



Microcomputer interfacing

The 8080 logical instructions

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THE CONCEPT of the one important use for multibit logical instructions, such as AND, OR, Exclusive-OR, and COMPLEMENT, has been discussed.¹ In this column the twenty-eight logical instructions in the 8080A instruction set are summarized. It is very important to note that in the case of each logical instruction, *the result is stored in the accumulator*. The previous contents of the accumulator is one of the logical variables in the two-variable logical operation, or in the case of the complement instruction, the only logical variable.

The eight different logical AND instructions, each with the mnemonic ANA S, have the following general form:

| 10 | 100 | sss |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arithmetic and logical class of instructions | AND operation | 3-bit binary code for source register |

where sss are the three bits that correspond to the register or contents of a memory location that logically operate on the accumulator contents,

| Register | Octal code | 3-bit register code |
|----------|------------|---------------------|
| B | 0 | 000 |
| C | 1 | 001 |
| D | 2 | 010 |
| E | 3 | 011 |
| H | 4 | 100 |
| L | 5 | 101 |
| M | 6 | 110 |
| A | 7 | 111 |

The OR and Exclusive-OR instructions, which have the mnemonics ORA S and XRA S, respectively, have the same general form as the ANA S instruction byte. Thus, for the XRA S instruction the instruction byte is

| 10 | 101 | sss |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arithmetic and logical class of instructions | Exclusive-OR operation | 3-bit binary code for source register |

and for the ORA S instruction,

| 10 | 110 | sss |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arithmetic and logical class of instructions | OR operation | 3-bit binary code for source register |

Some examples are:

| Logical operation | Mnemonic | Octal instruction code |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| $B \cdot A \rightarrow A$ | ANAB | 240 |
| $M \cdot A \rightarrow A$ | ANAM | 246 |
| $A \cdot A \rightarrow A$ | ANAA | 247 |
| $C \oplus A \rightarrow A$ | XRAC | 251 |
| $L \oplus A \rightarrow A$ | XRAL | 255 |
| $A \oplus A \rightarrow A$ | XRAA | 257 |
| $D + A \rightarrow A$ | ORAD | 262 |
| $E + A \rightarrow A$ | ORAE | 263 |
| $M + A \rightarrow A$ | ORAM | 266 |
| $A + A \rightarrow A$ | ORAA | 267 |

Another logical instruction is the complement accumulator instruction, which has the mnemonic CMA A and the octal instruction byte 057.

In previous columns,^{2,3} we discussed the concept of an *immediate instruction*, a multibyte instruction that contains the desired data within the instruction. The three immediate logical operations can be summarized in the following way:

| Logical operation | Mnemonic | Octal instruction code |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $\langle B2 \rangle \cdot A \rightarrow A$ | ANI $\langle B2 \rangle$ | 346 $\langle B2 \rangle$ |
| $\langle B2 \rangle \oplus A \rightarrow A$ | XRI $\langle B2 \rangle$ | 356 $\langle B2 \rangle$ |
| $\langle B2 \rangle + A \rightarrow A$ | ORI $\langle B2 \rangle$ | 366 $\langle B2 \rangle$ |

In the preceding examples, the symbol \rightarrow means "is replaced by." Thus, the notation $B \cdot A \rightarrow A$ means that we AND the variable B with the variable A, and then replace the original contents of A by the result of the logical operation. Within the 8080A microprocessor chip, the logical operation is performed in a temporary accumulator, with the logical result in the temporary accumulator being *copied* into the accumulator register, A.

We have demonstrated one use for logical instructions: the testing of flag or comparator bits associated

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Table 1

"Stripping" program

| Memory address | Octal instruction code | Mnemonic | Comments |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|---|
| 000 | 333 | IN | Input ASCII numbers from the following device |
| 001 | 015 | 015 | Device 015 |
| 002 | 346 | ANI | AND the accumulator contents with the following data byte |
| 003 | 017 | 017 | Mask byte that "masks" the most significant four bits in the ASCII word |

Table 2

"Packing" program

| LO memory address | Octal instruction code | Mnemonic | Comments |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|--|
| 000 | 333 | IN | Input ASCII "5" from the following device |
| 001 | 015 | 015 | Device 015 |
| 002 | 346 | ANI | Mask off the four most significant bits |
| 003 | 017 | 017 | Mask byte |
| 004 | 007 | RLC | Rotate the BCD digit into the four most significant bits that have just been cleared |
| 005 | 007 | RLC | |
| 006 | 007 | RLC | |
| 007 | 007 | RLC | |
| 010 | 107 | MOVB,A | Store this result in register B |
| 011 | 333 | IN | Input next ASCII character, in this case ASCII "7", from the following device |
| 012 | 015 | 015 | Device 015 |
| 013 | 346 | ANI | Mask off the four most significant bits |
| 014 | 017 | 017 | Mask byte |
| 015 | 260 | ORAB | OR contents of register B with contents of accumulator |
| 016 | 167 | MOVM,A | Store packed data into memory, the location being specified by the contents of the H,L register pair |

with the on/off state of external devices.' The AND multibit operation is particularly useful when we want to clear, filter, or *mask* specific bits in an input data byte. For example, consider the ASCII code for the numeric characters 0 through 9:

| Character | Octal ASCII code | Binary ASCII code | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|---|
| 0 | 260 | 10110000 | Once we input the ASCII code into the microcomputer, the most significant four bits are of little use and can be "stripped" away from |
| 1 | 261 | 10110001 | |
| 2 | 262 | 10110010 | |
| 3 | 263 | 10110011 | |
| 4 | 264 | 10110100 | |
| 5 | 265 | 10110101 | |
| 6 | 266 | 10110110 | |
| 7 | 267 | 10110111 | |
| 8 | 270 | 10111000 | |
| 9 | 271 | 10111001 | |

the data byte. A simple program that accomplishes such a task is shown in *Table 1*. This program accomplishes the following Boolean operation for ASCII "5":

| | | | |
|----------|------|----------|----------|
| 10110101 | • | 00001111 | 00000101 |
| ASCII | Mask | BCD data | |
| "5" | byte | of | interest |

The logical result of the AND operation is 00000101. We now have a single BCD digit per input data byte, with the BCD digit being the least significant four bits in the byte, D3-D0. The remaining four bits, D7-D4, can be used to store another BCD digit provided that we have some means to position this second digit in these open-bit positions. If we do not take advantage of these four bits of storage space, we will waste 50% of our memory storage space.

To "pack" two BCD digits into a single data byte, we must have the capability to rotate the contents of the accumulator. We use the rotate left instruction, which has the mnemonic RLC and the octal instruction byte 007, and which can be described as follows: "The content of the accumulator is rotated left one position. The low-order bit and the carry flag are both sent to the value shifted out of the high-order bit position." The four rotate instructions in the 8080 instruction set have been previously shown. The accumulator is the only register that can be rotated in an 8080A chip. Other registers are rotated simply by moving them to the accumulator register, performing the necessary rotation operations, and then returning the rotated byte back to the original register. Besides shifting BCD digits back and forth in data bytes, we will also discover important uses for the rotate instructions when we discuss decision-making operations.

A simple program that can be used to "pack" two BCD digits into a single data byte is given in *Table 2*. The result of this sequence of steps is the data byte 01010111 stored in memory. The four most significant bits are BCD "5," and the four least significant bits are BCD "7." Ob-

serve the use of the ORA B instruction, which permits the combination of the two data bytes into one without changing either. Special 8080 micro-computer programs, called simulators, are available that permit the user to follow the execution of an 8080 program step by step by observing the changes in the contents of the internal registers. (One such program, called DEBUG, has been developed by Tychon, Inc. It requires the use of a Teletype or CRT.) If applied to the above program, one should observe the following *after the execution of the indicated instruction bytes*:

| Executed instruction bytes | Accumulator | Register B |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| INO15 | 10110101 | |
| ANI017 | 00000101 | |
| RLC, RLC, RLC, RLC | 01010000 | |
| MOVB,A | 01010000 | 01010000 |
| INO15 | 101101 11 | 01010000 |
| ANI017 | 000001 11 | 01010000 |
| ORAB | 01010111 | 01010000 |

This completes our discussion of the more important logical instructions in the 8080A instruction set. Additional examples will be used in subsequent columns, where they will be incorporated into data-manipulation and decision-making tasks.

References

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