



GCC Introductory Tutorial

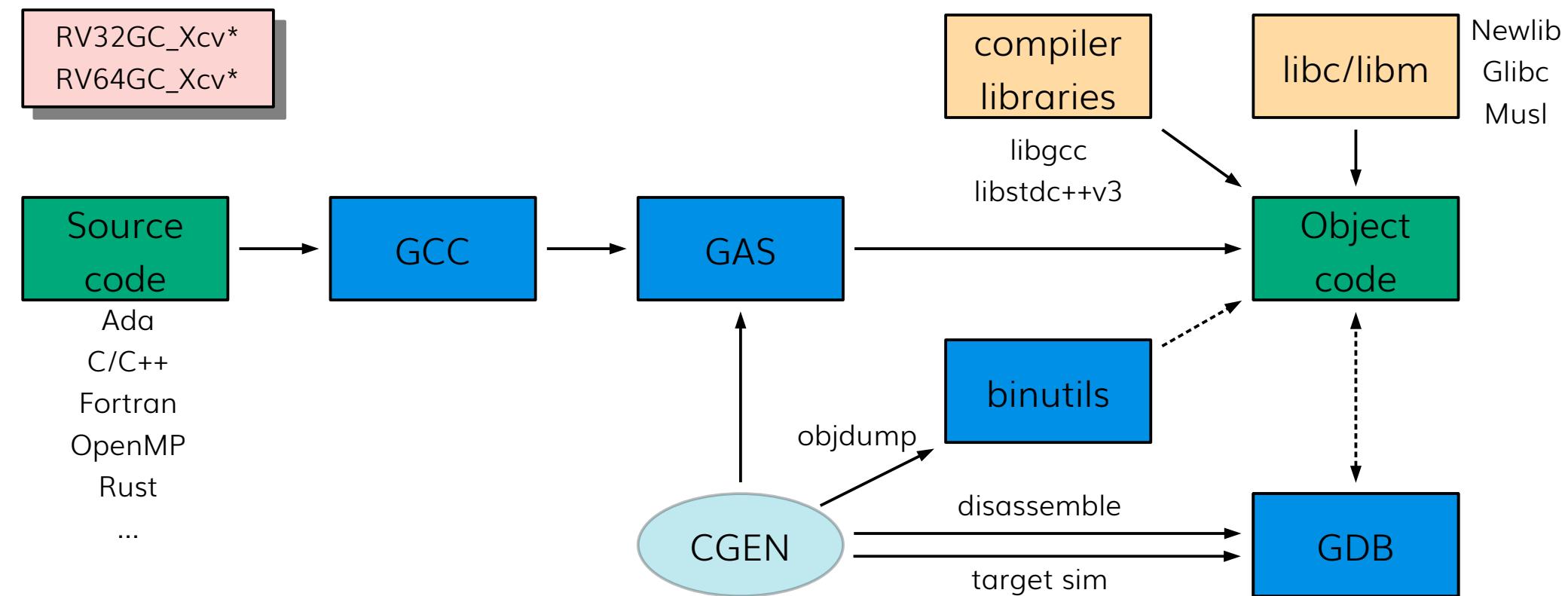
Creating a compiler for your new chip

Jeremy Bennett

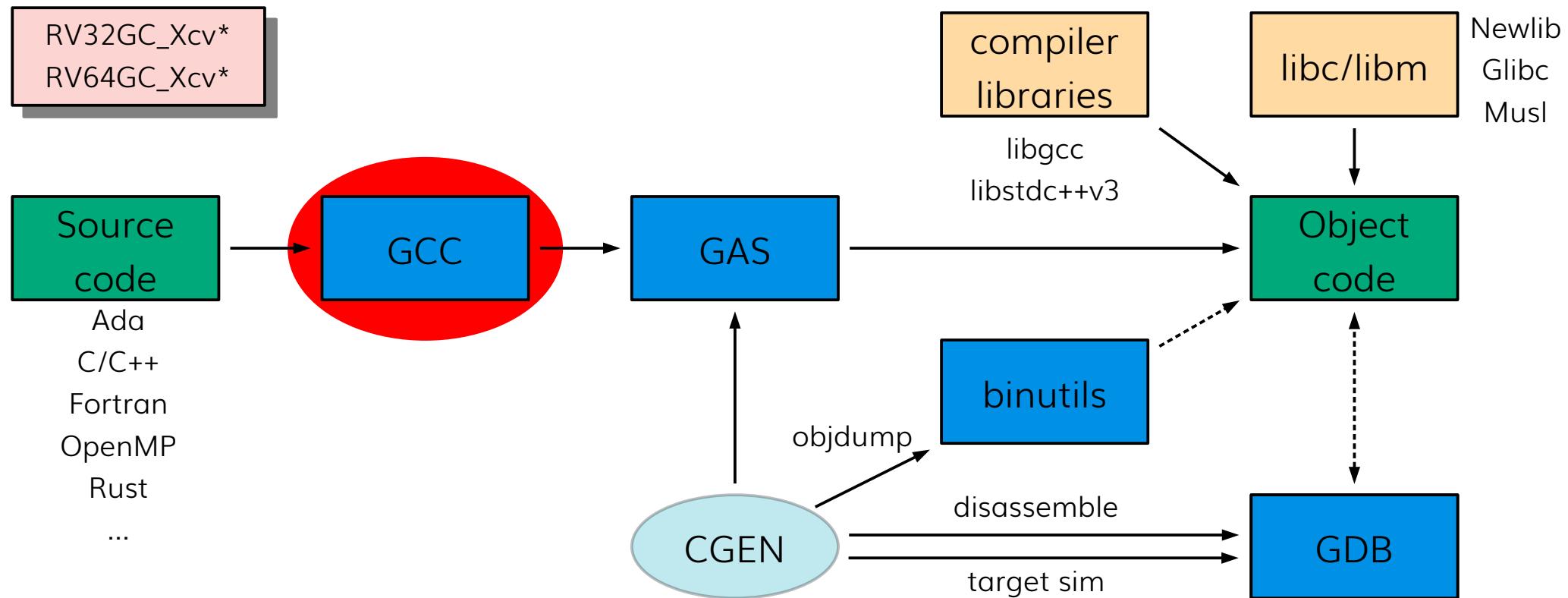
Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



GNU Tool Chain Components



GNU Tool Chain Components



Scope

- How to get a new GCC back end up and running
 - sources of information
 - adding the key elements for a new architecture
 - debugging
- Outcomes
 - you know where to get started



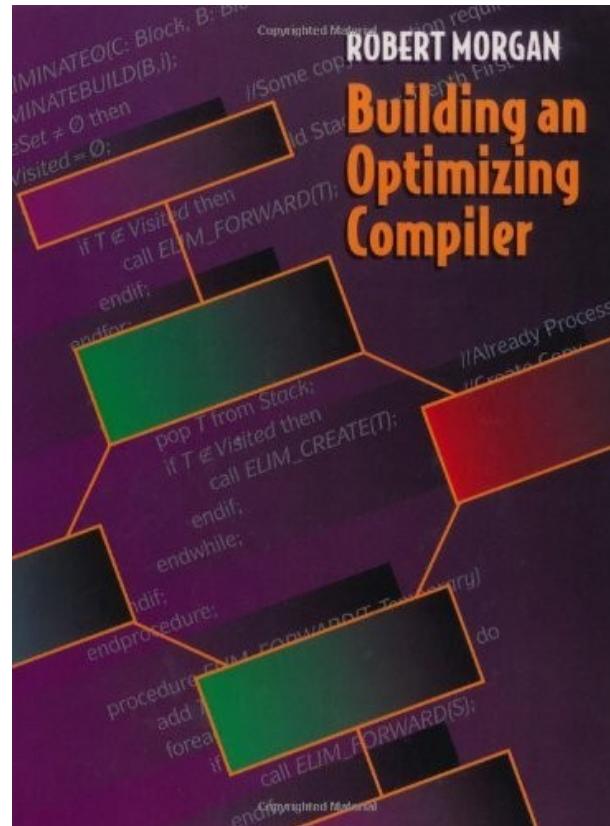
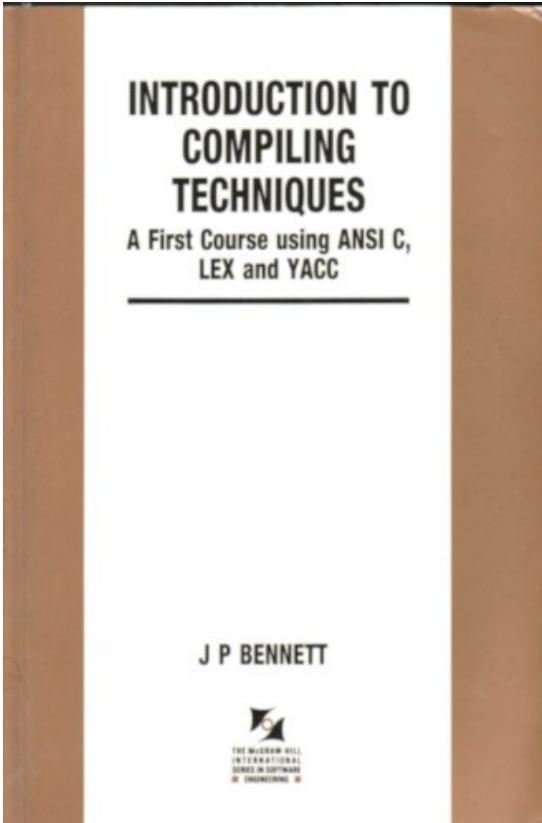


Sources of Information

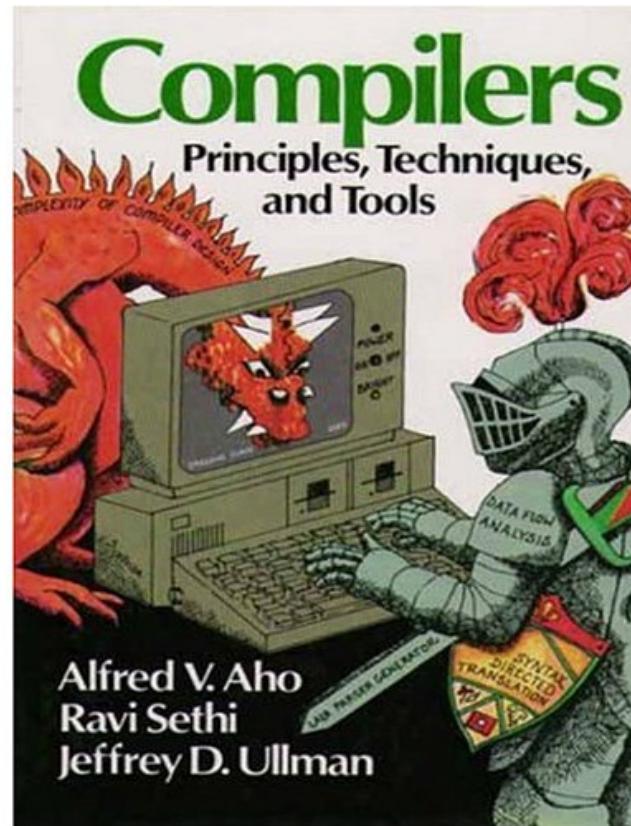
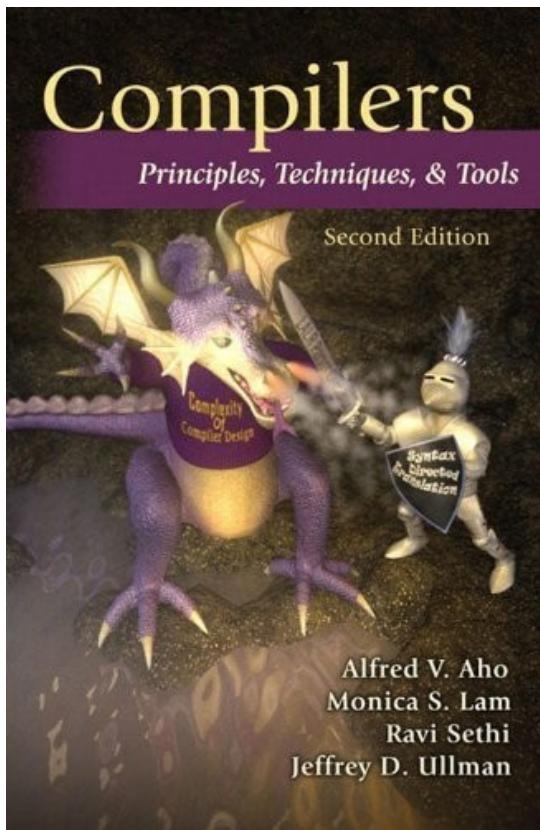
Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



Textbooks: Introductory



Textbook: Comprehensive



The Real World: GCC Internals Manual

This file documents the internals of the GNU compilers.

Copyright © 1988-2024 Free Software Foundation, Inc.

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.3 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with the Invariant Sections being "Funding Free Software", the Front-Cover Texts being (a) (see below), and with the Back-Cover Texts being (b) (see below). A copy of the license is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".

(a) The FSF's Front-Cover Text is:

A GNU Manual

(b) The FSF's Back-Cover Text is:

You have freedom to copy and modify this GNU Manual, like GNU software. Copies published by the Free Software Foundation raise funds for GNU development.

Short Table of Contents

- 1 Contributing to GCC Development
- 2 GCC and Portability
- 3 Interfacing to GCC Output
- 4 The GCC low-level runtime library
- 5 Language Front Ends in GCC
- 6 Source Tree Structure and Build System
- 7 Testsuites
- 8 Option specification files
- 9 Passes and Files of the Compiler
- 10 Sizes and offsets as runtime invariants
- 11 GENERIC
- 12 GIMPLE
- 13 Analysis and Optimization of GIMPLE tuples
- 14 RTL Representation
- 15 Control Flow Graph
- 16 Analysis and Representation of Loops
- 17 Machine Descriptions
- 18 Target Description Macros and Functions
- 19 Host Configuration
- 20 Makefile Fragments
- 21 collect2
- 22 Standard Header File Directories
- 23 Memory Management and Type Information
- 24 Plugins
- 25 Link Time Optimization
- 26 Match and Simplify
- 27 Static Analyzer
- 28 User Experience Guidelines
- Funding Free Software
- The GNU Project and GNU/Linux
- GNU General Public License
- GNU Free Documentation License
- Contributors to GCC
- Option Index
- Concept Index

gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gccint

gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gccint



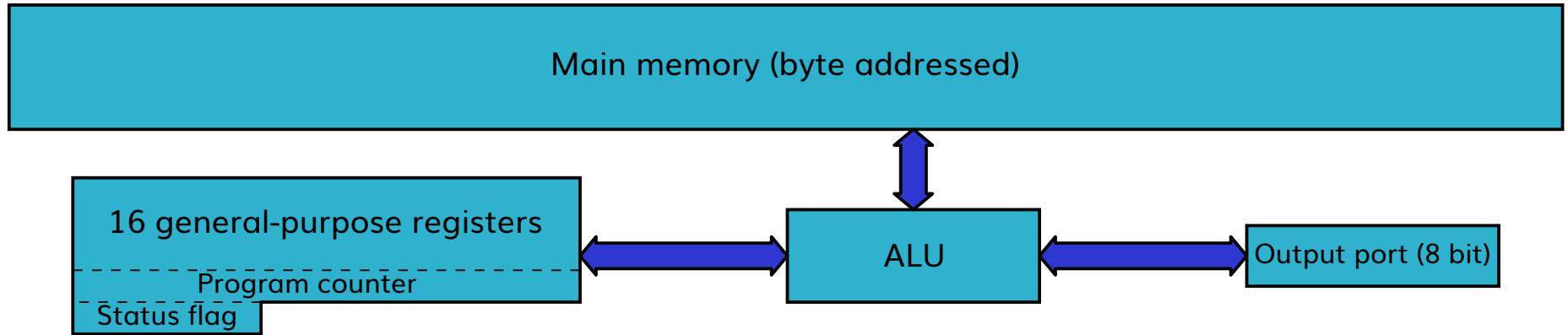


Our New Chip

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



The VAM Architecture



HALT	
NOP	
TRAP	
<arith>	Rx, Ry
<logic>	Rx, Ry
<shift>	Rx, offset
STI	rx, offset(Ry)
LDI	offset(Rx), Ry

LDA	offset(Rx), Ry
LDR	Rx, Ry
B<flag>	offset
BN<flag>	offset
BRA	offset
BAL	Rx, Ry

The VAM Architecture

- Byte stream architecture with 32-bit registers
 - R0 is tied to zero
- Byte addressed memory with 32-bit PC
- All arithmetic is 2 address and signed, ADD, SUB, MUL, DIV
- All logical ops are 2 address: AND, OR, XOR, LSL, LSR, ASR
- All shift ops use offset as shift constant: LSL, LSR, ASR
- Status flags
 - Z set if arithmetic result or load is zero
 - N set if arithmetic result or load is negative
 - C set if arithmetic result is unsigned overflow
 - V set if arithmetic result is signed overflow



Getting Started

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



Clone GCC

```
git clone git://gcc.gnu.org/git/gcc.git
```

There is also a mirror on GitHub



Map of the gcc directory

- `gcc/` the gcc project directory
- `gcc/` this is the actual compiler directory
- `config/` all the target-specific code
- `riscv/` where all the RISC-V specific stuff is located
- `avr/` AVR microarchitecture
- `i386/` everything Intel
- `(lots of archs here)`
- `lib*/` various libraries optionally used by gcc
- `libstdc++-v3/` the C++ library
- `libgcc/` gcc support library



Map of the target configuration directory

- `gcc/gcc/config/riscv`
 - `riscv.h` all the RISC-V specific stuff
 - `riscv.c` target-specific definitions, e.g. what registers are available, byte/bit endianness, etc.
 - `riscv.md` target-specific algorithms to tailor code generation specifically for this architecture
 - `riscv.opt` the “Machine Description” for RISC-V
 - `riscv.opt` target-specific flags and options for RISC-V



Configuring GCC for Your New Chip

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



Configuring: config.sub

- Generic across all GNU projects in its own repo
 - <git.savannah.gnu.org/cgit/config.git/plain/config.sub>
 - update by sending patch to config-patches@gnu.org
- Automatically copied from there to the top level of GCC hierarchy
- For now, we'll do a simplistic edit of the GCC file for VAM...

...
*)

```
# Recognize the canonical CPU types that are allowed with any
# company name.
case $cpu in
    1750a | 580 \
    ...
    | vam \
    | vax \
    | visium \
    ...
    ...
```



Configuring: gcc/config.gcc

- GCC specific configuration within `gcc` folder
- Can specify any specific files to be included for your target
 - set specific parameters for each category of file.
 - will automatically assume `${target}.{c,h,md,org}`
- For VAM we will just specify we also want the standard bare metal header

```
...
;;
vam-*-elf)
    tm_file="elfos.h ${tm_file}"
    ;;
vax-*-linux*)
...
...
```

Running configure

```
$ mkdir bd          # Peer directory of the main GCC repo  
  
$ .. /gcc/configure --target vam-unknown-elf \  
  --prefix=/opt/vam --without-headers \  
  --enable-languages=c -disable-bootstrap
```

- This is a stage 1 build, we just want a plain C compiler
- There are many more options that can be used with GCC
 - mostly to disable more features

Building your compiler

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(lots happens)

...

```
make[1]: *** No rule to make target '../.. /gcc/gcc/config/vam/vam.md',  
needed by 's-mddeps'. Stop.
```

```
make[1]: Leaving directory '/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd/gcc'
```

```
make: *** [Makefile:4674: all-gcc] Error 2
```

\$



Adding Implementation Detail: The Header File

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



Adding the Missing Files

```
$ pushd .. /gcc/gcc/config  
$ mkdir vam  
$ touch vam/vam.{cc,h,md,opt}  
$ popd  
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(lots more happens)

```
...  
.. /.. /gcc/gcc/hard-reg-set.h:322:28: error: 'FIRST_PSEUDO_REGISTER'  
was not declared in this scope; did you mean 'FIRST_VIRTUAL_REGISTER'?  
322 |             return (*regno < FIRST_PSEUDO_REGISTER);  
|  
|  
FIRST_VIRTUAL_REGISTER
```

...



vam.h: Predefined macros

```
/* Names to predefine in the preprocessor for this target machine. */
#define TARGET_CPU_CPP_BUILTINS()
do
{
    builtin_define ("__VAM__");
    builtin_define ("__vam__");
    builtin_assert ("cpu=vam");
    builtin_assert ("machine=vam");
}
while (0)
```

What goes in the Header File?

- See [Target Description Macros and Functions](#)
- Easy approach: copy an existing architecture
 - or1k is a good, simple one
- Associated implementation code goes in `vam.cc`
- Contents
 - data storage, data types
 - register model
 - ABI implementation



vam.h: Storage Layout

```
/* Storage layout. */
#define DEFAULT_SIGNED_CHAR 1
#define BITS_BIG_ENDIAN 0
#define BYTES_BIG_ENDIAN 1
#define WORDS_BIG_ENDIAN 1
#define BITS_PER_WORD 32
#define UNITS_PER_WORD 4
#define POINTER_SIZE 32
#define BIGGEST_ALIGNMENT 32
#define STRICT_ALIGNMENT 1
#define FUNCTION_BOUNDARY 32
#define PARM_BOUNDARY 32
#define STACK_BOUNDARY 32
#define PREFERRED_STACK_BOUNDARY 32
#define MAX_FIXED_MODE_SIZE 64
```

vam.h: Sizes of Data Types

```
/* Layout of source language data types. */
#define INT_TYPE_SIZE 32
#define SHORT_TYPE_SIZE 16
#define LONG_TYPE_SIZE 32
#define LONG_LONG_TYPE_SIZE 64
#define FLOAT_TYPE_SIZE 32
#define DOUBLE_TYPE_SIZE 64
#define LONG_DOUBLE_TYPE_SIZE 64
#define WCHAR_TYPE_SIZE 32
#undef SIZE_TYPE
#define SIZE_TYPE "unsigned int"
#undef PTRDIFF_TYPE
#define PTRDIFF_TYPE "int"
#undef WCHAR_TYPE
#define WCHAR_TYPE "unsigned int"
```

vam.h: ABI (1)

```
/* In VAM there are 32 general purpose registers with the following  
designations:
```

r0	always 0
r1	stack pointer
r2	frame pointer (optional)
r3	function call return link address
r4	arg 0 / function return value (low 32 bits)
r5	arg 1 / function return value (upper 32 bits)
r6	arg 2
r7	arg 3
r8	arg 4
r9	arg 5
r10-r18	callee saved registers
r19-r31	scratch registers

In addition we have
r32 Status register */



vam.h: ABI (2)

```
#define FIRST_PSEUDO_REGISTER 33

#define REGISTER_NAMES { \
    "r0",    "r1",    "r2",    "r3",    "r4",    "r5",    "r6",    "r7",    \
    "r8",    "r9",    "r10",   "r11",   "r12",   "r13",   "r14",   "r15",   \
    "r16",   "r17",   "r18",   "r19",   "r20",   "r21",   "r22",   "r23",   \
    "r24",   "r24",   "r26",   "r27",   "r28",   "r29",   "r30",   "r31",   \
    "sr"  }

#define FIXED_REGISTERS \
{ 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \
  0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \
  0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \
  0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, \
  1 }
```

vam.h: ABI (3)

```
#define REG_ALLOC_ORDER { \
    10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, \
    18, \
    4, 5, \
    6, 7, 8, 9, \
    19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, \
    27, 28, 29, 30, \
    2, \
    3, \
    0, \
    1, \
    32 \
}
```

/* callee saved */
/* non-saved return values */
/* non-saved argument regs */
/* caller saved */

/* saved hard frame pointer */
/* saved return address */
/* fixed zero reg */
/* fixed stack pointer */
/* fixed status reg */



vam.h: Register classes (1)

```
enum reg_class
{
    NO_REGS,
    GENERAL_REGS,
    FLAG_REGS,
    ALL_REGS,
    LIM_REG_CLASSES
};

#define N_REG_CLASSES (int) LIM_REG_CLASSES

#define REG_CLASS_NAMES {
    "NO_REGS",
    "GENERAL_REGS",
    "FLAG_REGS",
    "ALL_REGS" }
```

\

vam.h: Register classes (2)

```
#define REG_CLASS_CONTENTS \
{ { 0x00000000, 0x00000000 }, \
  { 0xffffffff, 0x00000000 }, \
  { 0x00000000, 0x00000001 }, \
  { 0xffffffff, 0x00000001 } \
}

/* A C expression whose value is a register class containing hard
register REGNO. In general there is more than one such class;
choose a class which is "minimal", meaning that no smaller class
also contains the register. */
#define REGNO_REG_CLASS(REGNO) \
((REGNO) == SR_REGNUM ? FLAG_REGS : GENERAL_REGS)
```

With vam.h

```
$ make all-gcc
```

—

(even more happens)

10

```
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/config/vam/vam.h:228:30: error: 'SP_REGNUM' was not  
declared in this scope
```

```
228 | #define STACK_POINTER_REGNUM SP_REGNUM
```

```
..../gcc/c-family/c-cppbuiltin.cc:1569:38: note: in expansion of  
macro 'STACK POINTER REGNUM'
```

1569 | **STACK_POINTER_REGNUM);**
| ^~~~~~

```
make[2]: *** [Makefile:1197: c-family/c-cppbuiltin.o] Error 1
```

1





Adding Implementation Detail: The Machine Description

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



Code Generation in GCC

- Made generic
- GCC is a pattern matching compilers
 - match standard patterns in RTL
 - give template of how they are to be generated
 - this is the Machine Description
- A big part of optimization is replacing patterns

GCC Intermediate Representations

- **GENERIC:** high-level language specific TREE
 - starting point for middle-end transformations
- **GIMPLE:** high-level language independent TREE
 - subset of GENERIC
 - tree transformations (e.g vectorization, loop unrolling)
 - really a flattened tree
- **RTL:** low-level three address code
 - three address code transformations



GCC Type System: RTL Modes

- **qi/QI:** Quarter-integer (8-bits)
- **hi/HI:** Half-integer (16-bits)
- **si/SI:** Single-integer (32-bits)
- **di/DI:** Double-integer (64-bits)
- **ti/TI:** Tetra-integer (128-bits)
- **sf/SF:** single-float (32-bits)
- **df/DF:** double-float (64-bits)
- **u--/U--:** Unsigned variant of above (where applicable)



Lowering GIMPLE to RTL

- Provide a set of standard patterns, e.g.
 - `addqi3` – “Add 2 quarter-integer (8-bit) values”
 - `subdi3` – “Subtract 2 double-integer (64-bit) values”
 - `mulsi3` – “Multiply 2 single-integer (32-bit) values”
- Many of the basic low-level RTL patterns *must* be defined
 - e.g. addition and multiplication
- Many of the predefined RTL pattern names can be omitted
 - e.g. various atomic and vector-op named patterns



Machine Descriptions

- written in a Scheme-like language
 - reusing RTL expressions, machine modes and syntax.
- parsed at compile time
 - generate C instruction selectors and pattern matchers
- compiled, and linked into the GCC executable
 - invoked by GCC when the compiler is run.
- See [Machine Descriptions](#)
 - or copy an existing machine description



Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (1)

```
(define_insn "addsi3"
  [(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")
        (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")
                  (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
  ""
  { return TARGET_64BIT ? "addw\t%0,%1,%2" : "add\t%0,%1,%2"; }
  [(set_attr "type" "arith")
   (set_attr "mode" "SI")])
```

- **define_insn**: semantics of an insn this architecture supports
- name can be anything, but it matters
- **addsi3**: one of the predefined names
 - GCC can lower RTL using this predefined name

Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (2)

```
[(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")  
      (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")  
       (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
```

- **match_operand:SI 0**
 - RTL expression is a placeholder for any operand
 - but it must be of machine mode **SI**
- the **0** is simply an identifier for this operand slot
 - used later in template for assembly output

Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (3)

```
[(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")  
      (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")  
       (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
```

- **register_operand**

- the predicate – is a given candidate fit for this operand slot
- an ALLOW/DENY gating function
- **register_operand** is a predefined standard GCC predicate
- you can write and use your own C predicates here

Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (4)

```
[(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")  
      (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")  
       (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
```

- **=r, r**
 - a comma-separated list of operand constraints
 - unlike predicates if an operand constraint fails, the register allocator will try to shuffle the RTL around to try and satisfy the constraints
 - express the exact semantics of your instruction operands



Machine Description Example: riscv.md (5)

```
[(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")
      (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")
                (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
```

- List of possible constraints (alternatives)
 - `=` all the constraints in the list are for writing to
 - `r` constrained to be a register
 - `I` constrained to be an immediate constant
- Each operand has the same number of constraints

Machine Description Example: riscv.md (6)

```
(define_insn "addsi3"
  [(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r,r")
        (plus:SI (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r,r")
                  (match_operand:SI 2 "arith_operand" "r,I")))]
  ""
  { return TARGET_64BIT ? "addw\t%0,%1,%2" : "add\t%0,%1,%2"; }
  [(set_attr "type" "arith")
   (set_attr "mode" "SI")])
```

- Next operand "" is a global predicate
- Typically used to disable pattern based on flag passed to the compiler
 - as a C expression
- "" means true, the pattern is always used

Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (7)

```
{ return TARGET_64BIT ? "addw\t%0,%1,%2" : "add\t%0,%1,%2"; }
```

- The code generation template
- In this case it is a C expression
 - there are many other ways it can be specified
 - can have multiple alternatives corresponding to constraints
- the % elements refer to the operand numbers above

Machine Description Example: `riscv.md` (8)

```
[(set_attr "type" "arith")  
(set_attr "mode" "SI")])
```

- Attributes associated with the pattern
 - mode is mandatory – the space needed for the assembler
 - everything else is optional
 - can be queried by code generation functions

vam.md (1)

```
;; Register numbers
(define_constants
  [(SP_REGNUM      1)
   (HFP_REGNUM    2)
   (LR_REGNUM     3)
   (RV_REGNUM     4)
   (SR_REGNUM    32)])
)

;;
;; nop instruction
;;

(define_insn "nop"
  [(const_int 0)]
  ""
  "NOP")
```



vam.md (2)

```
;;
;; Arithmetic instructions
;;
(define_insn "addsi3"
  [(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r")
        (plus:SI
          (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r")
          (match_operand:SI 2 "register_operand" "0")))]
  ""
  "ADD\t%1, %0")

(define_insn "subsi3"
  [(set (match_operand:SI 0 "register_operand" "=r")
        (minus:SI
          (match_operand:SI 1 "register_operand" "r")
          (match_operand:SI 2 "register_operand" "0")))]
  ""
  "SUB\t%1, %0")
```



Further Reading on Machine Descriptions

Internals Manual

- Standard Names
 - standard MD patterns
- Machine Description
 - machine descriptions
- Output Statement
 - assembly language templates

Useful files

- `gcc/machmode.def`
 - standard machine modes
- `gcc/config/or1k/or1k.md`
 - simple(ish) example



Adding Implementation Detail: Target Specific Options

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



vam.opt

- See [Option Specification Files](#)
 - for target specific options
 - VAM: `-mhard-div`, `-msoft-div`, `-mhard-mul`, `-msoft-mul`

`mhard-div`

Target `RejectNegative InverseMask(SOFT_DIV)`

Enable generation of the hardware divide (DIV) instruction. This is the default; use `-msoft-div` to override.

`msoft-div`

Target `RejectNegative Mask(SOFT_DIV)`

Enable generation of binaries which use functions from libgcc to perform divide operations. The default is `-mhard-div`.

...





Putting it All Together

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



The Full Compilation: First Attempt

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(almost everything happens)

...

```
build/genemit .. / .. /gcc/gcc/common.md .. / .. /gcc/gcc/config/vam/vam.md  
insn-conditions.md \  
-Otmp-emit-1.cc -Otmp-emit-2.cc -Otmp-emit-3.cc -Otmp-emit-4.cc -  
Otmp-emit-5.cc -Otmp-emit-6.cc -Otmp-emit-7.cc -Otmp-emit-8.cc -Otmp-  
emit-9.cc -Otmp-emit-10.cc  
/bin/bash .. / .. /gcc/gcc/ .. /move-if-change tmp-emit-1.cc insn-emit-  
1.cc; /bin/bash .. / .. /gcc/gcc/ .. /move-if-change tmp-emit-2.cc insn-  
emit-2.cc; /bin/bash .. / .. /gcc/gcc/ .. /move-if-change tmp-emit-3.cc  
insn-emit-3.cc; /bin/bash .. / .. /gcc/gcc/ .. /move-if-change tmp-emit-  
4.cc insn-emit-4.cc; /bin/bash .. / .. /gcc/gcc/ .. /move-if-change tmp-
```

The Full Compilation: First Attempt

```
emit-5.cc insn-emit-5.cc; /bin/bash ../../gcc/gcc/move-if-change  
tmp-emit-6.cc insn-emit-6.cc; /bin/bash ../../gcc/gcc/move-if-change  
tmp-emit-7.cc insn-emit-7.cc; /bin/bash ../../gcc/gcc/move-if-change  
tmp-emit-8.cc insn-emit-8.cc; /bin/bash  
../../gcc/gcc/move-if-change tmp-emit-9.cc insn-emit-9.cc;  
/bin/bash ../../gcc/gcc/move-if-change tmp-emit-10.cc insn-emit-  
10.cc;  
mv: cannot stat 'tmp-emit-10.cc': No such file or directory  
make[1]: *** [Makefile:2612: s-tmp-emit] Error 1
```



The Full Compilation: Second Attempt

- I asked for help
- Is it a bug in genemit?
- Try a smaller number of partitions

```
$ .. /gcc/configure --target vam-unknown-elf \
--prefix=/opt/vam --without-headers \
--enable-languages=c -disable-bootstrap \
--with-insnemitt-partitions=5
```

The Full Compilation: Second Attempt

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(everything happens)

...

```
/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd/../gcc/xgcc  
-B/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd/../gcc/ -xc -nostdinc /dev/null -S  
-o /dev/null -fself-test=..../..../gcc/gcc/testsuite/selftests  
cc1: internal compiler error: in default_legitimate_address_p, at  
targhooks.cc:112  
0x6c3c61 default_legitimate_address_p(machine_mode, rtx_def*, bool,  
code_helper)  
        ..../..../gcc/gcc/targhooks.cc:112  
0xaa1053 validize_mem(rtx_def*)  
        ..../..../gcc/gcc/explow.cc:552  
0x9af669 init_set_costs()
```



The Full Compilation: Second Attempt

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(everything happens)

...

```
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/cfgloopanal.cc:441
0xeade63 backend_init_target
    .. / .. /gcc/gcc/toplev.cc:1746
0xeade63 initialize_rtl()
    .. / .. /gcc/gcc/toplev.cc:1811
0xe2a096 read_rtl_function_body(char const*)
    .. / .. /gcc/gcc/read-rtl-function.cc:1632
0xe6cf95 selftest::rtl_dump_test::rtl_dump_test(selftest::location
const&, char*)
    .. / .. /gcc/gcc/selftest-rtl.cc:92
0xe2670d test_loading_dump_fragment_1
```



The Full Compilation: Second Attempt

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(everything happens)

...

```
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/read-rtl-function.cc:1761
0xe2a40e selftest :: read_rtl_function_cc_tests()
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/read-rtl-function.cc:2212
0x191e22c selftest :: run_tests()
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/selftest-run-tests.cc:90
0xaeae22d toplevel :: run_self_tests()
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/toplevel.cc:2211
```

Please submit a full bug report, with preprocessed source (by using -freport-bug).

Please include the complete backtrace with any bug report.

See <<https://gcc.gnu.org/bugs/>> for instructions.



The Full Compilation: Second Attempt

```
$ make all-gcc
```

...

(everything happens)

...

```
make[1]: *** [.. / .. /gcc/gcc/c/Make-lang.in:153: s-selftest-c] Error 1
rm gfdl.pod gcc.pod gcov-dump.pod gcov-tool.pod fsf-funding.pod
gpl.pod cpp.pod gcov.pod lto-dump.pod
make[1]: Leaving directory '/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd/gcc'
make: *** [Makefile:4674: all-gcc] Error 2
$
```

Dumping GCC internal state

- Compile a simple C file to see GIMPLE → RTL lowering
 - `gcc -S -fdump-rtl-expand ...`
 - add `-dp` to annotate the output assembly file
- Typically each line of assembly can be attributed to an RTL instruction
- More generically use
 - `-fverbose-asm`
 - `-fdump-tree-all -fdump-ipa-all -fdump-rtl-all`



Debugging GCC

- GCC can be debugged using the **-wrapper** option
- GCC will simply prefix all commands that it runs with the text that you provide as the **-wrapper** argument
 - remember, the gcc command is a wrapper

```
gcc -wrapper gdb,--args -v -o hello hello.c
...
COLLECT_GCC_OPTIONS='-v' '-o' 'hello' '-mtune=generic' '-march=x86-64'
gdb --args as -v --64 -o /tmp/cctyamqn.o /tmp/ccLx20Il.s
GNU assembler version 2.30 (x86_64-linux-gnu) using BFD version (GNU Binutils for
Ubuntu) 2.30
```



Debugging GCC for VAM

```
$ gdb --args /home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd./gcc/xgcc  
-B/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd./gcc/ -xc -nostdinc /dev/null -S -o  
/dev/null -fself-test=.. / .. /gcc/gcc/testsuite/selftests  
...  
Type "apropos word" to search for commands related to "word" ...  
Reading symbols from /home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd./gcc/xgcc...  
(gdb) run  
Starting program: /home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd/gcc/xgcc  
-B/home/jeremy/gittrees/gcc-vam/bd./gcc/ -xc -nostdinc /dev/null -S -o  
/dev/null -fself-test=.. / .. /gcc/gcc/testsuite/selftests  
...  
[Detaching after vfork from child process 726651]  
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/selftest.cc:410: test_locate_file: FAIL: unable to open  
file: .. / .. /gcc/gcc/testsuite/selftests/example.txt  
cc1: internal compiler error: in fail_formatted, at selftest.cc:63  
0x1a4b260 selftest::fail_formatted(selftest::location const&, char const*, ... )  
.. / .. /gcc/gcc/selftest.cc:63  
...
```



What Else Did I Do?

- Created a minimal `vam.cc`
 - to define and initialize `targetm`
- Hand created `vam.opt.urls` (bug?)
- Created `gcc/common/config/vam/vam-common.cc`
 - copied from template in parent directory
- Added VAM to `doc/invoke.texi`
- Configured with `--enable-maintainer-mode`
 - regenerated some files



What Next?

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.



What next

- This is part of our 3 month graduate training course
 - this section is given over 5 days, supported by exercises
 - distilled today into 25 minutes!
- Hopefully gives back-end context to Dave Malcolm's talk
- One day I will create a full public tutorial on GCC
 - probably when I retire...
- In the meantime...
 - github.com/embecosm/gcc-vam





Thank You

jeremy.bennett@embecosm.com

embecosm.com

Copyright © 2024 Embecosm. Freely available under a
Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike license.

