CHAPTER 6: CONDITIONAL PROCESSING

Chapter Overview

- **Boolean and Comparison Instructions**
- Conditional Jumps
- Conditional Loop Instructions
- Conditional Structures
- Application: Finite-State Machines
- Conditional Control Flow Directives

Boolean and Comparison Instructions

- CPU Status Flags
- AND Instruction
- OR Instruction
- XOR Instruction
- NOT Instruction
- Applications
- TEST Instruction
- CMP Instruction

Status Flags - Review

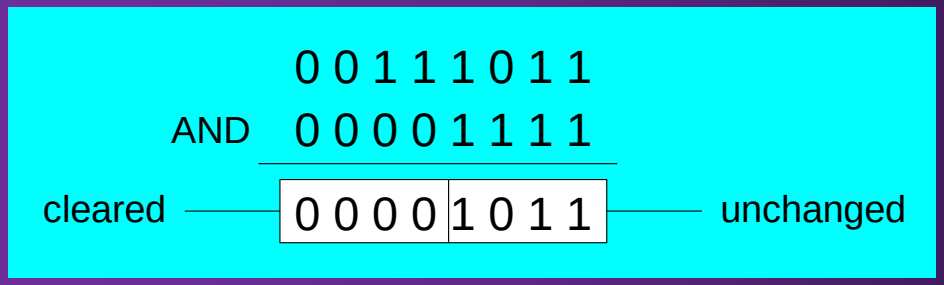
- The Zero flag is set when the result of an operation equals zero.
- The Carry flag is set when an instruction generates a result that is too large (or too small) for the destination operand.
- The Sign flag is set if the destination operand is negative, and it is clear if the destination operand is positive.
- The Overflow flag is set when an instruction generates an invalid signed result.
- The Parity flag is set when an instruction generates an even number of 1 bits in the low byte of the destination operand.
- The Auxiliary Carry flag is set when an operation produces a carry out from bit 3 to bit 4

AND Instruction

- Performs a Boolean AND operation between each pair of matching bits in two operands
- Syntax:

  AND *destination, source*

  (same operand types as MOV)



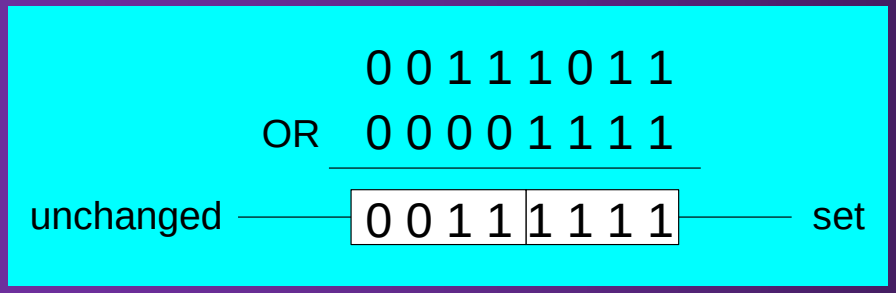
AND

x	y	x ∧ y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

OR Instruction

- Performs a Boolean OR operation between each pair of matching bits in two operands
- Syntax:

  OR *destination, source*



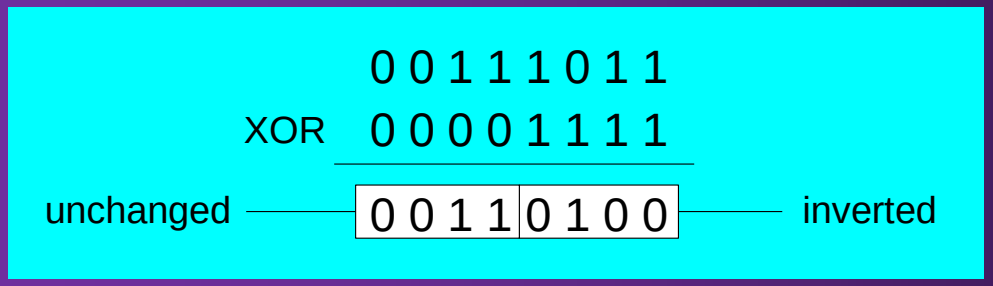
OR

x	y	x ∨ y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

XOR Instruction

- Performs a Boolean exclusive-OR operation between each pair of matching bits in two operands
- Syntax:

  XOR *destination, source*



XOR

x	y	x ⊕ y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

XOR is a useful way to toggle (invert) the bits in an operand.

NOT Instruction

- Performs a Boolean NOT operation on a single destination operand
- Syntax:

  NOT *destination*

```
NOT    0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1
       ---------------
       1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0   <-- inverted
```

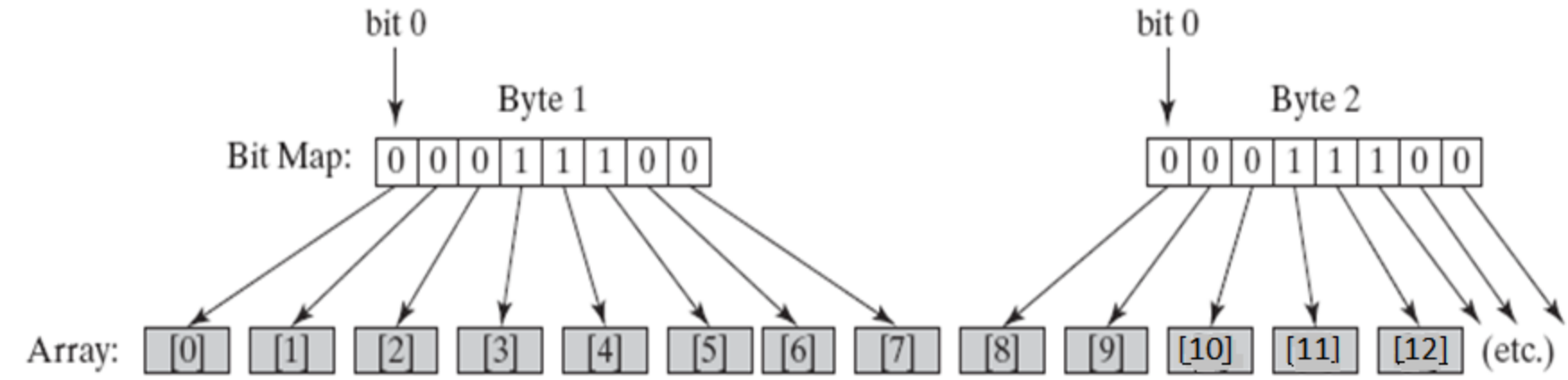
NOT

X	¬X
F	T
T	F

Bit-Mapped Sets

- Binary bits indicate set membership
- Efficient use of storage
- Also known as *bit vectors*

FIGURE 6–1 Mapping Binary Bits to an Array.



Bit-Mapped Set Operations

- Set Complement
  - mov eax,SetX
  - not eax
- Set Intersection
  - mov eax,setX
  - and eax,setY
- Set Union
  - mov eax,setX
  - or eax,setY

TEST Instruction

- Performs a nondestructive (非破坏性的) AND operation between each pair of matching bits in two operands
- No operands are modified, but the Zero flag is affected.
- Example: jump to a label if neither bit 0 nor bit 1 in AL is set.

```
test al,00000011b
jz   ValueNotFound
```

- Example: jump to a label if either bit 0 or bit 1 in AL is set.

```
test al,00000011b
jnz  ValueFound
```

CMP Instruction

- Compares the destination operand to the source operand
  - Nondestructive subtraction of source from destination (destination operand is not changed)
- Syntax: CMP *destination, source*
- Example: destination == source

```
mov al,5
cmp al,5                    ; Zero flag set
```

- Example: destination < source

```
mov al,4
cmp al,5                    ; Carry flag set
```

What's Next

- Boolean and Comparison Instructions
- **Conditional Jumps**
- Conditional Loop Instructions
- Conditional Structures
- Application: Finite-State Machines
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Conditional Jumps

- Jumps Based On . . .
  - Specific flags
  - Equality
  - Unsigned comparisons
  - Signed Comparisons
- Applications
- Encrypting a String
- Bit Test (BT) Instruction

J*cond* Instruction

- A conditional jump instruction branches to a label when specific register or flag conditions are met

- Examples:
  - JB, JC jump to a label if the Carry flag is set
  - JE, JZ jump to a label if the Zero flag is set
  - JS jumps to a label if the Sign flag is set
  - JNE, JNZ jump to a label if the Zero flag is clear
  - JECXZ jumps to a label if ECX equals 0

J*cond* Ranges

- Prior to the 386:
  - jump must be within –128 to +127 bytes from current location counter
- x86 processors:
  - 32-bit offset permits jump anywhere in memory

Offset	Encoding			ASM Source
0040101A	**B0 80**	**mov al,80h**	L1:	mov al, -128
0040101C	**3C 0A**	**cmp al,0Ah**		cmp al, 10
0040101E	**74 FA**	**je L1 (40101Ah)**		jz L1
00401020	**8A D8**	**mov bl,al**		mov bl, al

FA: -6

```
  00401020
+ FFFFFFFA
----------
  0040101A
```

Jumps Based on Specific Flags

Mnemonic	Description	Flags
JZ	Jump if zero	ZF = 1
JNZ	Jump if not zero	ZF = 0
JC	Jump if carry	CF = 1
JNC	Jump if not carry	CF = 0
JO	Jump if overflow	OF = 1
JNO	Jump if not overflow	OF = 0
JS	Jump if signed	SF = 1
JNS	Jump if not signed	SF = 0
JP	Jump if parity (even)	PF = 1
JNP	Jump if not parity (odd)	PF = 0

Jumps Based on Equality

Mnemonic	Description
JE	Jump if equal (*leftOp* = *rightOp*)
JNE	Jump if not equal (*leftOp* ≠ *rightOp*)
JCXZ	Jump if CX = 0
JECXZ	Jump if ECX = 0

Jumps Based on Unsigned Comparisons

Mnemonic	Description
JA	Jump if above (if *leftOp* > *rightOp*)
JNBE	Jump if not below or equal (same as JA)
JAE	Jump if above or equal (if *leftOp* >= *rightOp*)
JNB	Jump if not below (same as JAE)
JB	Jump if below (if *leftOp* < *rightOp*)
JNAE	Jump if not above or equal (same as JB)
JBE	Jump if below or equal (if *leftOp* <= *rightOp*)
JNA	Jump if not above (same as JBE)

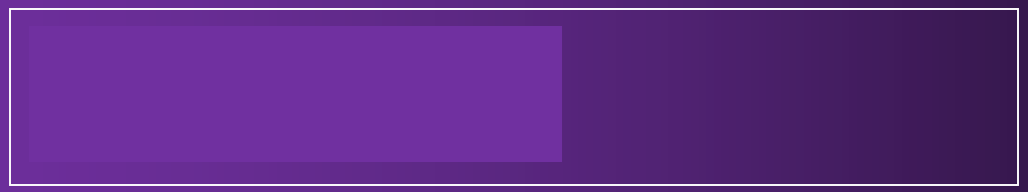
Jumps Based on Signed Comparisons

Mnemonic	Description
JG	Jump if greater (if *leftOp* > *rightOp*)
JNLE	Jump if not less than or equal (same as JG)
JGE	Jump if greater than or equal (if *leftOp* >= *rightOp*)
JNL	Jump if not less (same as JGE)
JL	Jump if less (if *leftOp* < *rightOp*)
JNGE	Jump if not greater than or equal (same as JL)
JLE	Jump if less than or equal (if *leftOp* <= *rightOp*)
JNG	Jump if not greater (same as JLE)

Applications

- Task: Jump to a label if unsigned EAX is greater than EBX
- Solution:

- Task: Jump to a label if signed EAX is greater than EBX
- Solution:



BT (Bit Test) Instruction

- Copies bit *n* from an operand into the Carry flag
- Syntax: BT *bitBase, n*
  - bitBase may be *r/m16* or *r/m32*
  - n may be *r16, r32*, or *imm8*
- Example: jump to label L1 if bit 9 is set in the AX register:

```
bt AX,9                    ; CF = bit 9
jc L1                      ; jump if Carry
```

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Conditional Loop Instructions

- LOOPZ and LOOPE
- LOOPNZ and LOOPNE

LOOPZ and LOOPE

- Syntax:

  LOOPE *destination*

  LOOPZ *destination*
- Logic:
  - ECX ← ECX – 1
  - if ECX > 0 and ZF=1, jump to *destination*
- Useful when scanning an array for the first element that does not match a given value.

In 32-bit mode, ECX is the loop counter register. In 16-bit real-address mode, CX is the counter, and in 64-bit mode, RCX is the counter.

LOOPNZ and LOOPNE

- LOOPNZ (LOOPNE) is a conditional loop instruction
- Syntax:

  LOOPNZ *destination*

  LOOPNE *destination*
- Logic:
  - ECX ← ECX – 1;
  - if ECX > 0 and ZF=0, jump to *destination*
- Useful when scanning an array for the first element that matches a given value.

LOOPNZ Example

The following code finds the first positive value in an array:

```
.data
array SWORD -3,-6,-1,-10,10,30,40,4
sentinel SWORD 0
.code
```

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Conditional Structures

- Block-Structured IF Statements
- Compound Expressions with AND
- Compound Expressions with OR
- WHILE Loops

Block-Structured IF Statements

Assembly language programmers can easily translate logical statements written in C++/Java into assembly language. For example:

```
if( op1 == op2 )
  X = 1;
else
  X = 2;
```

```
    mov eax,op1
    cmp eax,op2
    jne L1
    mov X,1
    jmp L2
L1: mov X,2
L2:
```

Compound Expression with AND (1 of 3)

- When implementing the logical AND operator, consider that HLLs use short-circuit evaluation
- In the following example, if the first expression is false, the second expression is skipped:

```
if (al > bl) AND (bl > cl)
  X = 1;
```

Compound Expression with AND (2 of 3)

```
if (al > bl) AND (bl > cl)
  X = 1;
```

This is one possible implementation . . .

```
    cmp al,bl                   ; first expression...
    ja  L1
    jmp next
L1:
    cmp bl,cl                   ; second expression...
    ja  L2
    jmp next
L2:                             ; both are true
    mov X,1                     ; set X to 1
next:
```

Compound Expression with AND (3 of 3)

```
if (al > bl) AND (bl > cl)
  X = 1;
```

But the following implementation uses 29% less code by reversing the first relational operator. We allow the program to "fall through" to the second expression:

```
    cmp al,bl                   ; first expression...
    jbe next                    ; quit if false
    cmp bl,cl                   ; second expression...
    jbe next                    ; quit if false
    mov X,1                     ; both are true
next:
```

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  - **Reading material**
- Conditional Control Flow Directives

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Creating IF Statements

- Runtime Expressions
- Relational and Logical Operators
- MASM-Generated Code
- .REPEAT Directive
- .WHILE Directive

Runtime Expressions

- .IF, .ELSE, .ELSEIF, and .ENDIF can be used to evaluate runtime expressions and create block-structured IF statements.
- Examples:

```
.IF eax > ebx
   mov edx,1
.ELSE
   mov edx,2
.ENDIF
```

```
.IF eax > ebx && eax > ecx
   mov edx,1
.ELSE
   mov edx,2
.ENDIF
```

- MASM generates "hidden" code for you, consisting of code labels, CMP and conditional jump instructions.

Relational and Logical Operators

Operator	Description
expr1 == *expr2*	Returns true when *expression1* is equal to *expr2*.
expr1 != *expr2*	Returns true when *expr1* is not equal to *expr2*.
expr1 > *expr2*	Returns true when *expr1* is greater than *expr2*.
expr1 >= *expr2*	Returns true when *expr1* is greater than or equal to *expr2*.
expr1 < *expr2*	Returns true when *expr1* is less than *expr2*.
expr1 <= *expr2*	Returns true when *expr1* is less than or equal to *expr2*.
! *expr*	Returns true when *expr* is false.
expr1 && *expr2*	Performs logical AND between *expr1* and *expr2*.
expr1 || *expr2*	Performs logical OR between *expr1* and *expr2*.
expr1 & *expr2*	Performs bitwise AND between *expr1* and *expr2*.
CARRY?	Returns true if the Carry flag is set.
OVERFLOW?	Returns true if the Overflow flag is set.
PARITY?	Returns true if the Parity flag is set.
SIGN?	Returns true if the Sign flag is set.
ZERO?	Returns true if the Zero flag is set.

MASM-Generated Code

```
.data
val1   DWORD 5
result DWORD ?
.code
mov eax,6
.IF eax > val1
  mov result,1
.ENDIF
```

Generated code:

```
    mov eax,6
    cmp eax,val1
    jbe @C0001
    mov result,1
@C0001:
```

MASM automatically generates an unsigned jump (JBE) because val1 is unsigned.

```
.IF 2 > eax
```
X

MASM-Generated Code

```
.data
val1    SDWORD 5
result SDWORD ?
.code
mov eax,6
.IF eax > val1
  mov result,1
.ENDIF
```

Generated code:

```
    mov eax,6
    cmp eax,val1
    jle @C0001
    mov result,1
@C0001:
```

MASM automatically generates a signed jump (JLE) because val1 is signed.

MASM-Generated Code

```
.data
result DWORD ?
.code
mov ebx,5
mov eax,6
.IF eax > ebx
  mov result,1
.ENDIF
```

Generated code:

```
    mov ebx,5
    mov eax,6
    cmp eax,ebx
    jbe @C0001
    mov result,1
@C0001:
```

MASM automatically generates an unsigned jump (JBE) when both operands are registers . . .

MASM-Generated Code

```
.data
result SDWORD ?
.code
mov ebx,5
mov eax,6
.IF SDWORD PTR eax > ebx
  mov result,1
.ENDIF
```

Generated code:

```
    mov ebx,5
    mov eax,6
    cmp eax,ebx
    jle @C0001
    mov result,1
@C0001:
```

. . . unless you prefix one of the register operands with the SDWORD PTR operator. Then a signed jump is generated.

.REPEAT Directive

Executes the loop body before testing the loop condition associated with the .UNTIL directive.

Example:

```
; Display integers 1 - 10:

mov eax,0
.REPEAT
    inc eax
    call WriteDec
    call Crlf
.UNTIL eax == 10
```

.WHILE Directive

Tests the loop condition before executing the loop body
The .ENDW directive marks the end of the loop.

Example:

```
; Display integers 1 - 10:

mov eax,0
.WHILE eax < 10
    inc eax
    call WriteDec
    call Crlf
.ENDW
```