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Tutorial 09: ARM Pseudo Instructions

Computer Science Department

CS2208: Introduction to Computer Organization and Architecture

Winter 2020-2021

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- The ARM assembler supports a number of pseudoinstructions that are translated into the appropriate combination of ARM words at assembly time.
- Consider the following assembly program:

```
AREA prog1, code, READONLY

ENTRY

LDR r0, [r1]

LDR r0, =0xFF ; pseudo-instruction

LDR r0, X ; pseudo-instruction

LDR r0, =X ; pseudo-instruction

ADR r0, X ; pseudo-instruction

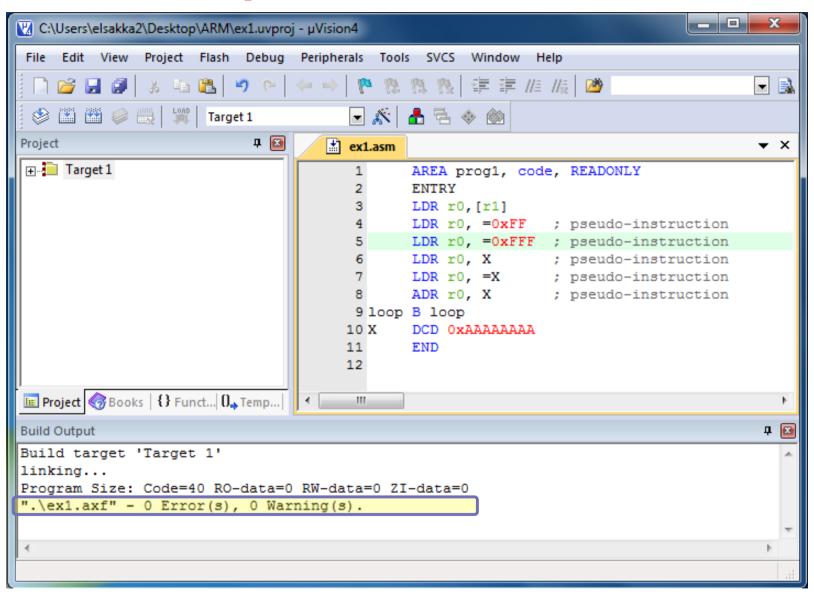
ADR r0, X ; pseudo-instruction

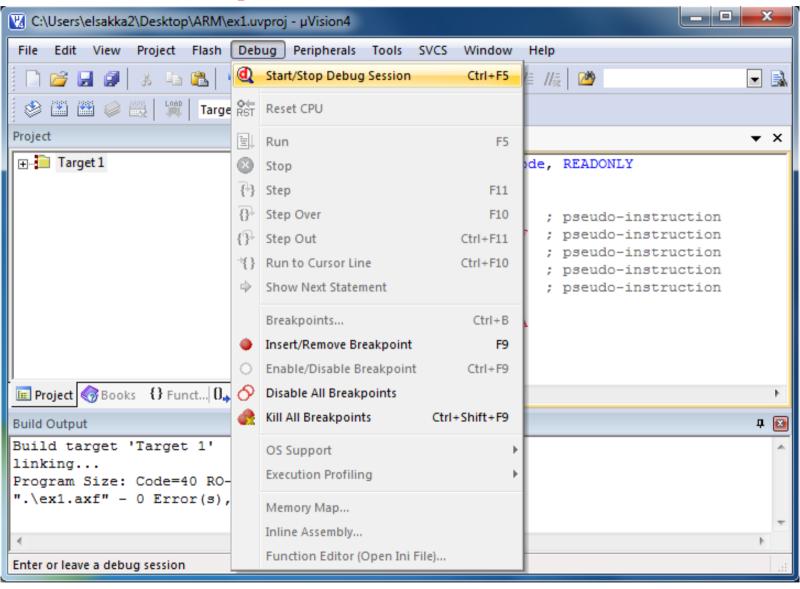
ADR r0, X ; pseudo-instruction

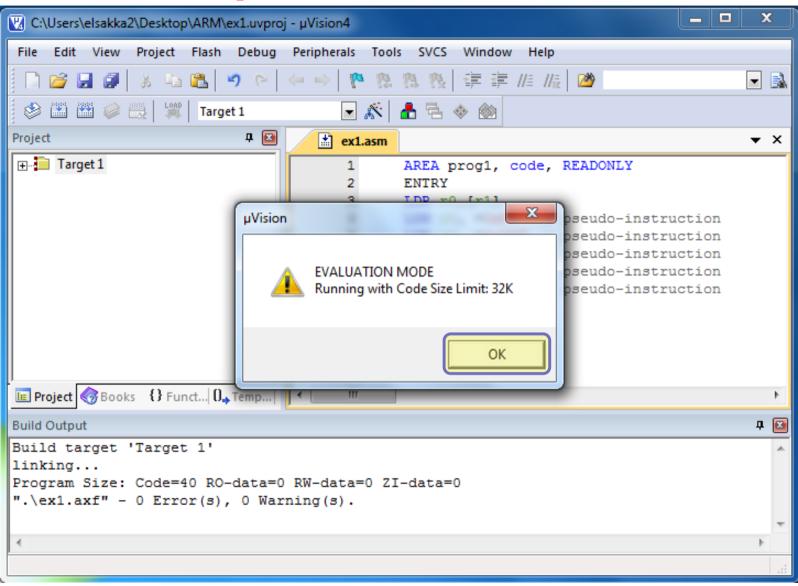
LOP B loop

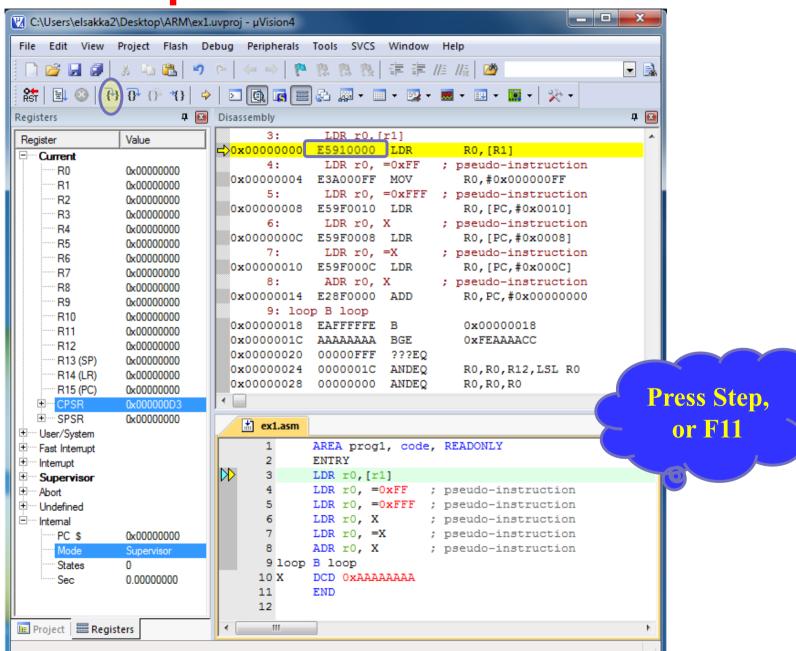
X DCD 0xAAAAAAAAA

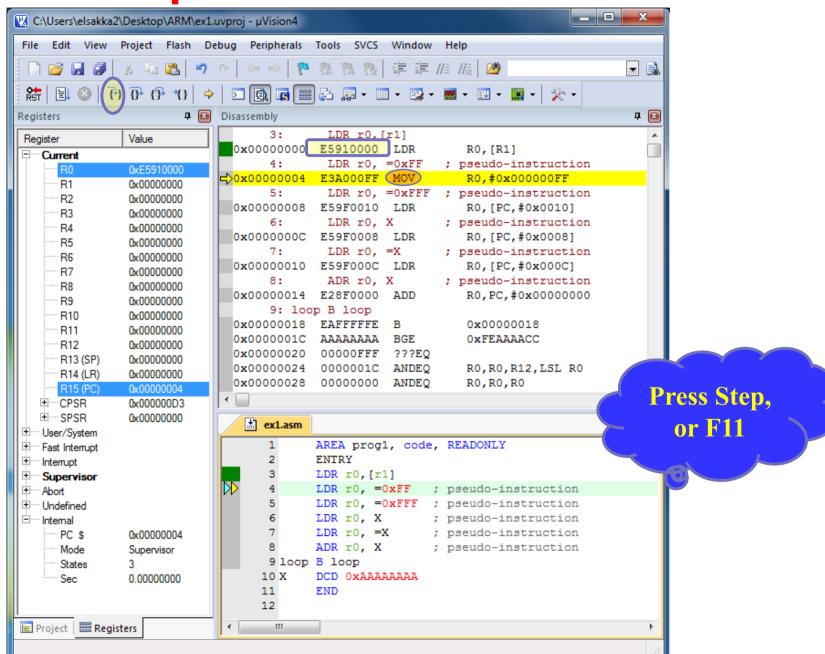
END
```











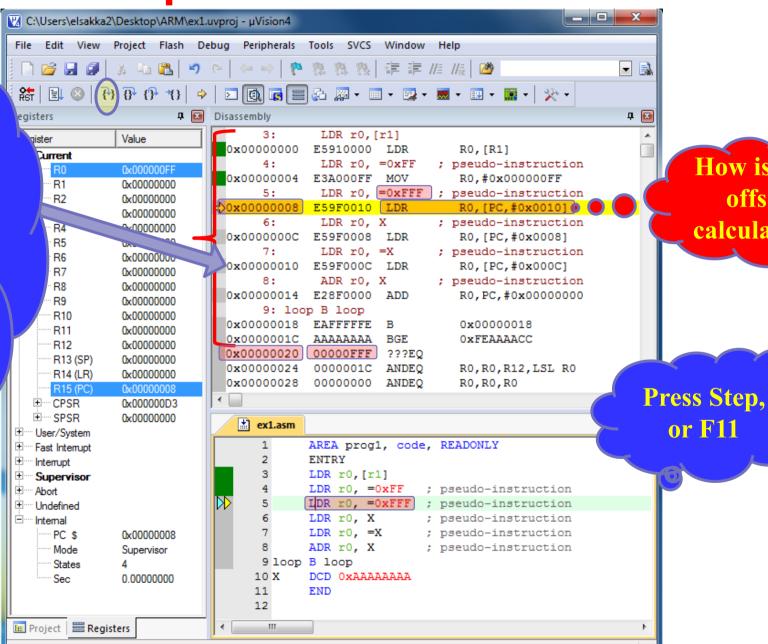
How is this

offset

calculated?

ARM pseudo-instructions

When executing the instruction at location 0x00000008, the PC value will be 0x00000010



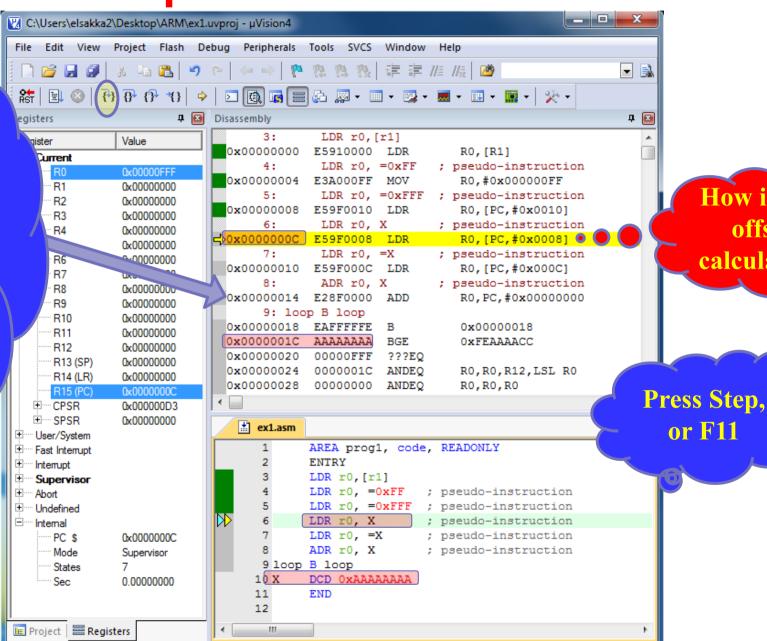
How is this

offset

calculated?

ARM pseudo-instructions

When executing the instruction at location 0x000000C, the PC value will be 0x00000014



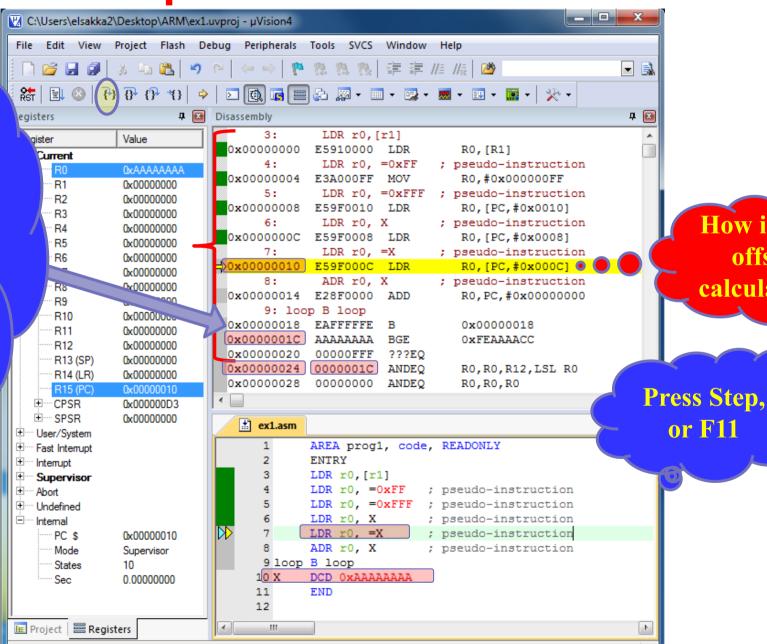
How is this

offset

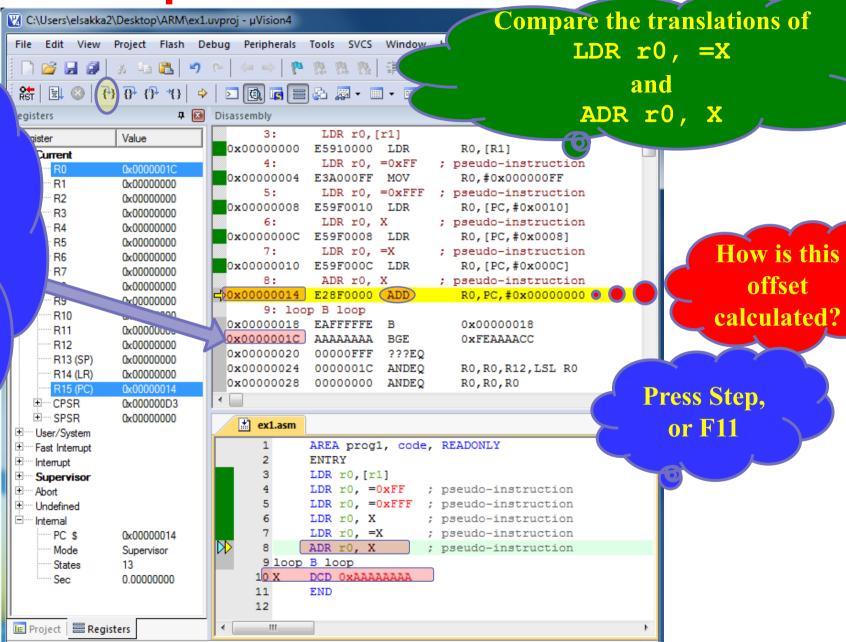
calculated?

ARM pseudo-instructions

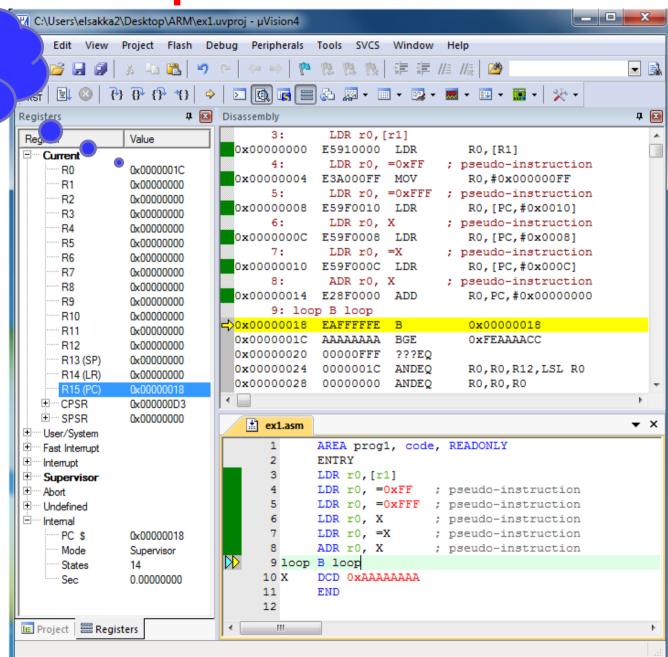
When executing the instruction at location 0x0000010, the PC value will be 0x00000018



When executing the instruction at location 0x00000014, the PC value will be 0x000001C



Same address (no change)





Consider we changed the previous program as follow:

```
AREA prog1, code, READONLY
                                                        AREA prog1, code, READONLY
     ENTRY
                                                        ENTRY
     LDR r0, [r1]
                                                        LDR r0, [r1]
     LDR \mathbf{r0}, =0xFF
                      ; pseudo-instruction
                                                        LDR \mathbf{r0}, =0xFF
                                                                         ; pseudo-instruction
                                                                         ; pseudo-instruction
     LDR \mathbf{r0}, =0xFFF
                      ; pseudo-instruction
                                                        LDR \mathbf{r0}, =0xFFF
                      ; pseudo-instruction
     LDR rO, X
                                                        LDR rO, X
                                                                         ; pseudo-instruction
     LDR \mathbf{r0}, =X
                      ; pseudo-instruction
                                                        LDR r0, =X
                                                                         ; pseudo-instruction
     ADR rO, X
                      ; pseudo-instruction
                                                        ADR rO, X
                                                                         ; pseudo-instruction
loop B loop
                                                   loop B loop
     DCD 0xAAAAAAA
X
     END
                                                        AREA prog1, data, READONLY
                                                   Χ
                                                        DCD 0xAAAAAAA
                                                        END
```

What is the effect of this change on the generated code?

