

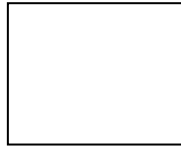


**COLEGIO DE MUNTINLUPA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING**



**COEN 3211 - Microprocessors Lab**

**Assembly Language Programming with DOS Interrupts**  
Laboratory Experiment No. 1



**GRADE**

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DATE SUBMITTED : <24 January 2024>

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## **PRINCIPLES**

The Intel CPU recognizes two types of interrupts namely *hardware interrupt* when a peripheral device needs attention from the CPU, and *software interrupt* that is call to a subroutine located in the operating system.

The common software interrupts used here are INT 10H for video services and INT 21H for DOS services.

The INT 21H is called the DOS function call for keyboard and display operations follow the function or service number.

### **Syntax some useful INT 21H DOS service:**

**01H - Read a character with echo**

**Syntax:**      `MOV AH, 01H`      *;request keyboard input*  
                 `INT 21H`      *;service function granted/executed*

*Returns character in AL.*

*If AL= non-zero value, operation echoes on the screen.*

*If AL = zero means that user has pressed an extended function key such as F1 or home.*

**02H - Display single character**

**Syntax:**      `MOV AH, 02H`      *;request display character*  
                 `MOV DL, char`      *;load character to display to DL*  
                 `INT 21H`      *;service function granted/executed*

*Display character in DL at current cursor position. The tab, carriage return and line feed characters act normally and the operation automatically advances the cursor.*

**09H – Display string**

**Syntax:**      `MOV AH, 09H`      *;request display string*  
                 `MOV DX, strloc` *;load string to DX*

**INT 21H**

*;service function granted/executed*

*Displays string in the data area, immediately followed by a dollar sign (\$ or 24H), which uses to end the display. Note that 10h and 13h*

**text db "Print string!", 10, 13, "\$"**

*Note that 10 (0Ah) is the ASCII control code for line feed while 13 (0Fh) is the code for carriage return.*

## **OBJECTIVES AND MATERIALS**

### **Objectives:**

After this lab experiment, student should be able to:

1. familiar with the operation of some useful DOS interrupt service routines,
2. create assembly programs using INT 21h DOS service routines,
3. test and simulate the functionality of the assembly program with emu8086 assembler software,

### **Materials:**

QUANTITY	PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
1	-	PC/Laptop with emu8086 software installed

## DRILL EXERCISES

**Drill Exercise 1** – Given the assembly language source code list below, re-type and test the program. Save as COEN3211\_3x-x\_Drill11.asm.

```

01 ;Drill Exercise 1 - Display A to Z character with delay
02
03 .model small          ;model directive describing .ASM program segment register not greater than 64KB
04 .code                ;start CODE SEGMENT (CS)
05     org 0100h         ;start at offset address 0100h (offset address for .COM program)
06     call clr_regs     ;call clr_regs procedure
07     jmp drill_exer1   ;jmp to drill_exer1
08
09 .data                ;start DATA SEGMENT (DS)
10     first_char equ 'A' ;first_char == 'A'
11     stop_char equ 'Z'  ;stop_char == 'Z'
12
13 |
14 drill_exer1: mov al, first_char ;load the value of first_char to AL
15             call print_char    ;call disp_char procedure
16             call disp_del      ;call disp_char procedure
17             inc al             ;increment AL value by 1
18             cmp al, stop_char  ;compare AL to stop_char value
19             jne next_char      ;jump to next char label if AL not equal to stop_char value
20             call exit          ;call exit procedure
21
22 ;--- USER-DEFINED PROCEDURES ---
23
24 ;procedure for printing character
25 print_char proc near
26     mov ah, 02h         ;request INT 21h service 02h (printer character)
27     mov dl, al          ;load AL value to DL
28     int 21h            ;execute INT 21h service
29     ret                ;return to invoking statement
30 print_char endp        ;end of the procedure print_char
31
32 ;procedure for clearing all the general-purpose registers
33 clr_regs proc near
34     xor ax, ax          ;XOR ax and ax (ax = 0000h)
35     xor bx, bx          ;XOR bx and bx (bx = 0000h)
36     xor cx, cx          ;XOR cx and cx (cx = 0000h)
37     xor dx, dx          ;XOR dx and dx (dx = 0000h)
38     ret                ;return to invoking statement
39 clr_regs endp          ;end of the procedure clr_regs
40
41 ;procedure for terminating program
42 exit proc near
43     mov ah, 4ch         ;request INT 21h service 4ch (exit program)
44     int 21h            ;execute INT 21h service
45     ret                ;return to invoking statement
46 exit endp              ;end of the procedure exit
47
48 ;procedure for terminating program
49 disp_del proc near
50     mov cx, 000fh       ;number of loops
51     del: nop            ;NOP - no operation (provide short delay
52             loop del     ;repeat instruction at del label based on CX value
53             ret          ;return to invoking statement
54 disp_del endp          ;end of the procedure disp_del
55
56 end drill_exer1 ;end of drill_exer1 label (1st label in the program)

```

Figure 1-1. Code listing of Drill Exercise 1

**Drill Exercise 2** – Given the assembly language source code list below, re-type and test the program. Save as COEN3211\_3x-x\_Drill12.asm.

```

01 ;Drill Exercise 2 - Accept starting lower case character and stop character
02 ;and print the sequence of character from first character to stop character minus 1
03 .model small ;model directive describing .ASM program segment register not greater than 64KB
04 .code ;start CODE SEGMENT (CS)
05 org 0100h ;start at offset address 0100h (offset address for .COM program)
06 call clr_regs ;call clr_regs procedure
07 jmp drill_exer2 ;jmp to drill_exer1
08
09 .data ;start DATA SEGMENT (DS)
10 first_char db ? ;declare a variable with unknown value
11 stop_char db ? ;declare a variable with unknown value
12 text1 db 10,"Enter starting lowercase character >> ",20h,"$" ;string variable declaration 1
13 text2 db 13,10,"Enter stop lowercase character >> ",20h,"$" ;string variable declaration 2
14 text3 db 13,10,"Output sequence:",20h,"$" ;string variable declaration 3
15
16 drill_exer2: lea dx, text1 ;load effective address of text1 to dx
17 call disp_string ;call disp_string procedure
18 call read_char ;call read_char procedure
19 mov first_char, al ;load al to first_char variable
20 lea dx, text2 ;load effective address of text2 to dx
21 call disp_string ;call disp_string procedure
22 call read_char ;call read_char procedure
23 mov stop_char, al ;load al to stop_char variable
24 lea dx, text3 ;load effective address of text3 to dx
25 call disp_string ;call disp_string procedure
26 mov dl, first_char ;load the value of first_char to DL
27 next_char: call print_char ;call disp_char procedure
28 call disp_del ;call disp_char procedure
29 inc dl ;increment DL value by 1
30 cmp dl, stop_char ;compare DL to stop_char value
31 jne next_char ;jump to next_char label if DL not equal to stop_char value
32 call exit ;call exit procedure
33
34 ;--- USER-DEFINED PROCEDURES ---
35
36 ;procedure for printing character
37 print_char proc near
38 mov ah, 02h ;request INT 21h service 02h (print character)
39 int 21h ;execute INT 21h service
40 ret ;return to invoking statement
41 print_char endp ;end of the procedure print_char
42
43 ;procedure for printing string
44 disp_string proc near
45 mov ah, 09h ;request INT 21h service 09h (print string)
46 int 21h ;execute INT 21h service
47 ret ;return to invoking statement
48 disp_string endp ;end of the procedure disp_string
49
50 ;procedure for reading character
51 read_char proc near
52 mov ah, 01h ;request INT 21h service 01h (read character w/ echo)
53 int 21h ;execute INT 21h service
54 ret ;return to invoking statement
55 read_char endp ;end of the procedure read_char
56
57 ;procedure for clearing all the general-purpose registers
58 clr_regs proc near
59 xor ax, ax ;XOR ax and ax (ax = 0000h)
60 xor bx, bx ;XOR bx and bx (bx = 0000h)
61 xor cx, cx ;XOR cx and cx (cx = 0000h)
62 xor dx, dx ;XOR dx and dx (dx = 0000h)
63 ret ;return to invoking statement
64 clr_regs endp ;end of the procedure clr_regs
65
66 ;procedure for terminating program
67 exit proc near
68 mov ah, 4ch ;request INT 21h service 4ch (exit program)
69 int 21h ;execute INT 21h service
70 ret ;return to invoking statement
71 exit endp ;end of the procedure exit
72
73 ;procedure for terminating program
74 disp_del proc near
75 mov cx, 000fh ;number of loops
76 del: nop ;NOP - no operation (provide short delay
77 loop del ;repeat instruction at del label based on CX value
78 ret ;return to invoking statement
79 disp_del endp ;end of the procedure disp_del
80
81 end drill_exer2 ;end of drill_exer2 label (1st label in the program)
82

```

**Figure 1-2.** Code listing of Drill Exercise 2

## **PROGRAM EXERCISES**

**Program Exercise 1.** Create and test an optimized and procedural-based assembly program that will display character sequence as shown below. **Note:** Execute each character output with delay. Save as **COEN3211\_3x-x\_ProgExer1.asm**.

aA bB cC ... yY zZ

**Program Exercise 2.** Create and test an optimized and procedural-based assembly program in that will accepts start and stop character then the program will display the following. **Note:** Execute each character output with delay. Save as **COEN3211\_3x-x\_ProgExer1.asm**.

**Sample input and output:**

```
Enter start letter (lowercase letter only): b
Enter last letter (lowercase letter only): g
Sequence of uppercase characters b to g in descending order is
G F E D C B
```

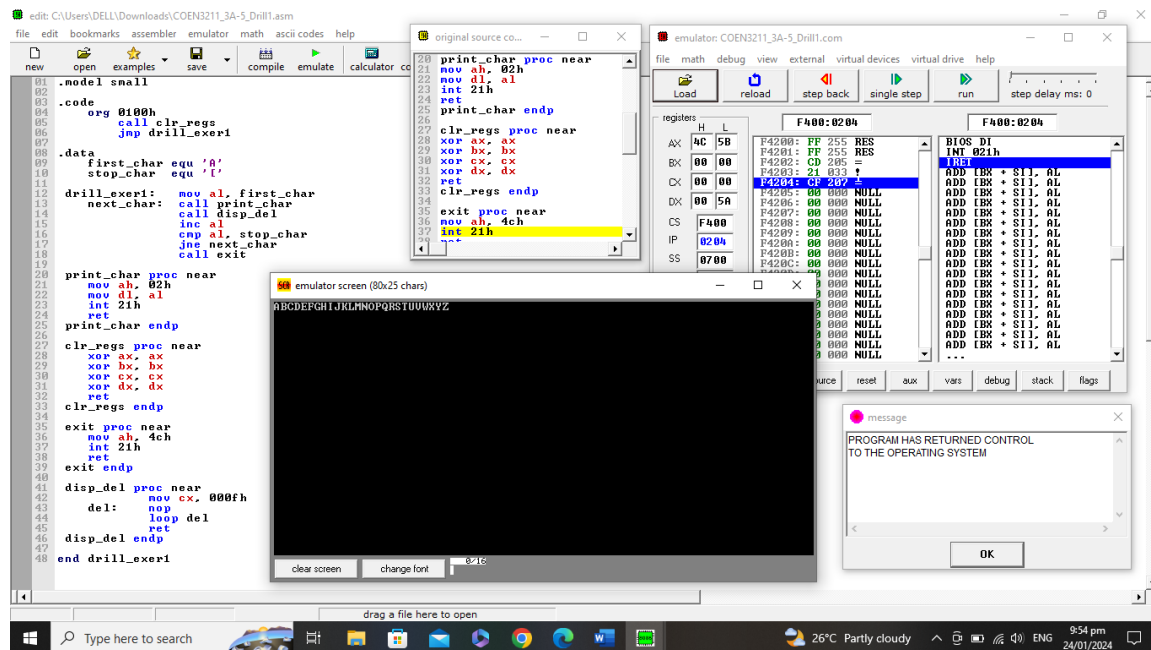
**Program Exercise 1-3.** Create and test optimized and procedural-based assembly program that will prompt the user to enter single digit number from (0 to 9) then program will display the sum of the numbers. **Note:** digit '0' = 30h to '9' = 39h. If the sum is greater than 9 then print digit '1' and subtract sum by digit '9' to get the least significant digit (LSB) and print, else display the sum. Save as **COEN3211\_3x-x\_ProgExer1.asm**.

**Sample input and output:**

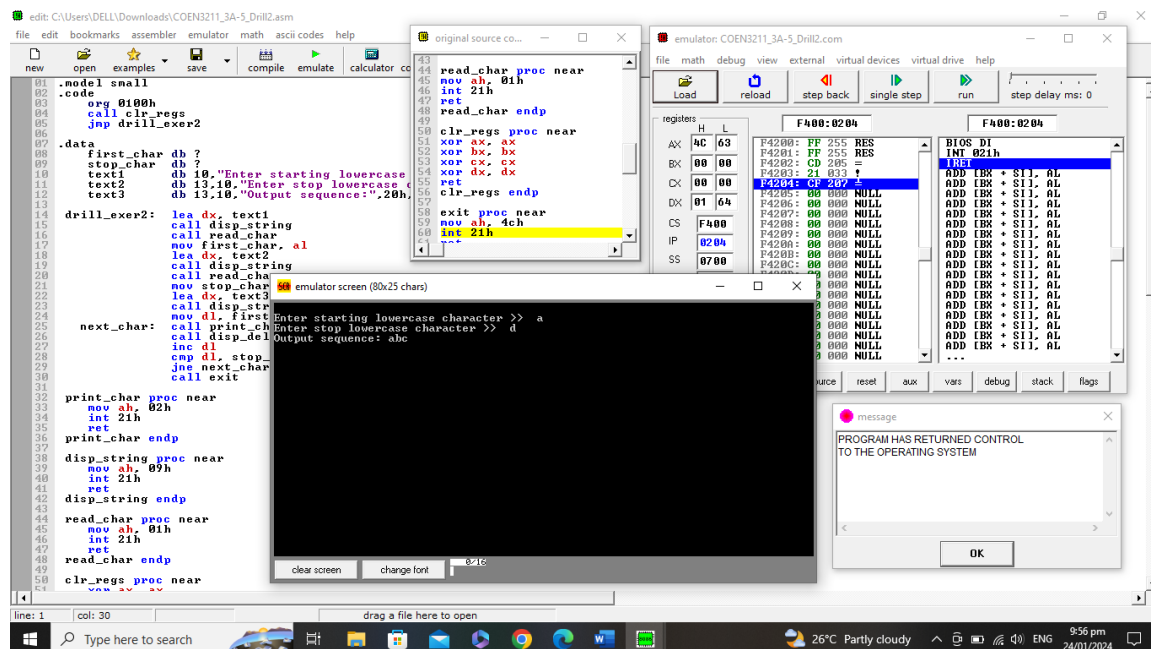
```
Enter the first single digit number: 5
Enter the second single digit number: 7
The sum of 5 and 7 is 12
```

# DATA RESULTS

## Drill Exercise 1-1. Test output



## Drill Exercise 1-2. Test output



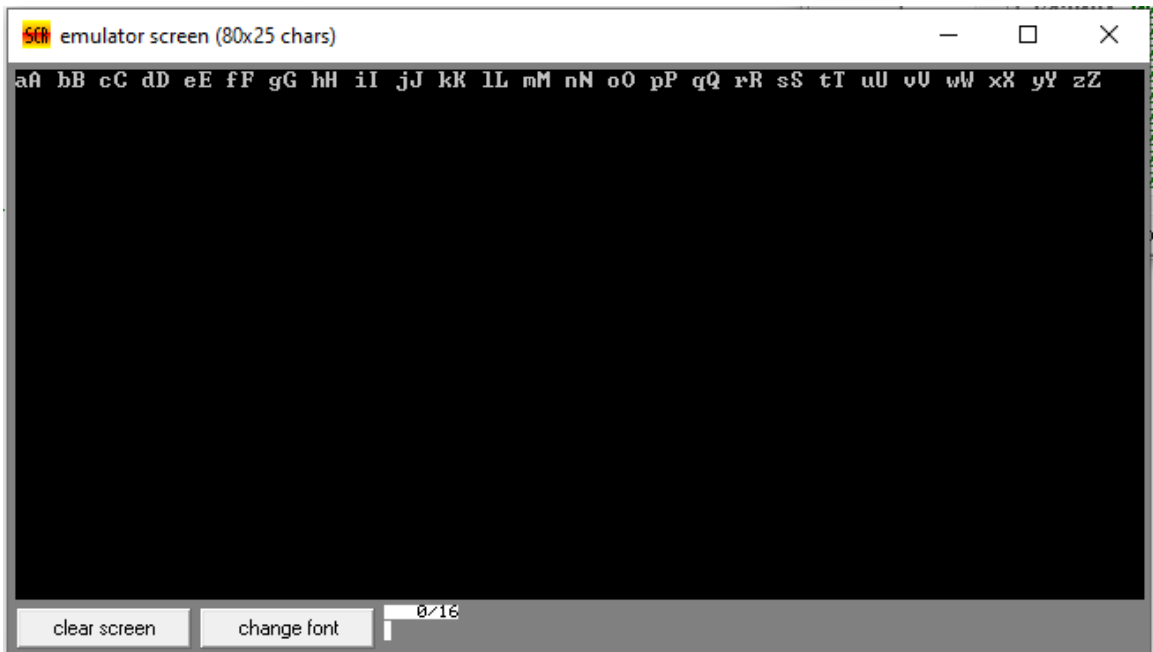
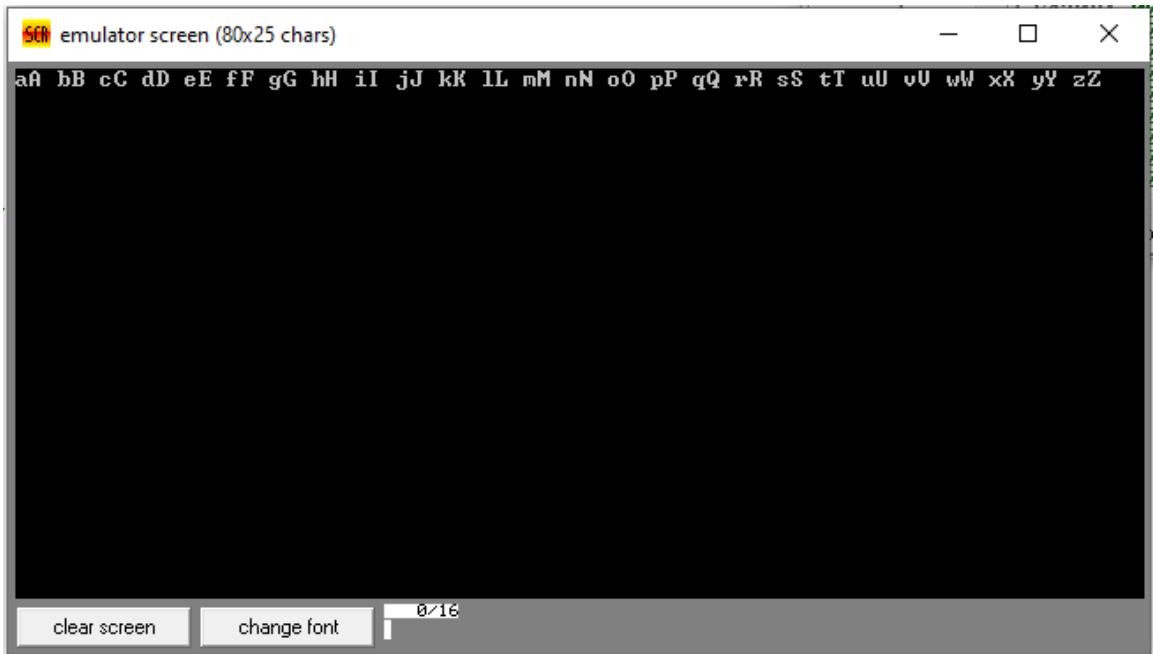


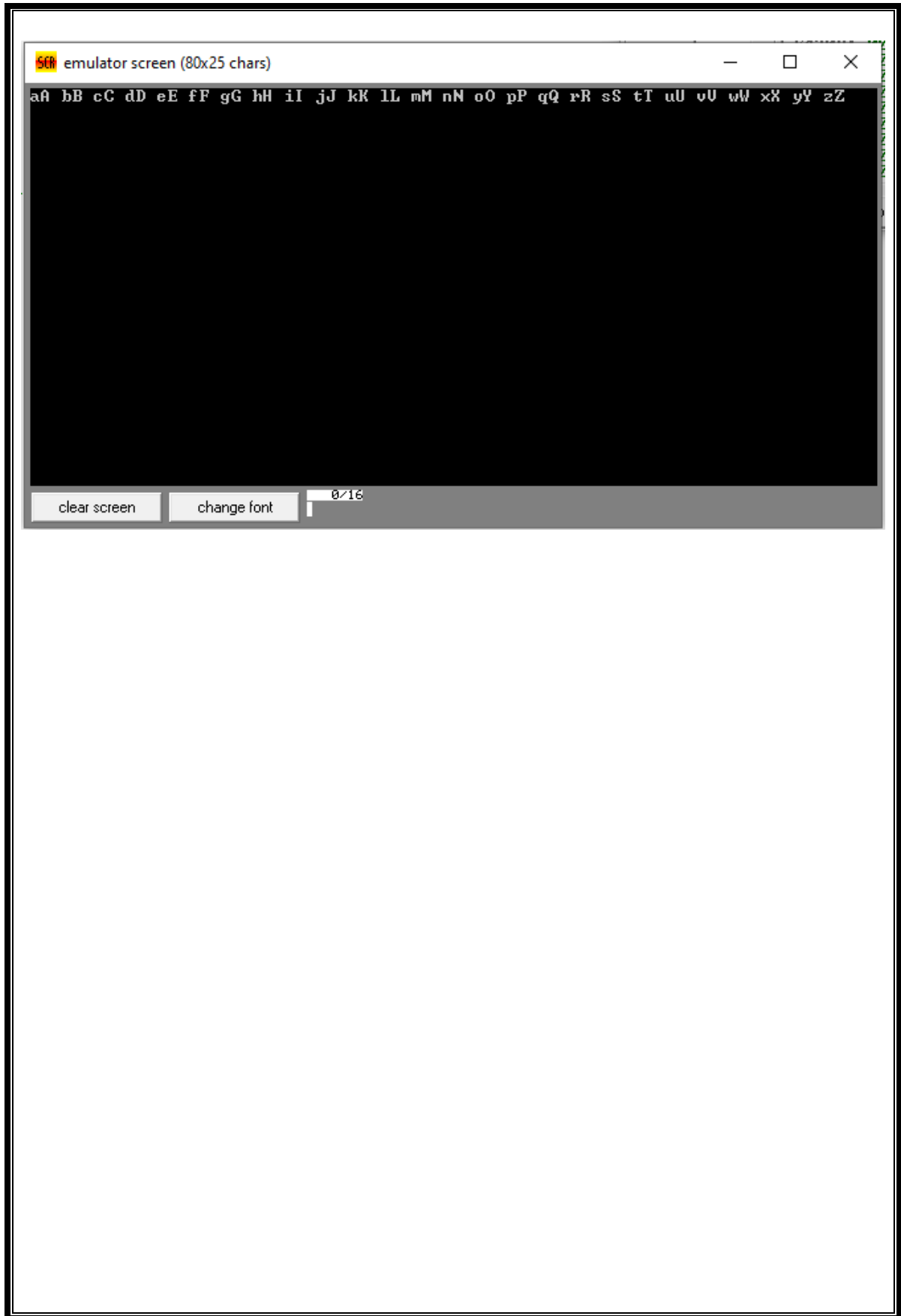
## Program Exercise 1-1. Program Listing and Outputs

### Program Listing:

```
01 .model small
02
03 .code
04     org 100h
05     jmp start
06
07 .data
08     whiteSpace db ' ', '$'
09     lowerCase db 'a'
10     upperCase db 'A'
11
12 start:
13     mov cx, 26                ; initialize counter register
14     mov ah, 02h              ; function to print character
15     mov dl, lowerCase
16     int 21h                  ; DOS Interrupt / execute
17     inc byte ptr lowerCase
18     call disp_del
19
20     mov ah, 02h
21     mov dl, upperCase
22     int 21h
23     inc byte ptr upperCase
24     call disp_del
25
26     cmp dl, 'Z'
27     je loop_exit
28
29     mov ah, 09h              ; function to print string
30     mov dx, offset whiteSpace
31     int 21h
32 loop start
33
34 loop_exit:
35     call exit
36
37 ;subroutine to delay printing
38 disp_del proc near
39     mov cx, 000Fh
40 again: nop
41     loop again
42     ret
43 disp_del endp
44
45 ;subroutine to exit program
46 exit proc near
47     mov ah, 4ch
48     int 21h
49     ret
50 exit endp
```

**Output (at least 3 scenarios):**





## Program Exercise 1-2. Program Listing and Outputs

### Program Listing:

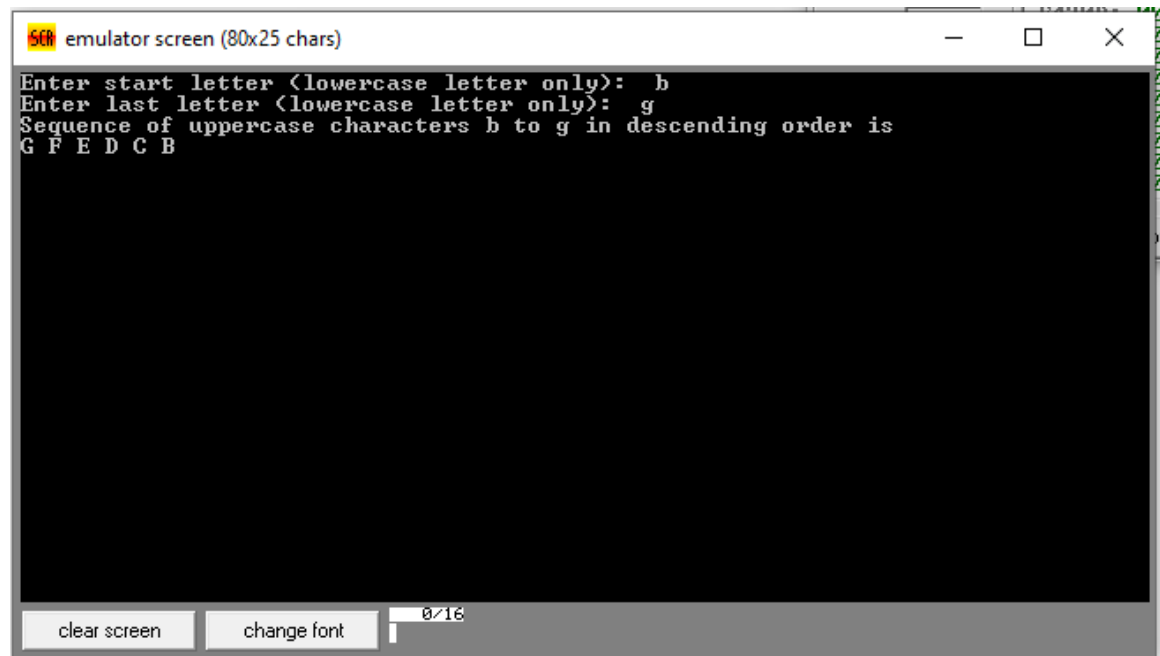
```
0001 .model small
0002
0003 .code
0004     org 100h
0005     jmp start
0006
0007 .data
0008     firstChar db ?
0009     secondChar db ?
0010
0011     startLetter db "Enter start letter <lowercase letter only>: ", 20h, "$"
0012     lastLetter db 10, 13, "Enter last letter <lowercase letter only>: ", 20h, "$"
0013     resultLetters db 13, 10, "Sequence of uppercase characters ", "$"
0014     keywordOne db " to ", "$"
0015     keywordTwo db " in descending order is ", 10, 13, "$"
0016     whiteSpace db " ", "$"
0017
0018 start:
0019     lea dx, startLetter
0020     call disp_string
0021     call read_char
0022     mov firstChar, al
0023
0024     lea dx, lastLetter
0025     call disp_string
0026     call read_char
0027     mov secondChar, al
0028
0029     lea dx, resultLetters
0030     call disp_string
0031     mov dl, firstChar
0032     call print_char
0033     lea dx, keywordOne
0034     call disp_string
0035     mov dl, secondChar
0036     call print_char
0037     lea dx, keywordTwo
0038     call disp_string
0039     call disp_del
0040
0041     mov dl, firstChar
0042
0043     cmp secondChar, dl
0044     jl loop_exit
0045
0046     mov dl, firstChar
0047     sub dl, 32
0048     mov firstChar, dl
0049
0050 output:
0051     ..
```

```

050 output:
051     mov dl, secondChar
052     sub dl, 32
053     call print_char
054     call disp_del
055     dec byte ptr secondChar
056
057     cmp dl, firstChar
058     je loop_exit
059
060     mov dx, offset whiteSpace
061     call disp_string
062     call disp_del
063 loop output
064
065 loop_exit:
066     call exit
067
068 print_char proc near
069     mov ah, 02h
070     int 21h
071     ret
072 print_char endp
073
074 read_char proc near
075     mov ah, 01h
076     int 21h
077     ret
078 read_char endp
079
080 disp_string proc near
081     mov ah, 09h
082     int 21h
083     ret
084 disp_string endp
085
086 disp_del proc near
087     mov cx, 000Fh
088 again: nop
089     loop again
090     ret
091 disp_del endp
092
093 exit proc near
094     mov ah, 4ch
095     int 21h
096     ret
097 exit endp
098
099 end start

```

**Output (at least 3 scenarios):**

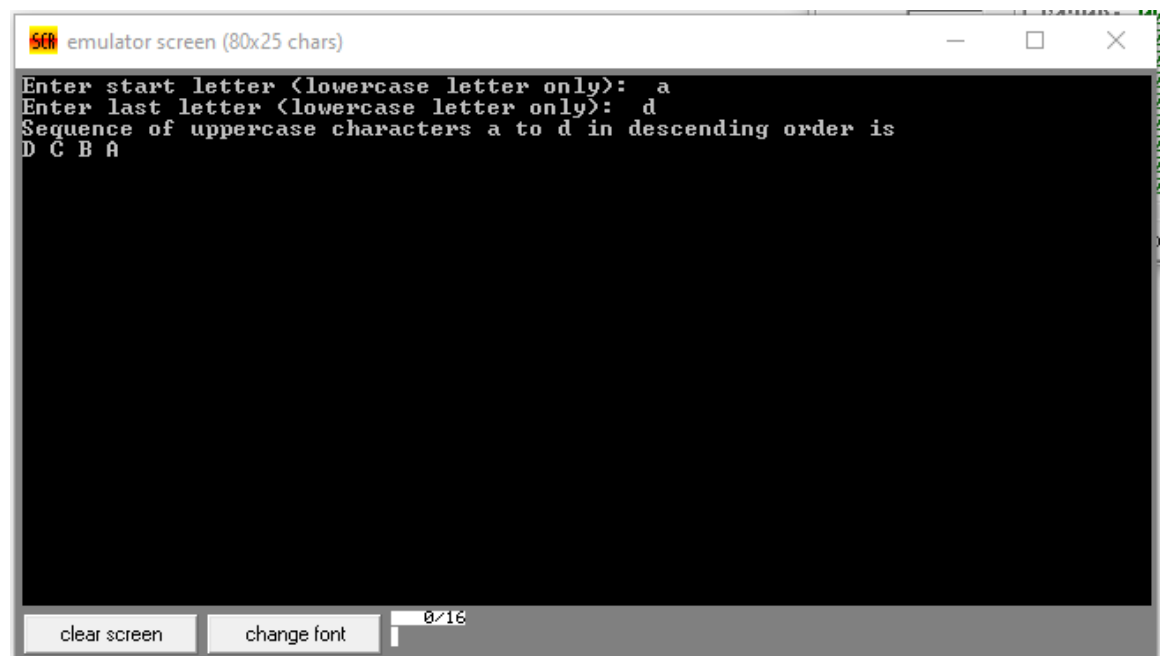


emulator screen (80x25 chars)

```
Enter start letter <lowercase letter only>: b
Enter last letter <lowercase letter only>: g
Sequence of uppercase characters b to g in descending order is
G F E D C B
```

clear screen change font 0/16

This screenshot shows a terminal window titled "emulator screen (80x25 chars)". It contains three lines of text: a prompt for a start letter followed by 'b', a prompt for a last letter followed by 'g', and a line stating the sequence of uppercase characters from 'b' to 'g' in descending order. The output is "G F E D C B". At the bottom, there are two buttons labeled "clear screen" and "change font", and a small display showing "0/16".



emulator screen (80x25 chars)

```
Enter start letter <lowercase letter only>: a
Enter last letter <lowercase letter only>: d
Sequence of uppercase characters a to d in descending order is
D C B A
```

clear screen change font 0/16

This screenshot shows a terminal window titled "emulator screen (80x25 chars)". It contains three lines of text: a prompt for a start letter followed by 'a', a prompt for a last letter followed by 'd', and a line stating the sequence of uppercase characters from 'a' to 'd' in descending order. The output is "D C B A". At the bottom, there are two buttons labeled "clear screen" and "change font", and a small display showing "0/16".

**PROGRAM TERMINATES IF SECOND LETTER IS LESS THAN THE FIRST LETTER:  
(TO AVOID INFINITE LOOP)**

SCM emulator screen (80x25 chars)

```
Enter start letter <lowercase letter only>: d
Enter last letter <lowercase letter only>: a
Sequence of uppercase characters d to a in descending order is
```

message

PROGRAM HAS RETURNED CONTROL  
TO THE OPERATING SYSTEM

OK

clear screen

change font

0/16

## Program Exercise 1-3. Program Listing and Outputs

### Program Listing:

```
0001 .model small
0002
0003 .code
0004     org 100h
0005     jmp start
0006
0007 .data
0008     firstDigit db "Enter the first single digit number: ", 20h, "$"
0009     secondDigit db 10, 13, "Enter the second single digit number: ", 20h, "$"
0010
0011     resultKeyOne db 10, 13, "The sum of ", "$"
0012     resultKeyTwo db " and ", "$"
0013     resultKeyThree db " is ", "$"
0014
0015     numOne db ?
0016     numTwo db ?
0017     sum db ?
0018
0019     placeholderOne db ?
0020     placeholderTwo db ?
0021
0022 start:
0023     lea dx, firstDigit
0024     call print_string
0025     call read_char
0026     sub al, '0'
0027     mov numOne, al
0028
0029     lea dx, secondDigit
0030     call print_string
0031     call read_char
0032     sub al, '0'
0033     mov numTwo, al
0034
0035     mov al, numOne
0036     add al, numTwo
0037     mov sum, al
0038
0039     cmp sum, 9
0040     jg disp_two_digits_sum
0041
0042     jmp disp_sum
0043
0044 disp_two_digits_sum:
0045     call disp_result
0046
0047     mov al, 1
0048     add al, '0'
0049     mov dl, al
0050     call print_char
```

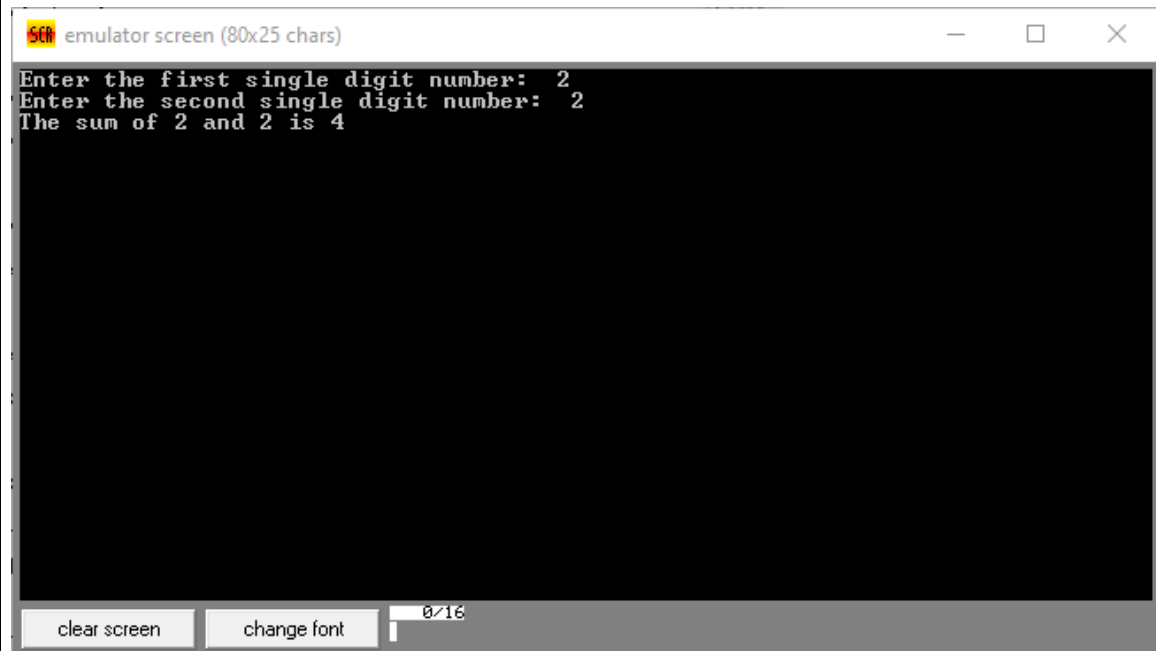


```

051      -
052      sub sum, 10
053      add sum, '0'
054      mov dl, sum
055      call print_char
056      call exit
057
058 disp_sum:
059      call disp_result
060
061      add sum, '0'
062      mov dl, sum
063      call print_char
064      call exit
065
066 disp_result proc near
067      lea dx, resultKeyOne
068      call print_string
069
070      add numOne, '0'
071      mov dl, numOne
072      call print_char
073
074      lea dx, resultKeyTwo
075      call print_string
076
077      add numTwo, '0'
078      mov dl, numTwo
079      call print_char
080
081      lea dx, resultKeyThree
082      call print_string
083      ret
084 disp_result endp
085
086 print_char proc near
087      mov ah, 02h
088      int 21h
089      ret
090 print_char endp
091
092 print_string proc near
093      mov ah, 09h
094      int 21h
095      ret
096 print_string endp
097
098 read_char proc near
099      mov ah, 01h
100      int 21h
101      ret
102 read_char endp
103
104 exit proc near
105      mov ah, 4ch
106      int 21h
107      ret
108 exit endp
109
110 disp_del proc near
111      mov cx, 000Fh
112      del: nop
113           loop del
114      ret
115 disp_del endp
116
117 end start

```

### Output (at least 3 scenarios):

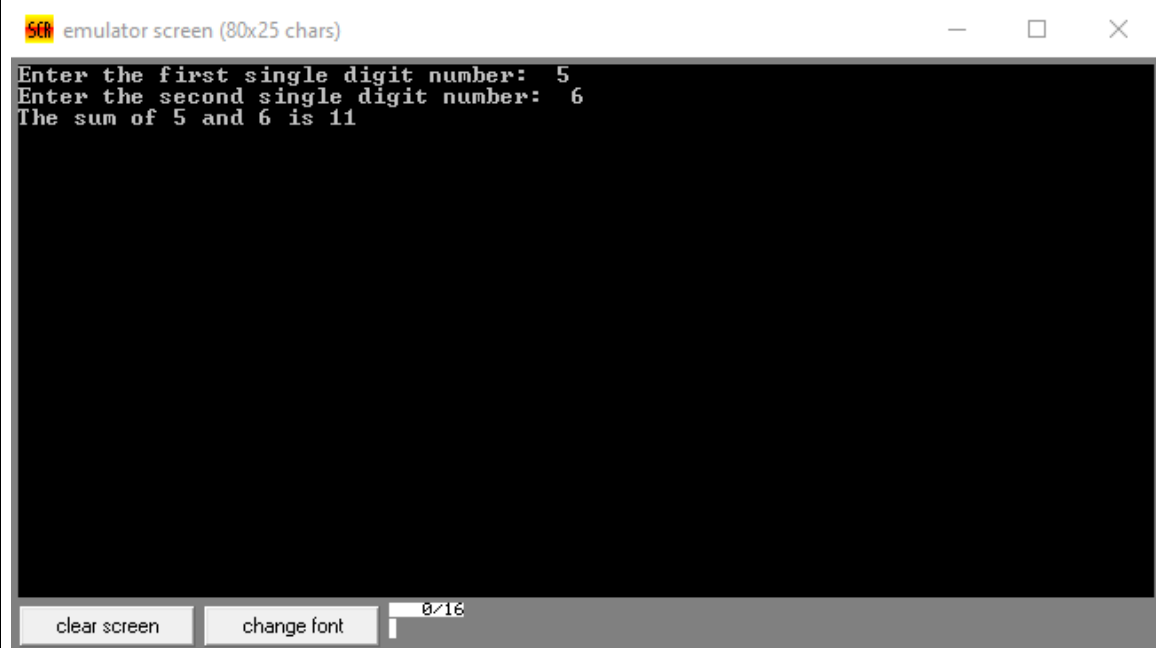


emulator screen (80x25 chars)

```
Enter the first single digit number: 2
Enter the second single digit number: 2
The sum of 2 and 2 is 4
```

clear screen change font 0/16

This screenshot shows a terminal window titled "emulator screen (80x25 chars)". The terminal displays three lines of text: "Enter the first single digit number: 2", "Enter the second single digit number: 2", and "The sum of 2 and 2 is 4". At the bottom of the window, there is a control bar with two buttons labeled "clear screen" and "change font", and a small indicator showing "0/16".




emulator screen (80x25 chars)

```
Enter the first single digit number: 5
Enter the second single digit number: 6
The sum of 5 and 6 is 11
```

clear screen change font 0/16

This screenshot shows a terminal window titled "emulator screen (80x25 chars)". The terminal displays three lines of text: "Enter the first single digit number: 5", "Enter the second single digit number: 6", and "The sum of 5 and 6 is 11". At the bottom of the window, there is a control bar with two buttons labeled "clear screen" and "change font", and a small indicator showing "0/16".

 emulator screen (80x25 chars)

Enter the first single digit number: 9  
Enter the second single digit number: 9  
The sum of 9 and 9 is 18

clear screen

change font

0/16

## **DATA ANALYSIS**

In addressing a drill exercise like Program Exercise 1, our focus is on developing an optimized and procedural-based assembly program. This specific drill requires us to display a character sequence that progresses from uppercase 'A' to 'Z'. Crucially, we introduce delays between character outputs to enhance the user experience.

Turning our attention to drill exercise 2 inspired by Program Exercise 2, our objective is to create and test an optimized assembly program. This drill prompts users to input start and stop characters (in lowercase) and then displays the corresponding uppercase characters in ascending order. Like Program Exercise 2, controlled delays between character outputs are implemented for clarity.

Revisiting Program Exercise 1, our focus is on crafting an optimized and procedural-based assembly program. This exercise requires the display of a character sequence like the one in our first drill exercise. However, in this program exercise, we emphasize a more holistic approach to assembly programming by incorporating additional features such as structured delays.

Like our drill exercise inspired by Program Exercise 2, our attention in Program Exercise 2 itself is centered on creating an optimized assembly program. This program is designed to dynamically handle user input for start and stop characters and present the corresponding uppercase characters in descending order. Our approach prioritizes procedural programming and efficiency, with deliberate delays between character outputs.

The final program exercise, Program Exercise 3, introduces a unique challenge. Our objective is to create and test an optimized and procedural-based assembly program that prompts users to input two single-digit numbers (ranging from '0' to '9'). The program then displays the sum of these numbers, addressing specific cases where the sum may exceed 9. This exercise demonstrates our adaptability in assembly programming, showcasing the ability to handle complex computation tasks efficiently.

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **Questions:**

1. What is the between INT 21H service 01H, 07H, and 08H?
2. Create and test assembly program that will display information similar to the output below using INT 21H service 09H. Save as

`SURNAME_COEN3211_QA2.asm.`

### **Sample output:**

`DELA CRUZ, Juan T.`

`<space>Colegio de Muntinlupa`

`<space><space>BS Computer Engineering Student`

`<space><space><space>COEN3211 - Microprocessors Lab`

### **Answers:**

1. **INT 21H Service 01H** is used for reading a single character, **Service 07H** is used for reading a string with echo, and **Service 08H** is used for reading a string without echo from the standard input.

#### **INT 21H Service 01H (Read Character Input):**

**Function:** This service reads a character from the standard input (keyboard).

#### **Registers Used:**

AH = 01H (function code for read character)

AL = (returned) ASCII code of the read character

#### **INT 21H Service 07H (Read String Input with Echo):**

**Function:** This service reads a string from the standard input with echo (characters are displayed as they are typed).

#### **Registers Used:**

AH = 07H (function code for read string with echo)

AL = (returned) ASCII code of the last character in the string

DX = Address of the buffer to store the input string

## INT 21H Service 08H (Read String Input without Echo):

**Function:** This service reads a string from the standard input without echo (characters are not displayed as they are typed).

### Registers Used:

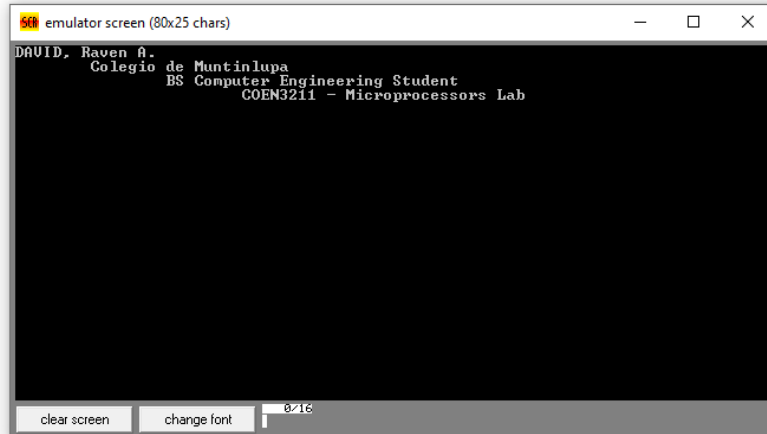
AH = 08H (function code for read string without echo)

AL = (returned) ASCII code of the last character in the string

DX = Address of the buffer to store the input string

## 2. Program and Output:

```
01 .model small
02
03 .code
04     org 100h
05     jmp start
06
07 .data
08     completeName db "DAVID, Raven A. ", 10, 13, "$"
09     schoolName db 09h, "Colegio de Muntinlupa ", 10, 13, "$"
10     department db 09h, 09h, "BS Computer Engineering Student ", 10, 13, "$"
11     courseCode db 09h, 09h, 09h, "COEN3211 - Microprocessors Lab $", 10, 13, "$"
12
13 start:
14     lea dx, completeName
15     call print_string
16
17     lea dx, schoolName
18     call print_string
19
20     lea dx, department
21     call print_string
22
23     lea dx, courseCode
24     call print_string
25
26     call exit
27
28 print_string proc near
29     mov ah, 09h
30     int 21h
31     ret
32 print_string endp
33
34 tab_space proc near
35     mov ah, 02h
36     mov dl, 09h
37     int 21h
38 tab_space endp
39
40 exit proc near
41     mov ah, 4ch
42     int 21h
43     ret
44 exit endp
45
46 end start
47
48
49
```



## **CONCLUSION**

In our first Microprocessors lab, we're diving into the basics of assembly language programming. We're focusing on Intel x86 architecture and DOS interrupt services. This lab helps students gain practical skills, especially in working with DOS interrupt service routines through hands-on activities.

Our goal is to make students comfortable with how DOS interrupt service routines work. We'll explore both hardware and software interruptions, with a special focus on INT 21H DOS service routines. These routines handle tasks like reading characters, displaying single characters, and presenting strings, giving students a practical understanding of dealing with the operating system.

We're also asking students to create assembly programs using INT 21H DOS service routines through some drill exercises. These exercises are not just challenges; they're opportunities for students to practice and solidify their understanding of syntax and using interrupt service routines effectively.

Finally, we're putting an emphasis on testing and simulating assembly programs using emu8086 assembler software. This step is crucial for students to not only write code but also thoroughly evaluate how it runs. Through these drills, we're ensuring a strong understanding of program behavior.

In essence, this lab is designed to offer a complete and hands-on learning experience in assembly language programming. We're combining theoretical concepts with practical exercises and using modern tools to prepare students for working with Intel x86 assembly language and DOS interrupt services. The ultimate goal is to empower students with the skills needed to create, test, and optimize assembly programs, laying a solid foundation for further exploration in low-level programming.

## **REFERENCES**

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