

# 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 big ←

JGE = Jump if 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:

done: exit

## 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

small: ; If we reach here,  $eax \le 10$ 

done: 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

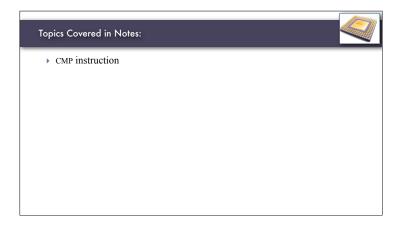


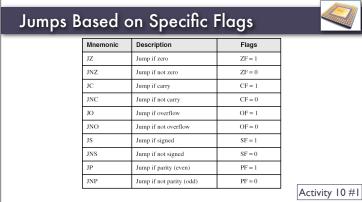
▶ How does the SUB instruction affect the flags?

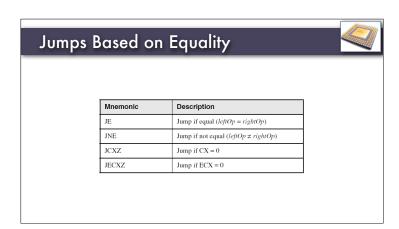
Unsigned	ZF	CF
Dest < Src	0	1
Dest = Src	1	0
Dest > Src	0	0

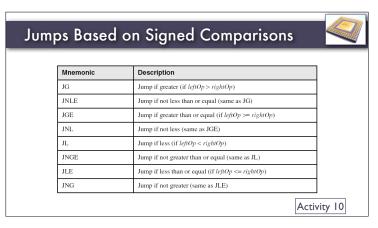
Signed	Flags
Dest < Src	SF ≠ OF
Dest = Src	ZF = 1
Dest > Src	SF = OF

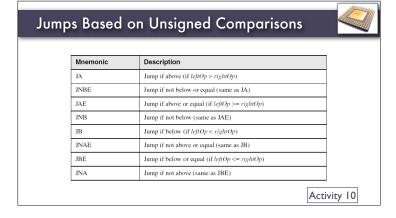
- Integer values can be compared by subtracting the values and then looking at the flags!
- The CMP (Compare) instruction subtracts values but does **not** store the result; it only sets flags

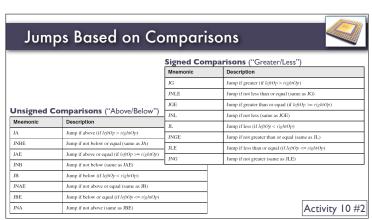












# Conditional Jumps and Flags



- ▶ 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, 3
mov al, 5
cmp ah, al
jnl done
mov edx, OFFSET msg
call WriteString

done: exit

.data
msg BYTE "3 < 5", 0

mov ah, 3
mov al, 5
sub ah, al
jnl done
mov edx, OFFSET msg
call WriteString

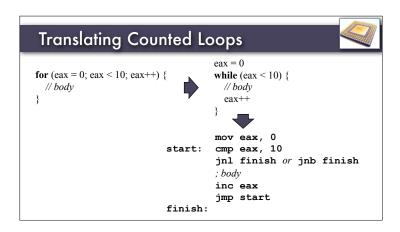
done: exit
```

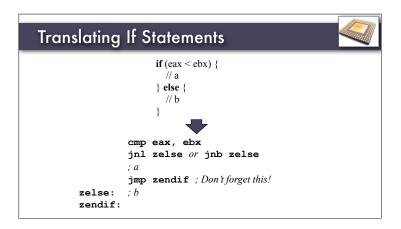
```
Translating Do-While Loops

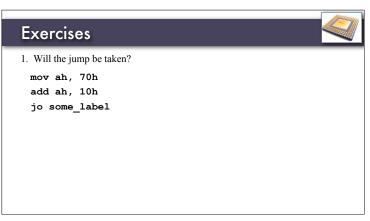
do {
    // body
    } while (eax < ebx)

start: ; body
    cmp eax, ebx
    j1 start or jb start
    (signed) (unsigned)
```

# while Loops while (eax < ebx) { // body } start: cmp eax, ebx jn1 finish or jnb finish ; body jmp start finish:</pre>







## **Exercises**



2. Will the jump be taken?

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

## **Exercises**



3. Will the jump be taken?

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

#### Exercises



4. Will the jump be taken?

```
mov ah, OFFh
cmp ah, -1
je some_label
```

### **Exercises**



5. Will the jump be taken?

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

#### **Exercises**



6. Will the jump be taken?

```
mov ah, 25 add ah, 75 cmp ah, al
```

je some\_label

#### Exercises



7. Will the jump be taken?

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