- Timers can also be used as counters counting events happening outside the 8051
 - When it is used as a counter, it is a pulse outside of the 8051 that increments the TH, TL registers
 - > TMOD and TH, TL registers are the same as for the timer discussed previously
- Programming the timer in the last section also applies to programming it as a counter
 - Except the source of the frequency

C/T Bit in TMOD Register

- The C/T bit in the TMOD registers decides the source of the clock for the timer
 - When C/T = 1, the timer is used as a counter and gets its pulses from outside the 8051
 - The counter counts up as pulses are fed from pins 14 and 15, these pins are called T0 (timer 0 input) and T1 (timer 1 input)

Port 3 pins used for Timers 0 and 1

Pin	Port Pin	Function	Description	
14	P3.4	T0	Timer/counter 0 external input	
15	P3.5	T1	Timer/counter 1 external input	

C/T Bit in TMOD Register (cont')

Example 9-18

Assuming that clock pulses are fed into pin T1, write a program for counter 1 in mode 2 to count the pulses and display the state of the TL1 count on P2, which connects to 8 LEDs.

Solution:

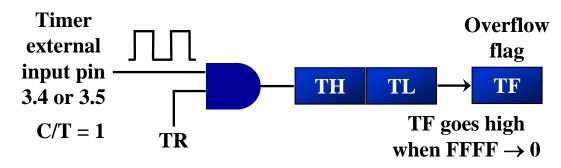
```
MOV
            TMOD, #01100000B ; counter 1, mode 2,
                   ;C/T=1 external pulses
            TH1,#0
                   ;clear TH1
      VOM
           P3.5
      SETB
                   ; make T1 input
           TR1
AGAIN: SETB
                   ;start the counter
            A,TL1 ;get copy of TL
BACK:
      MOV
           P2,A ; display it on port 2
      MOV
            TF1, Back ; keep doing, if TF = 0
      JNB
      CLR TR1
                   ;stop the counter 1
      CLR
            TF1
                   ;make TF=0
      SJMP
                   ;keep doing it
            AGAIN
```

Notice in the above program the role of the instruction SETB P3.5. Since ports are set up for output when the 8051 is powered up, we make P3.5 an input port by making it high. In other words, we must configure (set high) the T1 pin (pin P3.5) to allow pulses to be fed into it.

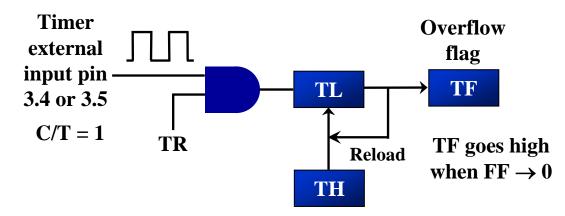


C/T Bit in TMOD Register (cont')

Timer with external input (Mode 1)

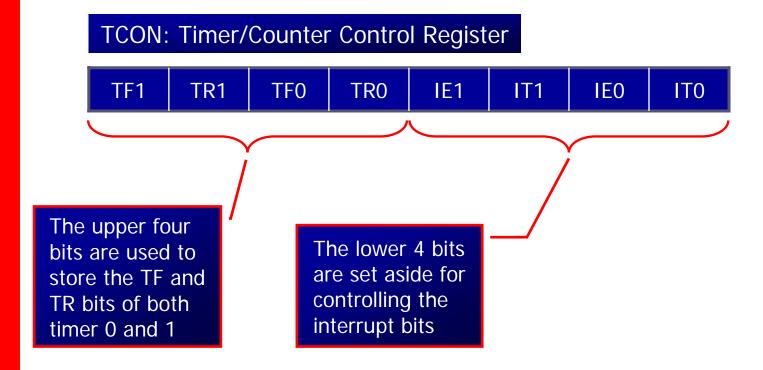


Timer with external input (Mode 2)





TCON Register TCON (timer control) register is an 8bit register



TCON Register (cont') TCON register is a bit-addressable register

Equivalent instruction for the Timer Control Register

For timer 0							
SETB	TR0	=	SETB	TCON.4			
CLR	TR0	=	CLR	TCON.4			
SETB	TF0	=	SETB	TCON.5			
CLR	TF0	=	CLR	TCON.5			
For timer 1							
SETB	TR1	=	SETB	TCON.6			
CLR	TR1	=	CLR	TCON.6			
SETB	TF1	=	SETB	TCON.7			
CLR	TF1	=	CLR	TCON.7			

TCON Register

Case of GATE = 1

- If GATE = 1, the start and stop of the timer are done externally through pins P3.2 and P3.3 for timers 0 and 1, respectively
 - This hardware way allows to start or stop the timer externally at any time via a simple switch

