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# CEG3136

# Computer Architecture II

## Midterm Exam Review

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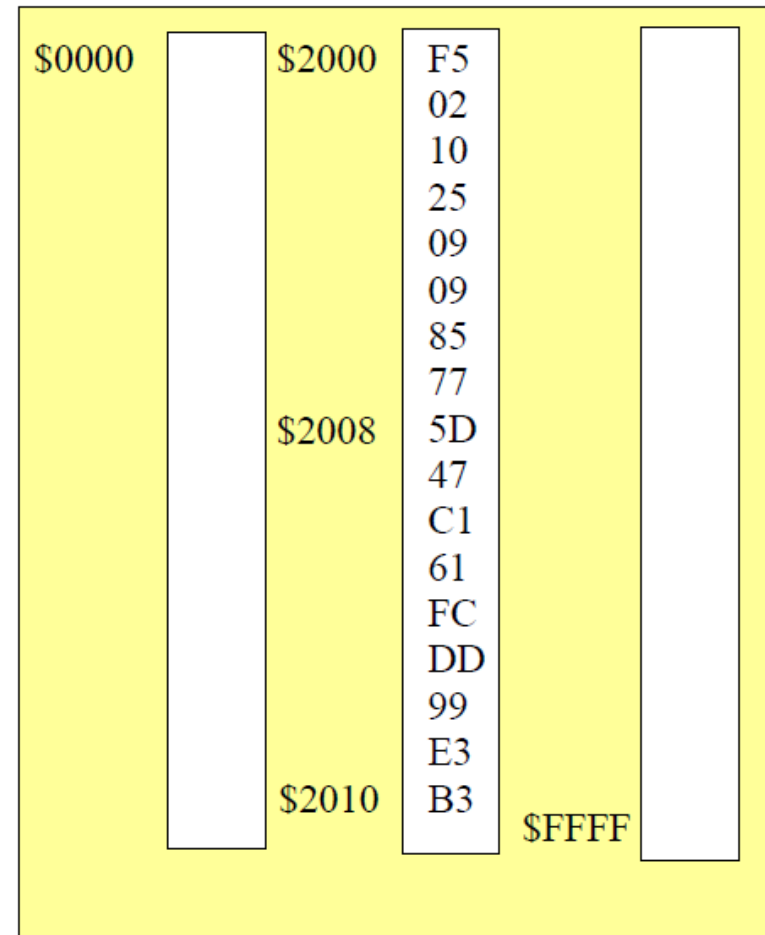
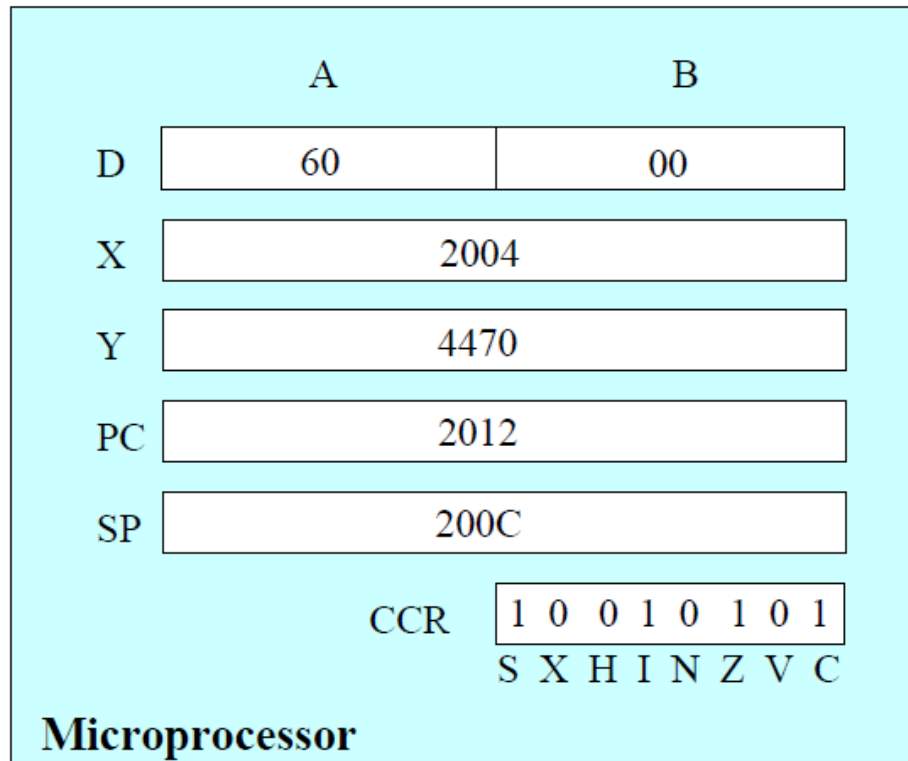


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# Midterm Exam Review

- Midterm Exam is a close-book examination;
- Calculators are allowed;
- Time: 80 minutes

## CPU and Memory for Part 1



**Memory**

All values shown are hexadecimal.

## Part 1a – Short Answer Questions

1) Consider the following instructions:

LDAA #56

LDAB \$2002

ABA

What will be the contents of Accumulator A after the execution of ABA? \_\_\_\_\_

■ How will the ABA instruction affect the condition codes NZVC? \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 1a – Solution:

1) Consider the following instructions:

LDAA #56                   => A = \$38

LDAB \$2002               => B = \$10

ABA                       => A = \$48

What will be the contents of Accumulator A after the execution of ABA? 48

■ How will the ABA instruction affect the condition codes NZVC? 0000

## Part 1a – Short Answer Questions

2) Give the contents of D register after the execution of the following 2 instructions. \_\_\_\_\_

LDAA 1, +X

LDAB 1, X

## Part 1a – Solutions:

2) Give the contents of D register after the execution of the following 2 instructions. 0985

LDAA 1, +X                       $X = X + 1 = 2005$ ,  
    $(2005) \rightarrow A \Rightarrow A = 09$

LDAB 1, X                       $(X + 1) \rightarrow B \Rightarrow B = 85$

## Part 1a – Short Answer Questions

3) Will the branch in the following instructions execute (i.e. will the program branch)? Give the contents of Accumulator A after the execution of the TSTA instruction.

```
VAR3  EQU  $200E
      LDAA  VAR3
      TSTA
      BLT  NEXT
```

.

.

```
NEXT  LDAB  VAR3
```

Branch (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_? Contents of the A register \_\_\_\_\_?



## Part 1a – Solution:

3) Will the branch in the following instructions execute (i.e. will the program branch)? Give the contents of Accumulator A after the execution of the TSTA instruction.

VAR3 EQU \$200E

LDAA VAR3  $\Rightarrow A = 99$

TSTA  $\Rightarrow A - 0$

BLT NEXT  $\Rightarrow$  branch to next

.

.

NEXT LDAB VAR3  $\Rightarrow B = 99$

Branch (Y or N) Y? Contents of the A register 99?

## Part 1a – Short Answer Questions

4) Describe the changes made to memory by the instruction PSHA.

## Part 1a – Solution:

4) Describe the changes made to memory by the instruction PSHA.

### Before

$\Rightarrow SP = 200C$

$\Rightarrow A = 60$

### After

PSHA

$\Rightarrow SP = SP - 1 = 200B$

$\Rightarrow (200B) = 60$

## Part 1a – Short Answer Questions

5) Consider the following instructions

LEAS 3,X

PULD

STD -8, SP

The last instruction stores the contents of D into a location in memory. Give the address of this location

\_\_\_\_\_ and the value that gets stored there

\_\_\_\_\_

## Part 1a – Solution:

5) Consider the following instructions

LEAS 3,X       $SP = X + 3 = 2007$

PULD           $\Rightarrow (2007:2008) \rightarrow (A:B)$

$775D \rightarrow D$

$\Rightarrow SP + 2 \rightarrow SP$

$SP = 2009$

STD -8, SP  $\Rightarrow D \rightarrow (2001:2002) = 77:5D$

The last instruction stores the contents of D into a location in memory. Give the address of this location (2001:2002) and the value that gets stored there 77:5D

## Part 1b – Short Answer Questions

(10 Points) Translate the following short C program into assembler. Use the stack to exchange ALL parameters and the result (assume *int*'s take 2 bytes of storage, and *byte*'s take 1 byte of storage). Ensure that the registers used by the subroutine are not changed after the subroutine has executed. Define the stack usage using the OFFSET directive and labels as offsets into the stack.

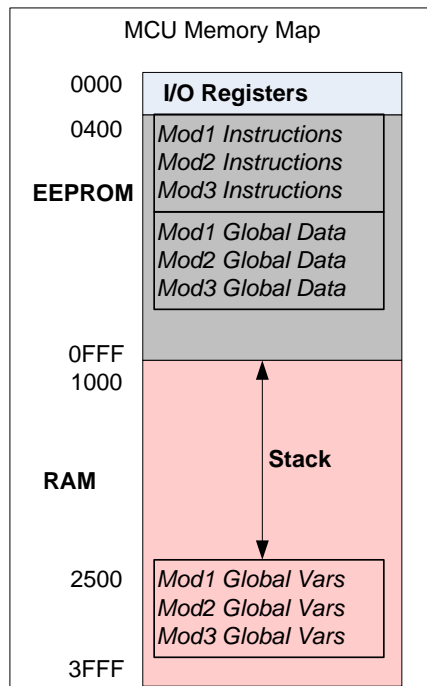
```
/*-----  
Function: addInts  
Description: Adds two 8-bit integers.  
-----*/  
int addInts(byte val1, byte val2)  
{  
    int sum;  
    sum = val1 + val2;  
    return(sum);  
}
```

```
;-----Assembler Code-----  
; Subroutine - addInts  
; Parameters - val1 - on stack  
; val2 - on stack  
; Results sum - on stack  
; Description: Adds two integers.  
; Stack usage:  
    OFFSET 0  
    DS.W 1 ; preserve Register D  
    DS.W 1 ; return address  
ADI_SUM    DS.W 1 ; sum and return value  
ADI_VAL1   DS.B 1 ; byte val1  
ADI_VAL2   DS.B 1 ; byte val2  
addInts:   PSHD ; preserve acc D  
           CLRA  
           LDAB ADI_VAL1,SP  
           ADDB ADI_VAL2,SP  
           ADCA #00  
           STD ADI_SUM,SP  
           PULD  
           RTS
```

# Part 2 Theory

(10 points) Modular design provides the means of separating the tasks of any project into manageable pieces. Each of the modules in a project is typically stored in a separate assembler file. Although this does help facilitate the development of a software project, it produces a challenge – how to collect the executable code, constant global data and variable global data from each module into separate sections of software where code and constant data are stored in Read Only Memory (these sections follow one another) and the variable global data is stored in RAM.

Describe how assembler directives, such as ORG, SECTION, SWITCH available in MiniIDE, can be used to perform this organization of software sections.



Module 1 (module1.asm)

```
code    SECTION
        ORG $0400
;---Assembler Instructions

dataEE  SECTION
        ORG ENDCODE
;---Constant global data

dataRAM SECTION
        ORG $2500
;---Global variables (modifiable)

;-----Add other Modules
INCLUDE module2.asm
INCLUDE module3.asm
;--Defines start of dataEE section
SWITCH code
ENDCODE
```

Module 2 (module2.asm)

```
SWITCH code
;---Assembler Instructions

SWITCH dataEE
;---Constant global data

SWITCH dataRAM
;---Global variables (modifiable)
```

Module 3 (module3.asm)

```
SWITCH code
;---Assembler Instructions

SWITCH dataEE
;---Constant global data

SWITCH dataRAM
;---Global variables (modifiable)
```



## Part 2 Theory: Solution

**Directive SECTION** – defines the start of a section.

**Directive ORG** – sets the location counter of a section.

The above two directives can be used to define sections and their locations in memory.

**Directive SWITCH** – changes section, such that any subsequent assembly instructions (including storage instruction such as DS) are placed in the section.

**Note:** Absolute addresses are defined only on the second pass and thus ENDCODE which defines the location of the global data is placed after all code assembly and consequently places the global constant data section after the code section.

- **ENDCODE** value can change when code changes when source code is re-assembled.

## Part 3 – Application Question

The C standard library provides a function to compare two strings such as:

**short strcmp(char \*str1, char \*str2)**

A *string* of characters terminated with a null character is stored in the memory starting at address found in the pointer variable *str1* and a second string at address found in the pointer variable *str2*. Develop a structured assembly subroutine that compares the string pointed to by *str1* to the string pointed to by string *str2*. The subroutine returns:

- a positive value if the string referenced by *str1* is alphabetically larger than the string referenced by *str2*,
- 0 if both strings are the same, and
- a negative if the string is referenced by *str1* alphabetically smaller than the string reference by *str2*.

Assume single byte ASCII characters.

1. First provide a C function that illustrates the design of the subroutine.
2. Then translate the C function to assembler code to subroutine. Do not forget to comment your code.

## Part 3 – Application Question

### Hints:

- Compare strings character by character.
- Strings are equal when the end of both strings is reached at the same time.
- As soon as a difference between 2 characters is encountered, strings are not equal, and the return value can be obtained by subtracting the character of the second string (reference by `str2`) from the character of the first string (referenced by `str1`). For example if `str1` points to the string “abcde” and `str2` points to the string “abedc”, then the return value shall be: ‘c’ – ‘e’ = -2.
- The type `short` is a one byte signed integer.

## Part 3 – Application Question

```
short strcmp(char *str1, char *str2)
{
```

```
}
```

## Part 3 – Application Question Solution

```
short strcmp(char *str1, char *str2)
{
    // use str1 and str2 pointers
    short retval = 0;
    while(*str1 != '\0' || *str2 != '\0') //loop until end of equal strings
    {
        if(*str1 != *str2)
        {
            retval = *str1 - *str2;
            break;
        }
        else
        {
            str1++;
            str2++;
        }
    }
    return(retval);
}
```

## Part 3 – Application Question Solution

### Assembler Source Code:

```
; Subroutine: short strcmp(char *str1, char *str2)
; Parameters
;     str1 - address of first string - on stack and register x
;     str2 - address of second string - on stack and register y
; Returns in register B
;     -ve value: str1 less than str2
;     +ve value: str1 greater than str2
;     0: strings are the same.
; Local Variables
;     retval - return value in register B
; Description: Compares the strings and returns a value that
; reflects the results of the comparison.
;
; Stack Usage:
```

## Part 3 – Application Question Solution

OFFSET 0

SCMP\_RETVAL DS.B 1 ; return value

SCMP\_PRY DS.W 1 ; preserve Y

SCMP\_PRX DS.W 1 ; preserve X

SCMP\_RA DS.W 1 ; return address

SCMP\_STR1 DS.W 1 ; address of first string

SCMP\_STR2 DS.W 1 ; address of second string

## Part 3 – Application Question Solution

```
strcmp: pshx ; preserve registers
        pshy
        leas -SCMP_RETVAL,sp
        clr SCMP_RETVAL,sp
        ldx SCMP_STR1,sp ; get address of first string
        ld y SCMP_STR2,sp ; get address of second string
        clra

scmp_while: ; while(*str1 != 0 || *str2 != 0)
        tst 0,x
        bne scmp_if
        tst 0,y
        beq scmp_endwhile

scmp_if:
        ldab 0,x ; if(*str1 != *str2)
        cmpb 0,y
        beq scmp_else
        subb 0,y
        stab SCMP_RETVAL,SP
        bra scmp_endwhile
```



## Part 3 – Application Question Solution

```
scmp_else
    inx
    iny
scmp_endif
    bra scmp_while
scmp_endwhile:
    ldab SCMP_RETVAL,SP
    leas SCMP_RETVAL,SP ; restore stack pointer
    puly ; restore registers
    pulx
    rts
```