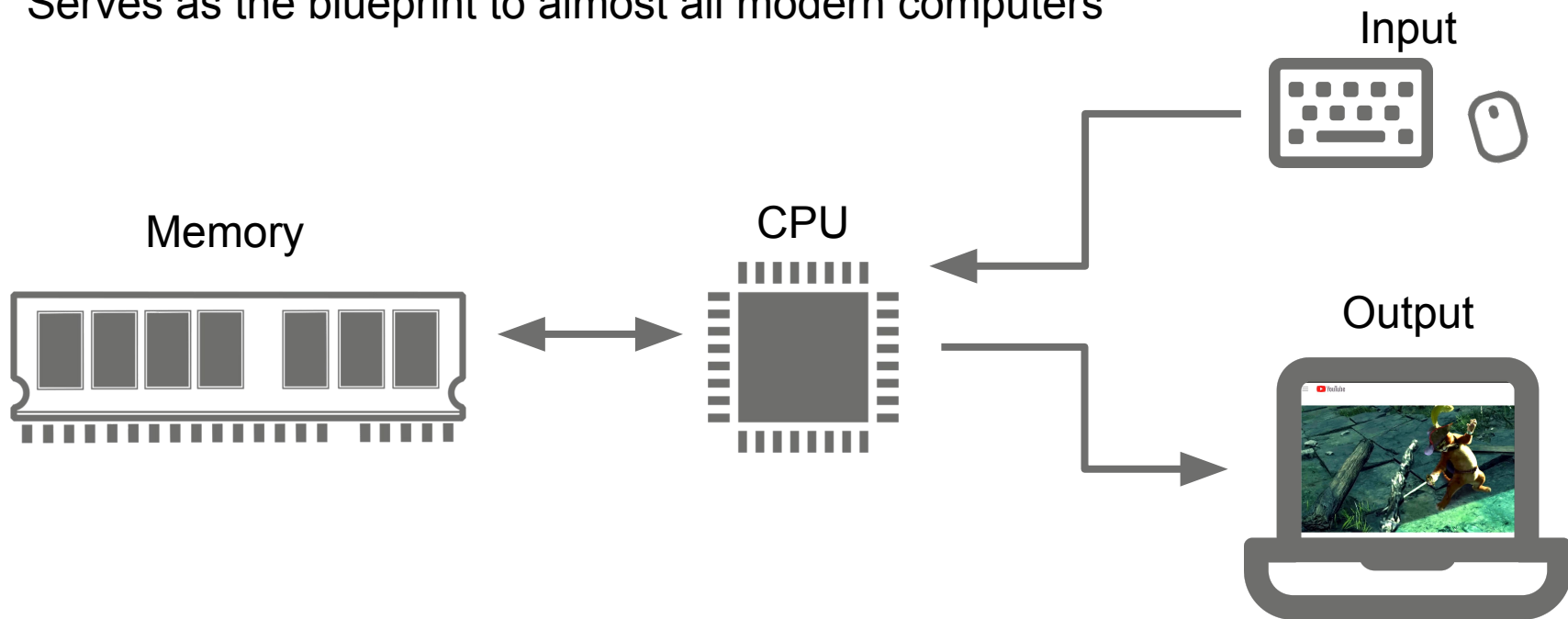
CSC 405 Assembly

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The von Neumann Architecture

Serves as the blueprint to almost all modern computers



The von Neumann Architecture

Memory holds two types of information:

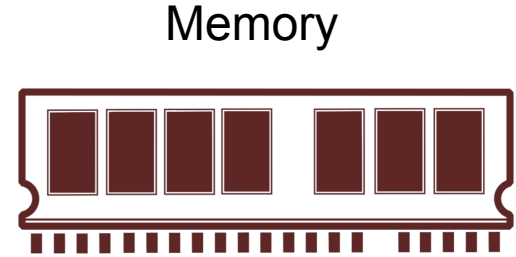
Data Items

- variables, objects, etc.
- Read **from** or written **to**

Program Instructions

- machine code
- Code, but converted into 'binary words'

Both are stored in memory as binary numbers in a continuous array of fixed width (also known as **words**) and have a unique **address**



Compiling Programs

Let's take a look at a simple C program

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main() {
4      // Create an integer with the initial value of 42
5      int num = 42;
6
7      // Add 31 to the integer
8      num += 31;
9
10     return 0;
11 }
```

Compiling Programs

We can compile C programs using `gcc` to generate a **binary** executable

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main() {
4      // Create an integer with the initial value of 42
5      int num = 42;
6
7      // Add 31 to the integer
8      num += 31;
9
10     return 0;
11 }
```

```
gcc simple.c -o simple
```

Using `gcc`, compile `simple.c`
and output its binary as `simple`

Compiling Programs

We can compile C programs using `gcc` to generate a **binary** executable

```

1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main() {
4      // Create an integer with the initial value of 42
5      int num = 42;
6
7      // Add 31 to the integer
8      num += 31;
9
10     return 0;
11 }

```

```
gcc -nostdlib simple.c -o simple
```

We can also exclude the standard library with `-nostdlib` to reduce "the code"

00001000	F30F	1EFA	5548	89E5	C745	FC2A	0000	0083	ó..úUH.âçEü*....
00001010	45FC	1FB8	0000	0000	5DC3	0000	0000	0000	Eü.,.....]Ã.....

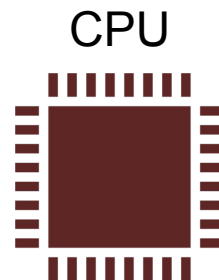
Same code, but **only** `simple.c` and nothing else

The von Neumann Architecture

The CPU is in charge of executing the currently load program's instructions

Executes three primary tasks:

- **Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)**
 - Make some calculation
 - Do some comparison
- **Registers**
 - Read/Write values from/to memory
 - Stores values on the CPU rather than pushing to memory for efficiency
- **Control Unit**
 - Conditionally **jump** to execute other instructions



Memory is Slow

When the CPU retrieves contents from memory address ***i***

- ***i*** travels from the **CPU** to **RAM**
- **RAM's** logic selects the memory register whose address is ***i***
- contents of **RAM[*i*]** travels back to the **CPU**

Level	Access Time	Typical Size	Technology	Managed By
Registers	1-3 ns	1 KB	CMOS	Compiler
L1 Cache	2-8 ns	8KB - 128KB	SRAM	Hardware
L2 Cache	5-12 ns	0.5MB - 8MB	SRAM	Hardware
Main Memory	10-60 ns	64MB - 1GB	DRAM	OS
Hard Disk	0.3-1 ms	20GB - 100GB	Magnetic	OS / User

Registers

Registers provide the same service but without travel and search expenses

This is because they reside inside the CPU and are much more limited in supply (allowing for shorter instructions)

Serves three purposes:

- **Data** - stores values for short term calculations
- **Addressing** - stores memory addresses for various functions
- **Program Counter** - keeps track of the next instruction to be fetched

Registers

Registers provide the same service but without travel and search expenses

This is because they reside inside the CPU and are much more limited in supply (allowing for shorter instructions)

Serves three purposes:

- **Data** - stores values for short term calculations
- **Addressing** - stores memory addresses for various functions
- **Program Counter** - stores the address of the instruction to be fetched

As we'll see next week, this is how we can cause some damage

Machine Code

Machine code can be broken down into two categories: **binary** and **symbolic**

C7 45 FC 2A 00 00 00

00001000	F30F	1EFA	5548	89E5	C745	FC2A	0000	0083	ó..úUH.âÇEü*....
00001010	45FC	1FB8	0000	0000	5DC3	0000	0000	0000	Eü.,....]Ã.....

Machine Code

Machine code can be broken down into two categories: **binary** and **symbolic**

C7 45 FC 2A 00 00 00

"binary"

00001000	F30F	1EFA	5548	89E5	C745	FC2A	0000	0083	ó..úUH.âÇEü*....
00001010	45FC	1FB8	0000	0000	5DC3	0000	0000	0000	Eü.,....]Ã.....

Machine Code

Machine code can be broken down into two categories:

C7 45 FC 2A 00 00 00

Instead of
 1100 0111 0100 0101 1111
 1100 0010 1010 0000 0000
 0000 0000 0000 0000,
 we commonly condense it down to
 hexadecimal for "easier reading"

00001000	F30F	1EFA	5548	89E5	C745	FC2A	0000	0083	ó..úUH.âÇEü*....
00001010	45FC	1FB8	0000	0000	5DC3	0000	0000	0000	Eü.,....]Ã.....

Machine Code

Machine code can be broken down into two categories: **binary** and **symbolic**

C7 45 FC 2A 00 00 00

00001000	F30F	1EFA	5548	89E5	C745	FC2A	0000
00001010	45FC	1FB8	0000	0000	5DC3	0000	0000

We can also use a symbolic assembly language that converts these 1's and 0's into something actually readable

```

1  main:
2
3      pushq   %rbp
4      movq    %rsp, %rbp
5      movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
6      addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
7      movl    $0, %eax
8      popq   %rbp
9      ret

```

Assembly Flavors

There are several Assembly languages, each written for a specific processor

In accordance with the processor's Instruction Set Architecture, or **ISA**

Three Primary Architectures

- x86
- ARM
- MIPS
- plus **many** more...

x86 Assembly Syntax - Reserved Keywords

- lds
- les
- lfs
- lgs
- lss
- pop
- push
- in
- ins
- out
- outs
- lahf
- sahf
- popf
- pushf
- cmc
- cmc
- clc
- stc
- cli
- sti
- cld
- std
- add
- adc
- sub
- sbb
- cmp
- inc
- dec
- test
- sal
- shl
- sar
- shr
- shld
- shrd
- not
- neg
- bound
- and
- or
- xor
- imul
- mul
- div
- idiv
- cbtw
- cwtl
- cwtl
- daa
- das
- aaa
- aas
- aam
- aad
- wait
- fwait
- movs
- cmps
- stos
- lods
- scas
- xlat
- rep
- repnz
- repz
- lcall
- call
- ret
- lret
- enter
- leave
- jcxz
- loop
- loopnz
- loopz
- jmp
- ljmp
- int
- into
- iret
- sldt
- str
- lldt
- ltr
- verr
- verw
- sgdt
- sidt
- lgdt
- lidt
- smsw
- lmsw
- lar
- isl
- clts
- arpl
- bsf
- bsr
- bt
- btc
- bts
- cmpxchg
- fsin
- fcos
- fsincos
- fld
- fldcw
- fldenv
- fprem
- fucom
- fucomp
- lock
- nop
- hlt
- fld
- fst
- fstp
- fxch
- fild
- fist
- fistp
- fbl
- fbld
- fbstp
- fadd
- faddp
- fiadd
- fsub
- fsubp
- fsubr
- fsubrp
- fisubrp
- fisubr
- fmul
- fmulp
- fimul
- fdiv
- fdivp
- fdivr
- fdivrp
- fidiv
- fidivr
- fsqrt
- fscale
- fprem
- frndint
- fextract
- fabs
- fchs
- fcom
- fcomp
- fcompp
- ficom
- ficomp
- ftst
- fxam
- fptan
- fpatan
- f2xm1
- fyl2x
- fyl2xp1
- fldl2e
- fldl2t
- fldlg2
- fldln2
- fldpi
- fldz
- finit
- fnint
- fnop
- fsave
- fnsave
- fstew
- fnstew
- fstenv
- fnstenv
- fstsw
- fnstsw
- frstor
- fclex
- fdecstp
- ffree
- fincstp

x86 Assembly Syntax - Reserved Keywords

- lds
- les
- lfs
- lgs
- lss
- pd
- pu
- in
- in
- ou
- ou
- la
- sa
- po
- pu
- cr
- clc
- stc
- cli
- sti
- cld
- std
- bound
- and
- or
- fwait
- movs
- cmps
- loopz
- jmp
- ljmp
- isl
- clts
- arpl
- fucompp
- lock
- lea
- mov
- lock
- nop
- hlt
- fisubrp
- fisubr
- fmul
- fcomp
- fcompp
- ficom
- fnop
- fsave
- fnsave
- new
- tew
- env
- tenv
- sw
- tsw
- or
- ex
- lex
- cstp
- e
- cstp
- shrd
- not
- neg
- aam
- aad
- wait
- jcxz
- loop
- loopnz
- smsw
- lmsw
- lar
- fprem
- fucom
- fucomp
- wbinvd
- invd
- invlpg
- fsubp
- fsubr
- fsubrp
- fabs
- fchs
- fcom
- fldz
- finit
- fnint

You don't need to memorize them, but be aware they all exist, have corresponding hexadecimal values, and **some** of them will be needed for this class

Syntax Branches - Intel and AT&T

Intel

- Windows and DOS programs
- Operations follow the format
mnemonic destination, source
- `mov ebx, 42`

AT&T

- Unix programs
- Operations follows the format
mnemonic source, destination
- `mov $42, %ebx`

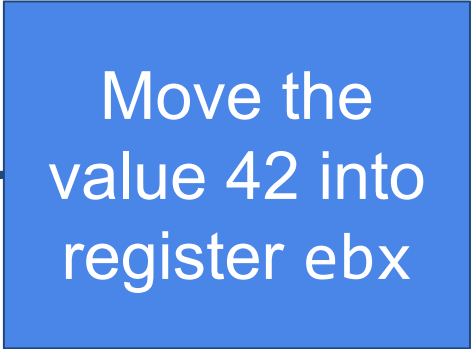
Syntax Branches - Intel and AT&T

Intel

- Windows and DOS programs
- Operations follow the format
mnemonic destination, source
- `mov ebx, 42` ←

AT&T

- Unix programs
- Operations follows the format
mnemonic source, destination
- `mov $42, %ebx` ←



Move the
value 42 into
register ebx

* Slight variations between the two

Executing Programs

When a program is executed, various elements of the program are loaded into memory

Information from the program is then loaded from the address space in memory

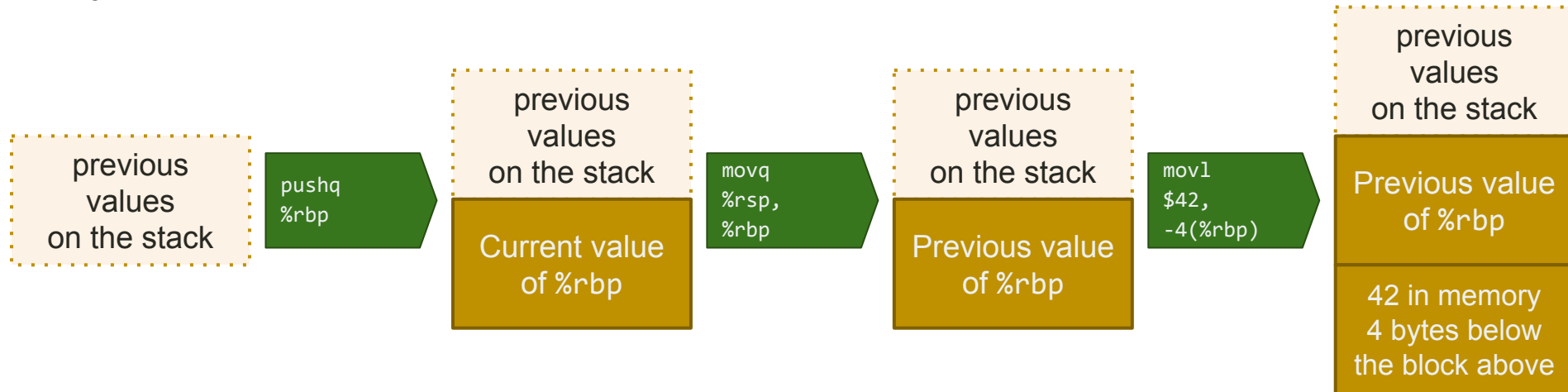
Three Segments:

- .text** - holds program instructions (read-only)
- .bss** - reserved for global variables, contains uninitialized data
- .data** - reserved for global variables, contains initialized data

Stack Machine Model

Arithmetic commands pop their operands from the top of the stack and push their results back to the stack

Since stacks are LIFO (last in first out), a stack pointer (sp) tracks the location just above the topmost element



Programs in Memory

↑ Lower Memory Addresses (0x08000000)

Shared Libraries

.text

.bss

Heap (grows ↓)

Stack (grows ↑)

env pointer

argc

↓ Higher Memory Addresses (0xbfffffff)

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
    movl    $0, %eax
    popq   %rbp
    ret
```

```
int main() {
    // Create an integer with
    int num = 42;

    // Add 31 to the integer
    num += 31;

    return 0;
}
```

These first two instructions serve as the "function prologue"

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
    movl    $0, %eax
    popq    %rbp
    ret
```

```
int main() {
    // Create an integer with
    int num = 42;

    // Add 31 to the integer
    num += 31;

    return 0;
}
```

First, we **push** the **base pointer** (**%rbp**) onto the stack for later

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Next, we **move** (really copy) the **stack pointer** (%rsp) to the **base pointer** (%rbp)

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
    movl    $0, %eax
    popq    %rbp
    ret
```

```
int main() {
    // Create an integer with
    int num = 42;

    // Add 31 to the integer
    num += 31;

    return 0;
}
```

These two instructions establish the **stack frame** of the program

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Next, we're storing the constant 42 (\$42) into a memory location

-4(%rbp) is pointing to a memory address that is 4 bytes before %rbp

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Next, add the constant 31 (\$31) that same memory address

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

C programs need to return a value, so here we are copying the return value (0) to a general purpose register (%eax)

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

General purpose register (%eax)
Register relative to stack (%rbp)

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
```

```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

We **pop** the **base pointer** (%rbp) off the stack to return it to its original value

Machine Code

Let's break down the machine code of simple.c

```
main:
```

```
    pushq   %rbp
```

```
    movq    %rsp, %rbp
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```
    movl    $42, -4(%rbp)
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    addl    $31, -4(%rbp)
```

```
    movl    $0, %eax
```

```
    popq   %rbp
```

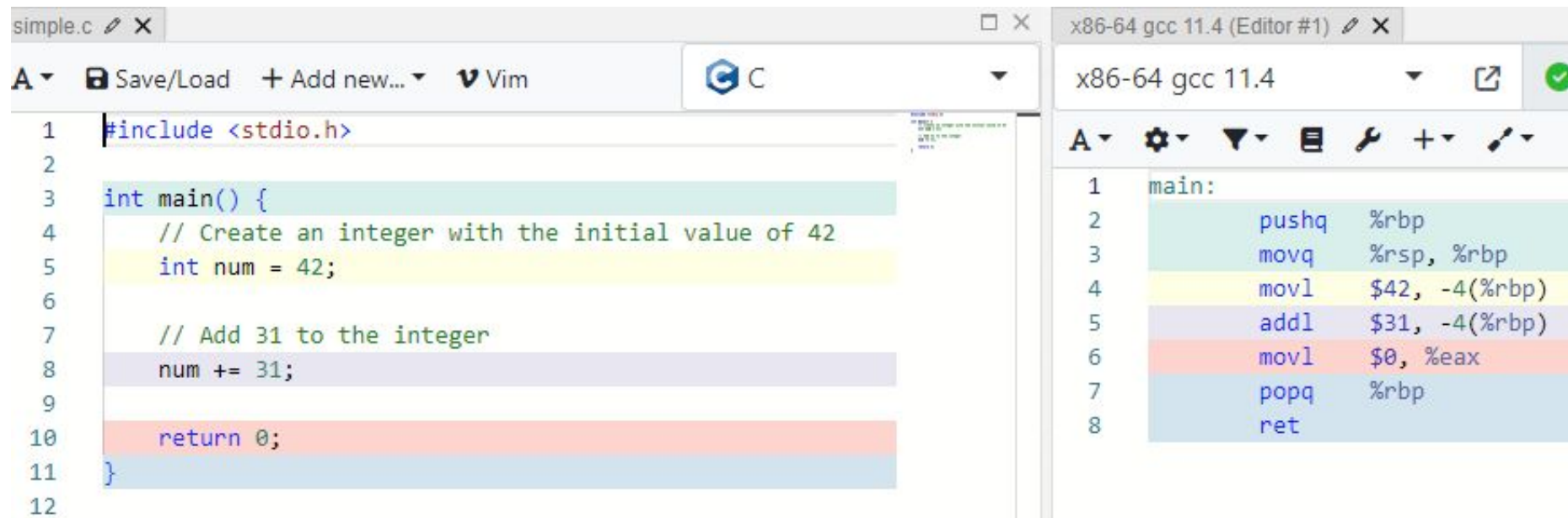
```
    ret
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an integer with  
    int num = 42;  
  
    // Add 31 to the integer  
    num += 31;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Finally, we **return** from the function, where the return value (0) is expected to be stored in %eax

Tools to Become Familiar With

godbolt.org - You can use this site to browser the machine code for any program



The image shows a side-by-side comparison of C source code and its compiled assembly. The left window, titled 'simple.c', shows the source code in a Vim editor. The right window, titled 'x86-64 gcc 11.4 (Editor #1)', shows the corresponding assembly code for the same program.

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2
3 int main() {
4     // Create an integer with the initial value of 42
5     int num = 42;
6
7     // Add 31 to the integer
8     num += 31;
9
10    return 0;
11 }
12
```

```
1 main:
2     pushq   %rbp
3     movq   %rsp, %rbp
4     movl   $42, -4(%rbp)
5     addl   $31, -4(%rbp)
6     movl   $0, %eax
7     popq   %rbp
8     ret
```

Tools to Become Familiar With

`objdump -zd <binary>` - Linux tool for producing the same results locally

```
0000000000001000 <main>:
 1000:    f3 0f 1e fa          endbr64
 1004:    55                  push   %rbp
 1005:    48 89 e5            mov    %rsp,%rbp
 1008:    c7 45 fc 2a 00 00 00 movl   $0x2a,-0x4(%rbp)
 100f:    83 45 fc 1f          addl   $0x1f,-0x4(%rbp)
 1013:    b8 00 00 00 00      mov    $0x0,%eax
 1018:    5d                  pop    %rbp
 1019:    c3                  ret
```

