

C64 Assembly and PowerShell

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Contents

Chapter 00 - Prologue	2
Revision History	2
Chapter XX - Assembly Routines	3
@BASICSTUB()	3
Macro Definition	3
Assembly Code	3
Assembly Command	3
Output	3
Running in Vice	4
Binary to BinaryCodedDecimal	4
General Information	4
8 Bit	4
16 Bit	5
24 Bit	6
32 Bit	6
AsciiTable	7
Assembly	7
Stats	10
Running in Vice	11
Example	11
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Chapter 00 - Prologue

This will be a book about C64 Assembly programming that includes a deep dive into 6502 opcodes, C64 VICII, Basic and Kernal information and how I built a 6502 assembler in PowerShell.

Revision History

20230624 - First Update

Chapter XX - Assembly Routines

@BASICSTUB()

```
Macro Definition
```

```
#MACRO BASICSTUB()
            ; Basic Stub
            ; 10 SYS2061
            DATA $080B ; Pointer to Next Line
            DATA
                      $000A ; Line Number '10'
                      $9E ; BASIC Token for SYS
            DATA.B
            DATA.B $32 ; '2'

DATA.B $30 ; '0'

DATA.B $36 ; '6'

DATA.B $31 ; '1' - 2061 is $080D

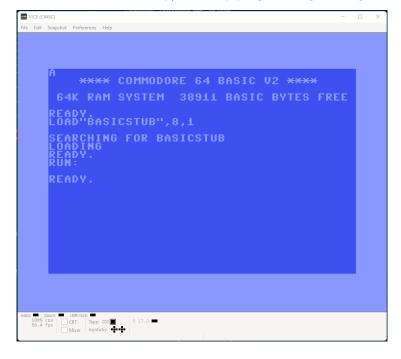
DATA.B $00 ; End of current line

DATA $0000 ; Next Line (NULL no more lines)
#ENDM
Assembly Code
* = $0801
#INCLUDE ..\includes\includes.h
@BASICSTUB()
START:
                    LDA.#
                             $01
                    STA
                             VICII_SCREEN_RAM
                    RTS
Assembly Command
...\.\source\PSAssembler.ps1 .\basicstub.asm -GenerateLST -ExecutePRG
Output
08:52:23 : Starting Assembly...
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\basicstub.asm'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\includes.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\zeropage.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\vicii.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\cia.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\vicii_macros.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\basicstub.h'
08:52:23 : Loading file '.\..\includes\macros.h'
08:52:23 : Executing Code
08:52:23 : Expanding Macros Pass #1
08:52:23 : Expanding Macros Pass #2
08:52:23 : Assembly Pass => Collection
08:52:23 : Assembly Pass => Allocation
08:52:24 : Assembly Pass => Optimization
08:52:24 : Assembly Pass => Relocation
08:52:24 : Assembly Pass => Assembly
08:52:24 : Completed Assembly...
0801 |
                               | * = $0801
0801 l
                1
                               - 1
0801 |
                               | #INCLUDE ..\includes\includes.h
0801 |
                             1
                                            ; Basic Stub
0801 |
                              ; 10 SYS2061
0801 | 0B 08
                               DATA $080B ; Pointer to Next Line
              - 1
0803 | 0A 00
                                              DATA
                                                         $000A ; Line Number '10'
```

```
0805 | 9E
                                                     $9E
                                                            ; BASIC Token for SYS
                                          DATA.B
                                                           ; '2'
0806 | 32
                                          DATA.B
                                                     $32
0807 | 30
                                          DATA.B
                                                   $30
                                                           ; '0'
                                          DATA.B
                                                    $36
                                                            ; '6'
0808 | 36
                                                             ; '1' - 2061 is $080D
                                                     $31
0809 | 31
                                          DATA.B
                                                     $00
                                          DATA.B
                                                           ; End of current line
00 | A080
                                                     $0000 ; Next Line (NULL no more lines)
080B | 00 00
                                          DATA
080D |
080D | A9 01 | LDA #$01
                            | START:
                                                 LDA.#
                                                         $01
080F | 8D 00 04 | STA $0400
                                                 STA
                                                         VICII_SCREEN_RAM
0812 | 60
            | RTS
                                                 RTS
Assembly Report:
   Assembly Start : 6/24/2023 8:52:23 AM
  Assembly End : 6/24/2023 8:52:24 AM
  Elapsed Seconds : 0.61
  Loaded Lines : 352
                : 0
  Loaded Bytes
  Assembled Lines: 12
  Assembled Bytes: 18
  Total Bytes
               : 18
  Starting Address: $0801
  Ending Address : $0813
  Labels/Variables: 125
  Macros
  Optimized Out : 0
08:52:24 : Writing '.\basicstub.prg'
  Wrote to '.\basicstub.prg' in 0.0029457 seconds.
Launching'.\basicstub.prg' in Vice.
```

Running in Vice

Here is this simplest (well it could be simpler but then there would be no discernable change to C64 to verify that it actually ran some custom assembly) assembly programming running in vice:



Binary to BinaryCodedDecimal

General Information

8 Bit

This example has the #STATS commands to show how the statistics are calculated:

Assemblu

```
#STATS.PUSH
BINARY_TO_BCD_8:
                        0 ; Clear the Result
                LDA.#
                        .RESULT
                STA
                STA
                        .RESULT + 1
                SED
                                   ; Set decimal mode
                LDX.#
                                   ; The number of source bits
#STATS.PUSH
.LOOP:
                ASL
                        .NUMBER
                                    ; Shift out one bit
                LDA
                                    ; And add into result
                        .RESULT
                ADC
                        .RESULT
                STA
                        .RESULT
                LDA
                        .RESULT + 1
                ADC
                        .RESULT + 1
                STA
                        .RESULT + 1
                DEX
                                    ; And repeat for next bit
                BNE
                        .LOOP
#STATS.LOOP 8
#STATS.POP
                CLD
                                    ; Clear decimal mode
                RTS
                        $FF
.NUMBER:
                DATA.b
.RESULT:
                PAD
                        2
#STATS.DETAIL
#STATS.SAVE BINARY_TO_BCD_8
#STATS.POP
Stats
Stat: 'BINARY_TO_BCD_8'
  Bytes: 40 MinCycles: 274 MaxCycles: 290
   MinCycleTime: .27 mSec MaxCycleTime: .28 mSec
   Max FPS: 3,722.63 Min FPS: 3,517.24
16 Bit
Assembly
BINARY_TO_BCD_16:
                        0 ; Clear the Result
                LDA.#
                STA
                        .RESULT
                        .RESULT + 1
                STA
                STA
                        .RESULT + 2
                SED
                                    ; Set decimal mode
                LDX.#
                               ; The number of source bits
.LOOP:
                ASL
                                  ; Shift out one bit
                        .NUMBER
                ROL
                        .NUMBER + 1
                LDA
                        .RESULT
                                       ; And add into result
                ADC
                        .RESULT
                STA
                        .RESULT
                LDA
                        .RESULT + 1
                ADC
                        .RESULT + 1
                STA
                        .RESULT + 1
                LDA
                        .RESULT + 2
                ADC
                        .RESULT + 2
                STA
                        .RESULT + 2
                DEX
                                    ; And repeat for next bit
                BNE
                        .LOOP
```

```
CLD
                                     ; Clear decimal mode
                RTS
.NUMBER:
                DATA
                         $FFFF
.RESULT:
                PAD
                         3
Stats
Stat: 'BINARY_TO_BCD_16'
   Bytes: 57
              MinCycles: 790
                                MaxCycles: 822
   MinCycleTime: .77 mSec MaxCycleTime: .81 mSec
   Max FPS: 1,291.14 Min FPS: 1,240.88
24 Bit
Assembly
BINARY_TO_BCD_24:
                LDA.#
                                 ; Clear the Result
                STA
                         .RESULT
                STA
                         .RESULT + 1
                STA
                         .RESULT + 2
                STA
                         .RESULT + 3
                SED
                                     ; Set decimal mode
                LDX.#
                         24
                               ; The number of source bits
.LOOP:
                ASL
                         .NUMBER
                                     ; Shift out one bit
                ROL
                         .NUMBER + 1
                ROL
                         .NUMBER + 2
                LDA
                         .RESULT ; And add into result
                ADC
                         .RESULT
                STA
                         .RESULT
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 1 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 1
                STA
                         .RESULT + 1
                LDA
                         . \verb"RESULT + 2"; propagating any carry"
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 2
                         .RESULT + 2
                STA
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 3 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 3
                STA
                         .RESULT + 3
                DEX
                         ; And repeat for next bit
                BNE
                         .L00P
                CLD
                                     ; Clear decimal mode
                R.T.S
.NUMBER:
                DATA
                         $FFFF
                DATA.b $FF
.RESULT:
                PAD
                         4
Stats
Stat: 'BINARY_TO_BCD_24'
   Bytes: 74 MinCycles: 1,562 MaxCycles: 1,610
   MinCycleTime: 1.53 mSec MaxCycleTime: 1.58 mSec
   Max FPS: 653.01 Min FPS: 633.54
32 Bit
Assembly
BINARY_TO_BCD_32:
                                 ; Ensure the result is clear
                LDA.#
                STA
                         .RESULT
                STA
                         .RESULT + 1
```

```
STA
                         .RESULT + 2
                STA
                         .RESULT + 3
                STA
                         .RESULT + 4
                SED
                                     ; Set decimal mode
                LDX.#
                                 ; The number of source bits
                         32
.LOOP:
                ASL
                         .NUMBER
                                     ; Shift out one bit
                ROL
                         .NUMBER + 1
                ROL
                         .NUMBER + 2
                ROL
                         .NUMBER + 3
                LDA
                         .RESULT ; And add into result
                ADC
                         .RESULT
                STA
                         . RESULT
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 1 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 1
                STA
                         .RESULT + 1
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 2 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 2
                STA
                         .RESULT + 2
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 3 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 3
                STA
                         .RESULT + 3
                LDA
                         .RESULT + 4 ; propagating any carry
                ADC
                         .RESULT + 4
                STA
                         .RESULT + 4
                DEX
                         ; And repeat for next bit
                BNE
                         .LOOP
                CLD
                                     ; Clear decimal mode
                RTS
.NUMBER:
                DATA
                         $FFFF
                DATA
                         $FFFF
.RESULT:
                PAD
                         5
Stats
Stat: 'BINARY_TO_BCD_32'
   Bytes: 91
              MinCycles: 2,714 MaxCycles: 2,778
   MinCycleTime: 2.66 mSec MaxCycleTime: 2.72 mSec
   Max FPS: 375.83
                    Min FPS: 367.17
AsciiTable
Assembly
* = $0801
#INCLUDE ..\includes\includes.h
@BASICSTUB()
START:
                JSR
                             TEXT. CLEARSCREEN
                @TEXT_FGCOLOR(VICII_COLOR_WHITE)
                                                          ; Text::ForegroundColor := WHITE;
                LDA.#
                             5
                                                          ; Text::WriteLine("
                                                                                   $$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$");
                STA
                             TEXT.START_X
                LDA.#
                STA
                             TEXT.START Y
                LDA.#
                             16
                STA
                             TEXT.WIDTH
                LDA.#
                             VICII_CHAR_DOLLARSIGN
```

```
JSR
                             TEXT.HORIZONTALLINE
                LDA.#
                             5
                                                           ; Text::WriteLine("
                                                                                    XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXI);
                STA
                             TEXT.START_X
                LDA.#
                STA
                             TEXT.START Y
                LDA.#
                             16
                STA
                             TEXT.WIDTH
                LDA.#
                             VICII_CHAR_LETTER_X
                JSR
                             TEXT.HORIZONTALLINE
                @TEXT_SETXY(5, 4);
                LDY.#
                             0
                                                           ; FOR l := 0 TO 16 DO BEGIN
.1:
                TYA
                             0
                JSR
                             TEXT.PRINTHEXDIGIT
                                                                Text::WriteDigit(l);
                INY
                CPY.#
                             $10
                BNE
                             .1
                                                           ; END;
.2:
                @TEXT_FGCOLOR(VICII_COLOR_WHITE)
                                                           ; FOR h := 0 TO 16 DO BEGIN
                LDX.#
                                                                 Text::SetColumnAndRow(1, h + 6);
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                CLC
                ADC.#
                             6
                TAY
                JSR
                             TEXT.SETXY
                @TEXT_PRINTCHAR(VICII_CHAR_DOLLARSIGN)
                                                                 Text::Write("$");
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                JSR
                             TEXT.PRINTHEXDIGIT
                                                                 Text::WriteDigit(h);
                @TEXT_PRINTCHAR(VICII_CHAR_LETTER_X)
                                                                 Text::Write("X");
                             $00
                LDA.#
                                                                 FOR 1 := 0 TO 16 DO BEGIN
                STA
                             X_INDEX
                @TEXT_FGCOLOR(VICII_COLOR_LIGHT_BLUE)
.3:
                LDA
                             X_INDEX
                                                           ; Text::SetCharacter(l + 5, h + 6, (h << 4) + l, LIGHT_1
                CLC
                ADC.#
                             5
                TAX
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                CLC
                ADC.#
                             6
                TAY
                JSR
                             TEXT. SETXY
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                ROL.A
                ROL.A
                ROL.A
                ROL.A
                CLC
                ADC
                             X INDEX
                JSR
                             TEXT.PRINTCHAR
                INC
                             X_INDEX
                LDA
                             X_INDEX
                CMP.#
                             $10
                BNE
                             .3
                                                                 END:
                INC
                             Y_INDEX
```

```
Y INDEX
LDA
CMP.#
            $10
BNE
            .2
                                          ; END;
@TEXT_FGCOLOR(VICII_COLOR_BLACK)
LDA.#
            5
STA
            TEXT.START_X
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.START_Y
LDA.#
            16
STA
            TEXT.WIDTH
LDA.#
            $43
JSR.
            TEXT.HORIZONTALLINE
                                          ; Text::HorizontalLineASM2(5, 5, 16, $43, BLACK);
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.START_X
LDA.#
            22
STA
            TEXT.START Y
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.WIDTH
LDA.#
            $43
JSR
            TEXT.HORIZONTALLINE
                                          ; Text::HorizontalLineASM2(5, 22, 16, $43, BLACK);
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.START_X
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.START_Y
LDA.#
            16
STA
            TEXT.HEIGHT
LDA.#
            $5D
JSR
            TEXT. VERTICALLINE
                                          ; Text::VerticalLine(4, 6, 16, $5D, BLACK);
LDA.#
            21
STA
            TEXT.START X
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.START Y
LDA.#
STA
            TEXT.HEIGHT
LDA.#
            $5D
JSR
            TEXT. VERTICALLINE
                                          ; Text::VerticalLine(21, 6, 16, $5D, BLACK);
QTEXT_SETXY(4, 5);
@TEXT_PRINTCHAR($55)
                                          ; Text::SetCharacter(4, 5, $55, BLACK);
@TEXT_SETXY(4, 22);
QTEXT_PRINTCHAR($4A)
                                          ; Text::SetCharacter(4, 22, $4A, BLACK);
@TEXT_SETXY(21, 5);
@TEXT_PRINTCHAR($49)
                                          ; Text::SetCharacter(21, 5, $49, BLACK);
@TEXT SETXY(21, 22);
QTEXT PRINTCHAR($4B)
                                          ; Text::SetCharacter(21, 22, $4B, BLACK);
@SET_ZP_WORD(ZP_PTR_A,COLOR_STRINGS)
LDA.#
            0
STA
            Y_{INDEX}
                                          ; FOR l := 0 TO 16 DO BEGIN
@TEXT_FGCOLOR(VICII_COLOR_YELLOW)
                                                Text::ForegroundColor := YELLOW;
LDX.#
            23
```

.4:

```
LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                CLC
                ADC.#
                             6
                TAY
                JSR
                             TEXT.SETXY
                                                                Text::SetColumnAndRow(23, 6 + 1);
                JSR
                             TEXT.PRINT
                                                                Text::Write(colorStrings[l]);
                @ADD_ZP_WORD(ZP_PTR_A,12)
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                STA
                             TEXT.FGCOLOR
                LDA.#
                             35
                STA
                             TEXT.START_X
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                CLC
                ADC.#
                STA
                             TEXT.START_Y
                LDA.#
                             4
                STA
                             TEXT.WIDTH
                LDA.#
                             $E0
                JSR
                             TEXT.HORIZONTALLINE
                                                                Text::HorizontalLineASM2(35, 6 + 1, 4, $E0, 1);
                INC
                             Y INDEX
                LDA
                             Y_INDEX
                CMP.#
                             $10
                BNE
                             . 4
                                                          ; END;
                JMP
                             CURADDR
X_INDEX:
                             $00
                DATA.b
Y_INDEX:
                DATA.b
                             $00
                              123456789AB
COLOR_STRINGS:
                #TEXTZ
                                 BLACK $0"
                             11
                #TEXTZ
                                 WHITE $1"
                             11
                #TEXTZ
                                   RED $2"
                #TEXTZ
                                  CYAN $3"
                             " PURPLE $4"
                #TEXTZ
                             11
                #TEXTZ
                                 GREEN $5"
                #TEXTZ
                                 BLUE $6"
                             " YELLOW $7"
                #TEXTZ
                             " ORANGE $8"
                #TEXTZ
                             11
                #TEXTZ
                                BROWN $9"
                             " LT RED $A"
                #TEXTZ
                #TEXTZ
                             " DK GREY $B"
                #TEXTZ
                                  GREY $C"
                #TEXTZ
                             "LT GREEN $D"
                             " LT BLUE $E"
                #TEXTZ
                             " LT GREY $F"
                #TEXTZ
#INCLUDE ..\library\text.asm
Stats
Assembly Report:
   Assembly Start : 6/24/2023 3:15:59 PM
   Assembly End
                    : 6/24/2023 3:16:01 PM
   Elapsed Seconds : 1.51
   Loaded Lines
                    : 0
   Loaded Bytes
   Assembled Lines: 661
```

Assembled Bytes: 1,238

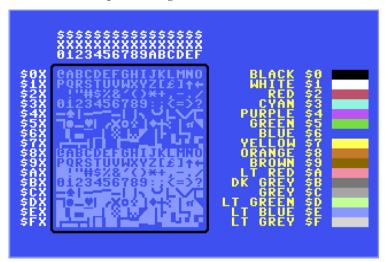
: 1,238

Total Bytes

Starting Address: \$0801 Ending Address : \$0CD7 Labels/Variables: 189 Macros Optimized Out : 0

Running in Vice

Here is the example running in Vice:



Example

START:

LDX.# \$10 ; Loop for 16 times... .LOOP:

\$1000 LDA,X \$2000

STA,X

DEX

BPL .L00P