Selected 8086 Instructions

Quick Reference List

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pushf	Push flags onto stack
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Important Usage Notes:

1. The first operand of an instruction is also the destination if there is a resulting value. Divide and multiply instructions are common exceptions to this rule.
2. There can be *at most* one memory operand per instruction.
3. There can be *at most* one immediate operand per instruction.
4. Operands generally must be of the same size (i.e., byte or word).
5. Using a label is the same as using an immediate or constant value.

6. When BP is used in a memory reference, SS is assumed as the segment. Otherwise DS is assumed.
7. While an instruction is executing, IP refers to the next instruction.
8. Many instructions are smaller if you use the appropriate registers (usually AX or AL).
9. In NASM, all labels are case sensitive but instruction and register names are not.

Terminology Used:

- **memory** - Refers to an 8 or 16-bit memory location determined by an effective address.
- **register** - AX, BX, CX, DX, SI, DI, BP, or SP as well as the 8-bit derivatives of AX, BX, CX, and DX (other registers or flags are not allowed).
- **immediate** - A numeric constant or label.
- **REG1::REG2** - The concatenation of two registers (e.g., the 32-bit value DX::AX) A single colon is used for memory addresses.
- **XF** or **XF=b** - A flag's value after an instruction can be 0 or 1 and usually depends on the result of the instruction. A flag being set to '?' by an instruction indicates that the flag is undefined after the operation.

Instructions:

```
adc     Add with carry flag
  Syntax:      adc    dest, src
  dest: memory or register
  src:  memory, register, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest + src + CF
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
  Notes: This instruction is used to perform 32-bit addition.


add     Add two numbers
  Syntax:      add    dest, src
  dest: register or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest + src
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
  Notes: Works for both signed and unsigned numbers.


and     Bitwise logical AND
  Syntax:      and    dest, src
  dest: register or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest & src
  Flags Affected: OF=0, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF=0


call    Call procedure or function
  Syntax:      call   addr
  addr: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: Push IP onto stack, set IP to addr.
  Flags Affected: None
```

cbw Convert byte to word (signed)

```
  Syntax:      cbw
  Action: Sign extend AL to create a word in AX.
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: For unsigned numbers use "mov ah, 0".
```

cli Clear interrupt flag (disable interrupts)

```
  Syntax:      cli
  Action: Clear IF
  Flags Affected: IF=0
```

cmp Compare two operands

```
  Syntax:      cmp    op1, op2
  op1: register or memory
  op2: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: Perform op1-op2, discarding the result but setting the
flags.
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
  Notes: Usually used before a conditional jump instruction.
```

cwd Convert word to doubleword (signed)

```
  Syntax:      cwd
  Action: Sign extend AX to fill DX, creating a dword contained in
DX::AX.
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: For unsigned numbers use "xor dx, dx" to clear DX.
```

dec Decrement by 1

```
  Syntax:      dec    op
  op: register or memory
  Action: op = op - 1
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF
```

div Unsigned divide

```
  Syntax:      div    op8
               div    op16
  op8: 8-bit register or memory
  op16: 16-bit register or memory
  Action: If operand is op8, unsigned AL = AX / op8  and  AH = AX %
op8
          If operand is op16, unsigned AX = DX::AX / op16  and  DX =
DX::AX % op16
  Flags Affected: OF=?, SF=?, ZF=?, AF=?, PF=?, CF=?
  Notes: Performs both division and modulus operations in one
instruction.
```

idiv Signed divide

```
  Syntax:      idiv   op8
               idiv   op16
  op8: 8-bit register or memory
  op16: 16-bit register or memory
  Action: If operand is op8, signed AL = AX / op8  and  AH = AX % op8
          If operand is op16, signed AX = DX::AX / op16  and  DX =
DX::AX % op16
```

```
  Flags Affected: OF=?, SF=?, ZF=?, AF=?, PF=?, CF=?
  Notes: Performs both division and modulus operations in one
instruction.


imul    Signed multiply
  Syntax:      imul    op8
               imul    op16
  op8: 8-bit register or memory
  op16: 16-bit register or memory
  Action: If operand is op8, signed AX = AL * op8
          If operand is op16, signed DX::AX = AX * op16
  Flags Affected: OF, SF=?, ZF=?, AF=?, PF=?, CF


in      Input (read) from port
  Syntax:      in      AL, op8
               in      AX, op8
  op8: 8-bit immediate or DX
  Action: If destination is AL, read byte from 8-bit port op8.
          If destination is AX, read word from 16-bit port op8.
  Flags Affected: None


inc     Increment by 1
  Syntax:      inc     op
  op: register or memory
  Action: op = op + 1
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF


int     Call to interrupt procedure
  Syntax:      int     imm8
  imm8: 8-bit unsigned immediate
  Action: Push flags, CS, and IP; clear IF and TF (disabling
interrupts); load
          word at address (imm8*4) into IP and word at (imm8*4 + 2)
into CS.
  Flags Affected: IF=0, TF=0
  Notes: This instruction is usually used to call system routines.


iret    Interrupt return
  Syntax:      iret
  Action: Pop IP, CS, and flags (in that order).
  Flags Affected: All
  Notes: This instruction is used at the end of ISRs.


j??     Jump if ?? condition met
  Syntax:      j??     rel8
  rel8: 8-bit signed immediate
  Action: If condition ?? met, IP = IP + rel8 (sign extends rel8)
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: Use the cmp instruction to compare two operands then j?? to
jump
         conditionally. The ?? of the instruction name represents the
jump
         condition, allowing for following instructions:

         ja    jump if above, unsigned >
```

```
          jae    jump if above or equal, unsigned >=
          jb     jump if below, unsigned <
          jbe    jump if below or equal, unsigned <=
          je     jump if equal, ==
          jne    jump if not equal, !=
          jg     jump if greater than, signed >
          jge    jump if greater than or equal, signed >=
          jl     jump if less than, signed <
          jle    jump if less than or equal, signed <=

          All of the ?? suffixes can also be of the form n?? (e.g., jna
for
          jump if not above). See 8086 documentation for many more ??
conditions.

          An assembler label should be used in place of the rel8
operand. The
          assembler will then calculate the relative distance to jump.

          Note also that rel8 operand greatly limits conditional jump
distance
          (-127 to +128 bytes from IP). Use the jmp instruction in
combination
          with j?? to overcome this barrier.
```

jmp Unconditional jump

```
  Syntax:       jump    rel
                jump    op16
                jump    seg:off
  rel: 8 or 16-bit signed immediate
  op16: 16-bit register or memory
  seg:off: Immediate 16-bit segment and 16-bit offset
  Action: If operand is rel, IP = IP + rel
          If operand is op16, IP = op16
          If operand is seg:off, CS = seg, IP = off
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: An assembler label should be used in place of the rel8
operand. The
          assembler will then calculate the relative distance to jump.
```

lea Load effective address offset

```
  Syntax:       lea     reg16, memref
  reg16: 16-bit register
  memref: An effective memory address (e.g., [bx+2])
  Action: reg16 = address offset of memref
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: This instruction is used to easily calculate the address of
data in
          memory. It does not actually access memory.
```

mov Move data

```
  Syntax:       mov     dest, src
  dest: register or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = src
  Flags Affected: None
```

mul **Unsigned multiply**

```
  Syntax:      mul    op8
               mul    op16
  op8: 8-bit register or memory
  op16: 16-bit register or memory
  Action: If operand is op8, unsigned AX = AL * op8
          If operand is op16, unsigned DX::AX = AX * op16
  Flags Affected: OF, SF=?, ZF=?, AF=?, PF=?, CF
```

neg **Two's complement negate**

```
  Syntax:      neg    op
  op: register or memory
  Action: op = 0 - op
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
```

nop **No operation**

```
  Syntax:      nop
  Action: None
  Flags Affected: None
```

not **One's complement negate**

```
  Syntax:      not    op
  op: register or memory
  Action: op = ~op
  Flags Affected: None
```

or **Bitwise logical OR**

```
  Syntax:      or     dest, src
  dest: register or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest | src
  Flags Affected: OF=0, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF=0
```

out **Output (write) to port**

```
  Syntax:      out    op, AL
               out    op, AX
  op: 8-bit immediate or DX
  Action: If source is AL, write byte in AL to 8-bit port op.
          If source is AX, write word in AX to 16-bit port op.
  Flags Affected: None
```

pop **Pop word from stack**

```
  Syntax:      pop    op16
  reg16: 16-bit register or memory
  Action: Pop word off the stack and place it in op16 (i.e., op16 =
[SS:SP]
          then SP = SP + 2).
  Flags Affected: None
  Notes: Pushing and popping of SS and SP are allowed but strongly
discouraged.
```

popf **Pop flags from stack**

```
  Syntax:      popf
  Action: Pop word from stack and place it in flags register.
```

Flags Affected: All

push Push word onto stack

Syntax: push op16
op16: 16-bit register or memory
Action: Push op16 onto the stack (i.e., SP = SP - 2 then [SS:SP] = op16).
Flags Affected: None
Notes: Pushing and popping of SS and SP are allowed but strongly discouraged.

pushf Push flags onto stack

Syntax: pushf
Action: Push flags onto stack as a word.
Flags Affected: None

ret Return from procedure or function

Syntax: ret
Action: Pop word from stack and place it in IP.
Flags Affected: None

sal Bitwise arithmetic left shift (same as shl)

Syntax: sal op, 1
sal op, CL
op: register or memory
Action: If operand is 1, op = op << 1
If operand is CL, op = op << CL
Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF

sar Bitwise arithmetic right shift (signed)

Syntax: sar op, 1
sar op, CL
op: register or memory
Action: If operand is 1, signed op = op >> 1 (sign extends op)
If operand is CL, signed op = op >> CL (sign extends op)
Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF

sbb Subtract with borrow

Syntax: sbb dest, src
dest: register or memory
src: register, memory, or immediate
Action: dest = dest - (src + CF)
Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
Notes: This instruction is used to perform 32-bit subtraction.

shl Bitwise left shift (same as sal)

Syntax: shl op, 1
shl op, CL
op: register or memory
Action: If operand is 1, op = op << 1
If operand is CL, op = op << CL
Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF

shr **Bitwise right shift (unsigned)**

```
  Syntax:      shr     op, 1
               shr     op, CL
  op: register or memory
  Action: If operand is 1, op = (unsigned)op >> 1
          If operand is CL, op = (unsigned)op >> CL
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF
```

sti **Set interrupt flag (enable interrupts)**

```
  Syntax:      sti
  Action: Set IF
  Flags Affected: IF=1
```

sub **Subtract two numbers**

```
  Syntax:      sub     dest, src
  dest: regsiter or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest - src
  Flags Affected: OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, CF
  Notes: Works for both signed and unsigned numbers.
```

test **Bitwise logical compare**

```
  Syntax:      test    op1, op2
  op1: register, memory, or immediate
  op2: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: Perform op1 & op2, discarding the result but setting the
flags.
  Flags Affected: OF=0, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF=0
  Notes: This instruction is used to test if bits of a value are set.
```

xor **Bitwise logical XOR**

```
  Syntax:      xor     dest, src
  dest: register or memory
  src: register, memory, or immediate
  Action: dest = dest ^ src
  Flags Affected: OF=0, SF, ZF, AF=?, PF, CF=0
```
