

EE2016: Assignment-4

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1 Introduction

1.1 AVR Micro-controllers

AVR microcontrollers, developed by Atmel (now Microchip Technology), are known for their simplicity and efficiency. They are widely used in various applications due to their ease of use and broad support.

1. Architecture

- **RISC-Based:** Uses a Reduced Instruction Set Computing architecture for efficient execution.
- **8-Bit Core:** Primarily 8-bit, with some 16-bit and 32-bit variants.
- **Registers:** 32 general-purpose registers for arithmetic and data handling.

2. Memory

- **Flash Memory:** For program storage, typically ranging from a few kilobytes to hundreds.
- **RAM:** For data storage during execution.
- **EEPROM:** Non-volatile memory for data retention.

3. I/O Ports and Peripherals

- **I/O Ports:** Configurable as input or output for interaction with external devices.
- **Peripherals:** Include timers, ADCs, and support for UART, SPI, and I2C communication.

4. Development Tools

- **Languages:** Commonly programmed in C or assembly.
- **Environments:** Atmel Studio, Arduino IDE.
- **Programming Interfaces:** ISP and JTAG.

5. Popular Models

- **ATmega Series:** Includes ATmega328 and ATmega32.
- **ATTiny Series:** For simpler, low-power applications.

6. Applications and Community

AVR microcontrollers are used in hobby projects, education, and industry. The Arduino platform has fostered a large community and extensive resources.

1.2 Microchip Studio

Microchip Studio, formerly known as Atmel Studio, is an integrated development environment (IDE) used for developing applications with Microchip's microcontrollers and digital signal controllers.

1. Key Features

- **Support for AVR and SAM Devices:** Provides tools and libraries for programming AVR and ARM-based SAM microcontrollers.
- **Code Editor:** Features an advanced code editor with syntax highlighting, IntelliSense, and code navigation.
- **Debugger:** Integrated debugger with support for breakpoints, variable inspection, and step-through execution.
- **Project Management:** Tools for managing project files, dependencies, and build configurations.
- **Peripheral Drivers:** Includes libraries and drivers for accessing and controlling hardware peripherals.

2. Development Tools

- **C/C++ Compiler:** Supports compiling C and C++ code with optimization options.
- **Simulator:** Allows simulation of microcontroller code before hardware deployment.
- **Programmer Integration:** Compatible with various Microchip programmers and debuggers for uploading code to microcontrollers.

3. Getting Started

To get started with Microchip Studio:

- Download and install from the Microchip website.
- Create a new project or open an existing one.
- Write and compile your code using the integrated tools.
- Debug and test your application using the built-in debugger and simulator.

2 Tasks

2.1 Task 1: Finding the MAX & MIN of 10 numbers

Code explanation

1. Setup and Initialization

- **Registers and Constants:**

- `largest` (r16) and `smallest` (r19) are defined to store the largest and smallest numbers found.
- `temp` (r17) is used as a temporary storage for the current number being compared.
- `i` (r18) is the loop counter, starting at `num_count - 1` since the first number is handled separately.

- **Pointer Initialization:**

- The Z pointer (ZH:ZL) is loaded with the address of the list of numbers in program memory.

2. Initial Values

- The first number in the list is loaded into both `largest` and `smallest`, setting the initial values for comparison.

3. Comparison Loop

- The loop (`compare_loop`) processes each remaining number in the list:
 - The next number is loaded into `temp`.
 - This number is compared to `largest`. If it's greater, `largest` is updated.
 - Then, it's compared to `smallest`. If it's smaller, `smallest` is updated.
- The loop counter `i` is decremented after each iteration.
- The loop continues until all numbers have been compared.

4. End of Program

- After all numbers are processed, the program enters an infinite loop (`done`) to halt execution.

5. AVR Code and Output

AVR Code: contains the '.asm' file for task 1. In the code, we have used the set of numbers for testing as {16, 36, 25, 50, 20, 60, 70, 46, 55, 77} which is stored in the flash memory.

The code finds the highest (which is 77) and the lowest (which is 16) and stores them in registers R16 and R19 respectively.

Name	Value
R13	0x00
R14	0x00
R15	0x00
R16	0x4D
R17	0x4D
R18	0x00
R19	0x10
R20	0x00
R21	0x00

Figure 1: Largest number in R16 and Smallest in R19

2.2 Task 2: Computing the sum of 10 numbers

1. Setting the Origin

```
.ORG 0x0000
```

This directive sets the starting address of the program in memory to 0x0000.

2. Initialization

```
LDI R16, 0
```

Loads the immediate value 0 into register R16. This register will be used to accumulate the sum of the numbers.

```
LDI ZH, HIGH(numbers << 1)
```

```
LDI ZL, LOW(numbers << 1)
```

Loads the high and low bytes of the address of the numbers array into the Z register pair (ZH and ZL). The address is shifted left by 1 bit to match the addressing mode.

```
LDI R17, 10
```

Loads the immediate value 10 into register R17. This value serves as a counter for the number of elements to sum.

3. Summation Loop

```
SUM_LOOP:
```

```
    LPM R18, Z+
```

```
    ADD R16, R18
```

```
    DEC R17
```

```
    BRNE SUM_LOOP
```

- **LPM R18, Z+:** Loads the next byte from the address pointed to by Z into R18 and increments Z. This fetches the next number in the sequence.
- **ADD R16, R18:** Adds the value in R18 to R16, accumulating the sum.
- **DEC R17:** Decrements the counter in R17.
- **BRNE SUM_LOOP:** Branches back to SUM_LOOP if R17 is not zero, thus continuing the loop until all 10 numbers are processed.

4. Halting Execution

```
NOP
```

```
rjmp $
```

- **NOP:** A no-operation instruction that does nothing and is used here to create a placeholder.
- **rjmp \$:** An infinite loop that jumps to the current address, effectively halting further execution.

5. Data Segment

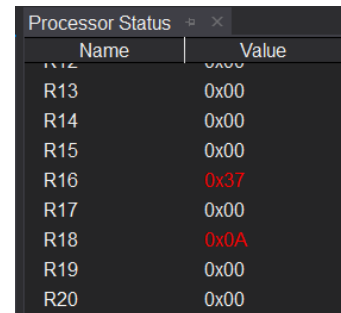
```
.CSEG
numbers:
    .DB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
```

Defines a constant segment (.CSEG) and initializes the numbers array with values 1 through 10. This is the data that will be summed.

6. AVR Code and Output

AVR Code: contains the '.asm' file for task 2. In the code, we have used the set of numbers for testing as {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10} which is stored in the flash memory.

The code finds the sum of all the ten numbers and stores it in the register R16.



Name	Value
R12	0x00
R13	0x00
R14	0x00
R15	0x00
R16	0x37
R17	0x00
R18	0x0A
R19	0x00
R20	0x00

Figure 2: Sum of 10 numbers in R16

2.3 Task 3: Sorting 5 numbers

The code implements a **bubble sort algorithm** to sort the numbers stored in registers R16 to R20, with the **largest** number ending up in R16 and the **smallest** in R20.

Loading Input Data:

The input data is loaded into registers R16 to R20 from **flash memory**. This is done using the LPM (Load Program Memory) instruction, where the **Z pointer** sequentially moves through the memory, transferring data into the registers.

Sorting Process:

The sorting process involves repeatedly **passing through the registers, comparing adjacent pairs**, and **swapping** them if necessary. The code uses an **outer loop** with four key steps (**step_1** to **step_4**), each of which compares adjacent register pairs and either swaps them or moves to the next step. Here's how each step works:

- **Step 1:** Compare R16 and R17. If $R16 < R17$, **swap** them, otherwise **directly move to step 2**.
- **Step 2:** Compare R17 and R18. If $R17 < R18$, **swap** them, otherwise **directly move to step 3**.
- **Step 3:** Compare R18 and R19. If $R18 < R19$, **swap** them, otherwise **directly move to step 4**.
- **Step 4:** Compare R19 and R20. If $R19 < R20$, **swap** them.

After each pass, the next largest value moves toward R16, with the largest number eventually ending up in R16 and the smallest in R20.

Completion Condition:

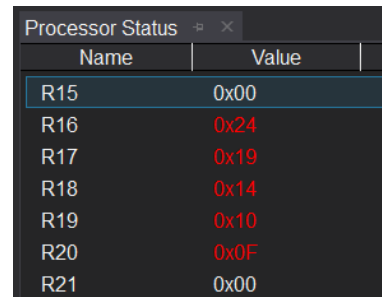
The loop continues until the sorting is complete, as determined by the **flag register** (R21). If a swap occurs during any of the steps, the flag is set, and the process repeats. Once a full pass is made with **no swaps** (R21 = 0), the outer loop terminates, indicating the registers are fully sorted.

This ensures the sorting process continues until no further swaps are needed, at which point the numbers are ordered from **largest (R16)** to **smallest (R20)**.

AVR Code and Output

Bubble Sort: Contains the '.asm' file for bubble sort. Flash memory inputs are hard-coded as {20, 25, 15, 16, 36}.

The code sorts it and stores them with R16 containing 36 (the largest) and R20 containing 15 (the smallest).



Name	Value
R15	0x00
R16	0x24
R17	0x19
R18	0x14
R19	0x10
R20	0x0F
R21	0x00

Figure 3: Sorted {20, 25, 15, 16, 36}
as {36, 25, 20, 16, 15}