

# 14. TRAP and I/O Service Routines (Chapter 9)

## October 17, 2018

- **LC-3 TRAP Routines**

- TRAP mechanism
- TRAP instruction
- Handling I/O
- Halting the computer
- Saving and restoring registers

EXAM 1: WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

REVIEW SESSION:

SUNDAY, OCT. 28, 2-5 PM  
IN THIS CLASSROOM

# System Calls

Certain operations require **specialized knowledge** and **protection**:

- specific knowledge of I/O device registers and the sequence of operations needed to use them
- I/O resources shared among multiple users/programs; a mistake could affect lots of other users!

Not every programmer knows (or wants to know) this level of detail

Provide ***service routines*** or ***system calls*** (part of operating system) to safely and conveniently perform low-level, privileged operations

## System Call

1. User program invokes system call.
2. Operating system code performs operation.
3. Returns control to user program.

In LC-3, this is done through the *TRAP mechanism*.

# LC-3 TRAP Mechanism

## 1. A set of service routines.

- part of operating system -- routines start at arbitrary addresses (convention is that system code is below x3000)
- up to 256 routines

## 2. Table of starting addresses.

- stored at **x0000** through **x00FF** in memory
- called **System Control Block** in some architectures

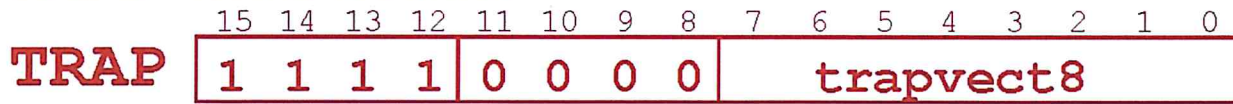
## 3. TRAP instruction.

- used by program to transfer control to operating system
- 8-bit trap vector names one of the 256 service routines

## 4. A linkage back to the user program.

- want execution to resume immediately after the TRAP instruction

# TRAP Instruction



## Trap vector

- identifies which system call to invoke
- 8-bit index into table of service routine addresses
  - in LC-3, this table is stored in memory at **0x0000 – 0x00FF**
  - 8-bit trap vector is zero-extended into 16-bit memory address

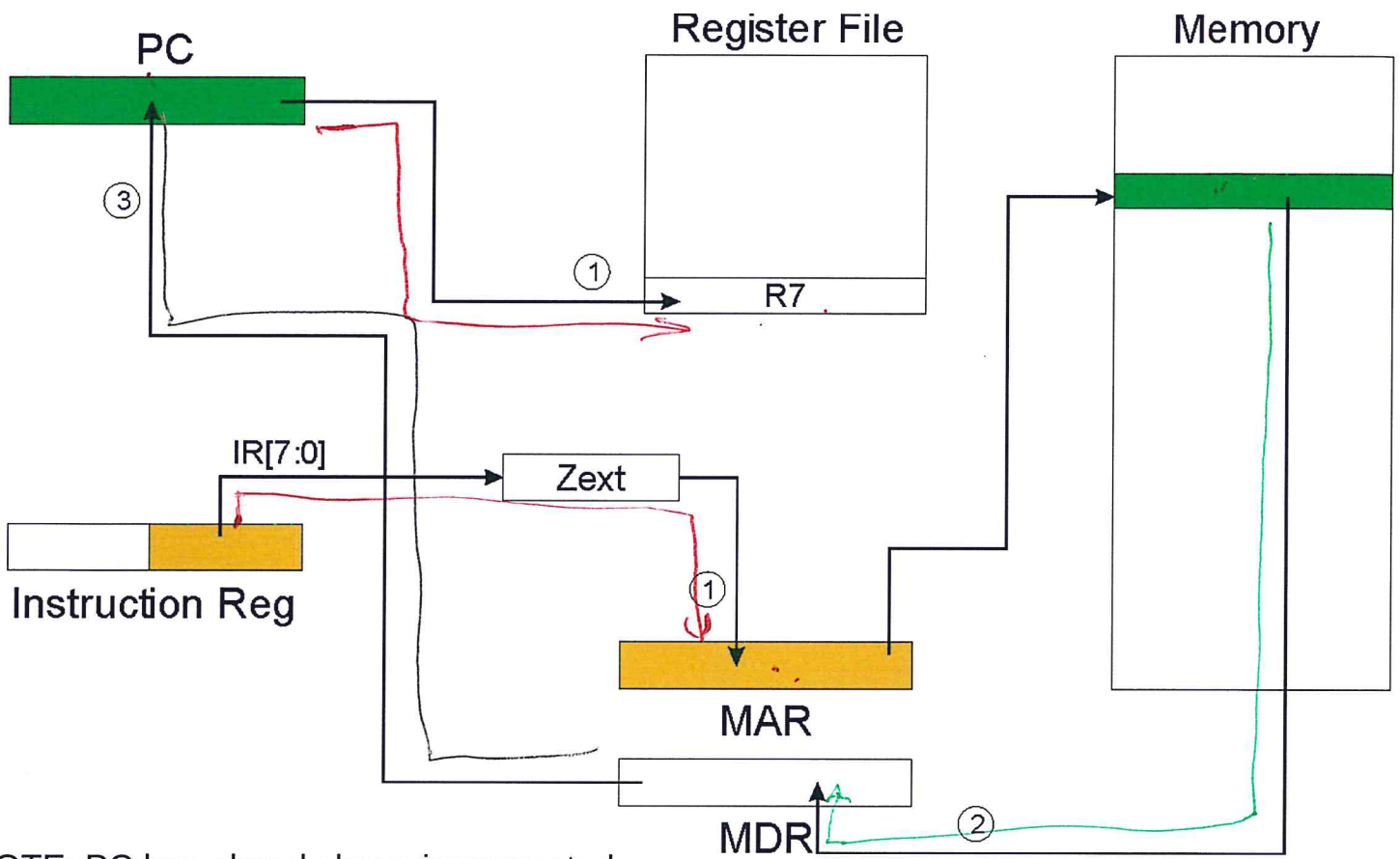
## Where to go

- lookup starting address from table; place in PC

## How to get back

- save address of next instruction (current PC) in R7

# TRAP



NOTE: PC has already been incremented during instruction fetch stage.

## RET (JMP R7)

How do we transfer control back to instruction following the TRAP?

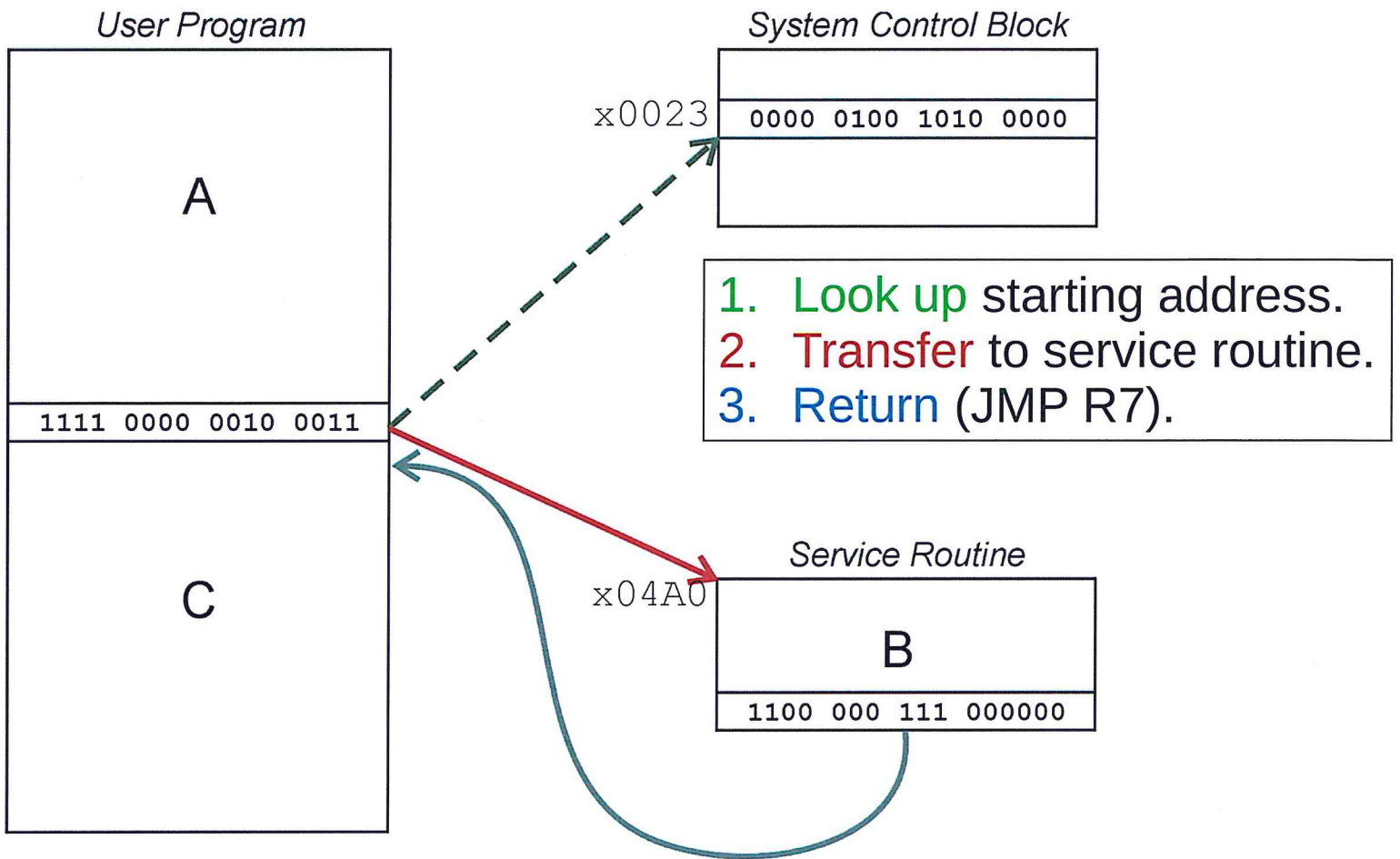
We saved old PC in R7.

- **JMP R7** gets us back to the user program at the right spot.
- LC-3 assembly language lets us use **RET** (return) in place of “JMP R7”.

Must make sure that service routine does not change R7, or we won't know where to return.



# TRAP Mechanism Operation





## Example: Using the TRAP Instruction

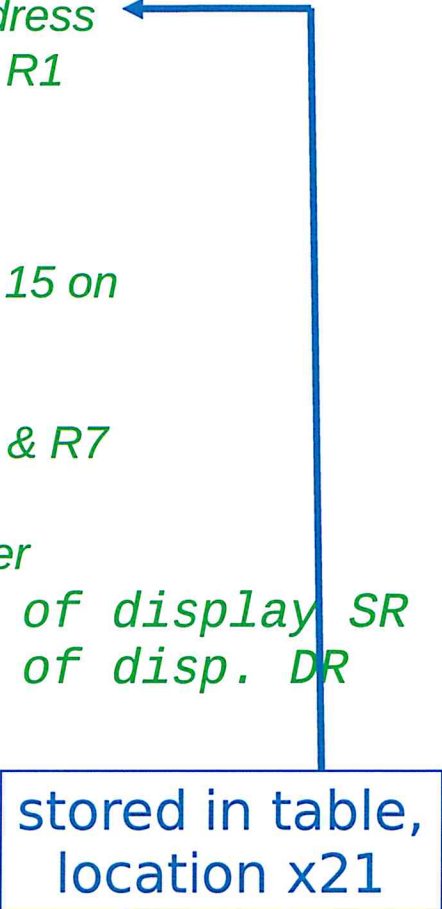
```

                .ORIG x3000
LD      R2, TERM - -ve of CHAR,
LD      R3, ASCII
AGAIN   TRAP x23
ADD     R1, R2, R0
BRz     EXIT
ADD     R0, R0, R3
TRAP x21, ...
BRnzp   AGAIN ..
TERM    .FILL      xFFC9
ASCII   .FILL      x0020
EXIT    TRAP x25
                .END

```

# Example: Output Service Routine

```
        .ORIG x0430                ; syscall address
        ST     R7, SaveR7          ; save R7 & R1
        ST     R1, SaveR1
; ----- Write character
TryWrite LDI     R1, DSR            ; get status
        BRzp  TryWrite           ; look for bit 15 on
WriteIt  STI     R0, DDR           ; write char
; ----- Return from TRAP
Return   LD      R1, SaveR1        ; restore R1 & R7
        LD      R7, SaveR7
        RET                     ; back to user
DSR      .FILL  xFE04             ; Address of display SR
DDR      .FILL  xFE06             ; Address of disp. DR
SaveR1   .BLKW  1
SaveR7   .BLKW  1
        .END
```



stored in table,  
location x21

## TRAP Routines and their Assembler Names

<i>vector</i>	<i>symbol</i>	<i>routine</i>
x20	GETC	read a single character (no echo)
x21	OUT	output a character to the monitor
x22	PUTS	write a string to the console
x23	IN	print prompt to console, read and echo character from keyboard
x25	HALT	halt the program

# Saving and Restoring Registers

Must save the value of a register if:

- Its value will be destroyed by service routine, and
- We will need to use the value after that action.

## Who saves?

- **caller of service routine?**

- knows what it needs later, but may not know what gets altered by called routine

- **called service routine?**

- knows what it alters, but does not know what will be needed later by calling routine

## Example

```

                LEA   R3, Binary
                LD    R6, ASCII   ; char->digit template
                LD    R7, COUNT  ; initialize to 10
AGAIN          TRAP  x23        ; Get char
                ADD   R0, R0, R6 ; convert to number
                STR   R0, R3, #0 ; store number
                ADD   R3, R3, #1 ; incr pointer
                ADD   R7, R7, -1 ; decr counter
                BRp   AGAIN      ; more?
                BRnzp NEXT
ASCII         .FILL  xFFD0
COUNT       .FILL  #10
Binary       .BLKW  #10
```

What's wrong with this routine?  
What happens to R7?

# Saving and Restoring Registers

## Called routine -- *“callee-save”*

- Before start, save any registers that will be altered (unless altered value is desired by calling program!)
- Before return, restore those same registers

## Calling routine -- *“caller-save”*

- Save registers destroyed by own instructions or by called routines (if known), if values needed later
  - save R7 before TRAP
  - save R0 before TRAP x23 (input character)
- Or avoid using those registers altogether

*Values are saved by storing them in memory.*

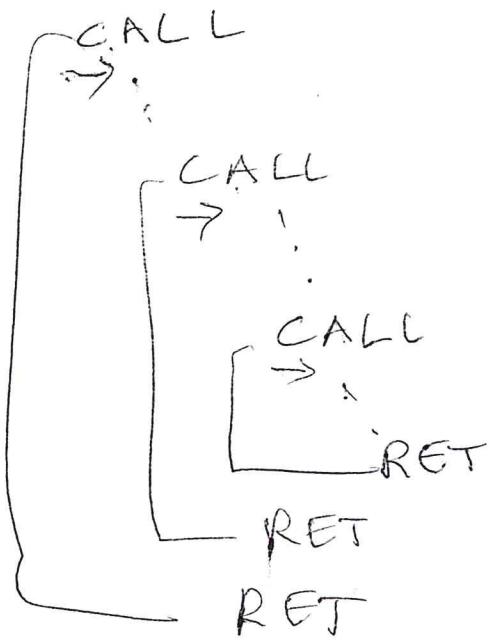


## Question

Can a service routine call another service routine?

NOT DIRECTLY (R7!)

If so, is there anything special the calling service routine must do?



⇒ LIFO  
LAST IN FIRST OUT  
AKA "STACK"



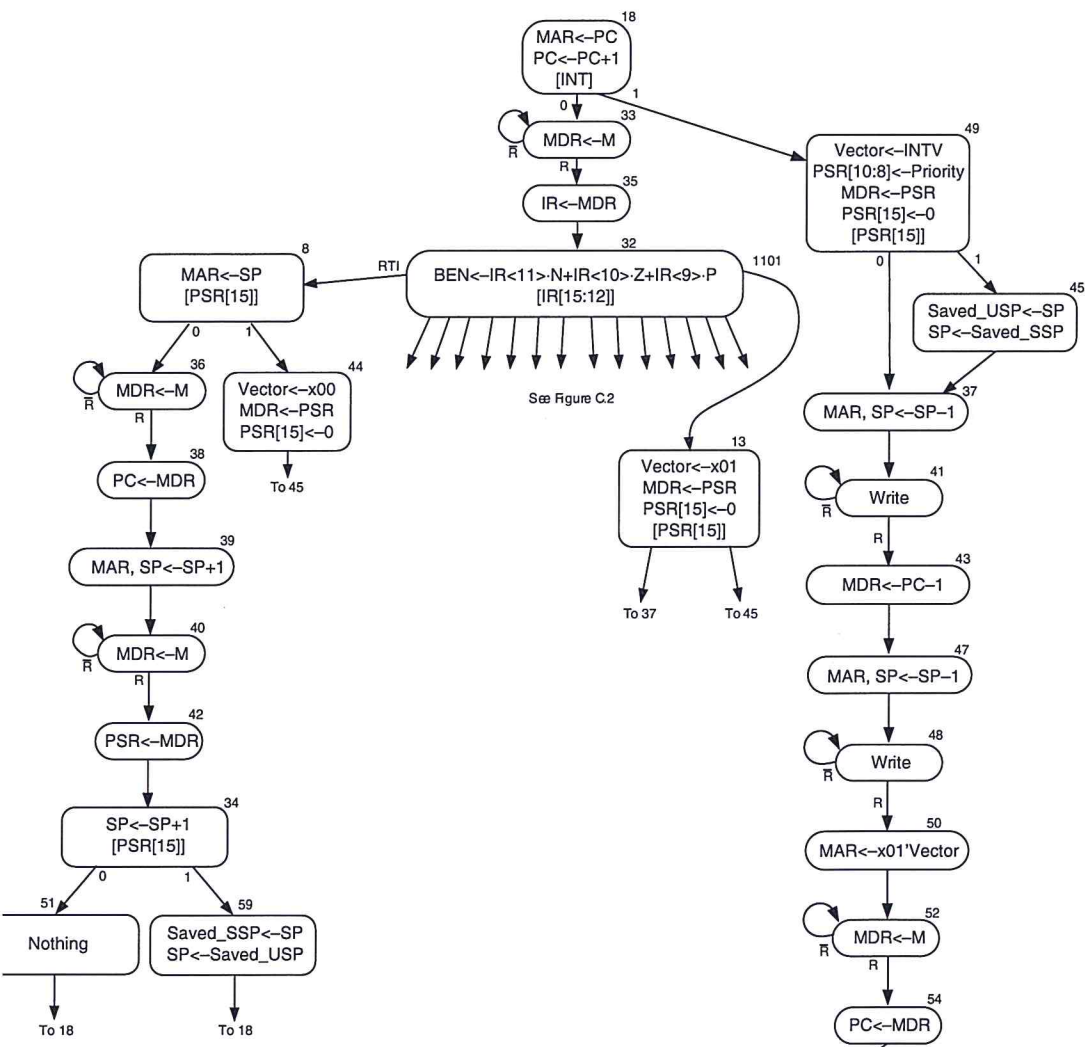
## **What about User Code?**

**Service routines provide three main functions:**

- 1. Shield programmers from system-specific details.**
- 2. Write frequently-used code just once.**
- 3. Protect system resources from malicious/clumsy programmers.**

**Are there any reasons to provide the same functions for non-system (user) code?**

	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
ADD <sup>+</sup>	0001			DR			SR1			0	00		SR2			
ADD <sup>+</sup>	0001			DR			SR1			1	imm5					
AND <sup>+</sup>	0101			DR			SR1			0	00		SR2			
AND <sup>+</sup>	0101			DR			SR1			1	imm5					
BR	0000			n	z	p	PCoffset9									
JMP	1100			000			BaseR			000000						
JSR	0100			1	PCoffset11											
JSRR	0100			0	00		BaseR			000000						
LD <sup>+</sup>	0010			DR			PCoffset9									
LDI <sup>+</sup>	1010			DR			PCoffset9									
LDR <sup>+</sup>	0110			DR			BaseR			offset6						
LEA <sup>+</sup>	1110			DR			PCoffset9									
NOT <sup>+</sup>	1001			DR			SR			111111						
RET	1100			000			111			000000						
RTI	1000			000000000000												
ST	0011			SR			PCoffset9									
STI	1011			SR			PCoffset9									
STR	0111			SR			BaseR			offset6						
TRAP	1111			0000			trapvect8									
reserved	1101															



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