

# CS 271

## Computer Architecture & Assembly Language

Lecture 15

2/22/22, Tuesday



**Oregon State**  
University

# Odds and Ends

- Clarifications
  - Avoid line-by-line comments
  - Post-condition: register changed + more...
  
- Final Project will be posted before Thursday's lecture
  - Due Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 11:59 pm
  - More info later

# Lecture Topics:

- Data-Related Operators
- Multi-Dimensional Arrays
- String Processing
- Lower-Level Programming
- How ReadInt Works

# Data-Related Operators

# Data-Related Operators

- OFFSET Operator
- PTR Operator
- TYPE Operator
- LENGTHOF Operator
- SIZEOF Operator

# OFFSET Operator

- OFFSET returns the distance in bytes, of a label from the beginning of its enclosing segment
- The operating system adds the segment address (from the segment register)

# OFFSET Examples

- Assume that the data segment begins at 00404000h:

```
.data
bVal BYTE ?
wVal WORD ?
dVal DWORD ?
dVal2 DWORD ?
.code
...
mov esi,OFFSET bVal      ; ESI = 00404000
mov esi,OFFSET wVal     ; ESI = 00404001
mov esi,OFFSET dVal     ; ESI = 00404003
mov esi,OFFSET dVal2    ; ESI = 00404007
```

# PTR Operator

- Overrides the default type of a label (variable)
- Provides the flexibility to access part of a variable.

```
.data
myDouble DWORD 12345678h
.code
...
mov ax,myDouble           ; error - why?

mov ax,WORD PTR myDouble  ; loads 5678h

mov WORD PTR myDouble,1357h ; saves 1357h
```



# PTR Operator Examples

```
.data  
myDouble DWORD 12345678h
```

- Recall that **little endian** order is used when storing data in memory.
- In memory:

78h	56h	34h	12h
-----	-----	-----	-----

```
mov al, BYTE PTR myDouble ; AL = 78h  
mov al, BYTE PTR [myDouble+1] ; AL = 56h  
mov al, BYTE PTR [myDouble+2] ; AL = 34h  
mov ax, WORD PTR myDouble ; AX = 5678h  
mov ax, WORD PTR [myDouble+2] ; AX = 1234h
```

# PTR Operator (cont.)

- **PTR** can also be used to combine elements of a smaller data type and move them into a larger operand. The IA-32 CPU will automatically reverse the bytes.

```
.data
myBytes BYTE 12h,34h,56h,78h
.code
...
mov ax,WORD PTR myBytes           ; AX = 3412h
mov ax,WORD PTR [myBytes+2]       ; AX = 7856h
mov eax,DWORD PTR myBytes         ; EAX = 78563412h
```

Notice the array declaration:  
Specify a comma-separated list of element values

# TYPE Operator


- The **TYPE** operator returns the size, in bytes, of a single element of a data declaration.

```
.data
var1 BYTE ?
var2 WORD ?
var3 DWORD ?
var4 QWORD ?
.code
...
mov eax,TYPE var1 ; 1
mov eax,TYPE var2 ; 2
mov eax,TYPE var3 ; 4
mov eax,TYPE var4 ; 8
```

# LENGTHOF Operator

- The **LENGTHOF** operator counts the number of elements in a single data declaration.

```
.data
byte1 BYTE 10,20,30           ; 3
list1  WORD 30 DUP(?)         ; 30
list2  DWORD 30 DUP(?)       ; 30
list3  DWORD 1,2,3,4         ; 4
digitStr BYTE "1234567",0    ; 8
.code
...
mov ecx,LENGTHOF list1       ; ecx contains 30
```



# sizeof Operator

- The **sizeof** operator returns a value that is equivalent to multiplying **LENGTHOF** by **TYPE**.  
i.e., size in bytes.

**sizeof**



```
data
byte1 BYTE 10,20,30 ; 3
list1 WORD 30 DUP(?) ; 60
list2 DWORD 30 DUP(?) ; 120
list3 DWORD 1,2,3,4 ; 16
digitStr BYTE "1234567",0 ; 8
.code
...
mov ecx, sizeof list1 ; ecx contains 60
```

# Spanning Multiple Lines

- A data declaration spans multiple lines if each line (except the last) ends with a comma.
- The **LENGTHOF** and **SIZEOF** operators include all lines belonging to the declaration:

```
.data
list      DWORD    10,20,
           30,40,
           50,60

.code
...
mov  eax,LENGTHOF list    ; 6
mov  ebx,SIZEOF list      ; 24
```

# Spanning Multiple Lines

- In the following example, list identifies only the first DWORD declaration.
- Compare the values returned by `LENGTHOF` and `sizeof` here to those in the previous slide:

```
.data
list    DWORD    10,20
        DWORD    30,40
        DWORD    50,60

.code
...
mov eax,LENGTHOF list    ; 2
mov ebx,SIZEOF list     ; 8
```

# Index Scaling

- You can scale an indirect or indexed operand to the offset of an array element. This is done by multiplying the index by the array's TYPE

```
.data
listB BYTE 1,2,3,4,5,6,7
listW WORD 8,9,10,11,12,13
listD DWORD 14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21
.code
...
mov esi,5
mov al,listB[esi*TYPE listB] ; al = 6
mov bx,listW[esi*TYPE listW] ; bx = 13
mov edx,listD[esi*TYPE listD] ; edx = 19
```



# Pointers

- You can declare a [pointer variable](#) that contains the offset of another variable

```
.data
list      DWORD    100 DUP(?)
ptr       DWORD    list
.code
...
mov esi, ptr
mov eax, [esi]           ; EAX = @ list
```

- The effect is the same as `mov esi, OFFSET list`
- Note: `[ptr]` is an invalid reference!! Why?

# Pointers

- You can declare a [pointer variable](#) that contains the offset of another variable

```
.data
list      DWORD    100 DUP(?)
ptr       DWORD    list
.code
...
mov esi,ptr
mov eax,[esi]      ; EAX = @ list
```

```
; C/C++ version:
int list[100];
int* ptr = list;
```

# Summing an Integer Array

- The following code calculates the sum of an array of 32-bit integers (register indirect mode).

```
.data
intList DWORD 100h,200h,300h,400h
ptrD     DWORD intList
.code
    ...
    mov esi,ptrD           ; address of intList
    mov ecx,LENGTHOF intList ; loop counter
    mov eax,0             ; init the accumulator
L1:
    add eax,[esi]         ; add an integer
    add esi,TYPE intList  ; point to next integer
    loop L1              ; repeat until ECX = 0
```

# Summing an Integer Array

- Alternate code (indexed mode)

```
.data
intList DWORD 100h,200h,300h,400h
.code
    ...           ; set up ecx
    mov esi,0
    mov eax,0     ; zero the accumulator
L1:
    add eax,intList[esi*TYPE intList]
    inc esi
    loop L1
```

# Multi-Dimensional Arrays

## String Processing

# Two-Dimensional Array (Matrix)

- Example declaration:

```
Matrix          DWORD          5          DUP (3 DUP (?) )  
;15 elements
```

- A matrix is an array of arrays
- Row major order
  - Row index first (5 rows, 3 columns)
    - i.e., 5 rows, 3 elements per row
- Example HLL reference: Matrix[0][2]
  - Last element in first row ... etc.
- In assembly language, it's just a set of contiguous memory locations

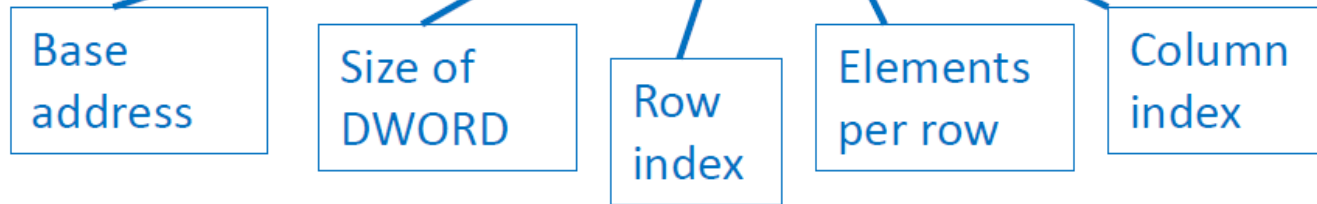
# Two-Dimensional Array (Matrix)

- An element's address is calculated as the base address plus an offset
- $\text{BaseAddress} + \text{elementSize} * [(\text{row\#} * \text{elementsPerRow}) + \text{column\#}]$

- Example: Suppose Matrix is at address 20A0h

- The address of Matrix[3][1] is

$$20A0h + 4 * [(3 * 3) + 1] = 20C8h$$



$$\begin{aligned} &4 * [(3 * 3) + 1] \\ &= 4 * [9 + 1] \\ &= 4 * Ah \\ &= 28h \end{aligned}$$

# Matrix Addresses (hexadecimal)

- Matrix elements are arranged in sequential addresses in row-major order

Matrix	0	1	2
0	20A0	20A4	20A8
1	20AC	20B0	20B4
2	20B8	20BC	20C0
3	20C4	<b>20C8</b>	20CC
4	20D0	20D4	20D8



# Higher Dimensions

- A 3-dimensional array is an array of matrices
- A 4-dimensional array is an array of 3-dimensional arrays
- ... etc., no theoretical limit
  - Practically and readability rule
- Address calculations can be extrapolated from matrix address calculations
- Contiguous memory in “highest-dimension” major order

# String Primitives

- A string is an array of BYTE
- In most cases, an extra byte is needed for the zero-byte terminator
- MASM has some “string primitives” for manipulating strings byte-by-byte
  - Most important are:

- `lodsb` ; load string byte
- `stosb` ; store string byte
- `cld` ; clear direction flag
- `std` ; set direction flag

- There are many others
  - Explore on your own

# lodsb and stosb

- **lodsb**
  - Moves byte at [esi] into the AL register
  - Increments esi if direction flag is 0
  - Decrements esi if direction flag is 1
- **stosb**
  - Moves byte in the AL register to memory at [edi]
  - Increments edi if direction flag is 0
  - Decrements edi if direction flag is 1

# cld and std

- **cld**
  - Sets direction flag to 0
  - Causes **esi** and **edi** to be incremented by **lodsb** and **stosb**
  - Used for moving “forward” through an array
  
- **std**
  - Sets direction flag to 1
  - Causes **esi** and **edi** to be decremented by **lodsb** and **stosb**
  - Used for moving “backward” through an array

# Demo

- Shows capitalizing and reversing a string

# Lower-Level Programming

## How ReadInt Works

# Lower-Level Programming

- **All** keyboard input is character
  - Digits are character codes 48-57
  - '0' is character number 48
  - '1' is 49 ... '9' is 57
- Cannot do arithmetic with string representations
- What does *ReadInt* do? (Irvine's library)
  - Gets a string of digits (characters)
  - Converts digits to numeric values
- How does *ReadInt* do it?

# ReadInt Algorithm (pseudo-code)

```
get str
x = 0
for k = 0 to (len(str)-1)
    if 48 <= str[k] <= 57
        x = 10 * x + (str[k] - 48)
    else
        break
```

The string of bytes is  
50 52 55 53 0

The string of bytes is  
49 57 66 54 0