

# The x86 PC

assembly language, design, and interfacing

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## Keyboard and Mouse Programming

# The x86 PC

assembly language,  
design, and interfacing

fifth edition

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## OBJECTIVES

this chapter enables the student to:

- Code Assembly language instructions using INT 16H to get and check the keyboard input buffer and status bytes.
- Code Assembly language instructions for key press and detection.
- Use INT 33H to control mouse functions in text and graphics modes.
- Code Assembly language instructions to initialize the mouse and to set or get the mouse cursor position.



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## OBJECTIVES

(cont)

this chapter enables the student to:

- Use INT 33H functions to retrieve mouse button press or release information.
- Limit mouse cursor positions by setting boundaries or defining exclusion areas.



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING

- The original IBM PC keyboard had 83 keys, in three major groupings:
  - 1. The standard typewriter keys.
  - 2. Ten function keys, F1 to F10.
  - 3. 15-key keypad.
- In later years, 101 key *enhanced keyboards* have become popular.



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING keyboard scan codes

- Each key is associated with a *scan code*.

**Table 5-1: PC Scan Codes for 83 PC Keys**

Hex	Key	Hex	Key	Key	Hex	Key
01	Esc	17	I and i		43	F9
02	! and 1	18	O and o		44	F10
03	@ and 2	19	P and p			Num Lock
04	# and 3	1A	{ and }			U Lock
05	\$ and 4	1B	Combination Key Scan C			
06	% and 5	1C	Hex	Key	Hex	Key
07	^ and 6	1D	Shift F1	60	8D	Alt 1
08	& and 7	1E	Shift F2	61	8E	Ctrl 1
09	* and 8	1F	Shift F3	62	8F	Ctrl -
0A	( and 9	20	Shift F4	63	90	Ctrl 5
0B	) and 0	21	Shift F5	64	91	Ctrl +
0C	_ and -	22	Shift F6	65	92	Ctrl \
0D	+ and =	23	Shift F7	66	93	Ctrl /
0E		24	Shift F8	67	94	Ctrl Tab
		25	Shift F9	68	95	Ctrl *
		26	Shift F10	69	96	Ctrl End
		27	Ctrl F1	70	97	Alt Home
		28	Ctrl F2	71	98	Alt PgUp
		29		72	99	Alt PgDn
		30		73	A0	Alt Ins
				74	A1	Alt Del
				75	A2	Alt /
				76	A3	Alt Tab
				77	A4	Alt Enter
				78	A5	d)
				79	A6	
				80	A7	
				81	A8	
				82	A9	
				83	A10	
				84	A11	
				85	A12	
				86	A13	
				87	A14	
				88	A15	
				89	A16	
				90	A17	
				91	A18	
				92	A19	
				93	A20	
				94	A21	
				95	A22	
				96	A23	
				97	A24	
				98	A25	
				99	A26	
				9A	A27	
				9B	A28	
				9C	A29	
				9D	A30	
				9E	A31	
				9F	A32	
				9A	A33	
				9B	A34	
				9C	A35	
				9D	A36	
				9E	A37	
				9F	A38	
				9A	A39	
				9B	A40	
				9C	A41	
				9D	A42	
				9E	A43	
				9F	A44	
				9A	A45	
				9B	A46	
				9C	A47	
				9D	A48	
				9E	A49	
				9F	A50	
				9A	A51	
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				9D	A60	
				9E	A61	
				9F	A62	
				9A	A63	
				9B	A64	
				9C	A65	
				9D	A66	
				9E	A67	
				9F	A68	
				9A	A69	
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				9B	A244	
				9C	A245	
				9D	A246	
				9E	A247	
				9F	A248	
				9A	A249	
				9B	A250	
				9C	A251	
				9D	A252	
				9E	A253	
				9F	A254	
				9A	A255	
				9B	A256	

## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING

- The same scan code is used for a given lowercase letter and its capital, and all keys with dual labels.
  - The keyboard shift status byte distinguishes the keys.
    - Some INT 16H function calls provide the status byte in AL.
  - For keyboard-motherboard, interaction IBM has provided INT 16H.

When a key is pressed, the OS stores its scan code in memory locations called a *keyboard buffer*, located in the BIOS data area.

Table 5-4: Keyboard Status Byte

Bit	If = 1	Mask Code (OR)
0	Right shift pressed	FEH
1	Left shift pressed	FDH
2	Ctrl pressed	FBH
3	Alt pressed	F7H
4	Scroll Lock toggled	EFH
5	NumLock toggled	DFH
6	CapsLock toggled	BFH
7	Ins toggled	7FH



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING checking a key press

- For a program to run tasks continuously while checking for a keypress requires use of INT 16H.
  - A BIOS interrupt used exclusively for the keyboard.
- To check a keypress, use INT 16H function AH = 01.

```
MOV AH, 0          ;get key pressed
INT 16H           ;using INT 16H
```

- If ZF = 0, there is a key press.
- If ZF = 1, there is no key press.
- This function does not wait for the user to press a key—it simply checks to see *if* there is a key press.
  - If a character is available, it returns the scan code in AH, and the ASCII code in AL.



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING checking a key press

- Program 5-1 sends the ASCII bell character, 07 hex to the screen continuously.

```
.MODEL SMALL
.STACK
.DATA
MESSAGE DB 'TO STOP THE BELL SOUND PRESS ANY KEY$'
.CODE
MAIN PROC
    MOV AX, @DATA
    MOV DS, AX
    MOV AH, 09
    MOV DX, OFFSET MESSAGE ;DISPLAY THE MESSAGE
    INT 21H
AGAIN: MOV AH, 02      ;SENDING TO MONITOR A SINGLE CHAR
        MOV DL, 07      ;SEND OUT THE BELL CHAR
        INT 21H
        MOV AH, 01      ;CHECK THE KEY PRESS
        INT 16H          ;USING INT 16H
        JZ AGAIN         ;IF NO KEY PRESS STAY IN THE LOOP
        MOV AH, 4CH      ;IF ANY KEY PRESSED GO BACK TO DOS
        INT 21H
MAIN ENDP
END
```

To stop the bell sound, the user must press any key.



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING *which key is pressed?*

- INT 16H AH = 0 determines the key pressed.
  - This function must be used *immediately after* AH = 01.

```
MOV AH, 0          ;get key pressed
INT 16H           ;using INT 16H
```

- AH = 0 doesn't return until a key is pressed.
  - AH = 1 comes back whether or not a key has been pressed.
- AL contains the ASCII character of the pressed key.
  - The scan key is in AH.
- For characters such as F1–F10 for which there is no ASCII code, the scan code is in AH and AL = 0.
  - Thus, if AL = 0, a special function key was pressed.



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING *which key is pressed?*

```
.MODEL SMALL
.STACK
.DATA
MESSAGE DB 'TO STOP THE BELL SOUND PRESS Q (or q) KEYS'
.CODE
MAIN PROC
    MOV AX, @DATA
    MOV DS, AX
    MOV AH, 09
    MOV DX, OFFSET MESSAGE ;DISPLAY THE MESSAGE
    INT 21H
AGAIN:MOV AH, 02
    MOV DL, 07      ;SOUND THE BELL BY SENDING OUT BELL CHAR
    INT 21H
    MOV AH, 01      ;CHECK FOR KEY PRESS
    INT 16H          ;USING INT 16H
    JZ AGAIN         ;IF NO KEY PRESS KEEP SOUNDING THE BELL
    MOV AH, 0          ;TO GET THE CHARACTER
    INT 16H          ;WE MUST USE INT 16H ONE MORE TIME
    CMP AL, 'Q'       ;IS IT 'Q'?
    JE EXIT          ;IF YES EXIT
    CMP AL, 'q'       ;IS IT 'q'?
    JE EXIT          ;IF YES EXIT
    JMP AGAIN         ;NO. KEEP SOUNDING THE BELL
EXIT: MOV AH, 4CH     ;GO BACK TO DOS
    INT 21H
MAIN ENDP
END
```

To stop the bell sound, the user must press a specific key.

Test for the correct keypress to stop the bell



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## 5.1: INT 16H KEYBOARD PROGRAMMING other INT 16H functions

- **INT 16H, AH = 10H**  
**(read a character)** - the same as AH = 0, except that it also accepts the additional keys on the IBM extended (enhanced) keyboard.
- **INT 16H, AH = 11H**  
**(find if a character is available)** - the same as AH = 1, except that it also accepts the additional keys on the IBM extended (enhanced) keyboard.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H detecting the presence of a mouse

- Because the original IBM PC & DOS did not provide support for the mouse, interrupt INT 33H is not part of BIOS or DOS.
  - INT 33H is part of the mouse driver software installed when the PC is booted.
- The first task of any INT 33H program should be to verify the presence of a mouse and the number of buttons it supports, using INT 33H function AX = 0.
  - On return from INT 33H, if AX = 0, no mouse is supported.
  - If AX = FFFFH, the mouse is supported and the number of mouse buttons will be contained in register BX.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H detecting the presence of a mouse

- Although most mice have two buttons, right and left, there are some with middle buttons as well.

```
MOV AX, 0          ;mouse initialization option
INT 33H
CMP AX, 0          ;check AX contents after INT 33H
JE EXIT           ;exit if AX=0 since no mouse available
MOV M_BUTTON, BX ;mouse is there, save number of buttons
...
EXIT:
```

- In INT 21H & INT 10H, register AH is used to select functions — not the case in INT 33H.
  - AL is used to select various functions and AH is set to 0.
  - The reason for "**MOV AX, 0**".

Do not forget the "H", indicating hex. If absent, the compiler assumes it is decimal & executes INT 21H.  
(33 decimal = 21H)



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H

### some mouse terminology

- The mouse *pointer* (or cursor) is the pointer on the screen indicating where the mouse is pointing at a given time.
  - In graphics mode it is an arrow.
  - In text mode, a flashing block.
- As the mouse is moved, the mouse cursor is moved.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H some mouse terminology

- While movement of the mouse is measured in inches (or centimeters), movement of the mouse cursor on the screen is measured in units called *mickeys*.
  - Mickey units indicate mouse sensitivity.
- A mouse that can move the cursor 200 units for every inch of mouse movement has a sensitivity of 200 mickeys.
  - In this case, one mickey represents 1/200 of an inch on the screen.
  - Some mice have a sensitivity of 400 mickeys in contrast to the commonly used 200 mickeys.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H displaying and hiding the mouse cursor

- The AX = 01 function of INT 33H is used to display the mouse cursor.

```
MOV    AX, 01  
INT    33H
```

- If the video mode is graphics, the mouse arrow is visible.
- If the video mode is text, a rectangular block representing the mouse cursor becomes visible.
  - The color of the mouse cursor block is the opposite of the background color in order to be visible.
- To hide the mouse cursor after making it visible, execute option AX = 02 of INT 33H.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H getting the current mouse cursor position

- Option AX = 03 of INT 33H gets the current position of the mouse cursor.
  - On return, the X & Y coordinates are in registers CX (horizontal) and DX (vertical).
- BX contains the button status, 1 if *down*, 0 if *up*.
  - D0 = left button; D1 = right button; D2 = center button.
- The cursor position is given in pixels.
  - To get the mouse cursor character position, divide the horizontal and vertical values of CX & DX by 8.
- See Programs 5-3 & 5-4 on pages 168 - 171 of your textbook.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H setting the mouse pointer position

- INT 33H option AX = 04 allows a program to set the mouse pointer to a new location anywhere on the screen.
  - Coordinates for the new location must be placed in CX for the horizontal (x coordinate) and DX for the vertical (y coordinate).
- Values must be in pixels.
  - In the range of 0–639 & 0–199 for 640 × 200 resolution.
    - Coordinate (0,0) is the upper left corner of the screen.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H getting mouse button press information

- INT 33H option AX = 05 is used to get information about specific button presses since the last call to this function.

AX = 05

BX = 0 for left button; 1 for right button; 2 for center button

Upon return:

AX = button status where

D0 = Left button, if 1 it is down and if 0 it is up

D1 = Right button, if 1 it is down and if 0 it is up

D2 = Center button, if 1 it is down and if 0 it is up

BX = button press count

CX = x-coordinate at the last button press in pixels (horizontal)

DX = y-coordinate at the last button press in pixels (vertical)

Program 5-4 on pages 170 - 171 of your textbook shows one way to use this function.



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## 5.2: MOUSE PROGRAMMING WITH INT 33H the button press count program

- Program 5-5 on pages 172 - 173 uses the AX = 05 function to monitor the number of times the left button is pressed and then displays the count.
  - It prompts the user to press the left button a number of times.
    - When the user is ready to see how many times the button was pressed, any key can be pressed.



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