

# Computing Machinery I

## Assignment 2

10% of your final score

Due May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59PM MST

### Objective

The objective of this assignment is to practice branching and looping in ARMv8 assembly.

### Skills Needed for this Assignment:

- Ability to work with basic arithmetic, loops, and if-else constructs in assembly
- Ability to print to standard output using the `printf()` and `scanf()` functions
- Ability to optimize assembly code by rearranging loops and using alternate instructions
- Ability to use macros in assembly code
- Ability to assemble programs using `gcc` and use `m4` to process macros
- Ability to use `gdb` to debug and display assembly language programs

### Overview

Your program will simply generate N random numbers and calculate their sum and check if the sequence is sorted in ascending order, sorted in descending order, or not sorted at all.

### Details

The program prompts the user for N, generates N random positive integers, then displays these numbers, their sum, and a message if the sequence is sorted and how. For reading N, you will need to call the C library `scanf()` function. Write two versions of the program:

1. Write the program without macros (i.e. don't use `m4`). Use a pre-test loop, where the test is at the top of the loop.
2. Rewrite the above program by putting the loop test at the bottom of the loop (make sure it is still a pre-test loop) and add macros to the above program to make it more readable (use `m4`). In particular, provide macros for heavily used registers.

Make sure your code is properly formatted into columns, is readable and fully documented, and includes identifying information at the top of each file. You must comment each line of assembly code. Your code should also be well designed: make sure it is well organized, clear, and concise.

### Submission

- **Note:** The TA may provide further submission instructions
- Name your programs *assign2a.s* (no macros) and *assign2b.asm* (with macros)
- Create a script file for each version. Call them *assign2a.script* and *assign2b.script*
- Submit a *README* file providing extra instructions or information for your TA (optional)
- Submit your work to the appropriate dropbox on D2L.

### Late Submission Policy

This is a very short semester, and **we will not be granting extensions**. I suggest that you submit by the deadline. There is a grace period of 48 hours: if you submit your assignment within 48 hours of the deadline, no penalty will be levied. After the grace period, late submissions will be penalized as follows:  
-12.5% for each late day or portion of a day for the first two days  
-25% for each additional day or portion of a day after the first two days  
Hence, no submissions will be accepted after 7 days (including weekend days) of the announced deadline.

**Academic Misconduct**

This assignment is to be done by individual students: your final submission must be your own original work. Teamwork is not allowed. Any similarities between submissions will be further investigated for academic misconduct. While you are encouraged to discuss the assignment with your colleagues, this must be limited to conceptual and design decisions. Code sharing by any means is prohibited, including *looking* at someone else's paper or screen. The submission of compiler generated assembly code is absolutely prohibited. Any re-used code of excess of 5 lines in C and 10 lines in assembly (10 assembly language instructions) must be cited and have its source acknowledged. Failure to credit the source will also result in a misconduct investigation.

**D2L Marks**

Marks posted on D2L are subject to change (up or down).

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## Assignment 2 Rubric

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Max Points	Points
Code compiles	5	
Code runs	5	
Calculating sum	15	
Checking sorting (ascending)	15	
Calculating (descending)	15	
Random number generation	15	
User interface & input validation	15	
Code readability (formatting and documentation)	15	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>	