

## §2.2 x86 Architecture Details (Part 2)

### §3.1 Basics of Assembly Language

## §2.2

### x86 Architecture Details (Part 2)

## x86 Registers (Review)

### 32-bit General-Purpose Registers

EAX	EBP
EBX	ESP
ECX	ESI
EDX	EDI

EFLAGS
EIP

### 16-bit Segment Registers

CS	ES
SS	FS
DS	GS

Image Source: Irvine 6/e

## x86 Registers (Review)

### 32-bit general-purpose registers:

- ▶ EAX (Extended) Accumulator
- ▶ EBX Base
- ▶ ECX Count
- ▶ EDX Data
- ▶ ESI Source Index
- ▶ EDI Destination Index
- ▶ ESP Stack Pointer
- ▶ EBP Base Pointer

Names are based on historical or special uses.

Do not use ESP or EBP for arithmetic/data transfer; they have special uses (Chapter 8)

## x86 Registers (Review)

- ▶ General-purpose registers (except EBP, ESP) can be used more or less arbitrarily, but some instructions use them for special purposes, e.g.,
  - ▶ The **mul** (multiplication) instruction requires one operand to be in EAX (Chapter 7)
  - ▶ EBP is used to access function parameters and local variables in procedures (Chapter 8)
  - ▶ ESI and EDI are used by high-speed memory transfer instructions, e.g., **movsb** (Chapter 9)

## x86 Registers

### 16-bit segment registers:

- ▶ CS Code Segment
- ▶ SS Stack Segment
- ▶ DS Data Segment
- ▶ ES Extra Segment
- ▶ FS F Segment (Extra Segment)
- ▶ GS G Segment (Extra Segment)
- ▶ Used when accessing memory
- ▶ Important in real-mode programming and when writing an OS; we won't need them in this course

## x86 Registers



### ▶ EFLAGS – Extended Flags

- ▶ Each bit has a different purpose
- ▶ Some bits are *control flags*
  - ▶ Setting/clearing these bits changes the CPU's operation
  - ▶ E.g., enter protected mode
  - ▶ E.g., break after each instruction (for debugging)
- ▶ Other bits are *status flags*
  - ▶ E.g., Carry flag: is set to 1 when unsigned arithmetic operation produces a result too large to fit in 32 bits
  - ▶ E.g., Zero flag: becomes set to 1 when an arithmetic or logical operation results in a 0 value

## x86 Registers



### ▶ EIP – Extended Instruction Pointer

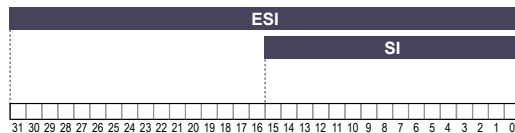
- ▶ Contains the memory address of the next instruction to be executed
- ▶ Recall that the instruction pointer is incremented as part of the fetch-decode-execute cycle
- ▶ Other instructions (e.g., **jmp**) change the instruction pointer

## Accessing Parts of Registers



### ▶ Parts of some registers can be accessed by other names

- ▶ ESI: Low 16 bits are called SI
- ▶ EDI: Low 16 bits are called DI
- ▶ EBP: Low 16 bits are called BP
- ▶ ESP: Low 16 bits are called SP

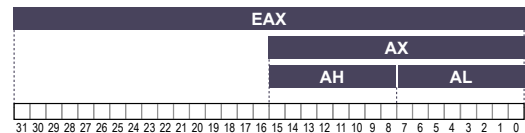


## Accessing Parts of Registers

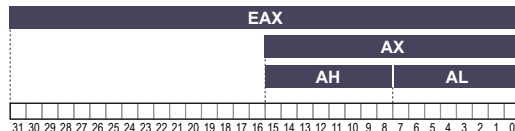


### ▶ Parts of some registers can be accessed by other names

- ▶ EAX: bits 0–15 are AX, bits 8–15 are AH, bits 0–7 are AL
- ▶ EBX, BX, BH, BL
- ▶ ECX, CX, CH, CL
- ▶ EDX, DX, DH, DL



## Accessing Parts of Registers



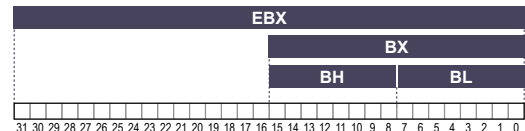
```

mov eax, AAAAAAAh
mov ax, BBBBh
mov ah, CCh
mov al, DDh
    
```

**EAX Contains**

AAAAAAAh
AAAABBBh
AAAACBBh
AAAACDDh

## Accessing Parts of Registers



```

mov ebx, 12345678h
mov bx, 0ABCDh
mov bh, 0h
mov bl, 0FEh
    
```

EBX	BX	BH	BL
12345678h	5678h	56h	78h
1234ABCDh	ABCDh	ABh	CDh
123400CDh	00CDh	00h	CDh
123400FEh	00FEh	00h	FEh

## x86 Registers



- ▶ Registers discussed so far are the *basic program execution registers*
- ▶ EAX, EBX, ECX, EDX, EBP, ESP, ESI, EDI, EFLAGS, EIP, CS, SS, DS, ES, FS, GS
- ▶ Processor contains many more registers
  - ▶ Several for the floating-point unit (Chapter 12)
  - ▶ Others we won't use in this course

## x86 Registers



- ▶ Activity 4 (front side)

## §3.1 Basic Elements of Assembly Language

Portions from slides by Kip Irvine for Assembly Language for x86 Processors, 6th Edition  
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## Important References



- ▶ Textbook Appendix A (p. 598): MASM Reference
- ▶ Textbook Appendix B (p. 620): The x86 Instruction Set
- ▶ Microsoft Macro Assembler Reference, VS2010  
[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/afz475vc\(v=vs.100\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/afz475vc(v=vs.100).aspx)
- ▶ Intel 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer Manuals  
Note: Volume 2 is the instruction set reference  
<http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/processors/architectures-software-developer-manuals.html>

## Basic Elements of Assembly Language



To be discussed:

- ▶ Instructions
- ▶ Mnemonics and Operands
- ▶ Reserved words and identifiers
- ▶ Labels
- ▶ Integer constants and integer expressions
- ▶ Character and string constants
- ▶ Directives
- ▶ Comments

## Instructions (1) – JMP



- ▶ Instructions you saw in Lab 1: **mov add sub call**
- ▶ A new instruction: **jmp** (*unconditional jump*)
  - ▶ Like a “goto” statement – go to the instruction with a given label
  - ▶ Prefix any instruction with *label:* – then you can **jmp to label**

### Example 1

```
mov eax, 2
jmp write
mov eax, 1
write: call WriteDec
```

*Skips over mov eax, 1  
and displays 2*

### Example 2

```
start: mov eax, 0
      jmp start
```

*Infinite loop: keep  
setting EAX to 0*

### Example 3

```
top: call ReadDec
     call WriteDec
     jmp top
```

*Infinite loop: read unsigned  
integer, then display it*

## Instructions (2)



- ▶ Assembled into machine code by assembler
- ▶ Executed at runtime by the CPU
- ▶ We use the Intel IA-32 instruction set
- ▶ An instruction contains:
  - Label (optional) → `something:`
  - Mnemonic (required) → `mov`
  - Operand(s) (depends on the instruction) → `bl, 0FEh`
  - Comment (optional) → `; Hello`

`something: mov bl, 0FEh ; Hello`

## Mnemonics & Operands



### Instruction Mnemonics

- ▶ memory aid
- ▶ examples: MOV, ADD, SUB, CALL, JMP

### Instructions can take different types of operands

- ▶ constant `mov eax, 4000`
- ▶ constant expression `mov eax, (8*1000)/2`
- ▶ register `mov eax, 4000`
- ▶ memory (data label) *(you'll see examples of this later)*

Constants and constant expressions are often called *immediate values*

## Instruction Format Examples



- ▶ No operands
  - ▶ `stc` ; set Carry flag
- ▶ One operand
  - ▶ `inc eax` ; register
  - ▶ `inc myByte` ; memory
- ▶ Two operands
  - ▶ `add ebx, ecx` ; register, register
  - ▶ `sub myByte, 25` ; memory, constant
  - ▶ `add eax, 36 * 25` ; register, constant-expression

## Reserved Words & Identifiers



- ▶ Reserved words cannot be used as identifiers
  - ▶ Instruction mnemonics, directives, type attributes, operators, predefined symbols
  - ▶ See MASM reference in Appendix A
- ▶ Identifiers
  - ▶ 1–247 characters, including digits
  - ▶ Case *insensitive*
  - ▶ first character must be a letter, `_`, `@`, `?`, or `$`

## Labels



- ▶ Act as place markers
  - ▶ marks the address (offset) of code and data
- ▶ Follow identifier rules
- ▶ Data label
  - ▶ must be unique
  - ▶ example: `msg` (not followed by colon)
- ▶ Code label
  - ▶ target of instructions like `jmp`
  - ▶ example: `done:` (followed by colon)

### Example

```
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc

.data
msg BYTE "Hello", 0

.code
main PROC
    mov edx, offset msg
    call WriteString
    jmp done
done: exit
main ENDP
END main
```

## Comments



- ▶ Comments are good!
  - ▶ Summarize the contents of a file or procedure
  - ▶ Explain tricky coding techniques
  - ▶ Don't just re-state what each instruction does
- ▶ Single-line comments begin with semicolon (;)
- ▶ Multi-line comments begin with COMMENT directive and a programmer-chosen character; end with the same programmer-chosen character

## Integer Constants



- ▶ Optional leading + or – sign
- ▶ Binary, decimal, hexadecimal, or octal digits
- ▶ Common radix characters:
  - ▶ h – hexadecimal
  - ▶ d – decimal
  - ▶ b – binary
  - ▶ r – encoded real

Examples: 30d, 6Ah, 42, 1101b

Hexadecimal beginning with letter: 0A5h – **must prefix with 0!**

`mov bl, 0FEh`

## Integer Expressions (1)



- ▶ Anywhere you can use an integer constant, you can use an integer *expression*
- ▶ Operators and precedence levels:

Operator	Name	Precedence Level
( )	parentheses	1
+ -	unary plus, minus	2
*, /	multiply, divide	3
MOD	modulus	3
+ -	add, subtract	4

▶ Examples:

Expression	Value
16 / 5	3
-(3 + 4) * (6 - 1)	-35
-3 + 4 * 6 - 1	20
25 mod 3	1

## Integer Expressions (2)



- ▶ Anywhere you can use an integer constant, you can use an integer *expression*
- ▶ Only *constant* expressions are permitted – can't contain register names, etc.
- ▶ Q. Which of the following are permitted?

In .data: `something BYTE 93-1` ✓

In .data: `five BYTE 5`  
`six BYTE five+1` ✗ (five is a label – not constant-valued)

In .code: `mov eax, 3*100+3` ✓

In .code: `mov eax, 5`  
`mov ebx, eax+1` ✗ (eax is a register – not constant-valued)

## Character & String Constants



- ▶ Enclose character in single or double quotes
  - ▶ 'A', "x"
  - ▶ ASCII character = 1 byte
- ▶ Enclose strings in single or double quotes
  - ▶ "ABC"
  - ▶ 'xyz'
  - ▶ Each character occupies a single byte
- ▶ Embedded quotes:
  - ▶ 'Say "Goodnight," Gracie'

## Directives



- ▶ Commands that are recognized and acted upon by the assembler
  - ▶ Not part of the Intel instruction set
  - ▶ Used to declare code, data areas, select memory model, declare procedures, etc.
  - ▶ Case *insensitive*
- ▶ Different assemblers have different directives
  - ▶ NASM not the same as MASM, for example

## Homework



- ▶ **Homework 1** due in Canvas by Friday at 2:00 p.m. – come by office hours for help
- ▶ For next class (Friday, September 5):
  - ▶ Read **Section 3.1** (6/e pp. 58–66, 7/3 pp. 54–63) - mostly covered today
  - ▶ Read **Section 3.2** (6/e pp. 66–70, 7/e pp. 63–70) - *not covered in any lectures*
    - ▶ Goal: understand the sample program so you can read Section 3.4 later on
    - ▶ Sample program changed slightly from 6th edition to 7th edition; read either one