

# CMSC 313 Lecture 08

- **Announcements**
- **Project 2 Questions**
- **More Arithmetic Instructions**
  - ◇ **NEG, MUL, IMUL, DIV**
- **Indexed Addressing: [ESI + ECX\*4 + DISP]**
- **Some i386 string instructions**

## Project 2: Hamming Distance

**Due:** Tue 09/23/03, Section 0101 (Chang) & Section 0301 (Macneil)  
 Wed 09/24/03, Section 0201 (Patel & Bourner)

### Objective

The objective of this programming project is to practice designing your own loops and branching code in assembly language and to gain greater familiarity with the i386 instructions set.

### Assignment

Write an assembly language program that prompts the user for two input strings and computes the Hamming distance between the two strings. The Hamming distance is the number of bit positions where the two strings differ. For example, the ASCII representations of the strings "foo" and "bar" in binary are:

```
"foo" = 0110 0110 0110 1111 0110 1111
"bar" = 0110 0010 0110 0001 0111 0010
```

So, the Hamming distance between "foo" and "bar" is 8.

Some details:

- Your program must return the Hamming distance of the two strings as the exit status of the program. This is the value stored in the EBX register just before the system call to exit the program.
- To see the exit status of your program, execute the program using the Unix command:
 

```
a.out ; echo $?
```
- Since the exit status is a value between 0 and 255, you should restrict the user input to 31 characters.
- If the user enters two strings with different lengths, your program should return the Hamming distance up to the length of the shorter string.
- Look up the i386 instructions ADC and XOR and determine how these instructions are relevant to this programming project.
- Record some sample runs of your program using the Unix script command.

### Implementation Notes

- The easiest way to examine the contents of a register bit-by-bit is to use successive SHR instruction to shift the least significant bit into the carry flag.
- When you use the gdb debugger to run your program, note that gdb reports the exit status as an octal (base 8) value. The Unix shell reports the exit status in decimal.
- The Hamming distance between the following two strings is 38:

```
this is a test
of the emergency broadcast
```

You must also make your own test cases.

- Part of this project is for you to decide which registers should hold which values and whether to use 8-bit, 16-bit or 32-bit registers. A logical plan for the use of registers will make your program easier to code and easier to debug — i.e., think about this *before* you start coding.

### Turning in your program

Use the UNIX `submit` command on the GL system to turn in your project. You should submit two files: 1) the modified assembly language program and 2) the typescript file of sample runs of your program. The class name for submit is `cs313_0101`, `cs313_0201` or `cs313_0301` depending on which section you attend. The name of the assignment name is `proj2`. The UNIX command to do this should look something like:

```
submit cs313_0101 proj2 hamming.asm typescript
```

# More Arithmetic Instructions

- **NEG: two's complement negation of operand**
- **MUL: unsigned multiplication**
  - ◇ Multiply AL with r/m8 and store product in AX
  - ◇ Multiply AX with r/m16 and store product in DX:AX
  - ◇ Multiply EAX with r/m32 and store product in EDX:EAX
  - ◇ Immediate operands are not supported.
  - ◇ CF and OF cleared if upper half of product is zero.
- **IMUL: signed multiplication**
  - ◇ Use with signed operands
  - ◇ More addressing modes supported
- **DIV: unsigned division**

## NEG—Two's Complement Negation

Opcode	Instruction	Description
F6 /3	NEG <i>r/m8</i>	Two's complement negate <i>r/m8</i>
F7 /3	NEG <i>r/m16</i>	Two's complement negate <i>r/m16</i>
F7 /3	NEG <i>r/m32</i>	Two's complement negate <i>r/m32</i>

### Description

Replaces the value of operand (the destination operand) with its two's complement. (This operation is equivalent to subtracting the operand from 0.) The destination operand is located in a general-purpose register or a memory location.

This instruction can be used with a LOCK prefix to allow the instruction to be executed atomically.

### Operation

```
IF DEST  0
  THEN CF 0
  ELSE CF 1;
FI;
DEST  - (DEST)
```

### Flags Affected

The CF flag cleared to 0 if the source operand is 0; otherwise it is set to 1. The OF, SF, ZF, AF, and PF flags are set according to the result.

### Protected Mode Exceptions

#GP(0)	If the destination is located in a nonwritable segment. If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit. If the DS, ES, FS, or GS register contains a null segment selector.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**MUL—Unsigned Multiply**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
F6 /4	MUL <i>r/m8</i>	Unsigned multiply (AX ← AL × <i>r/m8</i> )
F7 /4	MUL <i>r/m16</i>	Unsigned multiply (DX:AX ← AX × <i>r/m16</i> )
F7 /4	MUL <i>r/m32</i>	Unsigned multiply (EDX:EAX ← EAX × <i>r/m32</i> )

**Description**

Performs an unsigned multiplication of the first operand (destination operand) and the second operand (source operand) and stores the result in the destination operand. The destination operand is an implied operand located in register AL, AX or EAX (depending on the size of the operand); the source operand is located in a general-purpose register or a memory location. The action of this instruction and the location of the result depends on the opcode and the operand size as shown in the following table.

Operand Size	Source 1	Source 2	Destination
Byte	AL	<i>r/m8</i>	AX
Word	AX	<i>r/m16</i>	DX:AX
Doubleword	EAX	<i>r/m32</i>	EDX:EAX

The result is stored in register AX, register pair DX:AX, or register pair EDX:EAX (depending on the operand size), with the high-order bits of the product contained in register AH, DX, or EDX, respectively. If the high-order bits of the product are 0, the CF and OF flags are cleared; otherwise, the flags are set.

**Operation**

```

IF byte operation
  THEN
    AX ← AL × SRC
  ELSE (* word or doubleword operation *)
    IF OperandSize = 16
      THEN
        DX:AX ← AX × SRC
      ELSE (* OperandSize = 32 *)
        EDX:EAX ← EAX × SRC
    FI;
  FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

The OF and CF flags are cleared to 0 if the upper half of the result is 0; otherwise, they are set to 1. The SF, ZF, AF, and PF flags are undefined.

## IMUL—Signed Multiply

Opcode	Instruction	Description
F6 /5	IMUL <i>r/m8</i>	AX AL □ <i>r/m</i> byte
F7 /5	IMUL <i>r/m16</i>	DX:AX AX □ <i>r/m</i> word
F7 /5	IMUL <i>r/m32</i>	EDX:EAX EAX □ <i>r/m</i> doubleword
0F AF /r	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16</i>	word register word register □ <i>r/m</i> word
0F AF /r	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32</i>	doubleword register doubleword register □ <i>r/m</i> doubleword
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16,imm8</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32,imm8</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r16,imm8</i>	word register word register □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r32,imm8</i>	doubleword register doubleword register □ sign-extended immediate byte
69 /r iw	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16,imm16</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ immediate word
69 /r id	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32,imm32</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ immediate doubleword
69 /r iw	IMUL <i>r16,imm16</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ immediate word
69 /r id	IMUL <i>r32,imm32</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ immediate doubleword

### Description

Performs a signed multiplication of two operands. This instruction has three forms, depending on the number of operands.

- One-operand form.** This form is identical to that used by the MUL instruction. Here, the source operand (in a general-purpose register or memory location) is multiplied by the value in the AL, AX, or EAX register (depending on the operand size) and the product is stored in the AX, DX:AX, or EDX:EAX registers, respectively.
- Two-operand form.** With this form the destination operand (the first operand) is multiplied by the source operand (second operand). The destination operand is a general-purpose register and the source operand is an immediate value, a general-purpose register, or a memory location. The product is then stored in the destination operand location.
- Three-operand form.** This form requires a destination operand (the first operand) and two source operands (the second and the third operands). Here, the first source operand (which can be a general-purpose register or a memory location) is multiplied by the second source operand (an immediate value). The product is then stored in the destination operand (a general-purpose register).

When an immediate value is used as an operand, it is sign-extended to the length of the destination operand format.

**IMUL—Signed Multiply (Continued)**

The CF and OF flags are set when significant bits are carried into the upper half of the result. The CF and OF flags are cleared when the result fits exactly in the lower half of the result.

The three forms of the IMUL instruction are similar in that the length of the product is calculated to twice the length of the operands. With the one-operand form, the product is stored exactly in the destination. With the two- and three- operand forms, however, result is truncated to the length of the destination before it is stored in the destination register. Because of this truncation, the CF or OF flag should be tested to ensure that no significant bits are lost.

The two- and three-operand forms may also be used with unsigned operands because the lower half of the product is the same regardless if the operands are signed or unsigned. The CF and OF flags, however, cannot be used to determine if the upper half of the result is non-zero.

**Operation**

```

IF (NumberOfOperands = 1)
  THEN IF (OperandSize = 8)
    THEN
      AX ← AL × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
      IF ((AH = 00H) OR (AH = FFH))
        THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
        ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
      FI;
    ELSE IF OperandSize = 16
      THEN
        DX:AX ← AX × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF ((DX = 0000H) OR (DX = FFFFH))
          THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
          ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
        FI;
      ELSE (* OperandSize = 32 *)
        EDX:EAX ← EAX × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF ((EDX = 00000000H) OR (EDX = FFFFFFFFH))
          THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
          ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
        FI;
      FI;
    ELSE IF (NumberOfOperands = 2)
      THEN
        temp ← DEST × SRC (* signed multiplication; temp is double DEST size*)
        DEST ← DEST × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF temp > DEST
          THEN CF = 1; OF = 1;
          ELSE CF = 0; OF = 0;
        FI;
      ELSE (* NumberOfOperands = 3 *)

```

**IMUL—Signed Multiply (Continued)**

```

DEST SRC1 □ SRC2 (* signed multiplication *)
temp SRC1 □ SRC2 (* signed multiplication; temp is double SRC1 size *)
IF temp □ DEST
    THEN CF 1; OF 1;
    ELSE CF 0; OF 0;
FI;
FI;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

For the one operand form of the instruction, the CF and OF flags are set when significant bits are carried into the upper half of the result and cleared when the result fits exactly in the lower half of the result. For the two- and three-operand forms of the instruction, the CF and OF flags are set when the result must be truncated to fit in the destination operand size and cleared when the result fits exactly in the destination operand size. The SF, ZF, AF, and PF flags are undefined.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.  If the DS, ES, FS, or GS register is used to access memory and it contains a null segment selector.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**Real-Address Mode Exceptions**

#GP	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
#SS	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.

**Virtual-8086 Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made.

## IMUL—Signed Multiply

Opcode	Instruction	Description
F6 /5	IMUL <i>r/m8</i>	AX AL □ <i>r/m</i> byte
F7 /5	IMUL <i>r/m16</i>	DX:AX AX □ <i>r/m</i> word
F7 /5	IMUL <i>r/m32</i>	EDX:EAX EAX □ <i>r/m</i> doubleword
0F AF /r	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16</i>	word register word register □ <i>r/m</i> word
0F AF /r	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32</i>	doubleword register doubleword register □ <i>r/m</i> doubleword
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16,imm8</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32,imm8</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r16,imm8</i>	word register word register □ sign-extended immediate byte
6B /r ib	IMUL <i>r32,imm8</i>	doubleword register doubleword register □ sign-extended immediate byte
69 /r iw	IMUL <i>r16,r/m16,imm16</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ immediate word
69 /r id	IMUL <i>r32,r/m32,imm32</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ immediate doubleword
69 /r iw	IMUL <i>r16,imm16</i>	word register <i>r/m16</i> □ immediate word
69 /r id	IMUL <i>r32,imm32</i>	doubleword register <i>r/m32</i> □ immediate doubleword

### Description

Performs a signed multiplication of two operands. This instruction has three forms, depending on the number of operands.

- One-operand form.** This form is identical to that used by the MUL instruction. Here, the source operand (in a general-purpose register or memory location) is multiplied by the value in the AL, AX, or EAX register (depending on the operand size) and the product is stored in the AX, DX:AX, or EDX:EAX registers, respectively.
- Two-operand form.** With this form the destination operand (the first operand) is multiplied by the source operand (second operand). The destination operand is a general-purpose register and the source operand is an immediate value, a general-purpose register, or a memory location. The product is then stored in the destination operand location.
- Three-operand form.** This form requires a destination operand (the first operand) and two source operands (the second and the third operands). Here, the first source operand (which can be a general-purpose register or a memory location) is multiplied by the second source operand (an immediate value). The product is then stored in the destination operand (a general-purpose register).

When an immediate value is used as an operand, it is sign-extended to the length of the destination operand format.

**IMUL—Signed Multiply (Continued)**

The CF and OF flags are set when significant bits are carried into the upper half of the result. The CF and OF flags are cleared when the result fits exactly in the lower half of the result.

The three forms of the IMUL instruction are similar in that the length of the product is calculated to twice the length of the operands. With the one-operand form, the product is stored exactly in the destination. With the two- and three- operand forms, however, result is truncated to the length of the destination before it is stored in the destination register. Because of this truncation, the CF or OF flag should be tested to ensure that no significant bits are lost.

The two- and three-operand forms may also be used with unsigned operands because the lower half of the product is the same regardless if the operands are signed or unsigned. The CF and OF flags, however, cannot be used to determine if the upper half of the result is non-zero.

**Operation**

```

IF (NumberOfOperands = 1)
  THEN IF (OperandSize = 8)
    THEN
      AX ← AL × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
      IF ((AH = 00H) OR (AH = FFH))
        THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
        ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
      FI;
    ELSE IF OperandSize = 16
      THEN
        DX:AX ← AX × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF ((DX = 0000H) OR (DX = FFFFH))
          THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
          ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
        FI;
      ELSE (* OperandSize = 32 *)
        EDX:EAX ← EAX × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF ((EDX = 00000000H) OR (EDX = FFFFFFFFH))
          THEN CF = 0; OF = 0;
          ELSE CF = 1; OF = 1;
        FI;
      FI;
    ELSE IF (NumberOfOperands = 2)
      THEN
        temp ← DEST × SRC (* signed multiplication; temp is double DEST size*)
        DEST ← DEST × SRC (* signed multiplication *)
        IF temp > DEST
          THEN CF = 1; OF = 1;
          ELSE CF = 0; OF = 0;
        FI;
      ELSE (* NumberOfOperands = 3 *)

```

**IMUL—Signed Multiply (Continued)**

```

DEST SRC1 □ SRC2 (* signed multiplication *)
temp SRC1 □ SRC2 (* signed multiplication; temp is double SRC1 size *)
IF temp □ DEST
    THEN CF 1; OF 1;
    ELSE CF 0; OF 0;
FI;
FI;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

For the one operand form of the instruction, the CF and OF flags are set when significant bits are carried into the upper half of the result and cleared when the result fits exactly in the lower half of the result. For the two- and three-operand forms of the instruction, the CF and OF flags are set when the result must be truncated to fit in the destination operand size and cleared when the result fits exactly in the destination operand size. The SF, ZF, AF, and PF flags are undefined.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.  If the DS, ES, FS, or GS register is used to access memory and it contains a null segment selector.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**Real-Address Mode Exceptions**

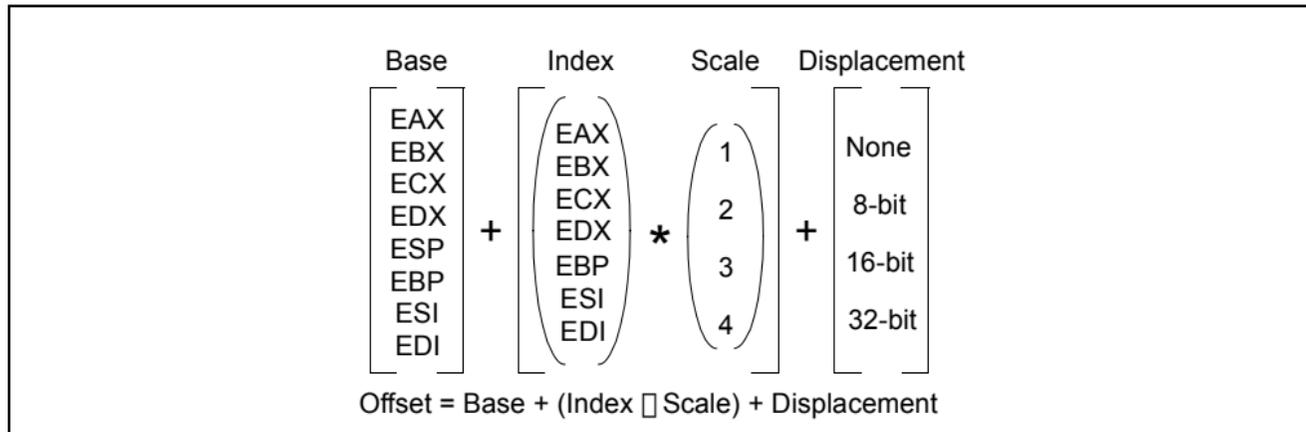
#GP	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
#SS	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.

**Virtual-8086 Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made.

# Indexed Addressing

- Operands of the form:  $[ESI + ECX*4 + DISP]$
- ESI = Base Register
- ECX = Index Register
- 4 = Scale factor
- DISP = Displacement
- The operand is in memory
- The address of the memory location is  
 $ESI + ECX*4 + DISP$



**Figure 3-9. Offset (or Effective Address) Computation**

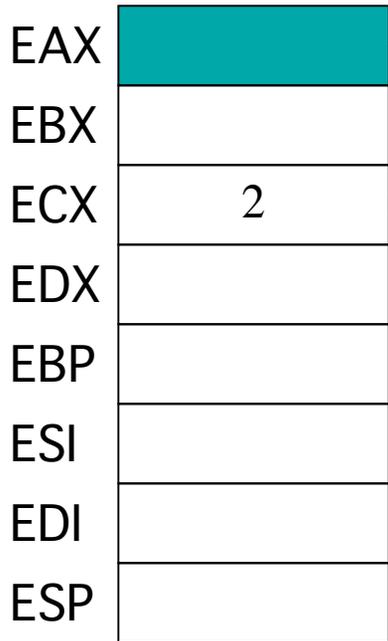
The uses of general-purpose registers as base or index components are restricted in the following manner:

- The ESP register cannot be used as an index register.
- When the ESP or EBP register is used as the base, the SS segment is the default segment. In all other cases, the DS segment is the default segment.

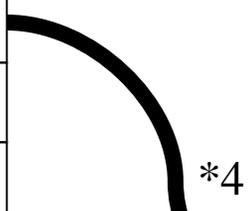
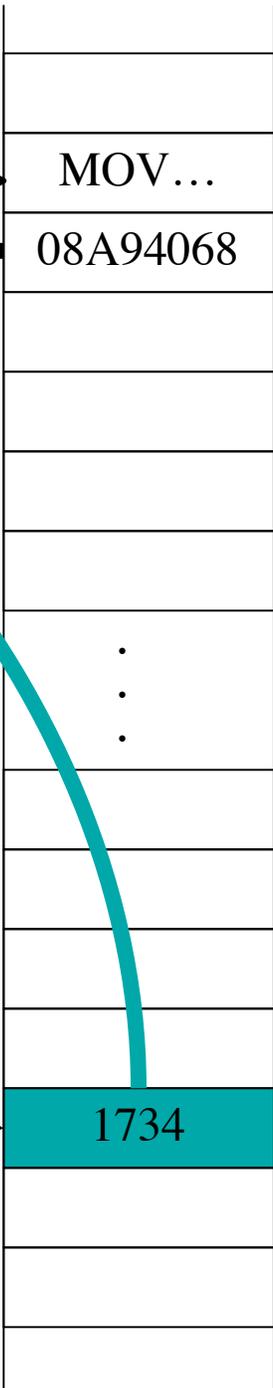
The base, index, and displacement components can be used in any combination, and any of these components can be null. A scale factor may be used only when an index also is used. Each possible combination is useful for data structures commonly used by programmers in high-level languages and assembly language. The following addressing modes suggest uses for common combinations of address components.



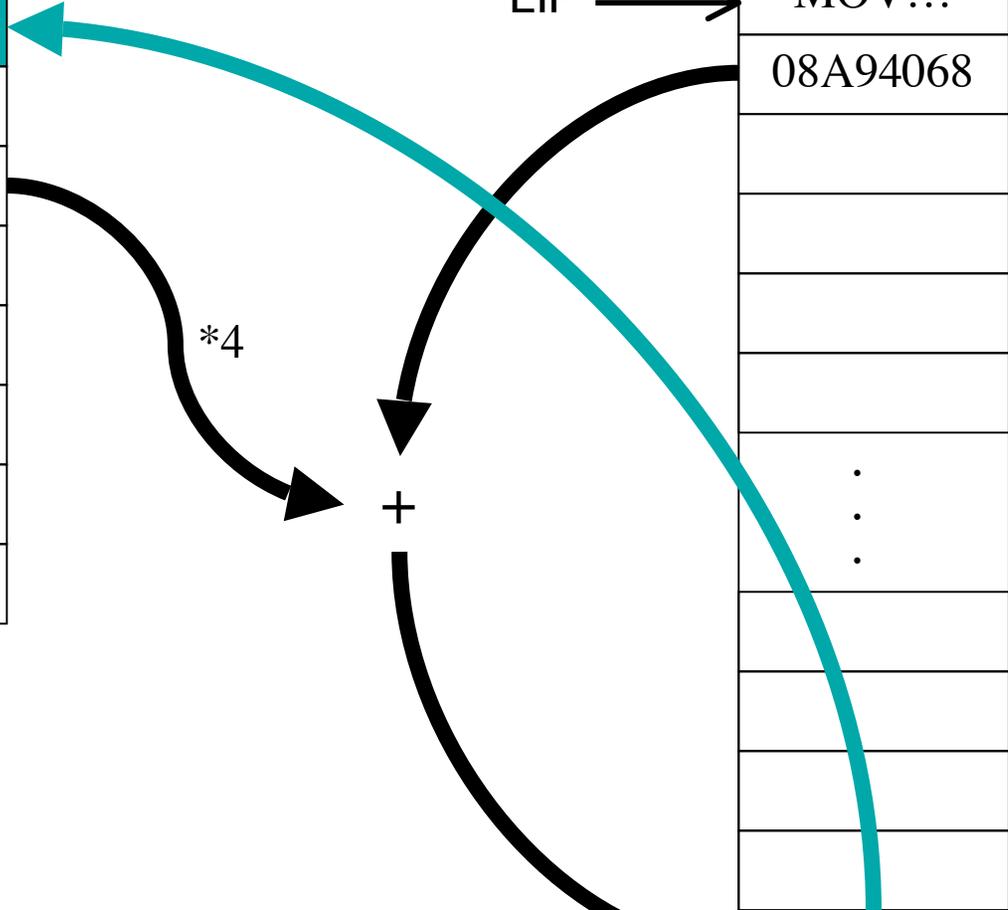
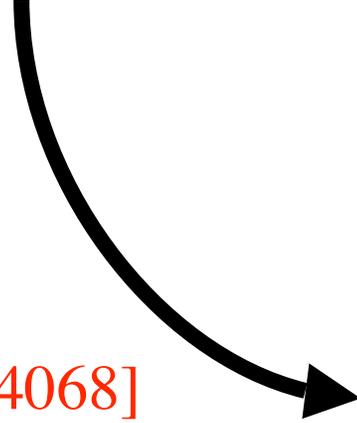
**Index\*Scale + Displacement**



EIP →



+



```
MOV EAX, [ECX*4 + 08A94068]
```

Code

Data

08A94068

08A94070





# Typical Uses for Indexed Addressing

- **Base + Displacement**

- ◇ access character in a string or field of a record
- ◇ access a local variable in function call stack

- **Index\*Scale + Displacement**

- ◇ access items in an array where size of item is 2, 4 or 8 bytes

- **Base + Index + Displacement**

- ◇ access two dimensional array (displacement has address of array)
- ◇ access an array of records (displacement has offset of field in a record)

- **Base + (Index\*Scale) + Displacement**

- ◇ access two dimensional array where size of item is 2, 4 or 8 bytes

```

; File: index1.asm
;
; This program demonstrates the use of an indexed addressing mode
; to access array elements.
;
; This program has no I/O. Use the debugger to examine its effects.
;
SECTION .data ; Data section

arr: dd 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 ; ten 32-bit words
base: equ arr - 4

SECTION .text ; Code section.
global _start
_start: nop ; Entry point.

; Add 5 to each element of the array stored in arr.
; Simulate:
;
; for (i = 0 ; i < 10 ; i++) {
;     arr[i] += 5 ;
; }

init1: mov ecx, 0 ; ecx simulates i
loop1: cmp ecx, 10 ; i < 10 ?
jge done1
add [ecx*4+arr], dword 5 ; arr[i] += 5
inc ecx ; i++
jmp loop1
done1:

; more idiomatic for an assembly language program
init2: mov ecx, 9 ; last array elt's index
loop2: add [ecx*4+arr], dword 5
dec ecx
jge loop2 ; again if ecx >= 0

; another way
init3: mov edi, base ; base computed by ld
mov ecx, 10 ; for(i=10 ; i>0 ; i--)
loop3: add [edi+ecx*4], dword 5
loop loop3 ; loop = dec ecx, jne

alldone:
mov ebx, 0 ; exit code, 0=normal
mov eax, 1 ; Exit.
int 80H ; Call kernel.

```

Script started on Fri Sep 19 13:06:02 2003

linux3% nasm -f elf index1.asm

linux3% ld index1.o

linux3% gdb a.out

GNU gdb Red Hat Linux (5.2-2)

...

(gdb) break \*init1

Breakpoint 1 at 0x8048081

(gdb) break \*init2

Breakpoint 2 at 0x8048099

(gdb) break \*init3

Breakpoint 3 at 0x80480ac

(gdb) break \* alldone

Breakpoint 4 at 0x80480bf

(gdb) run

Starting program: /afs/umbc.edu/users/c/h/chang/home/asm/a.out

Breakpoint 1, 0x08048081 in init1 ()

(gdb) x/10wd &arr

0x80490cc <arr>:	0	1	2	3
0x80490dc <arr+16>:	4	5	6	7
0x80490ec <arr+32>:	8	9		

(gdb) cont

Continuing.

Breakpoint 2, 0x08048099 in init2 ()

(gdb) x/10wd &arr

0x80490cc <arr>:	5	6	7	8
0x80490dc <arr+16>:	9	10	11	12
0x80490ec <arr+32>:	13	14		

(gdb) cont

Continuing.

Breakpoint 3, 0x080480ac in init3 ()

(gdb) x/10wd &arr

0x80490cc <arr>:	10	11	12	13
0x80490dc <arr+16>:	14	15	16	17
0x80490ec <arr+32>:	18	19		

(gdb) cont

Continuing.

Breakpoint 4, 0x080480bf in alldone ()

(gdb) x/10wd &arr

0x80490cc <arr>:	15	16	17	18
0x80490dc <arr+16>:	19	20	21	22
0x80490ec <arr+32>:	23	24		

(gdb) cont

Continuing.

Program exited normally.

(gdb) quit

linux3% exit

exit

Script done on Fri Sep 19 13:07:41 2003

```

; File: index2.asm
;
; This program demonstrates the use of an indexed addressing mode
; to access 2 dimensional array elements.
;
; This program has no I/O. Use the debugger to examine its effects.
;
SECTION .data ; Data section

; simulates a 2-dim array
twodim:
row1: dd 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09
row2: dd 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
      dd 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29
      dd 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39
      dd 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49
      dd 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59
      dd 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69
      dd 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79
      dd 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89
      dd 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99

rowlen: equ row2 - row1

SECTION .text ; Code section.
global _start
_start: nop ; Entry point.

; Add 5 to each element of row 7. Simulate:
;
; for (i = 0 ; i < 10 ; i++) {
;     towdim[7][i] += 5 ;
; }

init1: mov ecx, 0 ; ecx simulates i
      mov eax, rowlen ; offset of twodim[7][0]
      mov edx, 7
      mul edx ; eax := eax * edx
      jc alldone ; 64-bit product is bad

loop1: cmp ecx, 10 ; i < 10 ?
      jge done1
      add [eax+4*ecx+twodim], dword 5
      inc ecx ; i++
      jmp loop1

done1:

alldone:
      mov ebx, 0 ; exit code, 0=normal
      mov eax, 1 ; Exit.
      int 80H ; Call kernel.

```

```
Script started on Fri Sep 19 13:19:22 2003
linux3% nasm -f elf index2.asm
linux3% ld index2.o
linux3%
linux3% gdb a.out
GNU gdb Red Hat Linux (5.2-2)
...
(gdb) break *init1
Breakpoint 1 at 0x8048081
(gdb) break *alldone
Breakpoint 2 at 0x80480a7
(gdb) run
Starting program: /afs/umbc.edu/users/c/h/chang/home/asm/a.out
```

```
Breakpoint 1, 0x08048081 in init1 ()
```

```
(gdb) x/10wd &twodim
```

```
0x80490b4 <twodim>:      0          1          2          3
0x80490c4 <twodim+16>:  4          5          6          7
0x80490d4 <twodim+32>:  8          9
```

```
(gdb) x/10wd &twodim+60
```

```
0x80491a4 <row2+200>:   60          61          62          63
0x80491b4 <row2+216>:   64          65          66          67
0x80491c4 <row2+232>:   68          69
```

```
(gdb)
```

```
0x80491cc <row2+240>:   70          71          72          73
0x80491dc <row2+256>:   74          75          76          77
```

```
0x80491ec <row2+272>:   78          79
```

```
(gdb)
```

```
0x80491f4 <row2+280>:   80          81          82          83
0x8049204 <row2+296>:   84          85          86          87
0x8049214 <row2+312>:   88          89
```

```
(gdb) cont
```

```
Continuing.
```

```
Breakpoint 2, 0x080480a7 in done1 ()
```

```
(gdb) x/10wd &twodim+60
```

```
0x80491a4 <row2+200>:   60          61          62          63
0x80491b4 <row2+216>:   64          65          66          67
0x80491c4 <row2+232>:   68          69
```

```
(gdb)
```

```
0x80491cc <row2+240>:   75          76          77          78
0x80491dc <row2+256>:   79          80          81          82
```

```
0x80491ec <row2+272>:   83          84
```

```
(gdb)
```

```
0x80491f4 <row2+280>:   80          81          82          83
0x8049204 <row2+296>:   84          85          86          87
0x8049214 <row2+312>:   88          89
```

```
(gdb) cont
```

```
Continuing.
```

```
Program exited normally.
```

```
(gdb) quit
```

```
linux3% exit
```

```
exit
```

```
Script done on Fri Sep 19 13:20:35 2003
```

# i386 String Instructions

- **Special instructions for searching & copying strings**
- **Assumes that AL holds the data**
- **Assumes that ECX holds the “count”**
- **Assumes that ESI and/or EDI point to the string(s)**
- **Some examples (there are many others):**
  - ◇ **LODS:** loads AL with [ESI], then increments or decrements ESI
  - ◇ **STOS:** stores AL in [EDI], then increments or decrements EDI
  - ◇ **CLD/STD:** clears/sets direction flag DF. Makes LODS & STOS auto-inc/dec.
  - ◇ **LOOP:** decrements ECX. Jumps to label if ECX != 0 after decrement.
  - ◇ **SCAS:** compares AL with [EDI], sets status flags, auto-inc/dec EDI.
  - ◇ **REP:** Repeats a string instruction

## LODS/LODSB/LODSW/LODSD—Load String

Opcode	Instruction	Description
AC	LODS m8	Load byte at address DS:(E)SI into AL
AD	LODS m16	Load word at address DS:(E)SI into AX
AD	LODS m32	Load doubleword at address DS:(E)SI into EAX
AC	LODSB	Load byte at address DS:(E)SI into AL
AD	LODSW	Load word at address DS:(E)SI into AX
AD	LODSD	Load doubleword at address DS:(E)SI into EAX

### Description

Loads a byte, word, or doubleword from the source operand into the AL, AX, or EAX register, respectively. The source operand is a memory location, the address of which is read from the DS:EDI or the DS:SI registers (depending on the address-size attribute of the instruction, 32 or 16, respectively). The DS segment may be overridden with a segment override prefix.

At the assembly-code level, two forms of this instruction are allowed: the “explicit-operands” form and the “no-operands” form. The explicit-operands form (specified with the LODS mnemonic) allows the source operand to be specified explicitly. Here, the source operand should be a symbol that indicates the size and location of the source value. The destination operand is then automatically selected to match the size of the source operand (the AL register for byte operands, AX for word operands, and EAX for doubleword operands). This explicit-operands form is provided to allow documentation; however, note that the documentation provided by this form can be misleading. That is, the source operand symbol must specify the correct **type** (size) of the operand (byte, word, or doubleword), but it does not have to specify the correct **location**. The location is always specified by the DS:(E)SI registers, which must be loaded correctly before the load string instruction is executed.

The no-operands form provides “short forms” of the byte, word, and doubleword versions of the LODS instructions. Here also DS:(E)SI is assumed to be the source operand and the AL, AX, or EAX register is assumed to be the destination operand. The size of the source and destination operands is selected with the mnemonic: LODSB (byte loaded into register AL), LODSW (word loaded into AX), or LODSD (doubleword loaded into EAX).

After the byte, word, or doubleword is transferred from the memory location into the AL, AX, or EAX register, the (E)SI register is incremented or decremented automatically according to the setting of the DF flag in the EFLAGS register. (If the DF flag is 0, the (E)SI register is incremented; if the DF flag is 1, the ESI register is decremented.) The (E)SI register is incremented or decremented by 1 for byte operations, by 2 for word operations, or by 4 for doubleword operations.

The LODS, LODSB, LODSW, and LODSD instructions can be preceded by the REP prefix for block loads of ECX bytes, words, or doublewords. More often, however, these instructions are used within a LOOP construct because further processing of the data moved into the register is usually necessary before the next transfer can be made. See “REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE/REPNZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix” in this chapter for a description of the REP prefix.

**LODS/LODSB/LODSW/LODSD—Load String (Continued)****Operation**

```

IF (byte load)
  THEN
    AL SRC; (* byte load *)
    THEN IF DF = 0
      THEN (E)SI = (E)SI + 1;
      ELSE (E)SI = (E)SI - 1;
    FI;
  ELSE IF (word load)
    THEN
      AX SRC; (* word load *)
      THEN IF DF = 0
        THEN (E)SI = (E)SI + 2;
        ELSE (E)SI = (E)SI - 2;
      FI;
    ELSE (* doubleword transfer *)
      EAX SRC; (* doubleword load *)
      THEN IF DF = 0
        THEN (E)SI = (E)SI + 4;
        ELSE (E)SI = (E)SI - 4;
      FI;
    FI;
  FI;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

None.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
	If the DS, ES, FS, or GS register contains a null segment selector.
#SS(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the SS segment limit.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**Real-Address Mode Exceptions**

#GP	If a memory operand effective address is outside the CS, DS, ES, FS, or GS segment limit.
-----	---

**STOS/STOSB/STOSW/STOSD—Store String**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
AA	STOS m8	Store AL at address ES:(E)DI
AB	STOS m16	Store AX at address ES:(E)DI
AB	STOS m32	Store EAX at address ES:(E)DI
AA	STOSB	Store AL at address ES:(E)DI
AB	STOSW	Store AX at address ES:(E)DI
AB	STOSD	Store EAX at address ES:(E)DI

**Description**

Stores a byte, word, or doubleword from the AL, AX, or EAX register, respectively, into the destination operand. The destination operand is a memory location, the address of which is read from either the ES:EDI or the ES:DI registers (depending on the address-size attribute of the instruction, 32 or 16, respectively). The ES segment cannot be overridden with a segment override prefix.

At the assembly-code level, two forms of this instruction are allowed: the “explicit-operands” form and the “no-operands” form. The explicit-operands form (specified with the STOS mnemonic) allows the destination operand to be specified explicitly. Here, the destination operand should be a symbol that indicates the size and location of the destination value. The source operand is then automatically selected to match the size of the destination operand (the AL register for byte operands, AX for word operands, and EAX for doubleword operands). This explicit-operands form is provided to allow documentation; however, note that the documentation provided by this form can be misleading. That is, the destination operand symbol must specify the correct **type** (size) of the operand (byte, word, or doubleword), but it does not have to specify the correct **location**. The location is always specified by the ES:(E)DI registers, which must be loaded correctly before the store string instruction is executed.

The no-operands form provides “short forms” of the byte, word, and doubleword versions of the STOS instructions. Here also ES:(E)DI is assumed to be the destination operand and the AL, AX, or EAX register is assumed to be the source operand. The size of the destination and source operands is selected with the mnemonic: STOSB (byte read from register AL), STOSW (word from AX), or STOSD (doubleword from EAX).

After the byte, word, or doubleword is transferred from the AL, AX, or EAX register to the memory location, the (E)DI register is incremented or decremented automatically according to the setting of the DF flag in the EFLAGS register. (If the DF flag is 0, the (E)DI register is incremented; if the DF flag is 1, the (E)DI register is decremented.) The (E)DI register is incremented or decremented by 1 for byte operations, by 2 for word operations, or by 4 for doubleword operations.



**STOS/STOSB/STOSW/STOSD—Store String (Continued)**

The STOS, STOSB, STOSW, and STOSD instructions can be preceded by the REP prefix for block loads of ECX bytes, words, or doublewords. More often, however, these instructions are used within a LOOP construct because data needs to be moved into the AL, AX, or EAX register before it can be stored. See “REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE /REPNZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix” in this chapter for a description of the REP prefix.

**Operation**

```

IF (byte store)
  THEN
    DEST AL;
    THEN IF DF 0
      THEN (E)DI (E)DI + 1;
      ELSE (E)DI (E)DI - 1;
    FI;
  ELSE IF (word store)
    THEN
      DEST AX;
      THEN IF DF 0
        THEN (E)DI (E)DI + 2;
        ELSE (E)DI (E)DI - 2;
      FI;
    ELSE (* doubleword store *)
      DEST EAX;
      THEN IF DF 0
        THEN (E)DI (E)DI + 4;
        ELSE (E)DI (E)DI - 4;
      FI;
  FI;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

None.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If the destination is located in a nonwritable segment. If a memory operand effective address is outside the limit of the ES segment. If the ES register contains a null segment selector.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**CLD—Clear Direction Flag**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
FC	CLD	Clear DF flag

**Description**

Clears the DF flag in the EFLAGS register. When the DF flag is set to 0, string operations increment the index registers (ESI and/or EDI).

**Operation**

DF ← 0;

**Flags Affected**

The DF flag is cleared to 0. The CF, OF, ZF, SF, AF, and PF flags are unaffected.

**Exceptions (All Operating Modes)**

None.

**STD—Set Direction Flag**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
FD	STD	Set DF flag

**Description**

Sets the DF flag in the EFLAGS register. When the DF flag is set to 1, string operations decrement the index registers (ESI and/or EDI).

**Operation**

DF ← 1;

**Flags Affected**

The DF flag is set. The CF, OF, ZF, SF, AF, and PF flags are unaffected.

**Operation**

DF ← 1;

**Exceptions (All Operating Modes)**

None.

**LOOP/LOOP $cc$ —Loop According to ECX Counter**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
E2 <i>cb</i>	LOOP <i>rel8</i>	Decrement count; jump short if count $\neq$ 0
E1 <i>cb</i>	LOOPE <i>rel8</i>	Decrement count; jump short if count $\neq$ 0 and ZF=1
E1 <i>cb</i>	LOOPZ <i>rel8</i>	Decrement count; jump short if count $\neq$ 0 and ZF=1
E0 <i>cb</i>	LOOPNE <i>rel8</i>	Decrement count; jump short if count $\neq$ 0 and ZF=0
E0 <i>cb</i>	LOOPNZ <i>rel8</i>	Decrement count; jump short if count $\neq$ 0 and ZF=0

**Description**

Performs a loop operation using the ECX or CX register as a counter. Each time the LOOP instruction is executed, the count register is decremented, then checked for 0. If the count is 0, the loop is terminated and program execution continues with the instruction following the LOOP instruction. If the count is not zero, a near jump is performed to the destination (target) operand, which is presumably the instruction at the beginning of the loop. If the address-size attribute is 32 bits, the ECX register is used as the count register; otherwise the CX register is used.

The target instruction is specified with a relative offset (a signed offset relative to the current value of the instruction pointer in the EIP register). This offset is generally specified as a label in assembly code, but at the machine code level, it is encoded as a signed, 8-bit immediate value, which is added to the instruction pointer. Offsets of  $-128$  to  $+127$  are allowed with this instruction.

Some forms of the loop instruction (LOOP $cc$ ) also accept the ZF flag as a condition for terminating the loop before the count reaches zero. With these forms of the instruction, a condition code ( $cc$ ) is associated with each instruction to indicate the condition being tested for. Here, the LOOP $cc$  instruction itself does not affect the state of the ZF flag; the ZF flag is changed by other instructions in the loop.

**Operation**

```

IF AddressSize 32
  THEN
    Count is ECX;
  ELSE (* AddressSize 16 *)
    Count is CX;
FI;
Count  Count - 1;

IF instruction is not LOOP
  THEN
    IF (instruction LOOPE) OR (instruction LOOPZ)
      THEN
        IF (ZF =1) AND (Count  $\neq$  0)
          THEN BranchCond 1;
          ELSE BranchCond 0;

```

**LOOP/LOOPcc—Loop According to ECX Counter (Continued)**

```

        FI;
    FI;
    IF (instruction LOOPNE) OR (instruction LOOPNZ)
    THEN
        IF (ZF = 0) AND (Count ≠ 0)
        THEN BranchCond = 1;
        ELSE BranchCond = 0;
    FI;
    ELSE (* instruction LOOP *)
    IF (Count ≠ 0)
    THEN BranchCond = 1;
    ELSE BranchCond = 0;
    FI;
FI;
IF BranchCond = 1
THEN
    EIP = EIP + SignExtend(DEST);
    IF OperandSize = 16
    THEN
        EIP = EIP AND 0000FFFFH;
    ELSE (* OperandSize = 32 *)
        IF EIP < CS.Base OR EIP > CS.Limit
        #GP
    FI;
ELSE
    Terminate loop and continue program execution at EIP;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

None.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0) If the offset being jumped to is beyond the limits of the CS segment.

**Real-Address Mode Exceptions**

#GP If the offset being jumped to is beyond the limits of the CS segment or is outside of the effective address space from 0 to FFFFH. This condition can occur if a 32-bit address size override prefix is used.

**Virtual-8086 Mode Exceptions**

Same exceptions as in Real Address Mode

```

; File: toupper2.asm last updated 09/26/2001
;
; Convert user input to upper case.
; This version uses some special looping instructions.
;
; Assemble using NASM:  nasm -f elf toupper2.asm
; Link with ld:  ld toupper2.o
;

; [... same old, same old ...]

        ; Loop for upper case conversion
        ; assuming rlen > 0
        ;
L1_init:
        mov     ecx, [rlen]           ; initialize count
        mov     esi, buf             ; point to start of buffer
        mov     edi, newstr          ; point to start of new str
        cld                           ; clear dir. flag, inc ptrs

L1_top:
        lodsb                          ; load al w char in [esi++]
        cmp     al, 'a'               ; less than 'a'?
        jb     L1_cont
        cmp     al, 'z'               ; more than 'z'?
        ja     L1_cont
        and     al, 11011111b         ; convert to uppercase

L1_cont:
        stosb                          ; store al in [edi++]
        loop   L1_top                 ; loop if --ecx > 0

L1_end:

```

**SCAS/SCASB/SCASW/SCASD—Scan String**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
AE	SCAS m8	Compare AL with byte at ES:(E)DI and set status flags
AF	SCAS m16	Compare AX with word at ES:(E)DI and set status flags
AF	SCAS m32	Compare EAX with doubleword at ES:(E)DI and set status flags
AE	SCASB	Compare AL with byte at ES:(E)DI and set status flags
AF	SCASW	Compare AX with word at ES:(E)DI and set status flags
AF	SCASD	Compare EAX with doubleword at ES:(E)DI and set status flags

**Description**

Compares the byte, word, or double word specified with the memory operand with the value in the AL, AX, or EAX register, and sets the status flags in the EFLAGS register according to the results. The memory operand address is read from either the ES:EDI or the ES:DI registers (depending on the address-size attribute of the instruction, 32 or 16, respectively). The ES segment cannot be overridden with a segment override prefix.

At the assembly-code level, two forms of this instruction are allowed: the “explicit-operands” form and the “no-operands” form. The explicit-operand form (specified with the SCAS mnemonic) allows the memory operand to be specified explicitly. Here, the memory operand should be a symbol that indicates the size and location of the operand value. The register operand is then automatically selected to match the size of the memory operand (the AL register for byte comparisons, AX for word comparisons, and EAX for doubleword comparisons). This explicit-operand form is provided to allow documentation; however, note that the documentation provided by this form can be misleading. That is, the memory operand symbol must specify the correct **type** (size) of the operand (byte, word, or doubleword), but it does not have to specify the correct **location**. The location is always specified by the ES:(E)DI registers, which must be loaded correctly before the compare string instruction is executed.

The no-operands form provides “short forms” of the byte, word, and doubleword versions of the SCAS instructions. Here also ES:(E)DI is assumed to be the memory operand and the AL, AX, or EAX register is assumed to be the register operand. The size of the two operands is selected with the mnemonic: SCASB (byte comparison), SCASW (word comparison), or SCASD (doubleword comparison).

After the comparison, the (E)DI register is incremented or decremented automatically according to the setting of the DF flag in the EFLAGS register. (If the DF flag is 0, the (E)DI register is incremented; if the DF flag is 1, the (E)DI register is decremented.) The (E)DI register is incremented or decremented by 1 for byte operations, by 2 for word operations, or by 4 for doubleword operations.

The SCAS, SCASB, SCASW, and SCASD instructions can be preceded by the REP prefix for block comparisons of ECX bytes, words, or doublewords. More often, however, these instructions will be used in a LOOP construct that takes some action based on the setting of the status flags before the next comparison is made. See “REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE /REPNZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix” in this chapter for a description of the REP prefix.



**SCAS/SCASB/SCASW/SCASD—Scan String (Continued)****Operation**

```

IF (byte comparison)
  THEN
    temp AL ← SRC;
    SetStatusFlags(temp);
    THEN IF DF = 0
      THEN (E)DI ← (E)DI + 1;
      ELSE (E)DI ← (E)DI - 1;
    FI;
  ELSE IF (word comparison)
    THEN
      temp AX ← SRC;
      SetStatusFlags(temp)
      THEN IF DF = 0
        THEN (E)DI ← (E)DI + 2;
        ELSE (E)DI ← (E)DI - 2;
      FI;
    ELSE (* doubleword comparison *)
      temp EAX ← SRC;
      SetStatusFlags(temp)
      THEN IF DF = 0
        THEN (E)DI ← (E)DI + 4;
        ELSE (E)DI ← (E)DI - 4;
      FI;
  FI;
FI;

```

**Flags Affected**

The OF, SF, ZF, AF, PF, and CF flags are set according to the temporary result of the comparison.

**Protected Mode Exceptions**

#GP(0)	If a memory operand effective address is outside the limit of the ES segment. If the ES register contains a null segment selector. If an illegal memory operand effective address in the ES segment is given.
#PF(fault-code)	If a page fault occurs.
#AC(0)	If alignment checking is enabled and an unaligned memory reference is made while the current privilege level is 3.

**REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE/REPZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix**

Opcode	Instruction	Description
F3 6C	REP INS <i>r/m8</i> , DX	Input (E)CX bytes from port DX into ES:[(E)DI]
F3 6D	REP INS <i>r/m16</i> , DX	Input (E)CX words from port DX into ES:[(E)DI]
F3 6D	REP INS <i>r/m32</i> , DX	Input (E)CX doublewords from port DX into ES:[(E)DI]
F3 A4	REP MOVS <i>m8</i> , <i>m8</i>	Move (E)CX bytes from DS:[(E)SI] to ES:[(E)DI]
F3 A5	REP MOVS <i>m16</i> , <i>m16</i>	Move (E)CX words from DS:[(E)SI] to ES:[(E)DI]
F3 A5	REP MOVS <i>m32</i> , <i>m32</i>	Move (E)CX doublewords from DS:[(E)SI] to ES:[(E)DI]
F3 6E	REP OUTS DX, <i>r/m8</i>	Output (E)CX bytes from DS:[(E)SI] to port DX
F3 6F	REP OUTS DX, <i>r/m16</i>	Output (E)CX words from DS:[(E)SI] to port DX
F3 6F	REP OUTS DX, <i>r/m32</i>	Output (E)CX doublewords from DS:[(E)SI] to port DX
F3 AC	REP LODS AL	Load (E)CX bytes from DS:[(E)SI] to AL
F3 AD	REP LODS AX	Load (E)CX words from DS:[(E)SI] to AX
F3 AD	REP LODS EAX	Load (E)CX doublewords from DS:[(E)SI] to EAX
F3 AA	REP STOS <i>m8</i>	Fill (E)CX bytes at ES:[(E)DI] with AL
F3 AB	REP STOS <i>m16</i>	Fill (E)CX words at ES:[(E)DI] with AX
F3 AB	REP STOS <i>m32</i>	Fill (E)CX doublewords at ES:[(E)DI] with EAX
F3 A6	REPE CMPS <i>m8</i> , <i>m8</i>	Find nonmatching bytes in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F3 A7	REPE CMPS <i>m16</i> , <i>m16</i>	Find nonmatching words in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F3 A7	REPE CMPS <i>m32</i> , <i>m32</i>	Find nonmatching doublewords in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F3 AE	REPE SCAS <i>m8</i>	Find non-AL byte starting at ES:[(E)DI]
F3 AF	REPE SCAS <i>m16</i>	Find non-AX word starting at ES:[(E)DI]
F3 AF	REPE SCAS <i>m32</i>	Find non-EAX doubleword starting at ES:[(E)DI]
F2 A6	REPNE CMPS <i>m8</i> , <i>m8</i>	Find matching bytes in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F2 A7	REPNE CMPS <i>m16</i> , <i>m16</i>	Find matching words in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F2 A7	REPNE CMPS <i>m32</i> , <i>m32</i>	Find matching doublewords in ES:[(E)DI] and DS:[(E)SI]
F2 AE	REPNE SCAS <i>m8</i>	Find AL, starting at ES:[(E)DI]
F2 AF	REPNE SCAS <i>m16</i>	Find AX, starting at ES:[(E)DI]
F2 AF	REPNE SCAS <i>m32</i>	Find EAX, starting at ES:[(E)DI]

**Description**

Repeats a string instruction the number of times specified in the count register ((E)CX) or until the indicated condition of the ZF flag is no longer met. The REP (repeat), REPE (repeat while equal), REPNE (repeat while not equal), REPZ (repeat while zero), and REPNZ (repeat while not zero) mnemonics are prefixes that can be added to one of the string instructions. The REP prefix can be added to the INS, OUTS, MOVS, LODS, and STOS instructions, and the REPE, REPNE, REPZ, and REPZ prefixes can be added to the CMPS and SCAS instructions. (The REPZ and REPZ prefixes are synonymous forms of the REPE and REPNE prefixes, respectively.) The behavior of the REP prefix is undefined when used with non-string instructions.

The REP prefixes apply only to one string instruction at a time. To repeat a block of instructions, use the LOOP instruction or another looping construct.

## REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE/REPNZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix (Continued)

All of these repeat prefixes cause the associated instruction to be repeated until the count in register (E)CX is decremented to 0 (see the following table). (If the current address-size attribute is 32, register ECX is used as a counter, and if the address-size attribute is 16, the CX register is used.) The REPE, REPNE, REPZ, and REPNZ prefixes also check the state of the ZF flag after each iteration and terminate the repeat loop if the ZF flag is not in the specified state. When both termination conditions are tested, the cause of a repeat termination can be determined either by testing the (E)CX register with a JECXZ instruction or by testing the ZF flag with a JZ, JNZ, and JNE instruction.

Repeat Prefix	Termination Condition 1	Termination Condition 2
REP	ECX=0	None
REPE/REPZ	ECX=0	ZF=0
REPNE/REPZ	ECX=0	ZF=1

When the REPE/REPZ and REPNE/REPZ prefixes are used, the ZF flag does not require initialization because both the CMPS and SCAS instructions affect the ZF flag according to the results of the comparisons they make.

A repeating string operation can be suspended by an exception or interrupt. When this happens, the state of the registers is preserved to allow the string operation to be resumed upon a return from the exception or interrupt handler. The source and destination registers point to the next string elements to be operated on, the EIP register points to the string instruction, and the ECX register has the value it held following the last successful iteration of the instruction. This mechanism allows long string operations to proceed without affecting the interrupt response time of the system.

When a fault occurs during the execution of a CMPS or SCAS instruction that is prefixed with REPE or REPNE, the EFLAGS value is restored to the state prior to the execution of the instruction. Since the SCAS and CMPS instructions do not use EFLAGS as an input, the processor can resume the instruction after the page fault handler.

Use the REP INS and REP OUTS instructions with caution. Not all I/O ports can handle the rate at which these instructions execute.

A REP STOS instruction is the fastest way to initialize a large block of memory.

## REP/REPE/REPZ/REPNE/REPZ—Repeat String Operation Prefix (Continued)

### Operation

```

IF AddressSize = 16
  THEN
    use CX for CountReg;
  ELSE (* AddressSize = 32 *)
    use ECX for CountReg;
FI;
WHILE CountReg ≠ 0
  DO
    service pending interrupts (if any);
    execute associated string instruction;
    CountReg = CountReg - 1;
    IF CountReg = 0
      THEN exit WHILE loop
    FI;
    IF (repeat prefix is REPZ or REPE) AND (ZF=0)
      OR (repeat prefix is REPZ or REPNE) AND (ZF=1)
      THEN exit WHILE loop
    FI;
  OD;

```

### Flags Affected

None; however, the CMPS and SCAS instructions do set the status flags in the EFLAGS register.

### Exceptions (All Operating Modes)

None; however, exceptions can be generated by the instruction a repeat prefix is associated with.

```

; File: rep.asm
;
; Demonstrates the use of the REP prefix with
; string instructions.
;
; This program does no I/O. Use gdb to examine its effects.
;
SECTION .data                                ; Data section

msg:     db "Hello, world", 10                ; The string to print.
len:     equ $-msg

SECTION .text                                ; Code section.
global _start
_start:  nop                                  ; Entry point.

find:    mov     al, 'o'                       ; look for an 'o'
         mov     edi, msg                      ; here
         mov     ecx, len                      ; limit repetitions
         cld                                       ; auto inc edi
         repne scasb                            ; while (al != [edi])
         jnz     not_found                      ;
         mov     bl, [edi-1]                   ; what did we find?
not_found:

erase:   mov     edi, msg                      ; where?
         mov     ecx, len                      ; how many bytes?
         mov     al, '?'                       ; with which char?
         cld                                       ; auto inc edi
         rep stosb

alldone:
         mov     ebx, 0                        ; exit code, 0=normal
         mov     eax, 1                        ; Exit.
         int     80H                           ; Call kernel.

```

Script started on Fri Sep 19 14:51:13 2003

linux3% nasm -f elf rep.asm

linux3% ld rep.o

linux3%

linux3% gdb a.out

GNU gdb Red Hat Linux (5.2-2)

...

(gdb) display/i \$eip

(gdb) display/x \$edi

(gdb) display \$ecx

(gdb) display/c \$ebx

(gdb) display/c \$eax

(gdb) break \*find

Breakpoint 1 at 0x8048081

(gdb) break \*erase

Breakpoint 2 at 0x8048095

(gdb) break \*alldone

Breakpoint 3 at 0x80480a4

(gdb) run

Starting program: /afs/umbc.edu/users/c/h/chang/home/asm/a.out

Breakpoint 1, 0x08048081 in find ()

5: /c \$eax = 0 '\0'

4: /c \$ebx = 0 '\0'

3: \$ecx = 0

2: /x \$edi = 0x0

1: x/i \$eip 0x8048081 <find>: mov al,0x6f

(gdb) x/14cb &msg

0x80490b0 <msg>: 72 'H' 101 'e' 108 'l' 108 'l' 111 'o' 44

',' 32 ' ' 119 'w'

0x80490b8 <msg+8>: 111 'o' 114 'r' 108 'l' 100 'd' 10 '\n' 0

'\0'

(gdb) si

0x08048083 in find ()

5: /c \$eax = 111 'o'

4: /c \$ebx = 0 '\0'

3: \$ecx = 0

2: /x \$edi = 0x0

1: x/i \$eip 0x8048083 <find+2>: mov edi,0x80490b0

(gdb)

0x08048088 in find ()

5: /c \$eax = 111 'o'

4: /c \$ebx = 0 '\0'

3: \$ecx = 0

2: /x \$edi = 0x80490b0

1: x/i \$eip 0x8048088 <find+7>: mov ecx,0xd

(gdb)

0x0804808d in find ()

5: /c \$eax = 111 'o'

4: /c \$ebx = 0 '\0'

3: \$ecx = 13

2: /x \$edi = 0x80490b0

1: x/i \$eip 0x804808d <find+12>: cld

```

(gdb)
0x0804808e in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 13
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b0
1: x/i $eip 0x804808e <find+13>:      repnz scas al,es:[edi]
(gdb)
0x0804808e in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 12
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b1
1: x/i $eip 0x804808e <find+13>:      repnz scas al,es:[edi]
(gdb)
0x0804808e in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 11
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b2
1: x/i $eip 0x804808e <find+13>:      repnz scas al,es:[edi]
(gdb)
0x0804808e in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 10
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b3
1: x/i $eip 0x804808e <find+13>:      repnz scas al,es:[edi]
(gdb)
0x0804808e in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 9
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b4
1: x/i $eip 0x804808e <find+13>:      repnz scas al,es:[edi]
(gdb)
0x08048090 in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 8
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b5
1: x/i $eip 0x8048090 <find+15>:      jne      0x8048095 <not_found>
(gdb)
0x08048092 in find ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 0 '\0'
3: $ecx = 8
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b5
1: x/i $eip 0x8048092 <find+17>:      mov     bl,BYTE PTR [edi-1]
(gdb)

Breakpoint 2, 0x08048095 in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 8
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b5
1: x/i $eip 0x8048095 <not_found>:      mov     edi,0x80490b0

```

```

(gdb)
0x0804809a in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 8
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b0
1: x/i $eip 0x804809a <not_found+5>:  mov    ecx,0xd
(gdb)
0x0804809f in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 111 'o'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 13
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b0
1: x/i $eip 0x804809f <not_found+10>:  mov    al,0x3f
(gdb)
0x080480a1 in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 63 '?'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 13
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b0
1: x/i $eip 0x80480a1 <not_found+12>:  cld
(gdb)
0x080480a2 in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 63 '?'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 13
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b0
1: x/i $eip 0x80480a2 <not_found+13>:  repz  stos es:[edi],al
(gdb)
0x080480a2 in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 63 '?'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 12
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b1
1: x/i $eip 0x80480a2 <not_found+13>:  repz  stos es:[edi],al
(gdb)
0x080480a2 in not_found ()
5: /c $eax = 63 '?'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 11
2: /x $edi = 0x80490b2
1: x/i $eip 0x80480a2 <not_found+13>:  repz  stos es:[edi],al
(gdb) cont
Continuing.

Breakpoint 3, 0x080480a4 in alldone ()
5: /c $eax = 63 '?'
4: /c $ebx = 111 'o'
3: $ecx = 0
2: /x $edi = 0x80490bd
1: x/i $eip 0x80480a4 <alldone>:      mov    ebx,0x0
(gdb) x/14cb &msg
0x80490b0 <msg>:      63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  63
'?'  63 '?'  63 '?'
0x80490b8 <msg+8>:  63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  63 '?'  0
'\0'
(gdb) quit

```

# Next Time

- **A Bigger Example: Escape Sequence Project**
- **Machine Language**
- **Project 3**

# References

- **Some figures and diagrams from *IA-32 Intel Architecture Software Developer's Manual, Vols 1-3***

**<<http://developer.intel.com/design/Pentium4/manuals/>>**