

## Subrotines and INT 10H INT 16 INT 21H

## The x86 PC

assembly language, design, and interfacing fifth edition

MUHAMMAD ALI MAZIDI JANICE GILLISPIE MAZIDI DANNY CAUSEY

## OBJECTIVES <br> this chapter enables the student to:

- 8086 Subroutines
- Use INT 10H function calls to:
- Clear the screen.
- Set the cursor position.
- Write characters to the screen in text mode.
- Draw lines on the screen in graphics mode.
- Change the video mode.
- Use INT 16H function calls
- Use INT 21H function calls to:
- Input characters from the keyboard.
- Output characters to the screen.
- Input or output strings.


## Subroutines and Subroutine Handling Functions

[^0](a)


| Mnemonic | Meaning | Format | Operation | Flags Affected |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CALL | Subroutine call | CALL operand | Execution continues from the <br> address of the subroutine <br> specified by the operand. <br> Information required to <br> return back to the main <br> program such as IP and CS <br> are saved on the stack. | None |

(b)

| Operand |
| :--- |
| Near-proc |
| Far-proc |
| Memptri6 |
| Regptr16 |
| Memptr32 |

(c)

Figure 6-20 (a) Subroutine concept. (b) Subroutine call instruction. (c) Allowed operands.

## Calling a NEAR proc

The CALL instruction and the subroutine it calls are in the same segment.
Save the current value of the IP on the stack.
load the subroutine's offset into IP (nextinst + offset)
Calling Program Subroutine Stack

| Main proc | sub1 proc | 1 ffd | 1 D |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 001A: call sub1 | 0080: mov ax,1 | 1ffe | 00 |
| 001D: inc ax | $\ldots$ | ret | 1fff |
| (not used) |  |  |  |
| Main endp | sub1 endp |  |  |

## Calling a FAR proc

The CALL instruction and the subroutine it calls are in the "Different" segments.

Save the current value of the CS and IP on the stack.
Then load the subroutine's CS and offset into IP.

| Calling Program | Subroutine | Stack |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


| Main proc | sub1 proc far |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1FCB:001A: call far ptr sub1 | 4EFA:0080: mov ax,1 |
| 1FCB:001F: inc ax | $\ldots$. |
| $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| $\ldots$ | ret (retf opcode generated) |
| Main endp | sub1 endp |

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline 1 \mathrm{ffb} & 1 \mathrm{~F} \\ \hline \hline 1 \mathrm{ffc} & 00 \\ \hline \hline 1 \mathrm{ffd} & \mathrm{CB} \\ \hline \hline 1 \mathrm{ffe} & 1 \mathrm{~F} \\ \hline \hline 1 \mathrm{fff} & \mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A} \\ \hline\end{array}\right\}$

## Example on Far/Near Procedure Calls

0350:1C00 Call FarProc 0350:1C05 Call NearProc 0350:1C08 nop
$\left\{\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline 1 \mathrm{ff0} & 08 \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{ffa} & 1 \mathrm{C} \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{ffb} & 05 \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{ffc} & 1 \mathrm{C} \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{ffd} & 50 \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{ffe} & 03 \\ \hline 1 \mathrm{fff} & X \\ \hline\end{array}\right.$

## Nested Procedure Calls

A subroutine may itself call other subroutines.

| Example:$\begin{aligned} & 000 \mathrm{~A} \\ & 000 \mathrm{C} \end{aligned}$ | main proc call subr1 mov ax,... <br> main endp | $\begin{aligned} & 0050 \\ & 0060 \end{aligned}$ | subr2 proc nop <br> call subr3 <br> ret ... <br> subr2 endp | Q: show the stack contents at 0079?$\qquad$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | $1 \mathrm{ff0}$ | 60 |
|  |  |  |  | 1 ffa | 00 |
| 0 subr1 proc <br> 0030 nop <br> $\ldots$ <br> 0040 call subr2 <br> ret $\ldots$ <br>  subr1 endp |  |  subr3 proc <br> 0070 nop <br>  $\ldots$ <br> 0079 nop <br> 007A ret <br>  subr3 endp |  | 1 ffb | 40 |
|  |  | 1 ffc | 00 |
|  |  | 1 ffd | Oc |
|  |  | 1 ffe | 00 |
|  |  | 1 fff | X |

## Push and Pop Instructions

To save registers and parameters on the stack

## $\{$ PUSH XX PUSH YY PUSH ZZ

## Push S (16/32 bit or Mem)

$(S P) \leftarrow(S P)-2$
$((S P)) \leftarrow(S)$

Main body of the subroutine


To restore registers and parameters from the stack
Return to main program

## 80x86 Interrupts

- An interrupt is an event that causes the processor to suspend its present task and transfer control to a new program called the interrupt service routine (ISR)
- There are three sources of interrupts
- Processor interrupts
- Hardware interrupts generated by a special chip, for ex: 8259 Interrupt Controller.
- Software interrupts
- Software Interrupt is just similar to the way the hardware interrupt actually works!. The INT Instruction requests services from the OS, usually for I/O. These services are located in the OS.
- INT has a range $0 \rightarrow$ FFh. Before INT is executed AH usually contains a function number that identifies the subroutine.


## 80x86 Interrupts

- Each interrupt must supply a type number which is used by the processor as a pointer to an interrupt vector table (IVT) to determine the address of that interrupt's service routine
- Interrupt Vector Table: CPU processes an interrupt instruction using the interrupt vector table (This table resides in the lowest 1K memory)
- Each entry in the IVT=segment+offset address in OS, points to the location of the corresponding ISR.
- Before transferring control to the ISR, the processor performs one very important task
- It saves the current program address and flags on the stack
- Control then transfers to the ISR
- When the ISR finishes, it uses the instruction IRET to recover the flags and old program address from the stack
- Many of the vectors in the IVT are reserved for the processor itself and others have been reserved by MS-DOS for the BIOS and kernel.
- $10-1$ 1A are used by the BIOS -> So today's lecture INT10h and INT16h are BIOS Int
- 20 -- 3F are used by the MS-DOS kernel -> INT21h is DOS Int


## INT

## INT operates similar to Call

Processor first pushes the flags
Trace Flag and Interrupt-enable flags are cleared
Next the processor pushes the current CS register onto the stack
Next the IP register is pushed
Example: What is the sequence of events for INT 08? If it generates a CS:IP of $0100: 0200$. The flag is 0081 H .

$\longrightarrow$| SP-6 | 00 |
| :--- | :--- |
| SP-5 | 02 |
| SP-4 | 00 |
|  | SP-3 |
| SP-2 | 01 |
| SP-1 | 81 |


| MEMORY / ISR table |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 00020 | 10 |
| 00021 | 00 |
| 00022 | 80 |
| 00023 | 05 |

## Interrupt Vector Table

Interrupt vector (type number)

6
Pointer to ISR 4

Overflow $|$| Pointer to ISR 3 |
| :---: |
| Breakpoint |

Interrupt vector table (IVT)
1 K (real mode)
2 K (protected mode)
4 bytes (real mode) or 8 bytes (protected mode)
$\dagger$

| Processor | Pointer Size | IVT Location |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Real Mode | 4 bytes | Address 00000000-000003FF |
| Protected Mode | 8 bytes | Anywhere in Physical Memory |

## 80x86 Interrupts

- The number after the mnemonic tells which entry to locate in the table. For example INT 10h requests a video service.



## Interrupts

- There are some extremely useful subroutines within BIOS or DOS that are available to the user through the INT (Interrupt) instruction.
- Format:
- INT xx ; the interrupt number $x x$ can be $00-$ FFH
- This gives a total of 256 interrupts
- Common Interrupts
- INT 10h Video Services
- INT 16h Keyboard Services
- INT 17h Printer Services
- INT 21h MS-DOS services
- Before the services, certain registers must have specific values in them, depending on the function being requested.


## 4.0: INT 10H and 21H

- The INT instruction is somewhat like a FAR call.
- Saves CS:IP and the flags on the stack and goes to the subroutine associated with that interrupt.
- In x86 processors, 256 interrupts, numbered 00 to FF.
- INT 10 H and INT 21 H are the most widely used with various functions selected by the value in the AH register.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING

- INT 10H subroutines are burned into the ROM BIOS.
- Used to communicate with the computer's screen video.
- Manipulation of screen text/graphics can be done via INT 10H.
- Among the functions associated with INT 10H are changing character or background color, clearing the screen, and changing the location of the cursor.
- Chosen by putting a specific value in register AH.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING changing the video mode (AH=00)

- To change the video mode, use INT 10 H with $A H=00$ and $A L=$ video mode.

01h: $40 \times 25$ Text, 16 colors 03h: 80x25 Text, 16 colors

## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING <br> graphics: modes

- Text mode of $80 \times 25$ characters.
- A total of $2 \mathrm{~K}(80 \times 25=2000)$ for characters, plus 2 K for attributes, as each character has one attribute byte.
- Each screen (frame) takes 4K, which results in CGA supporting a total of four pages of data, where each page represents one full screen.
- In this mode, 16 colors are supported.
- To select this mode, use AL = 03 for mode selection in INT 10H option $\mathrm{AH}=00$.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in CGA text mode

- CGA mode is the common denominator for all color monitors, as S all color monitors \& video circuitry are upwardly compatible,
- CGA attribute byte bit definition is as shown:

| D7 | D6 | D5 | D4 | D3 | D2 | D1 | D0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B | R <br> Rackground | I | R <br> background |  |  |  |  |


| B $=$ blinking $\quad$ I $=$ foreground intensity |
| :--- |
| Blinking and intensity apply to foreground only. |

Figure 4-3 CGA Attribute Byte

## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING attribute byte in CGA text mode (AH=09h)

- The background can take eight different colors by combining the prime colors red, blue, and green.
- The foreground can be any of 16 different colors by combining red, blue, green, and intensity

| Example 4-4 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Write a program that puts 20 H (ASCII space) on the entire screen. Use high-intensity white on a blue background attribute for characters. |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Solution: MOV | AH, 00 | ; SET MODE OPTION |
| MOV | AL, 03 | ; CGA COLOR TEXT MODE OF $80 \times 25$ |
| INT | 10 H |  |
| MOV | AH, 09 | ;DISPLAY OPTION |
| MOV | BH, 00 | ; PAGE 0 |
| MOV | AL, 20H | ; ASCII FOR SPACE |
| MOV | CX, 800H | ; REPEAT IT 800H TIMES |
| MOV | BL, 1 FH | ; HIGH-INTENSITY WHITE ON BLUE |
| INT | 10 H |  |

Example 4-4 shows the use of the attribute byte in CGA mode.

## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING

## attribute byte in CGA text mode (AH=09h)

Table 4-1: The 16 Possible Colors

| $\mathbf{I}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{G}$ | $\mathbf{B}$ | Color |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | black |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | blue |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | green |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | cyan |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | red |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | magenta |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | brown |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | white |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | gray |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | light blue |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | light green |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | light cyan |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | light red |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | light magenta |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | yellow |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | high intensity white |

## Some possible CGA colors and variations.

| Binary |  | Hex |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 00000000 | 00 |  | Color effect |
| 00000001 | 01 |  | Black on black |
| 00010010 | 12 |  | Green on black |
| 00010100 | 14 | Red on blue <br> 00011111 | 1 F | | High-intensity |
| :--- |
| white on blue |

## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING monitor screen in text mode

- The monitor screen in the x86 PC is divided into 80 columns and 25 rows in normal text mode.
- Columns are numbered from 0 to 79.
- Rows are numbered 0 to 24.

The top left corner has been assigned 00,00, the top right 00,79. Bottom left is 24,00 , bottom right 24,79.


Figure 4-1 Cursor Locations (row, column)

## INT 10 h AH $=06 \mathrm{~h}$

- $\mathrm{AL}=$ Number of lines to be scrolled up ( $\mathrm{AL}=00 \mathrm{~h}$ will clear the window).
- $\quad \mathrm{BH}=$ Color attribute for blank lines. In text mode, this corresponds to the attribute byte. In VGA graphics modes, this is the color number to which all the pixels in the blank lines will be set.
- $\mathrm{CH}=$ Top row of window to be scrolled up.
- $\mathrm{CL}=$ Leftmost column of window.
- $\quad \mathrm{DH}=$ Bottom row of window.
- $\mathrm{DL}=$ Rightmost column of window.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 1OH PROGRAMMING

## screen clearing with INT 10H function 06H

- To clear the screen using INT 10H, these registers must contain certain values before INT 10 H is called:
$-\mathrm{AH}=06, \mathrm{AL}=00, \mathrm{BH}=07, \mathrm{CX}=0000, \mathrm{DH}=24, \mathrm{DL}=79$.

| MOV | $\mathrm{AH}, 06$ | $; \mathrm{AH}=06$ to select scroll function |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MOV | $\mathrm{AL}, 00$ | $; \mathrm{AL}=00$ the entire page |
| MOV | $\mathrm{BH}, 07$ | $; \mathrm{BH}=07$ for normal attribute |
| MOV | $\mathrm{CH}, 00$ | $; \mathrm{CH}=00$ row value of start point |
| MOV | $\mathrm{CL}, 00$ | $; \mathrm{CL}=00$ column value of start point |
| MOV | $\mathrm{DH}, 24$ | ; DH=24 row value of ending point |
| MOV | $\mathrm{DL}, 79$ | ;DL=79 column value of ending point |
| INT | $10 H$ | ;invoke the interrupt |

- Option AH = 06 calls the scroll function, to scroll upward.
- CH \& CL registers hold starting row \& column.
- DH \& DL registers hold ending row \& column.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING AH=02 setting the cursor to a specific location

- INT 10H function $\mathrm{AH}=02$ will change the position of the cursor to any location.
- Desired position is identified by row/column values in DX.
- Where DH = row and DL = column.
- Video RAM can have multiple pages of text.
- When $\mathrm{AH}=02$, page zero is chosen by making $\mathrm{BH}=00$.
- After INT 10H (or INT 21H) has executed, registers not used by the interrupt remain unchanged.


## Int 10 AH=02H SET CURSOR POSITION



## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING AH=02

 setting the cursor to a specific location- Example 4-1 demonstrates setting the cursor to a specific location.


## Example 4-1

Write the code to set the cursor position to row $=15=0 \mathrm{FH}$ and column $=25=19 \mathrm{H}$.
Solution:

| MOV | AH,02 | ; set cursor option |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MOV | BH,00 | ;page 0 |
| MOV | DL,25 | ;column position |
| MOV | DH,15 | ;row position |
| INT | $10 H$ | ;invoke interrupt 10 H |

## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING AH=03

## get current cursor position

- In text mode, determine where the cursor is located at any time by executing the following:

| MOV | AH,03 | ; option 03 of BIOS INT 10 H |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MOV | BH,00 | ;page 00 |  |
| INT | 10 H | ;interrupt 10 H routine |  |

- After execution of the program, registers DH \& DL will have current row and column positions.
- CX provides information about the shape of the cursor.
- In text mode, page 00 is chosen for the currently viewed page.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING graphics: pixel resolution \& color

- In text mode, the screen is viewed as a matrix of rows and columns of characters.
- In graphics mode, a matrix of horizontal \& vertical pixels.
- Number of pixels depends on monitor resolution \& video board.
- Two facts associated with every pixel on the screen must be stored in the video RAM:
- Location of the pixel and attributes. (color and intensity)
- The higher the number of pixels and colors, the larger the amount of memory that is needed to store them
- Memory requirements go up with resolution \& number of colors.
- CGA mode can have a maximum of 16K bytes of video memory due to its inherent design structure.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING AH=OCh INT 10H and pixel programming

- To address a single pixel on the screen, use INT 10 H with $\mathrm{AH}=0 \mathrm{CH}$.
- The $X$ (column) and $Y$ (row) coordinates of the pixel must be known, and vary, depending on monitor resolution.
- Registers are CX = the column point (the X coordinate) and $\mathrm{DX}=$ the row point. ( Y coordinate)
- To turn the pixel on/off, $A L=1$ or $A L=0$ for black and white.
- The value of AL can be modified for various colors.
- If the display mode supports more than one page, $\mathrm{BH}=$ page number.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING drawing lines in graphics mode

- To draw a horizontal line, choose row/column values to point to the beginning of the line and increment the column until it reaches the end of the line.
- To draw a vertical line, increment the vertical value held by the DX register, and keep CX constant.
- Linear equation $y=m x+b$ can be used for any line.


## 4.1: BIOS INT 10H PROGRAMMING drawing lines in graphics mode

## Drawing a horizontal line

## Example 4-5

Write a program to: (a) clear the screen, (b) set the mode to CGA of $640 \times 200$ resolution, and (c) draw a horizontal line starting at column $=100$, row $=50$, and ending at column 200, row 50.

Solution:

| MOV | AX, 0600 H | ; SCROLL THE SCREEN |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MOV | BH, 07 | ; NORMAL ATTRIBUTE |
| MOV | CX, 0000 | ; FROM ROW $=00$, COLUMN=00 |
| MOV | DX, 184FH | ; TO ROW $=18 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{COLUMN}=4 \mathrm{FH}$ |
| INT | 10H | ; INVOKE INTERRUPT TO CLEAR SCREEN |
| MOV | AH, 00 | ; SET MODE |
| MOV | AL, 06 | ; MODE $=06$ (CGA HIGH RESOLUTION) |
| INT | 10 H | ; INVOKE INTERRUPT TO CHANGE MODE |
| MOV | CX, 100 | ; START LINE AT COLUMN $=100$ AND |
| MOV | DX, 50 | ; ROW = 50 |
| MOV | AH, 0 CH | ; $\mathrm{AH}=0 \mathrm{CH}$ TO DRAW A LINE |
| MOV | AL, 01 | ; PIXELS = WHITE |
| INT | 10 H | ; INVOKE INTERRUPT TO DRAW LINE |
| INC | CX | ; INCREMENT HORIZONTAL POSITION |
| CMP | CX, 200 | ; DRAW LINE UNTIL COLUMN $=200$ |
| JNZ | BACK |  |

## Int 1003 GET CURSOR POSITION

${ }^{\bullet}$ INT 10 H function 03; get current cursor position
MOV AH, 03
MOV BH, 00
INT 10H
${ }^{\bullet}$ Registers DH and DL will have the current row and column positions and CX provides info about the shape of the cursor.

- Useful in applications where the user is moving the cursor around the screen for menu selection


## INT 10 - AAF=06 SCROLL

- INT 10H Function $06(\mathrm{AH}=06)$ Scroll a screen windows.
- Moves the data on the video display up or down. As screen is rolled the bottom is replaced by a blank line. Rows:0-24 from top, bottom: 0-79 from the left. $(0,0)$ to $(24,79)$. Lines scrolled can not be recovered!
- $A L=$ number of lines to scroll (with $A L=00$, window will be cleared)

Example: Clear the screen by scrolling it upward with a normal

- BH = Video attribute まffiylank rows
- CH, CL = Row, Column of upper left corner
- DH, DL = Row,Column of lower right corner 00,00

00,79

12,39
mov ah,6h
mov al,0h
mov ch, Oh
mov cl,Oh
mov dh,24h
mov dl,01h
mov bh,7h
© 2010, 2003, 2000, 1998 Pearson Higher Education, Inc. Pearson Prentice Hall - Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

## Example Int10 06

```
Mammam_lat
\(\square\)
Created with HyperSnap-DX5
To avoid this stamp, buy a license at http:/hupw hyperionics com
[L]] CPNMNDOHB DESTIOPXEARTH.ABi
model small
-stack 105h
-data
; ORG G010H; offset adress
; Datai
-code
wain proc
mov ah. 06 h mou a1, 55h mov ch, 04 mou C. Sh
mov dh. 24h
\(\operatorname{mov}\) d1, 51h
mov bh. 7 h
int 19h
MOU AH, 4Ch
```



```
Init reg AH for the program
1WI 21H
main endy
end main
\(10: 18\)
```



```
F1 Help F2 Save F3 Open Alt-F3 Close F5 Zoom F6 Next F10 Menu
```

© 2010, 2003, 2000, 1998 Pearson Higher Education, Inc. Pearson Prencis Hall - Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458


The x86 PC
Assembly Language, Design, and Interfacing
By Muhammad Ali Mazidi, Janice Gillespie Mazidi and Danny Causey
© 2010, 2003, 2000, 1998 Pearson Higher Education, Inc. Pearson PrentzíHall - Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

## INT 10 - OA PRINT CHARACTERS



## Int 10 - O巨 PRINT SINGLE CHARACTER



## INT 16h Keyboard Services

- Checking a key press, we use INT 16h function $\mathrm{AH}=01$

```
MOV AH, 01
INT 16h
```

- Upon return, $\mathrm{ZF}=0$ if there is a key press; $\mathrm{ZF}=1$ if there is no key press
- Whick key is pressed?
- To do that, INT 16h function can be used immediately after the call to INT 16h function $\mathrm{AH}=01$


## MOV AH,0

INT 16h

- Upon return, AL contains the ASCII character of the pressed key


## Example INT 16 - 00

- BIOS Level Keyboard Input (more direct)
- Suppose F1 pressed (Scan Code 3BH). AH contains the scan code and AL contains the ASCII code ( 0 ).



## Example. The PC Typewriter

- Write an $80 \times 86$ program to input keystrokes from the PC's keyboard and display the characters on the system monitor. Pressing any of the function keys F1-F10 should cause the program to end.
- Algorithm:

1. Get the code for the key pressed
2. If this code is ASCII, display the key pressed on the monitor and continue
3. Quit when a non-ASCII key is pressed

- INT 16, BIOS service 0 - Read next keyboard character
- Returns 0 in AL for non-ASCII characters or the character is simply stored in AL
- To display the character, we use INT 10, BIOS service 0E- write character in teletype mode. AL should hold the character to be displayed.
- INT 20 for program termination


## Example

## MOV DX, OFFSET MES

MOV AH,09h
INT 21h ; to output the characters starting from the offset
AGAIN: MOV AH,Oh
INT 16h; to check the keyboard
CMP AL,00h
JZ QUIT ;check the value of the input data
MOV AH, OEh
INT 10h; echo the character to output
JMP AGAIN
QUIT: INT 20h
MES DB 'type any letter, number or punctuation key'
DB 'any F1 to F10 to end the program"
DB 0d,0a,0a,'\$'

## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

- In previous chapters, a fixed set of data was defined in the data segment \& results viewed in a memory dump.
- This section uses information inputted from the keyboard, and displayed on the screen.
- A much more dynamic way of processing information.
- When the OS is loaded, INT 21 H can be invoked to perform some extremely useful functions.
- Commonly referred to as DOS INT 21 H function calls.
- In contrast to BIOS-ROM based INT 10H.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 09

## outputting a data string the monitor

- INT 21 H can send a set of ASCII data to the monitor.
- Set AH = 09 and DX = offset address of the ASCII data.
- Displays ASCII data string pointed at by DX until it encounters the dollar sign "\$".
- The data segment and code segment, to display the message "The earth is but one country":

| DATA_ASC | DB | 'The earth | is but one country','\$' |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- |
| MOV | AH,09 | ;option 09 to display string of data |  |
| MOV | DX,OFFSET DATA_ASC | ;DX= offset address of data- |  |
| INT | $21 H$ |  | ;invoke the interrupt |

## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 02 outputting a single character

- To output only a single character, 02 is put in AH, and DL is loaded with the character to be displayed.
- The following displays the letter "J":

MOV
MOV
INT

| $\mathrm{AH}, 02$ |
| :--- |
| $\mathrm{DL}, \mathrm{J} \mathrm{J}$ |
| 21 H |

- This option can also be used to display ' $\$$ ' on the monitor as the string display option (option 09) will not display '\$'.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 01

 inputting a single character, with echo- This functions waits until a character is input from the keyboard, then echoes it to the monitor.
- After the interrupt, the input character will be in AL.

```
MOV AH,01 ;option 01 inputs one character
INT 21H ;after the interrupt, AL = input character (ASCII)
```


## 4.2: DOS INTFRRUPT 21H Option 01

 inputting a single character, with echo- Program 4-1 combines INT 10H and INT 21H.


The program does the following:
(1) Clears the screen.
(2) Sets the cursor to the center of the screen.
(3) Displays the message "This is a test of the display routine".
See the entire program listing on page 139 of your textbook.

## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 0AA inputting a data string from the keyboard

- A means by which one can get keyboard data from \& store it in a predefined data segment memory area.
- Register AH = OAH.
- DX = offset address at which the string of data is stored.
- Commonly referred to as a buffer area.
- DOS requires a buffer area be defined in the data segment.
- The first byte specifies the size of the buffer.
- The number of characters from the keyboard is in the second byte.
- Keyed-in data placed in the buffer starts at the third byte.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option OAH

 inputting a data string from the keyboard- This program accepts up to six characters from the keyboard, including the return (carriage return) key.
- Six buffer locations were reserved, and filled with FFH.

ORG 0010H
DATA1 DB 6,?,6 DUP (FF);0010H=06, 0012H to 0017H $=\mathrm{FF}$

| MOV | AH, OAH | ; string input option of INT 21H |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MOV | DX,OFFSET | DATA1 |
| ; load offset address of buffer |  |  |
| INT | 21 H | ;invoke interrupt 21 H |

- Memory contents of offset 0010H:

| 0010 | 0011 | 0012 | 0013 | 0014 | 0015 | 0016 | 0017 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 06 | 00 | FF | FF | FF | FF | FF | FF |

- The PC won't exit INT 21H until it encounters a RETURN.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option OAA

 inputting a data string from the keyboard- Assuming the data entered through the keyboard was "USA" <RETURN>, the contents of memory locations starting at offset 0010H would look like:

| 0010 | 0011 | 0012 | 0013 | 0014 | 0015 | 0016 | 0017 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 06 | 03 | 55 | 53 | 41 | $0 D$ | FF | FF |

USACR
$-0010 \mathrm{H}=06 \mathrm{DOS}$ requires the size of the buffer here.

- 0011H = 03 The keyboard was activated three times (excluding the RETURN key) to key in letters U, S, and A.
$-0012 \mathrm{H}=55 \mathrm{H}$ ASCII hex value for letter U.
- 0013H = 53H ASCII hex value for letter S.
$-0014 \mathrm{H}=41 \mathrm{H}$ ASCII hex value for letter A.
- 0015H = 0DH ASCII hex value for CR. (carriage return)


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

## inputting more than buffer size

- Entering more than six characters (five + the CR = 6) will cause the computer to sound the speaker.
- The contents of the buffer will look like this:

| 0010 | $\begin{aligned} & 0011 \\ & 05 \end{aligned}$ | 0012 | 0013 | 0014 | 0015 | 0016 | 0017 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 06 |  | 55 | 53 | 41 | 20 | 61 | OD |
|  |  | U | S | A | SP | a | CR |

- Location 0015 has ASCII 20H for <SPACE>
- Location 0016 has ASCII 61H for "a".
- Location 0017 has 0D for <RETURN> key.
-     - The actual length is 05 at memory offset 0011 H .


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

## inputting more than buffer size

- If only the CR key is activated \& no other character:

|  | ORG |
| :--- | :--- |
| DATA4 | 20 H |
| DB | $10, ?, 10$ DUP |

- OAH is placed in memory 0020 H .
-0021 H is for the count.
- 0022H IS the first location to have data that was entered.

| 0020 |
| :--- |
| 0 A |


| 0021 |
| :--- |
| 00 |


| 0022 |
| :--- |
| $0 D$ |


| 0023 | 0024 | 0025 | 0026 |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| FF | FF | FF | FF |


| 0027 | 0028 | 0029 | 002 A | 002 B | 002 C |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FF | FF | FF | FF | FF | FF |

CR is not included in the count.

- If only the <RETURN> key is activated, 0022H has 0DH, the hex code for CR.
- The actual number of characters entered is $\mathbf{0}$ at location 0021 .


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

use of carriage return and line feed

- In Program 4-2, the EQU statement is used to equate CR (carriage return) with its ASCII value of ODH, and LF (line feed) with its ASCII value of OAH.
- See pages 141 \& 142
- Program 4-3 prompts the user to type in a name with a maximum of eight letters.
- The program gets the length and prints it to the screen.
- See page 143.
- Program 4-4 demonstrates many functions described in this chapter.
- See pages 144 \& 145.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H Option 07 keyboard input without echo

- Option 07 requires the user to enter a single character, which is not displayed (or echoed) on the screen.
- The PC waits until a single character is entered and provides the character in AL.

```
MOV
AH,07 ; keyboard input without echo
INT 21H
```


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H using LABEL to define a string buffer

- The LABEL directive can be used in the data segment to assign multiple names to data.

```
name LABEL attribute
```

- Used to assign the same offset address to two names.
- The attribute can be:
- BYTE; WORD; DWORD; FWORD; QWORD; TBYTE.
- In the following:

```
JOE LABEL BYTE
TOM DB 20 DUP(0)
```

- The offset address assigned to JOE is the same offset address for TOM since the LABEL directive does not occupy any memory space.


## 4.2: DOS INTERRUPT 21H

## using LABBEL to define a string buffer

- Use this directive to define a buffer area for the string keyboard input:

| DATA_BUF | LABEL BYTE |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MAX_SIZE | DB | 10 |
| BUF_COUNT | DB | $?$ |
| BUF_AREA | DB | $10 \operatorname{DUP~(20H)~}$ |

- In the code segment the data can be accessed by name as follows:

```
MOV AH,OAH ;load string into buffer
MOV DX,OFFSET DATA_BUF
INT 21H
MOV CL,BUF_COUNT;load the actual length of string
MOV SI,OFFSET BUF_AREA;SI=address of first byte of string
```


## INT 21h



## INT 21h

${ }^{\bullet}$ INT 21H Option 0AH/09H: Inputs/outputs a string of data stored at DS:DX
$-\mathrm{AH}=0 \mathrm{AH}, \mathrm{DX}=$ offset address at which the data is located

- $A H=09, D X=$ offset address at which the data located


Ex. What happens if one enters USA and then < RETURN $>$
00100011001200130014001500160017
$\downarrow 06$


The x86 PC
PEARSON
Assembly Language, Design, and Interfacing
By Muhammad Ali Mazidi, Janice Gillespie Mazidi and Danny Causey
© 2010, 2003, 2000, 1998 Pearson Higher Education, Inc. Pearson Prentí8Hall - Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

## IRET

${ }^{\bullet}$ IRET must be used for special handling of the stack.
${ }^{\bullet}$ Must be used at the end of an ISR

| SP-6 | 00 |
| :--- | :--- |
| SP-5 | 02 |
| SP-4 | 00 |
| SP-3 | 01 |
| SP-2 | 81 |
| SP-1 | 00 |

Return address + flags are loaded


[^0]:    $\sqrt{ }$ A subroutine is a special segment of a program that can be called for execution from any point in the program

    A RET instruction must be included at the end of the subroutine to initiate the return sequence to the main program environment

    Examples. Call 1234h
    Call BX
    Call [BX]
    Two calls
    -intrasegment
    intersegment

    PEARSON
    The x86 PC
    By Muhammad Ali Mazidi, Janice Gillespi

