

# TABS

Print and use  
the specification document  
on the class web site.



See syllabus for assignment type  
individual

Wish to create a simple text file  
where the data lines up in columns

Name	ID	Grade
Joe	12345	73

Wish to create a simple text file  
where the data lines up in columns

Each Column is 10 characters

012345678901234567890123456789

Name	ID	Grade
Joe	12345	73

Wish to create a simple text file  
where the data lines up in columns

Each Column is 10 characters

012345678901234567890123456789

Name	ID	Grade
Joe	12345	73

*But I do not want to have to count  
the number of spaces § needed  
to reach the next column*

Tabs can be used to create columns of text

Given *tabstop* = 10

tab ≡ go to next col that is multiple of 10



Each Column is 10 characters

012345678901234567890123456789

Name	ID	Grade
Joe	12345	73

ASCII text file

Go to next tab stop position  
Column that is multiple of 10

N	a	m	e	09h	I	D	09h	G	r	a	d	e	0Dh	0Ah
J	o	e	09h	1	2	3	4	5	09h	7	3	0Dh	0Ah	

Each Column is 10 characters

012345678901234567890123456789

Name	ID	Grade
Joe	12345	73

ASCII text file

Go to next tab stop position  
Column that is multiple of 10

N	a	m	e	09h	I	D	09h	G	r	a	d	e	0Dh	0Ah
J	o	e	09h	1	2	3	4	5	09h	7	3	0Dh	0Ah	

*When displaying or printing the file  
your editor must expand the tabs by  
replacing them with the correct number of  
spaces to create columns*

## TABS ( program processing and output )

The TABS program will read  
an ASCII text file  
redirected to the standard input  
so you can use int 21h with ah=8 and ah=2  
and it will expand any tabs with spaces  
to create columns

## TABS ( program processing and output )

- The default tabstop is 10
- Stop at cols that are multiples of 10  
( 1<sup>st</sup> col on a line is 0)
- **Processing for each input line**
  - Read each character
  - If not a tab then write it to the output

*All characters except tabs  
are written to the output file*

## TABS ( program processing and output )

- The default tabstop is 10
- Stop at cols that are multiples of 10  
( 1<sup>st</sup> col on a line is 0)
- Processing for each input line
  - Read each character
  - If not a tab then write it to the output
  - If a tab then write spaces until the  
next tabstop position is reached
- **Terminate the program after the  
DOS end of file char (1Ah) is read  
and written**

## Reading a user specified tabstop 1-9 ( Optionally specified when program started )



Use default value of 10

## Reading a user specified tabstop 1-9 ( Optionally specified when program started )



Use default value of 10



Use value entered 1-9  
specified by the  
*Command Line Parameter*

## Reading a user specified tabstop 1-9 ( Optionally specified when program started )

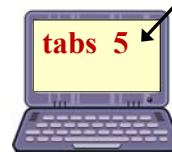
*The Command Line Parameter  
is passed to the program  
in a special control block*



Use value entered 1-9  
specified by the  
*Command Line Parameter*

## Reading a user specified tabstop 1-9 ( Optionally specified when program started )

*The code to read the  
Command Line Parameter  
is provided in the specification*



Use value entered 1-9  
specified by the  
*Command Line Parameter*

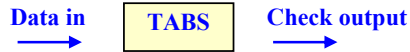
## Step 1. Create a design

*Software design represents the  
methodology used to create a working  
program from a specification document.*

*It assures the problem is understood  
well enough to be solved.*

### Step 1. Create a design

An option ... write TABS in Java or C



Only use basic HLL statements

Model Java and C code  
in the Readfile course locker

To simplify your program the grading  
system will adhere to these rules

- only data chars ..... 20h-7Fh
- only control chars .... .tab, cr, lf, eof
- all lines terminate with ... cr/lf
- cr and lf never appear separately
- file termination will only occur at the start of a new line
- Any tabstop specified in the CLP will be valid ... an ASCII character '1' - '9'

No error checking needed

### Step 2. Code your assembler solution

Your source code named *tabs.asm*

Retrieve *unpack.exe* from *tabs* locker

Put it in the \P23X\TABS directory

In DOSBox type *unpack* to build the  
grading system

### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

We provide 4 test cases for your use  
*tabin.1 tabin.2 tabin.3 tabin.4*

*All in the correct format*

### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

We provide 4 test cases for your use  
*tabin.1 tabin.2 tabin.3 tabin.4*

Run test against your program

*testtabs tabin.1* default tabstop  
*testtabs tabin.1 7* specify tabstop

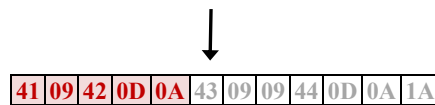
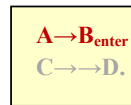
The output will be a file named *testout*

The correct output is in a file *okay*

### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

We also provide a simple editor for  
creating files with tabs

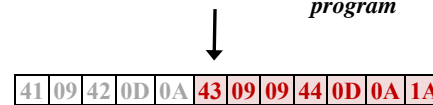
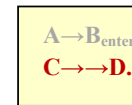
*makefile output\_file\_name*



### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

We also provide a simple editor for  
creating files with tabs

*makefile output\_file\_name*



Period  
terminates  
program

### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

3.3 Correct output for any valid input

*gradokay tabin.#*

*gradokay tabin.# n*



The output will be a file named *okay*

### Step 3. Test and debug your solution

#### 3.3 Correct output for any valid input

*gradokay tabin.#*

*gradokay tabin.# n*

What is the  
correct output  
for ...

Run  
gradokay



### Step 4. Grading

*gradtabs*

If errors look in the file named *results*

The final grade will be based on:

- 60 points for the correct answers
- 20 points for executable instrs written
- 20 points for documentation

### Step 5. Submit your assignment

*tabs.ans*

( This is the only acceptable file )

### Additional Thoughts

- If you limit all constants to immediate data and all variables to registers, you will not need to initialize the DS register

- You need a counter to control writing spaces to expand tabs

Counting up using *add* requires a *compare* to test for completion

Counting down using *sub* does not need a compare against zero

- Check out the *loop* instruction

*loop can help control how many  
times code executes a loop  
Class Notes ... Chapters 6*