

Jin-Soo Kim  
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Systems Software &  
Architecture Lab.

Seoul National University

Fall 2018

4190.308:

Computer Architecture



# Course Information

- **Schedule**
  - 9:30 – 10:45 (Tuesday & Thursday)
  - Lecture room: Engineering Bldg. #301-203
  - 3 credits
  - Official language: English
- **TA: Joo-Won Lee (x7296)**
- **SNU eTL system for announcements and lecture slides**
- **Automatic grading server ([sys.snu.ac.kr](http://sys.snu.ac.kr)) for project assignments, submissions, and scores**

# About Me

- Jin-Soo Kim (김진수)
  - Professor @ CSE Dept.
  - Systems Software & Architecture Laboratory
  - Operating systems, storage systems, parallel and distributed computing, embedded systems, ...
- E-mail: [jinsoo.kim@snu.ac.kr](mailto:jinsoo.kim@snu.ac.kr)
- Tel: 02-880-7302
- Office: Engineering Bldg. #301-520 (office hours: Tuesday & Thursday)
- The best way to contact me is by email

# Prerequisites

- Prerequisites
  - Programming Practice (4190.103A) – C programming
  - **Logic Design (MI522.000700) – Must!**
  - Data Structure (MI522.000900) – Recommended
- You should be familiar with the followings:
  - Shells and basic Linux commands
  - C programming & debugging skills (on Linux)
  - Basic knowledge on digital circuits and systems
- Accessible x86-64/Linux (Ubuntu 18.04.1 LTS or similar) machine

# Policies for Non-major Students

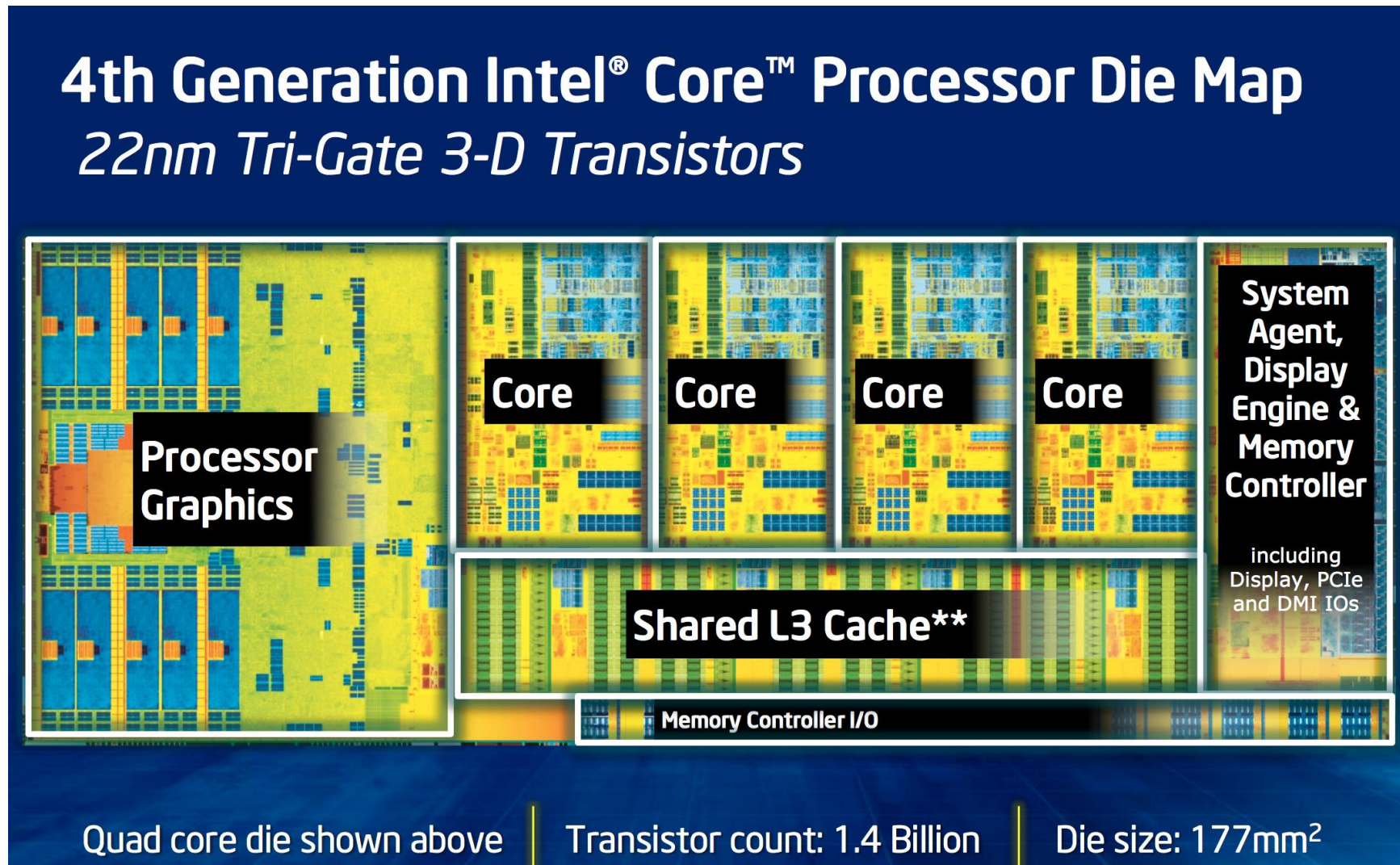
- Your course registration form (“초안지”) will be accepted only if ...
  - You have an experience on C programming and debugging on Linux (gcc/gdb) and
  - You have taken the “Logic Design” course previously
- Other introductory CSE courses for non-major students:
  - MI522.000600 Computer Programming
  - MI522.000700 Logic Design
  - MI522.000900 Data structures
  - 4190.101 Discrete Mathematics
  - 4190.103 Programming Practice

# World's Tallest Lego Tower

- Omer Tower @ Tel Aviv, Israel
  - In memory of Omer Sayag, an 8-year-old boy who was a Lego enthusiast and died of cancer in 2014
  - Completed in Dec. 2017
- 118ft (~ 36m)
- > 500,000 Lego bricks



# Intel Core i7-4770K (Haswell, 2013)

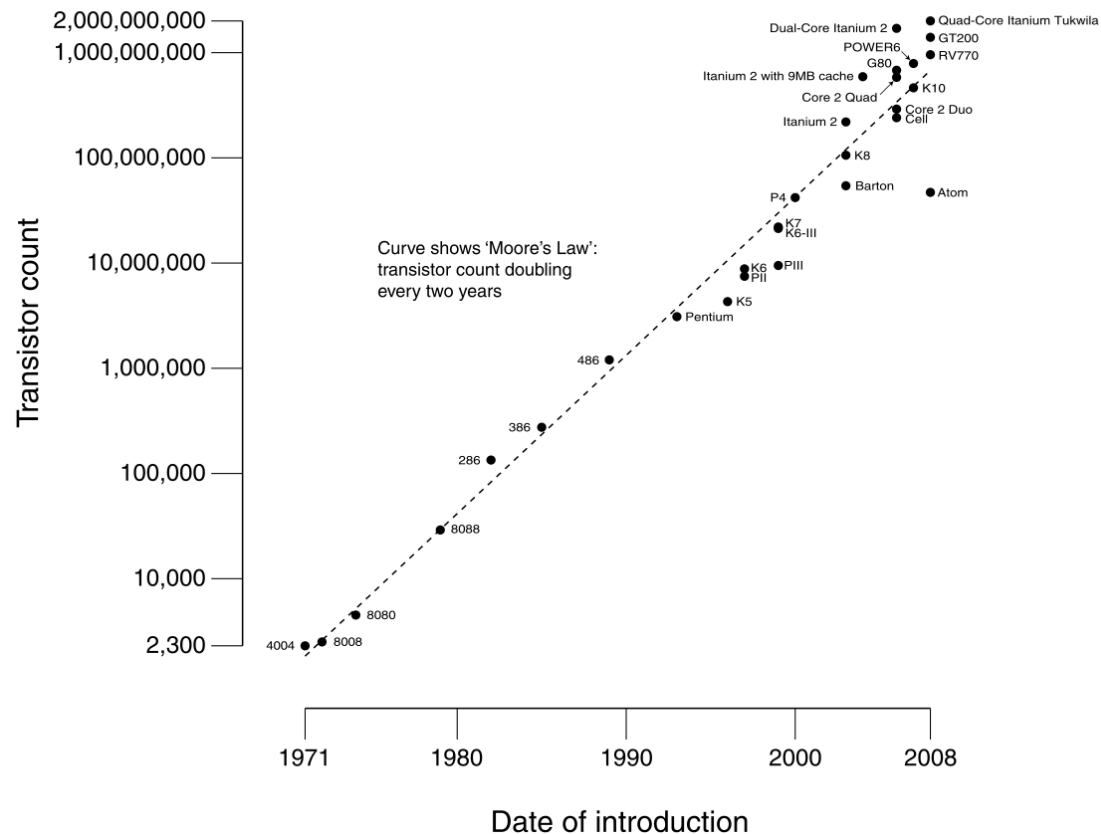




# Moore's Law

- By Gordon Moore @ Intel (1965)

CPU Transistor Counts 1971-2008 & Moore's Law



**“The number of transistors incorporated in a chip will approximately double every 24 months.”**

Gordon Moore, Intel Co-founder



# What Happened:

1997

2017

104 cabinets  
(76 computes,  
8 switches,  
20 disks)

9298 cores

150m<sup>2</sup>



ASCI Red at Sandia

1.3 TF/s, 850 KW

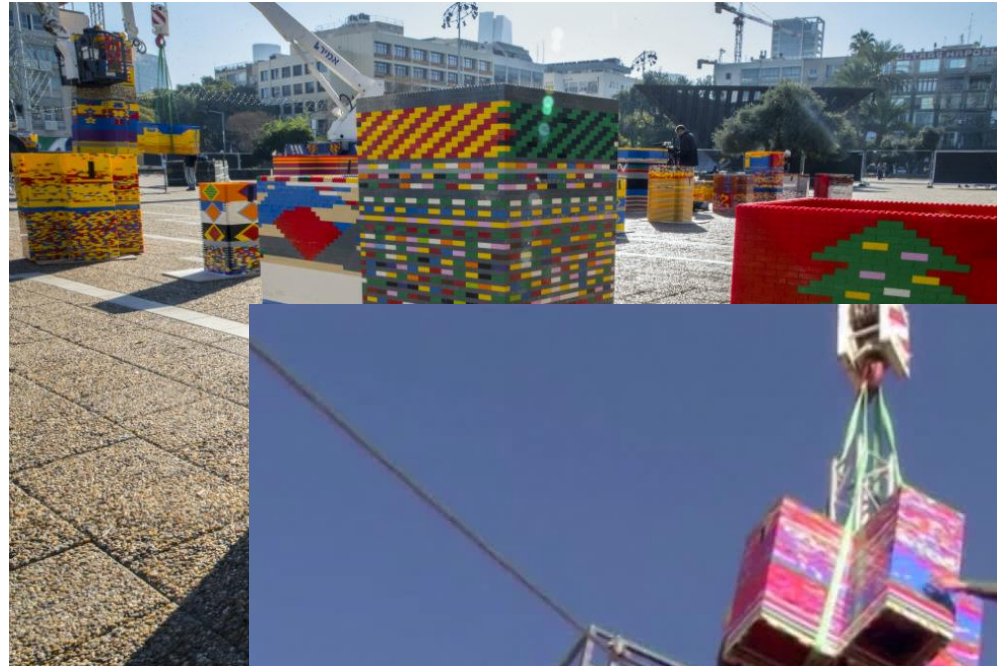


Cavium ThunderX2

~ 1.1 TF/s, ~ 0.2 KW

3.5 orders of  
magnitude

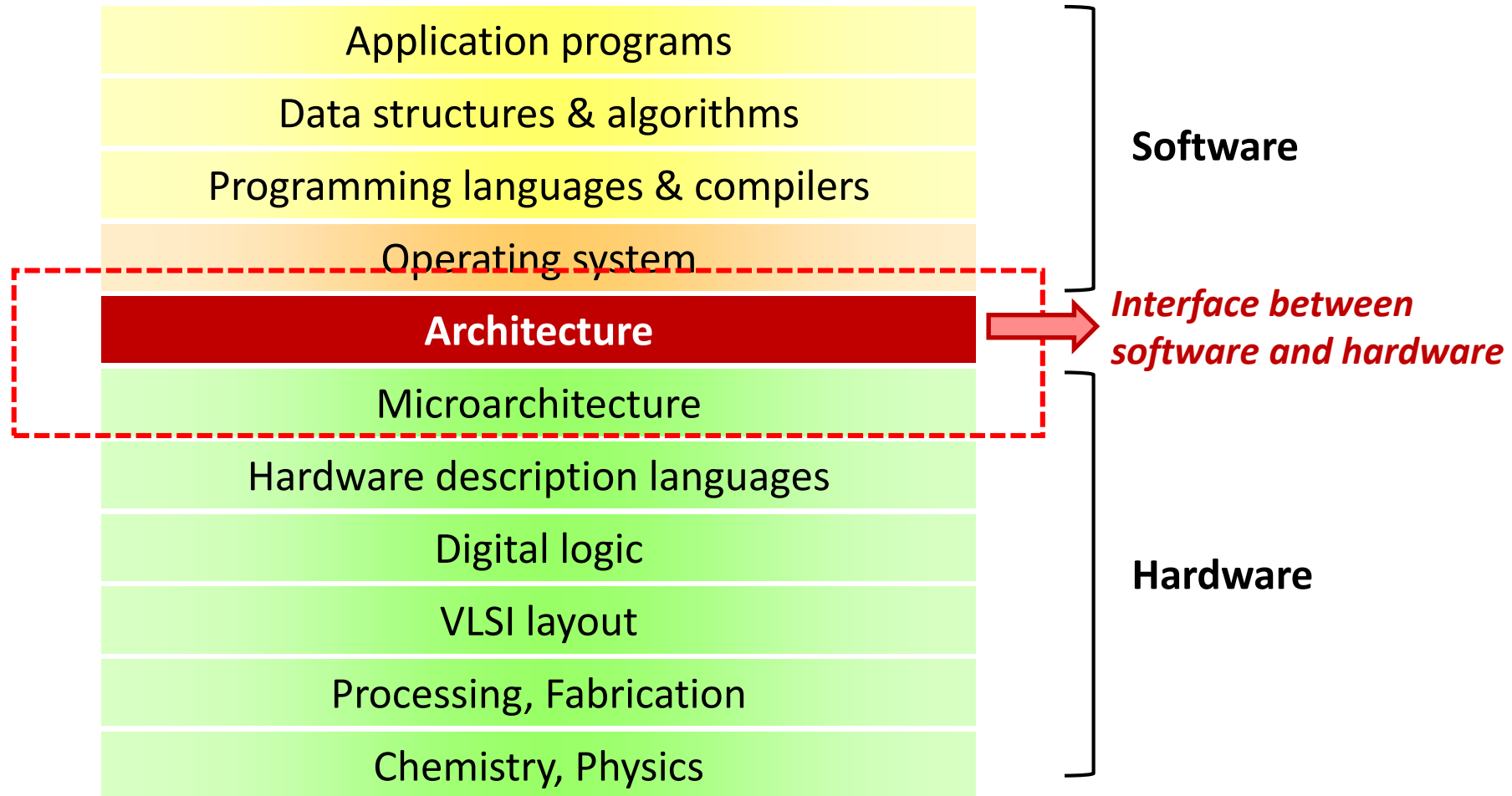
# World's Tallest Lego Tower (Revisited)



Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5215235/Tel-Aviv-toy-towers-world-record.html>  
<http://opanoticias.com/noticias/construyen-en-israel-la-torre-de-lego-mas-grande-del-mundo-36-metros-de-altura/>  
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/worlds-tallest-lego-tower-built-11763183>

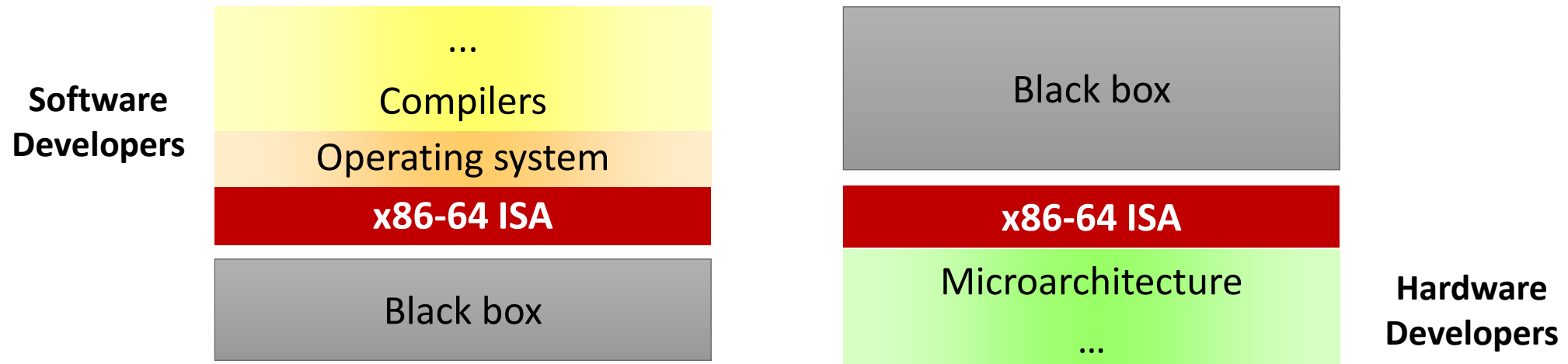
# Taming Complexity

- Levels of abstractions



# Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)

- The hardware/software interface
  - Hardware abstraction visible to software (OS, compilers, ...)
  - Instructions and their encodings, registers, data types, addressing modes, etc.
  - Written documents about how the CPU behaves
  - e.g. All 64-bit Intel CPUs follow the same x86-64 (or Intel 64) ISA





# Machine Code Example

- C code: add two signed integers
- Assembly code
  - Add two 8-byte integers
    - “quad” words in x86-64 parlance
    - Same instruction whether signed or unsigned
  - Operands
    - x: Register %rdi
    - y: Register %rsi
    - t: Register %rax
- Machine code
  - 4-byte instruction
  - Stored at memory address 0x4004d6

```
long t = x + y;
```

```
leaq (%rdi,%rsi),%rax
```

```
0x4004d6: 48 8d 04 37
```

# Abstraction is Good, But ...

- Abstraction helps us deal with complexity
  - Hide lower-level details
- These abstractions have limits
  - Especially in the presence of bugs
  - Need to understand details of underlying implementations
- This is why you should take this course seriously even if you don't want to be a computer architect!

# Example #1: Int's $\neq$ Integers, Float's $\neq$ Reals

## ■ Is $x^2 \geq 0$ ?

- Float's: ??
- Int's: ??

```
int x = 50000;  
printf ("%s\n", (x*x >= 0)? "Yes" : "No");
```

## ■ Is $(x + y) + z == x + (y + z)$ ?

- Unsigned & Signed Int's: ??
- Float's: ??

```
float x = 1e20, y = -1e20, z = 3.14;  
printf ("%s\n", (x+y)+z==x+(y+z)? "Yes" : "No");
```



# Example #2: Memory Matters

- Memory referencing bug example

```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    // Way too small!
    char buf[4];
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}

int main()
{
    printf("Type: ");
    echo();
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ ./bufdemo
Type:012
012

$ ./bufdemo
Type: 01234567890123456789012
01234567890123456789012

$ ./bufdemo
Type: 012345678901234567890123
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

# Example #3: Constant Factors Matter

- There's more to performance than asymptotic complexity
- Array copy example

```
void copyij (int src[2048][2048],
             int dst[2048][2048])
{
    int i, j;
    for (i = 0; i < 2048; i++)
        for (j = 0; j < 2048; j++)
            dst[i][j] = src[i][j];
}
```

4.3 ms

```
void copyji (int src[2048][2048],
             int dst[2048][2048])
{
    int i, j;
    for (j = 0; j < 2048; j++)
        for (i = 0; i < 2048; i++)
            dst[i][j] = src[i][j];
}
```

81.8 ms

**copyji() is 20x slower on 2.0GHz Intel Core i7 Haswell. Why?**

# Example #4: I/O Matters

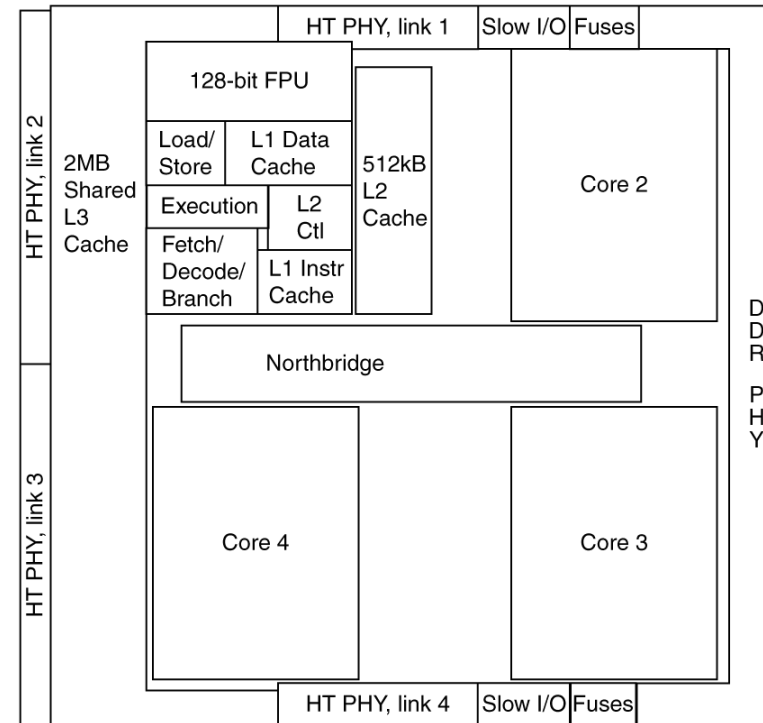
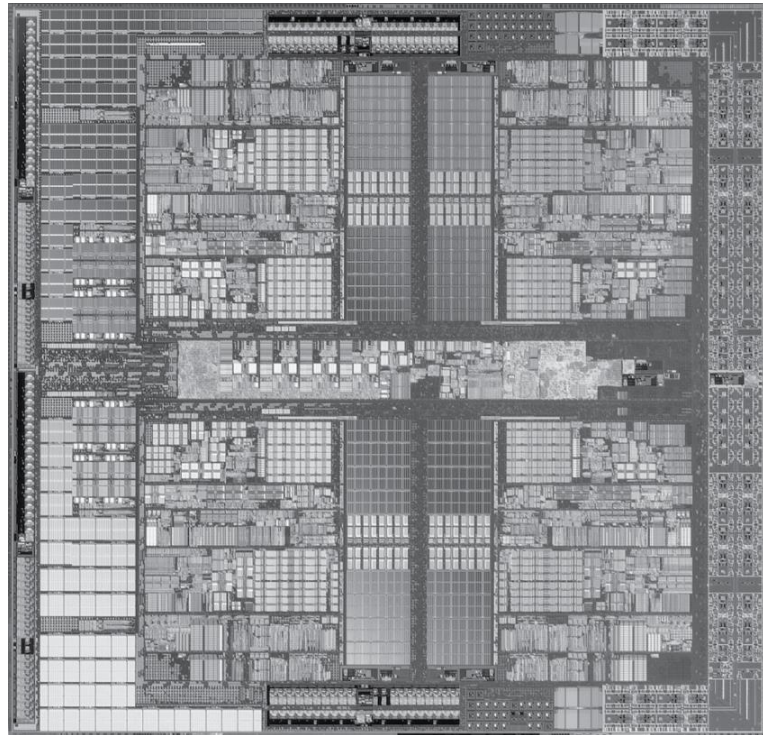
- Computers do more than execute programs
- They need to get data in and out
  - I/O system critical to program reliability and performance
- Many system-level issues arise in presence of I/O
  - Concurrent operations by autonomous processes
  - Coping with unreliable media
  - Cross platform compatibility
  - Complex performance issues

# Example #5: You'll Need Assembly

- Chances are, you'll never write programs in assembly
- But: Understanding assembly is key to machine-level execution model
- Behavior of programs in presence of bugs
  - High-level language models break down
- Tuning program performance
  - Understand optimizations done / not done by the compiler
  - Understanding sources of program inefficiency
- Implementing systems software (e.g. Compiler, OS, Boot loader, ...)
- Creating / fighting malware

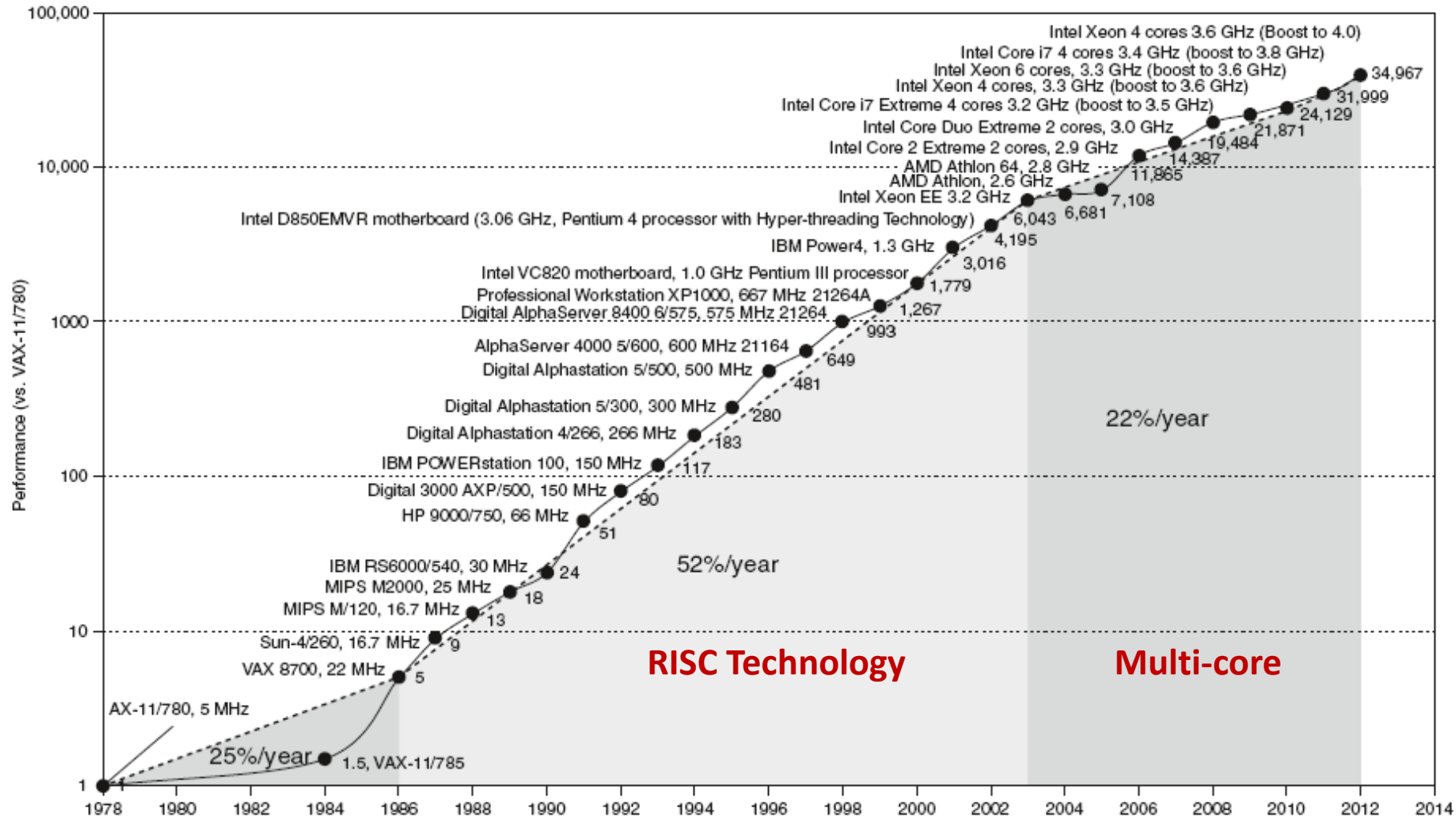
# What we learn in this course: Overview

- You will understand what each block does by the end of this term!
- You will also learn how to program the CPU and write efficient code



**AMD Barcelona: 4 processor cores**

# Uniprocessor Performance



End of Moore's law?

# What we learn in this course: Specifics

- How programs are translated into the machine language
  - And how the hardware executes them
- The hardware/software interface – Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)
- What determines program performance
- How hardware designers / software developers improve performance
- What is parallel processing

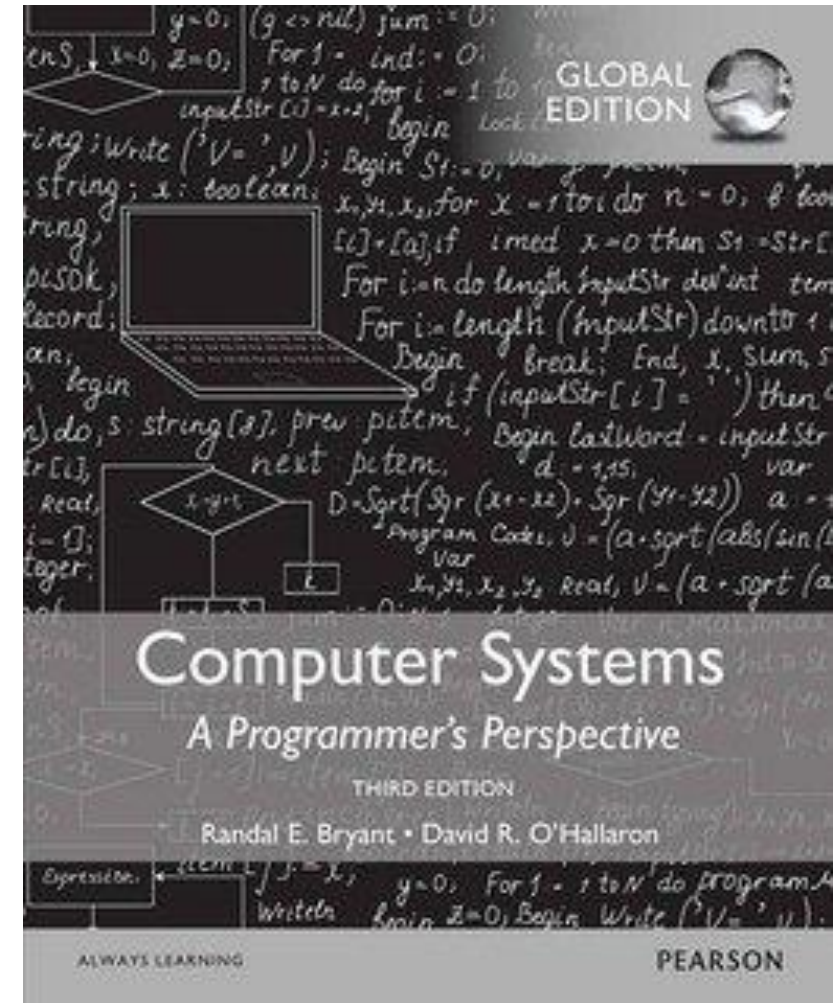


# Why Take This Course?

- To graduate!
- To design the next great instruction set? Well...
  - ISA has largely converged, especially in desktop / server / laptop / mobile space
  - Dictated by powerful market forces (Intel/ARM)
- To get a job in Intel, NVIDIA, ARM, Apple, Qualcomm, Google, ...
  - Tremendous organizational innovations relative to established ISA abstractions
- Design, analysis, and implementation concepts that you'll learn are vital to all aspects of computer science and engineering
- This course will equip you with an intellectual toolbox for dealing with a host of systems design challenges
- And finally, just for fun!

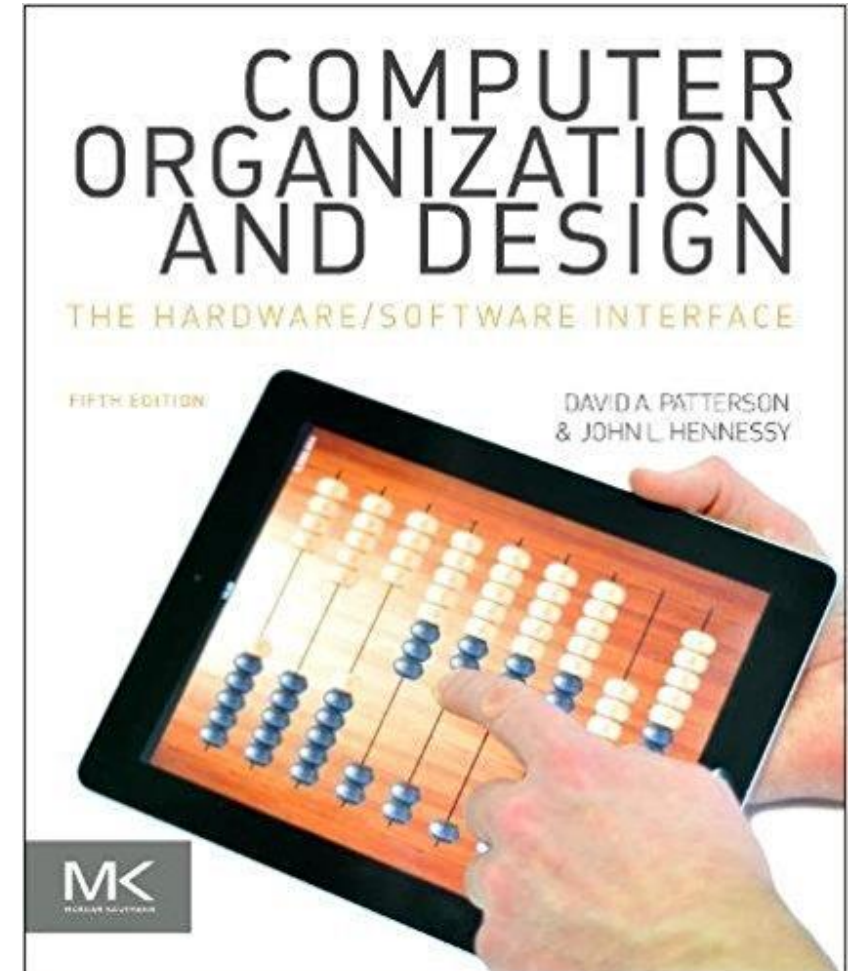
# Textbook

- Computer Systems:  
A Programmer's Perspective
  - Randal E. Bryant and David R. O'Hallaron
  - **Third Edition**
  - Pearson Education Limited, 2016
  - <http://csapp.cs.cmu.edu>



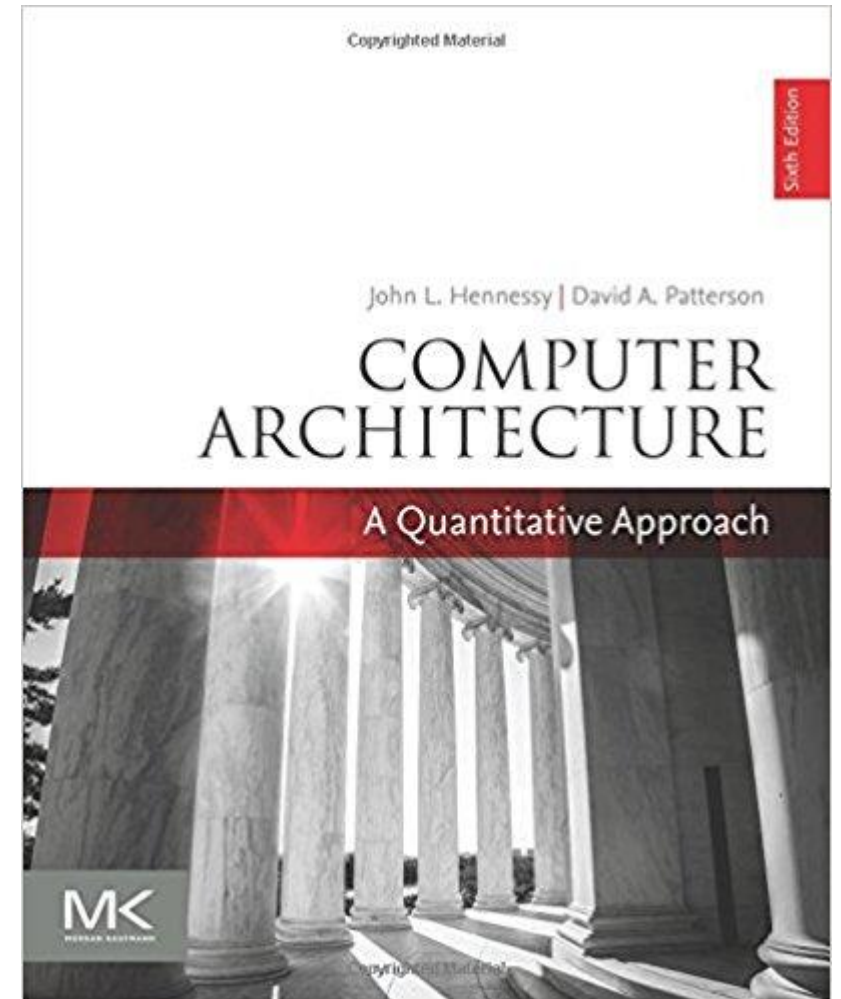
# References

- **Computer Organization and Design:  
The Hardware/Software Interface  
(MIPS Edition)**
  - David A. Patterson and John L. Hennessy  
(Turing Award Recipients in 2017)
  - Fifth Edition
  - Morgan Kaufmann, 2013
  - <http://booksite.elsevier.com/9780124077263/>



# References

- Computer Architecture:  
A Quantitative Approach
  - John L. Hennessy and David A. Patterson
  - Sixth Edition
  - Morgan Kaufmann, 2017
  - <http://booksite.elsevier.com/9780128119051>

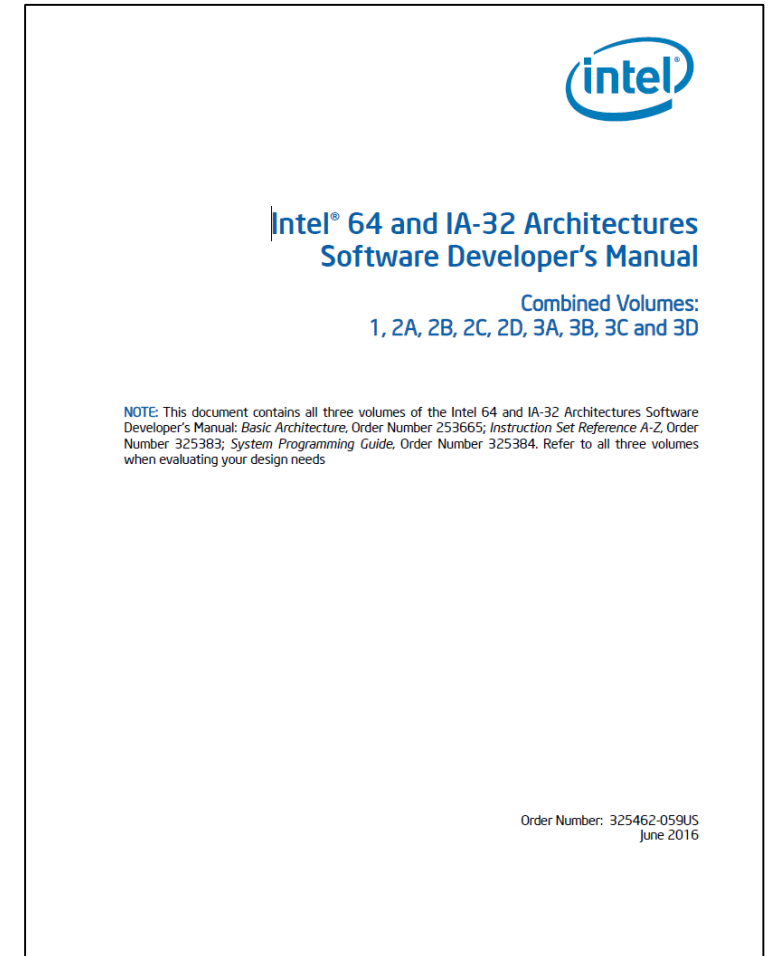


# References

- Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual

- Volume 1: Basic Architecture
- Volume 2: Instruction Set Reference
- Volume 3: System Programming Guide

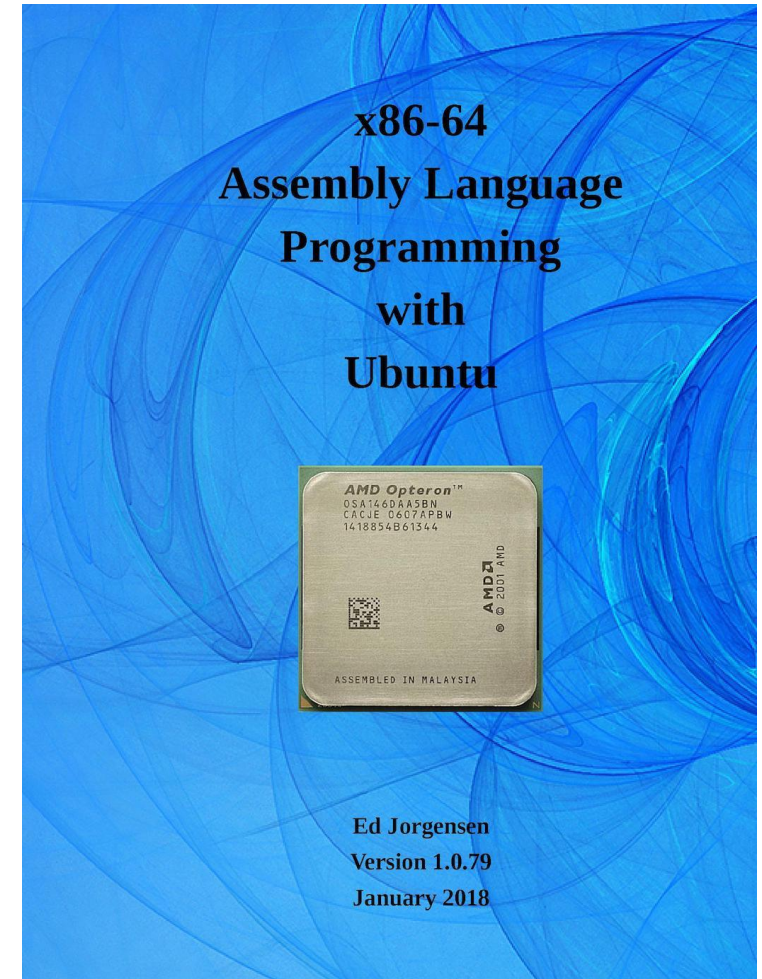
- <https://software.intel.com/en-us/articles/intel-sdm>





# References

- **x86-64 Assembly Language Programming with Ubuntu**
  - Ed Jorgensen
  - Version 1.1.13
  - September 2018
  - <http://www.egr.unlv.edu/~ed/x86>



# Topics

- Introduction to Computer Architecture
- Integers and Floating Points
- x86-64 Instruction Set Architecture
- Sequential Architecture
- Pipelined Architecture
- Cache
- Virtual memory
- I/O and Storage
- Parallel Computer Architecture



# Projects (subject to change)

- C programming
- x86-64 assembly programming
- y86-64 assembly programming
  - y86-64 is a simplified instruction set used in this course based on Intel x86-64 architecture
- Enhancing y86-64 processor simulator

# Grading Policy (subject to change)

- Exams: 60%
  - Midterm: 25%
  - Final: 35%
- Projects: 40%
- University policy requires students to attend at least 2/3 of the scheduled classes. Otherwise, you'll fail this course.
- Also, if you miss one of the exams, you'll fail this course.

# Cheating Policy

- **What is cheating?**
  - Copying another student's solution (or one from the Internet) and submitting it as your own
  - Allowing another student to copy your solution
- **What is NOT cheating?**
  - Helping others use systems or tools
  - Helping others with high-level design issues
  - Helping others debug their code
- **Penalty for cheating**
  - Severe penalty on the grade (F) and report to dept. chair
  - Ask helps to your TA or instructor if you experience any difficulty!

# Summary

- Modern Computer Architecture is about managing and optimizing across several levels of abstraction w.r.t. dramatically changing technology and application load
- This course focuses on
  - **x86-64 Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)** – what interface is supported in Intel CPUs?
  - **An implementation based on Pipelining (Microarchitecture)** – how to make it faster?
- Understanding Computer Architecture is vital to other “systems” courses:
  - Operating systems, Compilers, Programming languages, Embedded systems, Storage systems, Computer networks, Parallel processing, Distributed systems, etc.