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ORG; FOUR



INT 21H and INT 10H Programming and Macros

The x86 PC

assembly language, design, and interfacing

fifth edition

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OBJECTIVES this chapter enables the student to:

- Use INT 10H function calls to:
 - Clear the screen.
 - Set the cursor position.
 - Write characters to the screen in text mode.
 - Draw lines on the screen in graphics mode.
 - Change the video mode.
- Use INT 21H function calls to:
 - Input characters from the keyboard.
 - Output characters to the screen.
 - Input or output strings.

this chapter enables the student to:

- Use the LABEL directive to set up structured data items.
- Code Assembly language instructions to define and invoke macros.
- Explain how macros are expanded by the assembler.
- Use the LOCAL directive to define local variables within macros.
- Use the INCLUDE directive to retrieve macros from other files.

4.0: INT 21H and 10H

- The INT instruction is somewhat like a FAR call.
 - Saves CS:IP and the flags on the stack and goes to the subroutine associated with that interrupt.

```
INT xx; the interrupt number xx can be 00 - FFH
```

- In x86 processors, 256 interrupts, numbered 00 to FF.
 - INT 10H and INT 21H are the most widely used with various functions selected by the value in the AH register.

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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING

- INT 10H subroutines are burned into the ROM BIOS.
 - Used to communicate with the computer's screen video.
 - Manipulation of screen text/graphics can be done via INT 10H.
- Among the functions associated with INT 10H are changing character or background color, clearing the screen, and changing the location of the cursor.
 - Chosen by putting a specific value in register AH.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING monitor screen in text mode

- The monitor screen in the x86 PC is divided into 80 columns and 25 rows in normal text mode.
 - Columns are numbered from 0 to 79.
 - Rows are numbered 0 to 24.

The top left corner has been assigned 00,00, the top right 00,79.

Bottom left is 24,00, bottom right 24,79.

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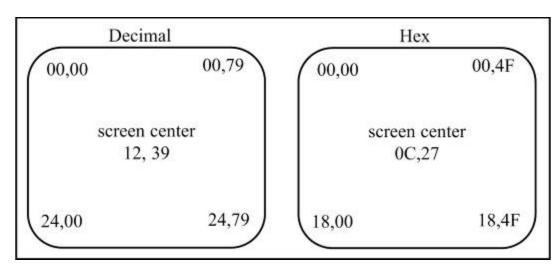


Figure 4-1 Cursor Locations (row, column)

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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING screen clearing with INT 10H function 06H

 To clear the screen using INT 10H, these registers must contain certain values before INT 10H is called:

-AH = 06, AL = 00, BH = 07, CX = 0000, DH = 24, DL = 79.

MOV	AH,06	;AH=06 to select scroll function
MOV	AL,00	;AL=00 the entire page
MOV	BH,07	;BH=07 for normal attribute
MOV	CH,00	;CH=00 row value of start point
MOV	CL,00	;CL=00 column value of start point
MOV	DH,24	;DH=24 row value of ending point
MOV	DL,79	;DL=79 column value of ending point
INT	10H	; invoke the interrupt

- Option AH = 06 calls the scroll function, to scroll upward.
- CH & CL registers hold starting row & column.
- DH & DL registers hold ending row & column.



4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING setting the cursor to a specific location

- INT 10H function AH = 02 will change the position of the cursor to any location.
 - Desired position is identified by row/column values in DX.
 - Where DH = row and DL = column.
- Video RAM can have multiple pages of text.
 - When AH = 02, page zero is chosen by making BH = 00.
- After INT 10H (or INT 21H) has executed, registers not used by the interrupt remain unchanged.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING setting the cursor to a specific location

 Example 4-1 demonstrates setting the cursor to a specific location.

Example 4-1 Write the code to set the cursor position to row = 15 = 0FH and column = 25 = 19H. Solution: MOV AH,02 ; set cursor option VOM BH,00 ; page 0 ; column position VOM DL,25 MOV DH, 15 ; row position 10H ; invoke interrupt 10H INT

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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING get current cursor position

In text mode, determine where the cursor is located at any time by executing the following:

MOV	AH,03	;option 03 of BIOS INT 10H
MOV	BH,00	;page 00
INT	10H	;interrupt 10H routine

- After execution of the program, registers DH & DL will have current row and column positions.
 - CX provides information about the shape of the cursor.
- In text mode, page 00 is chosen for the currently viewed page.

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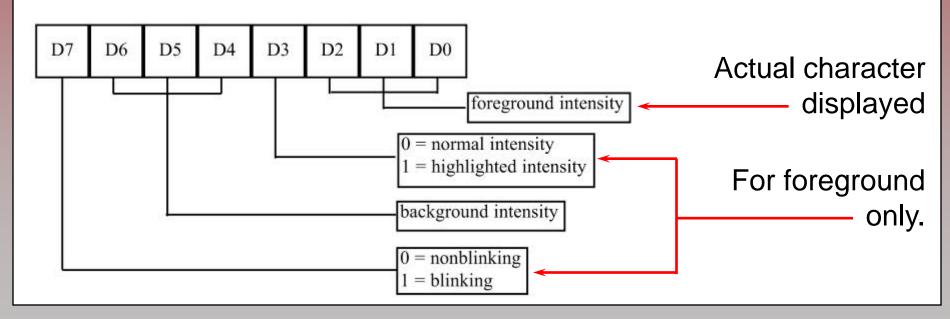
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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING changing the video mode

 To change the video mode, use INT 10H with AH = 00 and AL = video mode.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in monochrome monitors

- An attribute associated with each character on the screen provides information to the video circuitry.
 - Character (foreground) & background color/intensity.
- The attribute byte for each character on the monochrome monitor is limited.





4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in monochrome monitors

Example 4-3

Write a program using INT 10H to:

- (a) Change the video mode.
- (b) Display the letter "D" in 200H locations with attributes black on white blinking (blinking letters "D" are black and the screen background is white).
- (c) Then use DEBUG to run and verify the program.

Solution:

(a) INT 10H function AH = 00 is used with AL = video mode to change the video mode. Use AL = 03.

MOV AH,00 ;SET MODE OPTION
MOV AL,03 ;CHANGE VIDEO MODE

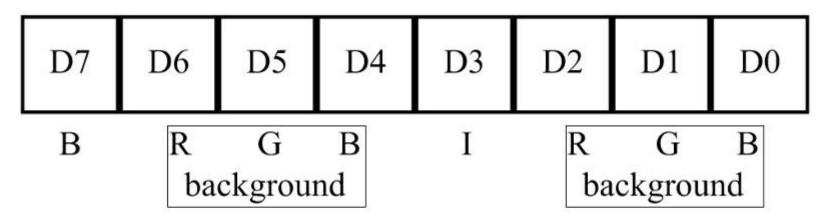
See the entire example on page 134 of your textbook.

Possible variations of attributes in Fig. 4-2.

<u>Binary</u>		<u>Hex</u>	<u>x Result</u>			
0000	0000	00	white	on	white	(no display)
0000	0111	07	white	on	black	normal
0000	1111	OF	white	on	black	highlight
1000	0111	87	white	on	black	blinking
0111	0111	77	black	on	black	(no display)
0111	0000	70	black	on	white	
1111	0000	FO	black	on	white	blinking

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in CGA text mode

- CGA mode is the common denominator for all color monitors, as S all color monitors & video circuitry are upwardly compatible,
 - CGA attribute byte bit definition is as shown:



B = blinking I = foreground intensity Blinking and intensity apply to foreground only.

Figure 4-3 CGA Attribute Byte



4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in CGA text mode

- The background can take eight different colors by combining the prime colors red, blue, and green.
- The foreground can be any of 16 different colors by combining red, blue, green, and intensity

Example 4-4 Write a program that puts 20H (ASCII space) on the entire screen. Use high-intensity white on a blue background attribute for characters. Solution: MOV AH, 00 ;SET MODE OPTION ; CGA COLOR TEXT MODE OF 80 × 25 MOV AL,03 10H INT MOV AH,09 :DISPLAY OPTION MOV BH,00 ; PAGE 0 MOV AL,20H ; ASCII FOR SPACE MOV CX,800H ; REPEAT IT 800H TIMES MOV BL, 1FH ; HIGH-INTENSITY WHITE ON BLUE 10H INT

Example 4-4 shows the use of the attribute byte in CGA mode.

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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in CGA text mode

Table 4-1:	The 16	Possible	Colors
****		T COCKWAS	COLOLO

I	R	\mathbf{G}	В	Color
0	0	0	0	black
0	0	0	1	blue
0	0	1	0	green
0	0	1	1	cyan
0	1	0	0	red
0	1	0	1	magenta
0	1	1	0	brown
0	1	1	1	white
1	0	0	0	gray
1	0	0	1	light blue
1	0	1	0	light green
1	0	1	1	light cyan
1	1	0	0	light red
1	1	0	1	light magenta
1	1	1	0	yellow
1	1	1	1	high intensity white

Some possible CGA colors and variations.

Binary	<u>Hex</u>	Color effect
0000 0000	00	Black on black
0000 0001	01	Blue on black
0001 0010	12	Green on blue
0001 0100	14	Red on blue
0001 1111	1F	High-intensity
		white on blue



4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING graphics: pixel resolution & color

- In text mode, the screen is viewed as a matrix of rows and columns of characters.
 - In graphics mode, a matrix of horizontal & vertical pixels.
 - Number of pixels depends on monitor resolution & video board.
- Two facts associated with every pixel on the screen must be stored in the video RAM:
 - Location of the pixel, and Attributes. (color and intensity)
 - The higher the number of pixels and colors, the larger the amount of memory that is needed to store them
 - Memory requirements go up with resolution & number of colors.
 - CGA mode can have a maximum of 16K bytes of video memory due to its inherent design structure.



4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING graphics: modes

- Text mode of 80 × 25 characters.
 - A total of 2K ($80 \times 25 = 2000$) for characters, plus 2K for attributes, as each character has one attribute byte.
 - Each screen (frame) takes 4K, which results in CGA supporting a total of four pages of data, where each page represents one full screen.
- In this mode, 16 colors are supported.
 - To select this mode, use AL = 03 for mode selection in INT 10H option AH = 00.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING graphics: modes

- Graphics mode of 320 × 200. (medium resolution)
 - -64,000 pixels. (320 columns \times 200 rows = 64,000)
 - Dividing total video RAM of 128K bits (16K × 8 bits = 128K) by 64,000 pixels gives 2 bits for the color of each pixel.
- 2 bits give four possibilities, thus 320 × 200 resolution CGA can support no more than 4 colors.
 - To select this mode, use AL = 04.



4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING graphics: modes

- Graphics resolution of 640 × 200. (high resolution)
 - -128,000 pixels. $(200 \times 640 = 128,000)$
 - Dividing gives 1 bit (128,000/128,000 = 1) for color, which can can be on (white) or off (black).
- 640 × 200 high-resolution CGA can support only black and white.
 - To select this mode, use AL = 06.
- With a fixed amount of video RAM, the number of supported colors decreases as resolution increases.
 - To create more colors in video boards there must be memory available to store the extra colors.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING INT 10H and pixel programming

- To address a single pixel on the screen, use INT 10H with AH = 0CH.
 - The X (column) and Y (row) coordinates of the pixel must be known, and vary, depending on monitor resolution.
 - Registers are CX = the column point (the X coordinate) and DX = the row point. (Y coordinate)
 - To turn the pixel on/off, AL=1 or AL=0 for black and white.
 - The value of AL can be modified for various colors.
- If the display mode supports more than one page,
 BH = page number.

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4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING drawing lines in graphics mode

- To draw a horizontal line, choose row/column values to point to the beginning of the line and increment the column until it reaches the end of the line.
 - To draw a vertical line, increment the vertical value held by the DX register, and keep CX constant.
 - Linear equation y = mx + b can be used for any line.

4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING drawing lines in graphics mode

Drawing a horizontal line

Example 4-5

Write a program to: (a) clear the screen, (b) set the mode to CGA of 640×200 resolution, and (c) draw a horizontal line starting at column = 100, row = 50, and ending at column 200, row 50.

```
Solution:
        MOV
              AX,0600H
                           SCROLL THE SCREEN
        MOV
            BH,07
                           ; NORMAL ATTRIBUTE
        MOV
              CX,0000 ;FROM ROW=00,COLUMN=00
        MOV
               DX,184FH
                           ; TO ROW=18H, COLUMN=4FH
         INT
              10H
                           :INVOKE INTERRUPT TO CLEAR SCREEN
              AH,00
        MOV
                           ; SET MODE
        MOV
             AL,06
                           ; MODE = 06 (CGA HIGH RESOLUTION)
              10H
        INT
                           ; INVOKE INTERRUPT TO CHANGE MODE
              CX,100
        MOV
                           ;START LINE AT COLUMN =100 AND
        MOV
               DX,50
                           : ROW = 50
  BACK: MOV
              AH, OCH
                           ; AH=OCH TO DRAW A LINE
        MOV
              AL, 01
                           ; PIXELS = WHITE
              10H
         INT
                           :INVOKE INTERRUPT TO DRAW LINE
         INC
              CX
                           ; INCREMENT HORIZONTAL POSITION
              CX,200
         CMP
                           ; DRAW LINE UNTIL COLUMN = 200
         JNZ
               BACK
```



4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

- In previous chapters, a fixed set of data was defined in the data segment & results viewed in a memory dump.
 - This section uses information inputted from the keyboard, and displayed on the screen.
 - A much more dynamic way of processing information.
- When the OS is loaded, INT 21H can be invoked to perform some extremely useful functions.
 - Commonly referred to as DOS INT 21H function calls.
 - In contrast to BIOS-ROM based INT 10H.

4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 09 outputting a data string the monitor

- INT 21H can send a set of ASCII data to the monitor.
 - Set AH = 09 and DX = offset address of the ASCII data.
 - Displays ASCII data string pointed at by DX until it encounters the dollar sign "\$".
- The data segment and code segment, to display the message "The earth is but one country":

```
DATA_ASC DB 'The earth is but one country','$'

MOV AH,09 ;option 09 to display string of data

MOV DX,OFFSET DATA_ASC ;DX= offset address of data

INT 21H ;invoke the interrupt
```

4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 02 outputting a single character

- To output only a single character, 02 is put im AH, and DL is loaded with the character to be displayed.
- The following displays the letter "J":

```
MOV AH,02 ;option 02 displays one character
MOV DL,'J' ;DL holds the character to be displayed
INT 21H ;invoke the interrupt
```

 This option can also be used to display '\$' on the monitor as the string display option (option 09) will not display '\$'.

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4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 01 inputting a single character, with echo

- This functions waits until a character is input from the keyboard, then echoes it to the monitor.
 - After the interrupt, the input character will be in AL.

```
MOV
      AH,01 ;option 01 inputs one character
            ; after the interrupt, AL = input character (ASCII)
INT
      21H
```

4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 01 inputting a single character, with echo

Program 4-1 combines INT 10H and INT 21H.

```
TITLE
           PROG4-1
                    SIMPLE
                            DISPLAY
                                    PROGRAM
            60,132
PAGE
            .MODEL SMALL
            .STACK
            . DATA
MESSAGE
           DB
                  'This is a test of
                   the display routine','$'
     .CODE
MAIN PROC
           FAR
     MOV
           AX, @DATA
     MOV
           DS, AX
     CALL
           CLEAR
                         :CLEAR THE SCREEN
     CALL
           CURSOR
                         ; SET CURSOR POSITION
     CALL
           DISPLAY
                         ; DISPLAY MESSAGE
     MOV
           AH, 4CH
           21H
                         ; GO BACK TO DOS
     TNT
```

The program does the following:

- (1) Clears the screen.
- (2) Sets the cursor to the center of the screen.
- (3) Displays the message "This is a test of the display routine".

See the entire program listing on page 139 of your textbook.

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4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option OAH inputting a data string from the keyboard

- A means by which one can get keyboard data from & store it in a predefined data segment memory area.
 - Register AH = 0AH.
 - DX = offset address at which the string of data is stored.
 - Commonly referred to as a buffer area.
- DOS requires a buffer area be defined in the data segment.
 - The first byte specifies the size of the buffer.
 - The number of characters from the keyboard is in the second byte.
 - Keyed-in data placed in the buffer starts at the third byte.

4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option OAH inputting a data string from the keyboard

- This program accepts up to six characters from the keyboard, including the return (carriage return) key.
 - Six buffer locations were reserved, and filled with FFH.

```
ORG 0010H
DATA1 DB 6,?,6 DUP (FF);0010H=06, 0012H to 0017H = FF

MOV AH,0AH ;string input option of INT 21H
MOV DX,OFFSET DATA1;load offset address of buffer
INT 21H ;invoke interrupt 21H
```

– Memory contents of offset 0010H:

```
0010
       0011
                                             0016
                                                     0017
               0012
                      0013
                              0014
                                      0015
06
       0.0
               FF
                      44
                              FF
                                      FF
                                             FF
                                                     FF
```

The PC won't exit INT 21H until it encounters a RETURN.



4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option OAH inputting a data string from the keyboard

 Assuming the data entered through the keyboard was "USA" <RETURN>, the contents of memory locations starting at offset 0010H would look like:

```
0010
                                                 0017
      0011
              0012
                     0013
                            0014
                                   0015
                                          0016
                     53
06
       03
              55
                            41
                                   0D
                                          FF
                                                  FF
USACR
```

- 0010H = 06 DOS requires the size of the buffer here.
- 0011H = 03 The keyboard was activated three times (excluding the RETURN key) to key in letters **U**, **S**, and **A**.
- 0012H = 55H ASCII hex value for letter **U**.
- 0013H = 53H ASCII hex value for letter S.
- 0014H = 41H ASCII hex value for letter A.
- 0015H = 0DH ASCII hex value for **CR**. (carriage return)



4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H inputting more than buffer size

- Entering more than six characters (five + the CR = 6) will cause the computer to sound the speaker.
 - The contents of the buffer will look like this:

- Location 0015 has ASCII 20H for <SPACE>
- Location 0016 has ASCII 61H for "a".
- Location 0017 has 0D for <RETURN> key.
- The actual length is **05** at memory offset **0011H**.

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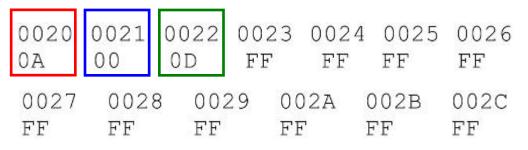
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4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H inputting more than buffer size

If only the CR key is activated & no other character:

```
ORG 20H
DATA4 DB 10,?,10 DUP (FF)
```

- OAH is placed in memory 0020H.
- 0021H is for the count.
- 0022H IS the first location to have data that was entered.



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CR is *not* included in the count.

- If only the <RETURN> key is activated, 0022H has 0DH, the hex code for CR.
 - The actual number of characters entered is 0 at location 0021.

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4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H use of carriage return and line feed

- In Program 4-2, the EQU statement is used to equate CR (carriage return) with its ASCII value of 0DH, and LF (line feed) with its ASCII value of 0AH.
 - See pages 141 & 142
- Program 4-3 prompts the user to type in a name with a maximum of eight letters.
 - The program gets the length and prints it to the screen.
 - See page 143.
- Program 4-4 demonstrates many functions described in this chapter.
 - See pages 144 & 145.



4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 07 keyboard input without echo

- Option 07 requires the user to enter a single character, which is not displayed (or echoed) on the screen.
 - The PC waits until a single character is entered and provides the character in AL.

```
MOV AH,07 ; keyboard input without echo INT 21H
```

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4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H using LABEL to define a string buffer

 The LABEL directive can be used in the data segment to assign multiple names to data.

```
name LABEL attribute
```

- Used to assign the same offset address to two names.
- The attribute can be:
 - BYTE; WORD; DWORD; FWORD; QWORD; TBYTE.
- In the following:

```
JOE LABEL BYTE
TOM DB 20 DUP(0)
```

 The offset address assigned to JOE is the same offset address for TOM since the LABEL directive does not occupy any memory space.

4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H using LABEL to define a string buffer

 Use this directive to define a buffer area for the string keyboard input:

```
DATA_BUF LABEL BYTE
MAX_SIZE DB 10
BUF_COUNT DB ?
BUF_AREA DB 10 DUP(20H)
```

 In the code segment the data can be accessed by name as follows:

```
MOV AH,0AH ;load string into buffer
MOV DX,OFFSET DATA_BUF
INT 21H
MOV CL,BUF_COUNT;load the actual length of string
MOV SI,OFFSET BUF AREA;SI=address of first byte of string
```

4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED?

- There are applications in Assembly language programming where a group of instructions performs a task used repeatedly.
 - It does not make sense to rewrite them every time.
- Macros allow the programmer to write the task once only & invoke it whenever, wherever it is needed.
 - Reduces time to write code & reduce possibility of errors.

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4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? MACRO definition

Every macro definition must have three parts:

```
name MACRO dummy1,dummy2,...,dummyN
...
ENDM
```

- The MACRO directive indicates the beginning of the macro definition, ENDM directive signals the end.
 - In between is the *body* of the macro.
- The name must be unique and must follow Assembly language naming conventions.
 - Dummies are names, parameters, or registers that are mentioned in the body of the macro.
 - The macro can be invoked (or called) by its name, and appropriate values substituted for dummy parameters.



4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? MACRO definition

 A macro for displaying a string of data using the widely used function 09 of INT 21H:

STRING MACRO DATA1

AH,09 MOV

MOV DX,OFFSET DATA1

INT 21H

ENDM

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4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? MACRO definition

- In the following code segment, the macro can be invoked by its name with the user's actual data:
 - Instruction "STRING MESSAGE1" invokes the macro.

```
MESSAGE1 DB 'What is your name?','$'
...
STRING MESSAGE1
```

 The assembler expands the macro by providing the following code in the .LST file:

```
1 MOV AH,09
1 MOV DX,OFFSET MESSAGE1
1 INT 21H
```

- The (1) indicates that the code is from the macro.
 - Earlier versions of MASM, used a plus sign (+).



4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? comments in a macro

- Two types of comments in the macro:
 - Listable; Nonlistable.
- Comments preceded by one semicolon (;) will show up in the ".lst" file when the program is assembled.
 - Those preceded by a double semicolon (;;) will not.

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4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? comments in a macro

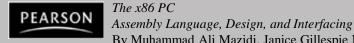
- Three directives designed to make programs that use macros more readable, affecting the ".lst" file, with no effect on the ".obj" or ".exe" files:
 - .LALL (List ALL) will list all instructions/comments preceded by a single semicolon in the ".lst" file.
 - .SALL (Suppress ALL) suppresses the listing of the macro body and the comments.
 - Used to make the list file shorter and easier to read
 - Will not eliminate any opcode from the object file.
 - XALL (eXecutable ALL) is used to list only the part of the macro that generates opcodes.
 - The default listing directive.



4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? LOCAL directive and its use in macros

- If a macro is expanded more than once, and there is a label in the label field of the body of the macro, these labels must be declared as LOCAL.
 - Otherwise, an assembler error would be generated when the same label was encountered in two or more places.
- Rules which must be observed in the macro body:
 - 1. All labels in the label field must be declared LOCAL.
 - 2. LOCAL directive must be right after the MACRO directive.
 - 3. The LOCAL directive can be used to declare all names and labels at once.

LOCAL name1, name2, name3



4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? LOCAL directive and its use in macros

 In example 4-7, the "BACK" label is defined as LOCAL right after the MACRO directive.

Example 4-7

Write a macro that multiplies two words by repeated addition, then saves the result.

Solution:

The following macro can be expanded as often as desired in the same program since the label "back" has been declared as LOCAL.

```
MULTIPLY MACRO VALUE1, VALUE2, RESULT

LOCAL BACK

THIS MACRO COMPUTES RESULT = VALUE1 X VALUE2

;; BY REPEATED ADDITION

;; VALUE1 AND VALUE2 ARE WORD OPERANDS; RESULT IS A DOUBLEWORD

MOV BX, VALUE1 ; BX=MULTIPLIER

MOV CX, VALUE2 ; CX=MULTIPLICAND

SUB AX, AX ; CLEAR AX

MOV DX, AX ; CLEAR DX

BACK: ADD AX, BX ; ADD BX TO AX

ADC DX, 00 ; ADD CARRIES IF THERE IS ONE

LOOP BACK ; CONTINUE UNTIL CX=0

MOV RESULT, AX ; SAVE THE LOW WORD

MOV RESULT+2, DX ; SAVE THE HIGH WORD

ENDM
```



4.3: WHAT IS A MACRO, AND HOW IS IT USED? INCLUDE directive

- The INCLUDE directive allows a programmer to write macros, save them in a file, and later bring them into any file.
 - Used to bring this file into any ".asm" file, to allow the program can call any of the macros as needed.
 - See Program 4 -7 on pages 155-157.
- In the list file of Program 4-7, the letter "C" in front of the lines indicates that they are copied from another file and included in the present file.

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