

Assembly for Reverse Engineering

Registers & Flags

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```
0006  05381F  call  2084
0007  00701F  jmp   15CA
0008  C98014  call  17B4
0009  00A216  mov   si,7160
000A  006071  xor   di,di
000B  317F    mov   es,[7600]
000C  0060676  mov   bx,800F
000D  000FB0  xor   cx,cx
000E  31C9    mov   bp,0001
000F  000100  mov   dx,ds
```

Registers

- ▶ The CPU has some special hardware circuits
- ▶ Using them requires zero wait time
- ▶ Limited resource
- ▶ General purpose registers:
Used for all types of calculations
- ▶ Special purpose registers
IP
FLAGS

General Purpose Registers

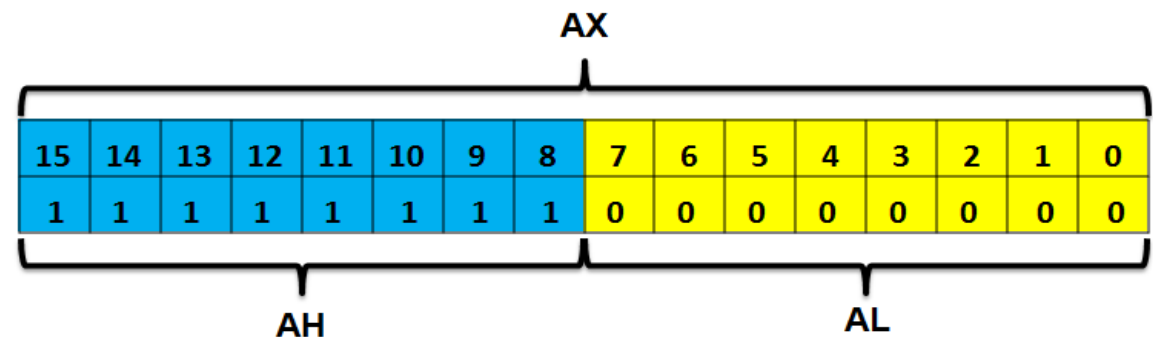
- ▶ 16 bit assembly:
 - AX – Accumulator register
 - BX – Base address register
 - CX – Count register
 - DX – Data register
 - SI – Source Index
 - DI – Destination Index
 - BP – Base Pointer
 - SP – Stack Pointer

8 Bit Registers

- For byte size operations, use byte registers:

16 bit	8 bit	8 bit
AX	AH	AL
BX	BH	BL
CX	CH	CL
DX	DH	DL

- mov ax, 0xFF00
 - mov ah, 0xFF
 - mov al, 0x00



32 Bit Registers

- ▶ “E” stands for “Extended”

32 Bit	16 Bit	8 Bit
EAX	AX	AL / AH
EBX	BX	BL / BH
ECX	CX	CL / CH
EDX	DX	DL / DH
ESI	SI	
EDI	DI	
EBP	BP	
ESP	SP	

Other General Purpose Regs.

- ▶ ESI / EDI – used for copying data from buffer to another
 - ▶ String operations
 - ▶ Will show up in some exercises
- ▶ EBP / ESP
 - ▶ Much of the course will be dedicated (stack, procedures)

EIP - Special Purpose Register

- Study hands on :-)

The screenshot shows the OllyDbg interface for the process 'acewins.exe'. The assembly window displays instructions starting at address 00401000. The registers window on the right shows the current state of the CPU registers, with EIP (Instruction Pointer) highlighted at 00401000, pointing to the 'CALL DWORD PTR DS:[&f' instruction.

Address	Disassembly
00401000	MOV EAX,1
00401005	MOV EBX,0
0040100A	MOV ECX,0
0040100F	MOV EBX,EAX
00401011	MOV EAX,ECX
00401013	MOV ECX,EAX
00401015	MOV EBX,EAX
00401017	MOV EAX,EBX
00401019	MOV ECX,EBX
0040101B	PUSH 0
0040101D	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[&f
00401023	PUSH EBP
00401024	MOV EBP,ESP
00401026	SUB ESP,14
00401029	PUSH EBX
0040102A	PUSH ECX
0040102B	PUSH EDX
0040102C	LEA EDI,[LOCAL.5]
0040102F	MOV ECX,0C
00401034	CALL 004010D7
00401039	ADD EDI,0C
0040103C	DEC EDI
0040103D	MOV BYTE PTR DS:[EDI]

Register	Value	Comment
EAX	77293368	kernel32.BaseTh
ECX	00000000	
EDX	00401000	acewins.<Module
EBX	7EFDE000	
ESP	000CFF8C	ASCII "z3)w"
EBP	000CFF94	
ESI	00000000	
EDI	00000000	
EIP	00401000	acewins.<Module

Summary

- ▶ We have learned about:
 - ▶ CPU's general registers – important for reading code
 - ▶ EIP - important for tracing code
- ▶ By-products:
 - ▶ Practiced number representation
 - ▶ Practiced Ollydbg

