

School of Mathematical and Computational Sciences
Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science

Compiler Construction: COM 5202

Tutorial III (21 January, 2026)

M. Sc Semester IV: 2025-2026

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Following are two examples of GNU x86-64 inline assembly language code.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(){ // asm1.c
int m, n=20;

__asm__ __volatile__ (
"sall $2, %0 # 4*n \n\t"
"movl %0, %%eax # m = 4*n \n\t"
: "=a" (m)
: "r" (n)
);
printf("m: %d\n", m);
return 0;
}

__asm__ __volatile__ (
"movl %%eax, %%ebx # ebx <-- m \n\t"
"sall $1, %%eax # 2*m \n\t"
"addl %%ebx, %%eax # m = 3*n \n\t"
: "+a" (m)
:
);
printf("m: %d\n", m);
return 0;
}
```

Corresponding outputs are:

```
$ cc -Wall asm1.c
$ ./a.out
m: 80
$
$ cc -Wall asm2.c
$ ./a.out
m: 60
$
```

Following two functions use read() and write() system calls to read and write one character from the stdin and stdout.

```
#include <unistd.h>
char readChar(){
char c;

read(STDIN_FILENO, &c, 1);
return c;
}

#include <unistd.h>
void writeChar(char c){
write(STDOUT_FILENO, &c, 1);
}
```

These call to read() (similarly write()) can be replaced by embedded inline assembly language code of x86-64 architecture with a software interrupt.

```
char readChar(){
char c=0;

__asm__ __volatile__ (
"movq $0, %%rax # 0 for read \n\t"
"movq $0, %%rdi # 0 for stdin \n\t"
"movq $1, %%rdx # 1 byte \n\t"
"syscall \n\t"
: // write "=r" or read/write "+r"
:"S" (&c) // read-only "r"
);
}
```

```
    return c;
}
```

Note the following ABI specification:

- (a) `rax` ← system call code.
- (b) `rdi` ← 1st parameter.
- (c) `rsi` ← 2nd parameter.
- (d) `rdx` ← 3rd parameter.
- (e) `eax` → return value.

Link:

<https://chromium.googlesource.com/chromiumos/docs/+master/constants/syscalls.md>

Also note the following inline assembly language codes for different CPU registers.

- (i) `rdi`: 'D'
- (ii) `rsi`: 'S'
- (iii) `rdx`: 'd'
- (iv) `rax`: 'a'

Link: <https://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc/Extended-Asm.html>

Exercise 1. [3+3+4]

- (a) Write a function `int myRead(int fd, char *bP, int cC)` using inline assembly code and `syscall` (no other function call) to read characters from the open file in the buffer. `fd` is the open file descriptor, `bP` is the starting address of the buffer, and `cC` is the number of characters to read.
- (b) Write a function `int myWrite(int fd, char *bP, int cC)` using inline assembly code and `syscall` (no other function call) to write characters from the buffer to the open file. The open file descriptor is `fd`, `bP` is the starting address of the buffer, `cC` is the number of characters to write.
- (c) Write a function `int myReadWrite(int rw, int fd, char *bP, int cC)` that will behave like `myRead()` or `myWrite()` depending on the first parameter `rw` (0: read, 1: write). This also will use inline assembly code and `syscall` (no other function call).
- (d) The return value is the actual number of characters read/written. This is available from the register `%eax`.

Your functions will be tested as follows:

```
int main(){
    char buff[100]={'\0'};
    int len;
    len = myRead(0, buff, 99);
    myWrite(1, buff, len);
}
```

```

    myReadWrite(1, 1, buff, len);
    len = myReadWrite(0, 1, buff, 99);
    myReadWrite(1, 1, buff, len);

    return 0;
}
$ ./a.out
I can read
I can read
I can read
I can write
I can write

```

Send the three functions in a file <roll-no>.3.c to goutamamartya@gmail.com.
Do not include main() in the file.

Exercise 2.

- (a) Construct the DFA corresponding to the regular expression $(a|b)^*a(a|b)(a|b)$ using the ' \bullet '-items.
- (b) Augment the regular expression $(a + b)^*ba(a + b)^*$ with ' $\#$ '.
 - (i) Construct the syntax tree of the augmented regular expression and attach position numbers to different leaf nodes with symbols of the alphabet.
 - (ii) Label the nodes with *firstpos* and *lastpos*.
 - (iii) Identify the nullable nodes and compute sets of *followpos* of different positions.
 - (iv) Construct the NFA and then the DFA equivalent to the regular expression.