

# 1 Order

- Idea > artifact.
- Unnecessarily complex systems and tools. C compiles to assembly. Assembler written in C.
- Software written for many architectures, even though x86 is the only thing at the store.
- Each problem should be addressed once, between where a solution
  - becomes possible
  - is first needed.

## 2 Forth

- I have trouble understanding the available Forths. Obstacles:
  - assembly, C, etc.
  - many files or layers
- JonesForth has two files (assembly + Forth). Obvious where to start reading.
- Started writing own Forth in assembly.
  - I still don't understand assembly.
  - Now I don't know why we like assemblers. I have to read the machine manual anyway.
- Switched to handwritten machine code. Made a video series. Replaced assembly by DMQ. Eliminated DMQ.
- SmithForth has two files (1000 bytes machine code + 1000 lines Forth).

### 3 SmithForth

- Subroutine threaded Linux x86-64 with 64-bit cells

interpreter	binary	intention	instruction	opcode	ModR/M	SIB
input	99 50	Call PARSE				
output	FF 14 25 XX XX XX XX C3	call PARSE return	call r/m64 ret	FF /2 C3	00 010 100	00 100 101

- 8-column Forth-x86 concordance (see)
- Let structure emerge
  - Assembler did not emerge, but a few assembler words did.
  - Disassembler did emerge.
- Forth 2012
  - completeness? CASE DO LOOP CREATE DOES> M\*/
  - hyperlinked online reference with visitor comments
  - test suite
- No floating-point arithmetic, no local variables, no file system

## 4 Binary interpreter

	binary	intention	instruction	opcode
Loop:	AC	al = [rsi++]	lods m8	AC
	AA	[rdi++] = al	stos m8	AA
	EB FC	jump Loop	jmp rel8	EB cb

- Transcribe bytes
  - from where rsi points, where the binary file appears
  - to where rdi points, the Forth (dictionary) data area
- Modify the routine so that input byte 99 signifies one of several special commands:
  1. new dictionary entry with a name 1 to  $2^5 - 1$  bytes long
  2. compile a call to a word\* (\* latest word whose name has the given initial character)
  3. execute a word\* (especially to run the next interpreter)

## 5 Fundamental Forth words

REFILL	get input line from system source only
PARSE PARSE-NAME	recognize word boundaries
FIND	search dictionary
>NUMBER	read number (hexadecimal only)
: ;	define a word

### SForth.dmp

```
99 05 50 41 52 53 45 ##### PARSE ( c1 dl "ccc<char>" -- rbp=addr rax=u ) addr: where ccc begins ; u: length of ccc
```

### system.fs

```
: PARSE ( char "ccc<char>" -- addr u ) DUP 1+ [ 8 1 v 0 2 v ] PARSE [ 8 5 ^ 0 0 ^ ] ;
```

## 6 Videos

- *SmithForth workings*
  - Tour source code from the beginning
  - <https://youtu.be/9MSJGzyELBA>
- *Handmade Linux x86 executables* (no Forth)
  - ELF header
  - Loops, conditionals, subroutine calls
  - ModR/M and SIB
  - Linux system calls
  - <http://dacvs.neocities.org/>