# CPE 325: Intro to Embedded Computer Systems

## Lab04

**Introduction to MSP430 Assembly Language Programming** 

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### **Introduction:**

The main topic behind this lab was programming in Code Composer Studio in the assembly programming language. The main theory behind this lab was Assembly Directives and the various Addressing modes that exist in the assembly programming language. There were two different problems that had to be solved, as well as a bonus problem that was also made available. The main idea behind this lab other than simply programming in assembly, was pulling in characters one at a time from a given string, running tests on them and using them according to the instructions made available in the lab assignment.

### **Theory:**

Assembler Directives: Assembler directives are parts of assembly that are used to help define a segment of code. For instance, when the assembler sees one using the (.string) directive, it allocates room in memory with the correct ASCII characters as well as a NULL character that will allow the assembler to tell when it has reached the end of the string. Another thing that directives are useful for are header files. In the example code that was provided for this lab tutorial, there is a line where a header directive is made which contains macro definitions such as the code that ends the watchdog timer. This is also important for declaring strings where the processor, like explained earlier, will allocate memory for the string to be stored.

**Addressing Modes:** There are many different addressing modes that are used in assembly. All of these addressing modes are used for a specific purpose and help provide the user with many useful tools for making assembly programs. The different types of addressing modes are: register, indexed, symbolic, absolute, indirect, immediate, and indirect with autoincrement.

**Register:** This is considered the fastest and shortest addressing mode. It specifies whatever operand is being used as well as what registers are being operated on. The syntax for this addressing mode is simply (Rn).

**Indexed:** The indexed addressing mode is used when the operand being used is located in memory. Not only this, but its address is being calculated as a sum of the displacement (X) and a specified address register. This displacement of X is made clear in the next instruction word. The syntax for this is [X(Rn)].

Symbolic: This addressing mode is considered to be a subset of the previously discussed indexed addressing mode. The difference between these two modes is that for symbolic, the address register is the program counter (PC) which means that the address of the operand is specified relative to the current value of the program counter (PC). The syntax for this mode is (ADDR).

Absolute Mode: Absolute mode is used when specifying the direct address of a given operand that is located in memory. This instruction is associated with a word which is used to identify the address. The instruction identifies the memory address of the given operand directly, which is combined with the status register that is being used by the first instruction as the address register. The syntax for this mode is (&ADDR).

Indirect Register: This mode of addressing is solely used for source operands. The instruction associated with it identifies the address register (Rn). The syntax for this mode is (@Rn).

Indirect Autoincrement: Indirect autoincrement addressing is used where the address of the given operand that is in memory is used for the identified address register (Rn). The change is when whatever is in register (Rn) is incremented by 2 for word operations but only 1 for byte operations. Syntax for this addressing mode is (@Rn+). This addressing mode could be used when one wants (Rn) to automatically update where it points to the next operand after its

operation. This is useful when wanting to pull characters from a string like what was done for the given assignment for this lab. Indirect Autoincrementing is used when storing the next character of the string in the register before checking that character for the desired reasons. After this operation, the autoincrementing moves over 1, (because it is a byte operation) to the next character.

**Immediate Mode:** Immediate addressing mode is used when addressing an immediate (a constant) which is used as an operand. Syntax for this is (#N).

### **Problem 01:**

The first problem that was assigned was to make an assembly code meant to count the number of digits and the number of capital letters that are in a given string. This was done by checking the range of each character to determine whether or not it was in the ASCII range of capital letters, or digits. If it was not, then it moved on to the next character. After the code executes, the register window is used to view P1OUT and P2OUT which are the output of the number of digits and capital letters respectively. The string used was: "Welcome To MSP430F5529 Assembly Programming!".

> 1010 P1IN	0xFE	Port 1 Input [Memory Mapped]	
> 1010 P1OUT	0x07	Port 1 Output [Memory Mapped]	
> 1010 P1DIR	0x00	Port 1 Direction [Memory Mapper	
> 1010 P1REN	0x00	Port 1 Resistor Enable [Memory N	
> 1010 P1DS	0x00	Port 1 Drive Strenght [Memory M	
> 1010 P1SEL	0x00	Port 1 Selection [Memory Mapper	
1010 P1IV	0x0000	Port 1 Interrupt Vector Word [Me.	
> 1010 P1IES	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Edge Select [Mem	
> 1010 P1IE	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Enable [Memory .	
> 1010 P1IFG	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Flag [Memory Ma	
> 1010 P2IN	0xFF	Port 2 Input [Memory Mapped]	
> 1010 P2OUT	0x08	Port 2 Output [Memory Mapped]	

Figure 1. View of Register Window Showing Value of P1IN, P2IN, P1OUT and P2OUT.

The first problem also required a flowchart be made, this was done and is as such:

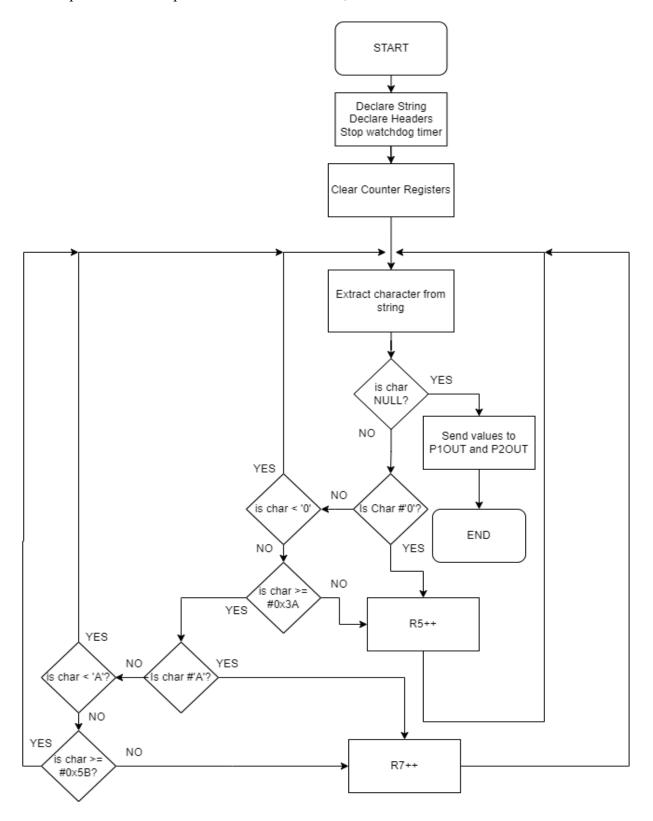


Figure 2. Flowchart for Problem 01.

### **Problem 02:**

The second problem that was assigned was where the user was meant to take a mathematical expression in string form, and evaluate it to the correct answer. For example, the mathematical expression that was used for this code was "7-2+2". The code takes in the character 7, changes it to its decimal value, and then assigns it to a register. The code then pulls in the next character, the operator and stores it in a register as well. After this, the code pulls in the next digit, 2, which it converts to its decimal version before also storing it in a register. The code then checks the operator to determine whether to add or subtract the two numbers. After the program performs the proper operation, it moves onto the next operator and next digit. This is repeated until the program reaches the NULL ASCII character which represents the end of the string. The result of the mathematical expression is then sent to P2OUT which is displayed in the register window:

Name	Value	Description
> 1010 P1OUT	0x07	Port 1 Output [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P1DIR	0x00	Port 1 Direction [Memory Mapper
> 1010 P1REN	0x00	Port 1 Resistor Enable [Memory N
> 1010 P1DS	0x00	Port 1 Drive Strenght [Memory M
> 1010 P1SEL	0x00	Port 1 Selection [Memory Mapper
1010 P1IV	0x0000	Port 1 Interrupt Vector Word [Me.
> 1010 P1IES	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Edge Select [Mem
> 1010 P1IE	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Enable [Memory .
> 1010 P1IFG	0x00	Port 1 Interrupt Flag [Memory Ma
> 1010 P2IN	0xFF	Port 2 Input [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P2OUT	0x07	Port 2 Output [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P2DIR	0x00	Port 2 Direction [Memory Mapper
> 1010 P2REN	0x00	Port 2 Resistor Enable [Memory N
> 1010 P2DS	0x00	Port 2 Drive Strenght [Memory M
> 1010 P2SEL	0x00	Port 2 Selection [Memory Mapper
1010 P2IV	0x0000	Port 2 Interrupt Vector Word [Me.
> 1010 P2IES	0x00	Port 2 Interrupt Edge Select [Mem
> 1010 P2IE	0x00	Port 2 Interrupt Enable [Memory .

Figure 3. Result of "7-2+2" Stored in P2OUT, Input P2IN in the Register Window.

### **Bonus Problem:**

The bonus problem that was assigned for this lab was meant to be similar to the rest. The code was meant to take in the string as input and pull in one character at a time. This code was to then change each lowercase letter in the string to an uppercase letter. The code was to keep track of each change that it made and store it in a register and send the result to P3OUT. Also, the code was meant to output the changed string to the memory browser where it can be viewed as a series of characters. This code was partially completed with it only completing half of the desired results. It changes the string to capital and then logs the amount of changes. The string used for this code is: "I enjoy learning MSP430 Assembly!". These changes are shown here (in HEX, 14 in HEX is 20 in decimal):

✓ № Port_3_4		
> 1010 P3IN	0xF7	Port 3 Input [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P3OUT	0x14	Port 3 Output [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P3DIR	0x00	Port 3 Direction [Memory Mapper
> 1010 P3REN	0x00	Port 3 Resistor Enable [Memory N
> 1010 P3DS	0x00	Port 3 Drive Strenght [Memory M
> 1010 P3SEL	0x00	Port 3 Selection [Memory Mapper
> 1010 P4IN	0x7F	Port 4 Input [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P4OUT	0x00	Port 4 Output [Memory Mapped]
> 1010 P4DIR	0x00	Port 4 Direction [Memory Mapper
> 1010 P4REN	0x00	Port 4 Resistor Enable [Memory N
> 1010 P4DS	0x00	Port 4 Drive Strenght [Memory M
> 1010 P4SEL	0x00	Port 4 Selection [Memory Mapper

Figure 4. Port Input and Output Register View of Bonus Problem.

### **Conclusion:**

Fortunately, no problems were encountered over the course of this lab. Everything that was set out to be completed was done so in the allotted time and according to the assignment instructions. For part one, the program successfully takes in the string as input one character by a time, and checks each character for being a digit or a capital letter. It then increments the

required counters which are then output to the corresponding ports. For problem 2, the program successfully evaluates the string to its correct answer based on the numbers and which operations are to be performed. The correct answer is then output to the correct port. This lab teaches one the ability to perform all of these actions in the assembly language. It teaches one to take a string apart character by character and perform tests and evaluations on it in order to complete the problems that were laid out. Overall, the lab was a success and the desired results were obtained.

# **Appendix: Problem 01:** ÷-----: File: Lab4P1Final.asm Counts the number of Digits and Capital Letters in a String and Displays the ; Function: number to P1OUT and P2OUT Respectively ; Description: Program traverses an input array of characters to detect capital letters or digits; exits when a NULL is detected The input string specified in myStr ; Input: ; Output: The port P1OUT and P2OUT display the number of digits and capital letters in the string ; Author(s): Michael Agnew, ma0133@uah.edu ; Date: February 2nd, 2024 .cdecls C, LIST, "msp430.h"; Include device header file

<u>;-----</u>

```
.def RESET
                      ; Export program entry-point to
                  ; make it known to linker.
-----
myStr: .string "Welcome To MSP430F5529 Assembly Programming!", "
   ; .string does not add NULL at the end of the string;
   ; " ensures that a NULL follows the string.
   ; You can alternatively use .cstring "HELLO WORLD, I AM THE MSP430!"
   ; that adds a NULL character at the end of the string automatically.
 ______
   .text
                  ; Assemble into program memory.
                   ; Override ELF conditional linking
   .retain
                  ; and retain current section.
   .retainrefs
                    ; And retain any sections that have
                  ; references to current section.
;------
RESET: mov.w #_STACK END,SP ; Initialize stack pointer
   mov.w #WDTPW|WDTHOLD,&WDTCTL; Stop watchdog timer
÷-----
; Main loop here
<u>;-----</u>
main: ; bis.b #0FFh, &P1DIR ; Do not output the result on port pins
   mov.w #myStr, R4; Load the starting address of the string into R4
   clr.b R5
                   ; Register R5 will serve as a counter
```

clr.b R7 ; Register R7 will serve as a counter gnext: mov.b @R4+, R6 ; Get a new character #0, R6 ; Is it a null character cmp lend ; If yes, go to the end jeq cmp.b #'0', R6 ; Is the character 0? il ; if it's ascii value is lower, move on gnext cmp.b #0x3A, R6 ; compare it to the ascii value above 9 ; if it's greater than ascii value of 9, capital jge then it must be a letter **R5** inc.w ; if it is in this range, increment the counter ; at the end, move to the next character jmp gnext capital:cmp.b #'A', R6 ; compare character to ascii value A il ; if it's less, then jump to next gnext character cmp.b #0x5B, R6 ; compare to ascii value above Z ; if it's greater, jump to next character jge gnext inc.w R7 ; if it is in the range, then

increment capital letter counter

```
; afterwards, move to the next
        jmp gnext
character
lend: mov.b R5,&P1OUT ; Write result in P1OUT (not visible on port pins)
        mov.b R7,&P2OUT
                                  ; Write result in P2OUT (not visible
on port pins)
  bis.w #LPM4, SR ; LPM4
              ; Required only for debugger
  nop
<u>;-----</u>
; Stack Pointer definition
;------
  .global STACK END
  .sect .stack
; Interrupt Vectors
;------
  .sect ".reset"; MSP430 RESET Vector
   .short RESET
  .end
Problem 02:
; ------
; File: Lab4P2CodeFinal.asm
; Function: Evalutes a string as a math operation
```

```
; Description: Program traverses an input array of characters
        to detect operands and operators, then evalutes the mathematical expression; exits
when a NULL is detected
          The input string specified in myStr
; Input:
          The port P2OUT displays the answer to the expression
; Output:
; Author(s): Michael Agnew, ma0133@uah.edu
         February 2nd, 2024
; Date:
           February 6th, 2024
; Revised:
_____
    .cdecls C, LIST, "msp430.h" ; Include device header file
;-----
    .def RESET
                         ; Export program entry-point to
                    ; make it known to linker.
myStr: .string "7-2+2", "
    ; .string does not add NULL at the end of the string;
    ; " ensures that a NULL follows the string.
    ; You can alternatively use .cstring "HELLO WORLD, I AM THE MSP430!"
    ; that adds a NULL character at the end of the string automatically.
;-----
    .text
                     ; Assemble into program memory.
    .retain
                     ; Override ELF conditional linking
                    ; and retain current section.
```

```
; And retain any sections that have
                 ; references to current section.
:-----
RESET: mov.w # STACK END,SP ; Initialize stack pointer
   mov.w #WDTPW|WDTHOLD,&WDTCTL; Stop watchdog timer
;------
; Main loop here
main: ; bis.b #0FFh, &P1DIR ; Do not output the result on port pins
   mov.w #myStr, R4; Load the starting address of the string into R4
   clr.b R5
                   ; Register R5 will serve as a counter
gnext: mov.b @R4+, R6
                         ; Get a new character
       #0, R6
                ; Is it a null character
   cmp
            ; If yes, go to the end
   jeq
       lend
;
          cmp.b #'0', R6
                            ; Check if 0
   ine
       check1
                    ; if not, move to check if 1
                                           ; if so, assign decimal value 0 to R6
          mov.b #0, R6
   jmp
                                           ; afterwards, jump to op branch
          op
```

.retainrefs

### INTEGERS ======

check1: cmp.b #'1', R6

jne check2

mov.b #1, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check2: cmp.b #'2', R6

jne check3

mov.b #2, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check3: cmp.b #'3', R6

jne check4

mov.b #3, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check4: cmp.b #'4', R6

jne check5

mov.b #4, R6

```
mov.b R6, R9
```

jmp op

check5: cmp.b #'5', R6

jne check6

mov.b #5, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check6: cmp.b #'6', R6

jne check7

mov.b #6, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check7: cmp.b #'7', R6

jne check8

mov.b #7, R6

mov.b R6, R9

jmp op

check8: cmp.b #'8', R6

jne check9

```
mov.b #8, R6
             mov.b R6, R9
    jmp
              op
check9: cmp.b #'9', R6
             jne op
             mov.b #9, R6
             mov.b R6, R9
             jmp
                    op
;
             mov.b @R4+, R7
                                                        ; pull in next char from string
op:
                    #0, R7
                             ; Is it a null character
              cmp
                         ; If yes, go to the end
    jeq
          lend
                                                        ; afterwards, jump to src branch
    jmp
              \operatorname{src}
```

```
src: mov.b @R4+, R8
            cmp #0, R8
                                ; Is it a null character
                      ; If yes, go to the end
   jeq
        lend
     cmp.b #'0', R8
                          ; Is it 0 character
   jne
                  ; If not, go to the next check
        check11
                                                ; if it is, assign decimal value 0 to R8
            mov.b #0, R8
                 subbr
            jmp
                                                ; afterwards, jump to subbr branch
          ====== REPEAT STEPS FOR REST OF
INTEGERS ======
check11:cmp.b #'1', R8
            jne check22
            mov.b #1, R8
            jmp
                  subbr
check22:cmp.b #'2', R8
                check33
            jne
            mov.b #2, R8
```

check33:cmp.b #'3', R8

jmp

subbr

jne check44

mov.b #3, R8

jmp subbr

check44:cmp.b #'4', R8

jne check55

mov.b #4, R8

jmp subbr

check55:cmp.b #'5', R8

jne check66

mov.b #5, R8

jmp subbr

check66:cmp.b #'6', R8

jne check77

mov.b #6, R8

jmp subbr

check77:cmp.b #'7', R8

jne check88

mov.b #7, R8

jmp subbr

```
check88:cmp.b #'8', R8
                   check99
              jne
              mov.b #8, R8
                     subbr
              jmp
check99:cmp.b #'9', R8
              mov.b #9, R8
             jmp
                     subbr
subbr: cmp.b #'-', R7; check to see if minus sign
                     addbr ; if not, jump to add branch
              jne
             sub.b R8, R9; if so, subtract R8 from R9 and store in R9
                                          ; aftewards, get the next operator
              jmp
                            op
```

addbr: cmp.b #'+', R7; check to see if plus sign

	jmp	op	; afterwards, get the	next operator	
;					
==					
	LPM4, SR		result in P2OUT (not	t visible on port pins)	
;; ; Stack Pointe	r definition			-	
•	_STACK_END	)		-	
; Interrupt Vec	etors			_	
.sect ".r	eset"	; MSP430 RESI			

.end

add.b R8, R9; if so, add the two numbers and store in R9

```
Bonus Problem:
<u>;</u> ------
; File:
         Lab04 D1.asm
           Counts the number of Digits and Capital Letters in a String and Displays the
; Function:
number to P1OUT and P2OUT Respectively
; Description: Program traverses an input array of characters
        to detect capital letters or digits; exits when a NULL is detected
          The input string specified in myStr
; Input:
          The port P1OUT and P2OUT display the number of digits and capital letters in the
; Output:
string
; Author(s): Michael Agnew, ma0133@uah.edu
: Date:
            February 2nd, 2024
:------
    .cdecls C, LIST, "msp430.h"; Include device header file
    .def RESET
                        ; Export program entry-point to
                    ; make it known to linker.
  _____
myStr: .string "I enjoy learning MSP430 Assembly!", "
    ; .string does not add NULL at the end of the string;
    ; " ensures that a NULL follows the string.
    ; You can alternatively use .cstring "HELLO WORLD, I AM THE MSP430!"
    ; that adds a NULL character at the end of the string automatically.
```

```
; Assemble into program memory.
    .text
                    ; Override ELF conditional linking
   .retain
                   ; and retain current section.
    .retainrefs
                     ; And retain any sections that have
                   ; references to current section.
;-----
RESET: mov.w # STACK END,SP ; Initialize stack pointer
   mov.w #WDTPW|WDTHOLD,&WDTCTL; Stop watchdog timer
; Main loop here
;------
main: ; bis.b #0FFh, &P1DIR ; Do not output the result on port pins
   mov.w #myStr, R4 ; Load the starting address of the string into R4
   clr.b R5
                     ; Register R5 will serve as a counter
   clr.b R7
                                        ; Register R7 will serve as a counter
gnext: mov.b @R4+, R6 ; Get a new character
                ; Is it a null character
        #0, R6
   cmp
   jeq
        lend
             ; If yes, go to the end
checkA: cmp.b #'a', R6
           ine
                checkB
           mov.b #0x41, R6
```

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkB: cmp.b #'b', R6

jne checkC

mov.b #0x42, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkC: cmp.b #'c', R6

jne checkD

mov.b #0x43, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkD: cmp.b #'d', R6

jne checkE

mov.b #0x44, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkE: cmp.b #'e', R6

jne checkF

mov.b #0x45, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkF: cmp.b #'f', R6

jne checkG

mov.b #0x46, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkG: cmp.b #'g', R6

ine checkH

mov.b #0x47, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkH: cmp.b #'h', R6

ine checkI

mov.b #0x48, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkI: cmp.b #'i', R6

jne checkJ

mov.b #0x49, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkJ: cmp.b #'j', R6

jne checkK

mov.b #0x4A, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkK: cmp.b #'k', R6

jne checkL

mov.b #0x4B, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkL: cmp.b #'l', R6

jne checkM

mov.b #0x4C, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkM: cmp.b #'m', R6

jne checkN

mov.b #0x4D, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkN: cmp.b #'n', R6

jne checkO

mov.b #0x4E, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkO: cmp.b #'o', R6

jne checkP

mov.b #0x4F, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkP: cmp.b #'p', R6

jne checkQ

mov.b #0x50, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkQ: cmp.b #'q', R6

jne checkR

mov.b #0x51, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkR: cmp.b #'r', R6

jne checkS

mov.b #0x52, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkS: cmp.b #'s', R6

jne checkT

mov.b #0x53, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkT: cmp.b #'t', R6

jne checkU

mov.b #0x54, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkU: cmp.b #'u', R6

jne checkV

mov.b #0x55, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkV: cmp.b #'v', R6

jne checkW

mov.b #0x56, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkW: cmp.b #'w', R6

jne checkX

mov.b #0x57, R6

inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter

jmp gnext ; Go to the next character

checkX: cmp.b #'x', R6

jne checkY

mov.b #0x58, R6

; If yes, increment counter inc.w R7 jmp gnext ; Go to the next character checkY: cmp.b #'y', R6 ine checkZ mov.b #0x59, R6 inc.w R7 ; If yes, increment counter jmp gnext ; Go to the next character checkZ: cmp.b #'z', R6 jne gnext mov.b #0x5A, R6 inc.w R7; If yes, increment counter gnext ; Go to the next character jmp lend: mov.b R5,&P1OUT ; Write result in P1OUT (not visible on port pins) mov.b R7,&P3OUT bis.w #LPM4, SR ; LPM4 ; Required only for debugger ;------; Stack Pointer definition

.globalSTACK_	END
.sect .stack	
;; ; Interrupt Vectors ;	
.sect ".reset"	; MSP430 RESET Vector
.short RESET	
.end	