Comparison & Conditional Jumps §4.5, §6.2.8, §6.3



Conditional Jumps... For Real This Time



- You have seen one conditional jump instruction
 - ▶ How to implement $if(ECX == 0) \{ ... \} else \{ ... \}$
 - ▶ How to implement while (ECX == 0) $\{ ... \}$
 - ▶ How to implement $do \{ ... \}$ while (ECX == 0)
 - And the same with the condition $ECX \neq 0$
- ▶ How do you perform comparisons other than "ECX == 0" and "ECX \neq 0"?
 - ▶ Perform a CMP (Compare) to set flags
 - ▶ Then perform a conditional jump

Example 1: Comparison, Jumps



```
; Read a signed integer into EAX
call ReadInt
cmp eax, 100
                             JGE = Jump if
jge big ←──
                            Greater or Equal
; If we reach here, eax < 100
                            (based on flags set by cmp)
jmp done
```

; If we reach here, $eax \ge 100$ big:

exit done:

done:

Example 2: Comparison, Jumps



```
; Read a signed integer into EAX
           call ReadInt
           cmp eax, 10
                                       JLE = Jump if
           jle small
                                       Less or Equal
          ; If we reach here, eax > 10 (based on flags set by cmp)
          jmp done
          ; If we reach here, eax \le 10
small:
          exit
```

Subtraction & Comparison



▶ How does the SUB instruction affect the flags?

Unsigned	ZF	CF
Dest < Src		
Dest = Src		
Dest > Src		

Signed	Flags
Dest < Src	SF ?=? OF
Dest = Src	ZF = ?
Dest > Src	SF ?=? OF

Subtraction & Comparison



▶ How does the SUB instruction affect the flags?

Unsigned	ZF	CF
Dest < Src	0	1
Dest = Src	1	0
Dest > Src	0	0

Signed	Flags
Dest < Src	SF ≠ OF
Dest = Src	ZF = 1
Dest > Src	SF = OF

- ▶ Integer values can be compared by subtracting the values and then looking at the flags!
- ► The CMP (Compare) instruction subtracts values but does **not** store the result; it only sets flags

Topics Covered in Notes:



▶ CMP instruction

Jumps Based on Specific Flags



Mnemonic	Description	Flags
JZ	Jump if zero	ZF = 1
JNZ	Jump if not zero	ZF = 0
JC	Jump if carry	CF = 1
JNC	Jump if not carry	CF = 0
JO	Jump if overflow	OF = 1
JNO	Jump if not overflow	OF = 0
JS	Jump if signed	SF = 1
JNS	Jump if not signed	SF = 0
JP	Jump if parity (even)	PF = 1
JNP	Jump if not parity (odd)	PF = 0

Activity I0 #I

Jumps Based on Equality



Mnemonic	Description
JE	Jump if equal $(leftOp = rightOp)$
JNE	Jump if not equal ($leftOp \neq rightOp$)
JCXZ	Jump if $CX = 0$
JECXZ	Jump if ECX = 0

Jumps Based on Signed Comparisons



Mnemonic	Description
JG	Jump if greater (if $leftOp > rightOp$)
JNLE	Jump if not less than or equal (same as JG)
JGE	Jump if greater than or equal (if $leftOp >= rightOp$)
JNL	Jump if not less (same as JGE)
JL	Jump if less (if $leftOp < rightOp$)
JNGE	Jump if not greater than or equal (same as JL)
JLE	Jump if less than or equal (if $leftOp \le rightOp$)
JNG	Jump if not greater (same as JLE)

Activity 10

Jumps Based on Unsigned Comparisons



Mnemonic	Description
JA	Jump if above (if $leftOp > rightOp$)
JNBE	Jump if not below or equal (same as JA)
JAE	Jump if above or equal (if $leftOp >= rightOp$)
JNB	Jump if not below (same as JAE)
JB	Jump if below (if $leftOp < rightOp$)
JNAE	Jump if not above or equal (same as JB)
JBE	Jump if below or equal (if $leftOp \le rightOp$)
JNA	Jump if not above (same as JBE)

Activity 10

Jumps Based on Comparisons



Signed Comparisons ("Greater/Less")

Description

Mnemonic

	JG	Jump if greater (if $leftOp > rightOp$)
	JNLE	Jump if not less than or equal (same as JG)
	JGE	Jump if greater than or equal (if $leftOp >= rightOp$)
_	JNL	Jump if not less (same as JGE)
	JL	Jump if less (if $leftOp < rightOp$)
_	JNGE	Jump if not greater than or equal (same as JL)
_	JLE	Jump if less than or equal (if $leftOp \le rightOp$)
_	JNG	Jump if not greater (same as JLE)

Unsigned Comparisons ("Above/Below")

JL	
JA Jump if above (if $leftOp > rightOp$) JNGE	
JNBE Jump if not below or equal (same as JA) JLE	
JAE Jump if above or equal (if $leftOp >= rightOp$) JNG	
JNB Jump if not below (same as JAE)	
JB Jump if below (if $leftOp < rightOp$)	
JNAE Jump if not above or equal (same as JB)	
JBE Jump if below or equal (if $leftOp \le rightOp$)	
JNA Jump if not above (same as JBE)	

Activity 10 #2

Conditional Jumps and Flags



- ▶ Remember: JA, JB, JL, JG, etc. are based on **flags**
 - It's conventional to use cmp to set the flags
 - ▶ But if some other instruction changes the flags, the jump will be be based on its flags

```
.data
msg BYTE "3 < 5", 0
```

```
mov ah, 3mov ah, 3mov al, 5mov al, 5cmp ah, alsub ah, aljnl donejnl done
```

mov edx, OFFSET msg mov edx, OFFSET msg call WriteString call WriteString

done: exit done: exit

Translating Do-While Loops



```
do {
    // body
} while (eax < ebx)

start: ; body
    cmp eax, ebx
jl start or jb start</pre>
```

(signed) (unsigned)

Translating While Loops



```
while (eax < ebx) {
    // body
}

start: cmp eax, ebx
    jnl finish or jnb finish
    ; body
    jmp start
finish:</pre>
```

Translating Counted Loops



```
for (eax = 0; eax < 10; eax++) {
    // body
}

mov eax, 0
start: cmp eax, 10
jnl finish or jnb finish
; body
inc eax
jmp start

finish:</pre>
```

Translating If Statements



Exercises



```
mov ah, 70h add ah, 10h jo some_label
```

Exercises



2. Will the jump be taken?

```
mov ah, -1
cmp ah, 5
jl some_label
```

Exercises



```
mov ah, -1
cmp ah, 5
jb some_label
```

Exercises



4. Will the jump be taken?

```
mov ah, 0FFh
cmp ah, -1
je some_label
```

Exercises



```
mov eax, 0FFh
cmp eax, -1
je some_label
```

Exercises



6. Will the jump be taken?

```
mov al, 100

mov ah, 25
add ah, 75

cmp ah, al
je some_label
```

Exercises



```
mov al, 100
add al, 50
cmp al, 100
jg some_label
```