# About Us

XlogicX

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github.com/darkvoxels

· BIOS Slides

github.com/XlogicX/CactusCon2017/

CRC16: 0x7A69 (31337)



#### Introduction

- Educational (Programming) topic
  - BIOS signature and padding
  - Assembling
  - · Text/Graphics Mode, Video, & Stack setup
  - · Important Registers
  - · Time Delay Loop
  - · Keyboard Input Methods
  - · Randomness & Color
- · Debugging:

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· Showcases/Demos:

· Because its fun

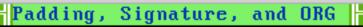
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- Limitations encourage creativity
- Ring-0 programming

#### Ring-0 Instructions

- •HLT-Halt
- •INUD-Invalidate Internal Caches
- LLDT-Load Local Descriptor Table Reg
- •MONITOR-Set Up Monitor Address
- •WRMSR-Write to Model Specific Reg

Others: INVLPG, INVPCID, LGDT/LIDT, LTR, MWAIT, RDMSR, RDPMC, WBINVD, XSETBU, INVEPT, INVVPID, UMCLEAR, UMRESUME, UMPTRLD, UMPTRST, UMREAD, UMWRITE



- BIOS Signature and Padding:
  - 510-(\$-\$\$) дь 0
  - dw 0xAA55

- · Nasm ORG directive:
  - [ORG 0x7c00]

# Assembling with Qemu

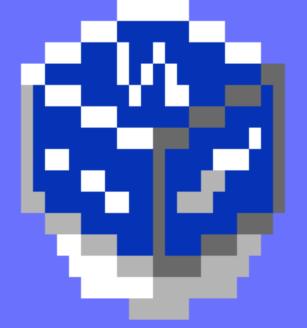
- · Assembling and using with Qemu:
  - · Assemble source:
    - nasm yourboot.asm -f bin -o yourboot.bin
- · Run with qemu:

- qemu tronsolitare.bin
- qemu-system-i386 -hda yourboot.bin

#### QEMU

VirtualBox VirtualBox

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#### Assembling with VirtualBox

• Different Padding:

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- · (1440\*1024)-(\$-\$\$) db 0
- File extension is .img
- Create low spec VM and boot from it  $\ensuremath{\boxdot}$

Stack

· Basic Stack Setup:

0 0

```
xor ax, ax ;make it zero
```

mov ds, ax ;DS=0

mov ss, ax :stack starts at 0

mov sp,  $0 \times 9c00$  ;200h past code start

# Video

· Basic Video Setup:

mov ah, 0xb8 :text video memory

mov es, ax ;ES=0xB800

mov al, 0x03 :Text Mode

int 0x10 :BIOS Call

mov ah, 1 : I hear this is

mov ch, 0x26 ; good to do

int 0x10 :BIOS Call

#### Text Mode Graphics

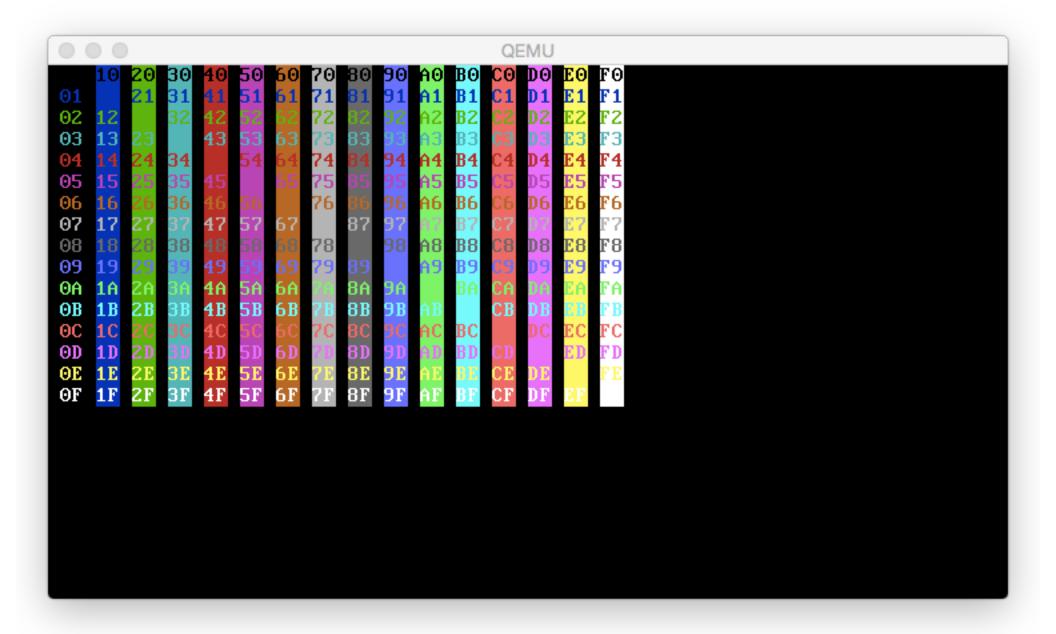
• Graphics Mode 0x03:

- "Text Mode" 80x25 characters
- Each caracter is 2 bytes:
  - Background Color Text Color Code 437 character
     4 bits 4 bits 8 bit

#### Colors

- · In order, the colors are:
  - Black
  - Blue

- · Green
- Cyan
- Red
- Magenta
- Orange
- Light Grey
- · Dark Grey
- · Purple
- · Light Green
- · Light Cyan
- · Light Red
- Light Magenta
- Yellow
- · White



#### Graphic

• Graphic Mode Setup:

mov ah, 0xA0 :Pixel Memory

mov es, ax ;  $ES=0\times A000$ 

mov al, 0x13 ; Graphic Mode

int 0x10 :BIOS Call

mov ah, 1 : I hear this is

mov ch, 0x26 ; good to do

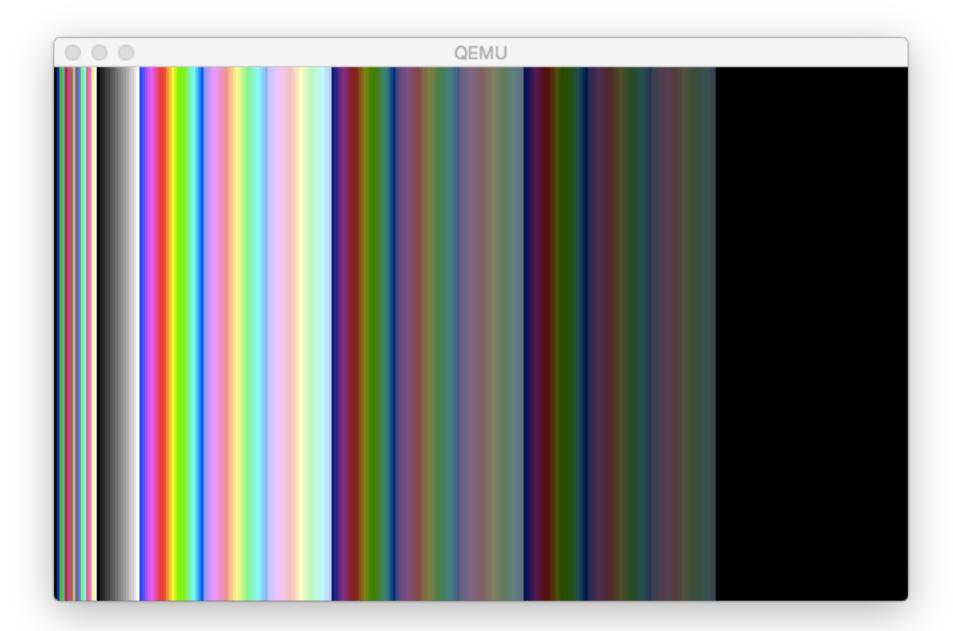
int 0x10 :BIOS Call



# Graphic Mode Graphics

• Graphics Mode 0x13

- "Graphic Mode" 320×200 pixels
- Each Pixel is 1 Byte
  - · 256 Color



#### Important Registers and Instructions I

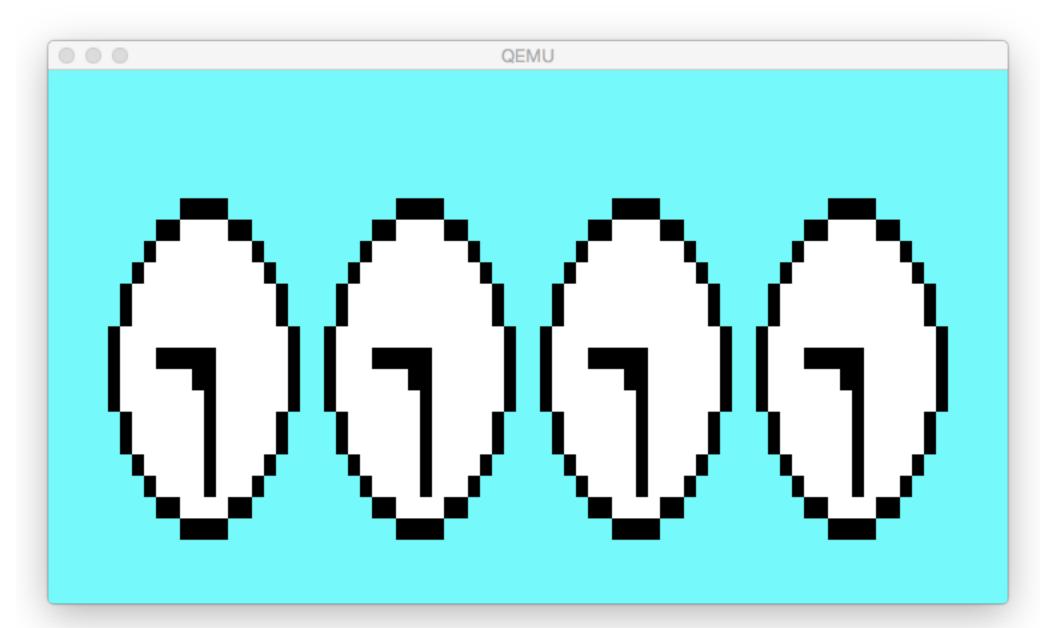
• DI Register:

- · The "Screen" state is stored in memory
- · 16-bit pointer to a "pixel" of the screen buffer
- AX Register:
  - · Pixel Data (BFCC)
    - · B: 4-bit Backgound
    - F: 4-bit Foreground
    - · CC: Code437 Character

#### Important Registers and Instructions II

• CX Register:

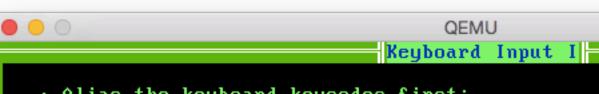
- · Counter used in conjunction with STOSW
- · STOSW Instruction:
  - · Puts AX data into DI (Video Mem) and Decrements CX
- · SCASW Instruction:
  - · Increment DI with the least machine code
- · CBW Instruction:
  - · Zero out AH in 1 byte



#### Time Delay Loop

Code for simple time delay loop:
 mov bx, [0x046C] ;Get timer state
 add bx, 2 ;2 ticks (can be more)
 delay:
 cmp [0x046C], bx
 jb delay





Alias the keyboard keycodes first:

LEFT EQU 75

RIGHT EQU 77

UP EQU 72

DOWN EQU 80

#### Keyboard Input II

```
:Get keyboard state
mov ah, 1
int 0x16
pop ax
jz persisted :if no keypress, jmp to persisting move state
:Clear Keyboard buffer
xor ah, ah
int 0x16
:Otherwise, move in direction last chose
persisted:
   push ax
```

#### QEMU

# Keyboard Input III

```
Check for directional pushes and take action cmp ah, LEFT je left cmp ah, RIGHT je right cmp ah, UP je up cmp ah, DOWN jne mainloop
```

#### Keyboard Input IV

#### Keyboard ISR

• Custom Keyboard Interrupt Service Routine:

```
cli ;Disable Interrupts

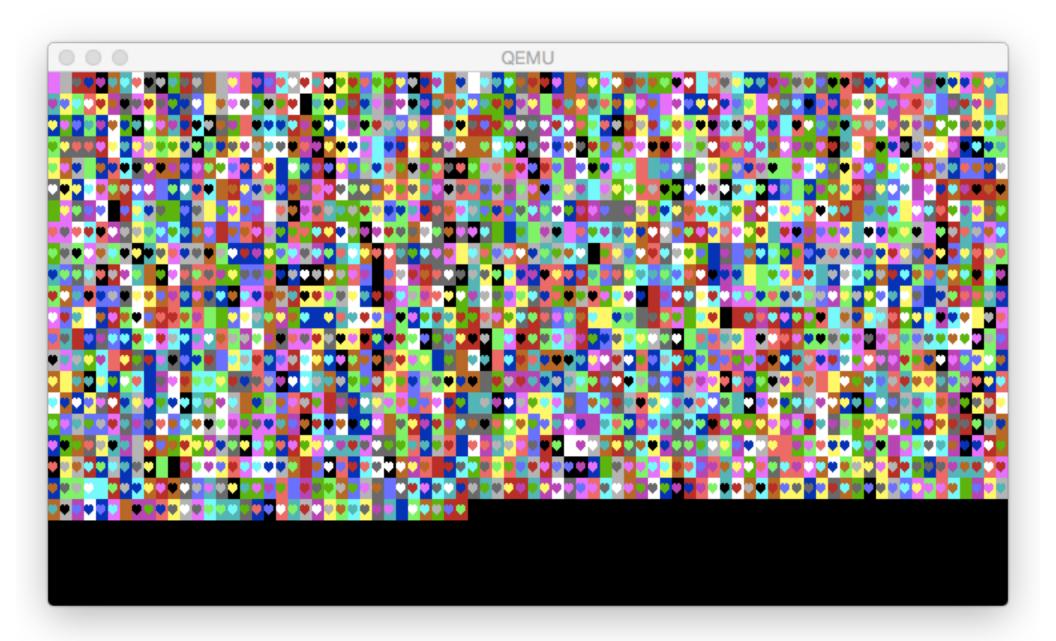
mov [es:4 * 9], word <mem_addr> ;Set ISR Addr In Interrupt Vector Table

mov [es:4 * 9 + 2], cs ;Set ISR Segment In IVT

sti ;Enable Interrupts
```

#### Keyboard ISR

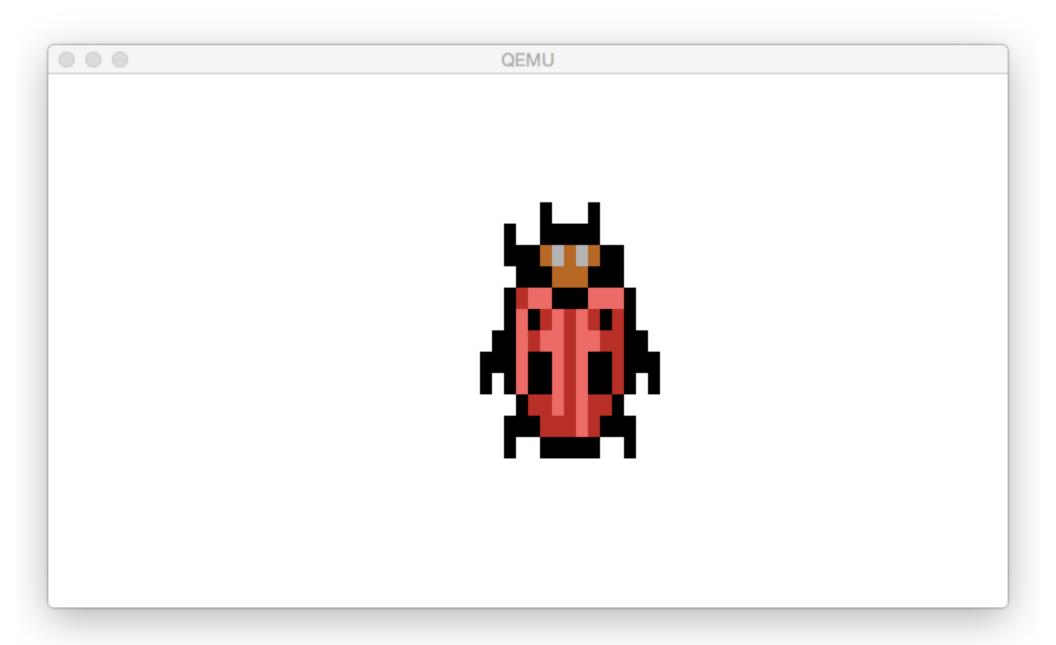
• Custom Keyboard Interrupt Service Routine:



Random

- Best way to get a random value:
  - · RDTSC Instruction

- Read Time-Stamp Counter
- · Value is returned to AX Register
- · LSBs more "random" than MSBs



## Debugging -

- Debugging Boot Sector Images:
  - · Using objdump

- · Attaching qemu to gdb
- · Actually using gdb:
  - Stepping
  - Breakpoints
  - Show Registers & Memory
  - Disassemble

Using Objdump

- These programs are 16-bit
- · There are no ELF/PE headers
- · Recommended Command:

0 0

objdump -D -b binary -mi386 -Maddr16,data16 YourImage

#### Attaching Qemu to GDB

• Start GDB and type:

```
target remote | qemu -S -gdb stdio -m 16 -boot c -hda YourImage

set architecture i8086

display /i ($cs*16)+$pc

stepi 11

br *0x7c00
```

cont

## Stepping in GDB

· Single Step: step

- · Step n times: step 7
- "Step Over" INT 0x10
  - · Note address of the INT 0x10
  - · Add 2 to this number
  - Set your breakpoint to that address
  - · Then continue

#### Break and Dump

- Breakpoint: br  $*0\times7c12$  (break at  $0\times7c12$ )
- · Continue: cont

- Show Registers: info registers
- Mem/Stack Dump: x /b 0x7c12 (dumps starting at 0x7c12)
- Dissassemble: disas 0x7c12, 0x7c1f (dissasemble from 0x7c12-0x7c1f)



