

# 80x86 Assembly Language SUMMARY

# Hexadecimal System

| Decimal | Binary | Hexadecimal |
|---------|--------|-------------|
| 0       | 0000   | 0           |
| 1       | 0001   | 1           |
| 2       | 0010   | 2           |
| 3       | 0011   | 3           |
| 4       | 0100   | 4           |
| 5       | 0101   | 5           |
| 6       | 0110   | 6           |
| 7       | 0111   | 7           |
| 8       | 1000   | 8           |
| 9       | 1001   | 9           |
| 10      | 1010   | A           |
| 11      | 1011   | B           |
| 12      | 1100   | C           |
| 13      | 1101   | D           |
| 14      | 1110   | E           |
| 15      | 1111   | F           |

- ▶ It uses 16 digits
- ▶ “h” at the end indicates a hexadecimal number

1234h



$$1 \times 16^3 + 2 \times 16^2 + 3 \times 16^1 + 4 \times 16^0 = 4660$$

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| 15      | 1111   | F           |

- Can be used as abbreviation for binary

1001 0101 1100



95Ch

DEADBEEFh



?

# Truth Table

- ▶ is used to describe Boolean functions
  - ▶ lists all possible values of the inputs to the function

| A | <u>A</u> |
|---|----------|
| 1 | 0        |
| 0 | 1        |

NOT

| A | B | AB |
|---|---|----|
| 0 | 0 | 0  |
| 0 | 1 | 0  |
| 1 | 0 | 0  |
| 1 | 1 | 1  |

AND

| A | B | A + B |
|---|---|-------|
| 0 | 0 | 0     |
| 0 | 1 | 1     |
| 1 | 0 | 1     |
| 1 | 1 | 1     |

OR

| A | B | AXB |
|---|---|-----|
| 0 | 0 | 0   |
| 0 | 1 | 1   |
| 1 | 0 | 1   |
| 1 | 1 | 0   |

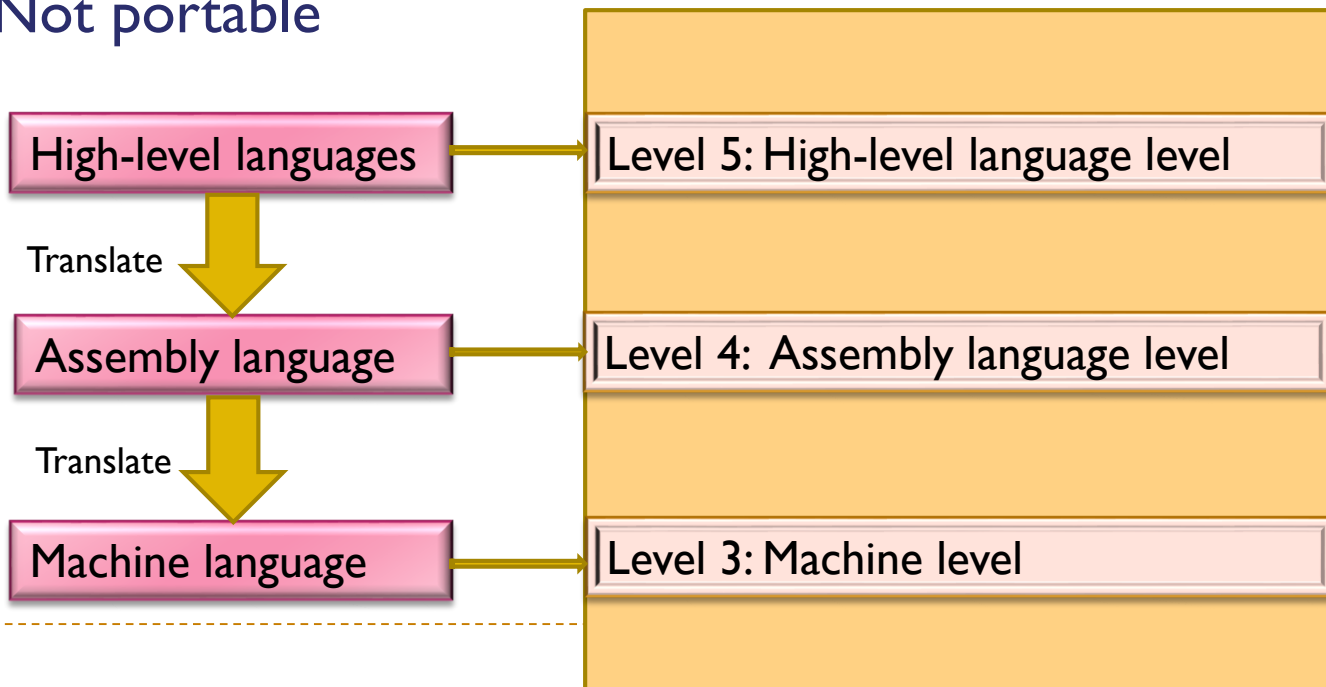
XOR

- ▶ Need  $2^n$  rows in a truth-table for a function of  $n$  variables

# What is Assembly Language

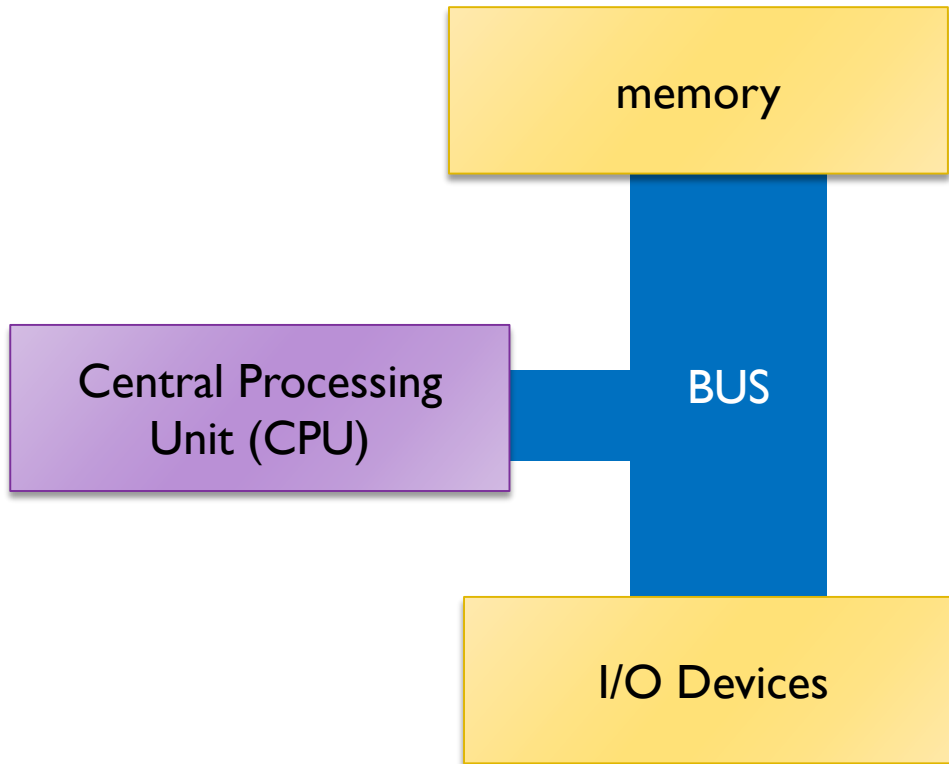
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- ▶ a **low level** programming language.
  - ▶ Symbolic representation of machine binary code used for programming a specific computer architecture.
  - ▶ Based on instructions, registers, memory locations and some other features defined by the hardware manufacturer
  - ▶ Not portable

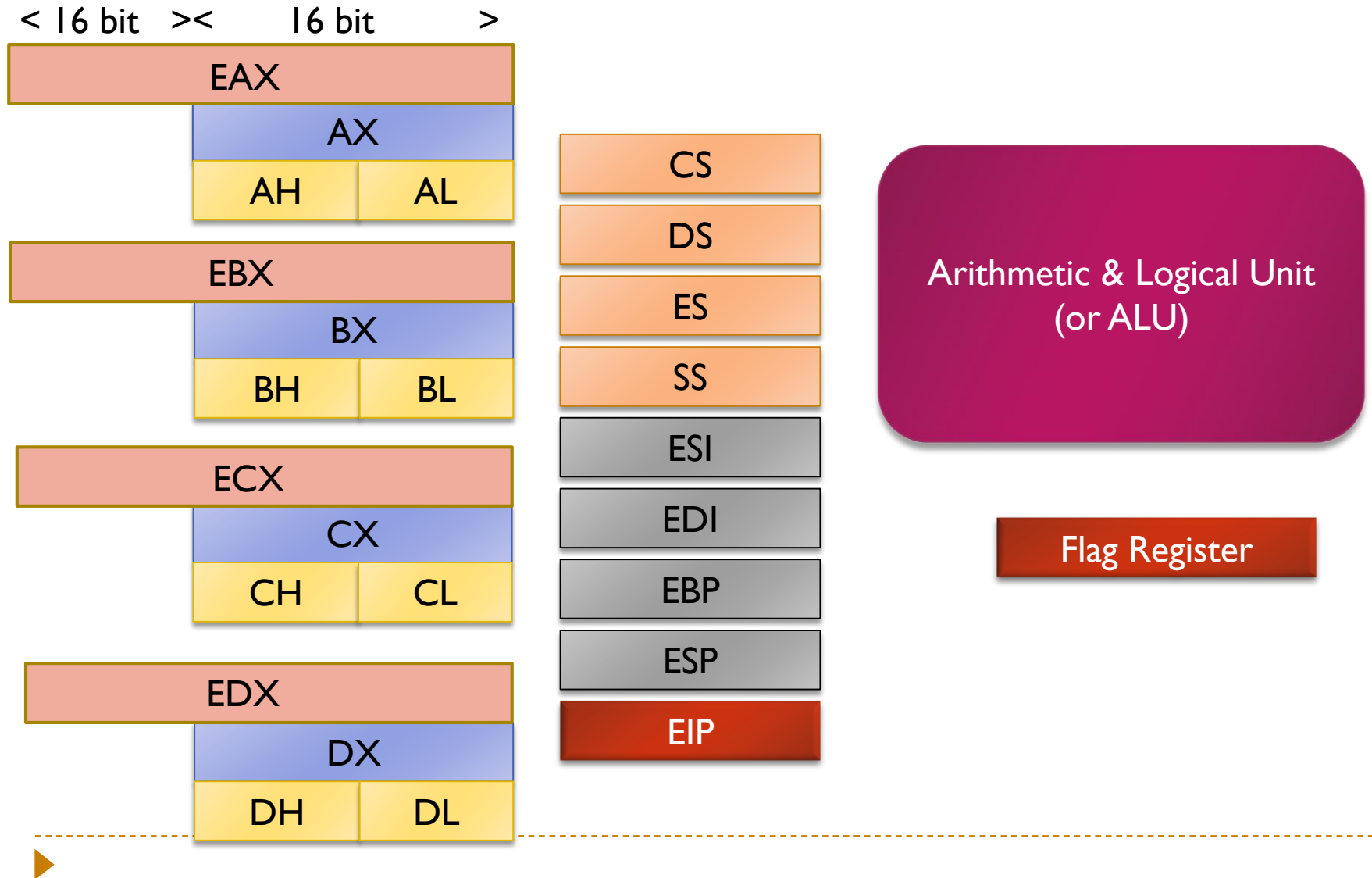


# Simple Computer Model

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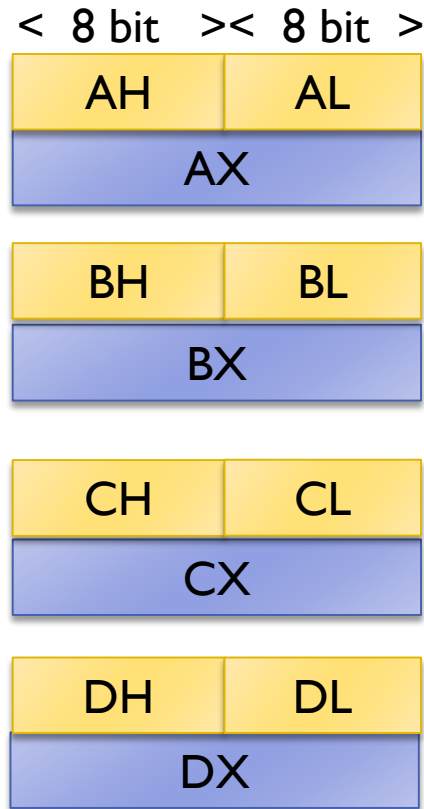


# Inside the CPU (80x86 CPU)



# General Purpose Registers

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- ▶ 16-bit registers for general purpose but some may have specific usage
- ▶ AX, BX, CX, DX are made of two separate 8-bit registers (-H/-L), which can be used separately.
- ▶ -H represents high byte
- ▶ -L represents low byte





# Special Purpose Registers

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EIP

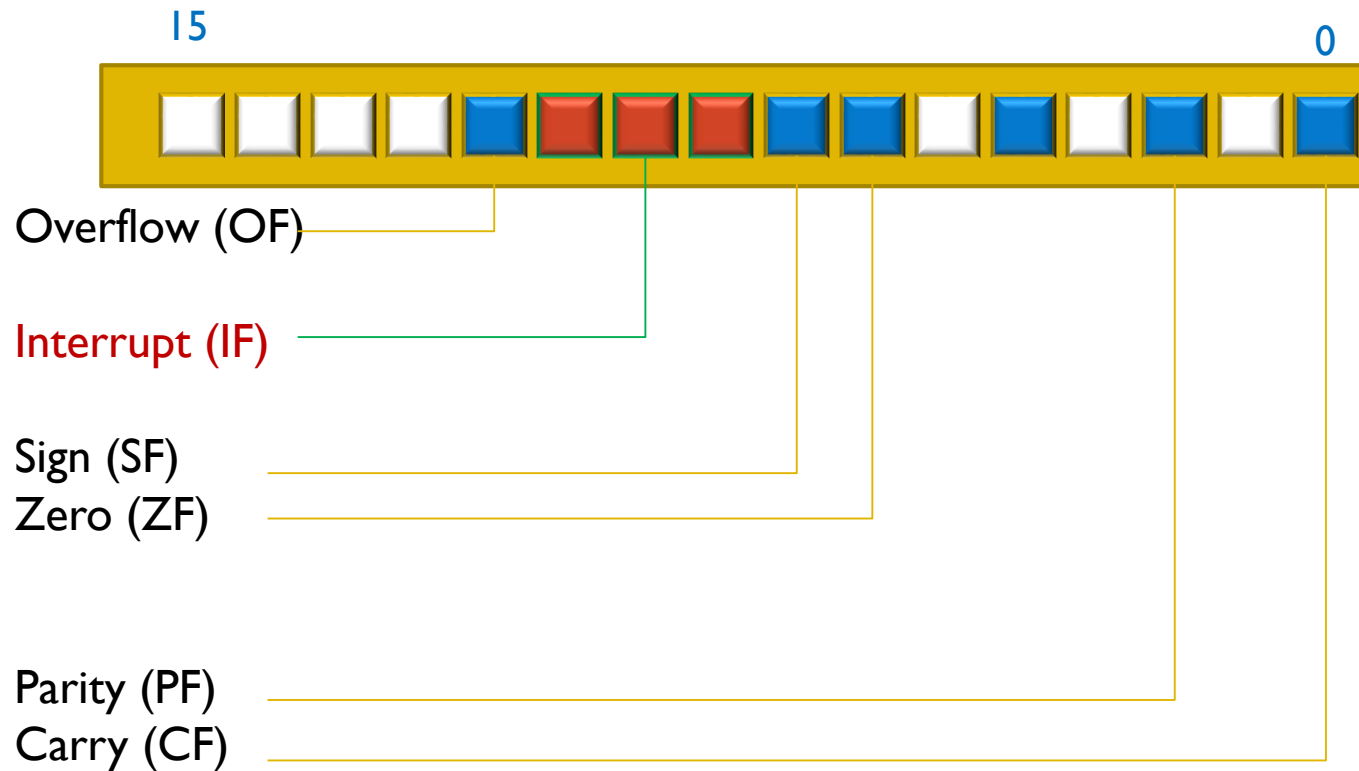
Instruction pointer, is used to hold address of the next instruction to be executed  
(We called it Program Counter)

Flag Register

Determine the current status of the CPU



## Flag Register



# Status Flags

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| Flags               | 1                                                                           | 0                  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Overflow Flag (OF)  | There is a signed overflow<br>(e.g. $125+5$ is not in range $-128—127$ )    | otherwise          |
| Interrupt Flag (IF) | Enable interrupts                                                           | Disable interrupts |
| Sign Flag (SF)      | When result is negative                                                     | otherwise          |
| Zero Flag (ZF)      | When result is zero                                                         | otherwise          |
| Parity Flag (PF)    | Even number of 1s in result<br>(e.g. the result is <code>01010101b</code> ) | otherwise          |
| Carry Flag (CF)     | There is an unsigned overflow<br>(e.g. $255+5$ is not in range $0-255$ )    | otherwise          |



# Data

.data

```
myString db "Hello World",0  
myNumber db 24h
```

Note: Variables and Strings are stored in main random access memory.

.code

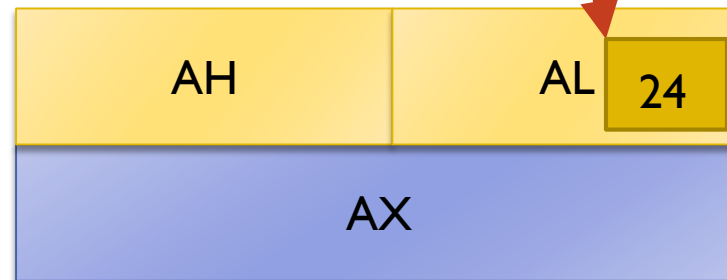
```
mov al, myNumber  
....  
....
```

end

Note operands in the code work with the CPU registers.

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3  | 4  | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|
| d | l | r | o  | W  |   | o | l |
| l | e | H | 30 | 24 |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |    |    |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |    |    |   |   |   |

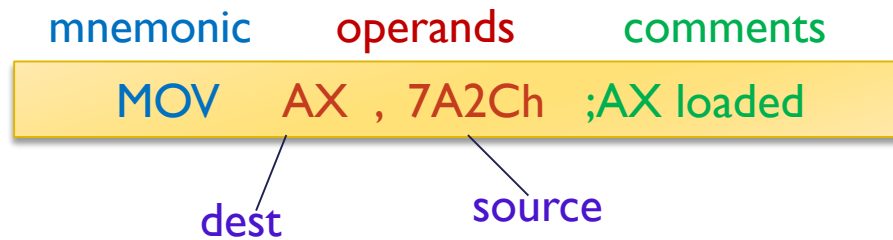
Main Random Access Memory



The EAX CPU Register

# Instruction Format

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# Instruction Set

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- ▶ **Data moving instructions.**
- ▶ **Arithmetic and Logic**
  - ▶ add, subtract, increment, decrement, convert byte/word and compare.
  - ▶ AND, OR, exclusive OR, shift/rotate and test.
- ▶ **Control transfer**
  - ▶ conditional, unconditional, call subroutine and return from subroutine.
- ▶ **I/O instructions**
- ▶ **Other**
  - ▶ setting/clearing flag bits, stack operations, software interrupts, etc.



# Basic Instructions we covered

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Data moving

**MOV** destination , source

**ADD** dest, source

**SUB** dest, source

**MUL** source

**DIV** source

**CMP** dest, source

Arithmetic and logic

**JMP** label

**JZ** label

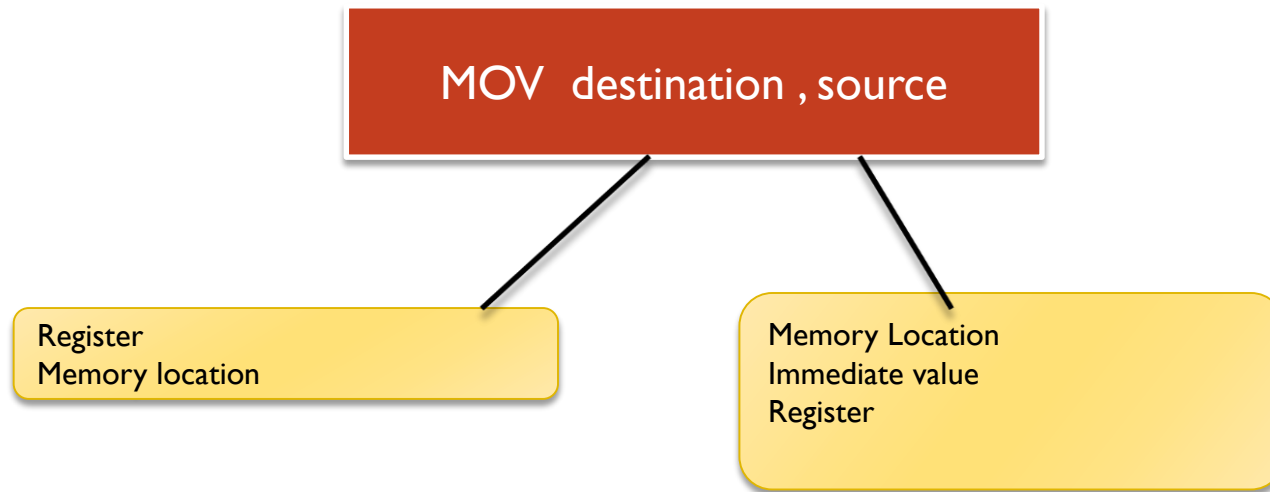
**Loop**

control



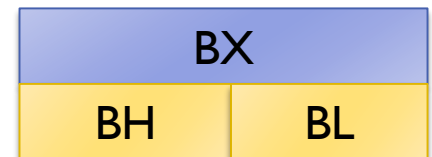
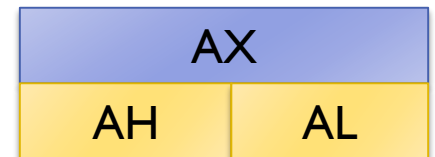
# MOV Instruction

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## Example

```
MOV  AL, 4Fh    ; Move (copy) value 4F to AL
MOV  AH, 3Ah    ; Move (copy) value 3A to AH
MOV  BX, AX     ; Move (copy) contents of AX into BX
```





# Arithmetic Instructions: ADD, SUB, MUL, DIV

---

**ADD** dest, source  
**SUB** dest, source  
**DIV** source  
**MUL** source

- ▶ **ADD**      ---      add *source* to *dest*
- ▶ **SUB**      ---      subtract *source* from *dest*
- ▶ Result is always stored in *dest*
  
- ▶ **MUL**      —      multiply *source*
  - If the source is 8bit then the high order value is left in AH the low order in AL
  - If the source is 16bit then high order value is left in DX and the low order in AX
- ▶ **DIV**      —      divide *source*
  - If the source is 8bit the quotient is placed in AH the remainder is in AL
  - If the source is 16bit the quotient is placed in AX the remainder is in DX



# Examples

---

ADD AL,74H      ;Add number 74H to content of AL

ADD DX, BX      ;Add contents of BX to contents of DX

MOV CL,01110011b      ;115 decimal  
MOV BL,01001111b      ;79 decimal  
ADD CL,BL      ;Result in CL = 11000010 = 194 decimal

; Do addition once more

ADD CL,BL      ;Result in CL = ?????



# CMP

---

**CMP** dest, source

Reg, M  
M Immediate  
Reg

- ▶ Only affects **flags**. No result is stored.
  - ▶ **CMP** – subtract source from dest for flags only
    - If dest > source then SF=0
    - If dest = source then ZF=1
    - If dest < source then SF = 1
- ▶ Used for conditional flow control



# Program Flow Control

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## ▶ **JMP** instruction

- ▶ Unconditional jumps that transfers control to another point in the program.
- ▶ JMP syntax

**JMP** label

- ▶ Declare a label

label: MOV AH, 013h

label2:  
ADD AL, BL

- ▶ A label cannot start with a number




# Conditional Flow Control

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## Jump instructions that test Flags

You only need  
to know



| Instruction | Function             | Flag |
|-------------|----------------------|------|
| JZ          | Jump if Zero         | ZF=1 |
| JC          | Jump if Carry        | CF=1 |
| JS          | Jump if Sign         | SF=1 |
| JO          | Jump if Overflow     | OF=1 |
| JNZ         | Jump if Not Zero     | ZF=0 |
| JNC         | Jump if Not Carry    | CF=0 |
| JNS         | Jump if Not Sign     | SF=0 |
| JNO         | Jump if Not Overflow | OF=0 |



# Example

---

```
MOV AL, 20  
MOV BL, 50
```

```
CMP AL, BL
```

```
JZ equal
```

```
MOV CL, 04Eh  
JMP stop
```

```
equal:  
MOV CL, 059h
```

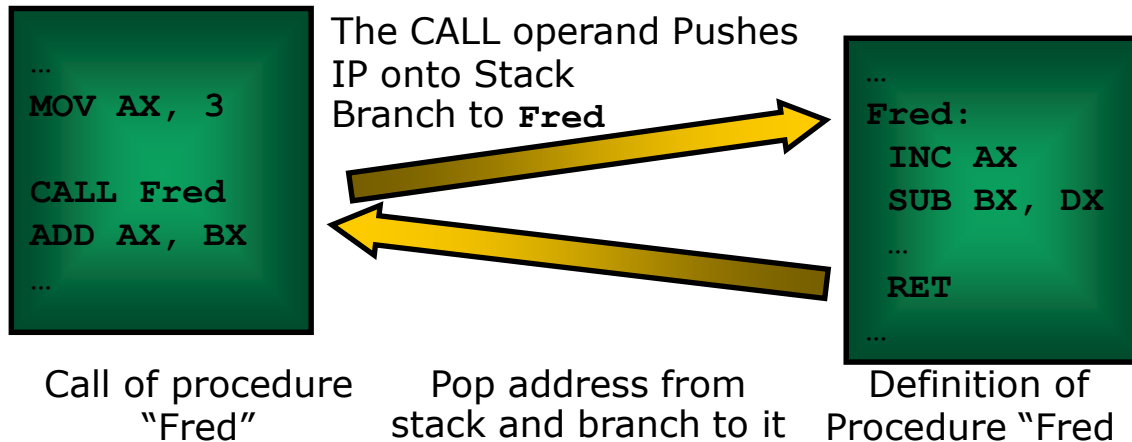
```
Stop:  
RET
```

```
END
```



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# Procedures



- ▶ Like a branch instruction
  - ▶ But control is returned to the point of call on completion
- ▶ You can think of a procedure as a new instruction
  - ▶ Only need to know *what* it does, not *how* it does it
- ▶ Very useful method for structuring programs
- ▶ See `simpleProc.asm`



# The Nine String instructions are:

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- ▶ REP
- ▶ REPE (REPZ)
- ▶ REPNE (REPNZ)
- ▶ MOVS
- ▶ MOVSB (MOVSW)
- ▶ CMPS
- ▶ SCAS
- ▶ LODS
- ▶ STOS
- ▶ Repeat
- ▶ Repeat while equal (zero)
- ▶ Repeat while not equal (NZ)
- ▶ Move byte or word string
- ▶ Move byte string (word string)
- ▶ Compare byte or word string
- ▶ Scan byte or word string
- ▶ Load byte or word string
- ▶ Store byte or word string





# 1. Initializing the String pointers

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- ▶ Before we can use any string we must set up the ESI and EDI registers.

```
MOV     ESI, OFFSET shopper
MOV     EDI, OFFSET shopping
```



# Direction Flag

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- ▶ There are two instructions used to set this flag.
- ▶ CLD (Clear direction flag) Clears the direction flag i.e. sets it to 0.
- ▶ SLD (Set direction flag) Sets the direction flag i.e. set it to 1.
- ▶ CLD selects auto-increment.
- ▶ SLD selects auto-decrement.

