

A  
Unique  
*(Singular)*  
Architectural  
Topic

## What does that mean?

**In 2013, Stephen Dolan  
Computer Lab University of Cambridge UK  
wrote a paper showing ...**

Any x86 program can be written using only a *single* instruction



**mov**

[illegible]

Every program  
looks like this

No ... arithmetic,  
compares, jumps

## Why consider this?

### Removing all but *mov*

- instruction format would be simplified
- expensive decode unit becomes cheaper
- silicon used for complex functional units could be repurposed as more cache

**However ... it is a very long journey**



## Practice of only movs

## Theory of only movs

Is this idea interesting?

Yes!

Is this idea practical?

Debatable !

Program size

Execution time

code complexity

- Increase -



**Developed techniques  
for coding any  
high level language statement  
using only mov instructions**

[illegible]

- Arithmetic & Logic
- Conditionals *If ... Then*
- Jumps & Loops

3 types of instructions must be handled

- Arithmetic & Logic
  - Can be done using lookup tables**Straightforward**
- Conditionals *If ... Then*
  - Without using conditional jumps (only have the mov instruction)
  - All instructions will be executed
  - How to avoid executing the *Then* when the *If* condition is not true**Very clever**
- Jumps & Loops  
**Very clever & challenging**

We present the idea in CSC236 as an

### Architectural Knowledge Exercise

To keep the code manageable,  
the CSC236 implementation

- data size is byte
- use int 21h to R/W data
- some programs have one jmp at the end of the code

```
Start:      mov     mov
            mov     mov
e,          mov     mov
n           mov     mov
            mov     mov
            int     21h    Read/Write data
            mov     mov
            mov     mov
            mov     mov
            mov     mov
            jmp     Start
end
```

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

## Arithmetic & Boolean

### Using lookup tables

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)
```

Declare 3 byte size variables  
 $x$  and  $y$  are limited so the sum  $x+y$  fits in a byte  
 use  $x+y$  as an index into a table to get  $z$

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db 000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db 010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db 250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255
```

Declare a table with the values 0 to 255  
 representing the sum of  $x + y$

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  2 ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  4 ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db 000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db 010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db 250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255
```

Declare a table with the values 0 to 255  
 representing the sum of  $x + y$   
 use  $x + y$  as a double index to get  $z$

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db 000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db 010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db 250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov    bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
```

$Bx$  is the only pointer register  
 that allows byte operations on  $bl$

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db 000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db 010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db 250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov    bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov    bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov    si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
```

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```
x    db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y    db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z    db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db 000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db 010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db 250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov    bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov    bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov    si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov    bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y
```

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```

x      db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y      db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z      db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db  000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db  010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db  250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov     bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov     bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov     si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov     bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y

```

si has the value of x      bx has the value of y

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```

x      db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y      db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z      db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db  000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db  010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db  250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov     bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov     bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov     si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov     bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y
mov     al,[addtbl + si + bx] ; get value in table equal to x + y

```

Use the sum of  $x + y$  as an index into the table

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```

x      db  2 ;variable x (0-127)
y      db  4 ;variable y (0-127)
z      db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db  000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db  010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db  250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov     bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov     bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov     si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov     bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y
mov     al,[addtbl + 2 + 4] ; get value in table equal to x + y

```

Use the sum of  $2 + 4$  as an index into the table

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```

x      db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y      db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z      db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db  000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db  010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db  250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov     bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov     bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov     si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov     bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y
mov     al,[addtbl + si + bx] ; get value in table equal to x + y
mov     [z],al ; set z = x + y

```

Calculate  $z = x + y$  using byte variables

```

x      db  ? ;variable x (0-127)
y      db  ? ;variable y (0-127)
z      db  0 ;variable z (0-254)

addtbl db  000,001,002,003,004,005,006,007,008,009 ; Table
        db  010,011,012,013,014,015,016,017,018,019 ; with
        ... ; values
        db  250,251,252,253,254,255 ; 0-255

mov     bx,0 ; clear the bx pointer
mov     bl,[x] ; bx contains the value of x
mov     si,bx ; si contains x for double indexing
mov     bl,[y] ; bx contains the value of y
mov     al,[addtbl + si + bx] ; get value in table equal to x + y
mov     [z],al ; set z = x + y

```

$z = x + y$   
using  
mov  
only

I see how arithmetic  
operations can be done  
with mov



But the code for *if ... then* requires a *compare and jump*

How can that be done with only *mov*?

if (x == y) then z = 'Y'

```

mov al,[x]
cmp al,[y]
jne endif
mov [z],'Y'
endif:

```

### Key Concept

- One single code path
- All instructions execute no matter what
- Force the code path to work on *dummy data* if we do not want to save the result
- Use a selector to choose real or dummy data

Selector

Real data *If true*

Dummy data *If false*

Execute the instructions, but not on the real data

### Key Concept

### Implementation

x=4 y=2 If (x == y)

```

mov [4], 1

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   |   | 1 |   |   |

Work Memory

Use the Extra Segment for work memory

Move 1 to the mem location at offset x

x=4 y=2 If (x == y)

```

mov [4], 1
mov [2], 0

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   | 0 |   | 1 |   |   |

Work Memory

Move 0 to the mem location at offset y

x=4 y=2 If (x == y)

```

mov [4], 1
mov [2], 0
mov sel,[4]

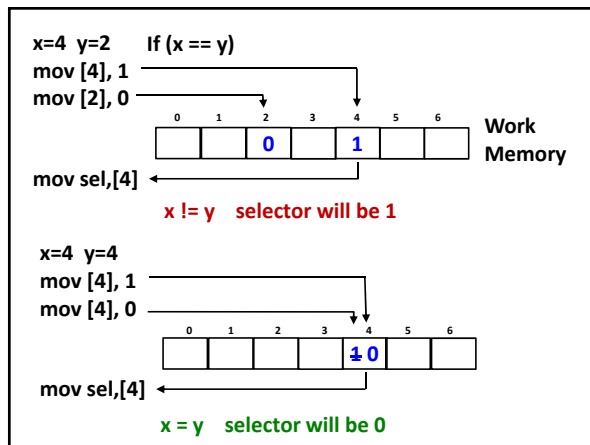
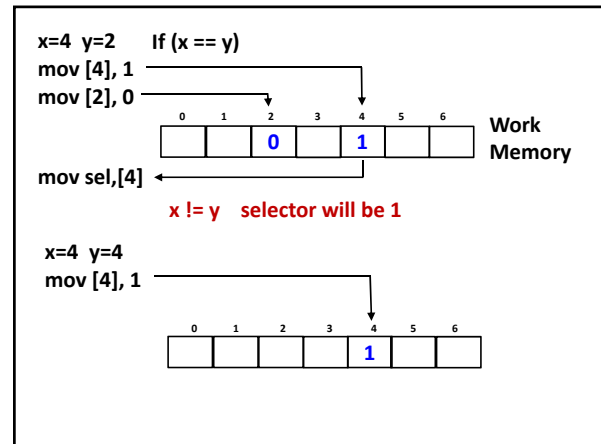
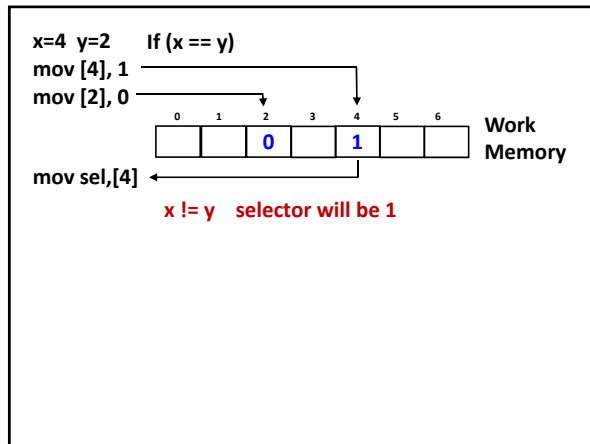
```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   | 0 |   | 1 |   |   |

Work Memory

Load selector from mem loc at offset x

What has happened?



If ( $x == y$ ) then ...  
      $x = y$  selector will be 0  
      $x \neq y$  selector will be 1  
  
 Now ... Use the selector to  
     implement or skip the  
     then ... clause  
 (use real or dummy data)

```

x    db    ?    ;variable x
y    db    ?    ;variable y
z    db    'N'   ;variable z

```

If ( $x==y$ ) then  $z='Y'$

Declare  $x, y, z$  as byte variables  
 ( $z$  initialized to 'N')

```

x    db    ?    ;variable x
y    db    ?    ;variable y
z    db    'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

If ( $x==y$ ) then  $z='Y'$

Declare dummy  $z$  right after  $z$

```

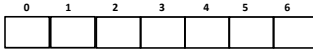
x    db  ?    ;variable x
y    db  ?    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



Declare 256 bytes of work memory  
in the extra segment

```

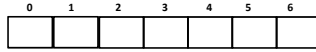
x    db  ?    ;variable x
y    db  ?    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000

```

Clear the bx pointer register  
(bx allows byte operations on bl)

```

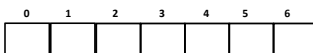
x    db  3     ;variable x
y    db  ?     ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x

```

Move x to bl ... so bx points to the es memory  
location equal to x ... for example x=3

```

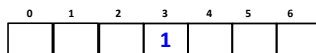
x    db  3     ;variable x
y    db  ?     ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1

```

Move 1 to the es memory location  
equal to x e.g. 3

```

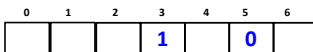
x    db  3     ;variable x
y    db  5     ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0

```

Move 0 to the es memory location  
equal to y e.g. 5

```

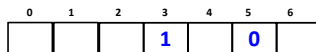
x    db  3     ;variable x
y    db  5     ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db  'N'   ;variable z
dum_z db  ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```



```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0

```

Since x != y  
these are different locations

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    3    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3   | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 0 |   |   |   |

↑↑

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0

```

If  $x == y$  then that single es memory location would now be set to 0

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

↑      ↑

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0

```

Since  $x \neq y$  these are different locations

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

↓

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

Load selector (bx) from es mem loc equal to x

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

↓

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

bx=1 since  $x \neq y$

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    3    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3   | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 0 |   |   |   |

↓

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

bx would be 0 if  $x == y$

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

↓

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

bx is the selector 0 if  $(x == y)$  1 if  $(x \neq y)$



```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

Now use bx to select z or dum\_z to get 'Y'

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

mov byte ptr [z+bx], 'Y'

Mov 'Y' to the variable at location z + bx

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

mov byte ptr [z+bx], 'Y'

z+bx is z if bx=0    z+bx is dum\_z if bx=1

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)

```

mov byte ptr [z+bx], 'Y'    ;z='Y' if (x==y)    dum\_z='Y' if (x!=y)

```

x    db    3    ;variable x
y    db    5    ;variable y      If (x==y) then z='Y'
z    db    'N'  ;variable z
dum_z db    ?    ;dummy variable z at memory offset z + 1

```

```

.fardata
db    256 dup(?)

```

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 0 |   |

```

mov  bx,0      ;bx pointer = 0000
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],1 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_x set to 1
mov  bl,[y]    ;bx=y ... pts to mem addr=value_of_y
mov  byte ptr es:[bx],0 ;es:mem at addr=value_of_y set to 0
mov  bl,[x]    ;bx=x ... pts to mem addr=value_of_x
mov  bl,es:[bx] ;bx=0 if (x==y)  bx=1 if (x!=y)
mov  byte ptr [z+bx], 'Y' ;z='Y' if (x==y)    dum_z='Y' if (x!=y)

```

if (x==y) then z='Y' with only mov

## Looping and Branches



## Looping and Branches

Have a **flag** that specifies whether **execution** is on or off

When you want to branch you turn execution off

For every operation perform these checks:

- If execution is on execute instruction on real data
- If execution is off
  - Is this instruction the branch target?
    - Yes – turn execution on & run on real data
    - No – leave execution off & run on dummy data

Start:

```
0000 mov ...
0004 mov ...
0008 mov ...
000C mov ...
0010 mov ...
0014 mov ...
0018 mov ...
001C mov ...
0020 mov ...
0024 mov ...
0028 jmp Start
```

*Only mov instructions*

*Except one unconditional jump from the end to the start\**

*\*Christopher Domas shows how to eliminate that jmp*

Start:

```
0000 mov ...
0004 mov ...
0008 mov ...
000C mov ...
0010 mov ...
0014 mov ...
0018 mov ...
001C mov ...
0020 mov ...
0024 mov ...
0028 jmp Start
```

Branch  
Target

Execution **On**

*Only mov instructions*

*Except one unconditional jump from the end to the start\**

*\*Christopher Domas shows how to eliminate that jmp*

Start:

```
0000 mov ...
0004 mov ...
0008 mov ...
000C mov ...
0010 mov ...
0014 mov ...
0018 mov ...
001C mov ...
0020 mov ...
0024 mov ...
0028 jmp Start
```

Branch  
Target

Execution **On**

*branch from here (001C)*

Start:

```
0000 mov ...
0004 mov ...
0008 mov ...
000C mov ...
0010 mov ...
0014 mov ...
0018 mov ...
001C mov ...
0020 mov ...
0024 mov ...
0028 jmp Start
```

Branch  
Target

Execution **On**

*to here (0008)*



*branch from here (001C)*

Start:

```
0000 mov ...
0004 mov ...
0008 mov ...
000C mov ...
0010 mov ...
0014 mov ...
0018 mov ...
001C mov ...
0020 mov ...
0024 mov ...
0028 jmp Start
```

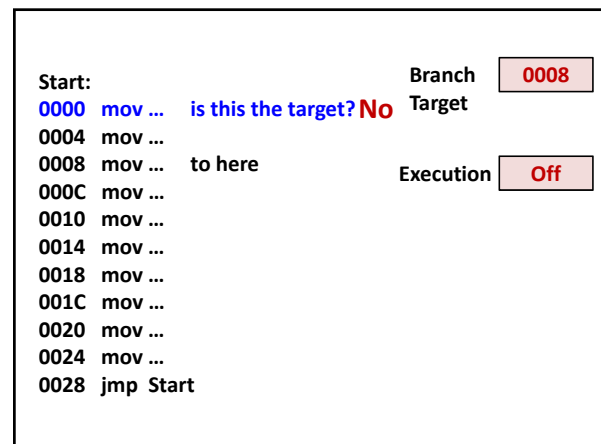
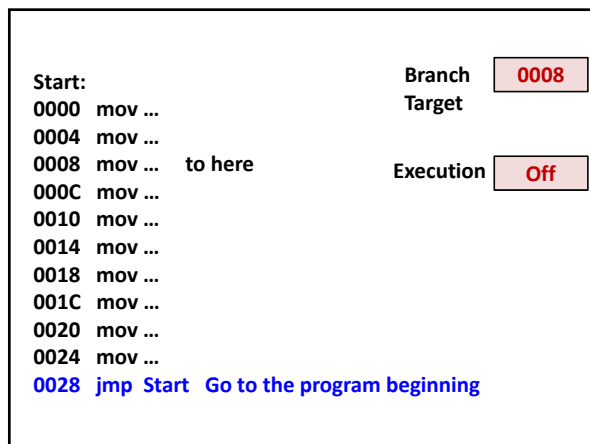
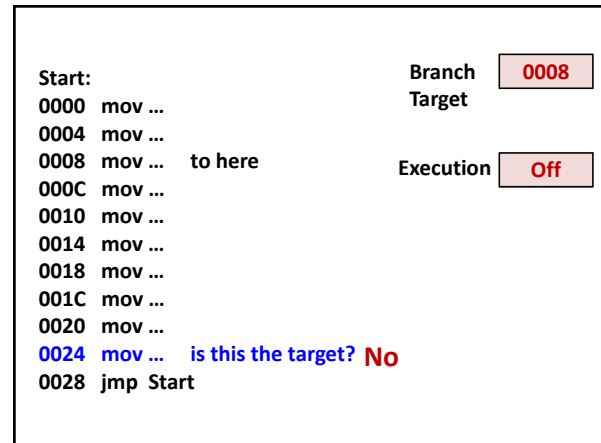
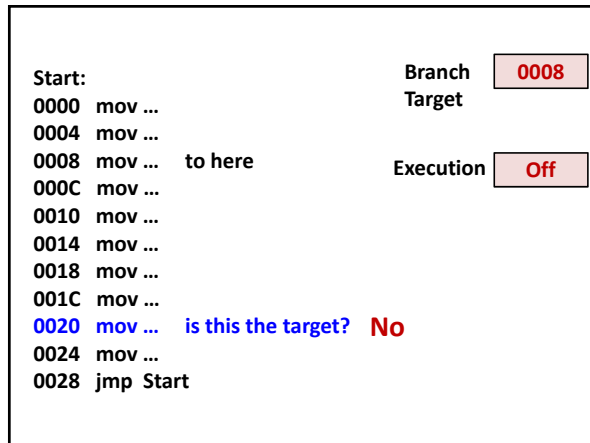
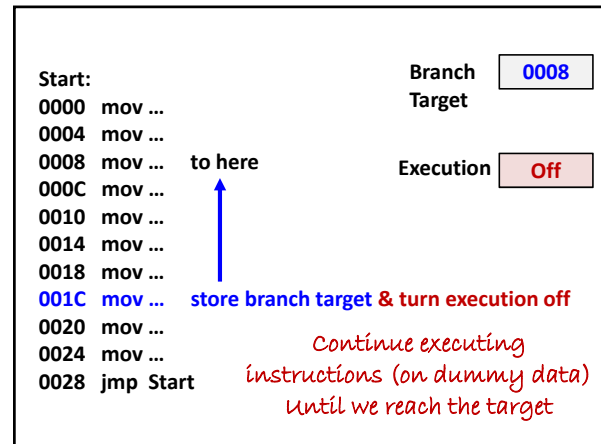
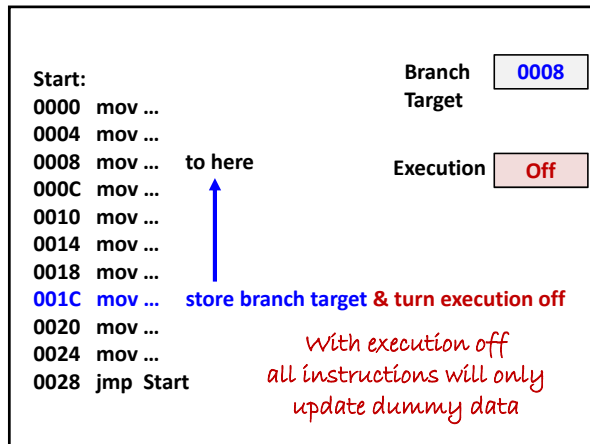
Branch  
Target

Execution **On**

*to here*



*store branch target*



|                |                               |      |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Start:         | Branch Target                 | 0008 |
| 0000 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0004 mov ...   | is this the target? <b>No</b> |      |
| 0008 mov ...   | to here                       |      |
| 000C mov ...   | Execution                     | Off  |
| 0010 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0014 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0018 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 001C mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0020 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0024 mov ...   |                               |      |
| 0028 jmp Start |                               |      |

|                |                     |      |
|----------------|---------------------|------|
| Start:         | Branch Target       | 0008 |
| 0000 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0004 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0008 mov ...   | is this the target? |      |
| 000C mov ...   | Execution           | Off  |
| 0010 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0014 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0018 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 001C mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0020 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0024 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0028 jmp Start |                     |      |

|                |                    |      |
|----------------|--------------------|------|
| Start:         | Branch Target      | 0008 |
| 0000 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0004 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0008 mov ...   | yes - target match |      |
| 000C mov ...   | Execution          | Off  |
| 0010 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0014 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0018 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 001C mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0020 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0024 mov ...   |                    |      |
| 0028 jmp Start |                    |      |

|                |                     |      |
|----------------|---------------------|------|
| Start:         | Branch Target       | 0008 |
| 0000 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0004 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0008 mov ...   | yes - target match  |      |
| 000C mov ...   | - turn execution on |      |
| 0010 mov ...   | Execution           | On   |
| 0014 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0018 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 001C mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0020 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0024 mov ...   |                     |      |
| 0028 jmp Start |                     |      |

|                |                             |      |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Start:         | Branch Target               | 0008 |
| 0000 mov ...   |                             |      |
| 0004 mov ...   |                             |      |
| 0008 mov ...   | yes - target match          |      |
| 000C mov ...   | - turn execution on         |      |
| 0010 mov ...   | - resume executing          |      |
| 0014 mov ...   | instructions with real data |      |
| 0018 mov ...   |                             |      |
| 001C mov ...   |                             |      |
| 0020 mov ...   |                             |      |
| 0024 mov ...   |                             |      |
| 0028 jmp Start |                             |      |

This testing expands and complicates the code ... but it does work

Sample Code Provided

Program: **IfThen.asm**

- Define 3 ASCII chars x, y z
- Read and echo x and y
- Only using mov, calculate:
  - z = 'N'
  - if (x == y) then z = 'Y'
- Output z
- Terminate

Straight Forward

## Sample Code Provided

Program: `JmpMov.asm`

- Define 2 ASCII chars x, y
- Set x='0' ... ASCII Char '0'
- cycle: Read y
  - if (y=='+') x=x+1
  - print x
  - goto cycle
- Output y
- Terminate



## Sample Code Provided

Program: `JmpMov.asm`

- Define 2 ASCII chars x, y
- Set x='0' ... ASCII Char '0'
- cycle: Read y
  - if (y=='+') x=x+1
  - print x
  - goto cycle
- Output y
- Terminate

y    + + + /  
      1 2 3 /



## Sample Code Provided

Program: `JmpMov.asm`

- Define 2 ASCII chars x, y
- Set x='0' ... ASCII Char '0'
- cycle: Read y
  - if (y=='+') x=x+1
  - print x
  - goto cycle
- Output y
- Terminate

Shows  
branch  
target  
testing



## MOV assignment

Spec on the WEB - Optional team assignment

Program: `mov.asm`

- Define 3 ASCII chars x, y, z
- Read and echo x, y, z
  - x will be an ASCII character 'A'-'Z' or '0'-'9'
  - y will be an ASCII digit '0' - '9'
  - z can be an ASCII '+' or other
- Using only the mov instruction
  - convert y from ASCII '0'-'9' to hex 0-9
  - if (z == '+') then x = x + y
- Output x and terminate

Use  
IfThen  
&  
JmpMov  
code as  
models

x y z x  
A 3 + D  
2 5 / 2