CS222 Systems Programming

SIC/XE Assembler

Phase II Report



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Introduction

An **assembler** is a type of computer program that interprets software programs written in assembly language into machine language, code and instructions that can be executed by a computer. It enables software and application developers to access, operate and manage a computer's hardware architecture and components.

An assembler primarily serves as the bridge between symbolically coded instructions written in assembly language and the computer processor, memory and other computational components. An assembler works by assembling and converting the source code of assembly language into object code or an object file that constitutes a stream of zeros and ones of machine code, which are directly executable by the processor.

Assemblers are classified based on the number of times it takes them to read the source code before translating it; there are both single-pass and multi-pass assemblers.

SIC (Simplified Instructional Machine) is a hypothetical computer that has been carefully designed to include the hardware features most often found on real machines, while avoiding unusual or irrelevant complexities. XE "extra equipment" is a version of the SIC that have additional features such as different addressing modes, larger memory, more registers, etc.

This report provides a description of the implementation details of phase II of SIC/XE two-pass assembler in C/C++. This phase includes using the output of phase I to implement pass 2 in which the instruction are assembled. The output of this phase is the object program.

Pass II Specifications

In pass 2, the following should be accomplished:

- 1. Assemble instructions (translating operation codes and looking up addresses).
- 2. Generate data values defined by BYTE, WORD, etc.
- 3. Perform processing of assembler directives not done during Pass 1.
- 4. Write the object program and the assembly listing.

Requirement Specifications

In Phase II, It's required to implement **pass 2** of the assembler. It includes the following:

- Supporting:
 - 1. EQU and ORG statements.

- 2. Simple expression evaluation. A simple expression includes simple (A <op>B) operand arithmetic, where <op> is one of +,-,*,/ and no spaces surround the operation, eg. A+B.
- 3. Literals (Including LTORG)
- =C'<ASCII-TEXT>', =X'HEX-TEXT', =<DECIMAL-TEXT> forms
- The output of this phase should contain (at least):
 - 1. Object-code file whose format is the same as the one described in the textbook in section 2.1.1 and 2.3.5.
 - 2. A report at the end of pass2. Pass1 and Pass2 errors should be included as part of the assembler report, exhibiting both the offending line of source code and the error.

Design

Pass 1 Modules

We have five main modules

Source Program Module

It parses all the file. For each line it gets each word inside and put it in class called "Source Line" then it passes it to validator module to check the syntax and if it is okay, it increases the location counter and save the symbols if exist by operation table module and symbol table module. Then it calls assembly listing module to write in the file the line, location counter, and error if exist.

Validator Module

It takes the source line which has all the data about one statement and check its syntax, return true if it is right otherwise return a meaningful error message.

Assembly Listing Module

It writes inside each line and the value of location counter on this line and the error if exist inside the listing file.

Operation Table Module

It stores all the information (Operation Code, Format Type and Number of Operands) about

each operation in map.

Symbol Table Module

It stores each symbol in the code. Source Program uses it to insert new symbol (location and type) and to search if this symbol is already inserted in the table. It used also in expressions validation and evaluation.

Pass 2 Modules

We have three main modules

Pass 2 Module

It takes the programs source lines and generates the corresponding object code to each source line using the *Object Code Generator* helper module and writes the final object program's header, text, end and modification records generated with the help of the *Object Program* helper module

Literal Table Module

It stores each literal in the program code in map. The program have only one instance of this module so it's designed to be a singleton module.

Expression Evaluator Module

It evaluates the expressions written in EQU and ORG statements. It takes a simple expression in the form of <operand><operand> and returns its evaluated address value and type (relative or absolute) if it's a valid expression. Otherwise, if the expression contains some error(s) (i.e.: undefined symbol or invalid expression), it returns a suitable error message.

Main Data Structures

Мар

To save all symbols we find and to check if there is no symbol exist more than one time.

The second use is to save the information about each operation like format type, number of operands and operation code.

The third use is to save all literals used in the program. The fourth use is to save all SIC/XE registers.

Set

To save all directives so that if there is operation which is not in operation table and not in directive set then it is undefined operation and error will appear.

Dynamic array (Vector)

We use it to store each word in the statement we make it dynamic because each line have different numbers of words.

It's also used in many places throughout the program modules and functions.

Algorithms Description

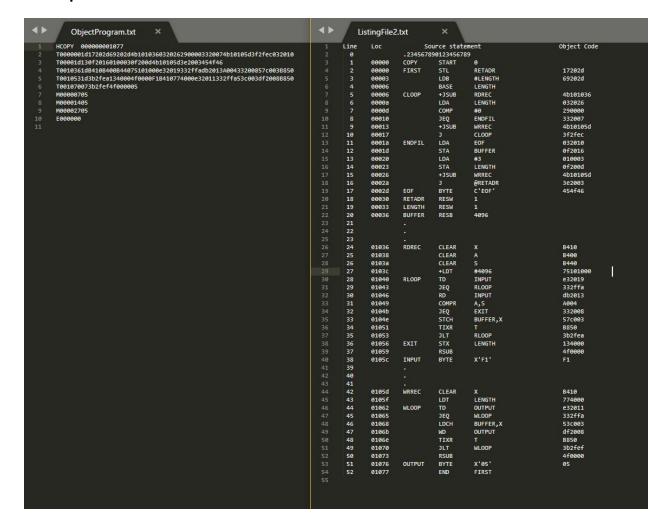
The main work of the assembler in pass 2 is the following

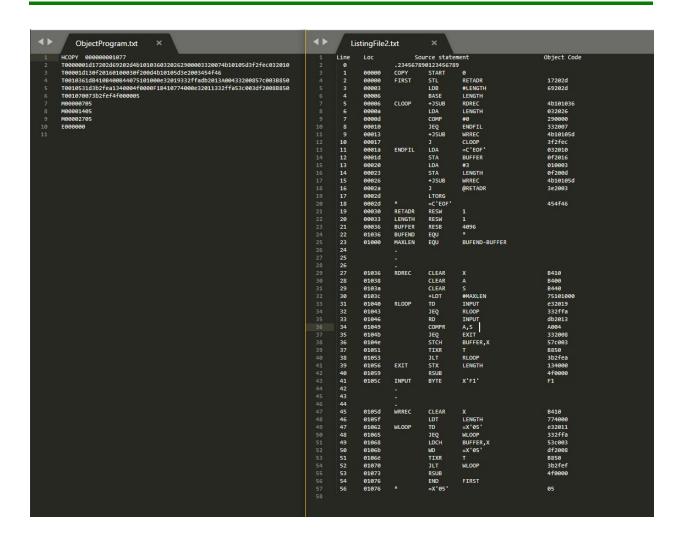
```
Pass 2:
begin
   read first input line (from intermediate file)
   if OPCODE = 'START' then
      begin
          write listing line
          read next input line
      end (if START)
   write Header record to object program
   initialize first Text record
   while OPCODE ≠ 'END' do
      begin
          if this is not a comment line then
             begin
                 search OPTAB for OPCODE
                 if found then
                    begin
                        if there is a symbol in OPERAND field then
                           begin
                               search SYMTAB for OPERAND
                               if found then
                                  store symbol value as operand address
                               else
                                  begin
                                      store 0 as operand address
                                      set error flag (undefined symbol)
                                  end
                           end (if symbol)
                           store 0 as operand address
                        assemble the object code instruction
                    end {if opcode found}
                 else if OPCODE = 'BYTE' or 'WORD' then
                    convert constant to object code
                 if object code will not fit into the current Text record then
                    begin
                        write Text record to object program
                        initialize new Text record
                    end
                 add object code to Text record
             end {if not comment}
         write listing line
          read next input line
      end (while not END)
   write last Text record to object program
   write End record to object program
   write last listing line
 end (Pass 2)
```

Assumptions

- User will use free format.
- There is no empty line in the source program.
- We support the following directives
 - Storage directives (i.e. BYTE, WORD, RESB, and RESW)
 - START and END directives.
 - o EQU and ORG.
 - o LTORG
 - o BASE
- We support case insensitive so the user can write the source program in either capital case or small case.
- We support using literals and simple expressions.
- Label must start with a letter and consist of letters, numbers, or '_'.

Sample Runs





Source Code

https://github.com/MahmoudTarek97/SIC-XE-Assembler/