



**School of Computing**  
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**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA**

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**LAB TITLE:** Programming 3a: Flags, OFFSET, Arrays, JMP, LOOP

**INSTRUCTION:** Answer all questions.

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## **Part A – Programming review**

### **Flags Affected by Arithmetic**

- The ALU has a number of status flags that reflect the outcome of arithmetic (and bitwise) operations
  - based on the contents of the destination operand
- Essential flags:
  - Zero flag – set when destination equals zero
  - Sign flag – set when destination is negative
  - Carry flag – set when unsigned value is out of range
  - Overflow flag – set when signed value is out of range
- The MOV instruction never affects the flags.

### **Zero Flag (ZF)**

- The Zero flag is set when the result of an operation produces zero in the destination operand.

```
mov ax,2
sub ax,1      ; AX = 1, ZF = 0
mov cx,1
sub cx,1      ; CX = 0, ZF = 1
mov ax,0FFFFh
inc ax       ; AX = 0, ZF = 1
inc ax       ; AX = 1, ZF = 0
```

### **Sign Flag (SF)**

- The Sign flag is set when the destination operand is negative. The flag is clear when the destination is positive.

```
mov cx,0
sub cx,1      ; CX = -1, SF = 1
add cx,2      ; CX = 1, SF = 0
```

- The sign flag is a copy of the destination's highest bit:

```
mov al,0
sub al,1      ; AL = 11111111b, SF = 1
```

### **COMMENTS:**

```
add al,2      ; AL = 00000001b, SF = 0
```

### **Overflow and Carry Flags: A Hardware Viewpoint**

- How the ADD instruction modifies OF and CF:
  - OF = (carry out of the MSB) XOR (carry into the MSB)
  - CF = (carry out of the MSB)
- How the SUB instruction modifies OF and CF:
  - NEG the source and ADD it to the destination

- OF = (carry out of the MSB) XOR (carry into the MSB)
- CF = INVERT (carry out of the MSB)

MSB = Most Significant Bit (high-order bit)  
 XOR = eXclusive-OR operation  
 NEG = Negate (same as SUB 0,operand)

### Carry Flag (CF)

- The Carry flag is set when the result of an operation generates an unsigned value that is out of range (too big or too small for the

destination operand). `mov`

`al, 0FFh`

`add al, 1 ; CF = 1, AL = 00`

; Try to go below zero:

`mov al, 0`

`sub al, 1 ; CF = 1, AL = FF`

### Overflow Flag (OF)

- The Overflow flag is set when the signed result of an operation is invalid or out of range.

; Example 1

`mov al, +127`

`add al, 1 ; OF = 1, AL = 80h`

; Example 2

`mov al, 7Fh`

`add al, 1 ; OF = 1, AL = 80h`

- The two examples are identical at the binary level because 7Fh equals +127. To determine the value of the destination operand, it is often easier to calculate in hexadecimal.

*\*\*NOTE: In VisualStudio Register Window during Step Over, you will find that the flag registers are presented with a different name.*

*Overflow Flag (OF) = OV*

*Zero Flag (ZF) = ZR*

*Sign Flag (SF) = PL*

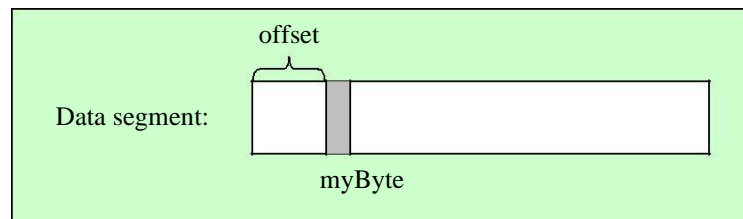
*Parity Flag (PF) = PE*

*Carry Flag (CF) = CY*

*Auxiliary Flag (AF) = AC*

## OFFSET Operator

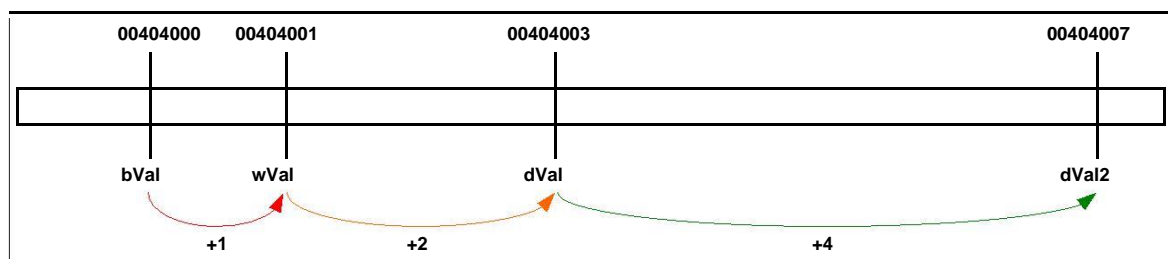
- OFFSET returns the distance in bytes, of a label from the beginning of its enclosing segment
  - Protected mode: 32 bits
  - Real mode: 16 bits
- OFFSET gives you the address where the variable (or an array) starts.



- Example: Let's assume that the data segment begins at 00404000h:

```
.data
bVal BYTE 10h
wVal WORD 1000h
dVal DWORD 10001000h
dVal2 DWORD ?

.code
mov esi,OFFSET bVal      ; ESI = 00404000
mov ah, bVal             ; AH = 10h
mov esi,OFFSET wVal      ; ESI = 00404001
mov ax, wVal             ; AX = 1000h
mov esi,OFFSET dVal      ; ESI = 00404003
mov eax, dVal            ; EAX = 10001000h
mov esi,OFFSET dVal2     ; ESI = 00404007
```



**\*\*TIP:** Note the different outcomes in the MOV instructions with and without the use of OFFSET.

## Arrays

- Arrays are probably the most commonly used composite data type.
- Analogy:
  - An array is like a drawer that holds many items of the same type. Like a sock drawer that have 10 different pairs of socks, and you can reach these socks from that drawer.
- Defining an array:
  - Must have array name, size of each item in array, initialize (or not ) the values of these items
  - Example:

```
Array1 byte 10h, 20h, 35h
; 3 items in array, each 1 byte in size
Array2 word 25h, 1A20h, 66h, 891h
; 4 items in array, each 2 bytes in size
Array3 word 4 dup (0)
; 4 items in array, each 2 bytes , and initialized to 0
```

**Array1**

10h	20h	35h
-----	-----	-----

**Array2**

0025h	1A20h	0066h	0891h
-------	-------	-------	-------

- Handling an array:
  - Use register as a pointer, the method is called *indirect addressing*.
  - Traversing an array (i.e. moving through an array), the pointer must be incremented following the array type (byte [+1] or word [+2] or dword[+4]).
- Example:

```
.data

Array1 byte 10h, 20h, 35h      ;Array1 starts at address
404000
Array2 word 25h, 1A20h, 66h, 891h

.code main
PROC

; Calling array method 1
mov esi, OFFSET Array1      ; ESI = 00404010
mov al, [esi]               ; AL = 10h
add esi, 1                  ; ESI = 00404001
mov bl, [esi]               ; BL = 20h

mov esi, OFFSET Array2      ; ESI = 00404003
mov ax, [esi]               ; AX = 0025h
add esi, 2                  ; ESI = 00404005
mov bx, [esi]               ; BX = 1A20h
```

```

; Calling array
method 2
mov al, Array1 ; AL = 10h
mov bl, Array1+1 ; BL = 20h

mov ax, Array2 ; AX = 0025h
mov bx, Array2+2 ; BX = 1A20h

```

**\*\*TIP:** You can also use *TYPE <array name>* to match the array type.  
Example: `mov bl, Array1+type Array1`; `BL = 20h`

- Example: Sum an array

```

.data

Array1 byte 10h, 20h, 35h
Array2 word 25h, 1A20h, 66h, 891h

.code main
PROC

;Sum an array
mov al, Array1 ; AL = 10h
add al, Array1+1 ; AL = 30h
add al, Array1+2 ; AL = 65h

mov bx, Array2 ; BX = 0025h
add bx, Array2+2 ; BX = 1A45h
add bx, Array2+4 ; BX = 1AABh
add bx, Array2+6 ; BX = 233Ch

```

## Jump

- To jump here means to relocate the instruction pointer to a different address, one that is not sequential (i.e. not the next one).
- Jumps can be
  - **Conditional:** jump when a condition(s) is met; if not met don't jump. Conditions can be flags, arithmetic results, etc.
    - Example: JNZ (Jump Not Zero), JE (Jump Equal), JB (Jump Below)
  - **Unconditional:** no conditions, you MUST jump
    - Example: JMP
- Let's explore unconditional jumps with JMP
- The JMP command causes unconditional transfer to a destination (label) that is usually within the same procedure.

- The command format is ***JMP destination***
- The destination is a label
- When this command is executed, the instruction pointer (EIP) will now point to the address where the label (or the destination) is.

0001	MOV AX, 10
0002	
0003	<b>HERE :</b>
0004	INC AX
0005	JMP HERE
0006	ADD AX, 2

- When the command INC AX is executed, EIP points to 0005.
  - When the command JMP HERE is executed, EIP will now point to 0003 rather than 0006
  - The problem here: this is an endless loop
- Let's explore a conditional jump example with JNZ.
    - The format is the same as unconditional jump.
    - JNZ → jump to a label if the Zero flag is clear [ZF = 0]
    - In the example below, once the Zero Flag is set [ZF = 1], the condition for JNZ is not met; so it will not be done. EIP will point to 0006.

0001	MOV AX, 10
0002	
0003	<b>HERE :</b>
0004	DEC AX
0005	JNZ HERE
0006	ADD AX, 2

- Please do explore the different conditional jumps that are available to you.
  - Conditional jumps are usually accompanied with a compare (CMP) command.
  - More of these in upcoming labs.

## LOOP

- As the name implies, the LOOP instruction will repeatedly execute a block of statements.
- The number of time the looping will occur is held in a counter. In a 32-bit mode, the counter is the register ECX.
- The loop instruction decrements register ECX and compares it with 0 leaving the flags unchanged.
  - If new ECX  $\neq$  0, jumps to the label.
  - Else, the program execution continues with the next instruction.
- The command format is ***LOOP destination***
  - The destination is a label

- Example: try and trace the program below.

```
.code
main PROC

    mov eax,10h
    mov ecx, 4 ; ecx is the counter
L1:
    add eax,2 ; eax = eax + 2
    loop L1 ; ecx = ecx -1; go to L1 if ECX ≠ 0

    exit
main ENDP

END main
```

ECX		EAX
<b>4 (initial value)</b>		<b>10h (initial value)</b>
	add eax,2	12h
3	loop L1 → go to L1	
	add eax,2	14
2	loop L1 → go to L1	
	add eax,2	16
1	loop L1 → go to L1	
	add eax,2	18
0	loop L1 → Stop	

- You can do a nested loop instruction (if need be).
- If you need to code a loop within a loop, you must save the outer loop counter's ECX value.



## Part B – Let's do a little programming

1. Given the assembly language program below, run it and list the flags' status after each instruction.

PROGRAM	OF(OV)	SF(PL)	ZF(ZR)	AF(AC)	PF(PE)	CF(CY)
	0	0	1	0	1	0
mov ax, 10h	0	0	1	0	1	0
add ax, 2h	0	0	0	0	1	0
sub ax, 15h	0	1	0	1	0	1
add ax, 112	0	0	0	0	0	1
neg ax	0	1	0	1	1	1
mov bh, 66h	0	1	0	1	1	1
inc bx	0	0	0	0	0	1
mul dh	1	0	0	0	1	1
sub al, 3	0	0	0	1	1	0

2. What will be the values of the Overflow flag in the program given below?

```
mov al, 80h
add al, 92h ;    AL = 12h    , OF = 1
mov al, -2
add al, +127 ;   AL = 7Dh    , OF = 0
```

3. Define the following arrays:

- a. A byte type array named PKP with 3 items 11, 22h and 4Ah.

```
PKP byte 11, 22h, 4Ah
```

- b. A word type array named ZOOM with 5 items 45, 45h, 444h, 4A4Bh and 44Ah.

```
ZOOM word 45, 45h, 444h, 4A4Bh, 44Ah
```

- c. A double-word type array named PADLET with 5 items initialized to 0

```
PADLET dword 5 dup(0)
```

4. Referring to the array definitions in Question 3, state the following values in the register.

a.	MOV AL, PKP	; AL = Bh
b.	MOV AL, PKP+3	; AL = 2Dh
c.	MOV AX, ZOOM	; AX = 002Dh
d.	MOV AX, ZOOM+3	; AX = 4400h
e.	MOV AX, ZOOM+4	; AX = 0444h
f.	MOV EAX, PADLET	; EAX = 00000000h
g.	MOV AH, PKP+8	; AH = 04h
h.	MOV EAX, 0 MOV AX, ZOOM+2 MOV PADLET, EAX	; EAX = 00000000h ; AX = 0045h ; PADLET = 00000045h

5. Referring to the array definitions in Question 3, write the appropriate instruction(s) to achieve the required results.

a.	MOV BL, PKP+5	; BL = 45h
b.	MOV BX, ZOOM+7	; BX = 004Ah
c.	MOV EAX, 0h MOV AX, ZOOM+6, MOV PADLET+4, EAX	; PADLET+4 = 00004A4Bh

6. (video) Referring to the array definitions in Question 3, write a program to sum array PKP.
7. (video) Referring to the array definitions in Question 3, write a program to sum array ZOOM.

8. (video) Study the assembly instructions given below and fill in the blanks (in hexadecimal).

```
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc
.data
intArray WORD 100h, 200h, 300h, 400h
TOTAL WORD 0

.code
main PROC
    mov edi, OFFSET intArray    ; EDI = 00404000h
    mov ecx, LENGTHOF intArray  ; ECX = 00000004h
    mov ax, 0

L1:
    add ax, [edi]
    add edi, TYPE intArray ; EDI = EDI + 2
    loop L1

    mov TOTAL, ax ; TOTAL = 0A00h

exit

main ENDP
END main
```

9. Study the assembly instructions given below and answer the following questions.

```
mov ax, 20
    mov ecx, 4
L1:
    inc ax
    neg ax
    loop L1
```

- a. How many times will the loop be executed? **4**
- b. What is the final result of AX in hexadecimal? **14h**
- c. Fill in the table with the value of AX after each instruction in each loop.

Loop#	INC AX	NEG AX
Initially AX = 20d		
1	0015h	FFEBh
2	FFEBh	0014h
3	0015h	FFEBh
4	FFEBh	0014h

10. Study the assembly language code given below. What is the final value of the variable TOTAL?

```
INCLUDE Irvine32.inc
.data
total dword 0
counter dword 7

.code
main PROC

    mov eax, 0
    mov ecx, counter
L1:
    add eax, 10h
    loop L1

    mov total, eax

exit
main ENDP

END main
```

**TOTAL = 00000070h**

11. (video) Using the LOOP instruction, write a program to achieve the following equation. What is the final result of TOTAL in hexadecimal and decimal?

**TOTAL = 100h \* 7h**

**Ans: TOTAL = 00000700h = 1792d**