

# Macro

Refer to Book

***L.L. Beck:*** System Software-An Introduction to Systems Programming,  
Addition Wesley

# Introduction

- A macro instruction (abbreviated to macro) is simply a notational convenience for the programmer.
- Represents a commonly used group of statements in the source programming language
- Expanding a macro
  - Replace each macro instruction with the corresponding group of source language statements
- We will follow SIC (Simplified Instructional Computer) architecture and then
- NASM assembler (x86 arch)

# Theoretical Macro – SIC based

Part - I

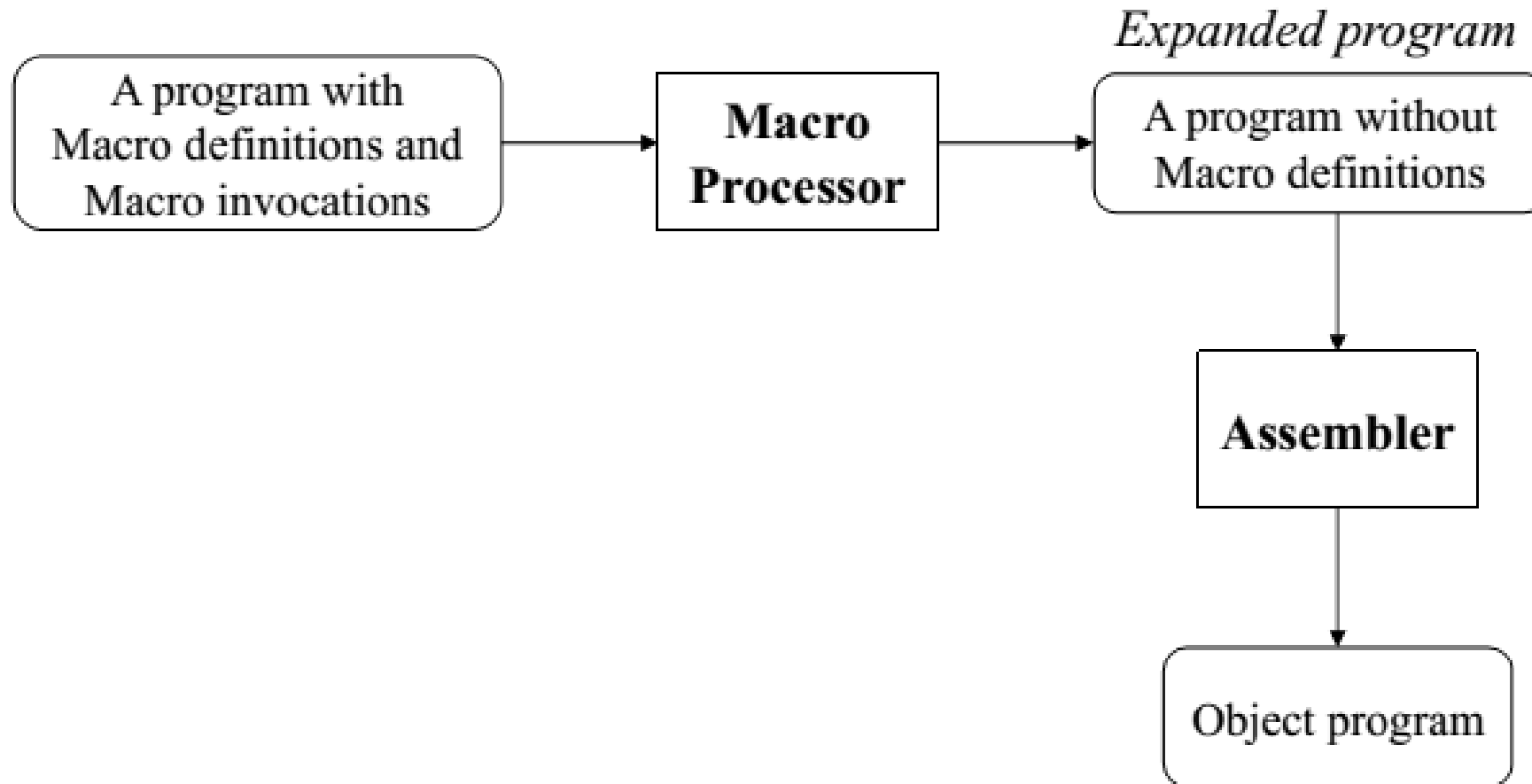
# Introduction

- SIC:
  - 24 bit registers
  - A, X, L - (0,1,2)
  - PC
  - SW (Status Word) - (8,9)
- GPR:
  - B, S, T, F - (3,4,5,6)

# Introduction

- For example:
- On SIC/XE (Extra Equipment), requires a sequence of seven instructions to save the contents of all registers
- A macro processor is not directly related to the architecture of the computer on which it is to run
- Macro processors can also be used with high-level programming languages, OS command languages, etc.

# Basic Macro Processor Functions



# Basic Macro Processor Functions

## Macro Definition:

1. Two new assembler directives
  - **MACRO**
  - **MEND**
2. A pattern or **prototype** for the macro instruction
3. Macro name and parameters

# Basic Macro Processor Functions

- Macro invocation
  - Often referred to as a ***macro call***
  - Need:
    - a) name of the macro instruction being invoked
    - b) arguments to be used in expanding the macro
- Expanded program
  - No macro instruction definitions
  - Each macro invocation statement has been expanded with
    - a) Macro body
    - b) Arguments substituted with the parameters in the prototype



# Macro Functionalities

- A. Copy code
- B. Parameter substitution
- C. Macro instruction defining macros
- D. Conditional macro expansion

# A. Copy Code

*Source*

```
STRG    MACRO
        STA    DATA1
        STB    DATA2
        STX    DATA3
        MEND

.
STRG
.
STRG
.
.
```

*Expanded source*

```
.
.
.
{ STA    DATA1
  STB    DATA2
  STX    DATA3
.
{ STA    DATA1
  STB    DATA2
  STX    DATA3
.
```

## B. Parameter Substitution

*Source*

```
STRG    MACRO    &a1, &a2, &a3
        STA      &a1
        STB      &a2
        STX      &a3
        MEND
.
STRG    DATA1, DATA2, DATA3
.
STRG    DATA4, DATA5, DATA6
.
.
```

*Expanded source*

```
.
.
.
{ STA    DATA1
  STB    DATA2
  STX    DATA3
.
{ STA    DATA4
  STB    DATA5
  STX    DATA6
.
```

## B. Parameter Substitution

- Dummy arguments

- Positional argument

STRG DATA1, DATA2, DATA3

GENER ,,DIRECT,,,,,3

- Keyword argument

STRG &a3=DATA1, &a2=DATA2, &a1=DATA3

GENER TYPE=DIRECT, CHANNEL=3

# Example

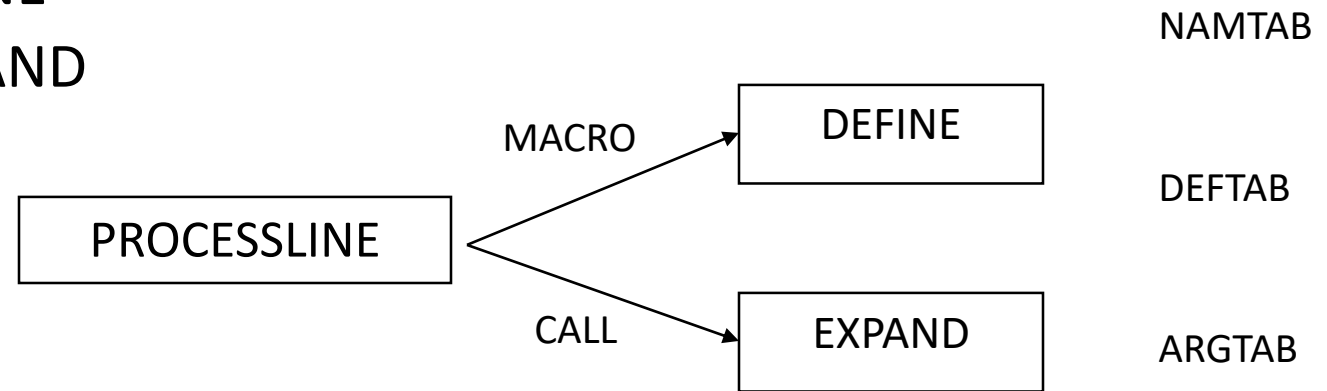
Line	Source statement			
5	COPY	START	0	COPY FILE FROM INPUT TO OUTPUT
10	RDBUFF	MACRO	&INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH	
15	.			
20	.	MACRO TO READ RECORD INTO BUFFER		
25	.			
30		CLEAR	X	CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35		CLEAR	A	
40		CLEAR	S	
45		+LDT	#4096	SET MAXIMUM RECORD LENGTH
50		TD	=X' &INDEV'	TEST INPUT DEVICE
55		JEQ	*-3	LOOP UNTIL READY
60		RD	=X' &INDEV'	READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65		COMPR	A, S	TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70		JEQ	*+11	EXIT LOOP IF EOR
75		STCH	&BUFADR, X	STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80		TIXR	T	LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85		JLT	*-19	HAS BEEN REACHED
90		STX	&RECLTH	SAVE RECORD LENGTH
95		MEND		

# Example

```
100      WRBUFF      MACRO      &OUTDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
105      .
110      .          MACRO TO WRITE RECORD FROM BUFFER
115      .
120      CLEAR      X          CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
125      LDT        &RECLTH
130      LDCH       &BUFADR, X  GET CHARACTER FROM BUFFER
135      TD         =X' &OUTDEV' TEST OUTPUT DEVICE
140      JEQ        *-3        LOOP UNTIL READY
145      WD         =X' &OUTDEV' WRITE CHARACTER
150      TIXR       T          LOOP UNTIL ALL CHARACTERS
155      JLT        *-14       HAVE BEEN WRITTEN
160      MEND
```

# One Pass Macro Processor *(prerequisite for C and D)*

- Prerequisite
  - Every macro must be defined before it is called
- Sub-procedures
  - macro definition: DEFINE
  - macro invocation: EXPAND

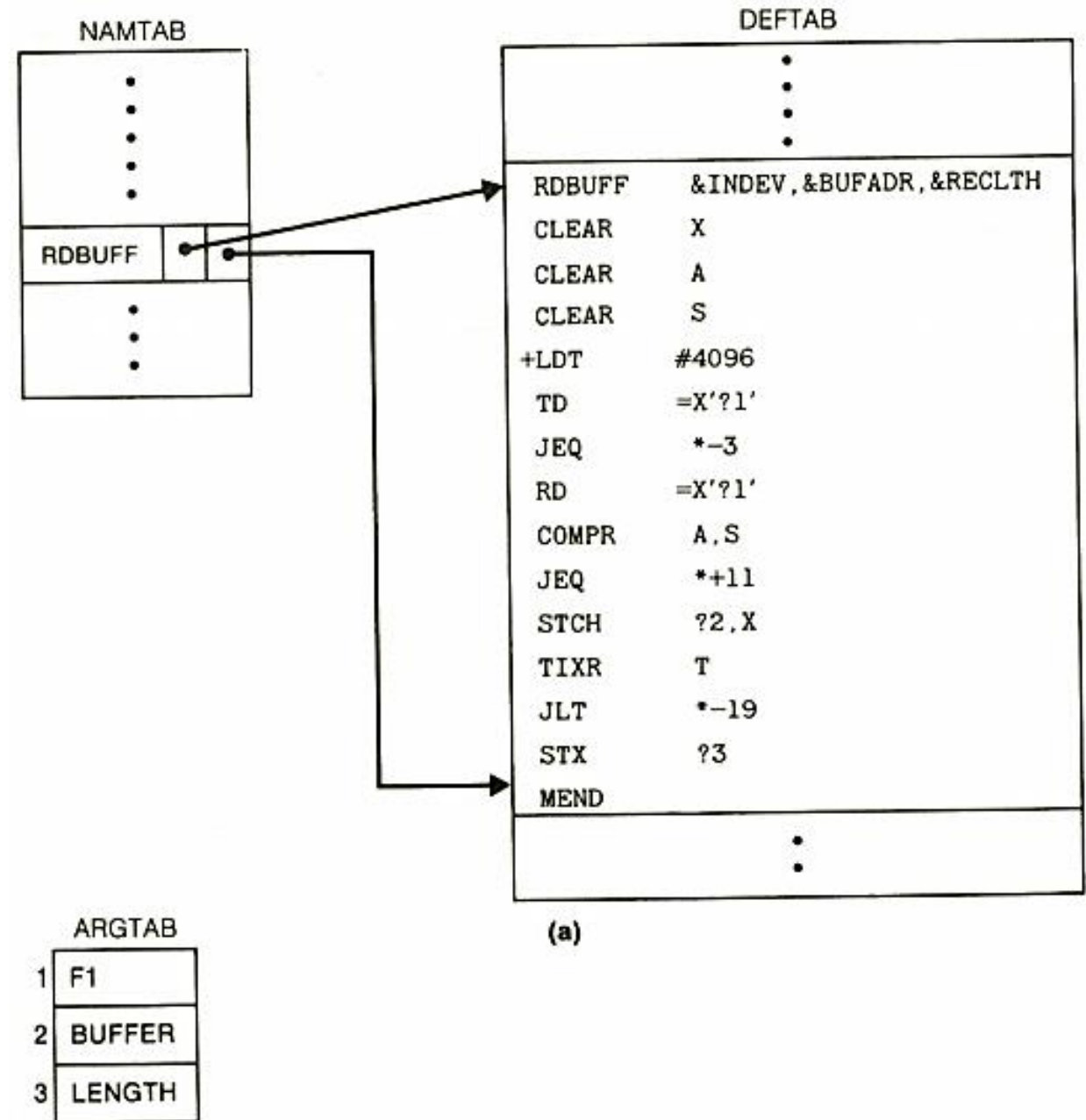


# Data Structures

- Because of the one-pass structure, the **definition** of a macro must appear in the source program **before any statements** that **invoke** that macro
- Three main data structures involved in an one-pass macro processor
  - DEFTAB,
  - NAMTAB,
  - ARGTAB



# Data Structures



# Algo. for one-pass Macro expansion

```
begin {macro processor}
    EXPANDING := FALSE
    while OPCODE  $\neq$  'END' do
        begin
            GETLINE
            PROCESSLINE
        end {while}
    end {macro processor}

procedure PROCESSLINE
    begin
        search NAMTAB for OPCODE
        if found then
            EXPAND
        else if OPCODE = 'MACRO' then
            DEFINE
        else write source line to expanded file
    end {PROCESSLINE}
```

## C. Nested Macro

```
1  MACROS      MACRO      {Defines SIC standard version macros}
2  RDBUFF      MACRO      &INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
    .
    .      {SIC standard version}
    .
3  MEND        {End of RDBUFF}
4  WRBUFF      MACRO      &OUTDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
    .
    .      {SIC standard version}
    .
5  MEND        {End of WRBUFF}
    .
    .
6  MEND        {End of MACROS}
```

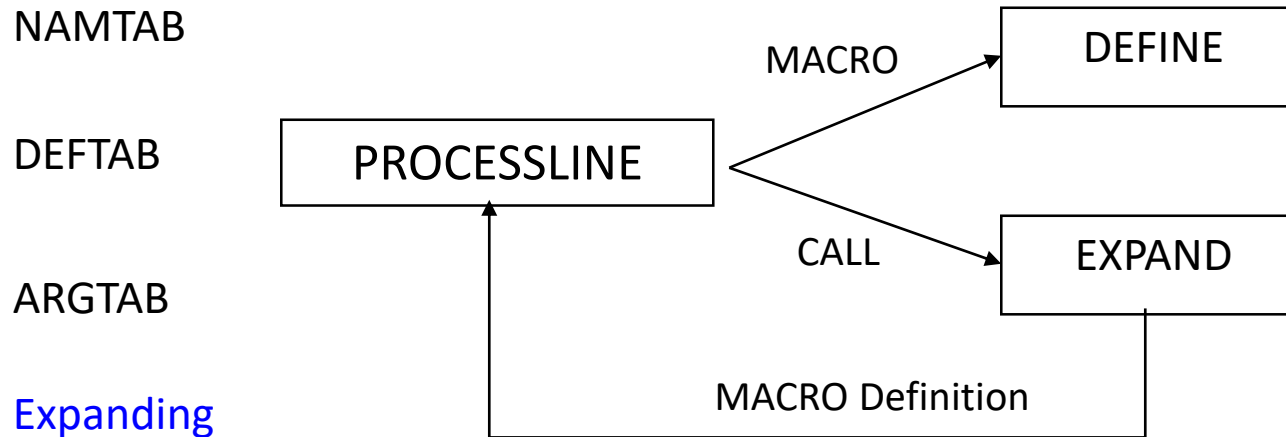
**(a)**

## C. Nested Macro

```
1  MACROX      MACRO      {Defines SIC/XE macros}
2  RDBUFF      MACRO      &INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
                          .
                          .      {SIC/XE version}
                          .
3      MEND      {End of RDBUFF}
4  WRBUFF      MACRO      &OUTDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
                          .
                          .      {SIC/XE version}
                          .
5      MEND      {End of WRBUFF}
                          .
                          .
6      MEND      {End of MACROX}
```

# One Pass Macro Processor: *for nested macro*

- Sub-procedures
  - macro definition: DEFINE
  - macro invocation: EXPAND
- EXPAND may invoke DEFINE when encounter macro definition



# Algo. for one-pass Macro expansion

```
begin {macro processor}
    EXPANDING := FALSE
    while OPCODE  $\neq$  'END' do
        begin
            GETLINE
            PROCESSLINE
        end {while}
    end {macro processor}

procedure PROCESSLINE
    begin
        search NAMTAB for OPCODE
        if found then
            EXPAND
        else if OPCODE = 'MACRO' then
            DEFINE
        else write source line to expanded file
    end {PROCESSLINE}
```

```

procedure DEFINE
  begin
    enter macro name into NAMTAB
    enter macro prototype into DEFTAB
    LEVEL := 1
    while LEVEL > 0 do
      begin
        GETLINE
        if this is not a comment line then
          begin
            substitute positional notation for parameters
            enter line into DEFTAB
            if OPCODE = 'MACRO' then
              LEVEL := LEVEL + 1
            else if OPCODE = 'MEND' then
              LEVEL := LEVEL - 1
            end {if not comment}
          end {while}
        store in NAMTAB pointers to beginning and end of definition
      end {DEFINE}

```

```

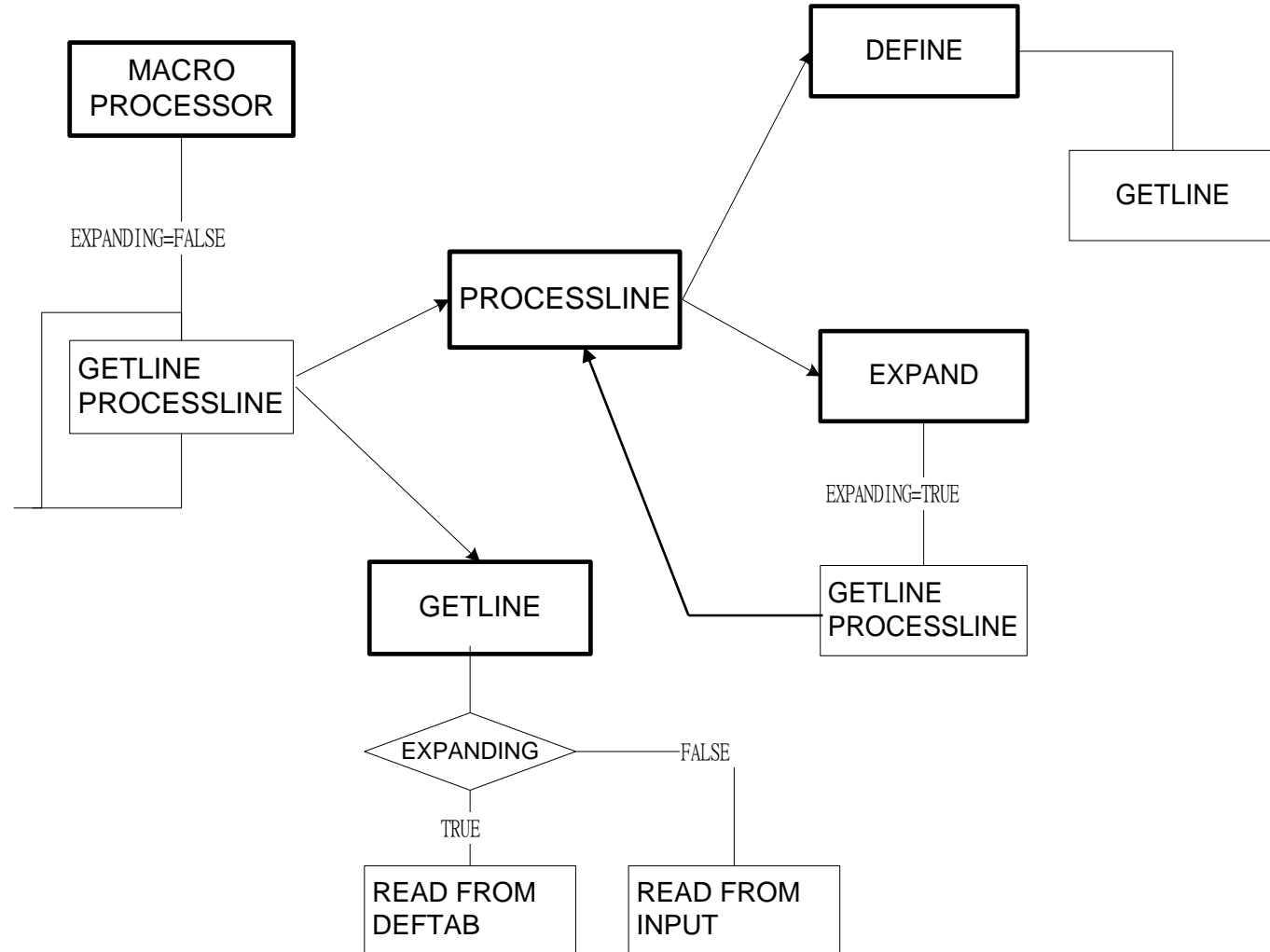
procedure EXPAND
  begin
    EXPANDING := TRUE
    get first line of macro definition {prototype} from DEFTAB
    set up arguments from macro invocation in ARGTAB
    write macro invocation to expanded file as a comment
    while not end of macro definition do
      begin
        GETLINE
        PROCESSLINE
      end {while}
    EXPANDING := FALSE
  end {EXPAND}

procedure GETLINE
  begin
    if EXPANDING then
      begin
        get next line of macro definition from DEFTAB
        substitute arguments from ARGTAB for positional notation
      end {if}
    else
      read next line from input file
    end {GETLINE}

```



# One Pass Macro Processor



# Algo.

```
procedure DEFINE
begin
  enter macro name into NAMTAB
  enter macro prototype into DEFTAB
  LEVEL := 1
  while LEVEL > 0 do
    begin
      GETLINE
      if this is not a comment line then
        begin
          substitute positional notation for parameters
          enter line into DEFTAB
          if OPCODE = 'MACRO' then
            LEVEL := LEVEL + 1
          else if OPCODE = 'MEND' then
            LEVEL := LEVEL - 1
          end {if not comment}
        end {while}
      store in NAMTAB pointers to beginning and end of definition
    end {DEFINE}
```

Algo.

```
procedure EXPAND
begin
    EXPANDING := TRUE
    get first line of macro definition {prototype} from DEFTAB
    set up arguments from macro invocation in ARGTAB
    write macro invocation to expanded file as a comment
    while not end of macro definition do
        begin
            GETLINE
            PROCESSLINE
        end {while}
    EXPANDING := FALSE
end {EXPAND}

procedure GETLINE
begin
    if EXPANDING then
        begin
            get next line of macro definition from DEFTAB
            substitute arguments from ARGTAB for positional notation
        end {if}
    else
        read next line from input file
    end {GETLINE}
```

# Macro Expansion Types

- **Lexical Substitution:**

- Replacement of a character string by another character string during program generation
- Replacement of Formal Parameters with Actual Parameters
- Formal Parameter => Macro name and/or parameter list
  - E.g. for the macro       **STRG**    **MACRO &a1, &a2, &a3**
  - The call               **STRG**    DATA1, DATA2, DATA3
- Actual Parameter => Macro body that replaces the formal parameters
  - E.g. After replacement, the macro body
  - **STA**    **DATA1**
  - **STB**    **DATA2**
  - **STX**    **DATA3**

# Macro Expansion Types

- **Semantic Expansion:**

- Generation of instructions tailored to the requirements of a specific usage.

- ***Characteristics:***

- Different uses of a macro can lead to codes which differ in the number, sequence and opcodes of instructions.

- Eg: Generation of type specific instructions for manipulation of byte and word operands.

# Example

- The following sequence of instructions is used to increment the value in a memory word by a constant.
  1. Move the value (A) from the memory word into a machine register.
  2. Increment the value in the machine register.
  3. Move the new value into the memory word.
- Since the instruction sequence **MOVE-ADD-MOVE** may be used a number of times in a program, it is convenient to define a **macro** named INCR.

# Example

- Using **Lexical expansion** the macro call **INCR A, B, AREG** can lead to the generation of a **MOVE-ADD-MOVE** instruction sequence
- Increments **A** by the value of **B** using **AREG** (register) to perform the arithmetic.
- Use of **Semantic expansion** can enable the instruction sequence to be adapted to the **types** of **A** and **B**.
- For example: an **INC** instruction (in Intel **8088**) could be generated if **A** is a **byte** operand and **B** has the value **"1"**.

# Macro vs. Subroutine

- Use of a macro name in the mnemonic field of an assembly statement leads to its expansion,
- Whereas, use of subroutine name in a call instruction leads to its execution.
- So there is difference in
  - **Size**
  - **Execution Efficiency**
- Macros can be said to trade program size for execution efficiency.



# D. Machine-Independent Macro Processor Feature

1. Concatenation of Macro Parameters
2. Generation of Unique Labels
3. Conditional Macro Expansion
4. Keyword Macro Parameters

# 1. Concatenation of Macro Parameters

- Most macro processors allow parameters to be concatenated with other character strings
- The need of a special concatenation operator
  - LDA **X&ID1**
  - LDA **X&ID**
- The concatenation operator
  - LDA **X&ID -> 1**

# 1. Example

1	SUM	MACRO	&ID
2		LDA	X&ID→1
3		ADD	X&ID→2
4		ADD	X&ID→3
5		STA	X&ID→S
6		MEND	

SUM	A
↓	
LDA	XA1
ADD	XA2
ADD	XA3
STA	XAS

SUM	BETA
↓	
LDA	XBETA1
ADD	XBETA2
ADD	XBETA3
STA	XBETAS

## 2. Generation of Unique Labels

- It is, in general, **not possible** for the body of a macro instruction to contain labels of the usual kind
- Leads to the use of relative addressing at the source statement level
  - Only be acceptable for short jumps
- Solution:
  - Allowing the creation of special types of labels within macro instructions

## 2. Generation of Unique Labels

Solution:

- Allowing the creation of special types of labels within macro instructions
- Labels used within the macro body begin with the special character **\$**
- Programmers are instructed **no to use \$** in their source programs

## 2. Example

```
25  RDBUFF  MACRO    &INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH
30              CLEAR X          CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35              CLEAR A
40              CLEAR S
45              +LDT  #4096        SET MAXIMUM RECORD LENGTH
50  $LOOP    TD      =X' &INDEV'  TEST INPUT DEVICE
55              JEQ   $LOOP        LOOP UNTIL READY
60              RD    =X' &INDEV'  READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65              COMPR A, S          TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70              JEQ   $EXIT        EXIT LOOP IF EOR
75              STCH  &BUFADR, X    STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80              TIXR  T            LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85              JLT   $LOOP        HAS BEEN REACHED
90  $EXIT    STX      &RECLTH      SAVE RECORD LENGTH
95              MEND
```

## 2. Example

```
.          RDBUFF    F1, BUFFER, LENGTH

30          CLEAR    X          CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35          CLEAR    A
40          CLEAR    S
45          +LDT      #4096      SET MAXIMUM RECORD LENGTH
50  $AALoop    TD      =X'F1'    TEST INPUT DEVICE
55          JEQ       $AALoop    LOOP UNTIL READY
60          RD        =X'F1'    READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65          COMPR     A, S      TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70          JEQ       $AAEXIT    EXIT LOOP IF EOR
75          STCH      BUFFER, X  STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80          TIXR      T          LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85          JLT       $AALoop    HAS BEEN REACHED
90  $AAEXIT    STX      LENGTH   SAVE RECORD LENGTH
```

# 3. Conditional Macro Expansion

Most macro processors can:

- Modify the sequence of statements generated for a macro expansion
- Depending on the arguments supplied in the macro invocation
- Macro processor directive
  - IF, ELSE, ENDIF
  - SET
    - Macro-time variable (set symbol)
- WHILE-ENDW



### 3. Example for IF-ELSE- ENDIF

```

25   RDBUFF      MACRO      &INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH, &EOR, &MAXLTH
26               IF        (&EOR NE ' ')
27   &EORCK      SET      1
28               ENDIF
30               CLEAR     X                CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35               CLEAR     A
38               IF        (&EORCK EQ 1)
40               LDCH      =X'&EOR'        SET EOR CHARACTER
42               RMO       A, S
43               ENDIF
44               IF        (&MAXLTH EQ ' ')
45               +LDT      #4096            SET MAX LENGTH = 4096
46               ELSE
47               +LDT      #&MAXLTH        SET MAXIMUM RECORD LENGTH
48               ENDIF
50   $LOOP      TD        =X'&INDEV'      TEST INPUT DEVICE
55               JEQ       $LOOP          LOOP UNTIL READY
60               RD        =X'&INDEV'      READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
63               IF        (&EORCK EQ 1)
65               COMPR     A, S            TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70               JEQ       $EXIT          EXIT LOOP IF EOR
73               ENDIF
75               STCH      &BUFADR, X      STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80               TIXR      T              LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85               JLT       $LOOP          HAS BEEN REACHED
90   $EXIT      STX        &RECLTH        SAVE RECORD LENGTH
95               MEND

```

	.	RDBUFF	F3, BUF, RECL, 04, 2048	
30		CLEAR	X	CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35		CLEAR	A	
40		LDCH	=X'04'	SET EOR CHARACTER
42		RMO	A, S	
47		+LDT	#2048	SET MAXIMUM RECORD LENGTH
50	\$AALoop	TD	=X'F3'	TEST INPUT DEVICE
55		JEQ	\$AALoop	LOOP UNTIL READY
60		RD	=X'F3'	READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65		COMPR	A, S	TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70		JEQ	\$AAEXIT	EXIT LOOP IF EOR
75		STCH	BUF, X	STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80		TIXR	T	LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85		JLT	\$AALoop	HAS BEEN REACHED
90	\$AAEXIT	STX	RECL	SAVE RECORD LENGTH



RDBUFF F1, BUFF, RLENG, 04

30		CLEAR	X	CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35		CLEAR	A	
40		LDCH	=X'04'	SET EOR CHARACTER
42		RMO	A, S	
45		+LDT	#4096	SET MAX LENGTH = 4096
50	\$ACLOOP	TD	=X'F1'	TEST INPUT DEVICE
55		JEQ	\$ACLOOP	LOOP UNTIL READY
60		RD	=X'F1'	READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65		COMPR	A, S	TEST FOR END OF RECORD
70		JEQ	\$ACEXIT	EXIT LOOP IF EOR
75		STCH	BUFF, X	STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80		TIXR	T	LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85		JLT	\$ACLOOP	HAS BEEN REACHED
90	\$ACEXIT	STX	RLENG	SAVE RECORD LENGTH

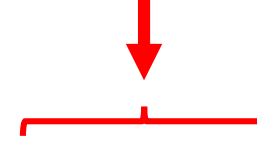
### 3. Example for **WHILE- ENDW**

```

25  RDBUFF      MACRO      &INDEV, &BUFADR, &RECLTH, &EOR
27  &EORCT      SET       %NITEMS (&EOR)
30                      CLEAR  X                CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35                      CLEAR  A
45                      +LDT   #4096            SET MAX LENGTH = 4096
50  $LOOP      TD       =X' &INDEV'           TEST INPUT DEVICE
55                      JEQ    $LOOP           LOOP UNTIL READY
60                      RD     =X' &INDEV'     READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
63  &CTR        SET     1
64                      WHILE  (&CTR LE &EORCT)
65                      COMP   =X' 0000&EOR[&CTR] '
70                      JEQ    $EXIT
71  &CTR        SET     &CTR+1
73                      ENDW
75                      STCH   &BUFADR, X      STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80                      TIXR   T                LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85                      JLT    $LOOP           HAS BEEN REACHED
90  $EXIT      STX      &RECLTH              SAVE RECORD LENGTH
100                      MEND

```





.	RDBUFF	F2, BUFFER, LENGTH, (00, 03, 04)	
30	CLEAR	X	CLEAR LOOP COUNTER
35	CLEAR	A	
45	+LDT	#4096	SET MAX LENGTH = 4096
50	\$AALoop	TD =X'F2'	TEST INPUT DEVICE
55	JEQ	\$AALoop	LOOP UNTIL READY
60	RD	=X'F2'	READ CHARACTER INTO REG A
65	COMP	=X'000000'	
70	JEQ	\$AAEXIT	
65	COMP	=X'000003'	
70	JEQ	\$AAEXIT	
65	COMP	=X'000004'	
70	JEQ	\$AAEXIT	
75	STCH	BUFFER, X	STORE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
80	TIXR	T	LOOP UNLESS MAXIMUM LENGTH
85	JLT	\$AALoop	HAS BEEN REACHED
90	\$AAEXIT	STX LENGTH	SAVE RECORD LENGTH

## 4. Keyword Macro Parameters

- Positional Parameters
- Keyword Parameters
  - As discussed earlier

# Previous Design Approaches

Part - II



# Type of Macro processors

- Macro Preprocessors
  - Independent Macro processor.
  - To be invoked separately before the Assembler
- Macro Assemblers
  - Part of the Assembler
  - Assembler runs this module by default before assembling

# Pass Structure

- Two-pass macro processors
  - Goes through the program twice
  - Once to find the definitions
  - Second pass to expand the Macros
- One-pass macro processors
  - Single scan on the source program
  - Defines and Expands macro in single go
  - We have discussed this type

# Two-pass Macro Processors

- Assumptions:
  - Functionally independent of the Assembler
  - Macro call may occur within a macro definition
  - Can Nested Macros be permitted?
    - ***NO***

# Pass I – Create Database

1. Check each input line for Keyword MACRO
2. If found,
  - a) Copy the entire code block, including corresponding MEND
  - b) Insert this code block into next available location in DEFTAB
  - c) Insert Macro name into next available location in NAMTAB
  - d) Insert Start and End address from DEFTAB into corresponding NAMTAB entry
  - e) Remove the entire the entire code block from the source program
3. Stop if no more lines in the source program

# Pass II – Process Macro Call

1. Check each WORD in the source program and match with NAMTAB entries
2. If found
  - a) From DEFTAB, find the number of parameters required
  - b) Search for the Arguments (if any) from the source code
  - c) Put the Arguments in the corresponding location of the ARGTAB
  - d) Remove the Formal Parameters from Source program
  - e) Take next line of Macro body from DEFTAB
  - f) Replace Formal Parameters with Actual Parameters using ARGTAB
  - g) Put line in source program's current location
  - h) Go back to **Step (e)** till MEND is encountered
3. Stop if no more lines in the source program

# Advantages

- Simple, well defined algorithm
- Modest space requirement
  - Pass 1 requires memory for NAMTAB and DEFTAB
- Forward references are permitted
  - Macro call can precede the associated Macro definition
- A Macro can be defined anywhere in the program

# Disadvantages

- Source program is read twice
  - Execution overhead
- A macro can not be redefined
- Macro conditional statements are not included in general
  - But can be implemented if required
- Intermediate file need to be stored between Pass1 and Pass2

# One-pass Macro Properties

- Advantages
  - Single-pass: Less overhead
  - Nested Macro permitted
  - Conditional statements permitted
  - Macro can be redefined
  - No intermediate file required
- Disadvantages
  - A Macro definition must precede any call to that macro
  - Primary Memory requirement is more



# General-Purpose Macro Processors: Issues

- In spite of the advantages noted, there are still relatively few general-purpose macro processors.
- In a typical programming language, there are several situations in which normal macro parameter substitution should not occur
  - E.g. comments should usually be ignored by a macro processor

# General-Purpose Macro Processors: Issues

- Another difference between programming languages is related to their facilities for grouping together terms, expressions, or statements
  - E.g. Some languages use keywords such as begin and end for grouping statements. Others use special characters such as { and }

# General-Purpose Macro Processors: Issues

- A more general problem involves the tokens of the programming language
  - – E.g. identifiers, constants, operators, and keywords
  - – E.g. blanks

# General-Purpose Macro Processors: Issues

- Another potential problem with general purpose macro processors involves the **syntax** used for **macro definitions** and **macro invocation** statements.
- With most special purpose macro processors, macro invocations are very similar in form to statements in the source programming language

# Hygienic macro

- If a Macro expansion is guaranteed not to cause the **accidental capture of Identifiers**
- This problem is well known in LISP
- A Macro Specific identifier may **overshadow a source program's identifier**

# Example (C++)

```
#define INCI(i) do { int a=0; ++i; } while(0)
```

```
int main(void)
{
    int a = 4, b = 8;
    INCI(a);
    INCI(b);
    printf("a is now %d, b is now %d\n", a, b);
    return 0;
}
```

```
int main(void)
{
    int a = 4, b = 8;
    do { int a=0; ++a; } while(0);
    do { int a=0; ++b; } while(0);
    printf("a is now %d, b is now %d\n", a, b);
    return 0;
}
```

# Macro in NASM

Part - III

# NASM preprocessor

- Preprocessor directives all begin with a % sign.
- The preprocessor collapses all lines which end with a backslash (\) character into a single line. Thus:

```
%define THIS_VERY_LONG_MACRO_IS_DEFINED_TO \  
THIS_VALUE
```

- will work like a single-line macro without the backslash-newline sequence.



# Single-line macros

- **%define** – defines single-line macro (c-style).

- `%define ctrl 0x1F &`  
`%define param (a, b) ((a)+(a)*(b))`

`mov byte [param(2,ebx)], ctrl 'D'`

expands to

`mov byte [(2)+(2)*(ebx)], 0x1F & 'D'`

# Single-line macros

- When the expansion of a single-line macro contains tokens which **invoke another macro**, the expansion is performed at **invocation time**, not at definition time.

```
%define a(x) 1+b(x)
%define b(x) 2*x
mov ax,a(8)
```

- will evaluate in the expected way to

```
mov ax,1+2*8
```

# Single-line macros

- Macros defined with **%define** are **case sensitive**.
- You can use **%ifndef** to define **all the case variants** of a macro at once.
- There is a mechanism which detects when a macro call has occurred as a result of a previous expansion of the same macro, to guard against circular references and infinite loops.

# Single-line macros

- You can overload single-line macros:

```
%define foo(x) 1+x  
%define foo(x,y) 1+x*y
```

- The preprocessor will be able to handle both types of macro call, by counting the parameters you pass.

# Single-line macros

- **%undef**– undefines defined single-line macro

```
%define foo go  
%undef foo  
mov ax, foo
```

- will expand to the instruction **mov eax, foo**
  - since after **%undef** the macro **foo** is no longer defined.

# Single-line macros

- **%assign**
- – used to define single-line macros which **take no parameters** and have a **numeric value**.
- The value can be specified in the form of an expression, and it will be evaluated once, when the %assign directive is processed.
- Like %define, macros defined using %assign can be **re-defined** later, so you can do things like:

```
%assign i i+1
```

# Multi-line macros

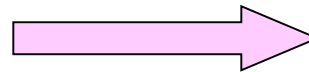
- Works with `%macro ... %endmacro` mechanism.

```
%macro prologue 1  
    push ebp  
    mov ebp,esp  
    sub esp,%1  
%endmacro
```

this macro gets only one parameter

means: the first parameter of the macro

```
my_func: prologue 12
```



```
my_func:  
    push ebp  
    mov ebp,esp  
    sub esp,12
```

- With a macro taking more than one parameter, subsequent parameters would be referred to as `%2`, `%3` and so on .

# Multi-line macros

- Multi-line macros, like single-line macros, are case-sensitive, unless you define them using the alternative directive `%imacro`.
- If you need to pass a comma as part of a parameter to a multi-line macro, you can do that by enclosing the entire parameter in braces.

```
%macro silly 2
    %2: db %1
%endmacro
```

```
silly 'a', letter_a
silly 'ab', string_ab
silly {13,10}, crlf
```



# Multi-line macros

- As with single-line macros, multi-line macros can be overloaded by defining the same macro name several times with different numbers of parameters.

# Conditional Assembly

- Similarly to the C preprocessor, NASM allows sections of a source file to be assembled only if certain conditions are met.

- General syntax:

**%if<condition>**

    ; some code which only appears if <condition> is met

**%elif<condition2>**

    ; only appears if <condition> is not met but <condition2> is

**%else**

    ; this appears if neither <condition> nor <condition2> was met %endif

- The **%else** clause is **optional**, as is the **%elif** clause.
- You can have **more than one %elif** clause as well.

# Preprocessor Loops

- **%rep** and **%endrep** enclose a chunk of code, which is then replicated as many times as specified by the preprocessor
- Example:

```
%assign i 0
%rep 64
    inc word [table+2*i]
    %assign i i+1
%endrep
```

# Preprocessor Loops

- To break out of a repeat loop part way along, you can use the `%exitrep` directive to terminate the loop

Example:

```
fibonacci:
%assign i 0
%assign j 1
%rep 100
    %if j > 65535
        %exitrep
    %endif
    dw j
    %assign k j+i
    %assign i j
    %assign j k
%endrep
```