

# 1 Comparision and jump instructions

Consider the following program:

```
1 section .data
2
3 section .text
4
5     global _start
6
7     _start:
8         MOV eax, 3
9         MOV ebx, 2
10
11         CMP eax, ebx
12         JL lesser
13         JMP end
14
15     end:
16         MOV eax, 1
17         INT 80h
18
19     lesser:
20         MOV eax, 1
21         INT 80h
```

The **CMP** instruction basically performs subtraction between **eax** and **ebx**. If **eax** – **ebx** results into a positive number then it will conclude that **eax** > **ebx**, if the result is negative then **eax** < **ebx** and if the result is 0 then **eax** = **ebx**.

**JL** performs a signed comparision jump after a **CMP** if the destination operand(**eax**) is less than the source operand(**ebx**). Now, if **eax** is not less than **ebx** then the program will execute normally. The control will execute **JMP** instruction which performs an **unconditional** jump to the label **end**.

Labels are just user-defined names that are provided to make the code more readable, they are not functions. Meaning that if we have a label other than the **\_start** label and we have not used any jump statements whatsoever, then the code inside of those labels will get executed **normally**.

## 1.1 More jump instructions

JE lesser

Jump to the label **lesser** if **eax** = **ebx**.

JNE lesser

Jump to label **lesser** if **eax**  $\neq$  **ebx**.

JG lesser

Jump to label **lesser** if **eax** > **ebx**.

JGE lesser

Jump to label **lesser** if **eax**  $\geq$  **ebx**.

JLE lesser

Jump to label **lesser** if **eax**  $\leq$  **ebx**.

JZ lesser

Visit this [link](#) for this instruction.

JNZ lesser

Visit this [link](#) for this instruction.