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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

## Classes of Computers and Early History of Computing

### Learning Objectives (1.1)

1. Describe the following classes of computers:
  - Supercomputers
  - Microcomputers
  - Embedded systems
2. Describe two early computer architecture designs.

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## What is a Computer?

- From supercomputer → server → PC → tablet  
→ mobile phone → watch.
- All these devices contain some form of computational elements.
- No definitive way to classify computers. But we review three broad categories:  
Supercomputer, microcomputers and embedded systems.



Supercomputer



Microcomputer



Embedded

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### Classes of computers

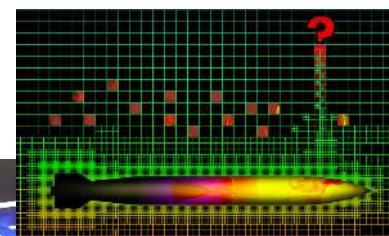
## Supercomputers

- Very large, powerful and expensive computers.
- High computational performance and can operate on large data sizes (for high precision calculations).
- Generally scalable by adding more processors.
- Applications - weather forecasting, simulation of complex physical systems and sub-atomic structures.

**The Titan Supercomputer**  
at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, USA

Computational peak performance is around 17-27 petaFLOPS.

Titan consist of  
• 18,000+ Nvidia Tesla K20 GPUs  
• 700 terabytes of memory



Assess Health of Nuclear Bombs

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CZ1106  
CE1106**Classes of computers****Microcomputers**

- Microcomputers contain a microprocessor as a processing unit and external memory and peripheral chip support.
- More powerful **workstations** are used as servers and the more common variety such as desktop **PC** and **notebooks** are for home-office computing applications.



High-end Server



Personal Computer



Notebook

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CZ1106  
CE1106**Classes of computers****Embedded Systems**

- Compact devices that usually employ a single-chip (**microcontroller**) containing the processing unit, memory and relevant peripheral support.
- They are called **embedded** systems as the presence of the microprocessor is non-obvious. Such devices are all around us.



Examples of embedded systems

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## Early Days of the Digital Computer



- Major progress made during World War II (1940's)
- Computer research funded mainly by the War Department
- To solve problems related to ballistics

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## Typical Ballistic Computation



Analog gear-based computer

- Knobs input numbers such as target speed and course, range to target, wind speed, wind direction, own speed, own course, etc. The outputs controlled the motors of the gun.

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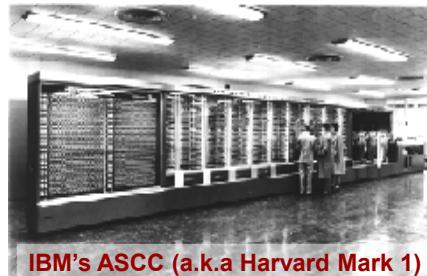
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## Harvard and Von Neumann

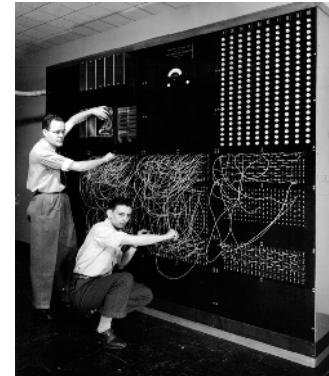
- Two major classes of computer architecture emerged.
- Harvard architecture**, named after Harvard series of relay calculators developed by Howard Aiken at Harvard Univ.



Howard Aiken



IBM's ASCC (a.k.a Harvard Mark 1)



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## Harvard and Von Neumann

- Two major classes of computer architecture emerged.
- Harvard architecture**, named after Harvard series of relay calculators developed by Howard Aiken at Harvard Univ.
- Von Neumann architecture**, developed by John Von Neumann at Princeton University. Influenced ENIAC's design.



ENIAC



John von Neumann



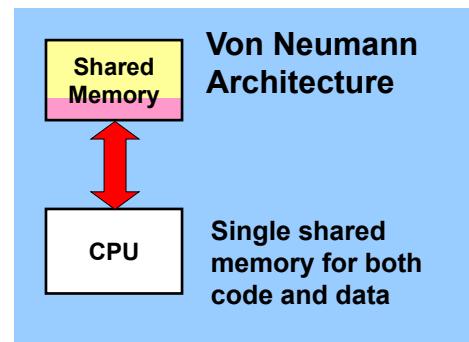
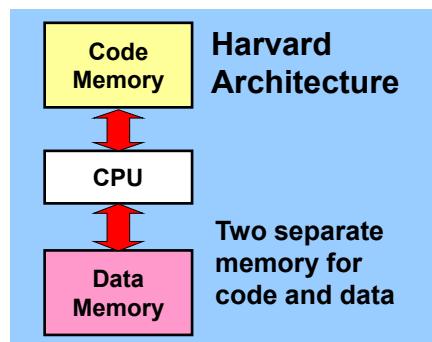
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## Harvard and Von Neumann

- Two major classes of computer architecture emerged.
- Harvard architecture**, named after Harvard series of relay calculators developed by Howard Aiken at Harvard Univ.
- Von Neumann architecture**, developed by John Von Neumann at Princeton University. Influenced ENIAC's design.

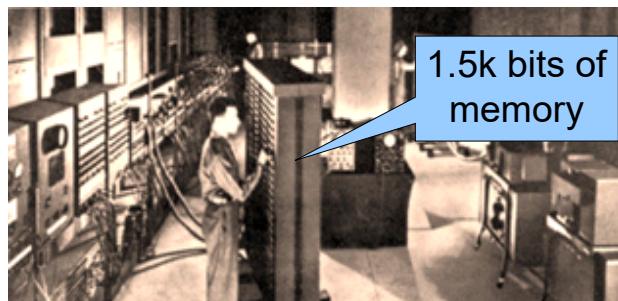


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## ENIAC – the first digital computer



**Specifications:**  
Weighed 30 tons, contained 19,000 vacuum tubes, 1,500 relays and consumed 200kW of power.

**Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator**

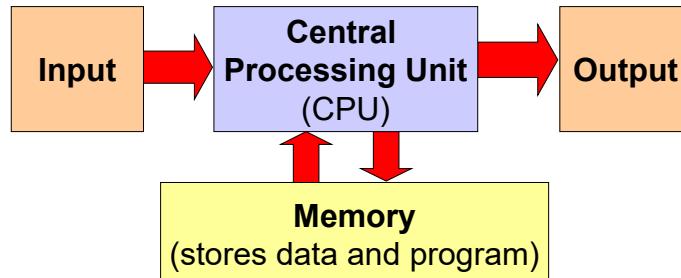
- In 1943, the US army funded Presper Eckert and John Mauchly at Univ. of Pennsylvania to build ENIAC, based on **von Neumann's architecture**.

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## The von Neumann Architecture



- Many modern day computers are still based on von Neumann's design, which consist of:
  - Central Processing Unit (CPU)
  - Memory
  - Input and Output

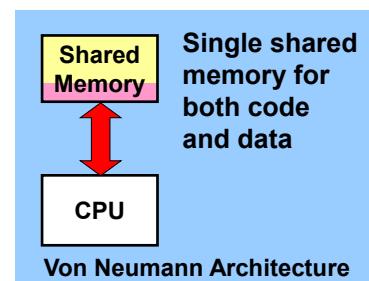
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## Summary

- Computers can be classified in many ways, e.g. by function, size, general design, etc.
- We looked at three classes, namely supercomputers, microcomputers and embedded systems.
- Two early rivals in computer architecture designs, the **Harvard** and **von Neumann** architectures.
- In part, due to the high cost of memory in the early days of computing, the shared memory design of the von Neumann design became the preferred architecture.



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## Chapter 1

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## Basic Components of a Microcomputer

### Learning Objectives (1.2)

1. Describe the basic components of a microcomputer.
2. Describe the purpose of the CPU clock and reset circuitry.

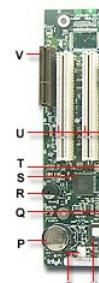
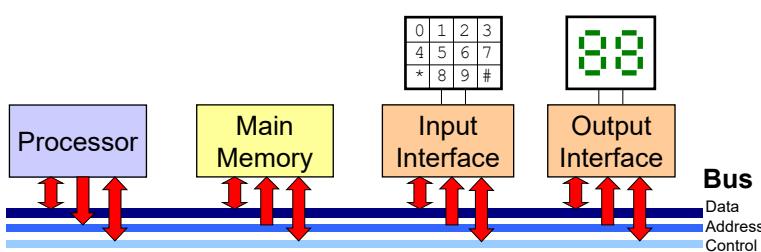
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## Components of a Microcomputer



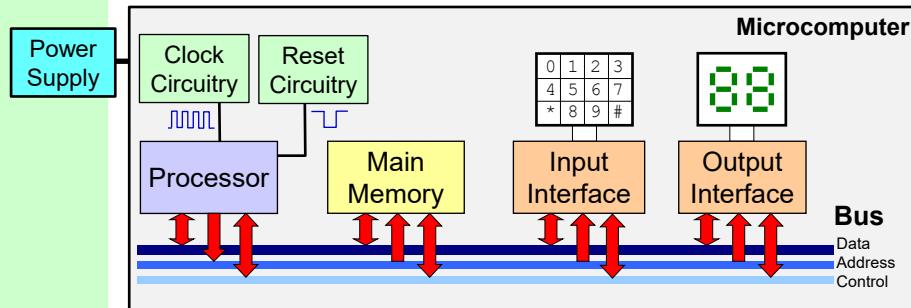
- Consist of three main components: **processor**, main **memory** and I/O interfaces.
- They are interconnected by a **bus** structure, which consist of a collection of wires through which binary information can be transferred in parallel.

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## Components of a Microcomputer



- Consist of three main components: **processor**, main **memory** and I/O interfaces.
- They are interconnected by a **bus** structure, which consist of a collection of wires through which binary information can be transferred in parallel.
- Other important components include the **power** supply, CPU **clock** and **reset** circuitries.

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## Clock

- Most computers are **synchronous** and are driven by a master or system **clock**.
- The **speed performance** of the computer is governed by the frequency of the clock.
- The CPU requires a fixed number of clock ticks (**cycles**) to execute each instruction.
- Many **different clock** frequencies are derived from the one master clock.
- Operation closer to the CPU core (e.g. registers and arithmetic & logic units) are **clocked faster** and those involving external components (e.g. memory or peripheral access) are **clocked slower**.



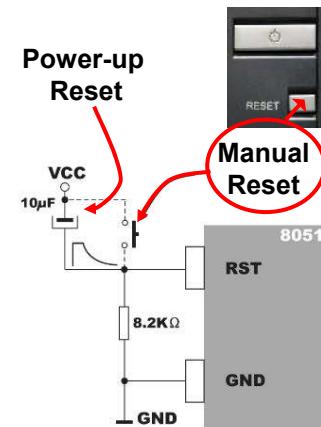
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## Reset Circuitry

- The CPU is put into a known state on power up. The **reset circuitry** provides an external signal that asserts the Reset pin when power is applied.
- An active-low signal on the reset pin for a **substantial duration** (several clock cycles) is required to reset the CPU.
- Most computer system provide an additional **manual reset** button to reset the CPU without switching off the power.
- On reset, the CPU is put into a known initial state where the boot-up code can then execute.



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## Summary

- The basic components within a computer consist of the CPU, memory and I/O interfaces.
- The **memory** is a very critical component in a computer as it stores both data and instructions.
- The access speed of the memory usually determines the performance of the computer.
- A fast processor with a fast clock that is coupled with slow memory will still execute instructions slowly.
- Understanding how data and instructions are organised in memory can help programmers write more **efficient programs**.

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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

## Desktop PC and Tablet PC Examples

### Learning Objectives (1.3)

1. Describe the hardware composition of a desktop PC.
2. Describe the hardware composition of a tablet computer.

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## Computer Hardware Decomposition

- What are the major components within the typical computers that we use?



**Desktop Personal Computer**



**Tablet Computer**

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## Inside a Desktop Personal Computer

- Major components of a desktop PC

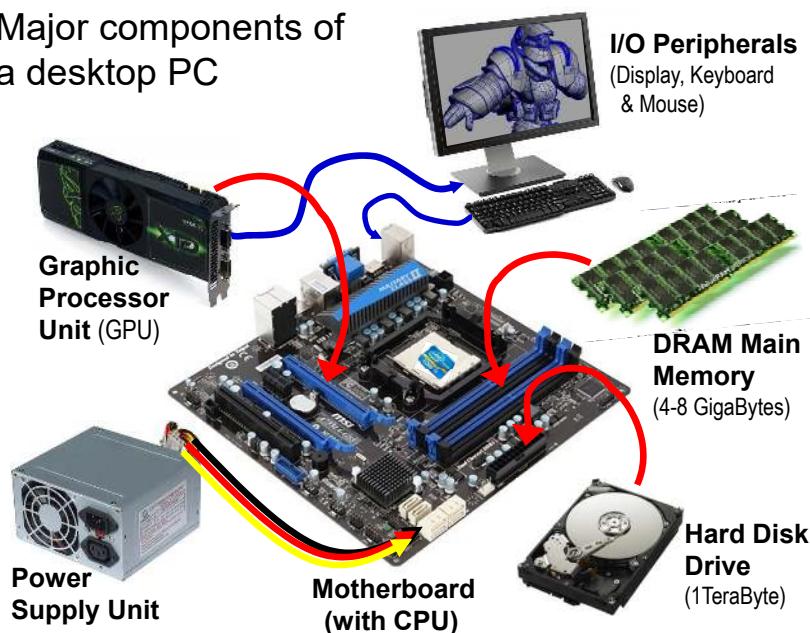
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## Inside a Desktop Personal Computer

- Major components of a desktop PC

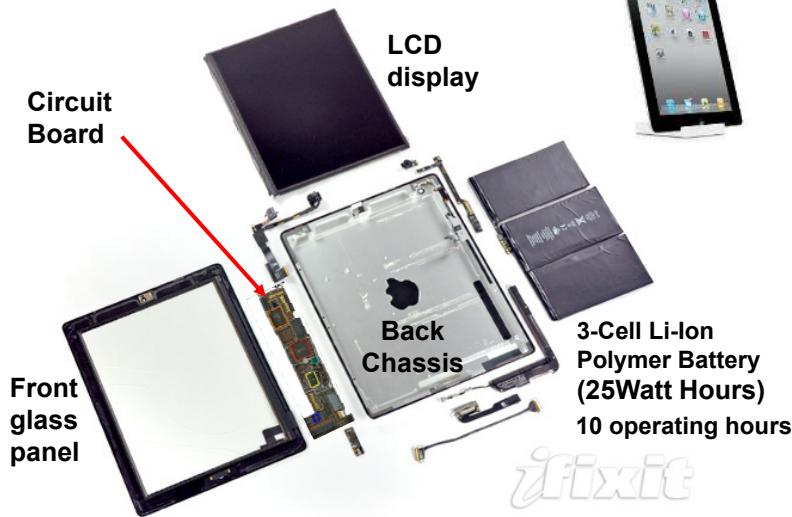
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## Inside a Tablet Computer

- Major components of the iPad2



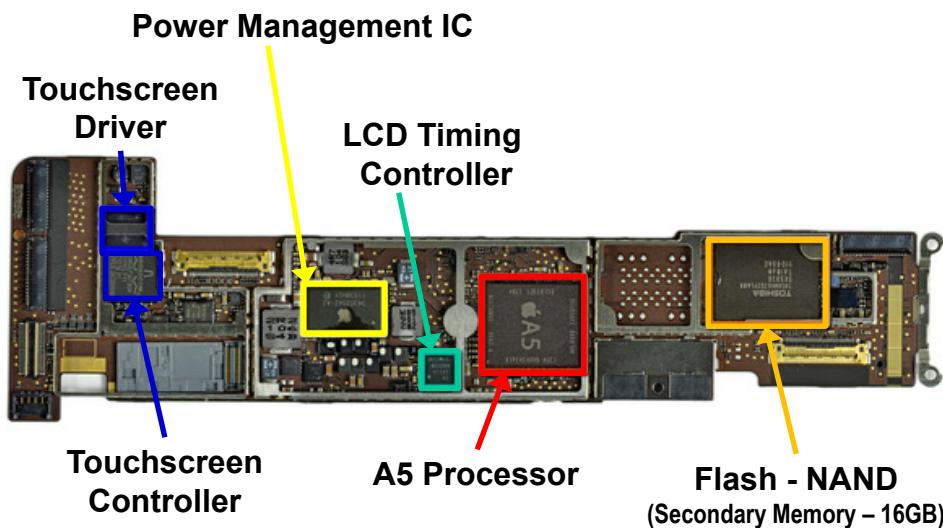
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## Inside the iPad 2



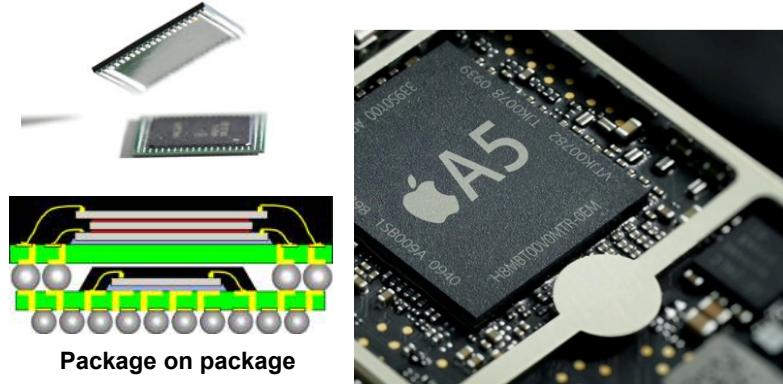
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## Apple A5 Processor

- The A5 is a **package on package (PoP) system-on-a-chip** (SoC) that was designed by Apple and made by Samsung.



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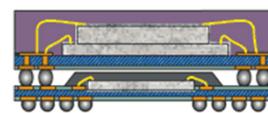
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## Benefit of PoP Packaging

- Package on package (PoP) is an IC packaging technique that vertically stacks and interconnect separate packages (e.g. CPU and memory) via ball grid array (BGA) connections.
- Some benefits of PoP packaging:
  - Save space** on motherboard - reduce size of product.
  - Minimize track length** between CPU and memory - faster signal propagation and reduced electrical noise.
  - Memory units can be **tested separately** before combining with CPU units - improve manufacturing yield and supports multiple memory suppliers.
  - Different-sized memory** can be coupled with CPU based on user requirements - simplifies inventory control.



**Try:** Google Search “Benefits of Package on Package”

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## A5 Processor (System-on-a Chip)

- The A5 processor is with its built in I/O interfaces and support is considered a system-on-a-chip (SoC).
- A dual-core **ARM Cortex-A9** CPU with 4.5MB cache memory.
- 1GHz CPU clock, can be dynamically reduced to save battery life.
- 512MB low-power DDR SDRAM (@533MHz).
- Dual core PowerVX SGX543MP2 GPU to speed up graphics.



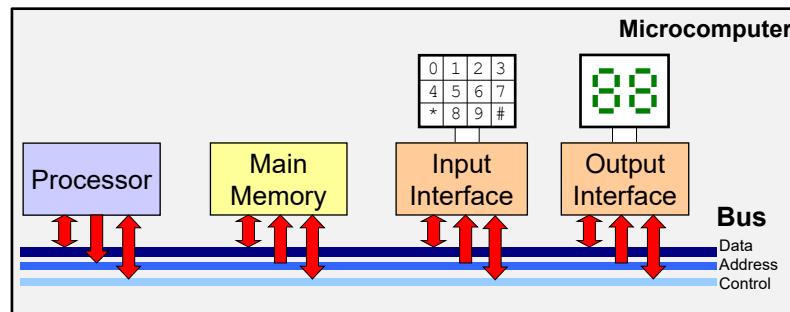
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## Summary

- Whether a desktop or tablet PC, the basic components of a computer remains the same.
- These basic components are essentially the **CPU, memory** and the various **I/O interfaces** that permit peripherals to be connected to the computer.



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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Role of Memory in Computing

### Learning Objectives (2.1)

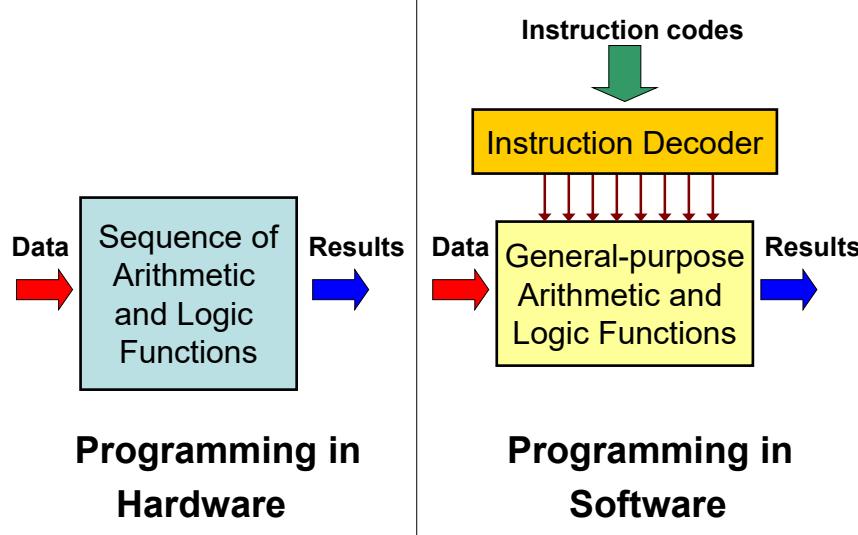
1. Describe the concept of programming in software.
2. Describe the von Neumann's stored program concept.
3. Describe the role of memory in computing.
4. Describe the characteristics and function of different data storage elements in the memory hierarchy.

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## Approaches to Computing



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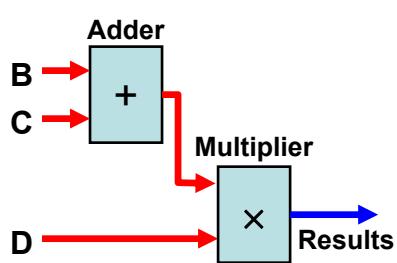
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## Approaches to Computing

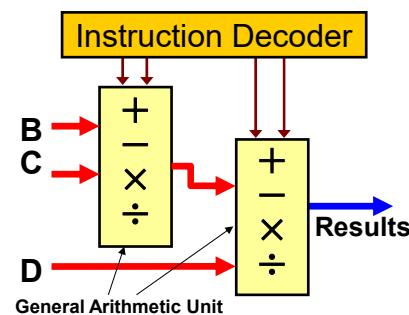
Implementing  $A = (B+C) \times D$ 

**Fast computation but very inflexible**



**Programming in Hardware**

**Slower and more complex but easily programmable**



**Programming in Software**

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## Code, Data and Memory

- What is code and what is data?
  - **Code** is a sequence of instructions.
  - **Data** are values these instructions operate on.
- What is the memory?
  - It's a sequential list of addressable storage elements for storing both instructions and data.

e.g. B+C

Address	Content	
0x000	+	Instruction
0x001		
0x002		
:	:	
:	:	
0x100	B	Data
0x101	C	Data
:	:	

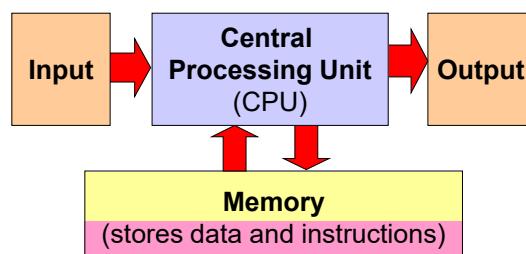
Memory

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## The Stored Program Concept



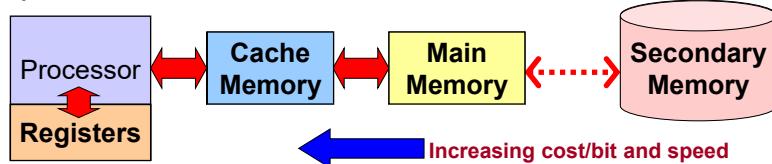
- Most modern day computer design are based on von Neumann's stored program concept:
  1. Both data & instructions are stored in the same memory
  2. Contents of memory are addressable by location, without regard to data type
  3. Execution occurs sequentially (unless explicitly modified)

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# Memory Hierarchy

- Memories are generally organized in levels of increasing speed and cost/bit.



- **Registers** Very fast access but limited numbers within CPU. Operates at CPU clock rate (size: 2-128 registers)
  - **Cache Memory** Fast access static RAM close to CPU. Typical access time 3-20nS (size: up to 512 kB)
  - **Main memory** Usually dynamic RAM or ROM (for program storage). Typical access time 30-70nS. (size: up to 16GB)
  - **Secondary Memory** Not always random access but non-volatile. Maybe be based on magnetic or flash technology. Typical access time 0.03-100mS. (size: up to 4TB)

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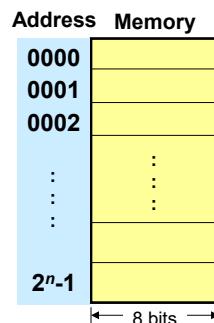
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## **Characteristics of Main Memory**

- Fix-sized (typically 8-bit) storage location accessible at high speed and in **any order**.
  - Each byte-sized location has a unique **address** that is accessed by specifying its binary pattern on the **address bus**.
  - Memory size is dependent on number of lines ( $n$ ) in the address bus. (Memory size =  $2^n$  bytes).
  - Memory stores both **data** and **instructions**. Consecutive locations used to store multi-byte data.

The diagram illustrates the organization of memory as a vertical stack of 8-bit locations. On the left, a column of addresses is listed from 0000 at the top to  $2^n-1$  at the bottom. To the right of each address is a yellow rectangular box representing a memory location. The first three boxes are explicitly labeled with addresses 0000, 0001, and 0002. Below these, there are three vertical ellipses (three dots) indicating that there are more memory locations. At the very bottom of the stack, there is another set of three vertical ellipses. A double-headed arrow at the bottom right spans the width of the stack and is labeled "8 bits", indicating the width of each memory location.



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## Summary

- Programming in software provides flexibility.
- Functionality specified by bit patterns in the instructions.
- Instructions are stored sequentially in memory.
- Programs are executed by fetching these instructions one at a time from memory.
- Memory stores both instructions and data.
- Memory contents are addressable by a unique address.
- Each unique address stores a fixed number of bits (i.e. 8 bits or a byte)

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Number Representation

### Learning Objectives (2.2)

1. Describe the different C numeric data types and their characteristics.
2. Describe the concept of numeric range and its implications to data size.
3. Describe how multi-byte numbers are stored in memory.

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# Data Representation in Memory

- Programming languages like C has many different data types.
- Numbers
- Characters
- Boolean
- Arrays
- Structures
- Pointers
- How are these variables stored in memory?
- Knowledge of their representation in memory allows us to find efficient ways to access and process them in our program.
- Note: Lecture notes will use ANSI C programming language as an example.

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## Number Representation

- ANSI C data types representing numbers come in various varieties (basic type, sign & size).
- There are two **basic types**. Whole number or **integer** and **floating point** number.
- Integer, declared as **int** (e.g. 32,676)
- Floating point, declared as **float** (e.g.  $3.2676 \times 10^4$ )
- Floating point numbers are useful for scientific calculations and has issue of trading off **precision** and **range** for a given size (in bits).  
(to be covered in later lectures in Computer Arithmetic)
- Some CPUs are only integer-based and make use of an additional floating point unit (FPU) to support floating point computations.

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## Number Representation (cont)

- Floating point numbers are always **signed**.
- Integers can be either **signed** or **unsigned**.
  - Signed integer, declared as **int** (e.g. -1)
  - Unsigned integer, declared as **unsigned int** (e.g. 255)
- Most processors interpret signed numbers using the **2's complement** representation.

<b>2's complement</b>	<b>Unsigned</b>
$0111\ 1111_2 = (127)$	$0111\ 1111_2 = (127)$
$1111\ 1111_2 = (-1)$	$1111\ 1111_2 = (255)$

- Use unsigned numbers where possible to increase the positive range (e.g. counting a population).

**Learn More:** Google "Signed number representation"

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## Number Representation (cont)

- The **range** can be increased by using more bytes to represent the number.
- Use appropriate suffix (**short** and **long**) to specify required size.
- Use appropriate size to reduce memory requirements of your program.

Type	Bytes	Bits	Range
signed char	1	8	-128 -> +127
unsigned char	1	8	0 -> +255
short int	2	16	-32,768 -> +32,767
unsigned short int	2	16	0 -> +65,535
unsigned int	4	32	0 -> +4,294,967,295
int	4	32	-2,147,483,648 -> +2,147,483,647
long int	4	32	-2,147,483,648 -> +2,147,483,647
long long int	8	64	- $(2^{63})$ -> $(2^{63})-1$
float	4	32	
double	8	64	
long double	12	96	

ANSI C numeric data types and their respective size and range

**Note:** These sizes may change depending of the processor and compiler

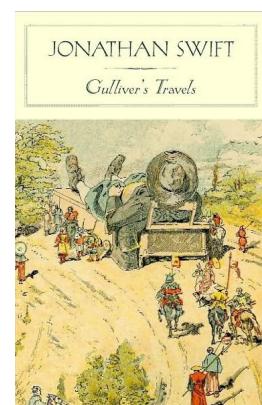
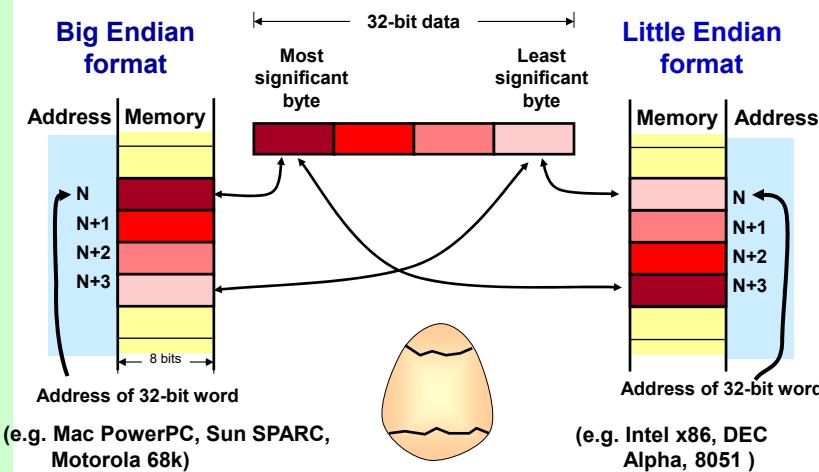
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## Data Organization in Memory

- How is a 32-bit number stored in memory?
- There are two ways, depending on the **byte-ordering** of the data in memory

**Learn More:** Google "Byte ordering"

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## Summary

- Numbers are represented in a variety of ways.
- Number of bits.
- Integer or Floating Point.
- Signed or Unsigned.
- For a given data size (i.e. number of bits), range and precision must trade off against each other.
- Multi-byte integers are stored using either Big or Little Endian byte-ordering.

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Character and Boolean Representation

### Learning Objectives (2.3)

1. Describe the char data type and its representations.
2. Describe the Boolean data type and its implementation.

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## Character Representation

- Computer not only process numbers but handles character data (e.g. text processing, print display).
- In ANSI C, a character type is declared as **char**.
- A char variable required **one byte** of memory storage
- Data in a computer is stored in **binary** but they are transformed into representative characters through some **encoding standard**.
- The most common character encoding standard is the 7-bit **ASCII** code.
- There are many other character encoding standards - DEC's Sixbit (6-bit), IBM's EBCDIC (8-bit) and Unicode (16-bit), etc.

```
main()
{
    char c; //declare a character variable
    c = 'a'; //assign character 'a' to variable
}
```

**Learn More:** Google "Character Codes"

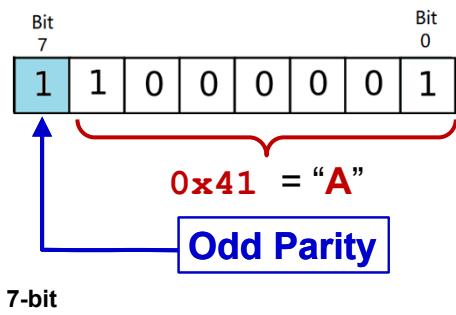
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# ASCII

- American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) is a 7-bit code for representing characters.
  - Useful properties – lower, upper and digits are **contiguous**, which makes it easy to check character's category and also transpose it from one case to another.
  - A byte is normally used to store an ASCII character and MSB could be used for **parity error checking**.  Bit



**Learn More:** Google  
“Parity bit and ASCII”

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SIXBIT

- DEC's SIXBIT character code was popular in the 1960's and 70's.
  - Not used for general text processing as it lacks control characters like CR and LF.
  - Six-bit character format was popular with DEC's PDP-8 and PDP-10 computers, which used 18-bit and 36-bit processors respectively.

LS MS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0	!	"	#	\$	%	&	'	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/	
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
2	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
3	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	[	\	]	^	_

SIXBIT Table

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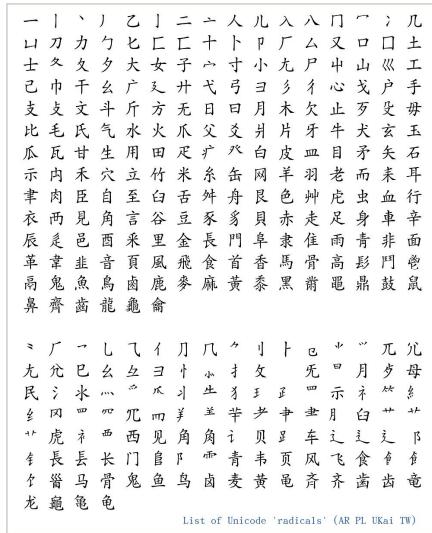
# Unicode

- Developed to handle text expressions for all major living languages in the world.
  - An **8,16 or 32-bit** character encoding standard that is downward compatible with ASCII.
  - Adopted by technologies such as XML, Java programming language, Microsoft .NET Framework and many operating systems.
  - Unicode 13.0 was launched on 20 March 2020. It contains a total of 143,859 characters.

# Unicode radicals for KangXi

214 radicals to support Chinese,  
Japanese and Korean ideographs  
(U+2F00 – U+2FDF)

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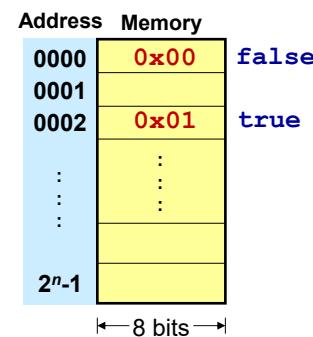
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UNICODE

**Learn More:** Google “Unicode” or “Unicode characters”

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## Boolean Representation

- Boolean variables have only 2 states.
  - The Boolean type was made available in ANSI C (after 1999) as `_Bool` with the `stdbool.h` header file.
  - Values assigned in C: **False** = 0, **True** = non-zero (e.g. 1)
  - Memory storage for Boolean variables is **inefficient** as most implementation use a byte (minimum memory unit) to store a 1-bit Boolean value.
  - The 8051 processor has 128 bit-addressable memory locations.

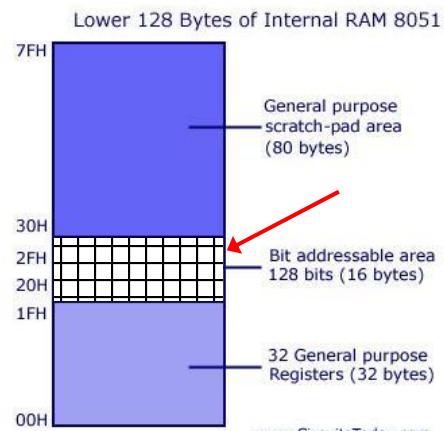
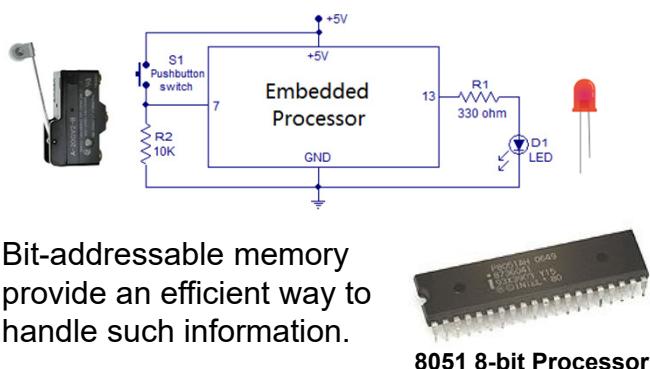


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## 8051 - Bit Addressable Memory

- The 8051 processor support a small portion of bit-addressable memory.
- In embedded applications, data variables are often related to ON-OFF status of discrete sensors and output (e.g. switches or LEDs)
- Bit-addressable memory provide an efficient way to handle such information.



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## Summary

- Characters data type is used to handle text.
- They are byte-sized.
- They need an encoding standard (ASCII being the most common).
- In the C programming language they are declared using **char**.
- Boolean data types are used to represent true and false states.
- They are usually stored using a whole byte.
- In ANSI C, the **false** value is given by the numeric value 0.
- The **true** value is taken as any non-zero value.

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Array, String and Structure Representations

### Learning Objectives (2.4)

1. Describe the representation of arrays in memory.
2. Describe the C and Pascal strings storage in memory.
3. Describe the representation of structures in memory

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## Array Representation

- A linear array is a consecutive area in memory storing a series of homogenous data type.
- Elements of an array are accessed through appropriate offset from the **base address** (BA) of the array.

```
main()
{
    char c[2];      //2 element char array c
    c[0]='A';       //assign "A" to 1st element
    c[1]='B';       //assign "B" to 2nd element
}
```

Offset from base address ( $BA_c$ ) to access each element of the array  $c$

Address	Memory	
0x100	'A'	$c[0]$
0x101	'B'	$c[1]$
0x102		
0x103		
0x104		
0x105		
0x106		
0x107		
0x108		

← 8 bits →

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## Array Representation (cont)

- Computation of the address of array element must take into account its data type size.
- Address is computed by multiplying element number by size of data type before addition to the base address (BA).

```
main()
{
    char c[2];           //2 element char array c
    short int i[3];      //3 element integer array i
    i[0] = 5;            //assign values to array i
    i[1] = 6;
    i[2] = 7;
}
```

Offset ( $n \times 2$ ) from base address ( $BA_i$ ) to access each element  $n$  of the array  $i$  consisting of 2 byte-sized short integers

	Address	Memory	
$BA_c$	0x100	c[0]	
$BA_c + 1$	0x101	c[1]	
$BA_i$	0x102	0x00	i[0]
	0x103	0x05	
$BA_i + 2$	0x104	0x00	i[1]
	0x105	0x06	
$BA_i + 4$	0x106	0x00	i[2]
	0x107	0x07	
	0x108		

← 8 bits →

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## Nested Array

- Each element of an array can itself be an array.
- General principles of array allocation and referencing hold for nested array.
- An array of arrays is then created.

```
main()
{
    int k[3][2]; //a 3x2 integer array
}
```

- The offset from BA for element  $k[a][b]$   
 $= \text{sizeof(int)} * ((2*a) + b)$

Offset from BA	Address	Element in Memory
$BA_k$	0x0100	$k[0][0]$
$BA_k + 4$	0x0104	$k[0][1]$
$BA_k + 8$	0x0108	$k[1][0]$
$BA_k + 12$	0x010C	$k[1][1]$
$BA_k + 16$	0x0110	$k[2][0]$
$BA_k + 20$	0x0114	$k[2][1]$
	0x0118	:

← 32 bits →

$$4 * ((2*2) + 1) = 20$$

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## String Representation

- A string in a C program is an array of characters terminated by a null (**0x00**) character.

```
main()
{
    char s[4] = "123"; //a string constant
}
```

- An alternative is the **Pascal string**, which stores the length of the string at the start of the string.



Base Address	Address	Content in Memory
BA <sub>s</sub>	0x0100	0x31
	0x0101	0x32
	0x0102	0x33
	0x0103	0x00
	0x0104	:
	0x0105	:
	0x0106	:

← 8 bits →

**C string**

Address	Content in Memory
0x0100	0x03
0x0101	0x31
0x0102	0x32
0x0103	0x33
0x0104	:
0x0105	:
0x0106	:

← 8 bits →

**Pascal string**

Learn more: Google Search “C strings vs Pascal strings”

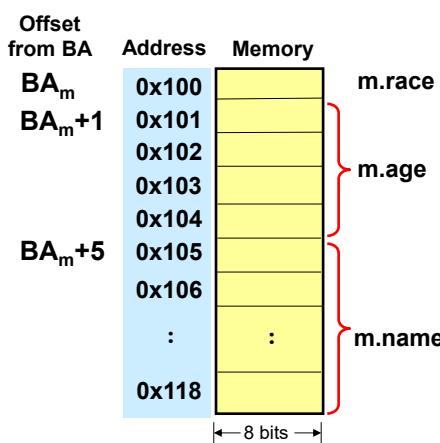
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## Structure Representation

- Structure allows new data types to be created by combining objects of different types.
- Each data type in a **declared** structure variable occupies predefined consecutive locations based on data type size.

```
main()
{
    struct Man ; //define structure Man
    {
        char race;
        int age;
        char name[20];
    };
    Man m;
}
```



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## Summary

- Arrays stores a series of similar data types in consecutive memory locations.
- Elements are accessed using offsets from a base address.
- Offset computation must take into account size of data type.
  
- Structures stores a series of dissimilar data types in consecutive memory locations.
- Memory space for structure data type is only allocated when structure variables are declared.

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Pointer Representation

### Learning Objectives (2.5)

1. Describe the representation of pointers in memory.

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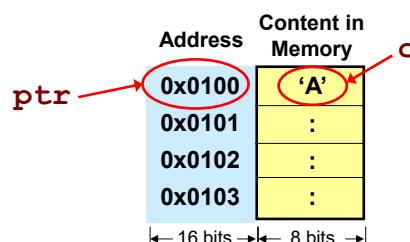
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## Pointers Representation

- Pointers in C provides a mechanism for referencing memory variables, elements of structures and arrays.
- C pointers are declared to point to a particular data type.
- The value of a pointer is an **address**. Its **size is fixed** (regardless of data type).
- The size of the pointer depends on the processor's address range.

```
main()
{
    char c; //char variable c
    char *ptr; //char pointer ptr
    c = 'A'; //assign value 'A' to c
    ptr = &c; //ptr gets address of c
}
```



Variable	Size (Bytes)
c	1
ptr	2

Note: 1. Assume address of c = 0x0100

2. Assume addresses in CPU are specified using 16 bits (2 bytes).

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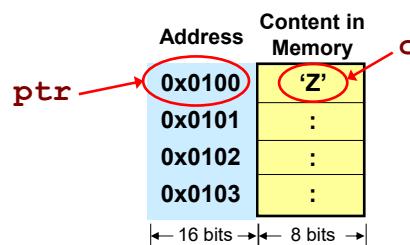
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## Dereferencing a Pointer

- When properly initialized, a pointer contains the start address where the memory variable can be found.
- We can use the dereferencing operator (\*) to copy a value to the address pointed to by the pointer **ptr**.
- Knowing the start address (base address) of an array or structure makes it easy to access their different elements.

```
main()
{
    char c ;      //char variable c
    char *ptr;   //char pointer ptr
    c = 'A' ;    //assign value 'A' to c
    ptr = &c;    //ptr gets address of c
    *ptr = 'Z' ; //use dereferencing
                  //operator on ptr to give
                  //variable c value 'Z'
```



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## Summary

- Pointer is a variable whose value is an address.
- The size of a pointer variable is independent of data type it is pointing to.
- The size of a pointer is dependent on the addressable memory space of the processor.

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## Chapter 2

# Data Organisation in Memory

## Data Alignment

### Learning Objectives (2.6)

1. Describe the concept of data alignment.
2. Describe data alignment considerations for efficient access and storage of structure variables in memory.

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## Data Alignment

- Most computer systems have restrictions on the allowable address for accessing various data types.
- Multi-byte data (e.g. `int`, `double`) must be aligned to addresses that are multiple of values such as 2, 4, or 8.
- Programs written with Microsoft (Visual C++) or GNU (gcc) and compiled for a 64-bit Intel processor will use the following data alignment enforcement:

Data Type	Size (Byte)	Example of allowable start addresses due to alignment
char	1	0x..0000, 0x..0001, 0x..0002
short	2	0x..0000, 0x..0002, 0x..0004
int	4	0x..0000, 0x..0004, 0x..0008
float	4	0x..0000, 0x..0004, 0x..0008
double	8	0x..0000, 0x..0008, 0x..0010
pointer	8	0x..0000, 0x..0008, 0x..0010

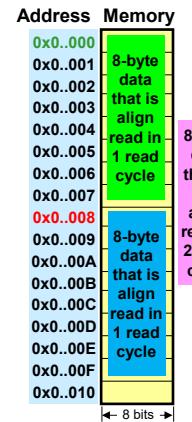
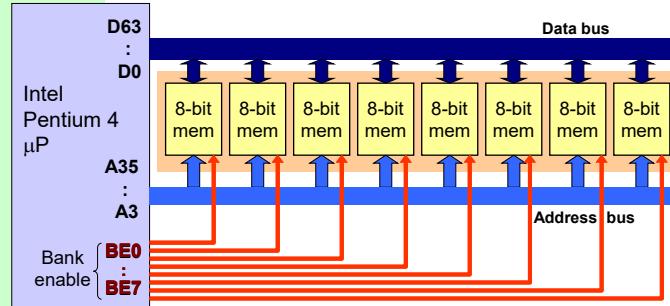
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CE1106**Memory Interfacing & Data Alignment**

(Case Study: Intel Pentium 4)

- Main memory consist of multiple 8-bit memory modules required to make up 64-bit data word size of processor.
- Data width is selected by additional control lines (BE0-BE7).



- Only one address pattern can exist on address bus during data transfer. 8-byte data needs **two memory cycles** if not aligned to 8-byte address boundary.

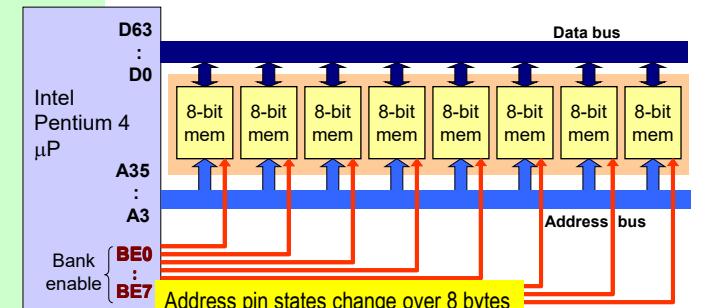
Learn More: Google “memory and data alignment”

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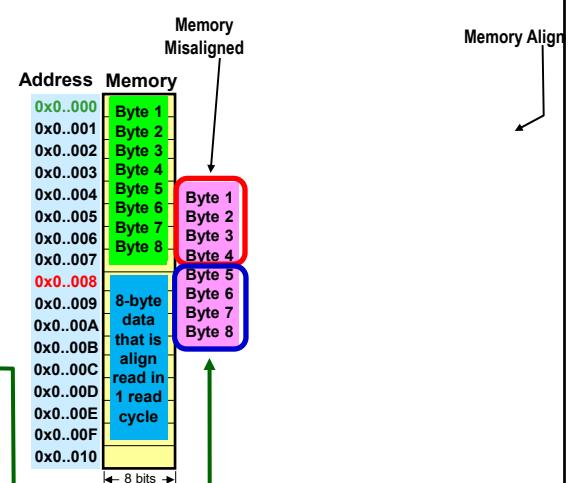
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CE1106**Address Mapping of 64-bit data**

(Case Study: Intel Pentium 4)



Address Pins	A <sub>35</sub>	A <sub>34</sub>	.....	A <sub>06</sub>	A <sub>05</sub>	A <sub>04</sub>	A <sub>03</sub>	A <sub>02</sub>	A <sub>01</sub>	A <sub>00</sub>
Byte 1	0	0	.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Byte 2	0	0	.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Byte 3	0	0	.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Byte 4	0	0	.....	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Byte 5	0	0	.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Byte 6	0	0	.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Byte 7	0	0	.....	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Byte 8	0	0	.....	0	0	0	1	0	1	1



Note:  
Address pin **A<sub>03</sub>** cannot be in states 0 and 1 simultaneously to transfer a mis-aligned word in a single memory cycle.

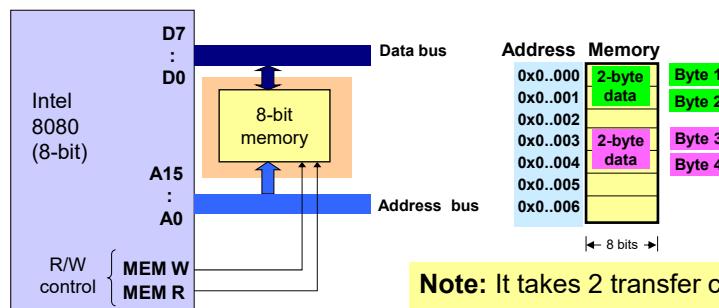
Note: Lines BE0-BE7 implements address bits A<sub>02</sub> to A<sub>00</sub> and determine which byte(s) in the 8 possible addresses are accessed during memory transfer.

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CE1106**Data Alignment and Data Bus Width**

(Case Study: An 8-bit Processor - Intel 8080)

- The extent of data alignment is dependent on the width of the processor's data bus.
- A processor with an **8-bit** data bus does not have any data alignment issues. Multi-byte data can be fetched from **any address**.
- A processor with a **16-bit** (i.e. 2 bytes) data bus only needs to align 2, 4 or 8 byte-sized data to **even addresses** (e.g. 0x0000, 0x0002, 0x0004, etc).



**Note:** It takes 2 transfer cycles to read Bytes 1 and 2  
It also takes 2 transfer cycles to read Bytes 3 and 4

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CE1106**Data Alignment with Structures**

- Data padding** (addition of meaningless bytes) is used by compilers to ensure alignment of different data types within a structure.

```
struct rec1 {
    char c;
    int i;
    char d[2];
}
rec1 r;
```

Data alignment violation

Address	Memory
0x000	r.c
0x001	0x001
0x002	r.i
0x003	
0x004	r.d[0]
0x005	r.d[1]
0x006	
0x007	
0x008	
0x009	
0x00A	
0x00B	

**Data Padding**

Address	Memory
0x000	r.c
0x001	
0x002	
0x003	
0x004	
0x005	
0x006	r.i
0x007	
0x008	r.d[0]
0x009	r.d[1]
0x00A	
0x00B	

Padded bytes

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## Data Alignment with Structures

- **Data padding** (addition of meaningless bytes) is used by compilers to ensure alignment of different data types within a structure.
- Padded bytes are added between end of last structure element and the start of the next to maintain alignment in an array of structures.

```
struct rec1 {
    char c;
    int i;
    char d[2];
}
rec1 r;
:
rec1 t[10];
```

No Data Padding	
Address	Memory
0x000	r.c
0x001	
0x002	r.i
0x003	
0x004	r.d[0]
0x005	
0x006	r.d[1]
0x007	
0x008	
0x009	
0x00A	
0x00B	

Data Padding	
Address	Memory
0x000	r.c
0x001	
0x002	
0x003	
0x004	
0x005	r.i
0x006	
0x007	
0x008	r.d[0]
0x009	
0x00A	r.d[1]
0x00B	

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## Data Alignment with Structures (cont)

- Structures should be constructed with data alignment constraints in mind.
- **Rearrange the order** of data objects in the structure based on their size to minimize data padding where possible.

```
struct rec2 {
    int i;
    char c;
    char d[2];
}
rec2 s;
```

Data Padding	
Address	Memory
0x000	
0x001	s.i
0x002	
0x003	
0x004	s.c
0x005	
0x006	s.d[0]
0x007	s.d[1]
0x008	

Total = 8 bytes

Address	Memory
0x000	r.c
0x001	
0x002	
0x003	
0x004	
0x005	
0x006	r.i
0x007	
0x008	r.d[0]
0x009	r.d[1]
0x00A	
0x00B	

Total = 12 bytes

Before re-arranging structure (previous)

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Learn More: Google "Structure and Padding in C"

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## Summary

- Data alignment restricts where in memory multi-byte data can be stored.
- Data must be aligned to addresses that are multiple of the size of their data type.
- The extent of the data alignment restriction depends on the size of the processor's data bus.
- Structure data types should consider data alignment issues.
- Data padding is used to meet alignment restrictions.

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## Chapter 3

# Instruction Organisation in Memory

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## Chapter 3

# Instruction Organisation in Memory

## Characteristics of Instructions and the ARM Programmer's Model

### Learning Objectives (3.1)

1. Describe the characteristics and role of an instruction.
2. Describe the function of the ARM instruction set **MOV** instruction
3. Describe the ARM programmer's model.
4. Describe the functions and interpretation of several ARM registers.

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## Code and Data in Memory

- Instructions are stored in memory as binary patterns called **machine codes**.
- They are also represented in more readable **mnemonics**.

- ARM (32-bit CPU) example:  
Note: ARM instructions are **32 bits** long

```
MOV R1,R0
MOV R2,R1
:
```

- Memory is partitioned into separate **code** and **data** segments.

Address	Memory	Mnemonics
0x000	0x00	
0x001	0x10	
0x002	0xA0	
0x003	0xE1	
0x004	0x01	MOV R1,R0
	0x20	
	0xA0	
	0xE1	
:	:	
0x100	0x12	MOV R2,R1
0x101	0x34	
:	:	
0x102	0x12	Data
0x103	0x34	Data
:	:	
0x104	0x12	
0x105	0x34	
:	:	

Code Memory      Data Memory

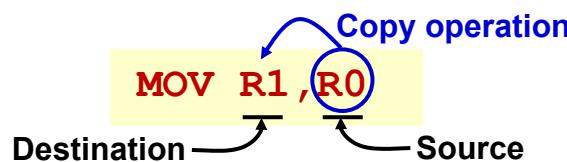
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## ARM Instruction Format (Introduction)

- Introduction to a simple ARM mnemonic.
- The **MOV** operator is a two-operand instruction that copies the source operand to the destination operand.
- The right operand is the source and left operand is the destination.



- In this example, the both operands are **registers** in the ARM CPU.

R0	0x12345678
R1	0x00000000
Before execution	
R0	0x12345678
R1	0x12345678
After execution	

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## Instruction Organization in Memory

- Instructions are binary encoded and stored in memory. Unlike data, instruction bytes tell CPU what actions to take (i.e. they are **executable**).
- Most instruction formats consist of **two** parts.



- First part of instruction (**op-code**) specifies the operation to be carried out (e.g. move, add, subtract).
- Remaining bits (**operands**) specify the data itself or the location of data and where results is to be stored.
- Some operations produce no storable result but may alter program sequence or influence status flags (e.g. N, Z, V, C).

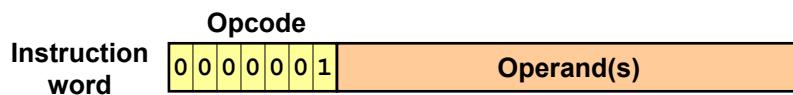
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## Opcode and Operands

- How are opcode encoded in an instruction?**



- If there are 80 different operations, (e.g. **add**, **sub**, etc) then at least 7 bits ( $2^6 < 80 < 2^7$ ) of opcode is needed to represent all the unique bit patterns.
- The **more variety** of operations supported by the instruction set, the **longer the length** of each instruction.

- Are there many ways to specify the operand(s)?**

- Numerous. An operand can be stored as part of the **instruction**, stored in a **register** or stored in **memory**.
- The method by which the operand is specified is known as **addressing mode**.

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## Addressing Mode Examples

Addressing Mode	ARM	Intel
Absolute (Direct)	None	MOV AX, [1000h]
Register Direct	MOV R1, R0	MOV AX, DX
Immediate	MOV R1, #3	MOV AX, 0003h
Register Indirect	LDR R1, [R0]	MOV AX, [BX]
Register Indirect with Offset	LDR R1, [R0, #4]	MOV AX, [BX+4]
Register Indirect with Index	LDR R1, [R0, R2]	MOV AH, [BX+DI]
Implied	BNE LOOP	JMP -8

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## Role of Instructions

- The role of an instruction is to make purposeful **changes** to the **current state** of the processor.
- The visible current state of a processor is defined by the **programmer's model** and contents in **memory**.
- There are three broad categories of instructions for general programming available in a processor:

### Data Processing

**ARM examples:**  
**ADD R0, R1, R2**  
**SUB R1, R2, #3**  
**EOR R3, R3, R2**

### Data Transfer

**ARM examples:**  
**MOV R1, R0**  
**STR R0, [R2, #4]**  
**LDR R1, [R2]**

### Program Control

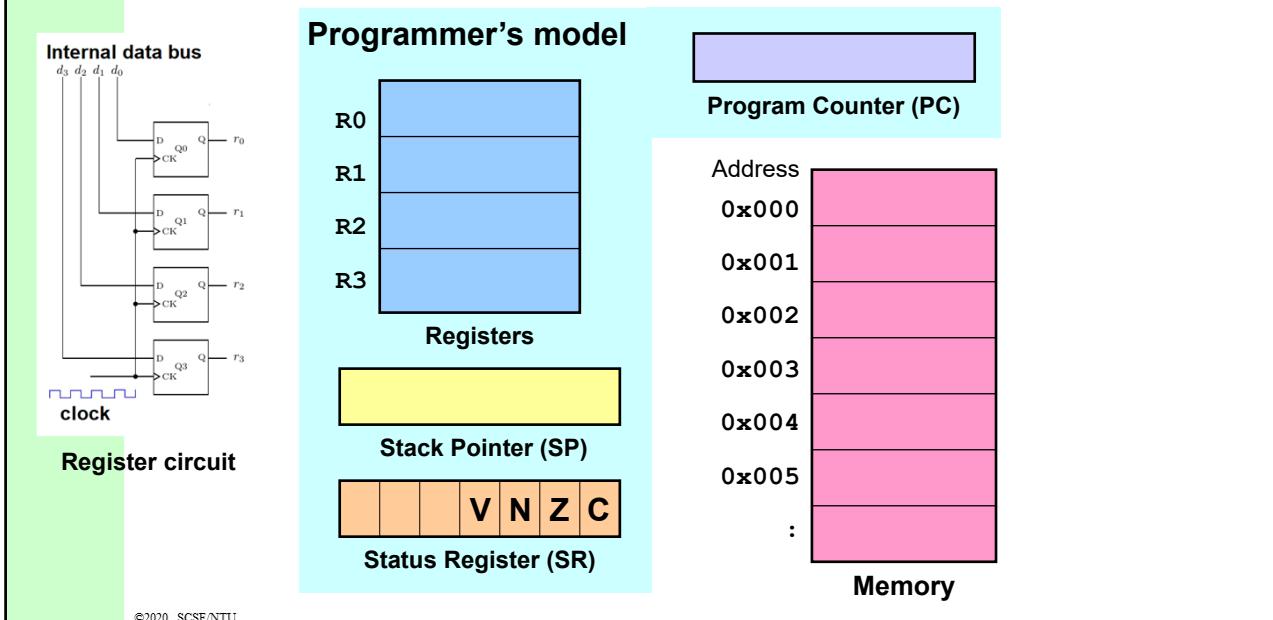
**ARM examples:**  
**B Back**  
**BNE Loop**  
**BL Routine**

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## Typical Programmer's Model & Memory

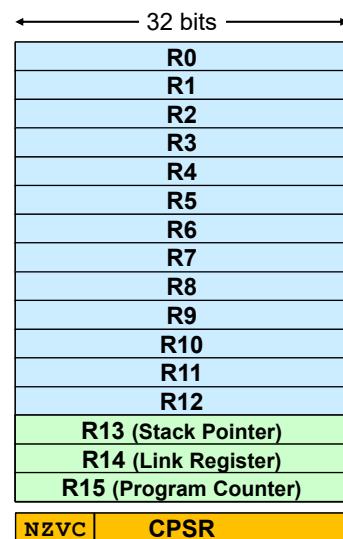


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## The ARM Programmer's Model

- The ARM processor can operate in various modes. The following are visible registers in the **User mode**.
  - There are 16 32-bit registers.
  - R0 – R12 are general purpose registers.
  - R13 is the Stack Pointer (**SP**).
  - R14 is the Link Register (**LR**).
  - R15 is the Program Counter (**PC**)
  - The Current Processor Status Register (**CPSR**) holds the condition code bits (**NZVC**)



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## Program Counter

- ARM's register **R15** is the Program Counter (**PC**) and it keeps track of **program execution**.
  - The content of the **PC** is an **address**.
  - This address is the start address of the **next instruction** to be fetched.
  - The **PC automatically increments** by the length of the instruction executed (i.e. increment by 4 in the ARM CPU).
  - Sequential execution can be altered by modifying the contents of the **PC** to a new address location (i.e. a jump or a branch operation)
  - Due to **pipeline** architecture of the ARM CPU, the value in the **PC** is the address of the current instruction being executed plus 8 bytes (i.e. 2 instructions).

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## Stack Pointer and Link Register

- Stack Pointer (**SP**).
  - By convention, **R13** in the ARM processor is designated the stack pointer.
  - The **SP** is used to maintain a space in memory (**stack**) that is used to **temporarily** store away register information which will be needed again later.
- Link Register (**LR**).
  - **R14** is used as a Link Register during the calling of subroutines.
  - **R14** gets a copy of the **PC** (R15) when a Branch with Link (**BL**) instruction is executed.
  - At all other times, **R14** can also act as a general purpose register.

Learn more: Google Search "ARM stack pointer" or "Link Register"

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## CPSR Condition Code Flags

CPSR bit(s)	Name	Description	N	Z	V	C	S	P	R	CPSR
31	N	Can set if last operation produced a <b>negative</b> result								
30	Z	Can set if last operation produced a <b>zero</b> result								
29	C	Can set if last operation produced a <b>carry out</b> in the most significant bit								
28	V	Can set if the last operation produced an <b>overflow</b> for a <b>signed</b> arithmetic operation								

**N – Negative; Z – Zero; C – Carry ; V – Overflow**

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## Summary

- An instruction usually consist of an **opcode** and an **operand**.
- Instructions in a program change the **states** of a processor as it executes.
- The states of the processor consist of values in:
  - general purpose registers (e.g. R0 – R12)
  - specialised function registers (e.g. CPSR, SP, LR and PC)
  - memory contents
- The design of a program is to ensure that these **states changes** in a purposeful manner during the execution of the sequence of instructions.

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## Chapter 3

# Instruction Organisation in Memory

## Basic Execution Cycle

### Learning Objectives (3.2)

1. Describe the function of a simple **LDR** instruction from the ARM instruction set.
2. Describe the basic execution cycle of a simple **LDR** instruction.
3. Describe the factor that determines the execution speed of an instruction.

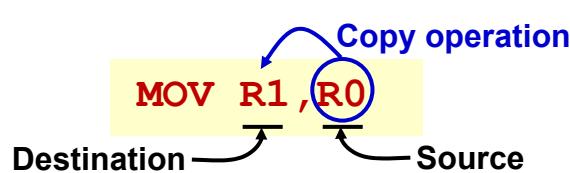
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## The MOV Instruction (Review)

- The **MOV** operator copies **register** content to a register.



<b>R0</b>	<b>0x12345678</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>0x12345678</b>
<b>After execution</b>	

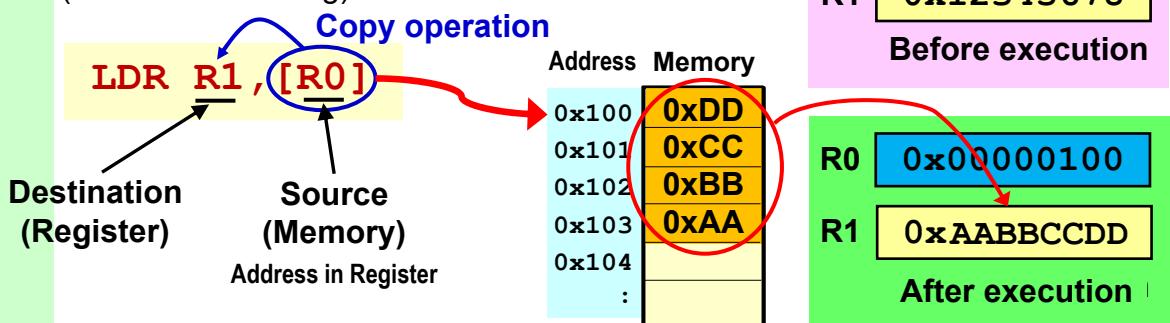
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## The LDR Instruction

- The **LDR** operator copies **memory** content to a register.
- The left operand is always a destination register.
- The right source operand is a memory location whose address is contained in a register (indirect addressing).



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## The Role of the Processor

- What is the role of the processor (CPU)?
- **Fetch instructions** - CPU reads instructions from memory.
- **Decode instructions** - Instruction is decoded to determine action required.
- **Fetch data** – Some data from memory may need to be fetched in order to complete execution of instruction (optional).
- **Execute** – Instruction execution may require CPU to perform some arithmetic or logical operation on the data, or just move the data into a register.
- This **fetch-decode-execute** cycle is performed repeatedly by the CPU once powered-on.

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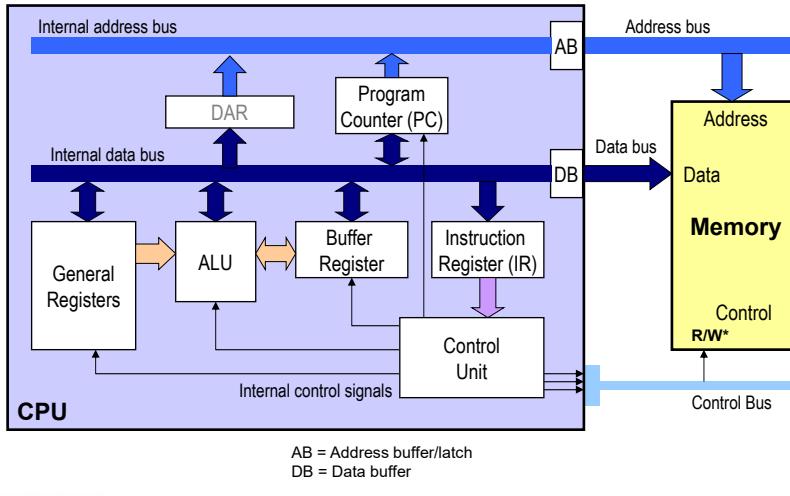
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## Basic Execution Cycle

### A Simple Processor

- Basic components of a simple processor (CPU) and its interface signals to external main memory.



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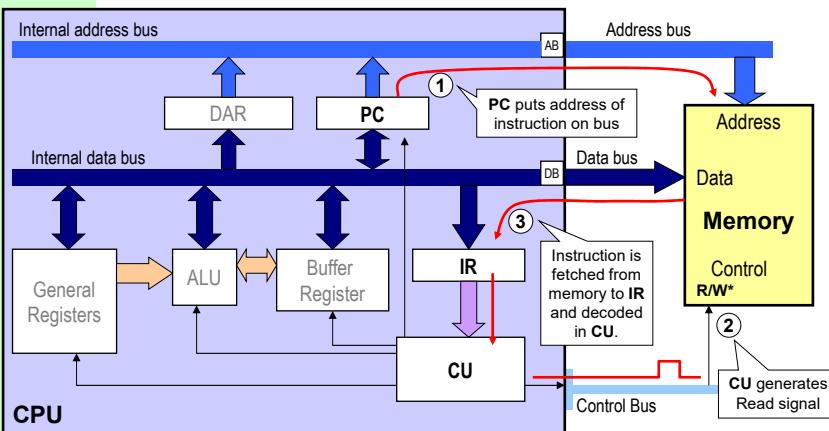
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## Basic Execution Cycle

### Fetch Cycle - Instruction

- Consider an instruction like: **LDR R1, [R0]**.  
In the fetch cycle, the **PC** points to address of next the instruction and its opcode is fetched into the **IR**.



#### Address Memory

0x000	0xE5901000	} LDR R1,[R0]
0x004		
0x008		
:		
0x100	0xAABBCCDD	Code Memory
0x104		
:		
		Data
		Data Memory

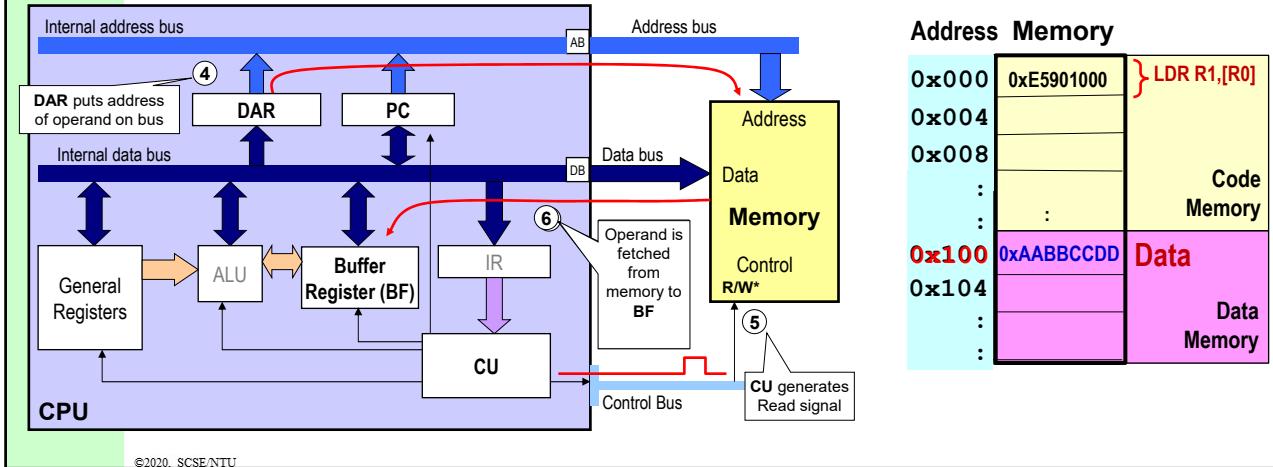
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## Basic Execution Cycle

### Fetch Cycle - Operand

- Decoding **LDR R1 , [R0]** suggest an operand is needed. Since its is stored in memory, another fetch is required to retrieve operand into CPU.



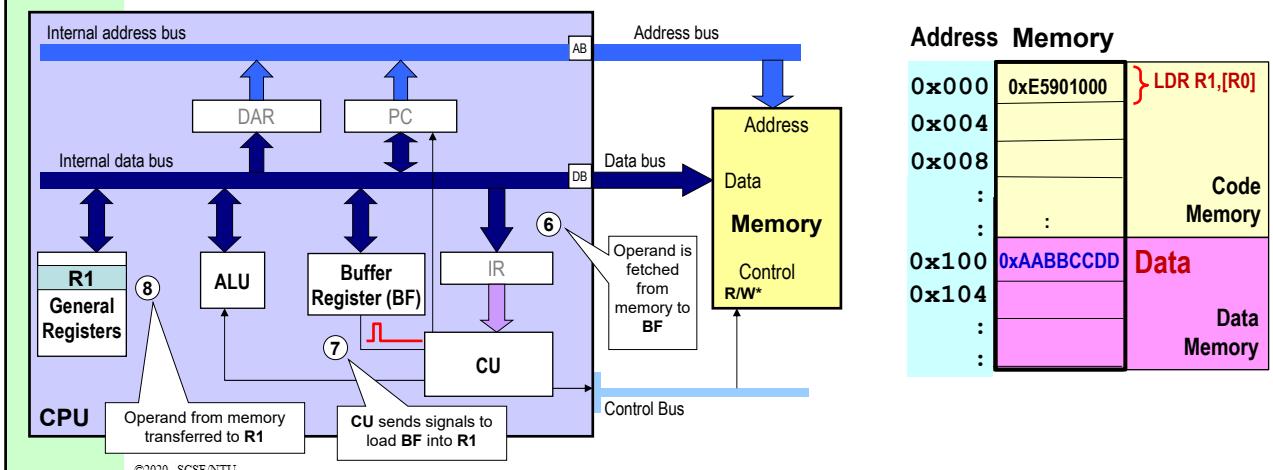
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## Basic Execution Cycle

### Execute Cycle - Load

- In the execution cycle of **LDR R1 , [R0]**, the operand fetch from memory is loaded into the destination register **R1**.



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## Program Execution (Summary)

- Execution of a single instruction may involve multiple accesses to memory. In most single memory (von Neumann-type) CPU, different instructions take **different number** of clock **cycles** to execute.
- Data transfer on external bus is slower than within CPU's internal bus.  $\mu$ P system performance is limited by data traffic bandwidth between CPU and memory (also known as the **von Neumann bottleneck**).
- Keeping regularly used operands in CPU **registers** helps reduce memory access.
- Keeping instructions and data in separate memories (**Harvard architecture**) can help make instructions execute in more regular cycles (using parallel fetches) and thus improve performance.

R0
R1
R2
R3
R4
R5
R6
R7
R8
R9
R10
R11
R12
R13 (Stack Pointer)
R14 (Link Register)
R15 (Program Counter)

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## Chapter 4

# Addressing Modes

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# Addressing Modes

## Introduction to Assembly Programming and Addressing Modes

### Learning Objectives (4.1)

1. Identify why and when to use assembly language programming.
2. Describe what are addressing modes.

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## What is an Assembly Program?

- Unlike high-level programming languages, assembly level statements:
- Are known as **mnemonics**. Each has a one-to-one correspondence with a binary pattern (**machine code**) that is directly understood by CPU.
- Are **hardware-dependent** and address the architecture of processor directly. (e.g. they are CPU register-aware and reference them by name).
- Are converted to machine code by an **assembler**.

```
if (a > c)
    b = a;
else
    b = c;
```

C program example

```
CMP R0,R2
BLE Else
MOV R1,R0 ;b = a
B Skip
Else MOV R1,R2 ;b = c
Skip :
```

ARM assembly program equivalent

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## Why Use Assembly Language?

- More efficient codes can be created:
- Codes with faster execution **speed**.  
e.g. Algorithms for **real-time** signal processing in handheld devices can be **computationally demanding**.
- More compact program **size**.  
e.g. Low cost embedded devices may have **small memory** capacity but require many functionalities.
- Exploit **optimized features** of processor's ISA.  
e.g. High-level language compiled codes may not **exploit optimized** instructions, addressing modes and features available in the processor instruction set architecture to produce efficient run-time code.
- Many cybersecurity jobs needs good knowledge in assembly programming.

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## When to Use Assembly Language?

- Critical parts of the operating system's software.  
Especially parts of system kernel that are constantly being executed (e.g. scheduler, interrupt handlers).
- Input/Output intensive codes.  
Device drivers and "loopy" segments of code that processes streaming data (e.g. video decoders, etc).
- Time-critical codes.  
Code that detect incoming sensor signals and respond rapidly, e.g. Anti-lock brake system (ABS) in cars.

**Learn More:** Google "Is Linux kernel written in assembly"

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## Addressing Modes

- Addressing mode (AM) is concerned with how data is **accessed**, not the way data is processed.
- The correct AM allows the CPU to identify the actual operand or the address location where operand is stored.
- The ARM processor instruction set architecture supports many different addressing modes.
  - Register direct
  - Immediate data
  - Register indirect
  - Register indirect with offset
  - Register indirect with index register
  - Pre and post auto-indexing

**Learn More:** Google "addressing modes"

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## Addressing Mode Examples

Addressing Mode	ARM	Intel
Absolute (Direct)	None	MOV AX, [1000h]
Register Direct	MOV R1, R0	MOV AX, DX
Immediate	MOV R1, #3	MOV AX, 0003h
Register Indirect	LDR R1, [R0]	MOV AX, [BX]
Register Indirect with Offset	LDR R1, [R0, #4]	MOV AX, [BX+4]
Register Indirect with Index	LDR R1, [R0, R2]	MOV AH, [BX+DI]
Implied	BNE LOOP	JMP -8

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## Summary

- Codes written well in assembly language can usually execute **faster** and are smaller in **size**.
- Code for **low-level** OS kernels, **I/O** intensive and **time-critical** operations can benefit significantly from assembly-level coding.
- Understanding the **characteristics** and **application** of different **addressing modes** available in a processor's ISA allows programmers to write efficient codes.

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## Chapter 4

# Addressing Modes

## Register Direct and Immediate Addressing

### Learning Objectives (4.2)

1. Describe what is register direct.
2. Describe what is immediate data and its application.

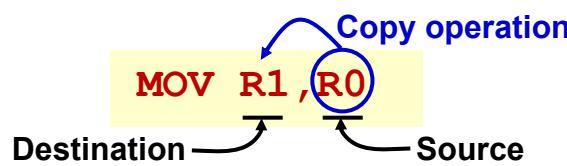
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## Register Direct

- Operand is the content of the specified **register**.
- Register direct can be used for both destination and source operand.
- In the **MOV** instruction, the right operand is the source and left operand is the destination.



R0 0x12345678

R1 0x00000000

Before execution

R0 0x12345678

R1 0x12345678

After execution

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## Register Direct (cont)

- All ARM's 16 registers can be a register direct operand.
- These registers can be either a source or destination operand.

```
MOV R3, LR ;make copy of LR in R3
MOVS R0, R0 ;test for N or Z condition in R0
MOV PC, R1 ;make a jump to address in R1
```

R0
R1
R2
R3
R4
R5
R6
R7
R8
R9
R10
R11
R12
SP
LR
PC

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## Immediate Addressing

- Operand is directly specified **within the instruction itself**.
- “#” symbol precedes the immediate value.
- Example: **MOV R1, #3**
  - Immediate Value
  - Copy operation
- After execution, the **immediate value is copied** into the destination register (left operand).
- Immediate addressing can only be used as a **source operand**.
- Used for loading **constant values** into registers. Values must be known at the time of coding (e.g. load loop count into a loop counter register).

<b>R1</b>	<b>0x12345678</b>
<b>Before execution</b>	

<b>R1</b>	<b>0x00000003</b>
<b>After execution</b>	

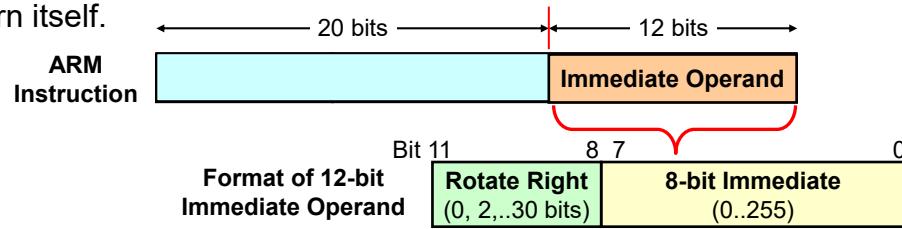
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## Immediate Addressing (cont)

- How is the 32-bit immediate value encoded?
- The immediate value is specified **within the instruction** bit pattern itself.



- How can a 12-bit operand encode a 32-bit immediate value?
- It can only describe a **subset** of all  $2^{32}$  possible values.
- Immediate value is a number between (0..255) rotated right by  **$2n$**  bits, where the value of  $n$  is given by 4 bits ( $0 \leq n \leq 15$ ).

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## Immediate Addressing (cont)

- Assembler does the necessary calculations and gives warning if requested immediate value cannot be encoded.

```
MOV R3, #0xFF ;immediate values within 8 bits always valid
MOV R0, #0x100 ;right rotate 8-bit value of 0x01 with n=12
XMOV R1, #0x102 ;this is not a valid immediate value
```

- A combination of instructions can be used to achieve the desired immediate values that is not valid.

```
MOV R1, #0x100 ; load 0x100 to R1
ADD R1, R1, #2 ; add 2 to R1
```

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## Summary

- Register direct is **efficient** as its execution involves no access to memory.
- Immediate addressing encode the operand **within the instruction**.
- Like register direct, immediate addressing in the ARM is **efficient** as memory access is not incurred during execution, only when fetching the instruction.
- Because data is encoded within fixed-length instruction, **only a subset** of immediate values are available.
- Immediate addressing is used when the operand **value is known** during the time of coding (e.g. loading known constants into registers).

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## Chapter 4

# Addressing Modes

## Register Indirect with Base Register

### Learning Objectives (4.3)

1. Describe what is register indirect and the ARM instructions that support this addressing mode.
2. Describe the variants and application of register indirect that uses base plus offset and index register.
3. Compare the relative pros and cons of register direct and register indirect addressing modes.

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## Limitation of Register Direct and Immediate Addressing

- Register direct and immediate addressing **do not** allow CPU to access operands stored in **memory**.
- C variables are usually allocated memory for storage (especially large arrays).
- How do you specific a 32-bit address in memory using a 32-bit long instruction?
- The ARM specifies the 32-bit address of the operand in a 32-bit **register**.
- The register with the memory address **points to the memory** location where the operand is stored.
- Memory operand is fetched during instruction execution using **register indirect** addressing.
- The ARM uses the **LDR** and **STR** mnemonics to access memory operands.

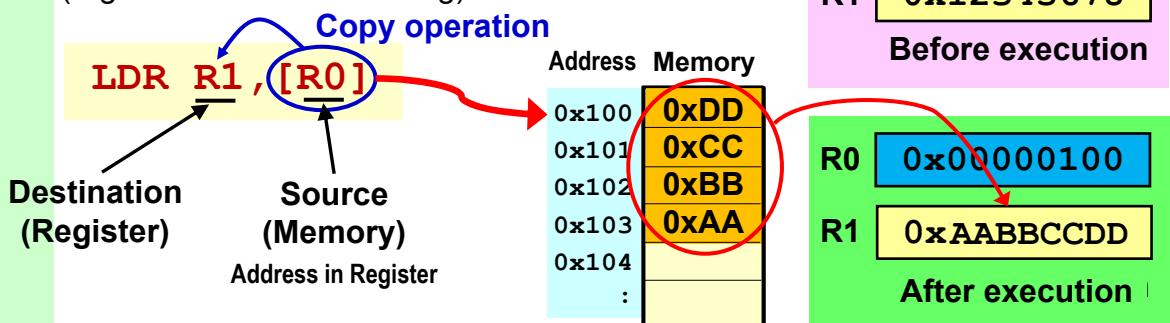
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## The LDR Instruction

- The **LDR** operator is used to copy **memory** content to a register.
- The left operand the destination register.
- The right source operand is a memory location whose address is contained in a register (register indirect addressing).



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## The STR Instruction

- The **STR** operator is used to copy register content to **memory**.
- The left operand is always a source register.
- The right destination operand is a memory location whose address is contained in the indirect register.



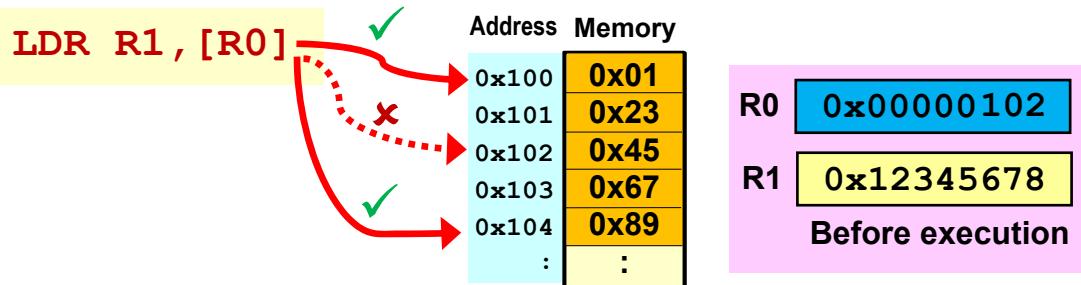
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## Data Alignment Constraints

- Access of 32-bit operand from memory must follow data alignment constraints.
- The **4-byte data** read or written to memory must start at an address that is a **multiple of 4**.
- The effects of an unaligned memory access depend on the ARM architecture but they invariably result in **performance degradation**.



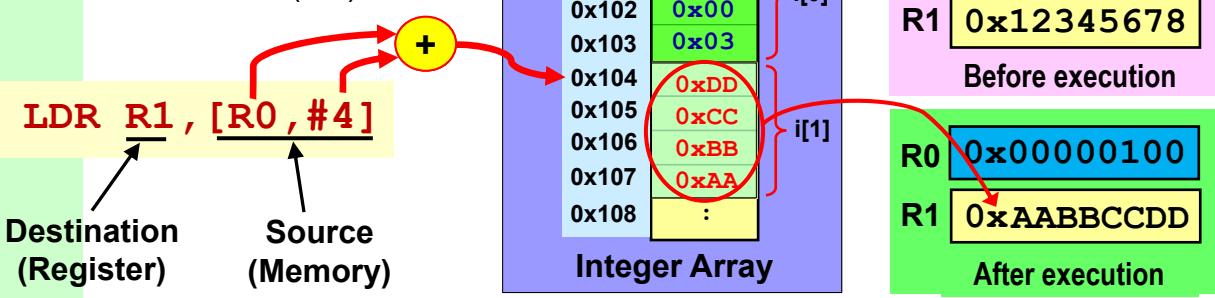
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## Register Indirect with Offset

- Adds** a specific **offset value** to the indirect register to compute the effective address (EA) in memory.
- Base Plus Offset** addressing does not change indirect register's content.
- Offset value allows required element in an array to be retrieved with respect to its base address (**BA**) in **R0**.



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CE1106**Program Example****Accessing Array Elements**

- Use base plus offset to access array element whose index is known during coding time.

```
main()
{
// assume base address
// of array i is 0x100
int i[5];

i[0]=7;
i[4]=7;
}
```

**C program example**

Assign first & last elements of array **i** with value of 7.

MOV R2, #0x100	1
MOV R1, #7	2
STR R1, [R2, #0]	3
STR R1, [R2, #16]	}

**Using register indirect with base plus offset**

- Initialize base address of array **i** into register **R2**.
  - Load value of 7 into register **R1**.
  - Store the value of 7 into **i[0]** and **i[4]** using offsets of 0 and 16 of register **R2** respectively .
- In computing offset, note that each integer element occupies 4 bytes in memory.

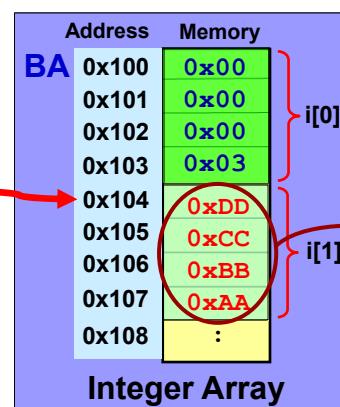
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CZ1106  
CE1106**Register Indirect with Index Register**

- This variant **adds** the content of the **index register** to the indirect register to compute EA.
- Base Plus Index Register** does not change base register's content.
- Modifiable** index value in **R2** allow different array elements to be retrieved with respect to base address (**BA**) during program execution.

**LDR R1, [R0, R2]**



BA

R0	0x00000100
R1	0xAABBCCDD
Before execution	
R0	0x00000100
R1	0xAABBCCDD
After execution	

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CE1106**Program Example****Clearing All Array Elements**

- Use base plus index register to access each array element in turn.

```
main() {
// assume base address
// of array i is 0x100
int i[400];
int n=0;
while (n < 400) {
    i[n] = 0;
    n = n + 1;
}
```

**C program example**

Initialise all 400 elements in array **i** with zero.

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```

MOV R2, #0x100 ①
MOV R0, #0      } ②
MOV R1, #0      }

loop:
    STR R0, [R2, R1] ③
    ADD R1, R1, #4    } ④

    loop: back 399 times

```

$3 \times 400 = 1200$  cycles

**Using register indirect with base plus index**

- Initialize base address of array **i** into register **R2**.
- Load value of 0 into register **R0** and **R1** (index register).
- Store 0 in **R0** into **i[n]** using current index value in **R1** plus base address in **R2**.
- Increment index by 4, the size of each integer element in array.

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CZ1106  
CE1106**Summary**

- Register indirect (with the **LDR** and **STR** operators) allows memory operands to be accessed.
- There are two variants of register indirect using base register.
  - Register indirect with **offset** (base plus offset)
  - Register indirect with **index** (base plus index register)
  - Contents in base register **do not change** after execution.
- Given the **base address** of an array, register indirect with base addressing is useful for accessing the contents of the array.
  - Use base plus offset if position of array element is known during coding time
  - Use base plus index if array element position is computed during run time.

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## Chapter 4

# Addressing Modes

## Register Indirect with Autoindexing and Stacks

### Learning Objectives (4.4)

1. Describe what is autoindexing feature of ARM's register indirect addressing mode.
2. Describe the differences between pre-index and post-index addressing modes.
3. Describe the various stack implementations and operations using the ARM addressing modes.

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## Register Indirect with Autoindexing

- Recap – Register indirect with base register:
  - The base address in the indirect register can be added with an offset or the contents of index register to compute effective address of operand in memory.
  - Base address is **never modified** after execution as it is assumed to be the sole reference to the start of the array.
- What if we allow the indirect register to be modified before or after computing the effective address?
  - Keep a copy of the array's base address elsewhere.
  - **Autoindexing** allows the indirect register's content to be **modified** during execution.
  - Autoindexing provides an efficient way to access **consecutive** array elements.

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## Offset with Autoindexing

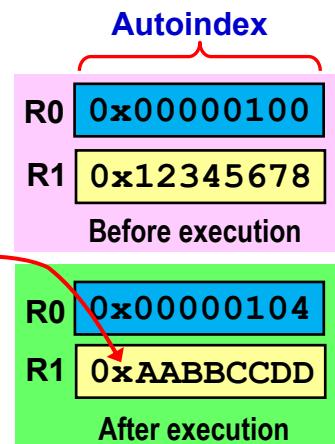
- Adds offset value to the autoindex register (AR) to compute effective address (EA) and AR gets modified.
- “!” in mnemonic causes autoindex register to be modified with the EA.
- Offset value added to autoindex register **R0** to compute the EA in memory. **R0** takes on EA value after execution.

**LDR R1, [R0, #4] !**

Destination (Register)      Source (Memory)

Address	Memory	
0x100	0x00	i[0]
0x101	0x00	
0x102	0x00	
0x103	0x03	
0x104	0xDD	i[1]
0x105	0xCC	
0x106	0xBB	
0x107	0xAA	
0x108	:	

Integer Array



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## Program Example (Optimised Version)

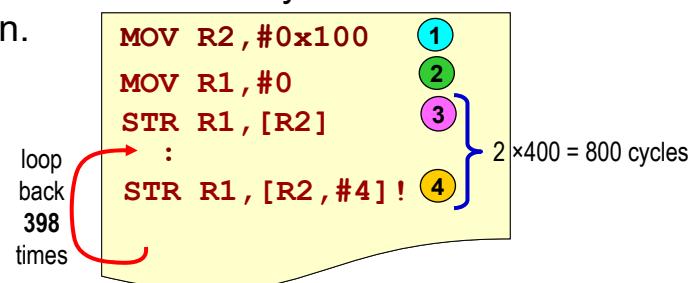
### Clearing All Array Elements

- Use offset with autoindex to efficiently access each array element in turn.

```
main() {
    // assume base address
    // of array i is 0x100
    int i[400];
    int n=0;

    while (n < 400) {
        i[n] = 0;
        n = n + 1;
    }
}
```

**C program example**  
Initialise all 400 elements in array **i** with zero.



#### Using register indirect plus offset with autoindex

- 1 Initialize base address of array **i** into register **R2**.
- 2 Load value of 0 into source register **R1**.
- 3 Store 0 in **R1** into first element of array **i[0]**.
- 4 Store 0 in **R1** into **i[n]** using current effective address (EA) of autoindex register **R2** plus offset **4**. Then put this EA into **R2**.

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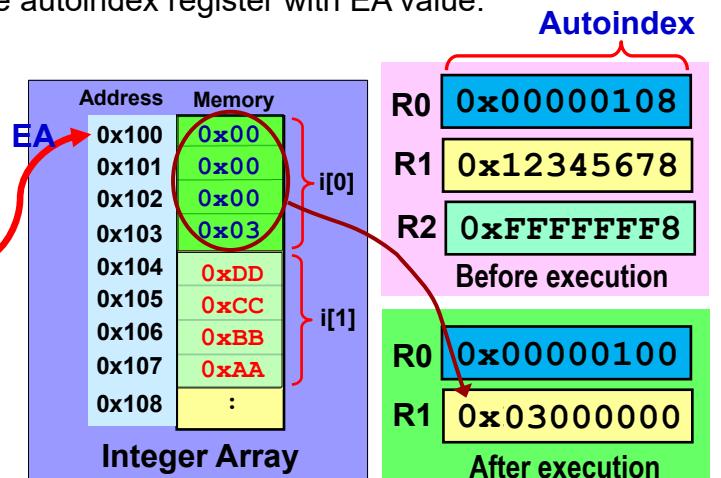
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## Index Register with Autoindex

- Adds index register value to autoindex register (AR) to compute effective address (EA) and AR gets modified.
- Use “!” in mnemonic to update autoindex register with EA value.
- Index value (-8) in R2 added to autoindex register R0 to compute next EA in memory. R0 takes on EA value after execution.

**LDR R1, [R0, R2] !**

Destination (Register)      Source (Memory)



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## Pre-index and Post-index

- In **pre-index**, the indirect register is **autoindex** before being used to compute effective address.

**LDR R1, [R0, #4] ! ; R0 = R0+4 ; R1 = mem[R0]**

Offset with Autoindexing (pre-index)

**LDR R1, [R0, R2] ! ; R0 = R0+R2 ; R1 = mem[R0]**

Index with Autoindexing (pre-index)

- In **post-index**, the indirect register is used to compute the effective address before it is **autoindexed**.

**LDR R1, [R0], #4 ; R1 = mem[R0] ; R0 = R0+4**

Offset with Autoindexing (post-index)

**LDR R1, [R0], R2 ; R1 = mem[R0] ; R0 = R0+R2**

Index with Autoindexing (post-index)

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## Program Example (Alternative Version) Clearing All Array Elements

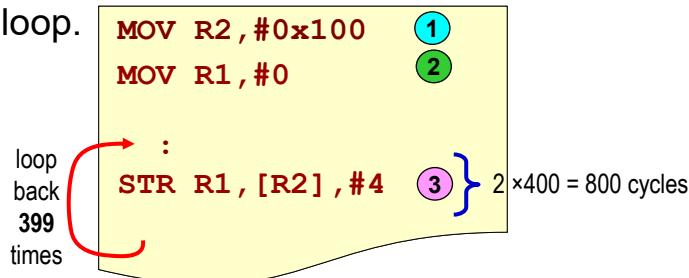
- Use offset with **post-index autoindex** to keep all array access within loop.

```
main() {
    // assume base address
    // of array i is 0x100
    int i[400];
    int n=0;
    while (n < 400) {
        i[n] = 0;
        n = n + 1;
    }
}
```

### C program example

Initialise all 400 elements in array **i** with zero.

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### Using offset with post-index autoindexing

- Initialize base address of array **i** into register **R2**.
- Load value of 0 into source register **R1**.
- Store 0 in **R1** into **i[n]** using current effective address (EA) in indirect register **R2**. Then add offset **4** to the current EA in **R2** so that **R2** is now pointing to the next array element.

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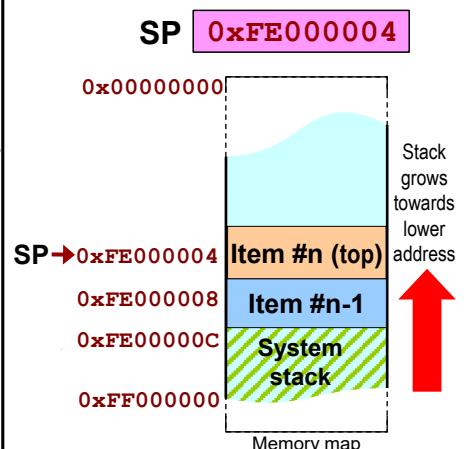
## The System Stack

- A stack is a first-in, last-out linear data structure that is maintained in the memory's data area.
- The system stack in the ARM is maintained by a dedicated stack pointer (**SP**) or **R13**.
- The **FD** stack grows towards **lower memory addresses**. (e.g. by default, **SP** starts at **0xFF000000** in VisUAL ARM simulator).
- In the **FD** stack, the **SP** points to the **top item (full)** on the stack (but SP can also point to the next **empty** space on the stack).
- The 3 basic stack operations are **push**, **pop** and **access** items on the stack.

**Learn More:** Google “ARM stack implementation”

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### Full Descending (FD) Stack



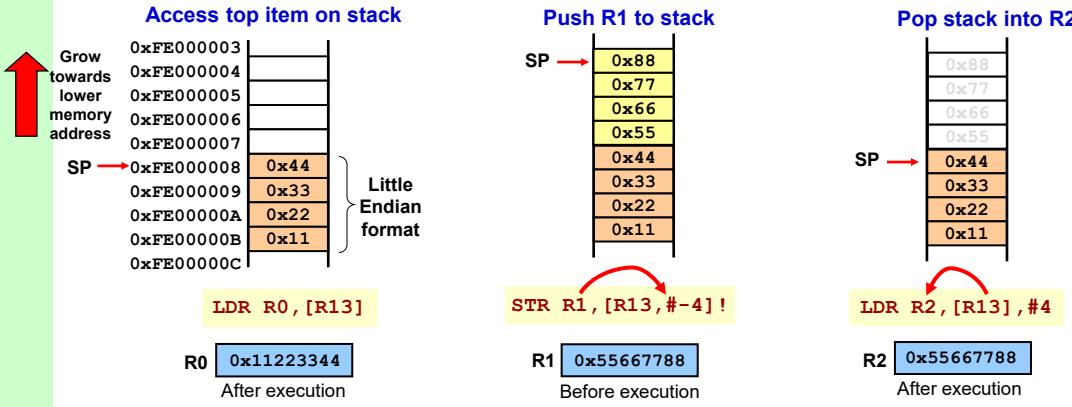
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## ARM Stack Implementation (FD)

- The are 4 possible stack implementations supported by the ARM instruction set.
- Full Descending, Full Ascending, Empty Descending and Empty Ascending**

Example of **Full Descending (FD)** stack implementation:

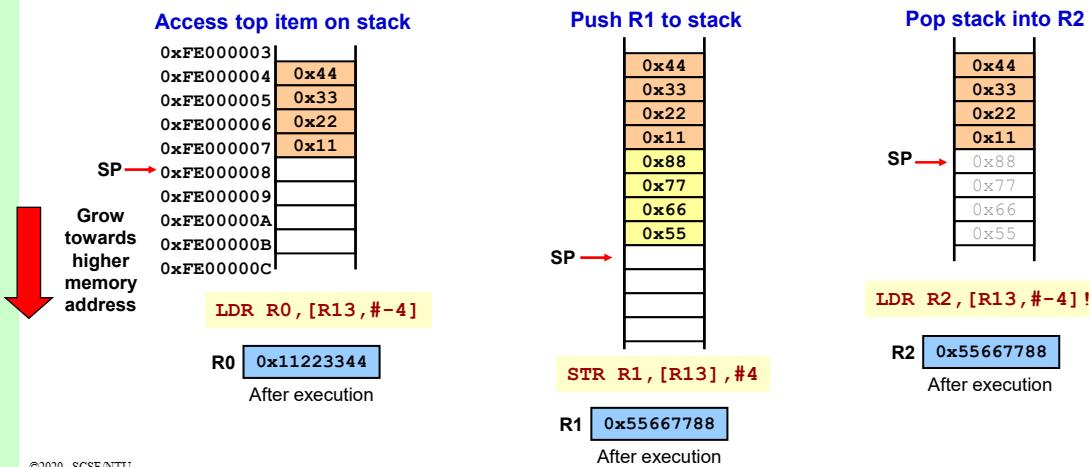


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## Empty Ascending Implementation (EA)

- EA is an alternative stack implementation.
- Empty** means **SP** points to an available **unoccupied** stack space.
- Ascending** means stack grows toward **higher** memory address.



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## Summary

- Autoindexing modifies the indirect register besides just computing the effective address.
- The autoindexing can use either **offset** or **index register**.
- **Pre-index** does the autoindexing first before computing the effective address.
- **Post-index** computes the effective address first, then does the autoindexing.
- Autoindexing can be used to implement stacks.
- There are 4 possible stack implementations (FD, FA, ED, EA).
- For a given stack implementation, the Push and Pop operation must complement each other to ensure the stack grows and collapses correctly.

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## Chapter 4

# Addressing Modes

## PC-related Addressing Modes

## Learning Objectives (4.5)

1. Describe difference between absolute & relative jump.
  2. Describe the concept of position-independent code and how it is achieved.
  3. Describe how data can be accessed using PC relative addressing

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# Absolute Jump

- A **new address** can be loaded into the **PC** to alter the sequential order of program execution.
  - An **absolute jump** to a new code position is done by loading the address to jump to into the **PC**.
  - Example: **MOV PC, #0x060 ;Jump to CodeB**

Address      **Absolute Jump**

0x050	MOV PC , #0x060
0x054	CodeA    MOV R0 , R1
:	:
0x060	CodeB    MOV R0 , R2
	:

Skip execution  
of **CodeA**  
segment

The diagram illustrates an absolute jump instruction at address 0x050. The instruction is MOV PC, #0x060, which means the program counter (PC) is set to the value 0x060. This causes the processor to skip the execution of the 'CodeA' segment (addresses 0x054 to 0x060) and instead start executing at address 0x060, where the 'CodeB' segment begins. A red bracket on the right side of the assembly code highlights the 'CodeA' segment and is labeled "Skip execution of CodeA segment".

- Absolute jump is not **position-independent**. This code can only execute correctly in this specific area of code memory.

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## Relative Jump

- An **offset** can be added to the **PC** to alter the sequential order of program execution.
  - A **relative jump** is done using the branch instruction (e.g. **B**) with an appropriate **signed offset**. (Note: the range of this offset in ARM is **+/- 32 Mbytes**).
  - Example: **B CodeB ; Jump to CodeB**
- 
- Note:** In the ARM processor the PC points 8 bytes ahead of the current executed instruction due to its pipeline architecture.

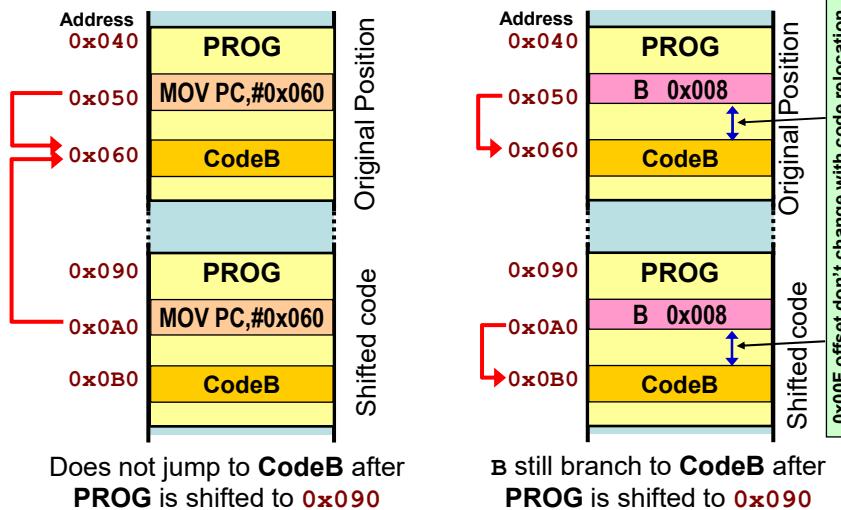
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## Position-Independent Code

- Such programs can be loaded anywhere in memory and still execute correctly (i.e. relocatable).



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## ADD Instruction (Introduction)

- This instruction does the **addition** operation.
  - The 3-operand **ADD** instruction adds 2 source operands and puts result into a 3rd destination operand.
  - The right and middle operands are added and the result is placed in the destination register.
- ADD R2 ,R0 ,R1**
- 
- Destination → + → R2
- Destination and middle operands must be registers but rightmost operand can be a **register** or an **immediate value**.

R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x00000000
Before execution	

R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x00000009
After execution	

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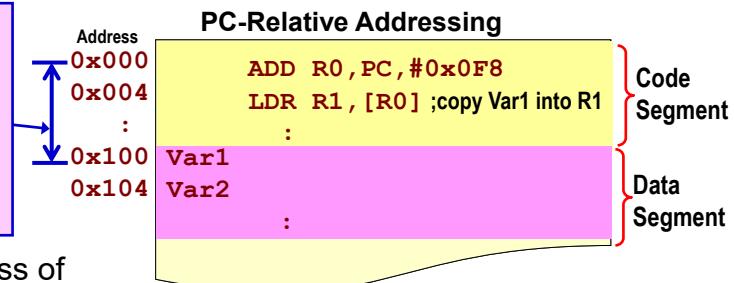
## Accessing Data

- Position-independent (P-I) programs require data to be accessed relative to the **PC**.
- PC-relative addressing** is used to access variables in the data segment of program in memory.
- E.g.: **ADD R0 , PC , #0x0F8** ; Get P-I address of Var1 in Data Seg into R0

PC-relative offset of **0x0F8** is added since PC has incremented by **8** when executing **ADD** instruction.

PC-relative Offset:  
**Var address – (PC value + 8)**

- Referencing absolute address of variable in whatever ways will violate **P-I** requirements.



Note: In the ARM processor the **PC** points **8** bytes ahead of the current executed instruction.

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## Summary

- Non-sequential execution of code can be achieved by modifying the PC contents directly.
- The Branch instruction does this by **adding a signed offset**.
- Such **relative jumps** create **position-independent** code.
- PC-relative addressing with appropriate offsets** allows memory data to be accessed in a position-independent manner.

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## Chapter 5

# Instruction Set

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## Chapter 5

# Instruction Set

## Data Transfer Instructions

### Learning Objectives (5.1)

1. Describe how data in register and memory can be efficiently transferred.
2. Describe how byte-sized data can be access in memory.

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## Instruction Set – Basic Categories

- Non system-level instructions in a processor can be typically classified into three basic groups:

### Data Transfer

#### ARM examples:

**MOV R1, R0**  
**STR R0, [R2, #4]**  
**LDR R1, [R2]**

### Data Processing

#### ARM examples:

**ADD R0, R1, R2**  
**SUB R1, R2, #3**  
**EOR R3, R3, R2**

### Program Control

#### ARM examples:

**B Back**  
**BNE Loop**  
**BL Routine**

- Data transfer** – instructions that move data between registers and/or memory.
- Data processing** – instructions that modify the data in register through arithmetic or logical operations.
- Program control** – instructions that alter the normal sequential execution flow of a program.

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## Register Data Transfer

- Moves source operand to the destination register.
- With **MOV**, the source operand can use either **register direct** or **immediate** addressing.

**MOV R1, R0** ; make copy of R0 in R1

**MOVS R0, #0** ; move 0 into R0 and **set Z flag**

- With move complement (NOT) **MVN**, the source operand is bit-wise inverted before moving into the destination register.

**MVN R1, R0** ; R1 = NOT (R0)

**MVN R0, #0** ; move 32-bit value of -1 into R0

R0 = 0xFFFFFFFF after execution

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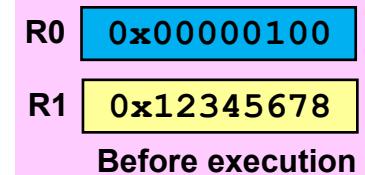
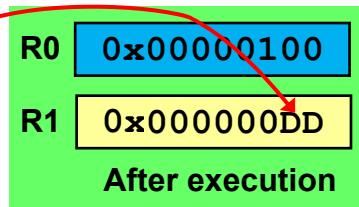
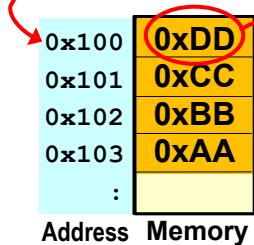
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## Memory Data Transfer

- Data in memory can be transferred to or from a register.
- With **LDR**, the memory data at the effective address is moved to the **destination register** using various **indirect register** addressing modes.

**LDR R1, [R0]** ; copy 32-bit value pointed by R0 into R1

**LDRB R2, [R0]** ; copy 8-bit value pointed by R0 into R2 (byte zero-extends to 32 bits)



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## Memory Data Transfer

- Data in memory can be transferred to or from a register.
- With **LDR**, the memory data at the effective address is moved to the **destination register** using various **indirect register** addressing modes.

**LDR R1, [R0]** ; copy 32-bit value pointed by R0 into R1

**LDRB R2, [R0]** ; copy 8-bit value pointed by R0 into R2 (byte **zero-extends** to 32 bits)

- With **STR**, the content in **source register** is copied to the effective address in memory using various indirect addressing modes.

**STR R1, [R0]** ; copy R1 (4 bytes) starting at address pointed by R0

**STRB R2, [R0, #1] !** ; copy **byte** in R2 to only **one** address at [R0+1]; then R0=R0+1

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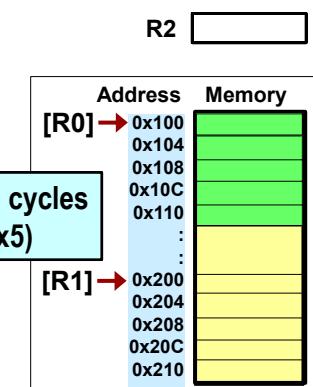
CZ1106  
CE1106**Program Example****Copying a Block of Memory**

- Block copy is used to replicate a contiguous segment of memory from one location to another.
- The **MOV**, **LDR** and **STR** data transfer mnemonics are required to perform the block copy operations.

```

MOV R0, #0x100 ; setup source pointer
MOV R1, #0x200 ; setup destination pointer
loop LDR R2, [R0] ; memory to register transfer
      STR R2, [R1] ; register to memory transfer
      ADD R0, R0, #4 ; increment source pointer
      ADD R1, R1, #4 ; increment destination pointer
    
```

loop back 5 times



Block copy 5 words starting at address 0x100 to 0x200

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CE1106**Program Example (optimised version)****Copying a Block of Memory**

- The code can be further optimised for speed and size by using the autoindexing feature.
- The register indirect with **post-index** autoindexing will **automatically** add the 4 offset to the array pointers **after** memory access.

```

MOV R0, #0x100 ; setup source pointer
MOV R1, #0x200 ; setup destination pointer
loop LDR R2, [R0], #4 ; memory to register transfer
                  ; with post index autoindexing
      STR R2, [R1], #4 ; register to memory transfer
                  ; with post index autoindexing
    
```

loop back 5 times

20 cycles  
(4x5)

Block copy 5 words starting at address 0x100 to 0x200

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CE1106**Program Example (further optimisation version)****Copying a Block of Memory**

- Further minor optimisation by using only **one pointer register** and make use of block copy offset.
- Be careful when using this technique as the immediate offset range for register indirect is limited to only **+/- 4096 bytes**.

```

MOV R0, #0x100      ; setup source and destination pointer
loop LDR R2, [R0], #4 ; memory to register transfer
                      ; with post index autoindexing
STR R2, [R0, #0xFC] ; register to memory transfer
                      ; with base plus offset of (0x200-0x100)+4=0xFC
    
```

loop back 5 times

Offset range = ±4096

Use one register less, save 1 cycle

} 20 cycles (4x5)

**Block copy 5 words starting at address 0x100 to 0x200**

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CZ1106  
CE1106**Summary**

- The **efficient** data transfer instruction **MOV** and **MVN** are probably the most commonly used instructions.
- Can be used with the **register direct** and **immediate** addressing modes.
- Memory data transfer requires the use of **LDR** and **STR** instructions.
  - Numerous variants of **register indirect** addressing modes can be used.
  - Memory data transfer instructions require **two** clock cycles to execute.
- Byte-sized memory access can be done using **LDRB** and **STRB**.
  - Byte moved into register is zero-extended.
  - Byte access of memory does not have data alignment restrictions.

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## Chapter 5

# Instruction Set

## Arithmetic Instructions

### Learning Objectives (5.2)

1. Describe the operation and uses of the basic arithmetic instructions in the ARM instruction set.
2. Describe how arithmetic operations influence the status of Condition Code flags.

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## Instruction Set – Basic Categories

- Non system-level instructions in a processor can be typically classified into three basic groups:

### Data Transfer

**ARM examples:**  
**MOV R1,R0**  
**STR R0, [R2 , #4]**  
**LDR R1, [R2 ]**

### Data Processing

**ARM examples:**  
**ADD R0,R1,R2**  
**SUB R1,R2,#3**  
**EOR R3,R3,R2**

### Program Control

**ARM examples:**  
**B Back**  
**BNE Loop**  
**BL Routine**

- Data transfer – instructions that move data between registers and/or memory.
- Data processing – instructions that modify the data in register through arithmetic, logical or shift operations.
- Program control – instructions that alter the normal sequential execution flow of a program.

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## Arithmetic Instructions

- The basic arithmetic operations are **Add** and **Subtract**.
- These arithmetic instructions involve **three** operands.
- Add and subtract can only involve **registers** or **immediate values** (as source operand).
- The ARM instruction set provides some **variants** of the basic add and subtract operations to provide more flexibility during programming.

**ADD R2 ,R0 ,R1****ADD R2 ,R0 ,#4**

**ADD** (addition)  
**SUB** (subtraction)  
**RSB** (reverse subtraction)  
**ADC** (add with carry)  
**SBC** (subtract with carry)  
**RSC** (reverse subtract with carry)

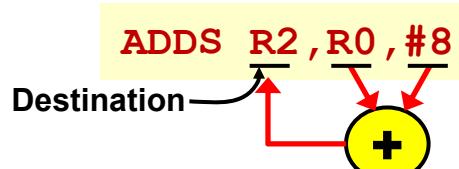
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## ADD Instruction

- Addition is a **commutative** operation that adds two source operands (order is immaterial).
- But only **rightmost** operand can take on an **immediate** value. The other operands must be registers



R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x12345678
Before execution	

R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x0000000B
After execution	

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## Condition Code Flags and ADD

- ADD can affect all the **N, Z, V, C** flags.

		Signed Number	Unsigned Number		Signed Number	Unsigned Number
(+ve)	0000 0001	(1)	(1)	(+ve)	0000 0001	(1)
(+ve)	+0111 1111	(127)	(127)	(-ve)	<del>+1111 1111</del>	(-1)
(-ve)	1000 0000	(-128)	(128)	(+ve)	0000 0000	(0)

N=1, V=1 ← 2's complement overflow      Z=1, C=1 ← unsigned overflow

- The **V** flag when set, indicates an **overflow** when adding **signed** numbers.
- Overflow is detected when both **signed numbers** added have the **same sign** but the result has the **opposite sign**.
- The **C** flag when set, indicates an **overflow** when adding **unsigned** numbers.

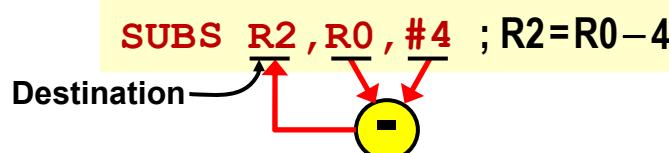
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## SUB Instruction

- Subtraction is a **non-commutative** operation.
- All operands are register but the **rightmost** operand (subtrahend) can take on an **immediate** value.



- To influence all the condition code flags (**N,Z,V,C**), the **"S"** suffix must be added to the **SUB** mnemonic.
- **RSB** can be used to reverse the subtraction order.

**RSBS R2 , R0 , #4 ; R2=4-R0**

R0	0x00000009
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x12345678
Before execution	

R0	0x00000009
R1	0x00000006
R2	0x00000005
After executing SUB	

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## SUB Instruction (cont)

- Subtraction is done by **adding** the minuend to the **negated** subtrahend.

$$A - B = A + (-B)$$

- **2's complement** is used to negate subtrahend.

**SUB R2,R0,R1 ; R2=R0-R1**

## 2's complement operation

The diagram illustrates a subtraction operation:

$$R0 = R1 - R2$$

The inputs are:

- Minuend**: The value in register **R1** (0x00000001).
- Subtrahend**: The value in register **R2** (0x00000003).

The result is stored in register **R0** (0x00000002).

The diagram illustrates the addition of two 32-bit binary numbers:

- Top row: **0x00000003** (3)
- Middle row: **0xFFFFFFFF** (-1)
- Bottom row: **0x00000002** (2)

A yellow circle with a plus sign (+) is placed between the first two rows, indicating the operation being performed.

R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000001
R2	0x12345678

Before execution

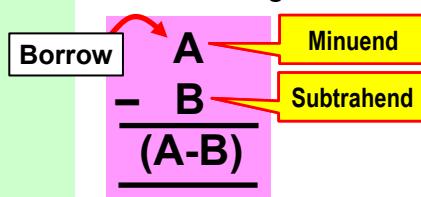
R0	0x00000003
R1	0x00000001
R2	0x00000002

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# Condition Code Flags and SUB

- **SUB** can affect all the **N, Z, V, C** flags.
  - In the ARM's **SUB** instruction, the **C** flag clears (**C=0**) if the subtraction produce a **borrow** and **C** sets (**C=1**)otherwise.
  - A borrow occurs in subtraction when the **unsigned value** of the Minuend is **less** than the unsigned value of the Subtrahend.



**Minuend**                    **Subtrahend**  
**unsigned (A) < unsigned (B)**      **C=0**

**unsigned (A) ≥ unsigned (B)**

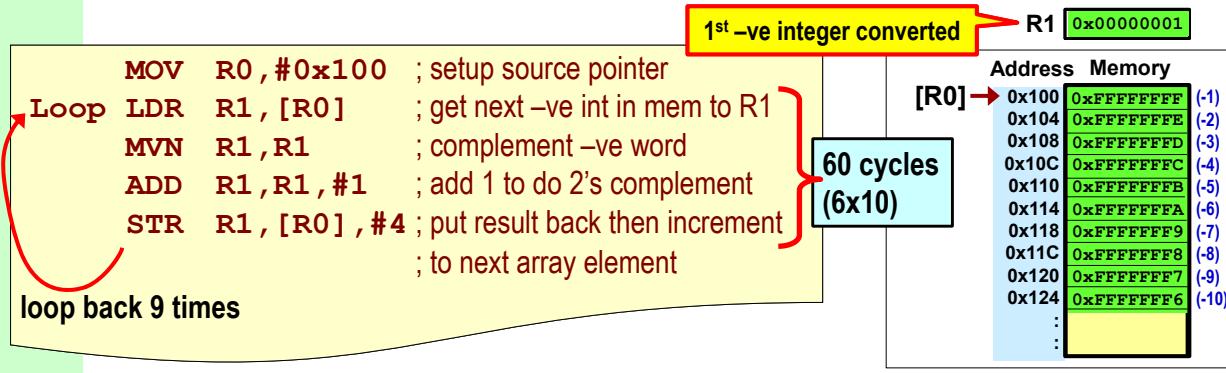
- The **v** flag is set (**v**=1) when the result is out of the signed 32-bit range.
  - An **unsigned underflow** is indicated by (0).

$-2^{31} < (A - B) \geq +2^{31}$

**Learn More:** Google “ARM subtraction carry flag”

CZ1106  
CE1106**Program Example****Convert Negative to Positive**

- The code converts an integer array of 10 negative values to its equivalent positive values.
- The 2's complement operation on each retrieved word converts it from -ve to +ve. The -ve word in memory is then replace with its +ve equivalent.

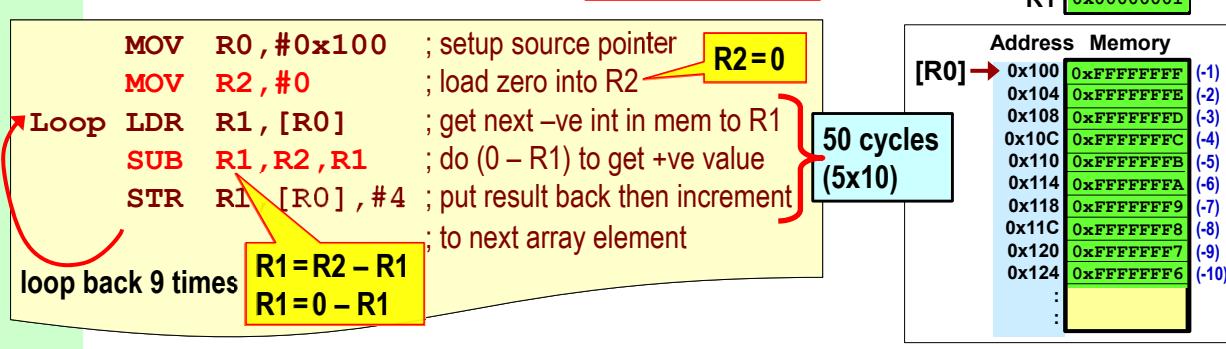


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CZ1106  
CE1106**Program Example (optimized version)****Convert Negative to Positive**

- The **SUB** instruction can be used to do the negation operation more efficiently.
- By **subtracting** the value **0** with the -ve value retrieved from memory, the result will be its +ve equivalent.

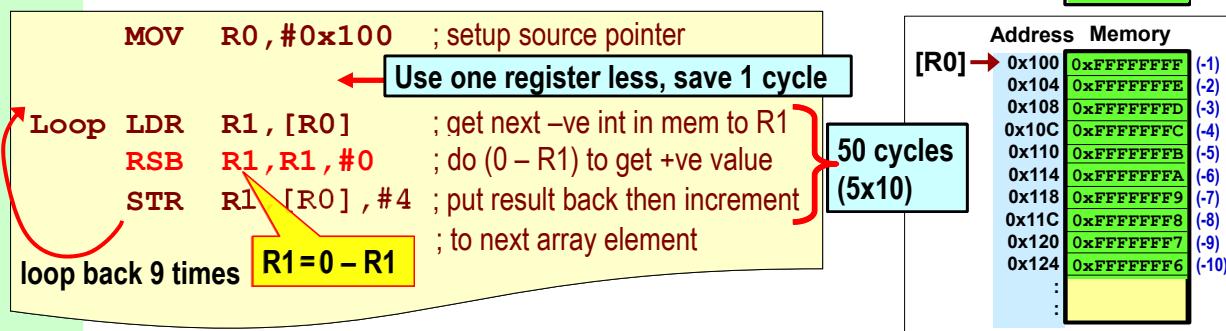
$$\text{e.g. } 0 - (-5) = +5$$



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CE1106**Program Example (further optimisation version)****Convert Negative to Positive**

- The **RSB** instruction can be used to do the negation with an additional register.
- The **reverse subtract** instruction allow the immediate value of **0** to be used as the minuend, thereby removing the need for a zeroed register.

**Convert 10 words starting at address 0x100 to its +ve values**

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CE1106**Carry-based Arithmetic Instructions**

- ARM provides arithmetic instructions that takes the **carry bit** into consideration.
- These instructions are mainly used to support **multi-precision** arithmetic that involves data size larger than the 32-bit registers in the ARM CPU.

**ADC R2, R0, R1 ; R2=R0+R1+C** ADD with carry**SBC R2, R0, R1 ; R2=R0–R1+NOT(C)** SUB with carry**RSC R2, R0, R1 ; R2=R1–R0+NOT(C)** RSB with carry

- Like the other arithmetic instructions, the “**S**” suffix can be added to the mnemonic to influence the condition code flags (**N,Z,V,C**,).

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## Summary

- The **ADD** and **SUB** instructions are 3-operand instructions.
- Supports **register direct** and **immediate** addressing (rightmost operand only).
- Influence all condition code flags (**N,Z,V,C**) when “**S**” suffix is used.
- **SUB** is non-commutative. **RSB** allows the minuend to be an **immediate value**.
- Arithmetic instructions that incorporate the carry flag (**C**) can be employed for multi-precision arithmetic.

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CE1106**Chapter 5**

# Instruction Set

## Logical, Shift and Rotate Instructions

**Learning Objectives (5.3)**

1. Describe the operation and uses of the various logical instructions.
2. Describe the operation and uses of the various shift and rotate instructions.
3. Describe how multiplication and division can be done using bit shift.

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## Instruction Set – Basic Categories

- Non system-level instructions in a processor can be typically classified into three basic groups:

**Data Transfer**

**ARM examples:**  
**MOV R1,R0**  
**STR R0 , [R2 , #4]**  
**LDR R1 , [R2 ]**

**Data Processing**

**ARM examples:**  
**ADD R0 ,R1 ,R2**  
**SUB R1 ,R2 ,#3**  
**EOR R3 ,R3 ,R2**

**Program Control**

**ARM examples:**  
**B Back**  
**BNE Loop**  
**BL Routine**

- Data transfer – instructions that move data between registers and/or memory.
- Data processing – instructions that modify the data in register through arithmetic, logical or shift operations.
- Program control – instructions that alter the normal sequential execution flow of a program.

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# Logical Instructions

- Logical instructions provide various **Boolean** operators.
  - **MVN** is a **two-operand** instruction that does the **NOT** operation.

Example: MVNS R2 , R2

The diagram illustrates the state of the R2 register before and after a specific execution. On the left, under the heading "Before execution", the R2 register is shown with the value **0x00000000** in blue. An arrow points to the right, leading to the "After execution" section. In this section, the R2 register is shown with the value **0xFFFFFFFF** in red. Below the register values, the text **N=1 and Z=0** indicates the state of the flags.

R2	0x00000000	→	R2	0xFFFFFFFF	N=1 and Z=0
Before execution			After execution		

- The **AND**, **ORR** and **EOR** operators are **three-operand** instructions for the **AND**, **OR** and **EX-OR** operations respectively.

Example: **ORRS R1 ,R1 ,#0x0000FFFF**

The diagram illustrates the state of the R1 register before and after a specific execution. On the left, under the heading "Before execution", the value **0x12345678** is shown in a blue box next to the label "R1". A yellow arrow points to the right, leading to the heading "After execution". On the right, under the heading "After execution", the value **0x1234FFFF** is shown in a blue box next to the label "R1". Below the boxes, the text "N=0 and Z=0" indicates the state of the flags.

- The “**s**” suffix can be used to influence the **N** and **Z** bits in the CC flags.

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## Logical Instructions AND, OR and EOR Ap

- The basic logical instructions can be used to:
    - **AND** – **clear** specific bits in destination operand.
    - **ORR** – **set** specific bits in destination operand.
    - **EOR** – **complement** specific bits in destination operand.

## AND truth table

A	B	Z = A . B
0	0 *	0
0	1	0
1	0 *	0
1	1	1

\* Binary 0 **mask** is used to **clear** the bit

## OR truth table

A	B	Z = A+B
0	0	0
0	<b>1*</b>	1
1	0	1
1	<b>1*</b>	1

\* Binary 1 mask is used to **set** the bit

## **EX-OR truth table**

A	B	Z = A⊕B
0	0	0
0	1*	1
1	0	1
1	1*	0

\* Binary 1 mask is used to **complement** the bit

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## Instruction examples AND, ORR and EOR Applications

Bits 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0  
R0 ..01010101

Initial condition of least significant 8 bits register R0

- e.g. **AND R1, R0, #..11110000** (e.g. **AND R1, R0, #0xF0**)

R1 ..01010000 Bits 0 to 3 cleared after execution

- e.g. **ORR R0, R0, #..11110000** (e.g... **ORR R0, R0, #0xF0**)

R0 ..11110101 Bits 4 to 7 set after execution

- e.g. **EOR R2, R0, #..11110000** (e.g. **EOR R2, R0, #0xF0**)

R2 ..10100101 Bits 4 to 7 inverted after execution

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## Program Example Alternate LED Flashing

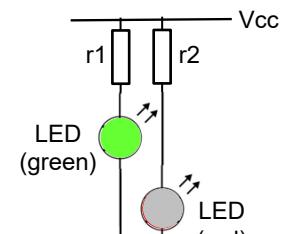
- Turn **Green** and **Red** LEDs on and off alternately.
- Green** and **Red** LED states are mapped to **bits 3 and 2** of **R0** respectively. All other bits must not be affected during pattern change.
- AND** is used to turn on the **active-low** LEDs and **ORR** is used to turn them off. Two patterns per cycle is needed to alternate the ON and OFF between LEDs.

```
Loop AND R0, R0, #0xFFFFFFFFB ; turn on Red (bit 2 = 0)
      ORR R0, R0, #0x00000008 ; turn off Green (bit 3 = 1)
      output pattern in R0 and time delay
      AND R0, R0, #0xFFFFFFFF7 ; turn on Green (bit 3 = 0)
      ORR R0, R0, #0x00000004 ; turn off Red (bit 2 = 1)
      output pattern in R0 and time delay
```

loop back

Alternating patterns for bits 3 and 2 in R0

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R0 ..... 0 1 .....  
Bit .... 4 3 2 1 0

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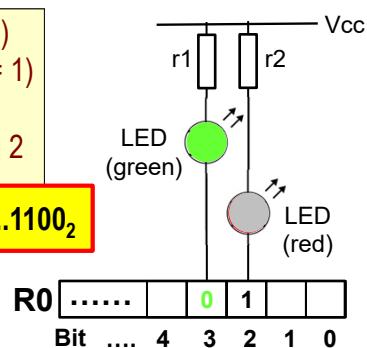
CZ1106  
CE1106**Program Example (Improved version)****Alternate LED Flashing**

- Turn **Green** and **Red** LEDs on and off alternately.
- Green** and **Red** LED states are mapped to **bits 3 and 2** of **R0** respectively. All other bits must not be affected during pattern change.
- Once the alternate pattern for the two LEDs are in place, **EOR** can be used to **flip** or **invert** their state after each cycle.

```

AND R0,R0,#0xFFFFFFFFFB ; turn on Red (bit 2 = 0)
ORR R0,R0,#0x00000008 ; turn off Green (bit 3 = 1)
output pattern in R0 and time delay
Loop EOR R0,R0,#0x0000000C ; flip state of bits 3 and 2
output pattern in R0 and time delay
    
```

loop back

EOR mask = 00 .....1100<sub>2</sub>

R0	.....	.....	4	3	0	1	2	1	0
----	-------	-------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Alternating patterns for bits 3 and 2 in R0

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CE1106**Shift and Rotate Instructions**

- ARM has several shift and rotate operations:
- Logical Shift Left (**LSL**) and Logical Shift Right (**LSR**).



- Arithmetic Shift Right (**ASR**)
- Rotate Right (**RRX**) and Rotate Right Extended (**RRX**).



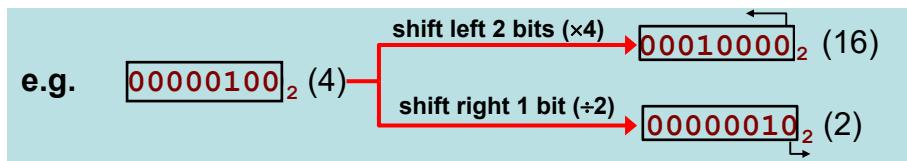
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## Doing Arithmetic with Shift

- Shift performs multiply (shift left) or divide (shift right) by a factor of  $2^N$ , where  $N$  is the no. of bits shifted.



- In signed or unsigned **multiply**, binary "0" is shifted into the LSB of the register from the right using Logical Shift Left (**LSL**).
- In **unsigned divide**, binary "0" is shifted into the MSB of the register from the left using Logical Shift Right (**LSR**).
- In **signed divide**, the sign bit is shifted into the MSB from the left using Arithmetic Shift Right (**ASR**).
- The "S" suffix is used on the data processing operator to influence the **C** flag.

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## Rotate Operations

- Rotate is also called **cyclical shift**, as no bits in the register is lost during the shifting operation.
- In basic rotate right (**ROR**), the bit shifted out of register is returned in at the leftmost end and is also placed into the **C**-flag.



- In rotate right extended (**RRX**), the **C**-flag is shifted into the register at the leftmost end, while the bit shifted out replaces the current **C**-flag.



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## Shift and Rotate Mnemonics

- The ARM **efficiently combines** the shift operation with the data transfer or processing instruction.
- Shift operation is applied to the **rightmost** operand (2<sup>nd</sup> source operand).
- Number of bits to shift is specified as an **immediate** value or a value within a **register** (dynamic shift):

**MOV R0, R0, LSL #1 ; R0=R0<<1**

Shift R0 left by 1 bit

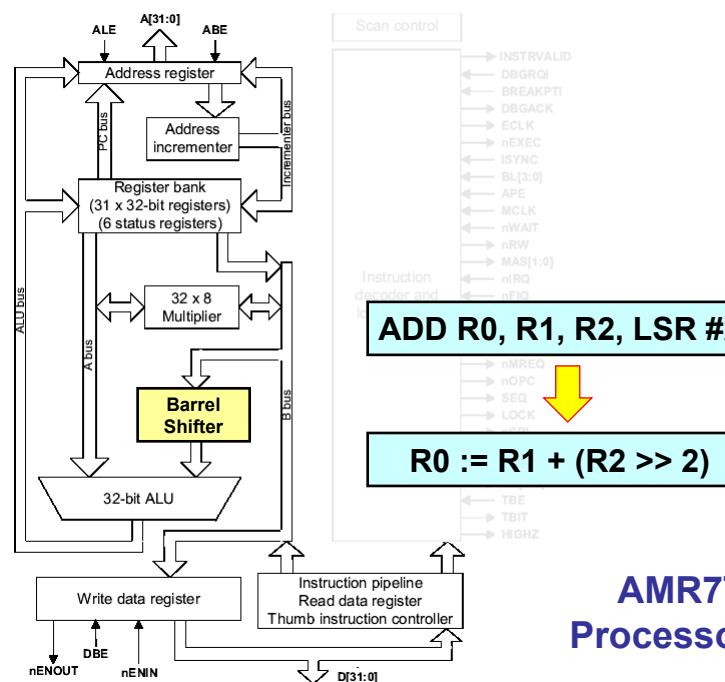
**ADD R2, R1, R0, LSR #2 ; R2=R1+R0>>1**

ADD R1 with 2-bit right shifted R0. Put result in R2.

**ADDS R2, R1, R0, LSL R4 ; R2=R1+R0<<R4**Shift R0 by R4 bits before ADD with R1. Update **N,Z,V,C** flags and result in R2.**ORRS R0, R0, R0, ROR #1 ; R0=R0||R0>>1**OR R0 with a 1-bit right rotated version of itself. Set **C** flag if bit rotated out is 1.

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**AMR7TDMI  
Processor Logic**

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CE1106**Program Example****Count Number of 1's**

- Count the number of binary 1s in register **R0**.
- Rotate **R0** 32 times (**ROR**), at each rotate use **AND** to mask all bits except LSB. Then add the LSB. The cumulated total will be the number of 1s in **R2**.

```

MOV R2, #0           ; clear 1-counter for binary 1s
MOV R3, #32          ; set loop counter to 32 times
Loop MOV R0, R0, ROR #1 ; rotate right 1 bit
        AND R1, R0, #1   ; clear all bits except LSB
        ADD R2, R2, R1   ; add LSB to 1-counter
        SUB R3, R3, #1   ; decrement loop counter
    
```

loop back 31 times

Count the number of binary 1s in **R0**Initial **R0** = **0x22222222****R0** **0x11111111****R1** **0x00000001****R2** **0x00000001****R3** **0x0000001F**AND mask of **0x00000001**

Changes after one loop

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CE1106**Program Example (optimized version)****Count Number of 1's**

- Count the number of binary 1s in register **R0**.
- **LSR** is used to shift content in **R0** 1 bit at a time into the **C** flag. Then **ADDC** can be used to sum the 1s going into the **C** flag. Loop ends when **R0** has no more 1s and **Z** flag is set

```

MOV R2, #0           ; clear 1-counter for binary 1s
Loop MOVS R0, R0, LSR #1 ; 1-bit right shift to move LSB
                    ; into C flag
        ADC R2, R2, #0   ; add C flag to 1-counter
    
```

loop back if not zero

Count the number of binary 1s in **R0**Initial **R0** = **0x22222222****R0** **0x11111111** **C=0****R2** **0x00000000****R0** **0x08888888** **C=1****R2** **0x00000001**

1st loop

2nd loop

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## Summary

- Logical instructions such as **AND**, **ORR**, **EOR** can be used to **clear**, **set** and **complement** specific bits in a register, respectively.
- Arithmetic shift instruction can be used as a fast way of implementing **multiplication** and **division** by values of  $2^N$ .
- In the ARM, shift and rotate operations are used in **conjunction** with data transfer and data processing operations.

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## Chapter 5

# Instruction Set

## Program Control Instructions

### Learning Objectives (5.4)

1. Describe the various conditional branch instructions and its uses.
2. Describe how conditional test can be implemented.

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## Instruction Set – Basic Categories

- Non system-level instructions in a processor can be typically classified into three basic groups:

**Data Transfer**

**ARM examples:**  
**MOV R1,R0**  
**STR R0, [R2 ,#4]**  
**LDR R1, [R2 ]**

**Data Processing**

**ARM examples:**  
**ADD R0,R1,R2**  
**SUB R1,R2,#3**  
**EOR R3,R3,R2**

**Program Control**

**ARM examples:**  
**B Back**  
**BNE Loop**  
**BL Routine**

**Covered in  
Modular  
Programming**

- Data transfer – instructions that move data between registers.
- Data processing – instructions that modify the data through arithmetic, logical or shift operations.
- **Program control** – instructions that alter the normal sequential execution flow of a program.

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## Program Control Instructions

- These instructions facilitate the **disruption** of a program's normal **sequential** flow.
- The disruption of sequential flow is implemented by modifying the contents of the Program Counter (**PC**).
- The content of the **PC** can be modified **directly** or by using a **Branch** instruction.
- A jump can be executed based on a given condition (e.g. if result of previous execution is negative) and this is called a **conditional branch**.
- Conditional branch is useful for implementing:
  - conditional constructs (e.g. **if** or **if-else**)
  - loop constructs (e.g. **for** or **while** loops)

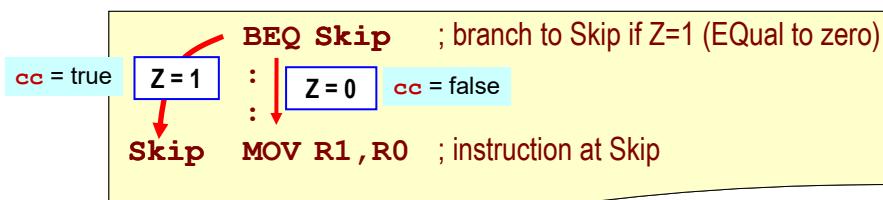
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## Conditional Branch (Bcc)

- ARM provides conditional branch using **Bcc**.
- If the condition specified in the condition field (**cc**) is **true**, a displacement is added to the **PC**, otherwise next instruction is executed.
- Bcc** uses **PC-relative** addressing mode with a displacement range of **±32MB**.
- The **PC** value used to compute required displacement is **8 bytes** ahead of the current **Bcc** being executed.
- Bcc** is used with **address labels** that allows the assembler to compute the required displacement values.



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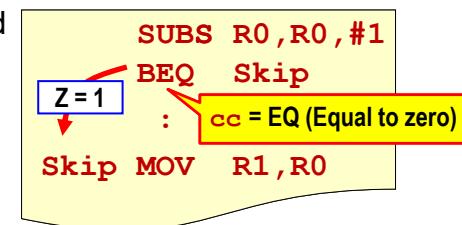
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## Test Conditions for Bcc

- ARM provides **different** conditional branch options.
- 15 possible conditions is permitted in the condition field (**cc**) using combinations of the **N, Z, V, C** flags.

e.g. Bcc	Operation and CC flag conditions	
<b>B or BAL</b>	$PC \leftarrow PC \pm n$	Branch Always
<b>BEQ</b>	If $Z = 1$ , $PC \leftarrow PC \pm n$	Branch Equal
<b>BVS</b>	If $V = 1$ , $PC \leftarrow PC \pm n$	Branch Overflow Set

- Flexible** conditional branch can be programmed based on outcome of instructions **prior** to **Bcc**.
- The choice of condition (**cc**) is dependent on whether the test is for a **signed** or **unsigned** computation.



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## Different Bcc Conditions

- There are 15 possible conditional tests for **Bcc**.

Suffix	Flags	Meaning
<b>EQ</b>	$Z = 1$	Equal
<b>NE</b>	$Z = 0$	Not equal
<b>CS or HS</b>	$C = 1$	Higher or same, <b>unsigned</b>
<b>CC or LO</b>	$C = 0$	Lower, <b>unsigned</b>
<b>MI</b>	$N = 1$	Negative
<b>PL</b>	$N = 0$	Positive or zero
<b>VS</b>	$V = 1$	Overflow
<b>VC</b>	$V = 0$	No overflow
<b>HI</b>	$C = 1$ and $Z = 0$	Higher, <b>unsigned</b>
<b>LS</b>	$C = 0$ or $Z = 1$	Lower or same, <b>unsigned</b>
<b>GE</b>	$N = V$	Greater than or equal, <b>signed</b>
<b>LT</b>	$N \neq V$	Less than, <b>signed</b>
<b>GT</b>	$Z = 0$ and $N = V$	Greater than, <b>signed</b>
<b>LE</b>	$Z = 1$ and $N \neq V$	Less than or equal, <b>signed</b>
<b>AL</b>	Can have any value	Always. This is the default when no suffix is specified.

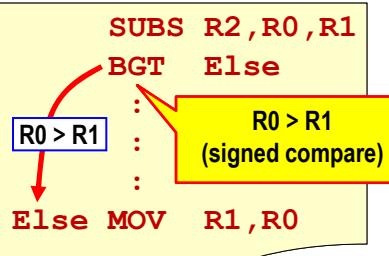
Unsigned comparison

Unsigned comparison

Signed comparison

R0 0x00000001 (+1)

R1 0xFFFFFFFF (-1)



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CE1106**Program Example****Count Number of 1's**

- Count the number of binary 1s in register **R0**.
- Loop counter **R3** is initialized to 32 at the start.
- **SUBS** is used to decrement **R3** to zero and set the **z** flag when that happens.
- **BNE** is used to test for **z=0**, until **z=1** (i.e. **R3=0**), it will keep looping back.

```

MOV R2, #0           ; clear 1-counter for binary 1s
MOV R3, #32          ; set loop counter to 32 times
Loop MOV R0, R0, ROR #1 ; rotate right 1 bit
loop back AND R1, R0, #1 ; clear all bits except LSB
31 times ADD R2, R2, R1 ; add LSB to 1-counter
SUBS R3, R3, #1       ; decrement loop counter
BNE Loop             ; loop back until R3=0

```

**Z = 0****Z = 1****Count the number of binary 1's in R0**

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CE1106**Program Example (Alternative Count Loop)****Count Number of 1's**

- Count the number of binary 1s in register **R0**.
- Loop counter **R3** is initialized to **31** at the start.
- **SUBS** decrements **R3** to negative and sets the **N** flag when that happens.
- **BPL** is used to test for **N=0**, until **N=1** (i.e. **R3=-1**), it will keep looping back.

```

MOV R2, #0           ; clear 1-counter for binary 1s
MOV R3, #31          ; set loop counter to 31
Loop MOV R0, R0, ROR #1 ; rotate right 1 bit
loop back AND R1, R0, #1 ; clear all bits except LSB
31 times ADD R2, R2, R1 ; add LSB to 1-counter
SUBS R3, R3, #1       ; decrement loop counter
BPL Loop             ; loop back until R3=-1

```

**N = 0****N = 1****Count the number of binary 1's in R0**

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## Comparing Signed & Unsigned Values

- Appropriate conditional test must be selected based on the number representation used.

- For testing **signed** values, use **GT**, **LT**, **GE**, **LE**.

- e.g.
 

```
SUBS R1,R1,R2 ;R1 = R1 - R2
BGE R1≥R2      ;jump to R1≥R2 if result is positive
:
R1≥R2 :
```

Destination register gets modified when we try to find out if  $R1 \geq R2$

- For testing **unsigned** values, use **HI**, **LO**, **HS**, **LS**.

- e.g.
 

```
SUBS R1,R1,R2 ;R1 = R1 - R2
BHS R1≥R2      ;jump to R1≥R2 if R1 higher or equal to R2
:
R1≥R2 :
```

Note: **R1≥R2** label is only for illustration. The “ $\geq$ ” is not a valid label symbol in the VisUAL ARM simulator

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## Conditional Test using CMP

- Use (**CMP**) instead of (**SUBS**) to compare values of two operands without affecting the operands.
- Comparing a register value (signed) to an immediate value.

```
CMP R1,#4          ; test (R1 - 4), where R1 is a signed no.
BGE R1≥4          ; branch to R1≥4 if result is positive (i.e. R1 ≥ 4)
:
R1≥4 :
```

- Finding C string terminator (0) in memory pointed to by **R0**.

```
Loop LDRB R1,[R0],#1 ; read mem byte using post-index autoindex
CMP R1,#0          ; test (R1 - 0)
BEQ Found          ; branch to Found if value is 0
B Loop             ; keep branching back to start of Loop
Found :
```

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## CMP

- **CMP subtracts** the source operand from the destination register and sets the **CC** flags according to the results.
- Destination register remain **unmodified** after **CMP**.
- CC flags affected in the same manner as the **subtract** instruction (**SUBS**).



**SUBS R1 ,R1 ,R2**  
**BGE R1≥R2**  
 $\vdots$   
**R1≥R2 :**

R1 modified to achieve  
desired flow control



**CMP R1 ,R2**  
**BGE R1≥R2**  
 $\vdots$   
**R1≥R2 :**

Same flow control  
but R1 unchanged

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## Other Conditional Test Instructions

- ARM provides several other operators that can be used to influence the conditional test flags.
- These conditional test instructions do not modify the destination operand.
- They do not need the “**s**” suffix to influence the condition code flags (**N,Z,V,C**).

**CMN R0 ,R1 ; set (N,Z,C,V) based on R0 + R1**

Compare Negative

**TST R0 ,R1 ; set (N,Z,C) based on R0 AND R1**

Test Bits

**TEQ R0 ,R1 ; set (N,Z,C) based on R0 EOR R1**

Test Equivalence

- The **C** flag for **TST** and **TEQ** can be influenced by applying the shift and rotate operations on the source operand (rightmost).

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## Summary

- Conditional branch (**Bcc**) allows us to implement conditional and loop constructs.
- Appropriate (**Bcc**) conditions must be selected for the conditional test used.
- The (**cc**) choice needs to take into account of data type being used (i.e. signed or unsigned numbers).
- Appropriate operations (e.g. **CMP** or **SUBS**) are used to set the **N**, **Z**, **V**, **C** flags before conditional test can be done.

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## Chapter 5

# Program Example

## Finding the Largest Number

### Learning Objectives (5.5)

1. Use appropriate data transfer instructions to retrieve memory arrays efficiently.
2. Use appropriate program control instructions to determine flow of program based on desired outcomes.
3. Implement a simple find max algorithm in ARM assembly.

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### Program Example

#### Find Largest Number (FindMax)

- Write an assembly language program to :
  - Find the **largest value** in an integer array and store the result in register **R3**.
  - The array consists of **10 unsigned** numbers stored starting at address **0x100**.
  - **Things to note:**
    - Use correct conditional test for comparing unsigned number.
    - Use appropriate register indirect to access each array element efficiently.
    - Set up appropriate count loop to access all 10 numbers

Largest Value	
R3 0x00000007	
Number Array	
Address	Memory
[R0] → 0x100	0x00000003
0x104	0x00000007
0x108	0x00000004
0x10C	0x00000002
:	:
:	:
0x120	0x00000005
0x124	0x00000001

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CE1106**Possible Solution****Find Largest Number (FindMax)**

```

MOV R0, #0x100 ;setup pointer to first array element
MOV R1, #9 ;load 9 into counter register
LDR R3, [R0] ;assume 1st no. in array is current max

Loop
Initialisation of registers
    Loop Count R1 0x00000009
    Temp Reg R2
    Current Max R3 0x00000003

    Address [R0] → 0x100 0x00000003
    Memory 0x104 0x00000007
            0x108 0x00000004
            0x10C 0x00000002
            :
            :

SUBS R1, R1, #1
BNE Loop

```

**R0** = Address pointer for current array element.

**R1** = Loop counter register

**R2** = Temporary register holding current no.

**R3** = Current maximum value (i.e. the result).

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CE1106**Possible Solution****Find Largest Number (FindMax)**

```

MOV R0, #0x100 ;setup pointer to first array element
MOV R1, #9 ;load 9 into counter register
LDR R3, [R0] ;assume 1st no. in array is current max

Loop
    ADD R0, R0, #4 ;increment array pointer to next element
    LDR R2, [R0] ;get next no. in array
    CMP R2, R3 ;compare R3 and R2 (i.e. R2-R3)
    BLS Skip ;branch if R2 ≤ current max (i.e. R3)
    MOV R3, R2 ;update current max. in R3 with R2

    Skip SUBS R1, R1, #1 ;decrement 1 from counter register
    BNE Loop ;jump back to Loop if not zero

```

**R0** = Address pointer for current array element.

**R1** = Loop counter register

**R2** = Temporary register holding current no.

**R3** = Current maximum value (i.e. the result).

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## Conditional Execution

- ARM instructions can be conditionally executed based on the CC flags.

ARM code example

```
; C code
if (R0 == 1)
    R1 = 3;
else
    R1 = 5;
```



```
CMP   R0, #1      ; set CC based on r0 -1
BNE  ELSE        ; if (R0 == 1)
                  ; then { R1 := 3}
MOV   R1, #3      ; skip over else code seg
B    SKIP         ; else { R1 := 5}
ELSE MOV   R1, #5
SKIP .....;
```

- The conditional execution feature allows us to make the execution of each instruction dependent on the current status of the **N**, **Z**, **V**, **C** flags.

<b>Executes if Z=1</b> →	<b>CMP R0, #1</b>	<b>; if (r0 == 1)</b>
	<b>MOVEQ R1, #3</b>	<b>; then { r1 := 3}</b>
<b>Executes if Z=0</b> →	<b>MOVNE R1, #5</b>	<b>; else { r1 := 5}</b>
	<b>SKIP .....</b>	<b>;</b>

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## Summary

- Register indirect** addressing modes (with and without autoindexing) can be used to access array elements in memory.
- Conditional branch (**Bcc**) allows us to implement conditional and loop constructs.
- Appropriate conditions (e.g. **LS** and **NE**) must be selected to implement the required test.
- Appropriate operations (e.g. **CMP** or **SUBS**) are used to set the (**N**, **Z**, **V**, **C**) flags before conditional test can be done.
- Conditional execution (e.g. **MOVHI** or **ADDEQ**) can be used to avoid doing conditional branching.

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# Chapter 6: Modular Programming

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N4-02c-92

# Learning Objectives

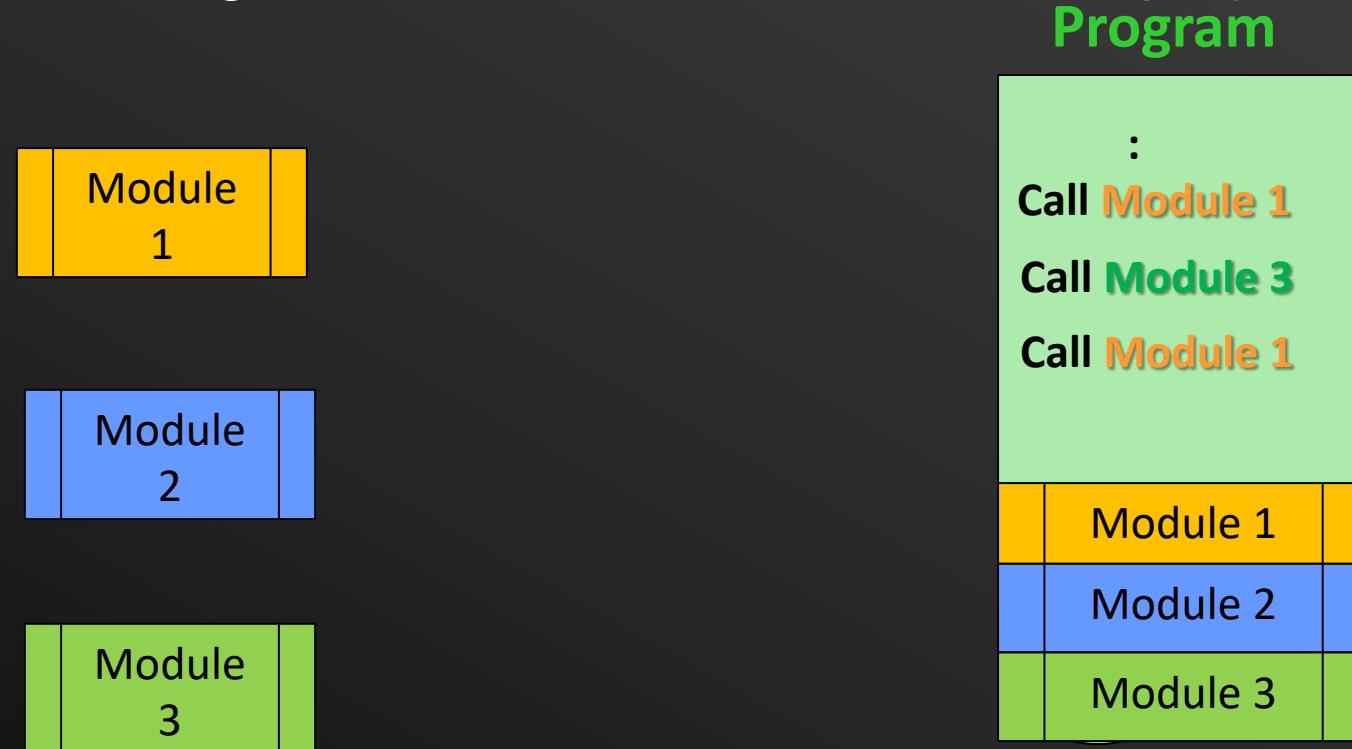
- Describe ARM instructions in implement subroutines
- Describe passing parameters to subroutines using:
  - Registers
  - Memory

# Modular Program Design

- Real-world applications are very large and complex
  - Google Chrome: ~6.7 Millions line of code
  - Android OS: 12-15 Millions line of code
  - Boeing 787: ~6.5 Millions line of code
- Large software cannot be a single function
- It is decomposed into several less complex **modules**

# Modular Program Design

- Software decomposed to several less complex **modules**
  - Modules can be designed and tested **independently**
  - Modules can reduce overall **program size**
    - Same module may be required in several places
  - Modules that are general can be **re-used** in other projects



# Characteristics of a Good SW Module

- Loose coupling—**data** within module is entirely **independent** of other modules (local variables)
- Strong modularity—should perform a **single** logically coherent **task**

# Example: Standard Deviation

Case 1: all in one c main()

```
int main() {  
    .  
    float avg=0.0; //initialization  
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){  
        avg +=x[i];  
    }  
    avg/=N;  
    float sigma = 0.0;  
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){  
        sigma +=pow(x[i]-avg),2);  
    }  
    sigma/=N;  
    sigma=sqrt(sigma);  
    return 0;  
}
```

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum(x_i - \mu)^2}{N}}$$

# Example: Standard Deviation

## Case 2: Modular

```
int main() {
    ...
    float avg = sum(x,N)/N;
    float sigma = Sigma_f(x,avg,N);
    return 0;
}
```

```
float sum( int* x, int N){
    float tot=0.0; //initialization
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){
        tot +=x[i];
    }
    return tot;
}
```

```
float Sigma_f( int* x, float avg, int N){
    float sigma = 0.0;
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){
        sigma +=pow(x[i]-avg),2);
    }
    sigma/=N;
    sigma=sqrt(sigma);
    return sigma;
}
```

# Example: Standard Deviation

## Case 2: Modular

```
int main() {
    ...
    float avg = sum(x,N)/N;
    float sigma = Sigma_f(x,avg,N);
    return 0;
}
```

```
float sum( int* x, int N){
    float tot=0.0; //initialization
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){
        tot +=x[i];
    }
    return tot;
}
```

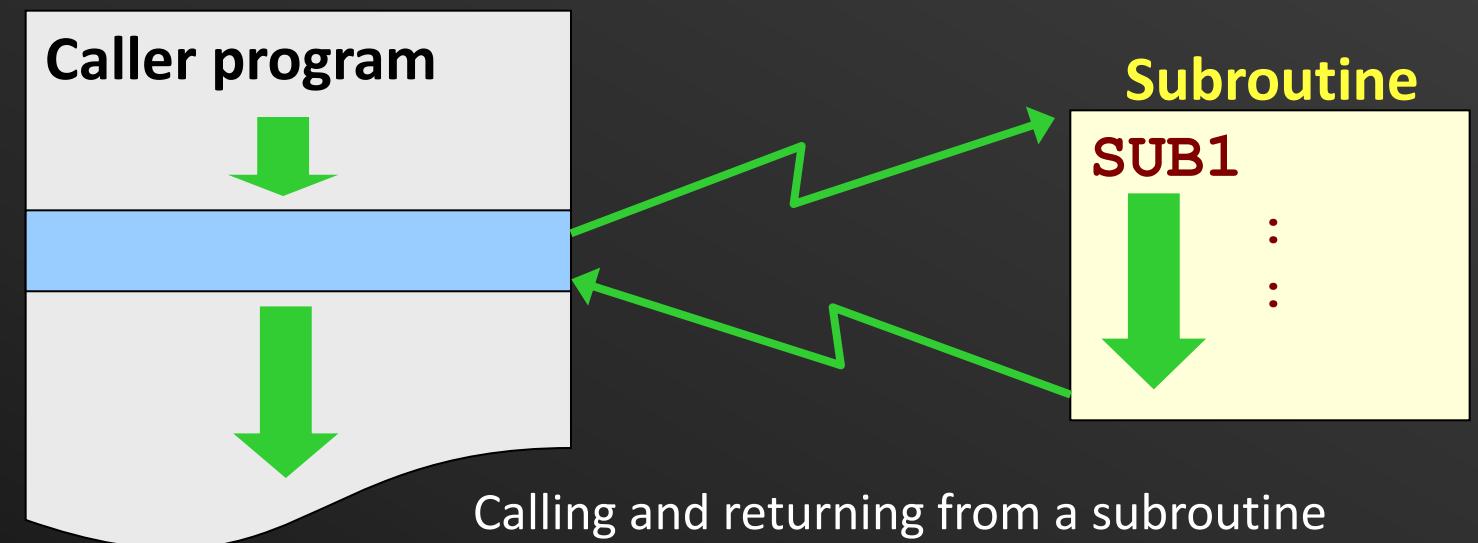
How will this be translated to assembly instructions?

How will ARM go to these two functions and return?

```
float Sigma_f( int* x, float avg, int N){
    float sigma = 0.0;
    for(int i=0;i<N;i++){
        sigma +=pow(x[i]-avg),2);
    }
    sigma/=N;
    sigma=sqrt(sigma);
    return sigma;
}
```

# Subroutines

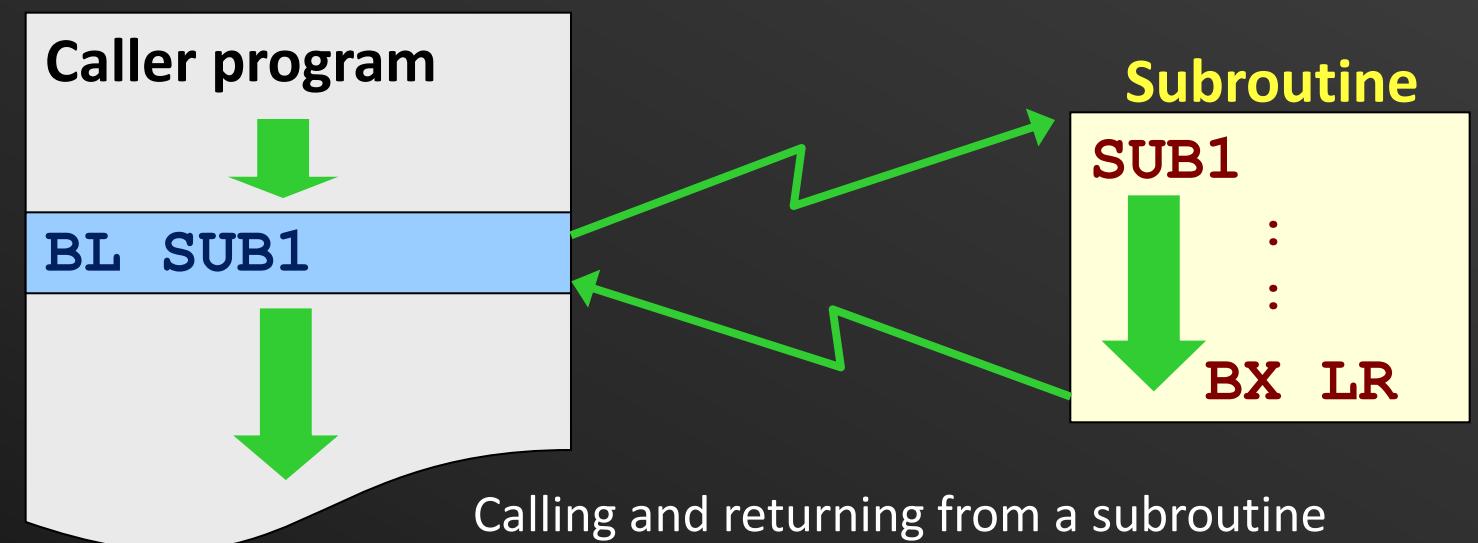
- Modules (e.g., functions in C) are implemented as **subroutines**
- Subroutine can be called from various parts of the program
- Caller and callee
  - Caller: the program that calls subroutine (SUB1)
  - Callee: subroutine (SUB1)



# Subroutines

- On completion, subroutine returns control to the caller
  - Exactly after the subroutine was called
- Calling and returning from a subroutine
  - To go to subroutine (SUB1): **BL SUB1**
  - To return to caller program: **BX LR**

**BL:** branch with link  
**BX:** branch and exchange



# Why BL and BX and not B?

- Main program branches to subroutine:
  - Can be done with B → what is the draw back?
  - B overwrites value in PC → oldPC value in main program is LOST
  - Maybe add another branch at the end of subroutine → need to know the exact mem location during compilation, not an effective approach

# Branch with Link (BL)

- **BL** used to make subroutine call
- Return address (PC contents + 4) is stored in the link register (R14)



- We can also conditionally make a functional call (more of this later)

# Branch with Link (BL)

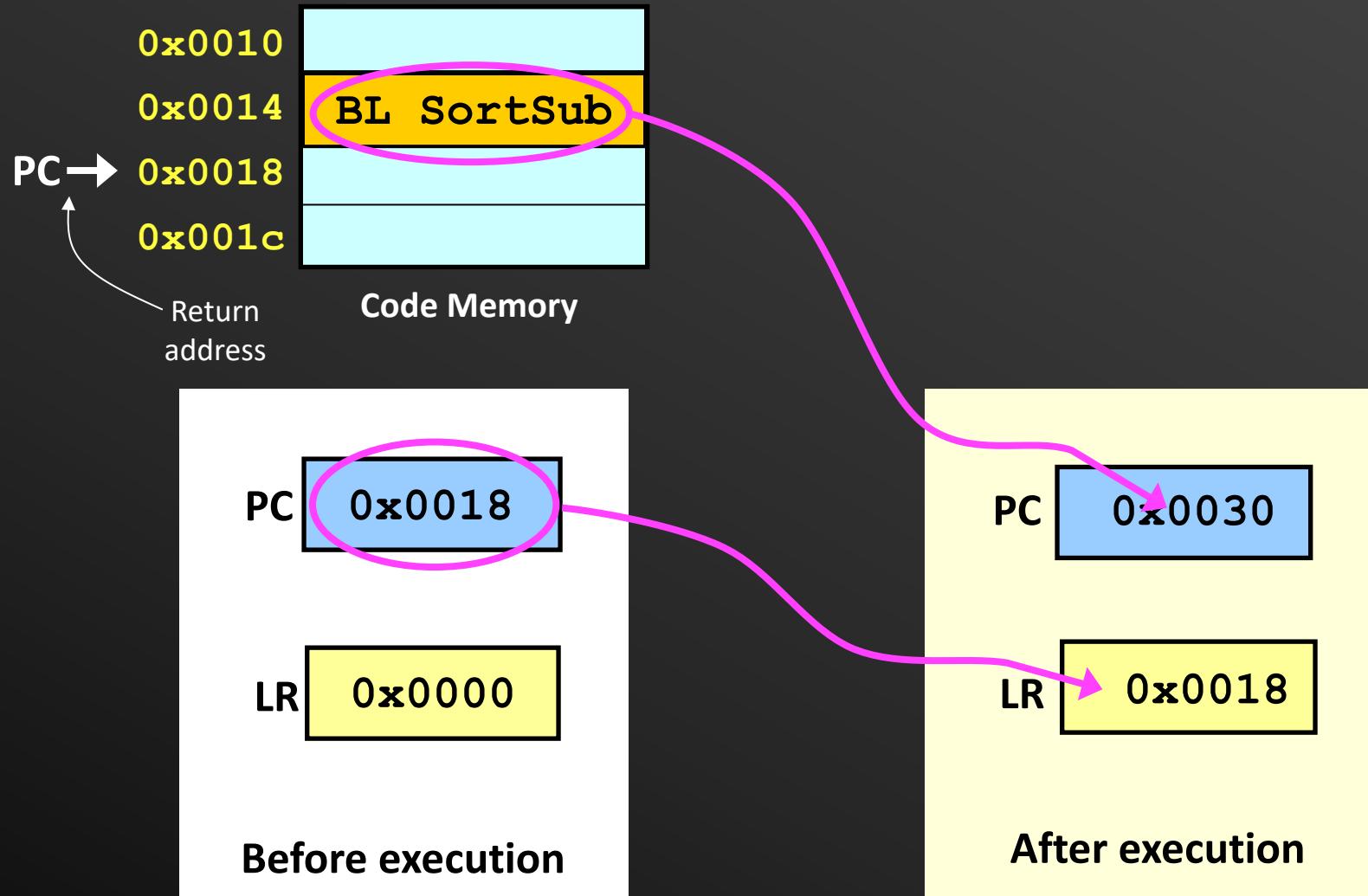
- **BL** used to make subroutine call

```
Subroutine Call  
BL SortSub
```

- Execution sequence:
- Return address (PC contents + 4) is stored in the link register (R14)
- The subroutine address is stored to the PC

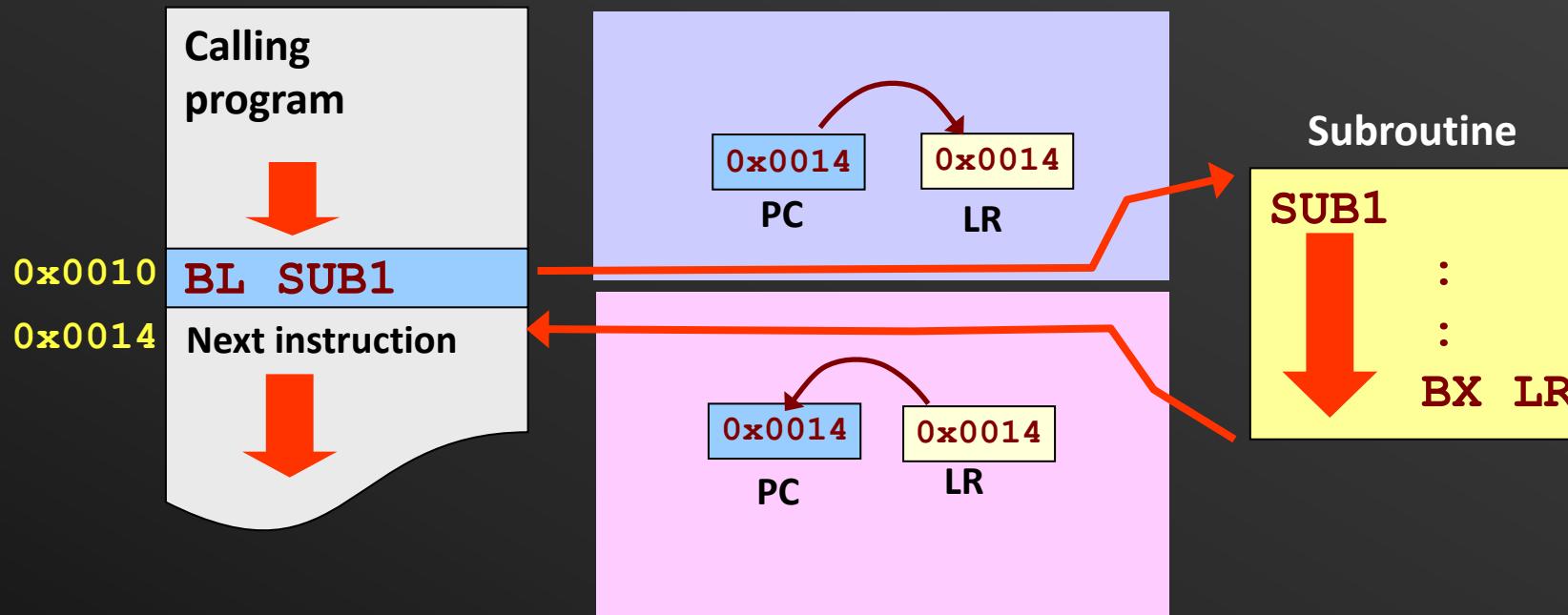
# BL (Execution example)

- BL SortSub (assume SortSub is in 0x0030)



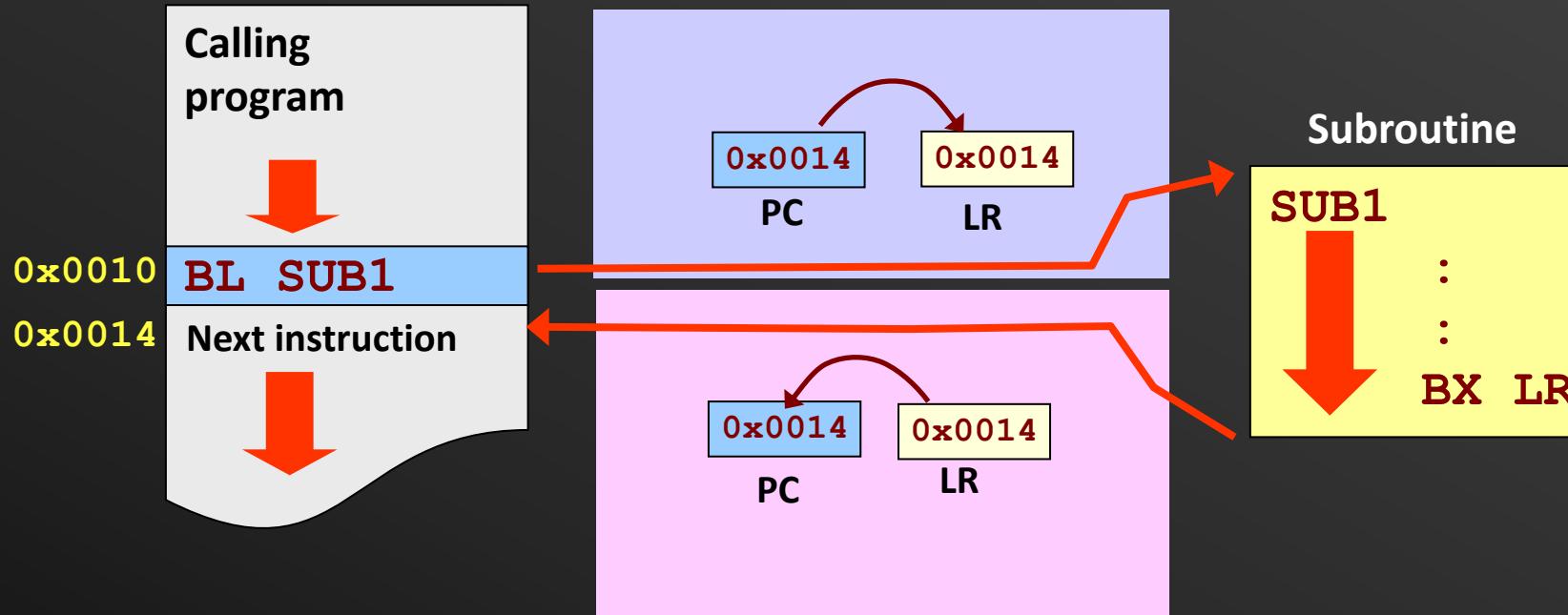
# BX instruction

- BX lr returns from subroutine
- lr contains the return address, the instruction copies the value over to PC



# BX instruction

- BX lr returns from subroutine
- lr contains the return address, the instruction copies the value over to PC



- Note: VisUAL does not support bx lr
  - Use MOV PC, LR



Reset to continue editing code

New

Open

Save

Settings

Tools ▾



Emulation Complete

Line Issues  
8 0

```
1 Num1      DCD    0x20
2 Num2      DCD    0x14
3 Result     DCD    0
4      ADR    SP, 0xFFFFFFFFC
5      ADR    r0, Num1
6      ADR    r1, Num2
7      ADR    r2, Result
8      bl     Mean
9      END
10
11
12 Mean   LDR    r4,[r0]
13      LDR    r5,[r1]
14      add   r4,r4,r5
15      lsr   r4,r4,#1
16      STR   r4,[r2]
17      bx    lr
18
19
20
```

Syntax Error

Unsupported instruction.

Press F1 for a list of supported instructions.

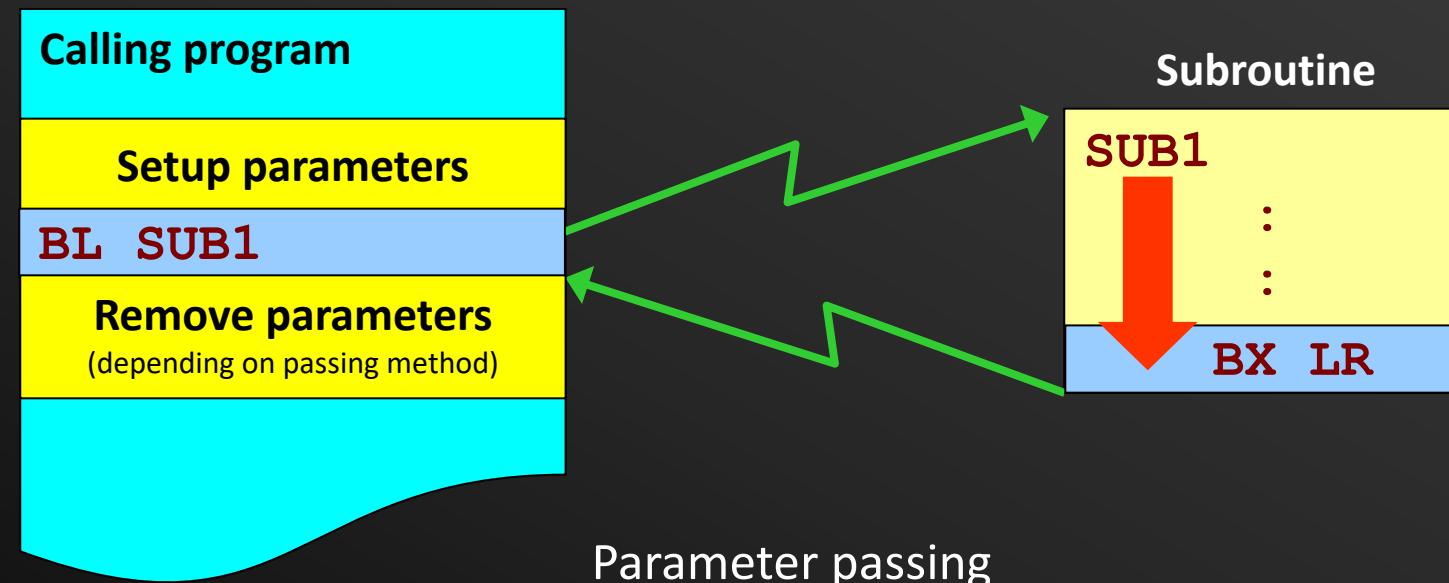
Reset to continue editing code

```
1 Num1      DCD    0x20
2 Num2      DCD    0x14
3 Result     DCD    0
4      ADR    SP, 0xFFFFFFFFC
5      ADR    r0, Num1
6      ADR    r1, Num2
7      ADR    r2, Result
8      bl     Mean
9      END
10
11
12 Mean   LDR    r4,[r0]
13      LDR    r5,[r1]
14      add   r4,r4,r5
15      lsr   r4,r4,#1
16      STR   r4,[r2]
17      mov   pc,lr
18
```

R0
R1
R2
R3
R4
R5
R6
R7
R8
R9

# Parameter Passing

- Calling programs need to pass parameters to influence a subroutine's execution.
- Parameters must be setup properly before the subroutine is called and appropriately removed after returning.
- There are three basic methods to pass parameters, via **registers**, **memory block** or the **system stack**.



# Parameter Passing using Registers

- Parameters are placed into the register before calling the subroutine
- **Number** of parameters passed are **limited** to the **available registers**
  - Useful when number of parameters are **small**
  - Not all **R0-R12** are preferred to pass parameters

# Parameter Passing using Registers

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## Calling convention

### R0-R3

Can be used to pass argument values  
Also used to return values from subroutine  
Subroutine can modify values

### R4-R11

Used to hold local variables  
Not for passing arguments  
Must be preserved in the subroutine

# Parameter Passing using Registers

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## Calling convention

### R0-R3

Can be used to pass argument values  
to return values from subroutine  
Subroutine can modify values

### R4-R11

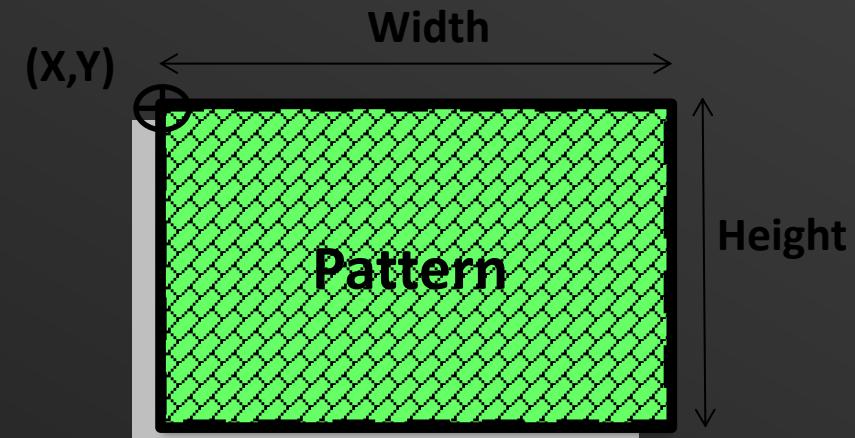
Used to hold local variables  
Not for passing arguments  
Must be preserved in the subroutine

**R12:** Scratchpad register, does not need to be preserved  
Can be used sometimes as return register

# Parameter Passing using Registers

- Parameters are placed into the register before calling the subroutine
- Number** of parameters passed are **limited** to the **available registers**
  - Useful when number of parameters are **small**
  - Not all **R0-R12** are preferred to pass parameters

```
Draw_rectangle(  
    X, Y,  
    Height, Width,  
    Border, Line_style  
    Fill, Color, Pattern,  
    Shadow); 
```



# Parameter Passing using Registers

- Parameters are placed into the register before calling the subroutine
- **Number** of parameters passed are **limited** to the **available registers**
  - Useful when number of parameters are **small**
  - Not all **R0-R12** are preferred to pass parameters
- **Pro – efficient** as parameters are already in register within the subroutine and can be used immediately.
- **Con – lacks generality** due to the limited number of registers.

# Example: Bit Counting Subroutine

- Write a subroutine to:
  - Count the number of “1” bits in a word.
  - Return result in register **R0**.
- **Design considerations:**
  - How do we transfer the word into the subroutine?
    - Put the word into a **register**, which can then be accessed within the subroutine (e.g. register **R1**).
  - How do we check if each individual bit is a “1” or a “0”?
    - Rotate **R1** right 32 times with the carry bit. After each rotate, test carry bit to check if (**C=1**). If yes, increment bit counter register **R0**.



# Solution #1



Count1s

Start by labeling the subroutine  
and placing the return instruction

```
MOV      PC, LR ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #1



```
Count1s    MOV      R0, #0      ;Clear R0  
           MOV      R2, #32     ; Set counter R2 with 32
```

Initialize R0 with 0 and  
the counter register R2 with 32

```
MOV      PC, LR      ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #1



```
Count1s    MOV      R0, #0 ;Clear R0
            MOV      R2, #32 ; Set counter R2 with 32
Loop       RRXS    R1,R1   ; Rotate right and extend R1
            Rotate to the right (arithmetic), and use the carry
            S: set the status registers after rotation
            MOV      PC, LR    ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #1



```
Count1s    MOV      R0, #0           ;Clear R0
            MOV      R2, #32          ; Set counter R2 with 32
Loop       RRXS    R1,R1           ; Rotate right and extend R1
            ADC      R0,R0,#0        ; Add the carry to R0
```

Add the carry value to R0

```
MOV      PC, LR           ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #1



Count1s	MOV	R0, #0	; Clear R0
	MOV	R2, #32	; Set counter R2 with 32
Loop	RRXS	R1,R1	; Rotate right and extend R1
	ADC	R0,R0,#0	; Add the carry to R0
	SUBS	R2,R2,#1	; decrement counter by 1
	BNE	Loop	; loop if not zero
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

Decrement and set  
Status registers

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #1



```
Count1s    MOV      R0, #0           ;Clear R0
            MOV      R2, #32          ; Set counterR2 with 32
Loop       RRXS    R1,R1           ; Rotate right and extend R1
            ADC     R0,R0,#0         ; Add the carry to R0
            SUBS   R2,R2,#1         ; decrement counter by 1
            BNE    Loop             ; loop if not zero
            MOV     PC, LR           ; same as bx lr
```

Issue, the carry of SUBS

Will be used in RRXS → R1 value is destroyed

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #2

```
Count1s    EOR      R0, R0, R0          ;Clear R0
           ADD      R2,  R0,  #32        ; Set counterR2 with 32
           ADD      R3,  R0,  #1         ; Set R3 with 1
Loop       AND      R4,  R3,  R1,  ROR R2    ; ?
           ADD      R0, R0, R4          ; Add the lsb of R0
           SUBS    R2, R2, #1          ; decrement counter by 1
           BNE     Loop                ; loop if not zero
           MOV     PC, LR             ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #2

```
Count1s    EOR      R0, R0, R0          ;Clear R0
           ADD      R2,  R0,  #32        ; Set counterR2 with 32
           ADD      R3,  R0,  #1         ; Set R3 with 1
Loop       AND      R4,  R3,  R1,  ROR R2    ; ?
           ADD      R0, R0, R4          ; Add the lsb of R0
           SUBS    R2, R2, #1          ; decrement counter by 1
           BNE     Loop                ; loop if not zero
           MOV     PC, LR             ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #2

```
Count1s    EOR      R0, R0, R0          ;Clear R0
           ADD      R2,  R0,  #32        ; Set counterR2 with 32
           ADD      R3,  R0,  #1         ; Set R3 with 1
Loop       AND      R4,  R3,  R1,  ROR R2      ; ?
```

Set R3 as a mask with a value of 1

Then apply this mask with a rotated value of R1

```
MOV      PC,  LR          ; same as bx lr
```

Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

# Solution #2

```
Count1s    EOR      R0, R0, R0          ;Clear R0
           ADD      R2,  R0,  #32        ; Set counterR2 with 32
           ADD      R3,  R0,  #1         ; Set R3 with 1
Loop       AND      R4,  R3,  R1,  ROR R2      ; ?
           AND      R4,  R3,  R1,  ROR R2      ; ?
```

Set R3 as a mask with a value of 1

Then apply this mask with a rotated value of R1

The **rotated R1 is not stored anywhere**

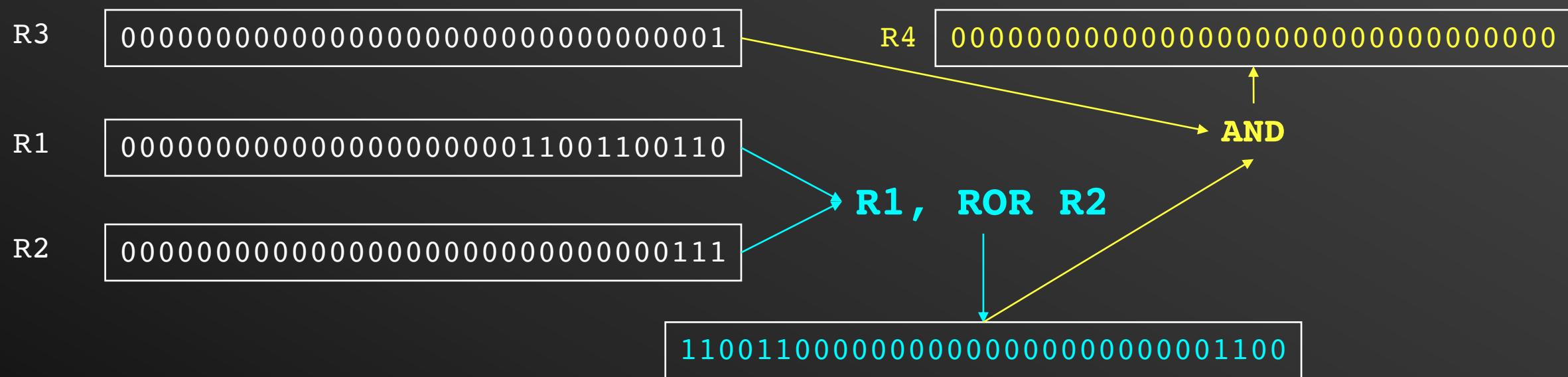
```
MOV      PC,  LR          ; same as bx lr
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Value passed in R1, return value in R0

VisUAL does not support bx lr

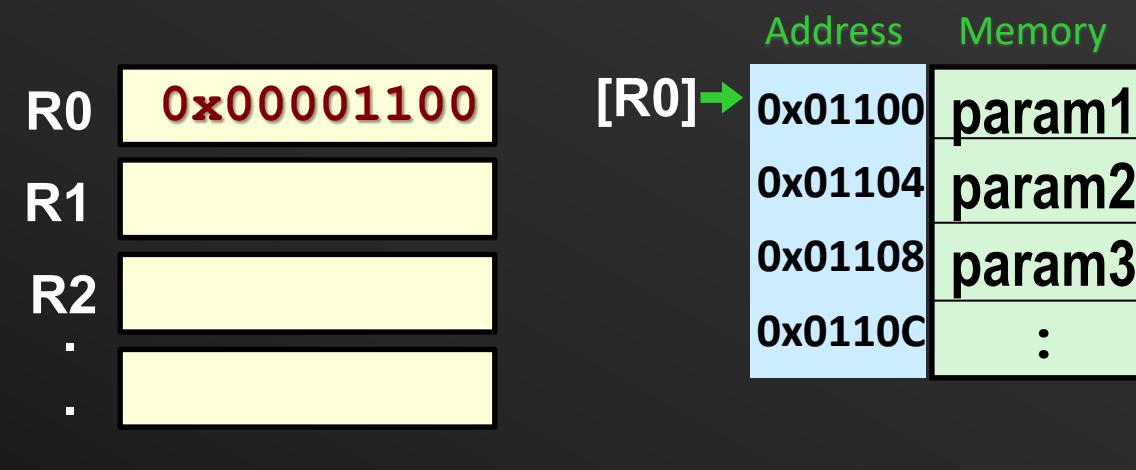
# A Deep Dive

AND R4, R3, R1, ROR R2



# Parameter Passing using Memory

- A region in memory is treated like a mailbox and is used by both the calling program and subroutine.
- Parameters to be passed are gathered into a **block** at a predefined memory location
- The start address of the memory block is passed to the subroutine via an **address register**.
- Useful for passing **large number of parameters**.



# Example: Lower to Upper Case Subroutine

- Write a subroutine to:
  - To convert an ASCII string from lower to upper case.
  - The string is terminated by a NULL character (**0x00000000**).
  - The start address of the string is passed via **R0**.
  - A segment of the calling program shows how the parameter is setup and the subroutine called:

```

;Calling program
:
MOV R0 , #0x100 ;move start addr. of string to R1
BL Lo2Up        ;branch to Lo2Up subroutine
:
  
```

Address	Memory
0x100	"a"
0x104	"p"
0x108	"p"
0x10C	"l"
0x110	"e"
0x114	0x000
0x118	:

# Algorithm Design

- How to convert an ASCII character from lower to upper case?
- Check that the character's value is between 'a' and 'z'.
- If so, subtract its value by 32.

MS Ls \	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	NUL	DLE	SP	0	@	P	'	p
1	SOH	DC1	!	1	A	Q	a	q
2	STX	DC2	"	2	B	R	b	r
3	ETX	DC3	#	3	C	S	c	s
4	EOT	DC4	\$	4	D	T	d	t
5	ENQ	NAK	%	5	E	U	e	u
6	ACK	SYN	&	6	F	V	f	v
7	BEL	ETB	'	7	G	W	g	w
8	BS	CAN	(	8	H	X	h	x
9	HT	EM	)	9	I	Y	i	y
A	LF	SUB	*	:	J	Z	j	z
B	VT	ESC	+	;	K	[	k	{
C	FF	FS	,	<	L	\	l	
D	CR	GS	-	=	M	]	m	}
E	SO	RS	.	>	N	^	n	
F	SI	US	/	?	O	_	o	DEL

subtract 32

**ASCII Character Set  
(7-Bit Code)**

# Possible Solution

<b>Lo2Up</b>	<b>STMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;save registers used within subroutine
<b>Loop</b>	<b>LDR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0] , #4</b>	;get current char from string in memory
	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0</b>	;Compare with NULL
<b>Always</b>	<del><b>BNE</b></del>	<b>Done</b>	;if NULL char, branch to Done
	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0x061</b>	;compare with lower limit "a"
	<b>BLT</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;if smaller than "a", do not convert
<b>Z=1</b>	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0x07A</b>	;compare with upper limit "z"
	<b>BGT</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;if greater than "z" do not convert
	<b>SUB</b>	<b>R1 , R1 , #32</b>	;convert to upper case by subtracting 32
	<b>STR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0 , #-4]</b>	;write modified char back to string in memory
	<b>B</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;branch back to Loop
<b>Done</b>	<b>LDMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;restored saved registers before returning
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>PC , LR</b>	;return from subroutine

**Note:** Subroutine modifies **R0 & R1** but restores their original contents before returning. This produces a **transparent subroutine** that does not effect the proper operation of calling program

# Possible Solution

<b>Lo2Up</b>	<b>STMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;save registers used within subroutine
<b>Loop</b>	<b>LDR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0] , #4</b>	;get current char from string in memory
<b>Increment R0 by 4 and update R0 (to point to next memory location)</b>			

**Refer to the location to R0-4 (the original R0)**

	<b>STR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0 , #-4]</b>	;write modified char back to string in memory
	<b>B</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;branch back to Loop
<b>Done</b>	<b>LDMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;restored saved registers before returning
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>PC , LR</b>	;return from subroutine

**Note:** Subroutine modifies **R0 & R1** but restores their original contents before returning. This produces a **transparent subroutine** that does not effect the proper operation of calling program

# Possible Solution

<b>Lo2Up</b>	<b>STMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;save registers used within subroutine	<b>R0=0x100</b>
<b>Loop</b>	<b>LDR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0] , #4</b>	;get current char from string in memory	
<b>Increment R0 by 4 and update R0 (to point to next memory location)</b>				
				<b>R0=0x104</b>
				<b>R0-4=0x100</b>
<b>Refer to the location to R0-4 (the original R0)</b>				
	<b>STR</b>	<b>R1 , [R0 , #-4]</b>	;write modified char back to string in memory	
	<b>B</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;branch back to Loop	
<b>Done</b>	<b>LDMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;restored saved registers before returning	
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>PC , LR</b>	;return from subroutine	

**Note:** Subroutine modifies **R0 & R1** but restores their original contents before returning. This produces a **transparent subroutine** that does not effect the proper operation of calling program

# Optimizing Memory Usage

- Example assumes each character in 32 bits
  - But each character requires 8 bits only
- Can we access each Byte separately?

Address	Memory
0x100	"a"
0x101	"p"
0x102	"p"
0x103	"l"
0x104	"e"
0x105	0x000
0x106	:

# Optimizing Memory Usage

- Example assumes each character in 32 bits
  - But each character requires 8 bits only
- Can we access each Byte separately?

Use the {B} option in Access

LDRB  
STRB

Address	Memory
0x100	"a"
0x101	"p"
0x102	"p"
0x103	"l"
0x104	"e"
0x105	0x000
0x106	:

# Efficient Memory Solution

<b>Lo2Up</b>	<b>STMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;save registers used within subroutine
<b>Loop</b>	<b>LDRB</b>	<b>R1 , [R0] , #1</b>	;get current char from string in memory
	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0</b>	;Compare with NULL
	<b>BEQ</b>	<b>Done</b>	;if NULL char, branch to Done
	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0x061</b>	;compare with lower limit "a"
	<b>BLT</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;if smaller than "a", do not convert
	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R1 , #0x07A</b>	;compare with upper limit "z"
	<b>BGT</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;if greater than "z" do not convert
	<b>SUB</b>	<b>R1 , R1 , #32</b>	;convert to upper case by subtracting 32
	<b>STRB</b>	<b>R1 , [R0 , #-1]</b>	;write modified char back to string in memory
	<b>B</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;branch back to Loop
<b>Done</b>	<b>LDMFD</b>	<b>SP! , {r0 , r1}</b>	;restored saved registers before returning
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>PC , LR</b>	;return from subroutine

**Note:** Subroutine modifies **R0 & R1** but restores their original contents before returning. This produces a **transparent subroutine** that does not effect the proper operation of calling program

# Summary

- BL is required to call a subroutine, return address is in LR register
- A return from subroutine is done with BX LR or MOV PC,LR
- Passing parameters **using registers** is the simplest and fastest.
  - Number of parameters that can be passed is **limited** by the **available registers**.
- Passing parameters using a **memory block** can support a **large number** of parameters or data types like arrays.

# Chapter 6: Modular Programming-Cont

Mohamed M. Sabry Aly

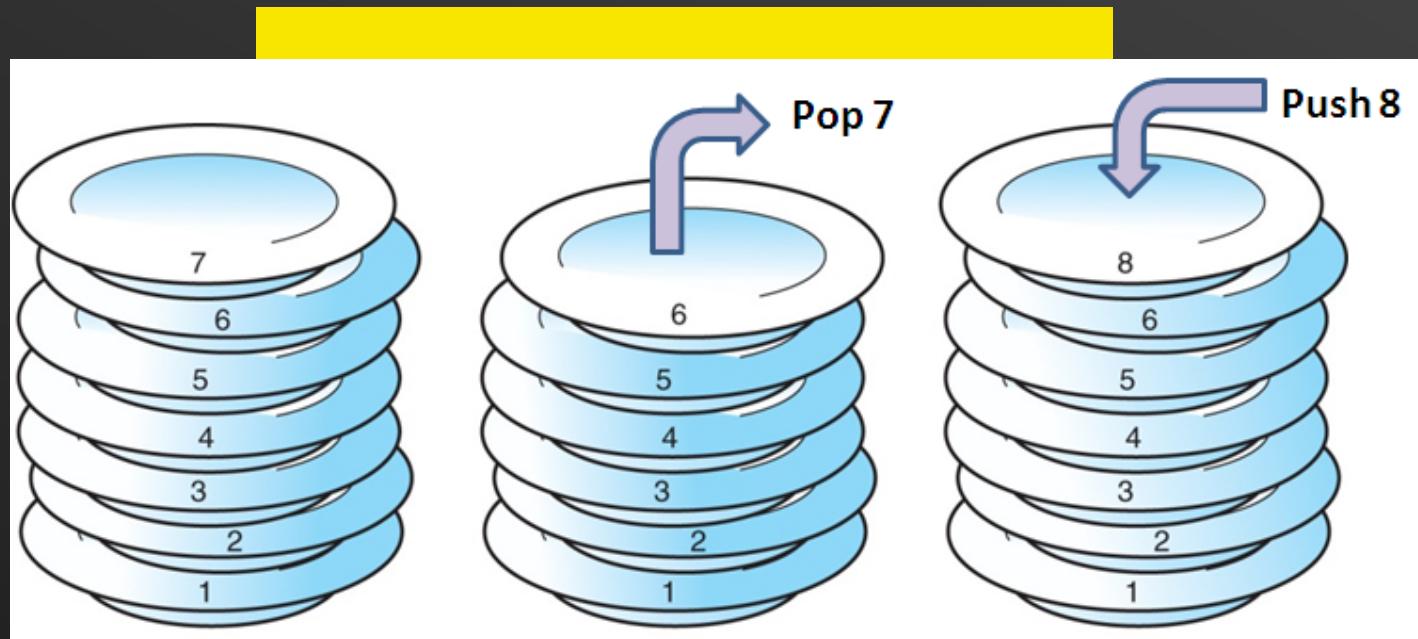
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# Learning Objectives

- List the stack manipulation operations & its implementation
- Describe passing parameters to subroutines using the stack
- Identify the difference between passing by value and by reference.
- Describe how a transparent subroutine can be implemented.

# System Stack

- A stack is a first-in, last-out linear data structure that is maintained in the memory's data area.

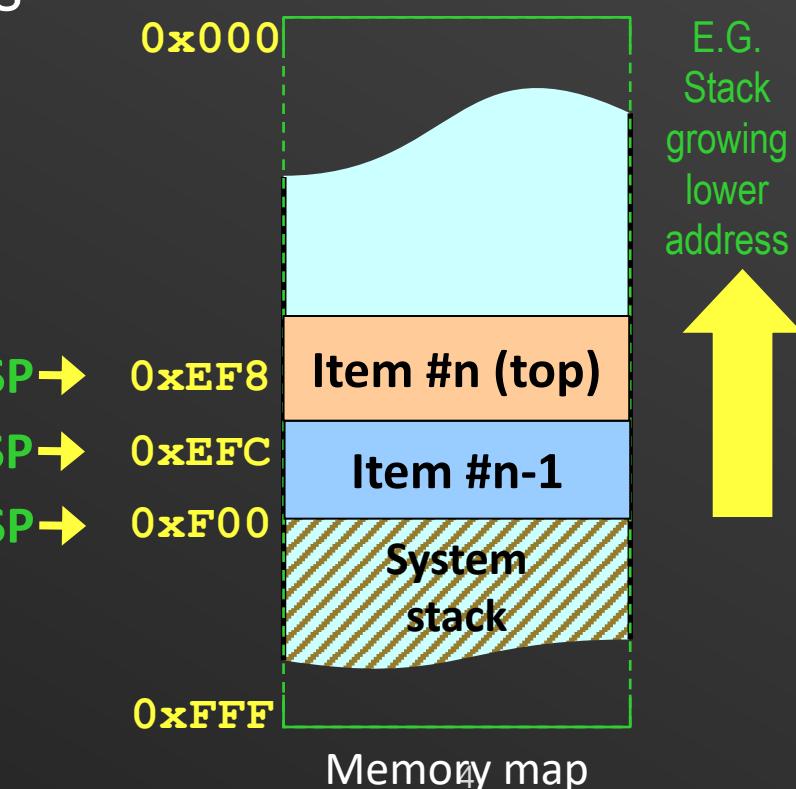


Stack of warm plates on dispenser

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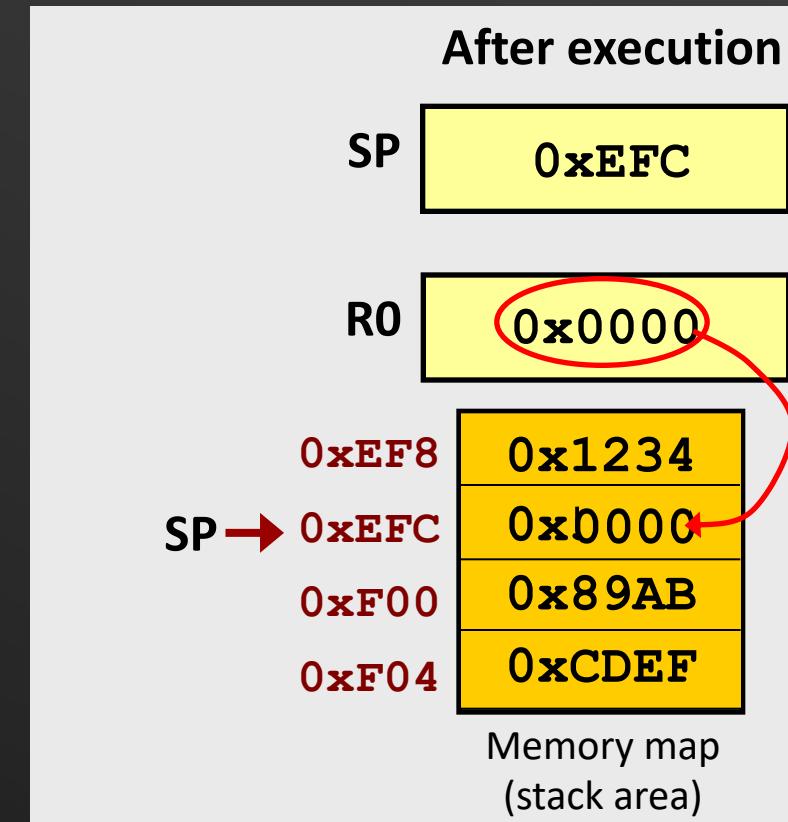
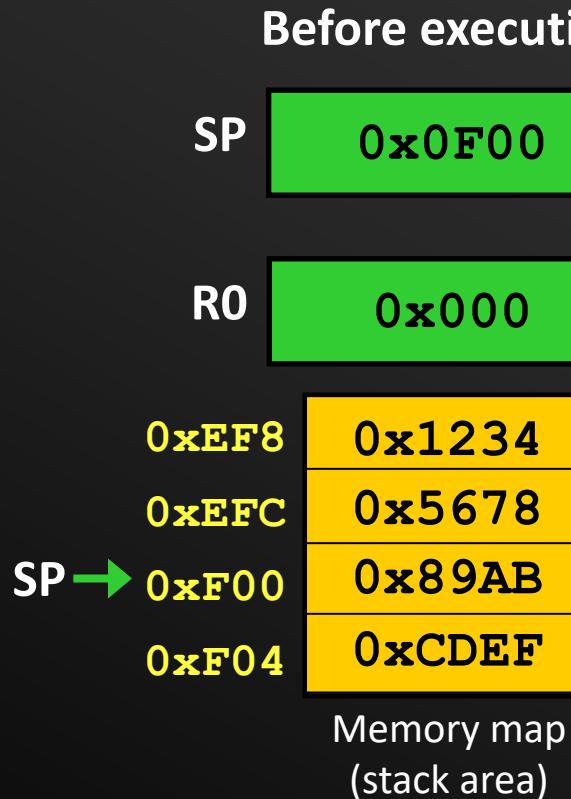
# System Stack

- A stack is a first-in, last-out linear data structure that is maintained in the memory's data area.
- The system stack in the ARM processor is maintained by a dedicated stack pointer (**SP, R13**).
- Stack can grow towards lower or higher memory address
  - Preferred direction is lower, start from max address → Why?
- The **SP** points to the top item on the system stack.
- The 3 basic stack operations are **push**, **pop** and **access** items on the stack.



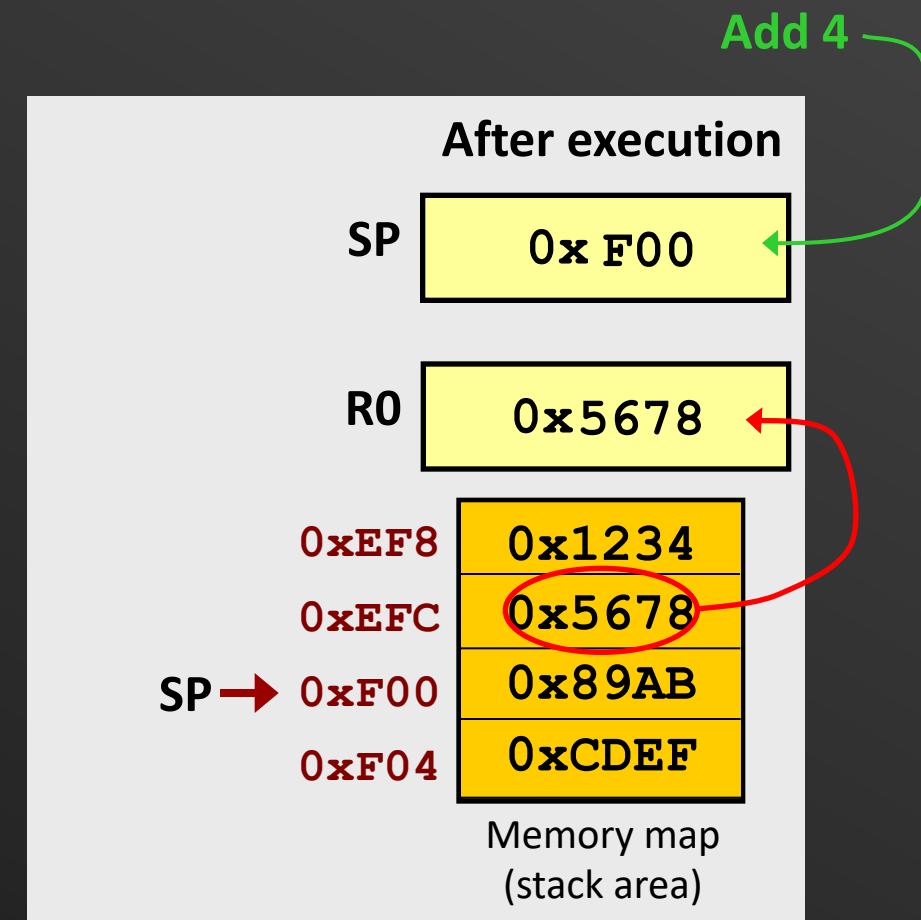
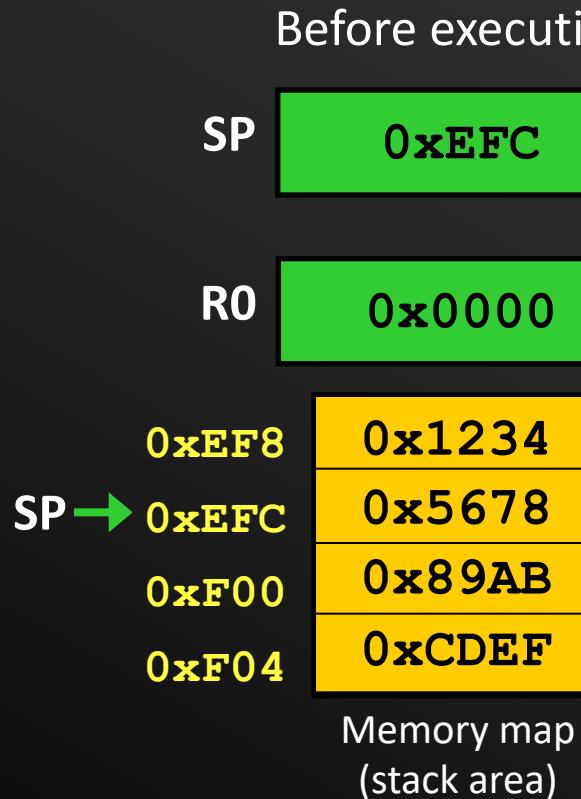
# Push Data to the Stack

- Writing to stack can be done using **STR** instruction
  - Need to also increase the stack pointer before storing
- Syntax: **STR R0 , [ SP , #-4 ] !**



# Pop Data off the Stack

- Popping from the stack can be done with **LDR** instruction
  - Need to update pointer AFTER read
- Syntax: **LDR R0, [ SP ],#4**



# Removing from stack

- After popping, is the data **erased** from the stack?

NO

0xEF8	0x1234
0xEFC	0x5678
0xF00	0x89AB
0xF04	0xCDEF

- Data still resides in memory and can be read

**LDR R0, [SP, #-4]**

SP is not changed

# Pushing Registers to Stack

- E.g., want to push R0 and R1

Method 1:

```
STR  R0, [ SP, #-4 ] !
```

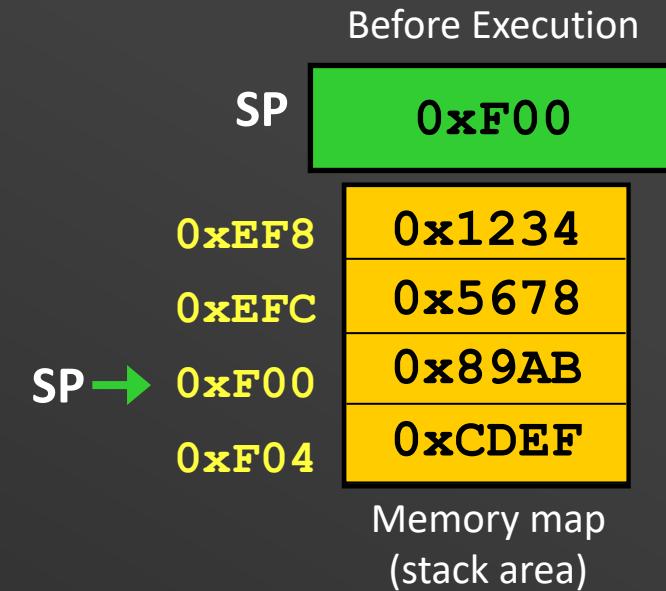
```
STR  R1, [ SP, #-4 ] !
```

# Pushing Registers to Stack

- E.g., want to push R0 and R1

Method 1:

```
STR  R0, [ SP, #-4 ] !
STR  R1, [ SP, #-4 ] !
```



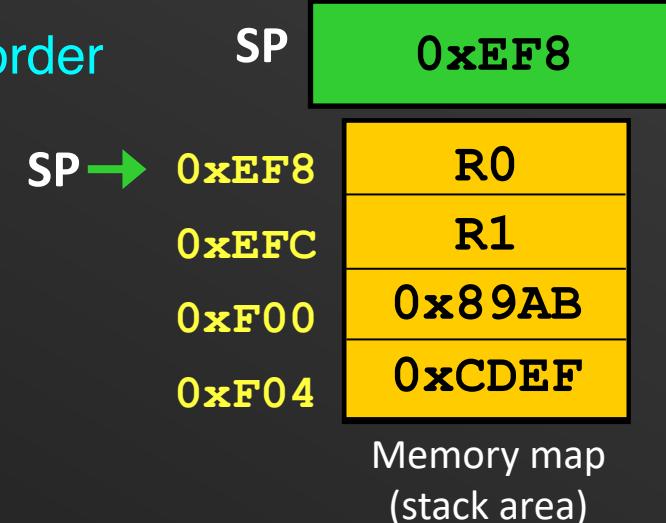
Method 2:

**STMFD SP!, {R1,R0}**

Store multiple registers fully descending

Use Stack pointer and write back updated value after operation

Write registers in descending order



# Pushing and popping to stack

STMFD SP!, {list of registers}

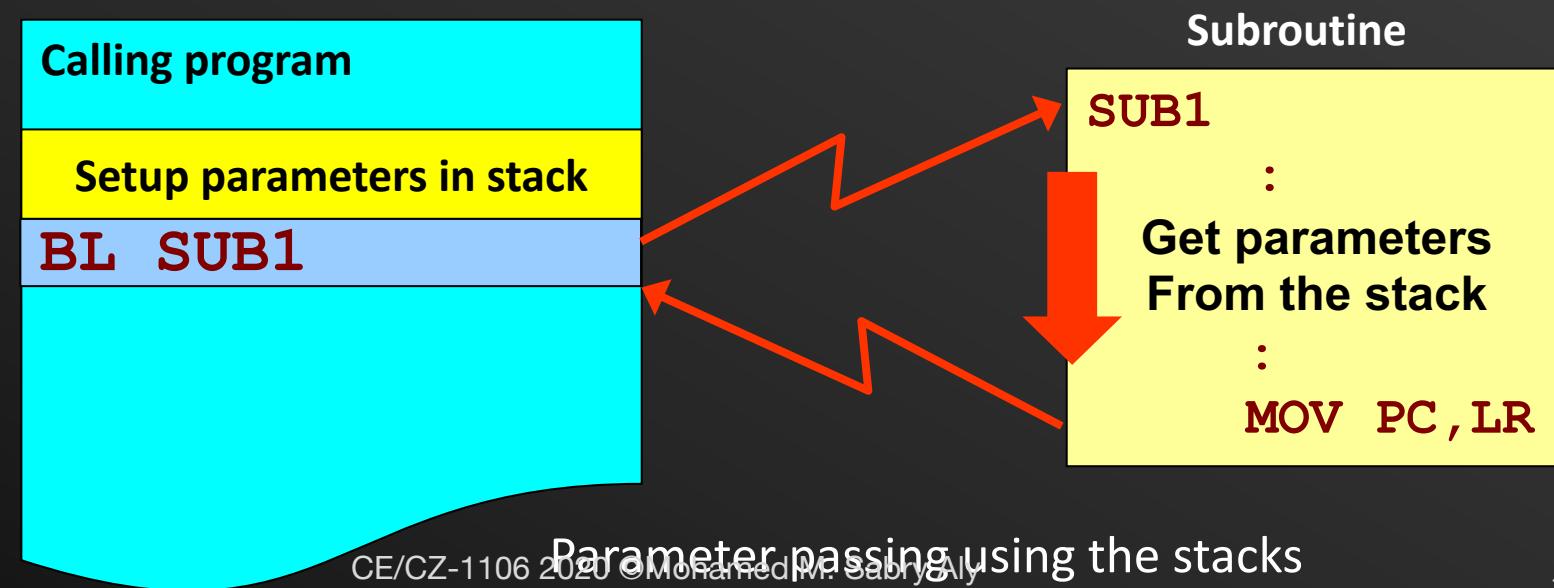
LDMFD SP!, {list of registers}

**STMFD SP!, {R1, R0}**

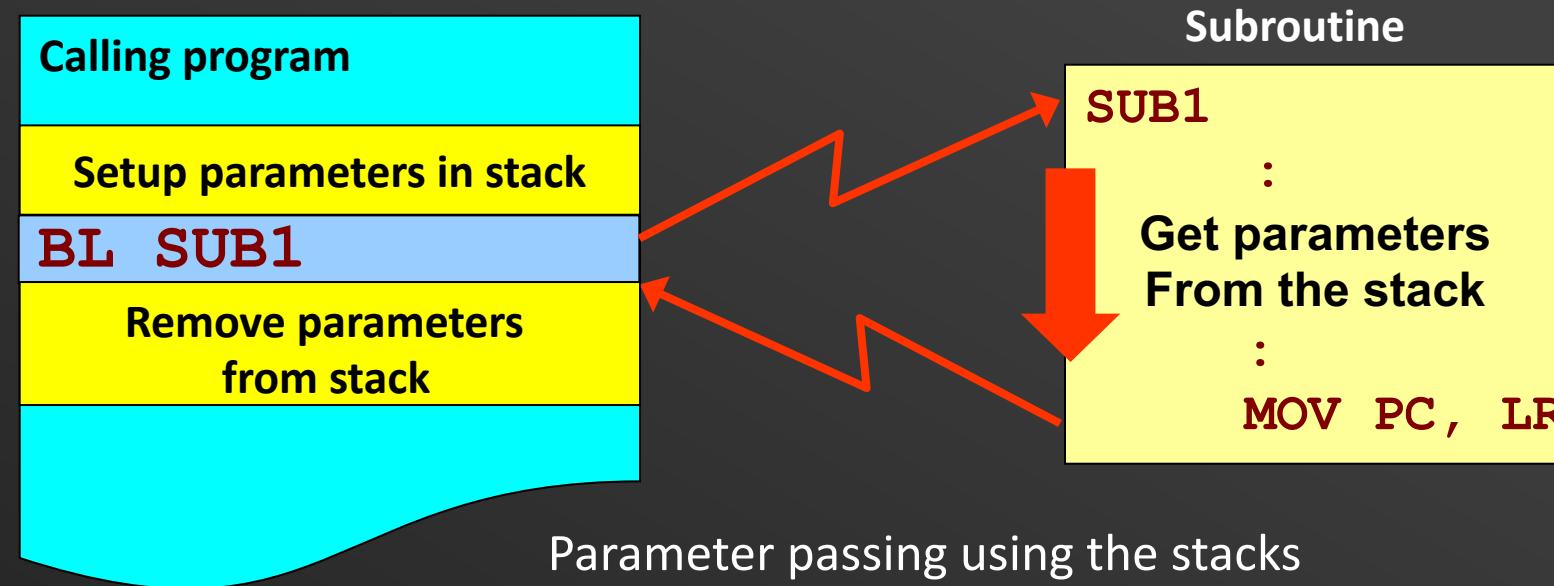
**LDMFD SP!, {R1, R0}**

# Parameter Passing using Stack

- Parameters are pushed onto the stack before calling the subroutine and retrieved from the stack within the subroutine.
- Most **general** method of parameter passing – no registers needed, supports recursive programming.
- **Large** numbers of parameters can be passed as long as stack does not overflow.



# Parameter Passing using Stack



- Parameters pushed to the stack must be **removed** by the calling program immediately after returning from subroutine.
- If not, repeated pushing of parameters to the stack will lead to a stack overflow.

# Sum from 1 to N

- Write a subroutine to:
  - Sum the positive numbers from **1** to **N**, where **N** is a value passed to the subroutine.
  - The computed sum should be directly updated to a memory variable **Answer**, whose address is **0x100**.
  - All parameters are to be passed via the **stack**.

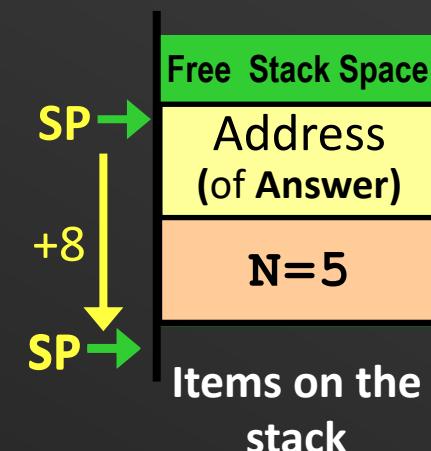
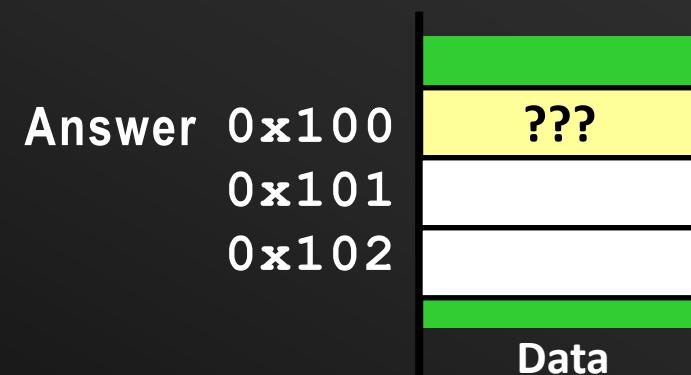
## Solution:

- Push two parameters on stack, the value of **N** and **address** of memory variable **Answer**.

# Calling the Subroutine

Parameters <b>setup</b> : <b>MOV R1, #5</b> <b>MOV R0, #0x100</b> <b>STMFD SP!, {r1,r0}</b> <b>BL Sum1N</b> <b>ADD SP,SP,#8</b> :	;find the sum of (1+2+3+4+5), where N=5 ;Set R0 with #5 ;Set R1 with the address ;push R0&R1 to stack ;call subroutine Sum1N ;add 8 to pop the two parameters from stack
---	---

**Remove parameters  
from the Stack**



# Calling the Subroutine

Parameters	<pre>         : <b>setup</b> {  <b>MOV R1 , #5</b> ;find the sum of (1+2+3+4+5), where N=5  <b>MOV R0 , #0x100</b> ;Set R0 with #5  <b>STMFD SP! , {R1,R0}</b> ;Set R1 with the address  <b>BL Sum1N</b> ;push R0&amp;R1 to stack  <b>ADD SP,SP,#8</b> ;call subroutine Sum1N  <b>ADD SP,SP,#8</b> ;add 8 to pop the two parameters from stack          :       </pre>
------------	--

- Note:**
1. Parameters set up before calling the subroutine are **removed** immediately after returning from subroutine.
  2. Removal is done by returning the contents of the stack pointer to its **original value** before the parameters were pushed to the stack.

# Sum from 1 to N Subroutine

## Possible Solution

R6	Answer Addr
R5	N

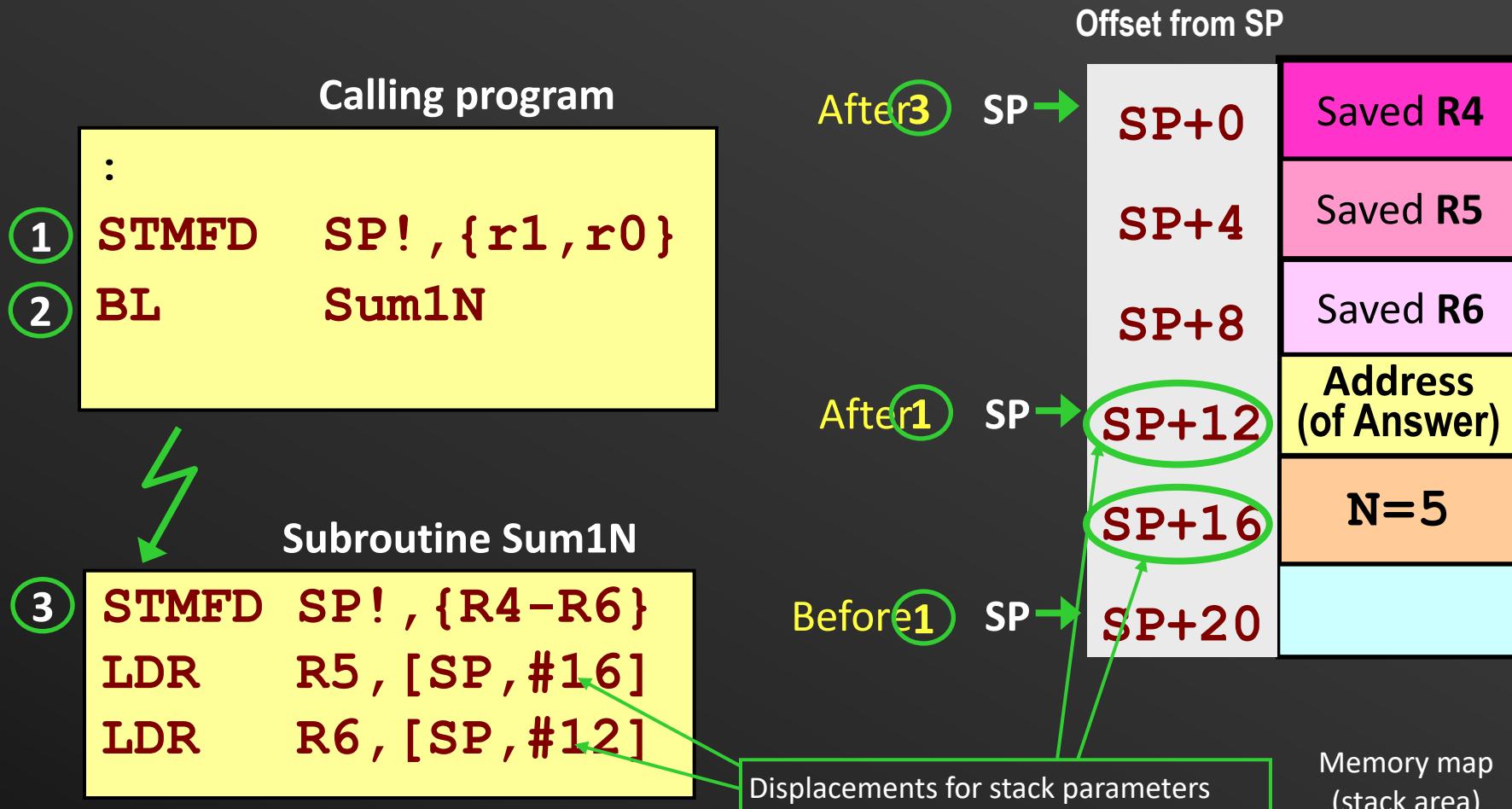


<b>Sum1N</b>	<b>STMFD</b>	<b>SP!, {R4, R5, R6}</b>	;save registers to stack
Retrieve stack parameters	{ LDR	R5, [SP, #16]	;Load N from stack to R5
	LDR	R6, [SP, #12]	;Load Answer's From stack
	MOV	R4, #0	;clear summation register R0 to 0
<b>Loop</b>	<b>ADD</b>	<b>R4, R4, R5</b>	;add current value in R5 to R4
	<b>SUBS</b>	<b>R5, R5, #1</b>	;decrement current value in R4 by 1
<b>Z=0</b>	<b>BNE</b>	<b>Loop</b>	;jump back to Loop if R4 not yet zero
<b>Z=1</b>	<b>STR</b>	<b>R4, [R6]</b>	;write sum to Answer
	<b>LDMFD</b>	<b>SP!, {R4, R5, R6}</b>	;restored saved registers
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>PC, LR</b>	;return from subroutine

**Note:** The subroutine needs three registers. **R4** to compute the sum from 1 to N. **R6** to be an address pointer to the memory variable **Answer** where the results will written to. **R5** holds the value of N, which is decremented by 1 after each loop till it reaches 0.

# Sum from 1 to N Subroutine

## Accessing Stack Parameters



**Note:** **SP indirect with offset** can be used to access parameters on the stack but knowledge of all items on the stack is needed to compute the correct offset from the current **SP** position.

# Transparent Subroutines

- A transparent subroutine will **not affect any CPU resources** used by the program calling it.
- To achieve this, all local registers used by the subroutine (R4-R11) must be **saved on the stack** on entry and **restored from stack** before returning.

```
SUB1 STMFD SP! , {R4-R7}      ; save R4 to R7 to stack
:
:
LDMFD SP! , {R4-R7}      ; registers R4 to R7 are
                           ; used in subroutine
MOV PC,LR                 ; restore R4 to R7 from stack
                           ; return to calling program
```



# Passing by value and by reference

- Parameters are passed to subroutines in 2 ways:

- Pass by value** – the value of the data (or variable) is passed to the subroutine.

- Pass by reference** – the address of the variable is passed to the subroutine .

- When is passing by reference used?

- When the **parameter** passed is to be **modified** by the subroutine.
- Large quantity** of data (e.g. array) have to be passed between subroutine and calling program.

Calling program	
MOV	R1 , #5
MOV	R0 , #0x100
STMFD	SP! , {R1 , R0 }
BL	Sum1N

# C Function Example

- C function to compute the mean value of N elements in an integer **Array**.

```

Passing by reference      Passing by value
int Mean (int *Array, int N)
{
    int avg, i;
    int sum = 0; }
    Local variables used only by the function
    for (i=0; i<N; i++)
        sum = sum + Array[i];
    avg = sum / N;
    return avg;
}
    Function's single output is normally
    returned via the R0 (or R12) register

```

**Note:** Observe that **local variables** are required by the function to compute the result.

# C Function Example

- C function to compute the mean value of N elements in an integer Array.
- Pass both parameters by reference.

```
int Mean (int *Array, int N)
{
    int avg, i;
    int sum = 0;

    for (i=0; i<N; i++)
        sum = sum + Array[i];
    avg = sum / N;

    return avg;
}
```

Note: Observe that local variables are required by the function to compute the result.

# Local Variables

- Subroutines often use local variables whose scope and **life span** exist only during the execution of the subroutine.

## Review

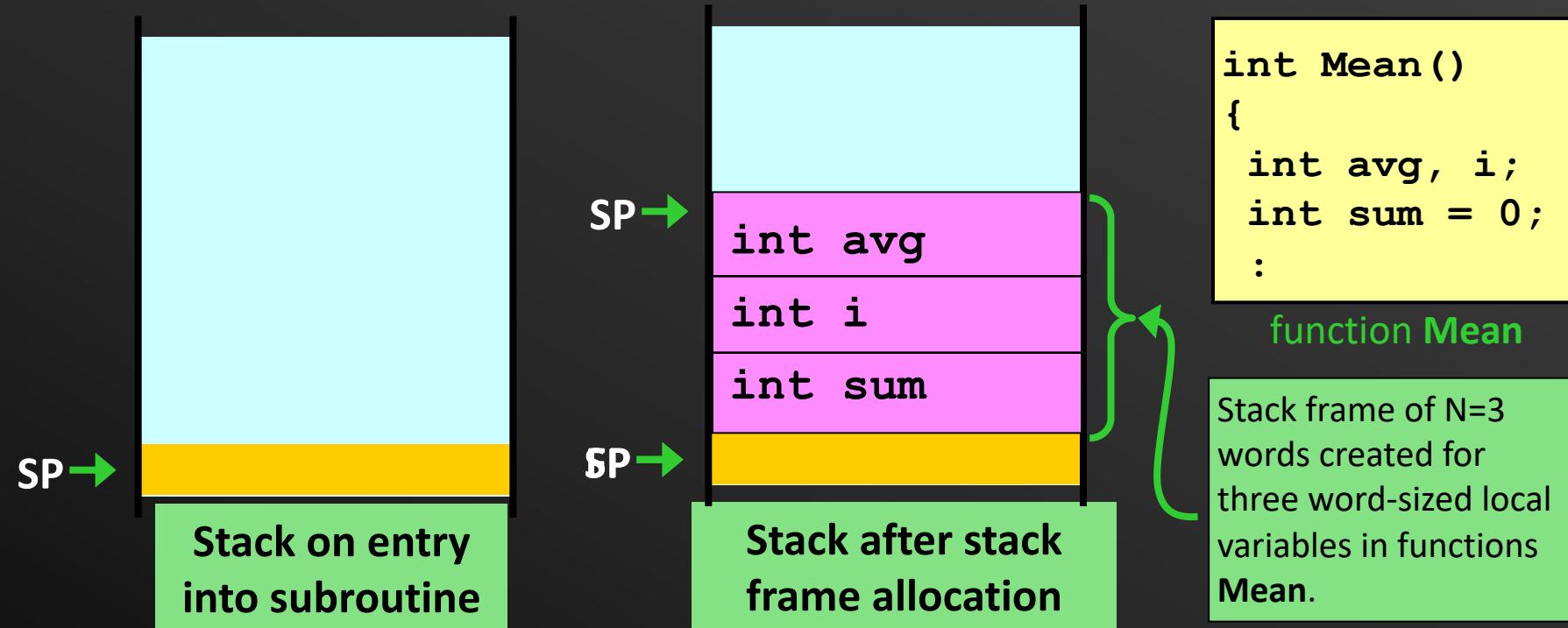
- **Characteristics of a good software module.**
- Loose coupling – **data** within module is entirely **independent** of other modules (local variables).

# Local Variables

- Subroutines often use local variables whose scope and **life span** exist only during the execution of the subroutine.
- Memory storage for these variables is **created on entry** into the subroutine and **released on exit** from subroutine.
- The **system stack** is the ideal place to create memory space for temporary variables.
- This temporary memory space is called the **stack frame**.

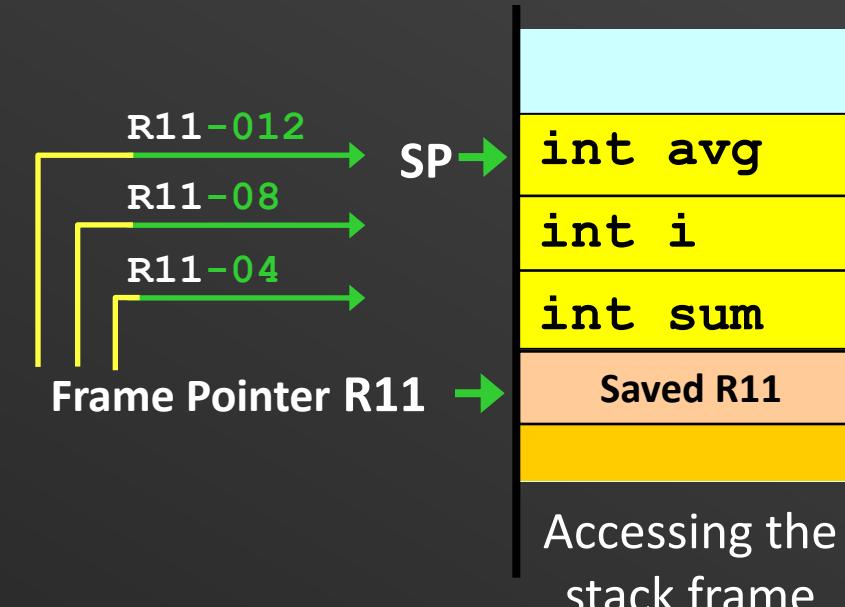
# Stack Frame

- Stack frame of **N** words is created on the system stack immediately on entry into a subroutine.
- Memory space within the stack frame can be accessed using with a **frame pointer (FP)** or the stack pointer (**SP**).
- Frame pointer in ARM can be any register
  - General convention **FP** is **R11**



# Accessing Stack Frame Variables Using the Frame Pointer

- Consider the use of a frame pointer register **R11**.
  - Original contents of **R11** is saved on the stack before it is used as the frame pointer.
  - Frame pointer (**R11**) now points to the saved **R11** and a stack frame is created by adding frame size **4N** to **SP**.
  - R11** is the frame reference and an appropriate negative displacement from **R11** can be used to access any stack frame variable.
  - When exiting the subroutine, the stack frame can be destroyed by adding **4N+4** to **SP** and copying the saved **R11** value on the stack back into **R11**.



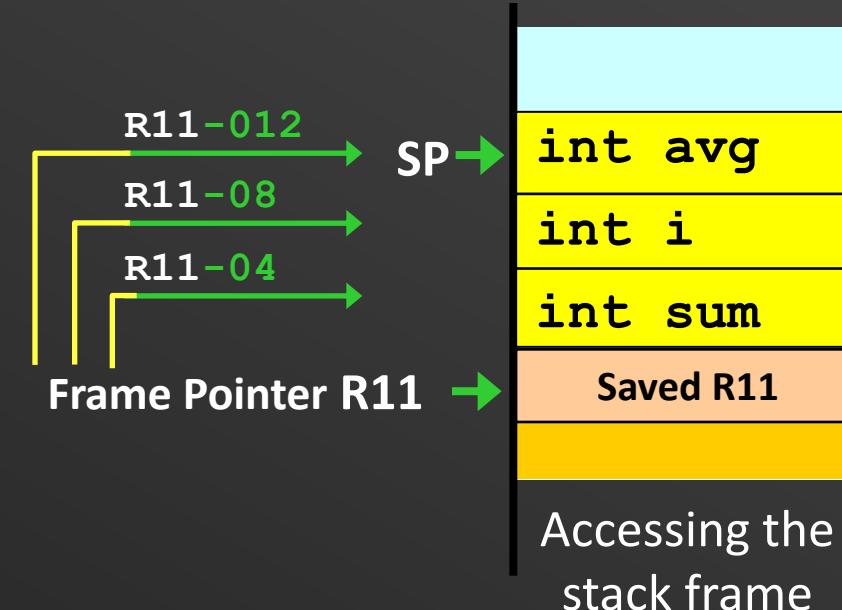
# Accessing Stack Frame Variables Using the Frame Pointer

- When exiting the subroutine, the stack frame can be destroyed by adding **4N+4** to **SP** and copying the saved **R11** value on the stack back into **R11**.

For N=3

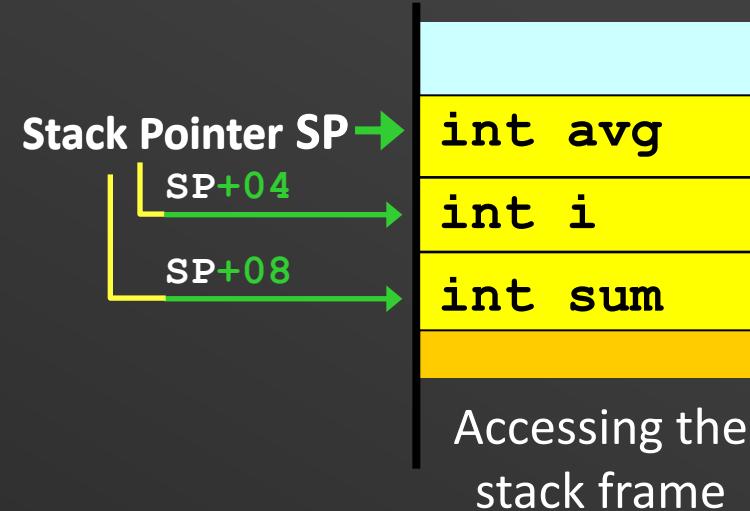
**ADD SP, SP, #16**

**LDR R11, [R11]**



# Accessing Stack Frame Variables Using the Stack Pointer

- A more efficient approach is to use the stack pointer (**SP**) itself.
  - A stack frame is created by adding frame size **4N** to **SP**.
  - **SP** is used as a reference to access all local variables.
  - Appropriate **positive** displacements from **SP** is used to access any of the stack frame variables.
  - **Pro** - This method is more efficient because there is no need to setup a frame pointer.
  - **Con** – More restrictive as system stack cannot be used within subroutine without changing the reference **SP**.



# Summary

- Using the **stack** is the most favored means of passing parameters.
  - A combination of methods can be used to implement **Functions**, e.g. parameters passed in via stack and a single result value passed out via a register (e.g. **R0**).
  - Stack-based parameter passing supports **recursion**.
- Parameters is passed by **value** or **reference**.
  - Passing by reference allows the subroutine to directly access memory variables within the calling program .
- A **transparent** subroutine requires registers **used within** the routine to be saved on the **stack** on entry and restore before returning.
- Local variables within a subroutine are usually maintained on the system stack using a **stack frame**.

# Chapter 6: Modular Programming-Cont

Mohamed M. Sabry Aly

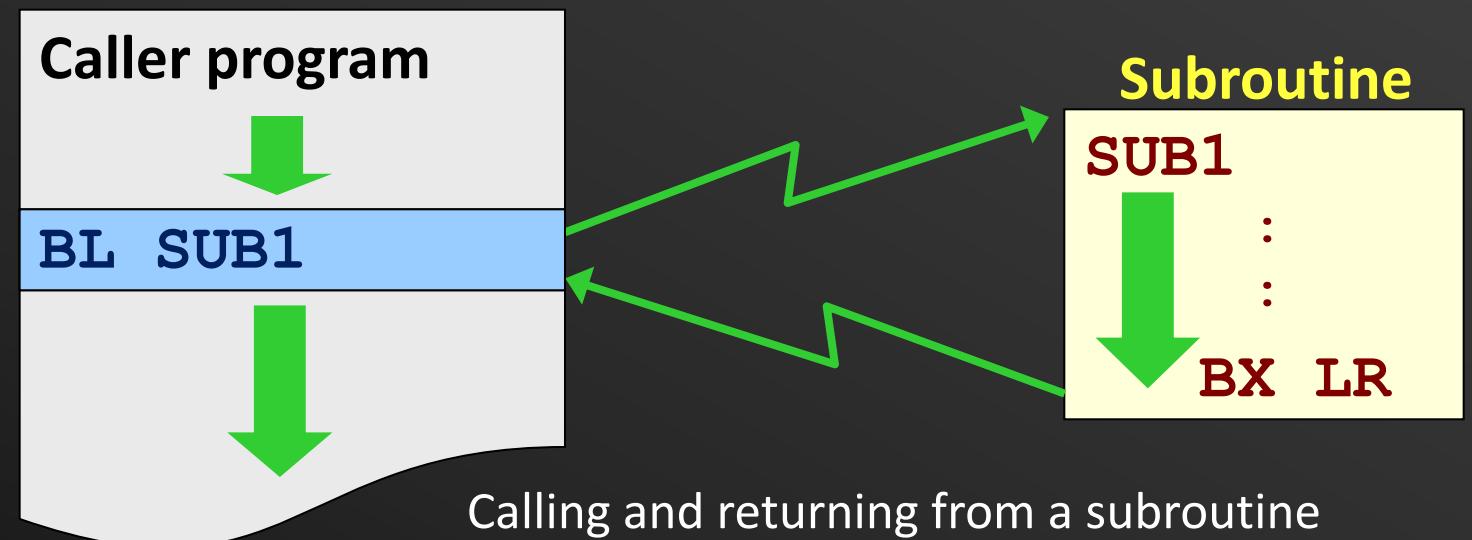
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# Learning Objectives

- Understand the concept of nested subroutine
- Describe how nested subroutines are implemented in ARM
- Describe recursive functions and their implementation in ARM

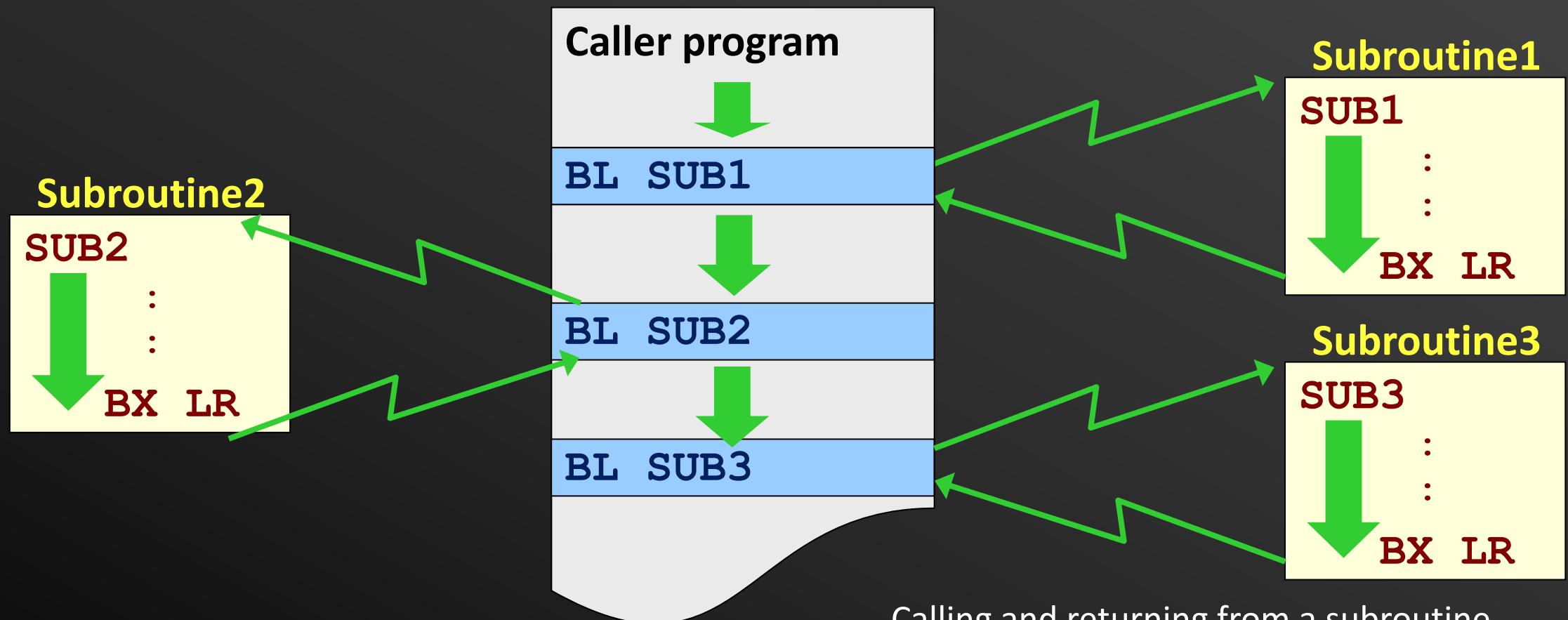
# Subroutines (Recap)

- Modules (e.g., functions in C) are implemented as **subroutines**
- Subroutine can be called from various parts of the program
- Caller and callee
  - Caller: the program that calls subroutine (SUB1)
  - Callee: subroutine (SUB1)



# Multiple Subroutines

- Caller program can call multiple subroutines
- Support of sequential subroutine execution

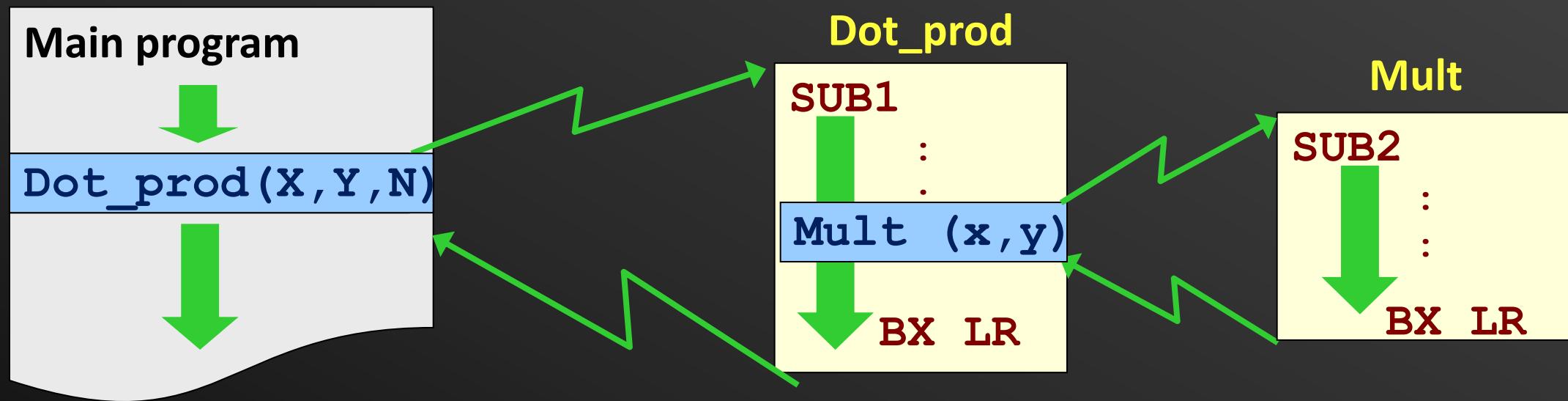


Calling and returning from a subroutine

# Do all applications have just 1-level functional call?

# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



# Example: Dot product of two arrays

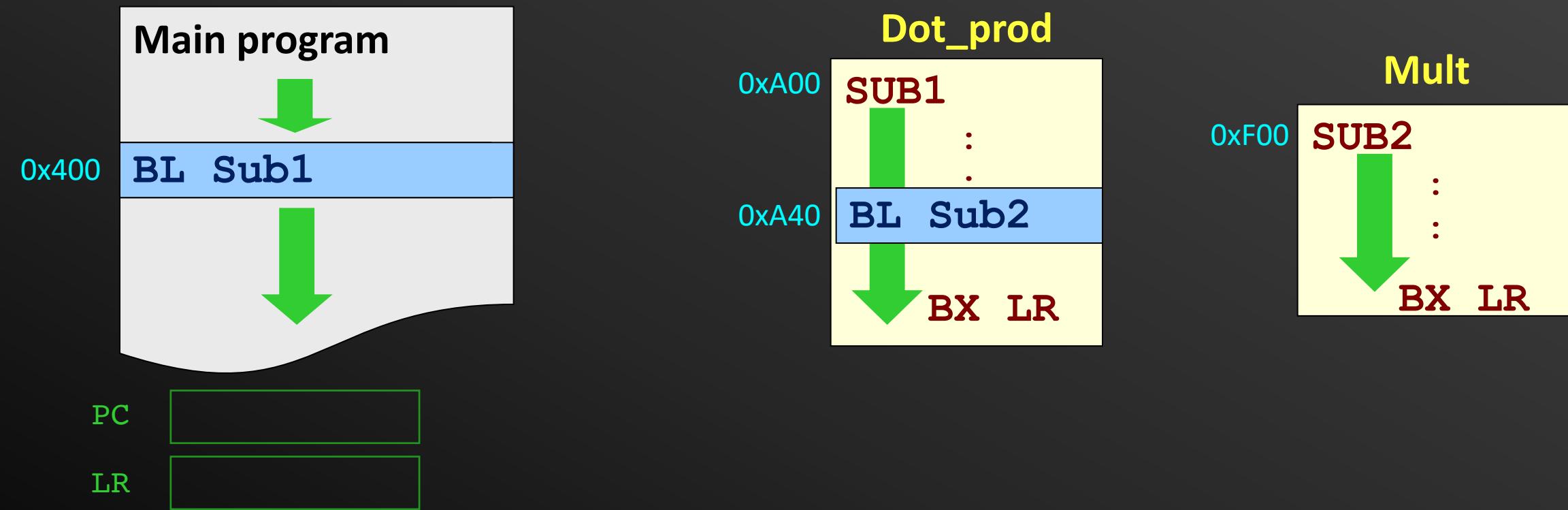
- A subroutine will call another subroutine

How to ensure right subroutine branch and return?



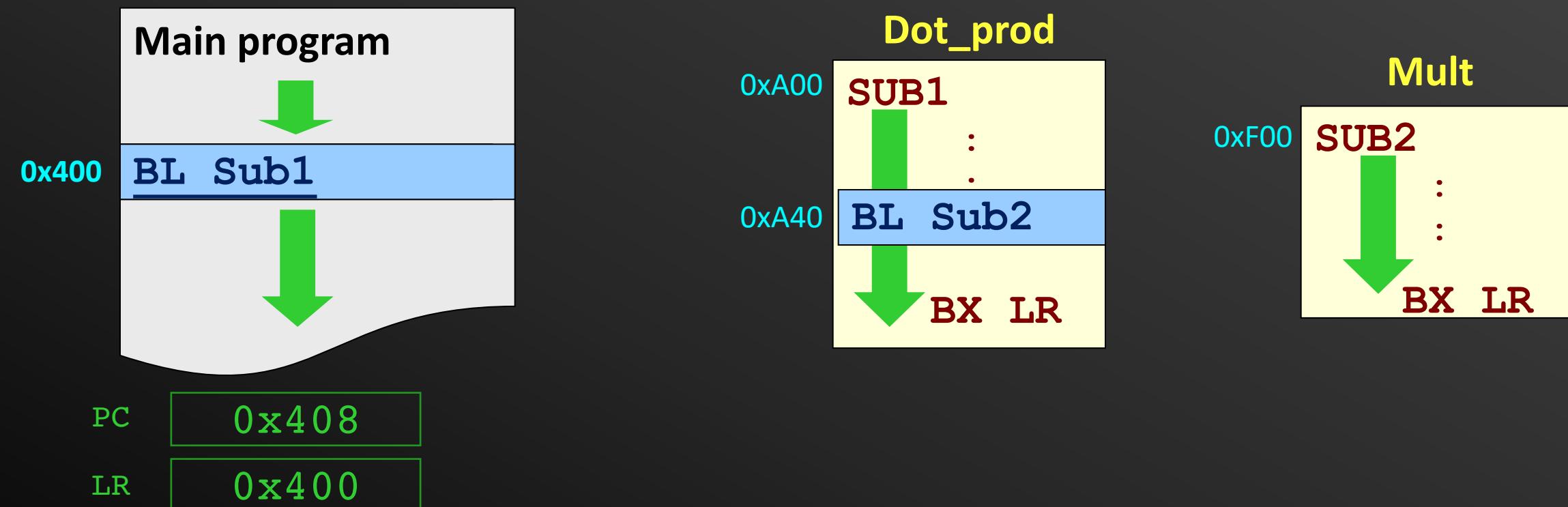
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



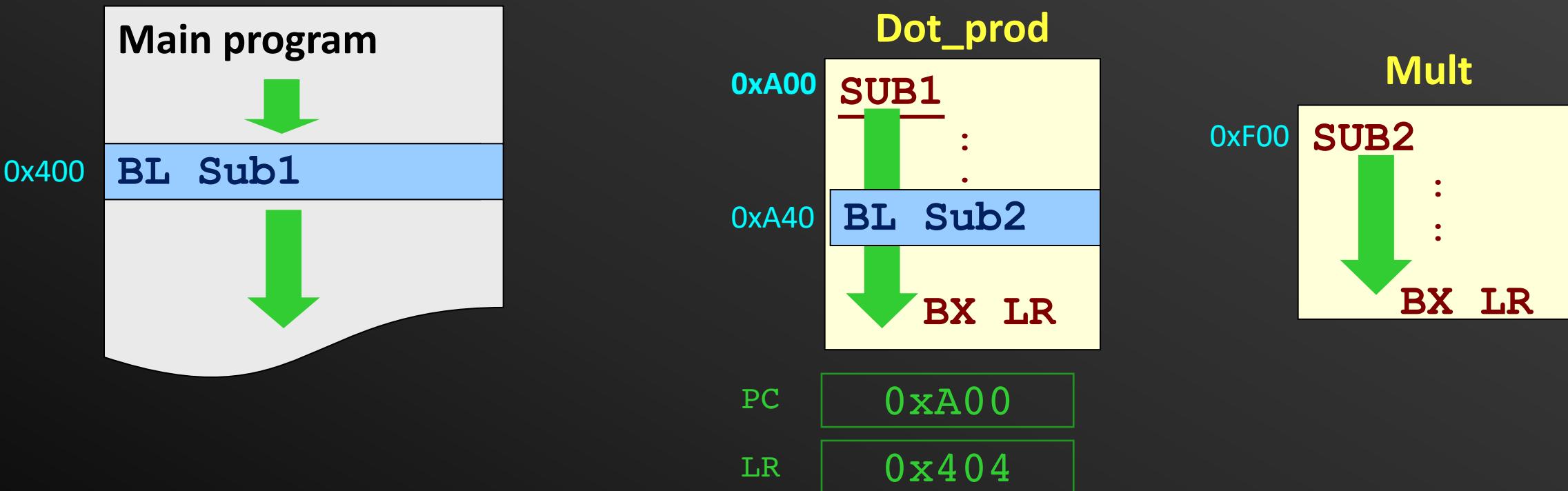
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



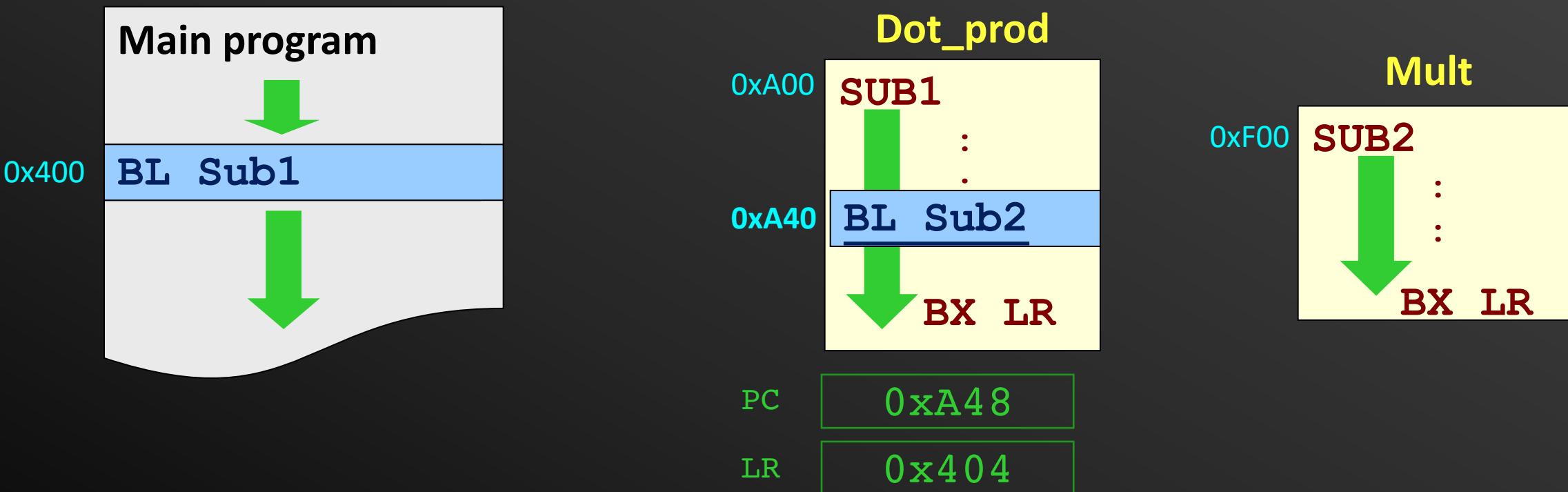
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



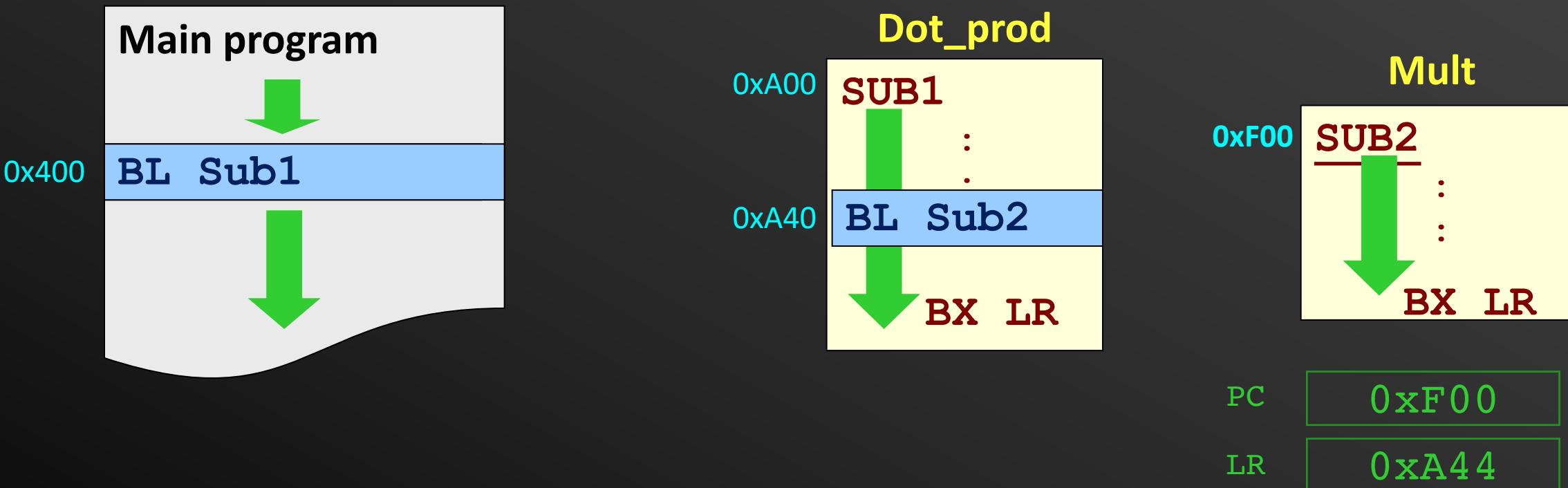
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



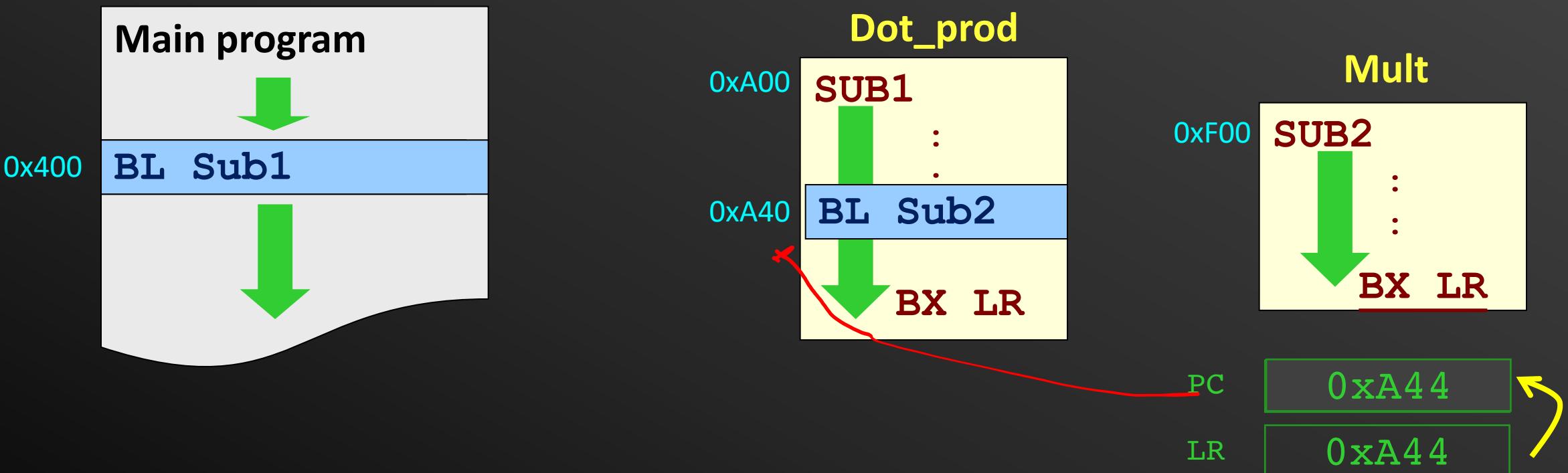
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



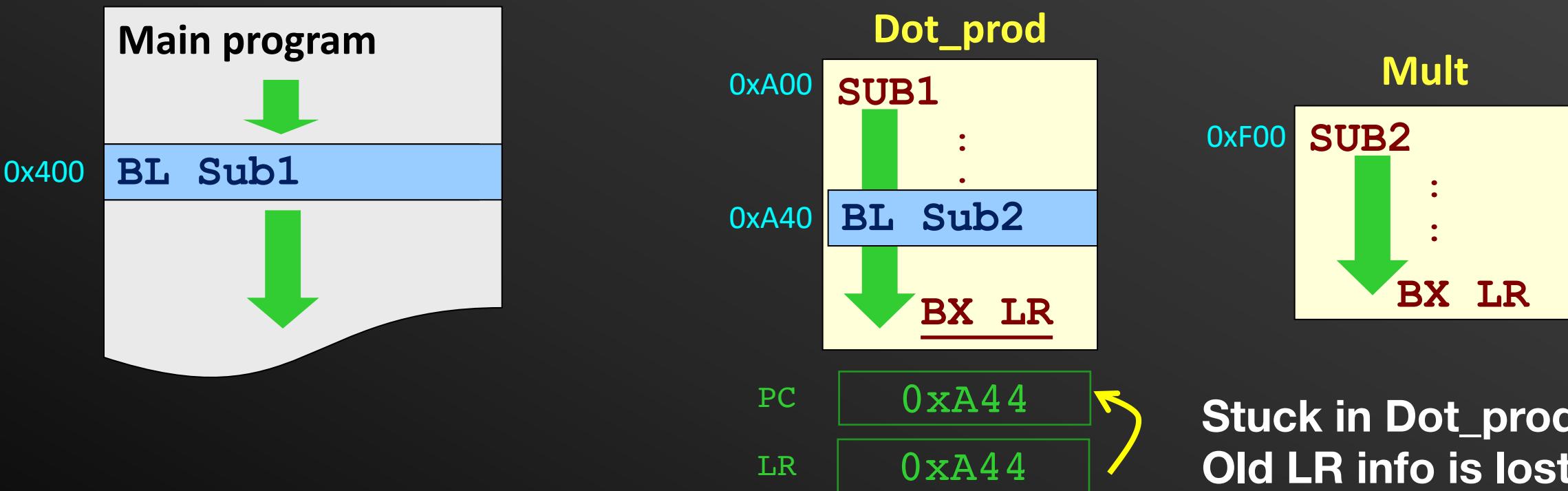
# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



# Example: Dot product of two arrays

- A subroutine will call another subroutine



# Support for nested Subroutine

- LR needs to be saved somewhere safe → **System stack**
- When so save it? Two options:
  - Just before any BL instruction
  - At the beginning of each subroutine

# Example: Dot-product

- Write a subroutine that calculates the dot product of two vectors of **positive integers** using this equation:

$$Z = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} X_i \times Y_i$$

- Base addresses of X (0x100), Y(0x200), the array size N(20) and Z(0x300) are passed through the stack
- The subroutine will call another subroutine to calculate the product of two numbers:
  - Numbers are passed in R0,R1, return value in R12

# Multiplication subroutine

```
Mult      MOV      R12, #0           ; Clear R12
```

Start by labeling the subroutine  
and placing the return instruction  
Clearing (R2)

```
MOV      PC, LR           ; same as bx lr
```

# Multiplication subroutine

Iteratively add R0 to R12 for R1 times

```
Mult      MOV      R12,#0          ;Clear R12
Loop      ADD      R12,R12,R0       ;Add R0 to R12
          SUBS    R1,R1,#1        ;Decrement R1 with 1
          BNE     Loop
          MOV     PC, LR          ; same as bx lr
```

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



System stack when entering  
DotProd

```

DotProd STMFD    SP!, {R4-R7} ;Store regs to stack
          LDR      R4 , [SP,#28] ;Read location of X
          LDR      R5 , [SP,#24] ;Read location of Y
          LDR      R6 , [SP,#20] ;Read arrays length

          LDMFD    SP!, {R4-R7} ; Restore registers
          MOV      PC, LR   ; same as bx lr

```

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



System stack when entering DotProd

```

DotProd  STMFD    SP!, {R4-R7} ; Store regs to stack
          LDR      R4 , [SP,#28] ; Read location of X
          LDR      R5 , [SP,#24] ; Read location of Y
          LDR      R6 , [SP,#20] ; Read arrays length
          MOV      R7, #0       ; Clear R7
Loop1    LDR      R0 , [R4],#4 ; Get X[i]
          LDR      R1 , [R5],#4 ; Get Y[i]

          BL       Mult        ; Call Mult Subroutine

          LDMFD    SP!, {R4-R7} ; Restore registers
          MOV      PC, LR      ; same as bx lr

```

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



System stack when entering DotProd

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP , #28 ]	; Read location of X
	LDR	R5 , [ SP , #24 ]	; Read location of Y
	LDR	R6 , [ SP , #20 ]	; Read arrays length
	MOV	R7, #0	; Clear R7 (Sum)
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ] , #4	; Get X[i]
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ] , #4	; Get Y[i]
	BL	Mult	
	ADD	R7,R7,R12	
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr
Mult			
Loop			
MOV R12,#0 ;Clear R12			
ADD R12,R12,R0 ;Add R0 to R12			
SUBS R1,R1,#1 ;Decrement R1 with 1			
BNE Loop			
MOV PC, LR ; same as bx lr			

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



System stack when entering DotProd

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP , #28 ]	; Read location of X
	LDR	R5 , [ SP , #24 ]	; Read location of Y
	LDR	R6 , [ SP , #20 ]	; Read arrays length
	MOV	R7, #0	; Clear R7 (Sum)
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ] , #4	; Get X[i]
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ] , #4	; Get Y[i]
	BL	Mult	; Call Mult Subroutine
	ADD	R7,R7,R12	; Add the product to R7
	SUBS	R6,R6,#1	; Reduce the counter by 1
	BNE	Loop1	; not 0 then repeat
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



# The Dot product Subroutine

System stack when entering DotProd

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP,#28 ]	; Read location of X
	LDR	R5 , [ SP,#24 ]	; Read location of Y
	LDR	R6 , [ SP,#20 ]	; Read arrays length
	MOV	R7, #0	; Clear R7 (Sum)
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ],#4	; Get X[i]
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ],#4	; Get Y[i]
	BL	Mult	; Call Mult Subroutine
	ADD	R7,R7,R12	; Add the product to R7
	SUBS	R6,R6,#1	; Reduce the counter by 1
	BNE	Loop1	; not 0 then repeat
	LDR	R4, [ SP,#16 ]	; read destination address
	STR	R7, [ R4 ]	; Store in destination address
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



# The Dot product Subroutine

System stack when entering DotProd

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP,#28 ]	; Read location of X
	LDR	R5 , [ SP,#24 ]	; Read location of Y
	LDR	R6 , [ SP,#20 ]	; Read arrays length
	MOV	R7, #0	; Clear R7 (Sum)
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ],#4	; Get X[i]
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ],#4	; Get Y[i]
	STR	LR ,[ SP,#-4 ] !	; Push Link register to SP
	BL	Mult	; Call Mult Subroutine
	LDR	LR , [ SP ],#4	; Pop Link Register from SP
	ADD	R7,R7,R12	; Add the product to R7
	SUBS	R6,R6,#1	; Reduce the counter by 1
	BNE	Loop1	; not 0 then repeat
	LDR	R4, [ SP,#16 ]	; read destination address
	STR	R7, [ R4 ]	; Store in destination address
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



System stack when entering DotProd

# The Dot product Subroutine



Straight forward, no other impact on the code

```

STR    LR , [SP, #-4]!      ; Push Link register to SP
BL     Mult                 ; Call Mult Subroutine
LDR    LR , [SP], #4        ; Pop Link Register from SP
  
```



Different instruction structure

# Support for nested Subroutine

- LR needs to be saved somewhere safe → **System stack**
- When so save it? Two options:
  - Just before any BL instruction
  - At the beginning of each subroutine

SP →	0x300
	20
	0x200
	0x100



# The Dot product Subroutine

System stack when entering DotProd

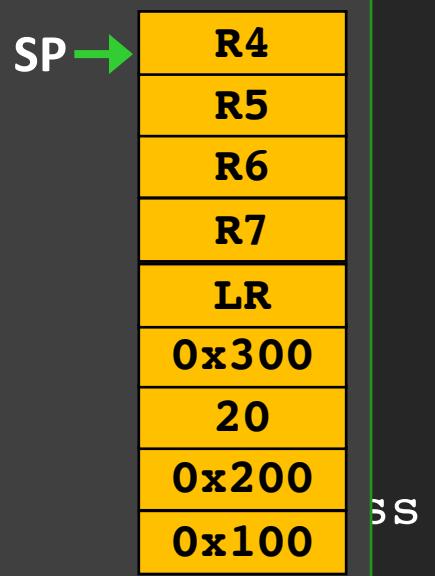
DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP, #28 ]	; Read location of X
	LDR	R5 , [ SP, #24 ]	; Read location of Y
	LDR	R6 , [ SP, #20 ]	; Read arrays length
	MOV	R7, #0	; Clear R7 (Sum)
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ], #4	; Get X[i]
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ], #4	; Get Y[i]
	BL	Mult	; Call Mult Subroutine
	ADD	R7, R7, R12	; Add the product to R7
	SUBS	R6, R6, #1	; Reduce the counter by 1
	BNE	Loop1	; not 0 then repeat
	LDR	R4, [ SP, #16 ]	; read destination address
	STR	R7, [ R4 ]	; Store in destination address
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

# The Dot product Subroutine

System stack when entering DotProd

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4, [SP, #28]	; R
	LDR	R5, [SP, #24]	; R
	LDR	R6, [SP, #20]	; R
	MOV	R7, #0	;
Loop1	LDR	R0, [R4], #4	;
	LDR	R1, [R5], #4	;
	BL	Mult	;
	ADD	R7, R7, R12	;
	SUBS	R6, R6, #1	;
	BNE	Loop1	;
	LDR	R4, [SP, #16]	;
	STR	R7, [R4]	;
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	;
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

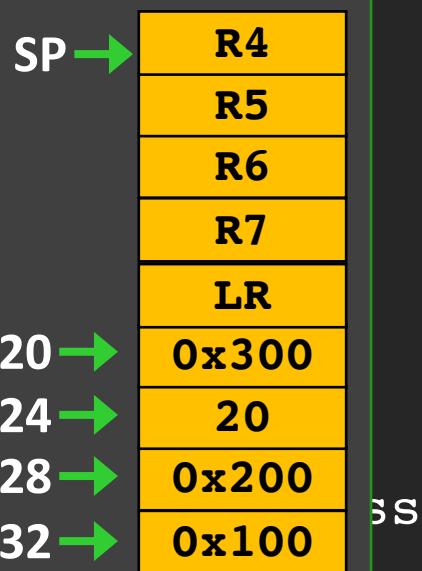
We now push 5 registers to stack  
Need to update the offsets



# The Dot product Subroutine

System stack when entering DotProd			
DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4, [SP, #32]	; R
	LDR	R5, [SP, #28]	; R
	LDR	R6, [SP, #24]	; R
	MOV	R7, #0	;
Loop1	LDR	R0, [R4], #4	;
	LDR	R1, [R5], #4	;
	BL	Mult	;
	ADD	R7, R7, R12	;
	SUBS	R6, R6, #1	;
	BNE	Loop1	;
	LDR	R4, [SP, #20]	;
	STR	R7, [R4]	;
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	;
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

We now push 5 registers to stack  
Need to update the offsets

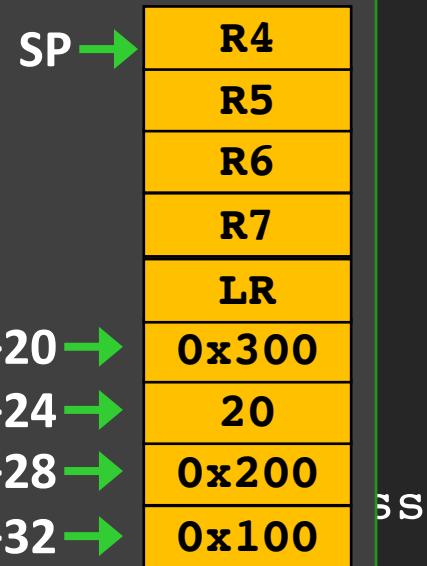


# The Dot product Subroutine

DotProd	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP, #32 ]	; R
	LDR	R5 , [ SP, #28 ]	; R
	LDR	R6 , [ SP, #24 ]	; R
	MOV	R7, #0	;
Loop1	LDR	R0 , [ R4 ], #4	;
	LDR	R1 , [ R5 ], #4	;
	BL	Mult	;
	ADD	R7, R7, R12	;
	SUBS	R6, R6, #1	;
	BNE	Loop1	;
	LDR	R4, [ SP, #20 ]	;
	STR	R7, [ R4 ]	;
	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R7, PC}	;

System stack when entering DotProd

We now push 5 registers to stack  
Need to update the offsets



Why is this correct?

# Recursive Subroutine

- A recursive routine calls itself within its own body.
- Recursion is an elegant way to solve algorithms or mathematical expressions that have **systematic repetitions**.  
(e.g. factorial  $n! = n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \dots 2 \times 1$  )

```
int factorial(int n){  
    if (n<0)  
        return -1; //sanity check  
    if (n==0)  
        return 1;  
    else  
        return n * factorial(n-1);  
}
```

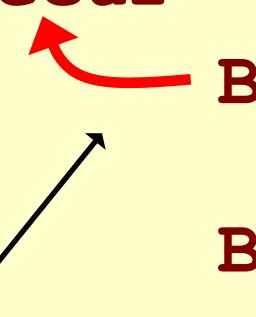
# Recursive Subroutine

- A recursive routine calls itself within its own body.
- Recursion is an elegant way to solve algorithms or mathematical expressions that have **systematic repetitions**.  
(e.g. factorial  $n! = n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \dots \times 1$ )

**Main problem:** Without saving LR, execution will be stuck

## Recursive Code Example

```
Recur    :          ; Subroutine Recur
    BL Recur      ; call Recur with Recur routine
    :
    BX LR        ; return to calling program
```



**Another problem:** Some condition must be reached that allows **BL Recur** to be skipped in order to avoid infinite recursion.

# Recursive Subroutine

- A recursive routine calls itself within its own body.
- Recursion is an elegant way to solve algorithms or mathematical expressions that have **systematic repetitions**.  
(e.g. factorial  $n! = n \times (n-1) \times (n-2) \dots \times 1$  )

## Recursive Code Example

```

Recur    STMFD  SP! , {...,LR}      ; Subroutine Recur
    :
    BL  Recur          ; call Recur with Recur routine
    :
Done     LDMFD  SP! , {...,LR}
        BX  LR           ; return to calling program

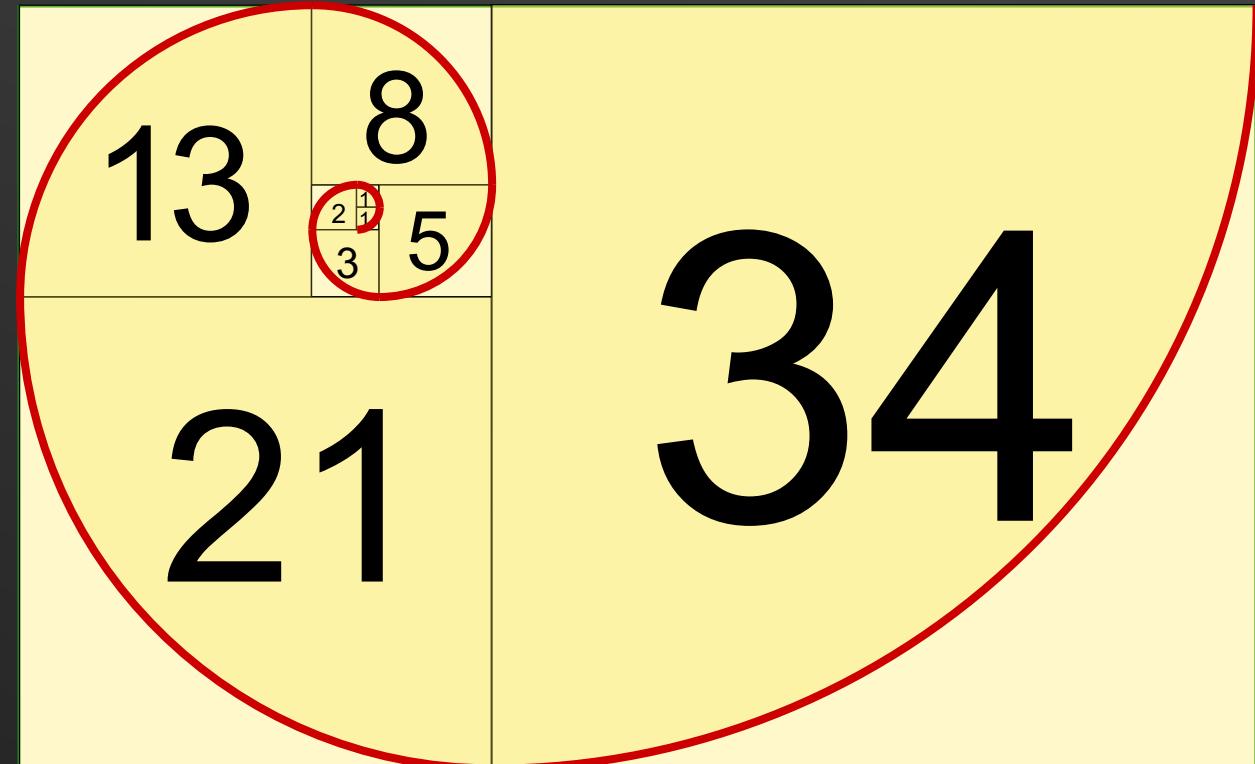
```

A red arrow points from the label "Recur" back up to the "BL Recur" instruction, indicating the recursive call.

A green box highlights the condition to terminate the subroutine: **(branch to Done)**.

# Example: Fibonacci Sequence

- Number sequence  
 $0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55$
  - Starting from index 1  
 $F(n) = F(n - 1) + F(n - 2)$   
 $F(2) = 1$   
 $F(1) = 0$
- Pass parameter in stack  
Return result in R12

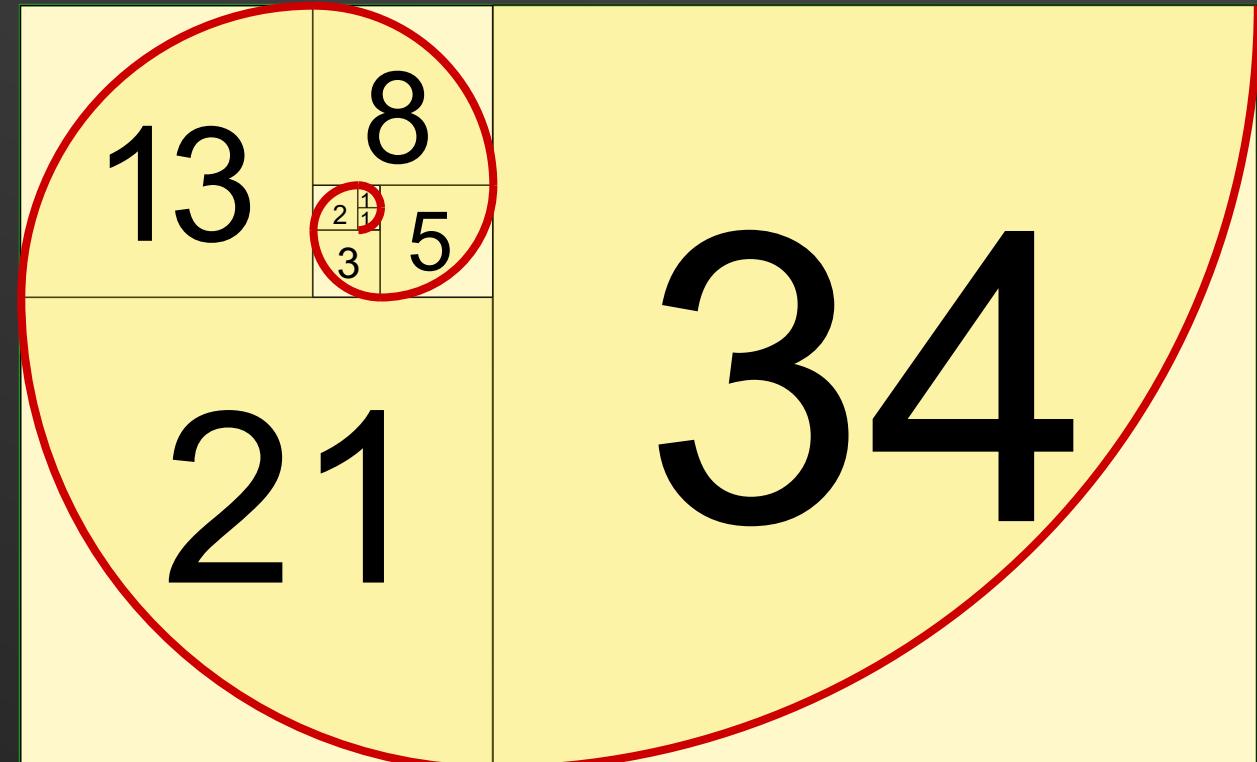


# Example: Fibonacci Sequence

- Number sequence

0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,34,55

```
int Fibonacci(int n){  
    int result;  
    if (n==1)  
        result=0;  
    elseif (n==2)  
        result=1;  
    else  
        result = Fibonacci(n-1) + Fibonacci(n-2);  
    return result;  
}
```



# Example Solution

SP → 5

System stack when entering Fib

Fib	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Store regs to stack
-----	-------	-----------------	-----------------------

Done	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

# Example Solution



Fib	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [SP,#16]	; Read Value of n
	CMP	R4 ,#1	; Compare with 1 (if n==1)
	MOVEQ	R12,#0	; Assign result with 0
	CMP	R4 ,#2	; Compare with 2 (if n==2)
	MOVEQ	R12,#1	; Assign result with 1
	BLE	Done	; if n less than equal 2 finish

Done	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

# Example Solution



Fib		
	STMFD	SP! , {R4-R6, LR}
	LDR	R4 , [ SP , #16 ]
	CMP	R4 , #1
	MOVEQ	R12 , #0
	CMP	R4 , #2
	MOVEQ	R12 , #1
	BLE	Done
	SUB	R5 , R4 , #1
	STMFD	SP! , {R5}
	BL	Fib
	LDMFD	SP! , {R5}

R5	4		SP →	R4
R4	5			R5
R12	2			R6
				LR
				5

```
;Store regs to stack  
;Read Value of n  
;Compare with 1 (if n==1)  
;Assign result with 0  
;Compare with 2 (if n==2)  
; Assign result with 1  
; if n less than equal 2 finish  
; Get n-1  
;Push n-1 to stack  
; calculate Fib(n-1)  
; Pop from stack
```

Done LDMFD SP!, {R4-R6, LR}  
MOV PC, LR

```
; Restore registers  
; same as bx lr
```

# Example Solution



Fib



Done

	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	
	LDR	R4 , [ SP,#16 ]	; Store regs to stack
	CMP	R4 ,#1	; Read Value of n
	MOVEQ	R12,#0	; Compare with 1 (if n==1)
	CMP	R4 ,#2	; Assign result with 0
	MOVEQ	R12,#1	; Compare with 2 (if n==2)
	BLE	Done	; Assign result with 1
	SUB	R5,R4,#1	; if n less than equal 2 finish
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Get n-1
	BL	Fib	; Push n-1 to stack
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; calculate Fib(n-1)
	MOV	R6,R12	; Pop from stack
	SUB	R5,R4,#2	; Save result in temp register
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Get n-2
	BL	Fib	; Push n-2 to stack
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; calculate Fib (n-2)
			; Pop from stack
	LDMD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	
	MOV	PC, LR	; Restore registers
			; same as bx lr

# Example Solution



Fib

	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP,#16 ]	; Read Value of n
	CMP	R4 ,#1	; Compare with 1 (if n==1)
	MOVEQ	R12,#0	; Assign result with 0
	CMP	R4 ,#2	; Compare with 2 (if n==2)
	MOVEQ	R12,#1	; Assign result with 1
	BLE	Done	; if n less than equal 2 finish
	SUB	R5,R4,#1	; Get n-1
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Push n-1 to stack
	BL	Fib	; calculate Fib(n-1)
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Pop from stack
	MOV	R6,R12	; Save result in temp register
	SUB	R5,R4,#2	; Get n-2
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Push n-2 to stack
	BL	Fib	; calculate Fib (n-2)
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Pop from stack
	ADD	R12,R12,R6	; Calculate Fib(n-1) + Fib(n-2)
Done	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

# Example Solution

Fib	STMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Store regs to stack
	LDR	R4 , [ SP,#16 ]	; Read Value of n
	CMP	R4 ,#1	; Compare with 1 (if n==1)
	MOVEQ	R12,#0	; Assign result with 0
	CMP	R4 ,#2	; Compare with 2 (if n==2)
	MOVEQ	R12,#1	; Assign result with 1
	BLE	Done	; if n less than equal 2 finish
	SUB	R5,R4,#1	; Get n-1
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Push n-1 to stack
	BL	Fib	; calculate Fib(n-1)
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Pop from stack
	MOV	R6,R12	; Save result in temp register
	SUB	R5,R4,#2	; Get n-2
	STMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Push n-2 to stack
	BL	Fib	; calculate Fib (n-2)
	LDMFD	SP!, {R5}	; Pop from stack
	ADD	R12,R12,R6	; Calculate Fib(n-1) + Fib(n-2)
Done	LDMFD	SP!, {R4-R6,LR}	; Restore registers
	MOV	PC, LR	; same as bx lr

# Summary

- Nested subroutines are key for truly modular designs
  - Need to ensure that return address is not overwritten.
- Recursive subroutine is very efficient implementation of subroutines
  - Ensure: 1) stopping condition and 2) return address stored

# Chapter 7: Flow-control Constructs

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N4-02c-92

# Learning Objectives

- Be able to convert a high level IF and IF-ELSE construct to its low-level equivalent.
- Describe compute-efficient considerations for compound AND and OR constructs.
- Describe and analyze simple branchless logic constructs.

# IF Statements

- How is the **IF** construct implemented?
- **Imitating** the high-level test condition does not result in very efficient assembly-level implementation.

```
if (a > b)
{S1}
```

Convert to  
assembly code

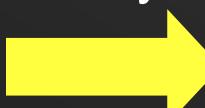


```
CMP a,b
BGT DoIF
B Skip
DoIF {S1}
Skip
```

- High-level test condition is **reversed** in assembly-level to avoid the need for an additional unconditional jump.

```
if (a > b)
{S1}
```

Convert to  
assembly code



```
CMP a,b
BLE Skip
{S1}
Skip
```

**Note:** The reverse condition test of **HS** is **LO**, reverse of **LT** is **GE**

# Find Largest Number

```

MOV  R0 , #0x100      ;setup pointer to first array element
MOV  R1 , #9           ;initialise counter
LDR  R3 , [R0]          ;load first element into R3
Loop LDR  R2 , [R0 , #1];load next element into R2
    CMP  R2 , R3          ;compare R2 and R3
    BLO  Skip             ;branch if R2 < current max (i.e. R3)
    MOV  R3 , R2            ;update current max. in R3 with R2
    Skip SUBS R1 , R1 , #1  ;decrement 1 from counter register
    BNE  Loop              ;jump back to Loop if not zero

```

The assembly code is annotated with comments and highlighted sections to explain its logic:

- Initial Setup:** The program starts by setting the address pointer **R0** to **#0x100** and the loop counter **R1** to **#9**. It then loads the first array element into **R3**.
- Loop:** The loop begins with **LDR R2, [R0, #1]** to load the next array element into **R2**. Inside the loop, the following sequence of instructions is repeated:
  - CMP R2, R3**: Compares the current maximum value **R3** with the current element **R2**.
  - BLO Skip**: If **R2** is less than **R3**, it branches to the **Skip** label.
  - MOV R3, R2**: If **R2** is greater than or equal to **R3**, it updates **R3** to **R2**.
  - SUBS R1, R1, #1**: Decrement the loop counter **R1** by 1.
  - BNE Loop**: If the counter **R1** is not zero, it loops back to the beginning of the loop.
- Final Value:** After the loop exits, **R3** contains the largest number in the array.

**R0** = Address pointer for current array element.

**R1** = Loop counter register

**R2** = Temporary register holding current no.

**R3** = Current maximum value (i.e. the result).

# Can We Avoid Reversion?

```

MOV  R0 , #0x100    ;setup pointer to first array element
MOV  R1 , #9
LDR  R3 , [R0]
Loop LDR  R2 , [R0 , #1]
      CMP  R2 , R3
      BLO Skip
      MOV  R3 , R2
Skip SUBS R1 , R1 , #1
      JNE  Loop
    
```

if R2 >= R3 // R2 larger or equal to current max

{

R3 = R2; // then update R3 with new max R2

}

CMP	R2,R3
BHS	Assign
SUBS	R1,R1,#1
BNE	Loop
Assign	MOV R3,R2
SUBS	R1,R1,#1
BNE	Loop

Redundant

# Conditional Execution



- In the 32-bit ARM ISA, instructions can be conditionally executed based on the CC flags.
- Consider the following 32-bit ARM code segment.

```
; C code  
if (r0 == 1)  
    r1 = 3;
```

SKIP

```
CMP    r0, #1           ; set CC based on r0 -1  
BNE    Skip             ; if (r0 == 1)  
MOV    r1, #3             ; then { r1 := 3}  
.....  
;
```

- It can be replaced using conditional execution instructions.

```
CMP    r0, #1           ; if (r0 == 1)  
MOVEQ  r1, #3             ; then { r1 := 3}  
SKIP   .....  
;
```



# Largest with Conditional Execution

- Significant reduction in Code size

```
MOV R0, #0x100 ;setup pointer to first array element
MOV R1, #9
LDR R3, [R0]
Loop LDR R2, [R0, :]
    CMP R2, R3
    MOVGE R3, R2
    SUBS R1, R1, #1
    JNE Loop

    if R2 >= R3 // R2 larger or equal to current max
    {
        R3 = R2; // then update R3 with new max R2
    }

;compare R3 and R2 (i.e. R2-R3)
;update current max. in R3 with R2
;decrement 1 from counter register
;jump back to Loop if not zero
```

# Does Conditional Execution work with Just 1 Instruction?

No, as long as the status registers are not altered from the comparison instruction

# Find Largest Number, and Store Its Index



```
R3= x[0];  
R4=0;  
R0= &x[0]  
For (R1=9;R1>0;R1--) {  
    R0+=4;R2=x[R0];  
    if(R2>=R3){  
        R3=R2;  
        R4=10-R1;  
    }  
}
```

No conditional execution

	MOV	R0 , #0x100	;setup pointer to first array element
	MOV	R1 , #9	;load 9 into counter register
	MOV	R4 , #0	;load 0 into index_max register
	LDR	R3 , [R0]	; 1 <sup>st</sup> no. in array is current max
Loop	LDR	R2 , [R0 , #4] !	;get next no. in array
	CMP	R2 , R3	;compare R3 and R2 (i.e. R2-R3)
	BLO	Skip	;branch if R2 < current max (i.e.
	MOV	R3 , R2	;update current max. in R3 with R2
	RSUB	R4 , R1 , #10	;Store the index in R4
Skip	SUBS	R1 , R1 , #1	;decrement 1 from counter register
	BNE	Loop	;jump back to Loop if not zero

# Find Largest Number, and Store Its Index



```
R3= x[0];  
R4=0;  
R0= &x[0]  
For (R1=9;R1>0;R1--) {  
    R0+=4;R2=x[R0];  
    if(R2>=R3){  
        R3=R2;  
        R4=10-R1;  
    }  
}
```

With conditional execution

	MOV R0 , #0x100	;setup pointer to first array element
	MOV R1 , #9	;load 9 into counter register
	MOV R4 , #0	;load 0 into index_max register
	LDR R3 , [R0]	; 1 <sup>st</sup> no. in array is current max
Loop	LDR R2 , [R0 , #4] !	;get next no. in array
	CMP R2 , R3	;compare R3 and R2 (i.e. R2-R3)
	MOVGE R3 , R2	;update current max. in R3 with R2
	RSUBGE R4 , R1 , #10	;Store the index in R4
	SUBS R1 , R1 , #1	;decrement 1 from counter register
	BNE Loop	;jump back to Loop if not zero

# IF-ELSE Statements

- How is the **IF-ELSE** construct implemented?
- Combination of conditional and unconditional jumps used for the **IF-ELSE** construct.
- Reversing high-level test condition does not improve efficiency unless
- the **ELSE** code segment {S2} is more likely to execute.

```

    CMP a,#3
    BNE DoElse
    {S1}
    B Skip
DoElse {S2}
Skip   :

```

Reversing test condition

```

if (a == 3)
{S1}
else
{S2}

```

Convert to  
assembly code

```

    CMP a,#3
    BEQ DoIf
    {S2}
    B Skip
DoIf  {S1}
Skip   :

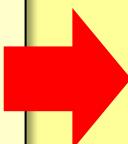
```

**IF-ELSE implementation in low-level assembly**

# Conditional Execution for IF-ELSE

- Higher efficient coding
- In the shown example, Skip will always be the 4<sup>th</sup> instruction

```
; C code
if (r0 == 1)
    r1 = 3;
else
    r1 = 5;
```



<b>CMP</b> r0, #1 <b>BNE</b> <b>ELSE</b> <b>MOV</b> r1, #3 <b>B</b> <b>SKIP</b> <b>ELSE</b> <b>MOV</b> r1, #5 <b>SKIP</b> .....	; ; ; ; ; ; ;
	<b>set CC based on r0 -1</b> <b>if (r0 == 1)</b> <b>; then { r1 := 3}</b> <b>; skip over else code seg</b> <b>; else { r1 := 5}</b>

- With conditional execution

<b>CMP</b> r0, #1 <b>MOVEQ</b> r1, #3 <b>MOVNE</b> r1, #5 <b>SKIP</b> .....	; ; ; ;
	<b>if (r0 == 1)</b> <b>; then { r1 := 3}</b> <b>; else { r1 := 5}</b>

# Compound AND Conditions

- How are compound AND conditions handled?
- Logical AND can bind multiple basic relational conditions.

e.g.

```
if ((a == b) && (b > 0)) {S1}
```

order of compound  
AND test

- Compilers resolve compound conditions into simpler ones.

```
if (a != b) then Skip
if (b <= 0) then Skip
{S1}
```

**Skip** :

- Elementary conditions bound by the logical AND are tested from **left-to-right**, in the order given in the C program.
- The first false condition means the remaining conditions are not computed. This is called the **fast Boolean operation**.
- Keep the **least likely** condition **leftmost** in your program for more efficient execution.

# Compound Condition Example

- Not all cases will be executed correctly

```
if ((a == b) && (b > 0)) {S1}
```



What if a>b and  
b>0

```
CMP      R1 ,R2 ;R1<-a, R2<-b
CMPEQ   R2 ,#0
XXXGT   XXXX ; S1
```

# Compound OR Conditions

- How are compound OR conditions handled?

e.g.    **if ((a == 1) || (a == 2)) {S1}**

- Most compilers eliminate an unconditional jump at the end of the compound OR series by **reversing** the **last conditional** test.

```
        if (a == 1) then DoIf  
        if (a != 2) then Skip  
DoIf {S1}  
Skip :
```

- The conditional test that is **most likely** to be **true** should be kept leftmost.

# Compound Condition Example

```
if ((a == 1) || (a == 2)) {S1}
```

With conditional assignment  
 S1 needs to be replicated.  
 Not suitable for multiple instructions

<b>CMP</b>	R1 ,#1 ;R1<-a
<b>XXEQ</b>	XXXX ; S1
<b>CMPNE</b>	R1 ,#2
<b>XXEQ</b>	XXXX ; S1

A more holistic approach

<b>CMP</b>	R1 ,#1
<b>BEQ</b>	doIF
<b>CMPNE</b>	R1 ,#2
<b>doIF</b>	XXEQ XXXX ; S1

# Branchless Logic

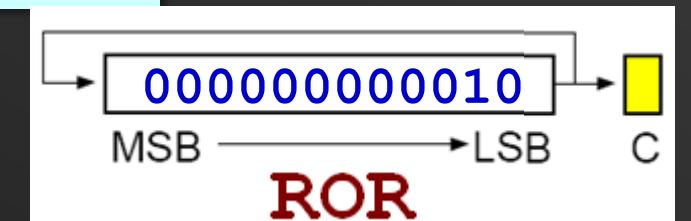
- Branchless logic avoid using conditional jump instructions when implementing logical constructs.
- **Bcc** instructions may result in costly **flushing** operations when the wrong next instruction is pre-fetched into the CPU's pipeline.
- How is branchless logic implemented?
- **Exploit arithmetic relationship** to transform the test condition into the corresponding desired outcome. Can only be applied in special cases and desired outcomes are usually Boolean values.

e.g.

```
if ((x & 2) == 2)
    x = true;
else
    x = false;
```



```
AND R1,R1,#0x02
ROR R1,R1,#1
```



- Conditional execution can be used to avoid branching.

# Summary

- The **IF** and **ELSE** constructs are implemented using one or more conditional jump (**Bcc**).
  - Using the **reverse** conditional test can help the IF construct execute more efficiently.
- **Conditional execution in ARM** greatly improves flow-control efficiency.
- Sequencing the **least likely** or **most likely** conditional test can help improve execution speed of compound **AND** and **OR** respectively .
- **Branchless logic** and **conditional execution** techniques can help keep the CPU pipeline efficient by maintaining **sequential** execution.

# Chapter 7: Flow-control Constructs

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N4-02c-92

# Learning Objectives

- Describe how SWITCH constructs can be implemented efficiently for consecutive narrow and random wide cases.
- Contrast the implementations of pre and post-test loop constructs like WHILE, DO-WHILE and FOR.

# Switch Statement

- How is the **SWITCH** construct implemented?
- The assembly code produced varies between compilers and depends on the nature and range of the case values.
- Two different SWITCH scenarios are examined:

```
switch(x) {  
    case 0 : {S0};  
              break;  
  
    case 1 : {S1};  
              break;  
  
    case 2 : {S2};  
              break;  
  
    case 3 : {S3};  
}
```

Running values  
narrow range

```
switch(x) {  
    case 1      : {S0};  
                  break;  
  
    case 10     : {S1};  
                  break;  
  
    case 100    : {S2};  
                  break;  
  
    case 1000   : {S3};  
}
```

Random values  
wide range

# Switch – Running & Narrow Values



```
switch (x)
{
case 0:
{s0};
break;

case 1:
{s1};
break;

case 2:
{s2};
break;

case 3:
{s3};
}
```

# Switch – Running & Narrow Values

- If cases are consecutive narrow range values, a **Jump Table** is used to avoid testing each case in turn.

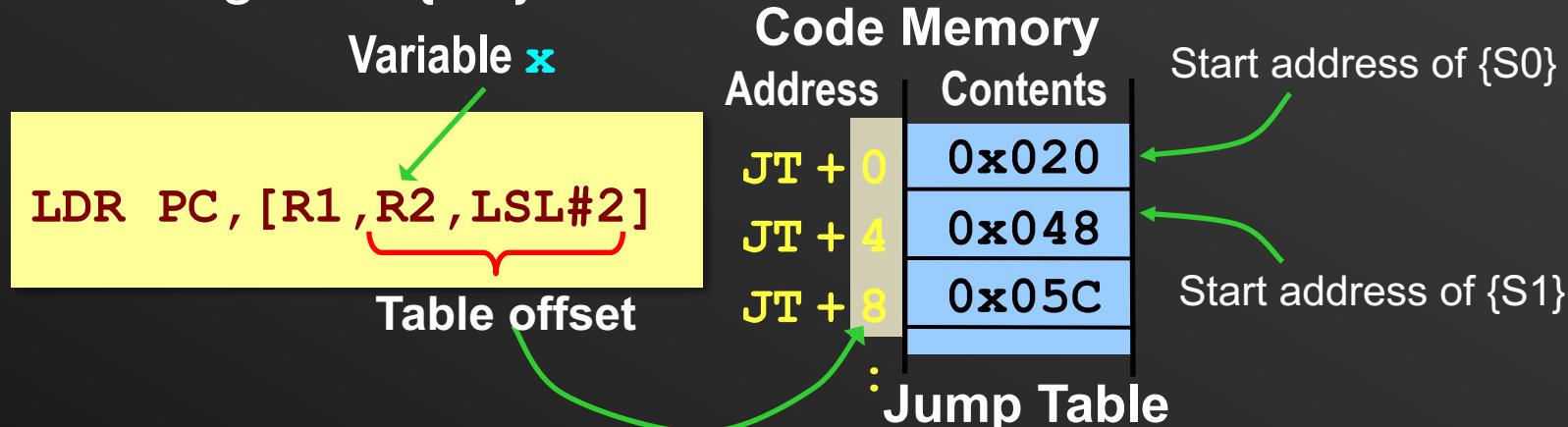
```
switch (x)
{
case 0:
{S0};
break;

case 1:
{S1};
break;

case 2:
{S2};
break;

case 3:
{S3};
}
```

- Jump table contains list of **start addresses** for the code segments that is associated with each case values.
- Var **x** on which the switch is decided, acts as an **offset** into the table to access the corresponding start address.
- Start address is loaded into **PC** to execute the required code segment **{Sx}**.



**Note:** Time taken is on average less than the equivalent if-else-if cascade and is independent of number of cases in the switch construct.

# Jump Table Example

```
switch(x)
{
case 0:
    G='F';
    break;

case 1:
    G='D';
    break;

case 2:
    G='C';
    break;

case 3:
    G='B';
}
```

## Cascaded if-else

```
LDR R1, [R2]
CMP R1, #0
BEQ C1
CMP R1, #1
BEQ C2
CMP R1, #2
BEQ C3
MOV R0, #66 ;'B'
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]
.
.
.
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;'F'
B RES
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;'D'
B RES
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;'C'
B RES
```

## Jump Table

```
LDR R1, [R2]
ADR R3, TBL
LDR PC, [R3,R1, LSL #2]
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]
.
.
.
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;'F'
B RES
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;'D'
B RES
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;'C'
B RES
```

Address	Contents
TBL + 0	0xA00
TBL + 4	0xA08
TBL + 8	0xA10

: Jump Table

# Jump Table Example (Conditional Execution)



## Cascaded if-else

```
switch(x)
{
    case 0:
        G='F';
        break;

    case 1:
        G='D';
        break;

    case 2:
        G='C';
        break;

    case 3:
        G='B';
}
```

LDR R1, [R2]  
CMP R1, #0  
MOVEQ R0, #70  
CMP R1, #1  
MOVEQ R0, #68  
CMP R1, #2  
MOVEQ R0, #67  
CMP R1, #3  
MOVEQ R0, #66 ;'B'  
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]  
. . .

## Jump Table

LDR R1, [R2]  
ADR R3, TBL  
LDR PC, [R3,R1, LSL #2]  
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]  
. .  
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;' F'  
B RES  
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;' D'  
B RES  
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;' C'  
B RES

Address	Contents
TBL + 0	0xA00
TBL + 4	0xA08
TBL + 8	0xA10
.	

Jump Table

# Jump Table Example (Default)

## Cascaded if-else

```

switch(x)
{
    case 0:
        G='F';
        break;

    case 1:
        G='D';
        break;

    case 2:
        RES STR R0, [R2,#4]
        .
        .

    case 3:
        C1 MOV R0, #70 ;'F'
        B RES
        C2 MOV R0, #68 ;'D'
        B RES
        C3 MOV R0, #67 ;'C'
        B RES
        C4 MOV R0, #66; 'B'
        B RES
}

```

0xA00

## Jump Table

LDR R1, [R2]	
MOV R0, #88 ; 'X'	
ADR R3, TBL	
LDR PC, [R3,R1, LSL #2]	
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]	
.	
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;' F'	
B RES	
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;' D'	
B RES	
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;' C'	
B RES	

Address	Contents
TBL + 0	0xA00
TBL + 4	0xA08
TBL + 8	0xA10
:	

Jump Table

# Jump Table Example (Default)

```

switch(x)
{
case 0:
    G='F';
    break;

case 1:
    G='D';
    break;

case 2:
    G='C';
    break;

case 3:
    G='B';
    break;

Default:
    G='X';
}

```

## Cascaded if-else

```

LDR R1, [R2]
CMP R1, #0
BEQ C1
CMP R1, #1
BEQ C2
CMP R1, #2
BEQ C3
CMP R1, #3
BEQ C4
MOV R0, #88 ;'X'
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]
.
.
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;'F'
B RES
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;'D'
B RES
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;'C'
B RES
C4 MOV R0, #66; 'B'
B RES

```

0xA00

## Jump Table

LDR R1, [R2]	
MOV R0, #88 ; 'X'	
CMP R1, #3	
BGT RES	
ADR R3, TBL	
LDR PC, [R3,R1, LSL #2]	
RES STR R0, [R2,#4]	
.	
C1 MOV R0, #70 ;' F'	
B RES	
C2 MOV R0, #68 ;' D'	
B RES	
C3 MOV R0, #67 ;' C'	
B RES	

Address	Contents
TBL + 0	0xA00
TBL + 4	0xA08
TBL + 8	0xA10
:	:
	Jump Table

# Example

- Create a subroutine that estimates the grading statistics of grades
  - Input: array of grades: 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', passes in characters
  - The array terminates with a grade of 0
- Calculate statistics
  - Number of top grading marks
  - Number of B-grading marks
  - Other passing grades
- Pass address of grade array in stack, return three parameters also in stack

# Example

- Create a subroutine grades
  - Input: array of grade
  - The array terminates
- Calculate statistics
  - Number of top grading
  - Number of B-grading
  - Other passing grade

```
Cal_grades (char* arr, int* top, int* Bgrading, int *other)
{
    *top=0;
    *Bgrading=0;
    *other=0;
    int done =0;
    int index=0;
    do{
        char val=arr[index++];
        switch (val):
        {
            case ('A'):
                *top++;
                break;
            case ('B'):
                *Bgrading++;
                break;
            case ('C'):
                *other++;
                break;
            case ('D'):
                *top++;
                break;
            default:
                done=1;
        }
    }while (done==0);
}
```



Cal\_grades

```
STMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
ADR R9 ,Base
MOV R4 ,#0
MOV R5 ,#0
MOV R6 ,#0
```

```
LDMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
MOV PC, LR
```

```
Cal_grades (char* arr, int* top, int* Bgrading, int *other)
{
    *top=0;
    *Bgrading=0;
    *other=0;
    int done =0;
    int index=0;
    do{
        char val=arr[index++];
        switch (val):
        {
            case ('A'):
                *top++;
                break;
            case ('B'):
                *Bgrading++;
                break;
            case ('C'):
                *other++;
                break;
            case ('D'):
                *top++;
                break;
            default:
                done=1;
        }
    }while (done==0);
```



Cal\_grades

```
STMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
ADR R9 ,Base
MOV R4 ,#0
MOV R5 ,#0
MOV R6 ,#0
LDR R8 , [ SP,#36 ]
LDRB R7 , [ R8 ],#1
CMP R7 ,#0
BEQ Done
```

Loop

```
LDR R8 , [ SP,#32 ]
STR R4 , [ R8 ]
LDR R8 , [ SP,#28 ]
STR R5 , [ R8 ]
LDR R8 , [ SP,#24 ]
STR R6 , [ R8 ]
LDMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
MOV PC, LR
```

Done

```
Cal_grades (char* arr, int* top, int* Bgrading, int *other)
{
    *top=0;
    *Bgrading=0;
    *other=0;
    int done =0;
    int index=0;
    do{
        char val=arr[index++];
        switch (val):
        {
            case ('A'):
                *top++;
                break;
            case ('B'):
                *Bgrading++;
                break;
            case ('C'):
                *other++;
                break;
            case ('D'):
                *top++;
                break;
            default:
                done=1;
        }
    }while (done==0);
```



Cal\_grades

```
STMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
ADR R9 ,Base
MOV R4 ,#0
MOV R5 ,#0
MOV R6 ,#0
LDR R8 , [ SP,#36 ]
LDRB R7 , [ R8 ],#1
CMP R7 ,#0
BEQ Done
SUB R7 , R7 , #65
LDR PC , [ R9,R7,LSL #2 ]
B Loop
LDR R8 , [ SP,#32 ]
STR R4 , [ R8 ]
LDR R8 , [ SP,#28 ]
STR R5 , [ R8 ]
LDR R8 , [ SP,#24 ]
STR R6 , [ R8 ]
LDMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
MOV PC , LR
```

Return

Done

Cond1

```
ADD R4,R4,#1
B Return
```

Cond2

```
ADD R5,R5,#1
B Return
```

Cond3

```
ADD R6,R6,#1
B Return
```

Cond4

```
ADD R6,R6,#1
B Return
```

```
Cal_grades (char* arr, int* top, int* Bgrading, int *other)
{
```

```
*top=0;
*Bgrading=0;
*other=0;
```

```
int done =0;
int index=0;
do{
```

```
    char val=arr[index++];
```

```
    switch (val):
```

```
    {
        case ('A'):
```

```
            *top++;
            break;
```

```
        case ('B'):
```

```
            *Bgrading++;
            break;
```

```
        case ('C'):
```

```
            *other++;
            break;
```

```
        case ('D'):
```

```
            *top++;
            break;
```

```
    default:
```

```
        done=1;
```

```
}while (done==0);
```



Cal_grades	STMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
	ADR R9 ,Base
	MOV R4 ,#0
	MOV R5 ,#0
	MOV R6 ,#0
	LDR R8 ,[ SP,#36 ]
Loop	LDRB R7 ,[ R8 ],#1
	CMP R7 ,#0
	BEQ Done
	SUB R7 , R7 , #65
	LDR PC ,[ R9,R7,LSL #2 ]
Return	B Loop
Done	LDR R8 ,[ SP,#32 ]
	STR R4 ,[ R8 ]
	LDR R8 ,[ SP,#28 ]
	STR R5 ,[ R8 ]
	LDR R8 ,[ SP,#24 ]
	STR R6 ,[ R8 ]
	LDMFD SP!, {R4-R9}
	MOV PC , LR
Cond1	ADD R4,R4,#1
	B Return
Cond2	ADD R5,R5,#1
	B Return
Cond3	ADD R6,R6,#1
	B Return
Cond4	ADD R6,R6,#1
	B Return

```
Cal_grades (char* arr, int* top, int* Bgrading, int *other)
{
    *top=0;
    *Bgrading=0;
    *other=0;
    int done =0;
    int index=0;
    do{
        char val=arr[index++];
        switch (val):
        {
            case ('A'):
                *top++;
                break;
            case ('B'):
                *Bgrading++;
                break;
            case ('C'):
                *other++;
                break;
            case ('D'):
                *top++;
                break;
            default:
                done=1;
        }
    }while (done==0);
}
```

# Switch – Random & Wide Values

- If cases are random wide range values, a **fork algorithm** is used to speed up the average search time and avoid testing every case (e.g. when  $x = 1000$ ).
- Due to the wide value spread, the **jump table size** will be **too large**. A cascade of if-else-if comparisons is more efficient.

```
switch(x)
{
    case 1:
        {S0};
        break;

    case 10:
        {S1};
        break;

    case 100:
        {S2};
        break;

    case 1000:
        {S3};
        break;
}
```

```
if(x == 1)
    {S0};
else if(x == 10)
    {S1};
else if(x == 100)
    {S2};
else if(x == 1000)
    {S3};
```

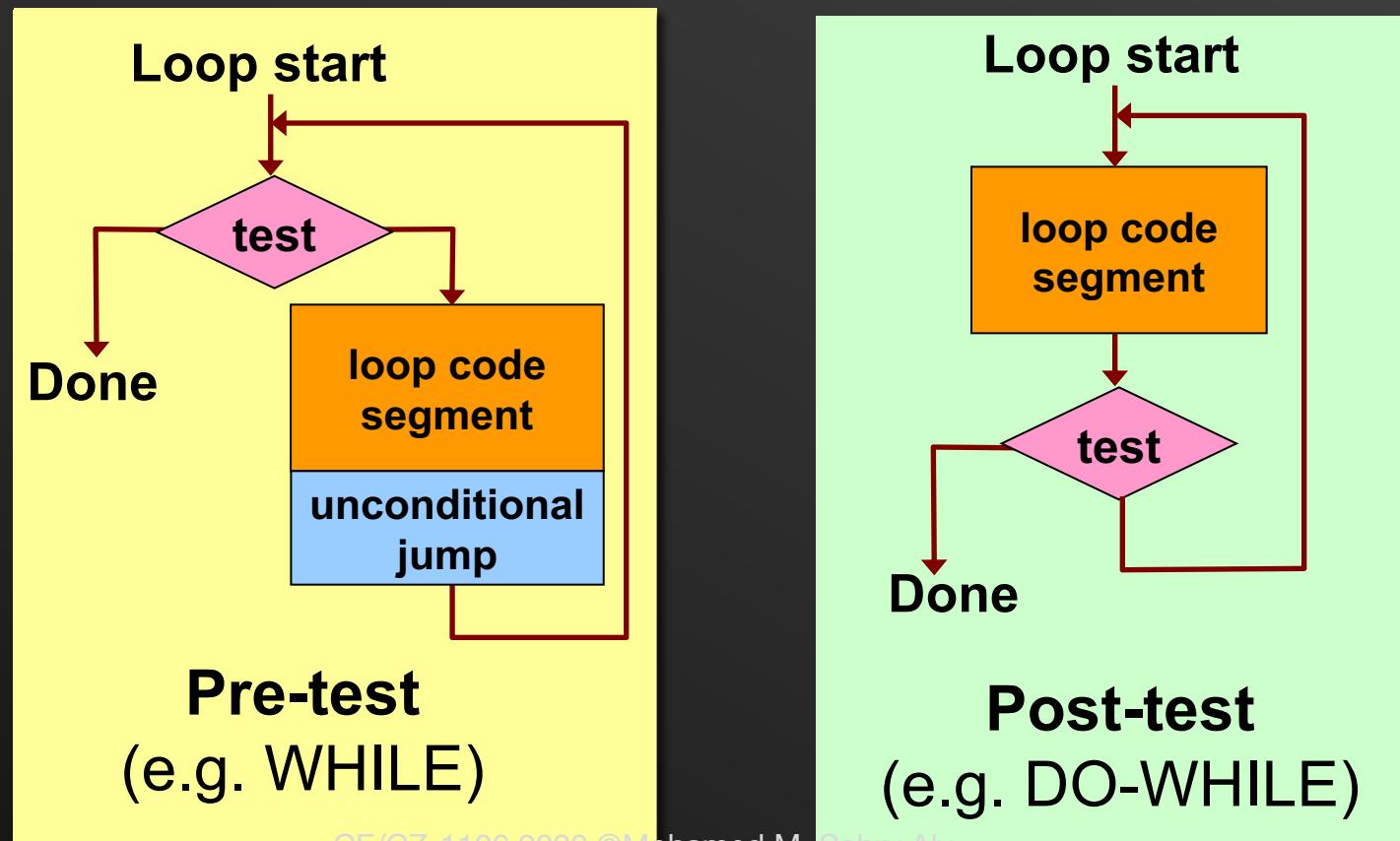
**standard if-else-if implementation**

```
if(x <= 10) {
    if(x == 1)
        {S0};
    else if(x == 10)
        {S1};
}
else {
    if(x == 100)
        {S2};
    else if(x == 1000)
        {S3};
}
```

**forked if-else-if implementation**

# Loops

- Loop constructs are distinguished by the position of their conditional test.
- Pre-test loop may **never execute** its loop code segment.
- Post-test loop executes the loop segment **at least once**.



# WHILE Implementation

- Implementation of the **WHILE** loop constructs:
- This is an example of a **pre-test** loop.
- If the condition (**VarX > 0**) is false, the loop segment is not executed at all.

**Note:** **VarX** is variable. you will need to load it to a register.

```
WHILE (VarX > 0)
{
    Loop segment
}
```

```
Back   CMP "VarX", #0
BLE Exit
:
:
B Back
Exit :
```

}

Implementation of WHILE in ARM assembly language

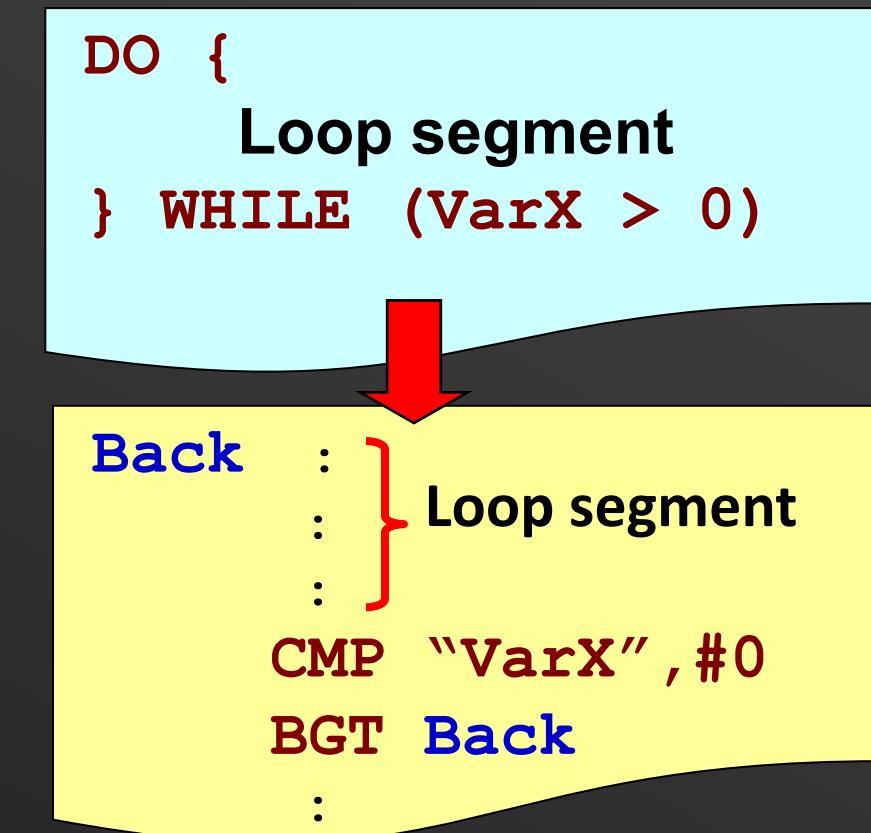
# DO-WHILE Implementation

- Implementation of the **DO-WHILE** loop constructs
- This is an example of a **post-test** loop.

- The loop segment is executed at least once before condition is tested.

- Post-test loop construct is **more efficient** than the pre-test as there is no need for an additional unconditional jump.

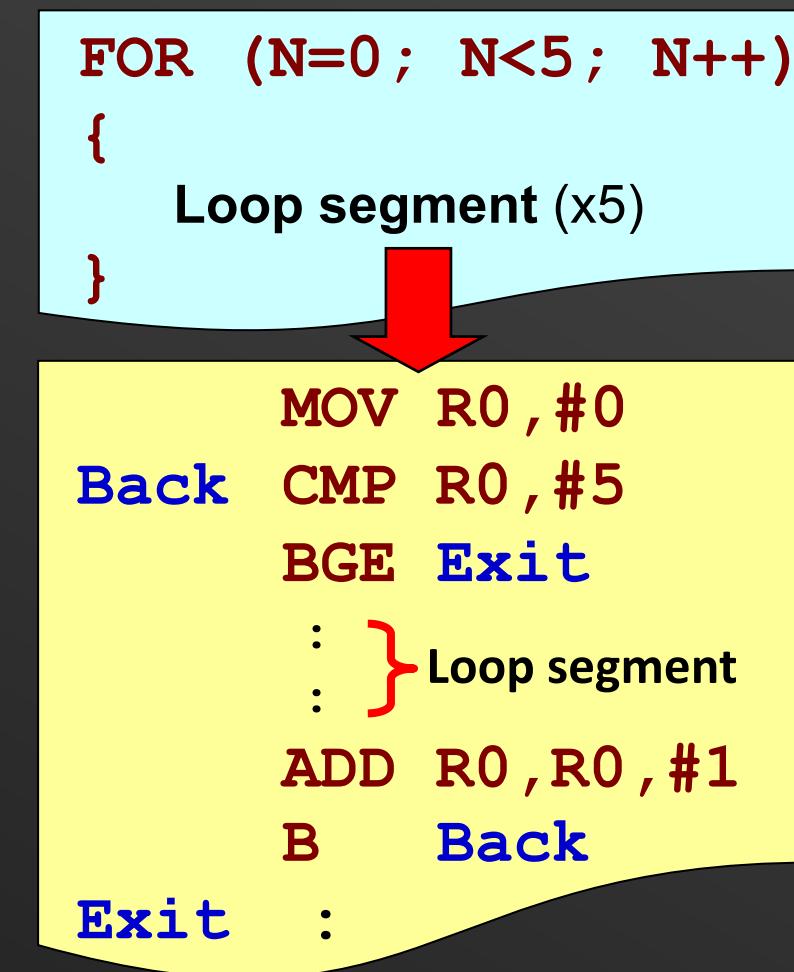
**Note:** **VarX** is variable. you will need to load it to a register.



**Implementation of DO- WHILE in ARM assembly language**

# FOR Implementation

- Implementation of **FOR** loop constructs:
- The FOR loop is a **pre-test** loop that evaluates the condition first before executing loop segment.
- If loop segment is executed and count **N** is not used in loop segment, some optimizing compilers implement the **FOR** loop using a **post-test** with **decrement & test for zero**.



**Implementation of FOR in ARM**

# Example: Summation 1 to N

```

Sum =0;
for(i=0;i<=N;i++)
    Sum=Sum+i;

```

## Pre-test

	<b>MOV</b>	<b>R2 , #0</b>
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>R0 , #0</b>
<b>Loop</b>	<b>CMP</b>	<b>R2 , #N</b>
	<b>BGT</b>	<b>END</b>
	<b>ADD</b>	<b>R0 , R0 , R2</b>
	<b>ADD</b>	<b>R2 , R2 , #1</b>
	<b>B</b>	<b>Loop</b>
<b>END</b>	<b>STR</b>	<b>R0 , [ "sum" ]</b>

## Post-test

	<b>MOV</b>	<b>R2 , #N</b>
	<b>MOV</b>	<b>R0 , #0</b>
<b>Loop</b>	<b>ADD</b>	<b>R0 , R0 , R2</b>
	<b>SUBS</b>	<b>R2 , R2 , #1</b>
	<b>BNE</b>	<b>Loop</b>
	<b>STR</b>	<b>R0 , [ "sum" ]</b>

# Example: Summation 1 to N

```

Sum =0;
for(i=0;i<=N;i++)
    Sum=Sum+i;

```

## Pre-test

	<b>MOV</b>	R2 , #0
	<b>MOV</b>	R0 , #0
<b>Loop</b>	<b>CMP</b>	R2 , #N
	<b>BGT</b>	END
	<b>ADD</b>	R0 , R0 , R2
	<b>ADD</b>	R2 , R2 , #1
	<b>B</b>	Loop
<b>END</b>	<b>STR</b>	R0 , [ "sum" ]

## Post-test

	<b>MOV</b>	R2 , 0
	<b>MOV</b>	R0 , #0
<b>Loop</b>	<b>ADD</b>	R0 , R0 , R2
	<b>ADD</b>	R2 , R2 , #1
	<b>CMP</b>	R2 , #5
	<b>BLE</b>	Loop
	<b>STR</b>	R0 , [ "sum" ]

# Summary

- **SWITCH** constructs can be implemented efficiently depending nature of the case values.
- Narrow consecutive values can benefit from a jump table.
- Forked if-else-if can be used with wide ranged values.
- **Post-test** loops are **more efficient** than pre-test loops for the same loop segment.
- With optimised compilers, the low-level code produced may not tally directly with the high-level operations. (e.g. loop increments may be implemented as decrements for better code efficient).

# Chapter 8: Instruction Encoding and ISA

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N4-02c-92

# Learning Objectives

- Describe the instruction format of ARM instruction-set architecture (ISA)
- Describe differences between fixed and variable-length ISA

# Instruction Encoding

- For CPU to identify each unique assembly instruction, they must be encoded with unique binary patterns.
  - ARM 32-bit machine encode instructions in a 32-bit word
- What is included?
  - Instruction type → encoded
  - Operand(s) → encoded
  - Condition for conditional execution → encoded
  - Other flags?

# Overall Instruction Format

- Arithmetic & Logic instructions
  - ADD, ADC, SUB, SBC, RSB, AND, EOR, RSC, ORR, BIC

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs1, Rs2 , {shft #}**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	S	Rs1	Rd	Shift size	shft	0	Rs2		

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs1, Rs2 , {shft Rshift}**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	S	Rs1	Rd	Rshift	0	shft	1	Rs2	

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs1, #immediate (rotated)**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	8	7	0
Condition	001	Inst. type	S	Rs1	Rd	#rot	8-bit immediate		

# Overall Instruction Format

- Arithmetic & Logic instructions
  - ADD, ADC, SUB, SBC, RSB, AND, EOR, RSC, ORR, BIC

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs1, Rs2 , {shft #}**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	S	Rs1	Rd	Shift size	shft	0	Rs2		

**ADD R0,R1,R2,LSL #5**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
1110	000	0100	0	0001	0000	00101	00	0	0010		

**ADD R0,R1,R2**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
1110	000	0100	0	0001	0000	00000	00	0	0010		

# Overall Instruction Format

- Arithmetic & Logic instructions
  - ADD, ADC, SUB, SBC, RSB, AND, EOR, RSC, ORR, BIC

SUBS R4, R3, R2, LSR R5

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	12	11	7	6	5	3	0
1110	000	0010	1	0011	0100		0101	0	01	1	0010		

RSBEQS R5, R3, #20

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	12	11	8	7	0
0000	001	0011	1	0011	0101		0000		0001	0100	

# Overall instruction format

- Comparison instructions
  - TST, TEQ, CMP, CMN

XXXCC Rs1, Rs2 , {shft #}

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	1	Rs1	0000	Shift size	shft	0	0	Rs2	

XXXCC Rs1, #immediate (rotated)

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	8	7	0
Condition	001	Inst.type	1	Rs1	0000	#rot	8-bit immediate		

# Overall instruction format

- MOV instructions
  - MOV, MOVN

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs , {shft #}**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	S	0000	Rd	Shift size	shft	0		Rs	

**XXXCCS Rd, Rs , {shft #}**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7	6	5	3	0
Condition	000	Inst. type	S	0000	Rd	Rshift	0	shft	1		Rs

**XXXCC Rd, #immediate (rotated)**

31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	8	7	0
Condition	001	Inst. type	S	0000	Rd	#rot		8-bit immediate	

# Overall instruction format

- MOV instructions
  - MOV, MOVN

**MOV R0 , R5**

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	12	11	7	6	5	3	0
1110	000	1101	0	0000	0000	(R0)	00000	00000	00	0	0101	(R5)	

**MOVNE R1 , R3 , LSL R2**

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	12	11	7	6	5	3	0
0001	000	1101	0	0000	0001		0010	0010	0	00	1	0011	

**MOV R1 ,#0x40000000**

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	12	11	8	7	0
1110	001	1101	0	0000	0001		0100	0100	0100	0000	

# Inst. Type field Field

- 4 bits for instructions → up to 16 combinations
- 4 bits for source and destination registers → 16 registers

<b>Code</b>	<b>Instruction</b>
<b>0000</b>	<b>AND</b>
<b>0001</b>	<b>EOR</b>
<b>0010</b>	<b>SUB</b>
<b>0011</b>	<b>RSB</b>
<b>0100</b>	<b>ADD</b>
<b>0101</b>	<b>ADC</b>
<b>0110</b>	<b>SBC</b>
<b>0111</b>	<b>RSC</b>

<b>Code</b>	<b>Instruction</b>
<b>1000</b>	<b>TST</b>
<b>1001</b>	<b>TEQ</b>
<b>1010</b>	<b>CMP</b>
<b>1011</b>	<b>CMN</b>
<b>1100</b>	<b>ORR</b>
<b>1101</b>	<b>MOV</b>
<b>1110</b>	<b>BIC</b>
<b>1111</b>	<b>MVN</b>

# Condition Field

- 4 bits for condition → up to 16 difference combinations

Code	Condition	Flags	Meaning
0000	<b>EQ</b>	Z = 1	Equal
0001	<b>NE</b>	Z = 0	Not equal
0010	<b>CS or HS</b>	C = 1	Higher or same, unsigned
0011	<b>CC or LO</b>	C = 0	Lower, unsigned
0100	<b>MI</b>	N = 1	Negative
0101	<b>PL</b>	N = 0	Positive or zero
0110	<b>VS</b>	V = 1	Overflow
0111	<b>VC</b>	V = 0	No overflow
1000	<b>HI</b>	C = 1 and Z = 0	Higher, unsigned
1001	<b>LS</b>	C = 0 or Z = 1	Lower or same, unsigned
1010	<b>GE</b>	N = V	Greater than or equal, signed
1011	<b>LT</b>	N != V	Less than, signed
1100	<b>GT</b>	Z = 0 and N = V	Greater than, signed
1101	<b>LE</b>	Z = 1 and N != V	Less than or equal, signed
1110	<b>AL</b>		Always.
1111	<b>NV</b>		Reserved (unused)

# What about shift instructions, what's their instruction format?

LSL, LSR, ASR, ROR, and RRX has no dedicated  
instructions

# Shift/Rotate instructions

- Instructions are encoded as MOV instructions

E.g. LSL R1, R2, #5  $\equiv$  MOV R1, R2, LSL #5

- Specify the shift type in bits 5 and 6

Code	Shift type
00	<b>LSL</b>
01	<b>LSR</b>
10	<b>ASR</b>
11	<b>ROR/RRX</b>

# Branch Instructions

- For conditional branch and branch with link



- 26 bits offset shifted to the right by 2 (branching to word addresses) → calculated by the assembler
- Branch range: ±32 MBytes

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store word bye

LDR/STR{B}CC    Rs , [ RD , offset pre or post ]W											
31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11	7 6	5	3	0	
Condition	01	0	PUBW	L	Rs	Rd	Shift size	shft	0	Rs	
31	28	24	21	19	16 15	12 11					0
Condition	01	1	PUBW	L	Rs	Rd	Immediate value				

- **L** bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- **P** bit determines indexing pre (1) or post (0)
- **U** determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0) offset
- **B** determines byte (1) or word (0) access
- **W** is for write back (!) of the offset

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store word bye

LDR R0, [R2, #4]

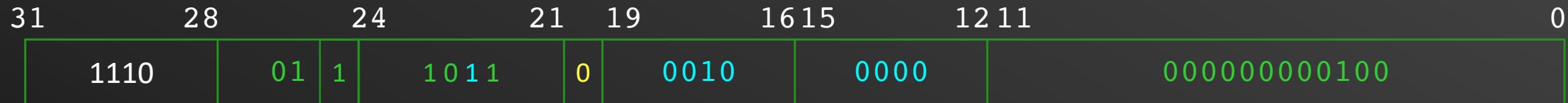


- L bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- P bit determines indexing pre (1) or post (0)
- U determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0) offset
- B determines byte (1) or word (0) access
- W is for write back (!) of the offset

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store word by

STRB R0, [R2, #-4] !



- **L** bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- **P** bit determines indexing pre (1) or post (0)
- **U** determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0) offset
- **B** determines byte (1) or word (0) access
- **W** is for write back (!) of the offset

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store Multiple instructions

LDM/STM**FX**CC    **RsW**, {register list}



- L bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- P bit determines indexing before (1) or after (0)
- U determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0)
- ^ is “don’t care”
- W is for write back (!) after operation

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store Multiple instructions

LDM/STM**FXCC**    **RsW**, {register list}



- L bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- P bit determines indexing before (1) or after (0)
- U determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0)
- ^ is “don’t care”
- W is for write back (!) after operation

PU	Instruction
10	STMFD
01	LDMFD
00	STMFA
11	LDMFA

# Load/Store Instructions

- Load/Store Multiple instructions

STMFD SP!, {R0–R6}

31	28	24	21	19	16	15	0
1110	100	$10^1$	0	1101 (SP)	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1
PC	LR	SP	R12	R11	R10	R9	R8 R7 R6 R5 R4 R3 R2 R1 R0

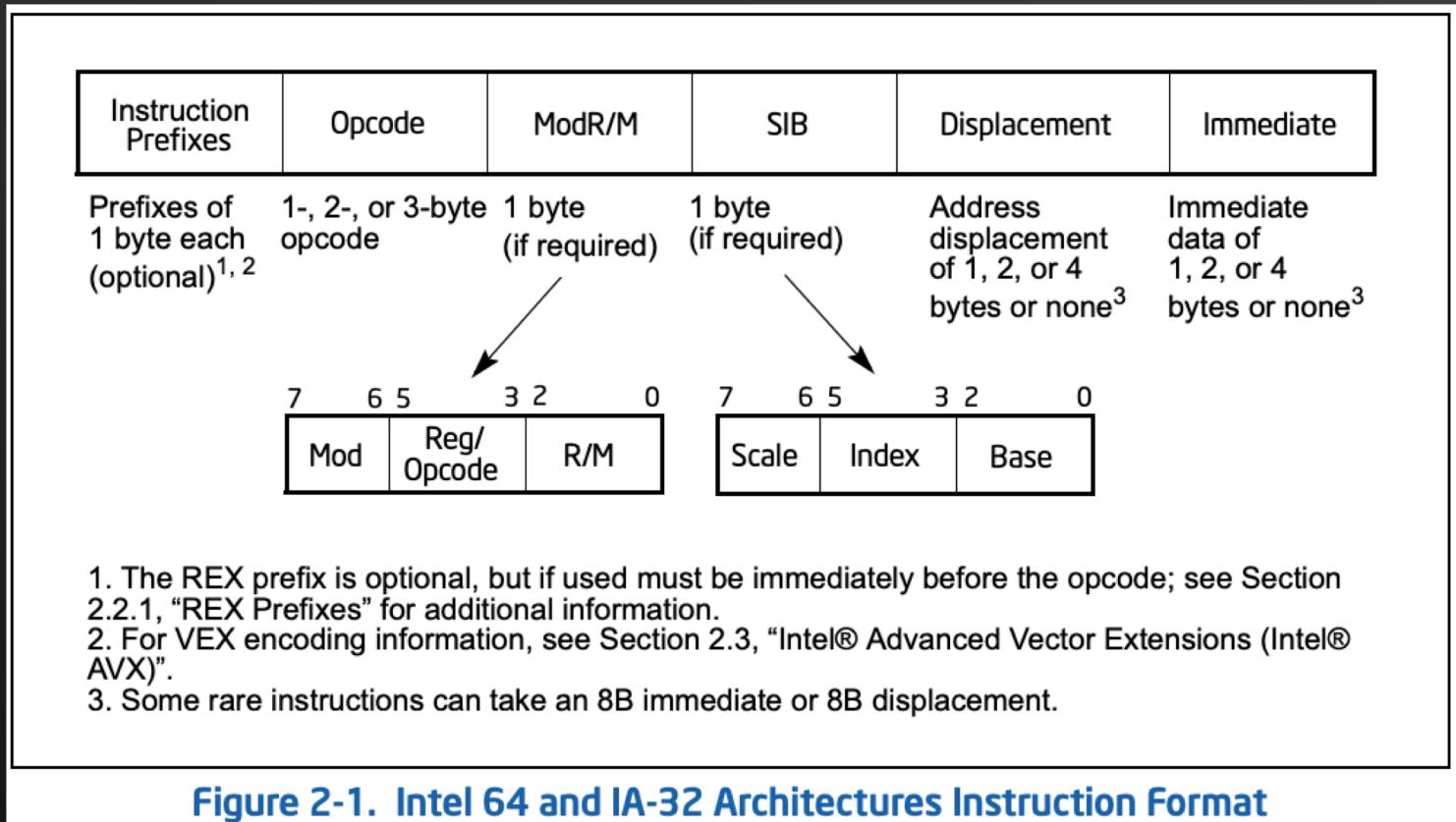
- L bit determines load (1) or store (0)
- P bit determines indexing before (1) or after (0)
- U determines offset direction add (1) or subtract (0)
- ^ is “don’t care”
- W is for write back (!) after operation

# Fixed vs. Variable-Length instruction

- ARM is fixed-length
  - Operands had to be registers or immediate values
- Variable length instructions
  - Intel 80x86: Instructions vary from 1 to 17 bytes long.
  - Digital VAX: Instructions vary from 1 to 54 bytes long.
  - Require multi-step fetch and decode.
  - Allow for a more flexible (but complex) and compact instruction set.

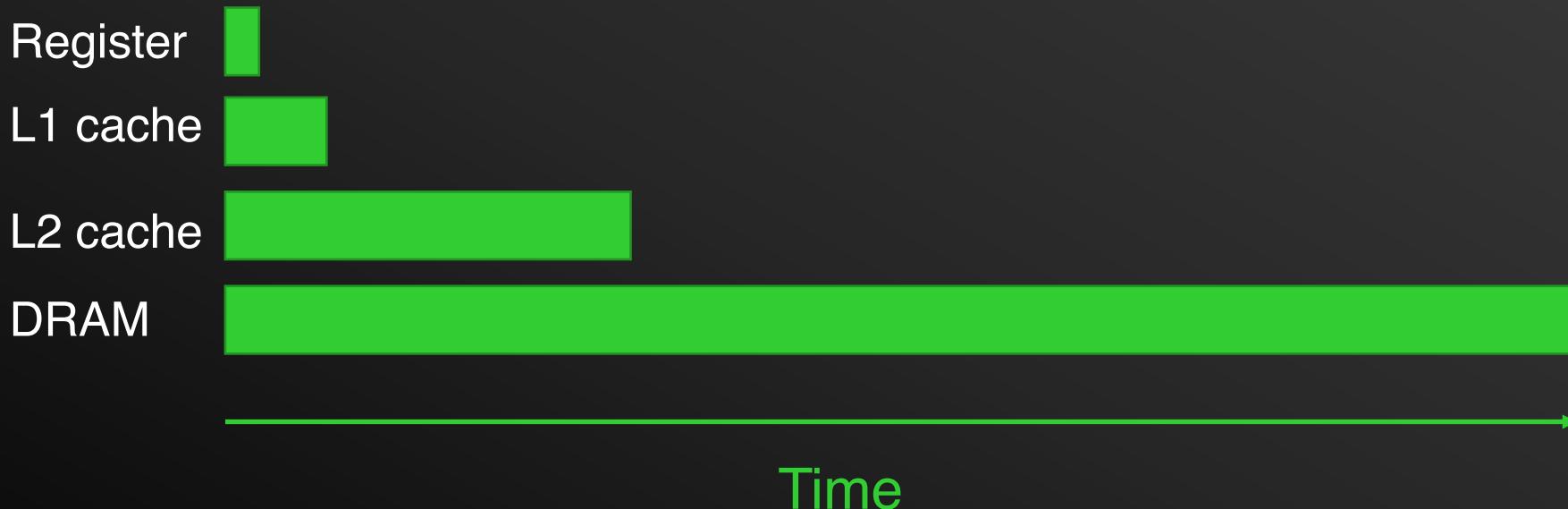
# Variable-Length: Intel Instruction Format

- Complex instructions = complex hardware
- Higher variety for smaller code and faster execution



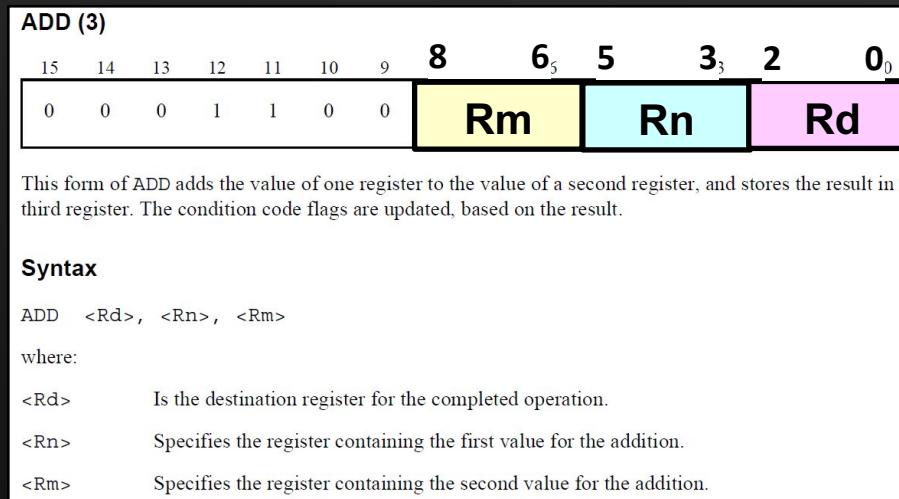
# Using Registers

- Operations using registers are **faster** than those involving memory.
  - Data transfer between registers and ALU is faster due to its physically proximity.
  - To speed up code execution, keep as much of your computations within **registers**.

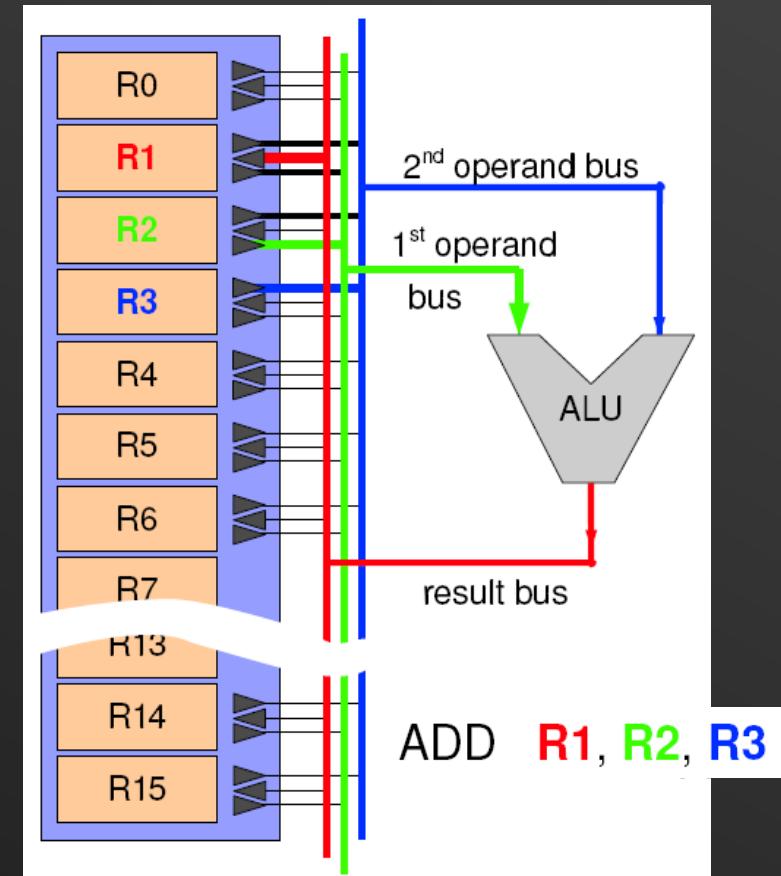


# Implication of Register Count

- Implementing many registers within the CPU will incur increasing overheads.
  - They take up precious **space** in the silicon die.
  - Connections to various busses increase the **routing** and **multiplexing complexity**.
  - More registers increases the **operand size** during instruction encoding.



Instruction Encoding for ADD in Thumb-2



# Orthogonality of ISA

- In a truly orthogonal ISA, every instruction is able to use every available addressing modes.
- A truly orthogonal ISA does not restrict certain instruction from using only specific registers.
- Difficult to achieve complete orthogonality due to the **large number of bit patterns** required to express all combinations of operations and addressing modes.
- Increase instruction length will increases the memory size required by the program.

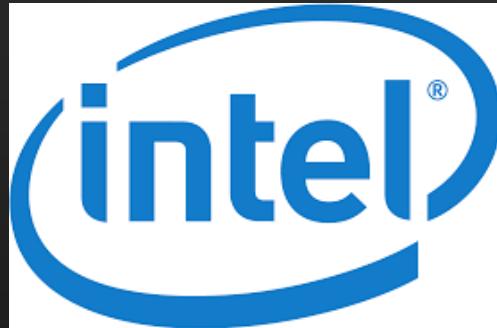
# Summary - Why is Good Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) Design Important?



- Good ISA design can yield benefits such as:
  - Increases the execution performance of the processor.
  - Increases the code density (i.e. how much memory a piece of code will occupy).
  - Reduces the power consumption of the CPU.
  - Reduces manufacturing cost of processor.
  - Easy for programmers to write efficient programs.
  - Efficient mapping of high-level programming requirements into low-level instruction sets.

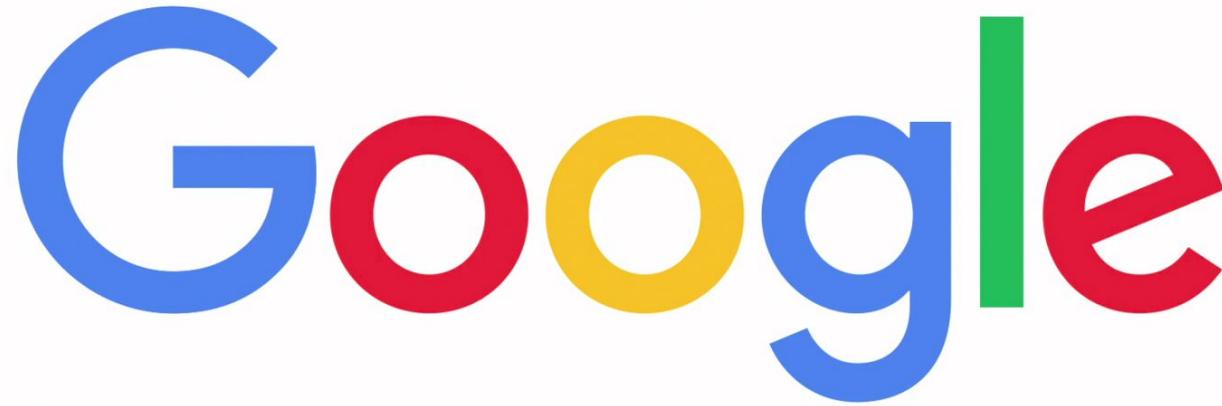
# Why Should I Care About Processor Designs and ISA?

- Designing a processor (or a co-processor) is no longer a hardware company job



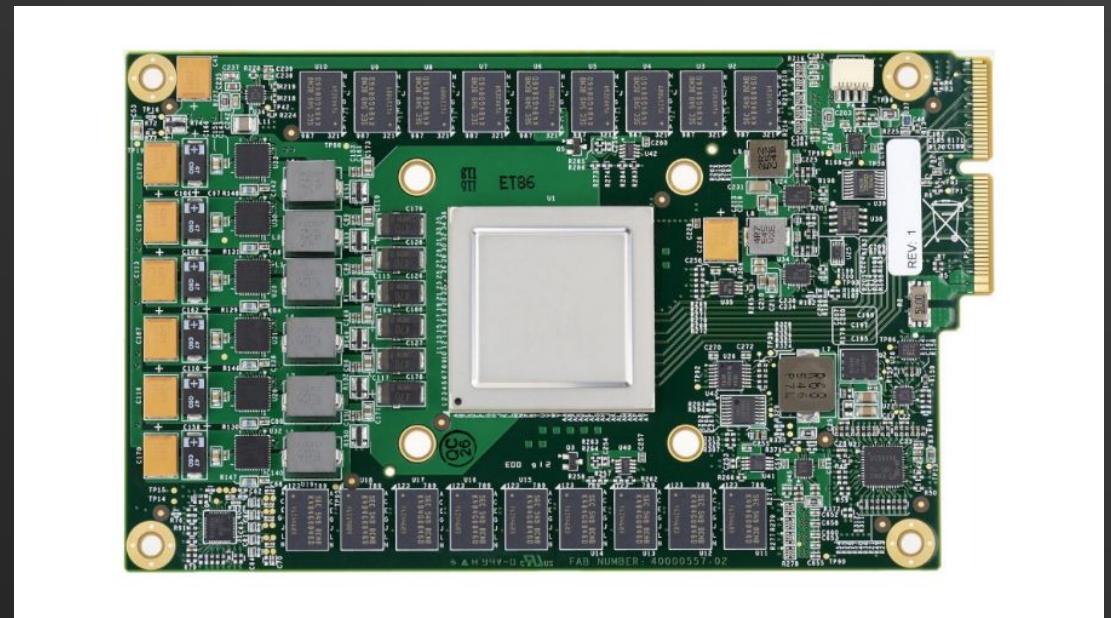
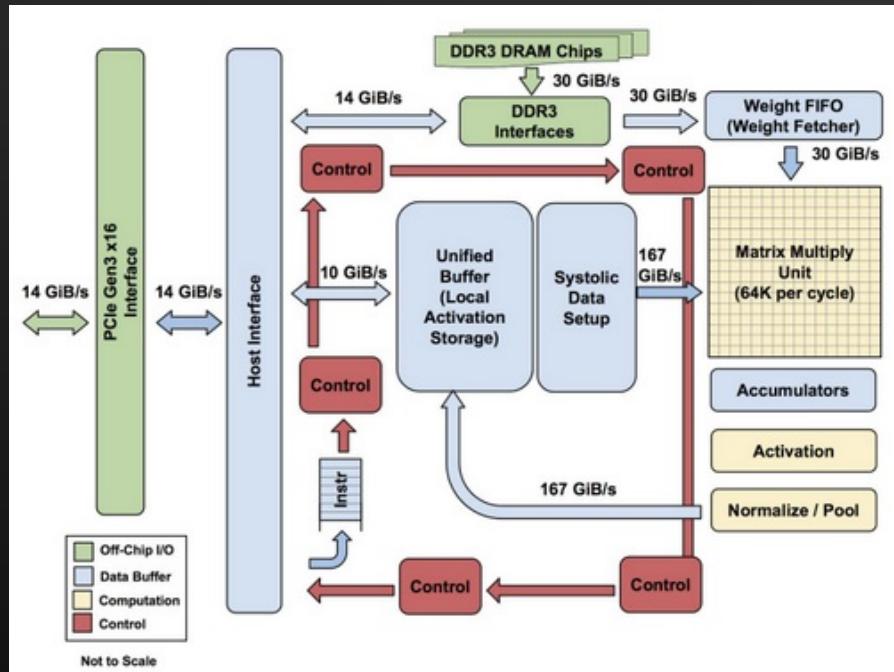
# Why Should I Care About Processor Designs and ISA?

- Designing a processor (or a co-processor) is no longer a hardware company job

The Google logo, featuring the word "Google" in its signature multi-colored font: blue, red, yellow, and green.

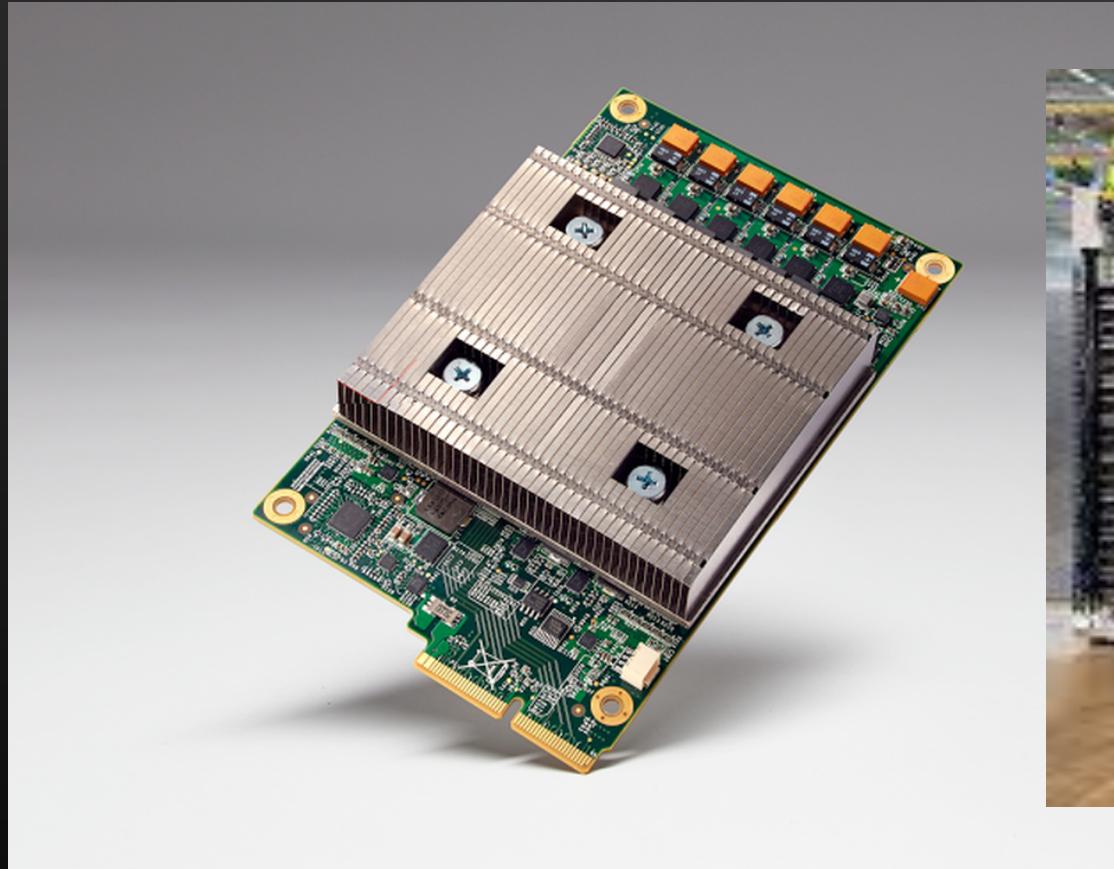
# The Google TPU

- Tensor Processing Unit
- Designed by Engineers in Google
- Tailored to make AI applications run faster



# The Google TPU

- Design by Engineers in Google to make AI applications run faster



# Summary

- ARM is fixed-length load/store architecture
  - Operands reside in registers
- Other architectures can use variable-length format
  - E.g, Intel architecture
- Use of registers is key towards higher performance