Chapter 10: Structures and Macros

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Chapter Overview

- Structures
- Macros
- Conditional-Assembly Directives
- · Defining Repeat Blocks

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Structures - Overview

- · Defining Structures
- Declaring Structure Variables
- · Referencing Structure Variables
- Example: Displaying the System Time
- Nested Structures
- Example: Drunkard's Walk
- · Declaring and Using Unions

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Structure

- A template or pattern given to a logically related group of variables.
- · field structure member containing data
- Program access to a structure:
 - entire structure as a complete unit
 - individual fields
- Useful way to pass multiple related arguments to a procedure
 - example: file directory information

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Using a Structure

Using a structure involves three sequential steps:

- 1. Define the structure.
- 2. Declare one or more variables of the structure type, called structure variables.
- 3. Write runtime instructions that access the structure.

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Structure Definition Syntax

name STRUCT
field-declarations
name ENDS

Field-declarations are identical to variable declarations

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COORD Structure

 The COORD structure used by the MS-Windows programming library identifies X and Y screen coordinates

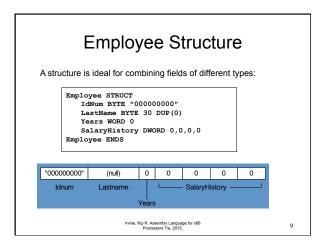
```
COORD STRUCT

X WORD ? ; offset 00

Y WORD ? ; offset 02

COORD ENDS

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```



Declaring Structure Variables

- · Structure name is a user-defined type
- Insert replacement initializers between brackets:
- Empty brackets <> retain the structure's default field initializers
- · Examples:

```
.data
point1 COORD <5,10>
point2 COORD <>
worker Employee <>
```

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Initializing Array Fields

• Use the DUP operator to initialize one or more elements of an array field:

```
.data
emp Employee <,,,,2 DUP(20000)>
```

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Array of Structures

- An array of structure objects can be defined using the DUP operator.
- · Initializers can be used

```
NumPoints = 3
AllPoints COORD NumPoints DUP(<0,0>)

RD_Dept Employee 20 DUP(<>)
accounting Employee 10 DUP(<,,,,4 DUP(20000) >)
```

Referencing Structure Variables Employee STRUCT ; bytes IdNum BYTE "0000000000" ; 9 LastName BYTE 30 DUP(0) ; 30 Years WORD 0 ; 2 SalaryHistory DWORD 0,0,0,0 ; 16 Employee ENDS ; 57 .data worker Employee <> mov eax,TYPE Employee ; 57 mov eax,SIZEOF Employee ; 57 mov eax,SIZEOF Employee ; 57 mov eax,TYPE Employee ; 57 mov eax,TYPE Employee ; 57 mov eax,SIZEOF E

... continued mov dx,worker.Years mov worker.SalaryHistory,20000 ; first salary mov worker.SalaryHistory+4,30000 ; second salary mov edx,OFFSET worker.LastName mov esi,OFFSET worker mov ax,(Employee PTR [esi]).Years mov ax,(Employee PTR [esi]).Years mov ax,[esi].Years ; invalid operand (ambiguous)

```
Looping Through an Array of Points
 Sets the X and Y coordinates of the AllPoints array to
 sequentially increasing values (1,1), (2,2), ...
  NumPoints = 3
  AllPoints COORD NumPoints DUP(<0,0>)
     mov edi.0
                                ; arrav index
                             ; loop counter
; starting X, Y values
      mov ecx, NumPoints
     mov ax,1
     mov (COORD PTR AllPoints[edil).X.ax
      mov (COORD PTR AllPoints[edi]).Y,ax
      add edi.TYPE COORD
      Loop L1
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                                                                 15
```

Example: Displaying the System Time

- Retrieves and displays the system time at a selected screen location.
- · Uses COORD and SYSTEMTIME structures:

```
SYSTEMTIME STRUCT

WYear WORD ?

WMONTH WORD ?

WDayOffWeek WORD ?

WDay WORD ?

WHOUR WORD ?

WHOUR WORD ?

WMinute WORD ?

WSecond WORD ?

WMilliseconds WORD ?

SYSTEMTIME ENDS
```

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Example: Displaying the System Time

(2 of 3)

- · GetStdHandle gets the standard console output handle.
- · SetConsoleCursorPosition positions the cursor.
- · GetLocalTime gets the current time of day.

```
.data
sysTime SYSTEMTIME <>
XYPOS COORD <10,5>
consoleHandle DWORD ?
.code
INVOKE GetStdHandle, STD_OUTPUT_HANDLE
mov consoleHandle,eax
INVOKE SetConsoleCursorPosition, consoleHandle, XYPOS
INVOKE GetLocalTime, ADDR sysTime
```

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Nested Structures (1 of 2)

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Example: Displaying the System Time ${}^{(3 \text{ of } 3)}$

Display the time using library calls:

```
mov edx,OFFSET TheTimeIs ; "The time is "
call WriteString
movzx eax,sysTime.wHour ; hours
call WriteDec
mov edx,offset colonStr ; ":"
call WriteString
movzx eax,sysTime.wMinute ; minutes
call WriteDec
mov edx,offset colonStr ; ":"
call WriteString
movzx eax,sysTime.wSecond ; seconds
call WriteDec
```

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Nested Structures (2 of 2)

- · Use the dot (.) qualifier to access nested fields.
- Use indirect addressing to access the overall structure or one of its fields

```
mov rectl.UpperLeft.X, 10
mov esi,OFFSET rectl
mov (Rectangle PTR [esi]).UpperLeft.Y, 10

// use the OFFSET operator
mov edi,OFFSET rect2.LowerRight
mov (COORD PTR [edi]).X, 50
mov edi,OFFSET rect2.LowerRight.X
mov WORD PTR [edi], 50
```

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Example: Drunkard's Walk

- · Random-path simulation
- Uses a nested structure to accumulate path data as the simulation is running
- Uses a multiple branch structure to choose the direction

```
WalkMax = 50
DrunkardWalk STRUCT
path COORD WalkMax DUP(<0,0>)
pathsUsed WORD 0
DrunkardWalk ENDS
```

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Declaring and Using Unions

- A union is similar to a structure in that it contains multiple fields
- All of the fields in a union begin at the same offset

 (differs from a structure)
- · Provides alternate ways to access the same data
- · Syntax:

unionname UNION union-fields unionname ENDS

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Integer Union Example

The Integer union consumes 4 bytes (equal to the largest field)

```
Integer UNION
D DWORD 0
W WORD 0
B BYTE 0
Integer ENDS
```

D, W, and B are often called variant fields.

Integer can be used to define data:

```
.data
val1 Integer <12345678h>
val2 Integer <100h>
val3 Integer <>
```

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Integer Union Example

The variant field name is required when accessing the union:

```
mov val3.B, al
mov ax,val3.W
add val3.D, eax
```

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Union Inside a Structure

An Integer union can be enclosed inside a FileInfo structure:

```
Integer UNION
D DWORD 0
W WORD 0
B ENTE 0
Integer ENDS

FileInfo STRUCT
FileID Integer 
FileName BYTE 64 DUP(?)
FileInfo ENDS
.data
myFile FileInfo 
.code
mov myFile.FileID.W, ax
```

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What's Next

- Structures
- Macros
- Conditional-Assembly Directives
- · Defining Repeat Blocks

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Macros

- · Introducing Macros
- · Defining Macros
- · Invoking Macros
- · Macro Examples
- · Nested Macros
- · Example Program: Wrappers

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Introducing Macros

- A macro¹ is a named block of assembly language statements.
- Once defined, it can be invoked (called) one or more times.
- During the assembler's preprocessing step, each macro call is expanded into a copy of the macro.
- The expanded code is passed to the assembly step, where it is checked for correctness.

¹Also called a macro procedure.

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Defining Macros

- · A macro must be defined before it can be used.
- · Parameters are optional.
- Each parameter follows the rules for identifiers. It is a string that is assigned a value when the macro is invoked.
- · Syntax:

macroname MACRO [parameter-1, parameter-2,...]
statement-list
ENDM

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mNewLine Macro Example

This is how you define and invoke a simple macro.

mNewLine MACRO ; define the macro call Crlf
ENDM .data .code
mNewLine ; invoke the macro

The assembler will substitute "call crlf" for "mNewLine".

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mPutChar Macro Writes a single character to standard output. mPutchar MACRO char push eax mov al,char call WriteChar Definition: pop eax . code Invocation: mPutchar 'A' push eax mov al,'A' viewed in the Expansion: call WriteChar listing file pop eax Irvine, Kip R. Assembly Language for x86 Processors 7/e, 2015.

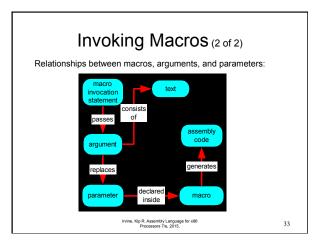
Invoking Macros (1 of 2)

- When you invoke a macro, each argument you pass matches a declared parameter.
- Each parameter is replaced by its corresponding argument when the macro is expanded.
- When a macro expands, it generates assembly language source code.
- Arguments are treated as simple text by the preprocessor.

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mWriteStr Macro (1 of 2)

Provides a convenient way to display a string, by passing the string name as an argument.

```
mWriteStr MACRO buffer
   push edx
   mov edx,OFFSET buffer
   call WriteString
   pop edx
ENDM
   .data
   str1 BYTE "Welcome!",0
   .code
   mWriteStr str1
```

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mWriteStr Macro (2 of 2)

The expanded code shows how the str1 argument replaced the parameter named buffer:

```
mWriteStr MACRO buffer
push edx
mov edx,OFFSET buffer
call WriteString
pop edx

ENDM

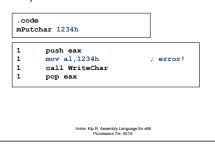
1 push edx
1 mov edx,OFFSET str1
1 call WriteString
1 pop edx

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```

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Invalid Argument

- If you pass an invalid argument, the error is caught when the expanded code is assembled.
- · Example:



Blank Argument

- If you pass a blank argument, the error is also caught when the expanded code is assembled.
- · Example:

.code
mPutchar

1 push eax
1 mov al,
1 call WriteChar
1 pop eax

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Macro Examples

- mReadStr reads string from standard input
- mGotoXY locates the cursor on screen
- mDumpMem dumps a range of memory

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mReadStr

The mReadStr macro provides a convenient wrapper around ReadString procedure calls.

```
mReadStr MACRO varName
push ecx
push ecx
push edx
mov edx,OFFSET varName
mov ecx,(SIZEOF varName) - 1
call ReadString
pop edx
pop ecx
ENDM
.data
firstName BYTE 30 DUP(?)
.code
mReadStr firstName
```

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mGotoXY

The mGotoXY macro sets the console cursor position by calling the Gotoxy library procedure.

```
mGotoxy MACRO X:REQ, Y:REQ
push edx
mov dh,Y
mov dl,X
call Gotoxy
pop edx
ENDM
```

The REQ next to X and Y identifies them as required parameters.

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mDumpMem

The mDumpMem macro streamlines calls to the link library's DumpMem procedure.

```
mDumpMem MACRO address, itemCount, componentSize
push ebx
push ecx
push esi
mov esi,address
mov ecx,itemCount
mov ebx,componentSize
call DumpMem
pop esi
pop ecx
pop ebx
ENDM
```

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mDump

The mDump macro displays a variable, using its known attributes. If <useLabel> is nonblank, the name of the variable is displayed.

```
mDump MACRO varName:REQ, useLabel

IFB <varName>
EXITM
ENDIF
call Crlf
IFMS <useLabel>
mWrite "Variable name: &varName"
ELSE
mWrite "
ENDIF
mDumpMem OFFSET varName, LENGTHOF varName,
TYPE varName
```

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mWrite

The mWrite macro writes a string literal to standard output. It is a good example of a macro that contains both code and data.

```
mWrite MACRO text
LOCAL string
.data ;; data segment
string BYTE text,0 ;; define local string
.code ;; code segment
push edx
mov edx,OFFSET string
call Writestring
pop edx
ENDM
```

The LOCAL directive prevents string from becoming a global label.

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Nested Macros The mWriteLn macro contains a nested macro (a macro invoked by another macro). mWriteLn "My Sample Macro Program" 2 .data 2 ??0002 BYTE "My Sample Macro Program",0 2 .code 2 push edx 2 mov edx,0FFSET ??0002 2 call Writestring 2 pop edx 1 call Crlf

```
... Solution

MaskForstring MACRO row, col, prompt, inbuf call Clrscr
mGotoXY col, row
mWrite prompt
mReadStr inbuf
ENDM

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```

```
...Solution

Nested asm - Solution to Nested Macro problem

INCLUDE Invine32.inc
NCLUDE mearos.inc

MASF-orString MACRO row.cot.prompt.inbuf
call Circr
mGGtXY out.row
mWrite prompt
mReadStr inbuf
ENDM

data
acciNum BYTE 30 DUP(?)
code
main PROC
mAskF-orString 5,10,"Input Account Number: ", \\
acciNum
call Cirl
nov eds. OFFSET acciNum
call Cirl
nov eds. OFFSET acciNum
call Cirl
sext
main ENDP

END main

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```

Example Program: Wrappers

 The Wraps.asm program demonstrates various macros from this chapter. It shows how macros can simplify the passing of register arguments to library procedures.

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TITLE Procedure Wispper Macros (Wings.ASM)

This program demonstrates macros as wasppers
The factory procedure. Contents. modically, minites, and the procedure. Contents. modically, minites, and ministry. M

What's Next

- Structures
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Conditional-Assembly Directives

- · Checking for Missing Arguments
- · Default Argument Initializers
- · Boolean Expressions
- · IF, ELSE, and ENDIF Directives
- · The IFIDN and IFIDNI Directives
- · Special Operators
- · Macro Functions

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Checking for Missing Arguments

 The IFB directive returns true if its argument is blank. For example:

```
IFB <row> ;; if row is blank,
EXITM ;; exit the macro
ENDIF
```

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mWriteString Example

Display a message during assembly if the string parameter is empty:

```
mWriteStr MACRO string

IFB <string>
ECHO -----
ECHO * Error: parameter missing in mWriteStr
ECHO * (no code generated)
ECHO -----
EXITM
ENDIF
push edx
mov edx,OFFSET string
call WriteString
pop edx
ENDM
```

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Default Argument Initializers

 A default argument initializer automatically assigns a value to a parameter when a macro argument is left blank. For example, mWriteln can be invoked either with or without a string argument:

```
mWriteLn MACRO text:=<" ">
mWrite text
call Crlf
ENDM
.code
mWriteln "Line one"
mWriteln "Line three"
```

Sample output:

Line three

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Boolean Expressions

A boolean expression can be formed using the following operators:

- LT Less than
- GT Greater than
- EQ Equal to
- NE Not equal to
- LE Less than or equal to
- GE Greater than or equal to

Only assembly-time constants may be compared using these operators.

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IF, ELSE, and ENDIF Directives

A block of statements is assembled if the boolean expression evaluates to true. An alternate block of statements can be assembled if the expression is false.

IF boolean-expression statements [ELSE statements] ENDIF

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Simple Example

The following IF directive permits two MOV instructions to be assembled if a constant named RealMode is equal to 1:

IF RealMode EQ 1 mov ax,@data mov ds,ax ENDIF

RealMode can be defined in the source code any of the following ways:

RealMode = 1 RealMode EQU 1 RealMode TEXTEQU 1

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The IFIDN and IFIDNI Directives

- IFIDN compares two symbols and returns true if they are equal (case-sensitive)
- IFIDNI also compares two symbols, using a case-insensitive comparison
- · Syntax:

IFIDNI <symbol>, <symbol>
statements
ENDIF

Can be used to prevent the caller of a macro from passing an argument that would conflict with register usage inside the macro.

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IFIDNI Example

Prevents the user from passing EDX as the second argument to the mReadBuf macro:

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Special Operators

- The substitution (&) operator resolves ambiguous references to parameter names within a macro.
- The expansion operator (%) expands text macros or converts constant expressions into their text representations.
- The literal-text operator (<>) groups one or more characters and symbols into a single text literal. It prevents the preprocessor from interpreting members of the list as separate arguments.
- The literal-character operator (!) forces the preprocessor to treat a predefined operator as an ordinary character.

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Substitution (&)

Text passed as regName is substituted into the literal string definition:

```
ShowRegister MACRO regName
.data
tempStr BYTE " &regName=",0
.
.
.code
ShowRegister EDX ; invoke the macro
```

Macro expansion:

tempStr BYTE " EDX=",0

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Literal-Character (!)

The following declaration prematurely ends the text definition when the first > character is reached.

BadYValue TEXTEQU Warning: <Y-coordinate is > 24>

The following declaration continues the text definition until the final > character is reached.

BadYValue TEXTEQU <Warning: Y-coordinate is !> 24>

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Macro Functions (1 of 2)

- A macro function returns an integer or string constant
- · The value is returned by the EXITM directive
- Example: The IsDefined macro acts as a wrapper for the IFDEF directive.

```
IsDefined MACRO symbol
IFDEF symbol
EXITM <-1> ;; True
ELSE
EXITM <0> ;; False
ENDIF
ENDM
```

Notice how the assembler defines True and False.

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Macro Functions (2 of 2)

- When calling a macro function, the argument(s) must be enclosed in parentheses
- The following code permits the two MOV statements to be assembled only if the RealMode symbol has been defined:

IF IsDefined(RealMode)
 mov ax,@data
 mov ds,ax
ENDIF

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What's Next

- Structures
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Defining Repeat Blocks

- · WHILE Directive
- · REPEAT Directive
- FOR Directive
- FORC Directive
- · Example: Linked List

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WHILE Directive

- The WHILE directive repeats a statement block as long as a particular constant expression is true.
- Syntax:

```
WHILE constExpression
statements
ENDM
```

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WHILE Example

Generates Fibonacci integers between 1 and F0000000h at assembly time:

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REPEAT Directive

- The REPEAT directive repeats a statement block a fixed number of times.
- · Syntax:

REPEAT constExpression statements ENDM

ConstExpression, an unsigned constant integer expression, determines the number of repetitions.

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REPEAT Example

The following code generates 100 integer data definitions in the sequence 10, 20, 30, \dots

```
iVal = 10
REPEAT 100
DWORD iVal
iVal = iVal + 10
ENDM
```

How might we assign a data name to this list of integers?

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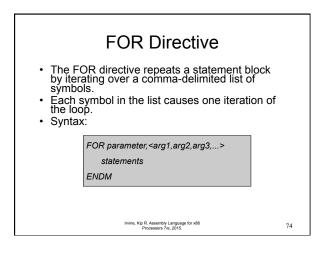
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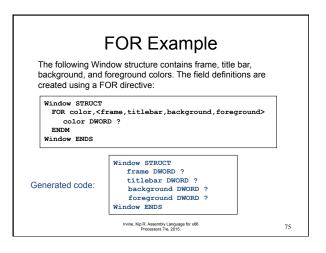
Exercise . . .

What will be the last integer to be generated by the following loop? 500

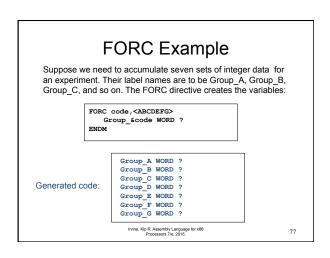
```
rows = 10
columns = 5
.data
ival = 10
REPEAT rows * columns
DWORD iVal
iVal = iVal + 10
ENDM
```

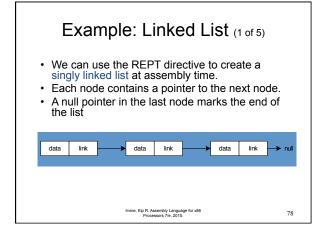
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FORC Directive The FORC directive repeats a statement block by iterating over a string of characters. Each character in the string causes one iteration of the loop. The FORC parameter, < string > statements ENDM Third. Kig. R. Assentily Language for #86 Procession Frv. 2015.





```
Linked List (2 of 5)

• Each node in the list is defined by a ListNode structure:

ListNode STRUCT
NodeData DWORD?; the node's data
NextPtr DWORD?; pointer to next node
ListNode ENDS

TotalNodeCount = 15
NULL = 0
Counter = 0
```

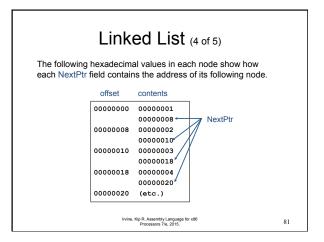
Linked List (3 of 5)

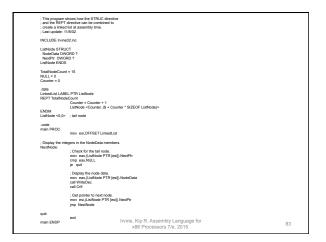
- · The REPEAT directive generates the nodes.
- Each ListNode is initialized with a counter and an address that points 8 bytes beyond the current node's location:

```
.data
LinkedList LABEL PTR ListNode
REPEAT TotalNodeCount
Counter = Counter + 1
ListNode <Counter, ($ + Counter * SIZEOF ListNode)>
ENDM
```

The value of \$ does not change—it remains fixed at the location of the LinkedList label.

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Summary

- Use a structure to define complex types
 contains fields of different types
- Macro named block of statements

 substituted by the assembler preprocessor
- · Conditional assembly directives
 - IF, IFNB, IFIDNI, ...
- Operators: &, %, <>,!
- Repeat block directives (assembly time)
 - WHILE, REPEAT, FOR, FORC

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