

# ELEMENT 2: LITTLE MAN COMPUTER

Computer Architecture



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## Introduction: Little Man Computer

The Little Man Computer also known as LMC was created by DR. Stuart Madnick at MIT. LMC models Von Neumann architecture, which means that LMC has all of the basic features that is required in modern computer. It can be programmed in assemble code (machine code). By using a LMC simulator, coders can run programs that they create.

Von Neumann Architecture is a computer architecture created by a mathematician and physicist called John Von Neumann. His Architecture consists of Input – Output Unit, Control Unit, Logic Unit and Memory Unit.

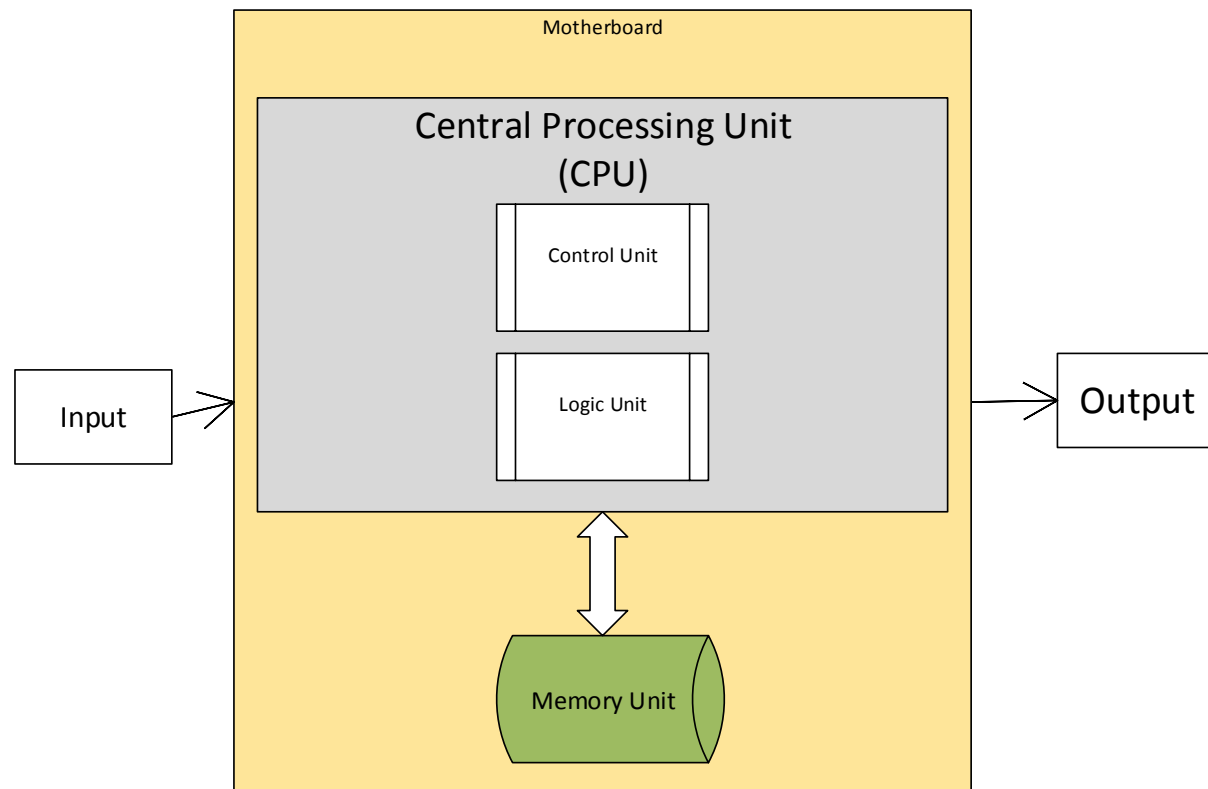


Figure 1 Vonn Neumann Architecture

The LMC works by interpreting the instruction set which contains 3-digit numeric codes or mnemonics codes (Opt. code). In this module, there are 10 different instruction sets that can be used whereas more complex and modern machines can allow programmers to carry out complicated instructions with simple code. The example of an instruction set for Little Man Computer is shown in figure 2.

# LMC Instruction Set

Arithmetic	1xx	ADD
	2xx	SUB
Data Movement	3xx	STORE
	5xx	LOAD
BR	6xx	JUMP
BRZ	7xx	BRANC ON 0
BRP	8xx	BRANCH ON +
Input/Output	901	INPUT
	902	OUTPUT
Machine Control (coffee break)	000	HALT
		COB

Figure 2 LMC Instruction set

The Little Man Computer simulator is used to test and write algorithms. This simulator checks if the assembly codes is right and provides feedback when assemble button is clicked. The figure 3 shows a screenshot of the LMC simulator.

- ADD: Takes the value from whatever is stored in mailbox “xy” and then adds it to the value stored in the accumulator.
- SUB: Takes the value from whatever is stored in mailbox “xy” and then subtracts it to the value stored in the accumulator.
- STO: Stores the value in the accumulator to the mailbox “xy”. This will overwrite previously stored value in mailbox.
- LDA: Loads the value stored from the mailbox “xy” and then enters it to accumulator.
- BR (branch): Jumps to mailbox “xy” and then executes whatever command is stored.
- BRZ: If the accumulator holds the value of 0, then it jumps to mailbox “xy” and then executes the command stored in the mailbox.
- BRP: If the accumulator holds positive value, then it jumps to mailbox “xy” and then executes the command stored in the mailbox.
- IN: Input a number
- OUT: Output current number from the accumulator.
- HLT and COB: Halts the program normally.
- DAT: Used to assign or declare variables.

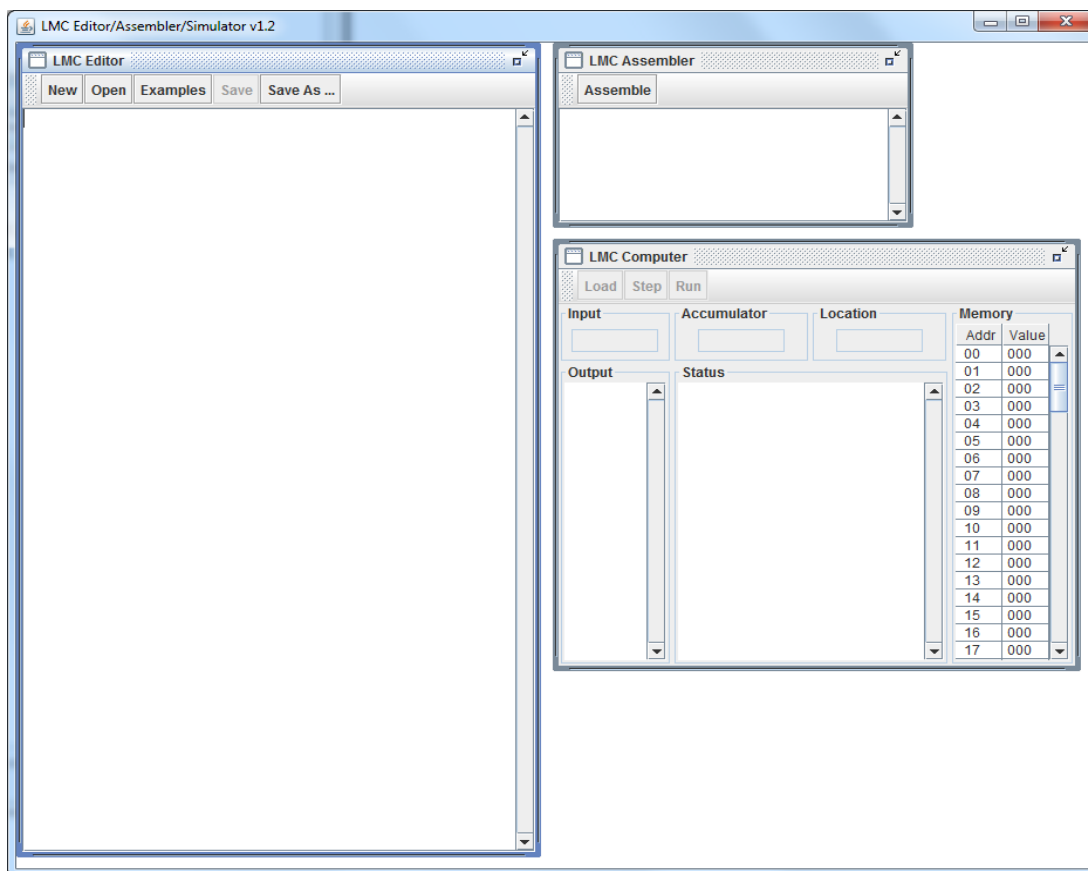


Figure 3 LMC Simulator

The memory in LMC has 99 addresses in which data is stored.

## Programs

I have 3 programs that consists of Countdown, Triangle number sequence and Fibonacci sequence within menu. The menu code is used so that users can select which program they want to use or run. My algorithms run perfectly with no errors only if the value inputted is in the region of -500 to 499. Overflow is avoided if the value entered is within the range.

### Menu algorithm:

The menu algorithm resets the value entered to the default value as well as enabling the user to choose on what program to execute. These algorithm is based on the user's input. Figure 4 shows how my program will work.

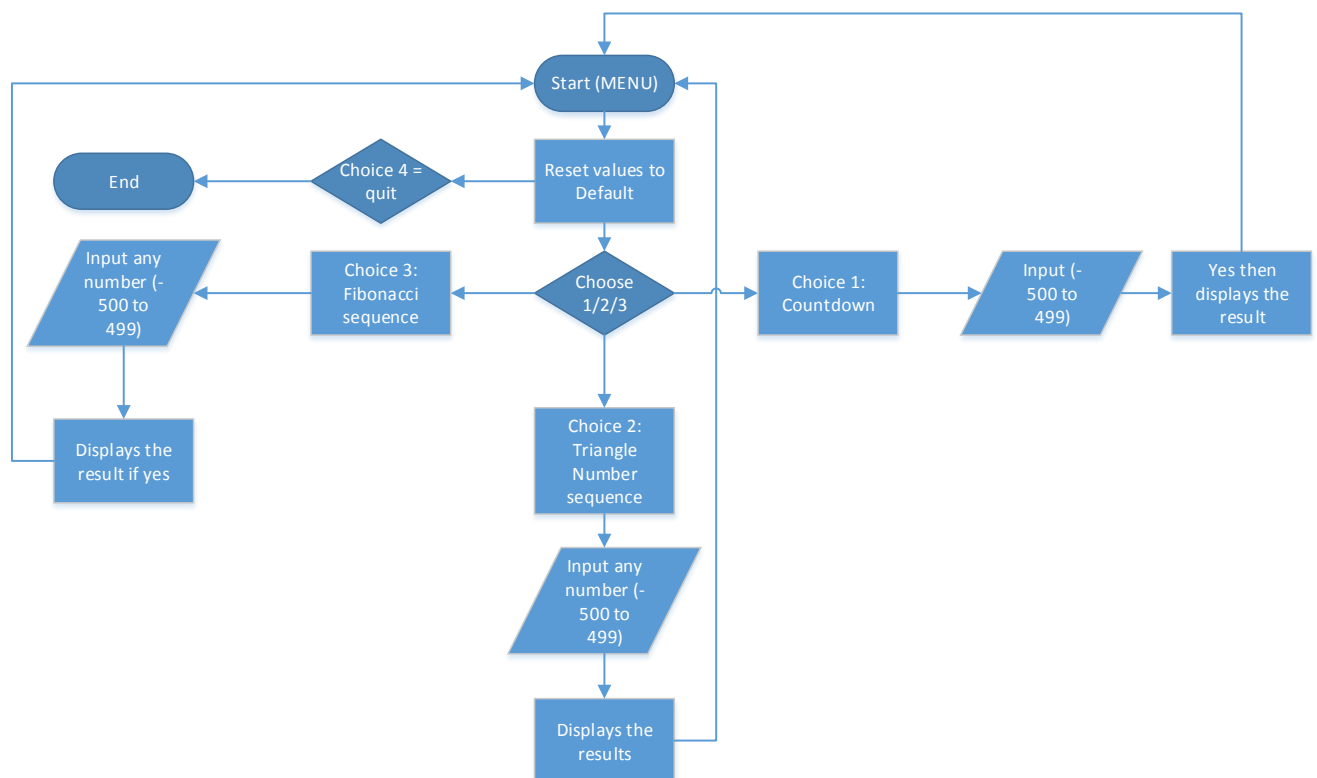


Figure 4 Flowchart for my program using LMC

The user has to select one of four following options:

1. Countdown: This program will display numbers counting down from what the user has inputted. This program runs if the user inputs "1".
2. Tri-number: This program will display the  $n$ th term for the number which is part of the Triangle sequence ( $n$ th number in the triangle sequence by using the main rule  $x_n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ ). The program runs only if the user inputs "2".
3. Fibonacci sequence: This program will display part of Fibonacci sequence but does not include the value entered as the input when the user inputs "3". This program is explained later on in this report.
4. Quit program: this program stops the algorithm from working whenever the user inputs "0".

Table 1 Menu code

Menu program with mnemonics			Opt. code	Address
Menu	IN		901	00
	STO	ch	372	01
	SUB	one	273	02
	BRZ	choice1	713	03
	LDA	ch	572	04
	SUB	two	274	05
	BRZ	choice2	725	06
	LDA	ch	572	07
	SUB	three	275	08
	BRZ	choice3	748	09
	LDA	ch	572	10
	SUB	four	276	11
	BRZ	choice4	771	12

Figure 5 shows that this menu code is working.

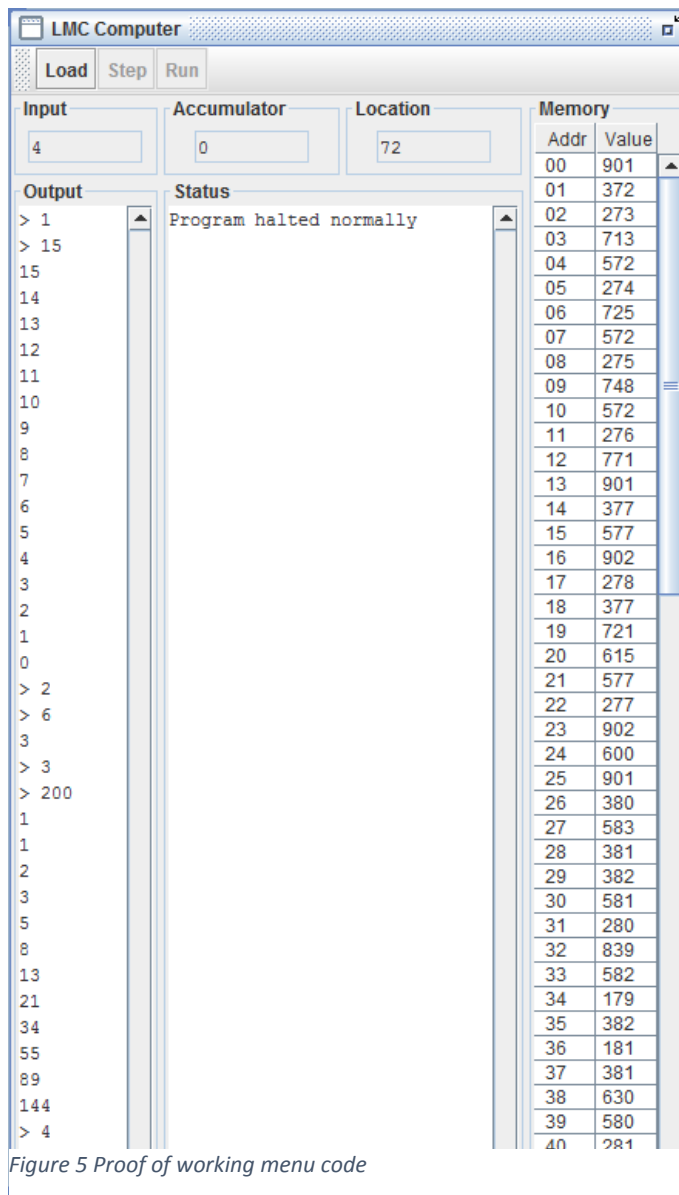


Figure 5 Proof of working menu code

### Countdown program (1):

Table 2 Code for countdown program

Countdown code with mnemonics			Opt code	Address
	IN		901	13
	STO	num	377	14
LOOP	LDA	num	577	15
	OUT		902	16
	SUB	ONE	278	17
	STO	num	377	18
	BRZ	ENDLOOP	721	19
	BR	LOOP	615	20
ENDLOOP	LDA	num	577	21
	SUB	num	277	22
	OUT		902	23
	BR	Menu	600	24

This code works and this can be seen in figure 5. In figure 5, the image shows that the user has inputted "15" after choosing to execute ("1") countdown. This program displays numbers from 15 to 0.

### Triangle number sequence program (2):

The code for finding the nth term of this sequence is in table 3.

Table 3 Code for trinum program

Triangle number code with mnemonics			Opt code	address
	IN		901	25
	STO	VALUE	380	26
	LDA	ZERO	583	27
	STO	TRINUM	381	28
	STO	NUM	382	29
LOOP2	LDA	TRINUM	581	30
	SUB	VALUE	280	31
	BRP	ENDLOOP2	839	32
	LDA	NUM	582	33
	ADD	TWO	179	34
	STO	NUM	382	35
	ADD	TRINUM	181	36
	STO	TRINUM	381	37
	BR	LOOP2	630	38
ENDLOOP2	LDA	VALUE	580	39
	SUB	TRINUM	281	40
	BRZ	EQUAL	745	41
	LDA	ZERO	583	42
	OUT		902	43
	BR	DONE	647	44
EQUAL	LDA	NUM	582	45
	OUT		902	46
DONE	BR	Menu	600	47

Figure 5 shows the working code when the user enters “2” in the input field and then enters an integer (“6” for this instance) the program will display the nth term for the integer that is inputted.

### Fibonacci sequence program (3):

The table 4 shows the code for Fibonacci sequence program.

Table 4 code for Fibonacci sequence

Fibonacci sequence code with mnemonics	Opt code	Address
IN	901	48
STO N	386	49
LOOP3 LDA A	584	50
SUB N	286	51
BRP ENDLOOP3	863	52
LDA A	584	53
OUT	902	54
LDA B	585	55
ADD A	184	56
STO ACCUMULATOR	387	57
LDA B	585	58
STO A	384	59
LDA ACCUMULATOR	587	60
STO B	385	61
BR LOOP3	650	62
ENDLOOP3 BR LOOP3	664	63
	573	64
LOOP3 LDA ONE	384	65
STO A	385	67
STO B	387	68
STO ACCUMULATOR	583	69
LDA ZERO	600	70
STO N	000	71
BR Menu	004	72

This is a working code; this can be seen in figure 5. In figure 5 the user inputs “3” to choose the Fibonacci program to execute. The user enters “200” (200 is not part of Fibonacci sequence) and LMC displays numbers up to 144.

### Stop the programs (4):

This code stops the program.

Table 5 Stop code for the program

Stop code with mnemonics	Opt code	Address
choice4 HLT	002	74

This is working code when this code is combined with other programs. This can be seen in figure 5 when the user enters choice “4” to quit the program. The LMC should display “Program halted normally”, this means that user can close the Little Man Computer simulator.



### Variables that contains data

At the end of the algorithms for menu, countdown, tri-number and Fibonacci sequence, data variables are set.

*Table 6 Data variable code*

<b>Variables code with mnemonics</b>	<b>Opt code</b>	<b>Address</b>
ch    DAT    0	000	77
one   DAT    1	001	78
two   DAT    2	001	79
three DAT    3	006	80
four   DAT    4	006	81
num   DAT    0	003	82
ONE   DAT    1	000	83
TWO   DAT    1	001	84
VALUE   DAT    000	001	85
TRINUM   DAT    000	000	86
NUM    DAT   001	001	87
ZERO    DAT   000	000	88
A        DAT    1	000	89
B        DAT    1	000	90
N        DAT    0	000	91
ACCUMMULATOR   DAT    1	000	92

This is the most important part of the code; without the data variables the program created cannot run.

# Proof of algorithms execution

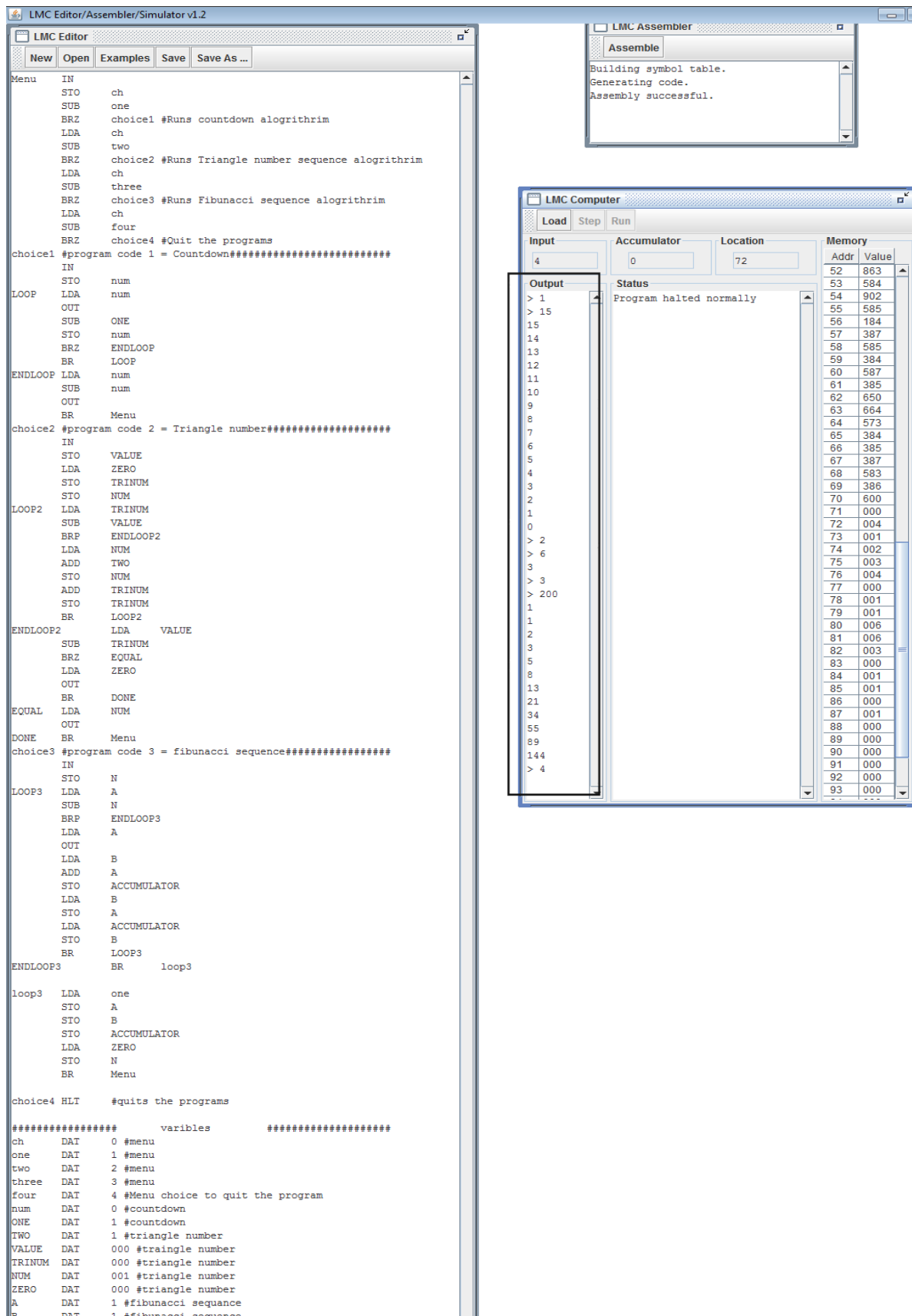


Figure 6 Proof of execution

## Appendix

#click assemble first then click load in LMC computer. click run to test the program

#menu loop

```
Menu  IN
      STO   ch
      SUB   one #input 1
      BRZ   choice1 #Runs countdown algorithrim
      LDA   ch
      SUB   two #input 2
      BRZ   choice2 #Runs Triangle number sequence algorithrim
      LDA   ch
      SUB   three #input 3
      BRZ   choice3 #Runs Fibunacci sequence algorithrim
      LDA   ch
      SUB   four #input 4
      BRZ   choice4 #Quit the programs
```

choice1 #program code 1 = Countdown#####

```
      IN #input a number
      STO   num #store number
LOOP  LDA   num #load number into the loop
      OUT #emit number
      SUB   ONE #subtract ONE
      STO   num #Store number
      BRZ   ENDLOOP #branch if zero, new loop
      BR    LOOP #break
ENDLOOP  LDA   num #load number
      SUB   num #subtract number
      OUT   #display the result
      BR    Menu #back to menu loop
```

choice2 #program code 2 = Triangle number#####

```
IN
    STO    VALUE #stores a number for value
    LDA    ZERO #loads zero
    STO    TRINUM #store number as trinum
    STO    NUM # stores another number as num
LOOP2 LDA    TRINUM #new loop and loads the trinum
    SUB    VALUE #subtracts the value
    BRP    ENDLOOP2 #breaks only if the number is positive
    LDA    NUM #loads num
    ADD    TWO #adds the number stored as two
    STO    NUM #stores the number
    ADD    TRINUM #adds trinum
    STO    TRINUM #stores trinum
    BR     LOOP2 #break the loop
ENDLOOP2 LDA    VALUE #new loop, load value
    SUB    TRINUM #subtract trinum
    BRZ    EQUAL #break if zero equal
    LDA    ZERO #load zero
    OUT
    BR     DONE
EQUAL LDA    NUM
    OUT #displays the result
DONE BR     Menu
```

choice3 #program code 3 = fibunacci sequence#####

```
IN
    STO    N #stores number for n
LOOP3 LDA    A #loads number for a in the loop
    SUB    N #subtract number n
    BRP    ENDLOOP3
```

```

LDA      A #load number a
OUT
LDA      B #load number b
ADD      A #add a
STO      ACCUMULATOR #store accumulator
LDA      B #load b
STO      A #store a
        LDA  ACCUMULATOR #load accumulator
STO      B #store b
BR LOOP3 #break loop
ENDLOOP3  BR    loop3  #new loop

```

#####reset inputs

```

loop3  LDA  one
        STO  A
        STO  B
        STO  ACCUMULATOR
        LDA  ZERO
        STO  N
        BR   Menu

```

```

choice4 HLT    #quits the programs

```

##### variables #####

```

ch      DAT    0 #menu
one     DAT    1 #menu
two     DAT    2 #menu
three   DAT    3 #menu
four    DAT    4 #Menu choice to quit the program
num     DAT    0 #countdown
ONE     DAT    1 #countdown
TWO     DAT    1 #triangle number

```

VALUE DAT 000 #triangle number  
 TRINUM DAT 000 #triangle number  
 NUM DAT 001 #triangle number  
 ZERO DAT 000 #triangle number  
 A DAT 1 #fibonacci sequence  
 B DAT 1 #fibonacci sequence  
 N DAT 0 #fibonacci sequence  
 ACCUMULATOR DAT 1 #fibonacci sequence

## Reference list

1. Englander, I. (2003). " *The architecture of computer hardware and systems software: an information technology approach 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*" Bentley College.
2. Kheirkhahzadeh, A. (2016) "Week 9 to Week 12" [PowerPoint] Lecture slides related to Little Man Computer. Available at: [https://online.uwl.ac.uk/webapps/blackboard/content/listContent.jsp?course\\_id= 82939\\_1 &content\\_id= 1730544\\_1](https://online.uwl.ac.uk/webapps/blackboard/content/listContent.jsp?course_id= 82939_1 &content_id= 1730544_1) (Accessed: 16 December 2016)
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